

**Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale**

|                                    |                                                                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bilagsnr.:</b>                  | <b>1499</b>                                                              |
| Land:                              | Irak                                                                     |
| Kilde:                             | US Department of State                                                   |
| Titel:                             | Country Report on Terrorism 2021 - Chapter 5 -<br>Kata'ib Hizballah (KH) |
| Udgivet:                           | 27. februar 2023                                                         |
| Optaget på<br>baggrundsmaterialet: | 2. juni 2023                                                             |
|                                    |                                                                          |

# Country Report on Terrorism 2021 - Chapter 5 - Kata'ib Hizballah (KH)

**Aka** Hizballah Brigades; Hizballah Brigades in Iraq; Hizballah Brigades-Iraq; Kata'ib Hezbollah; Khata'ib Hezbollah; Khata'ib Hizballah; Khattab Hezbollah; Hizballah Brigades-Iraq of the Islamic Resistance in Iraq; Islamic Resistance in Iraq; Kata'ib Hizballah Fi al-Iraq; Katibat Abu Fathel al-A'abas; Katibat Zayd Ebin Ali; Katibut Karbalah

**Description:** Formed in 2006 as an anti-western Shia group, Kata'ib Hizballah (KH) was designated as an FTO on July 2, 2009. Before the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq in 2011, the group conducted attacks against U.S., Iraqi, and Defeat-ISIS Coalition targets in Iraq and threatened the lives of Iraqi politicians and civilians supporting the legitimate political process in Iraq. KH is notable for its extensive use of media operations and propaganda, such as filming and releasing videos of attacks. KH has ideological ties to and receives support from Iran.

**Activities:** KH has claimed responsibility for numerous terrorist attacks since 2007, including IED attacks, rocket-propelled grenade attacks, and sniper operations. In 2007, KH gained notoriety for its attacks against U.S. and Defeat-ISIS Coalition forces in Iraq. In 2011, five U.S. soldiers were killed in Baghdad when KH assailants fired multiple rockets at a U.S. military base, Camp Victory.

In 2019, KH members stormed the Bahraini Embassy in Baghdad in protest of Bahrain's hosting the United States' Israel-Palestine conference. In 2019, KH was reportedly involved in sniper operations against Iraqi protestors. Later that year, KH was blamed for a rocket attack on K-1 Air Base in Kirkuk that killed one U.S. citizen. A few days later, members of KH broke into the U.S. Embassy compound and participated in a violent attack against the facility, setting fires inside, which destroyed security checkpoints and reception rooms.

In 2020, KH reportedly launched rockets at Camp Taji, an American-controlled military base near Baghdad, killing 2 Americans and 1 British soldier, and wounding 14 others.

In 2021, KH remained active in Iraq and Syria and continued to conduct rocket and drone attacks against U.S. military forces and U.S. facilities. KH is believed to be responsible for a March rocket attack on Ain al-Asad Air Base, an Iraqi air base that hosts U.S. soldiers.

**Strength:** Precise numbers are unknown.

**Location/Area of Operation:** Iraq and Syria

**Funding and External Aid:** KH depends heavily on support from Iran.