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## USDOS – US Department of State

## Country Report on Terrorism 2019 - Chapter 5 - Ansar al-Shari'a in Darnah (AAS-D)

**Aka** Supporters of Islamic Law; Ansar al-Sharia in Derna; Ansar al-Sharia in Libya; Ansar alSharia; Ansar al-Sharia Brigade in Darnah

**Description:** Designated as an FTO on January 13, 2014, Ansar al-Shari'a in Darnah (AAS-D) was created after the 2011 fall of the Qadhafi regime in Libya. The group has been involved in terrorist attacks against civilian targets as well as the assassination and attempted assassination of security officials and political actors in eastern Libya.

**Activities:** Members of AAS-D were involved in the September 11, 2012, attacks against the U.S. Special Mission and Annex in Benghazi, Libya. Four U.S. citizens were killed in the attack: Glen Doherty, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and U.S. Ambassador to Libya J. Christopher Stevens.

Throughout 2013 and 2014, AAS-D is believed to have cooperated with Ansar al-Shari'a in Benghazi in multiple attacks and suicide bombings targeting Libyan security forces in Benghazi. In 2016, AAS-D continued fighting in and around Darnah. Additionally, AAS-D maintained several terrorist training camps in Darnah and Jebel Akhdar, Libya, and trained members of other terrorist organizations operating in Syria and Iraq.

In 2018, there were unconfirmed reports that AAS-D was involved in clashes with the “Libyan National Army.” AAS-D did not claim any attacks in 2019.

**Strength:** Precise numbers are unknown.

**Location/Area of Operation:** Darnah, Libya

**Funding and External Aid:** Sources of funding are unknown.

**ecoi.net summary:**

Brief description of the Ansar al-Shari'a in Darnah (Excerpt of chapter 5 of the country report on terrorism 2019)

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Libya

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