



FEMALE SUICIDE BOMBERS



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TRISA-THREATS



PURPOSE

- To inform deploying units, scenario developers, and trainers of the threat from female suicide bombers.
- To provide examples of tactics, techniques, and procedures employed by female suicide bombers.

Product Caveat: *This presentation has been developed from multiple unclassified sources and is primarily intended for use as a training product for the Department of Army. This briefing should not be considered a finished intelligence product, nor used in such a manner.*



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AL-QAEDA'S INFLUENCES

- ❑ **Al-Qaeda is actively recruiting female jihadists and suicide bombers in Iraq and abroad, using past accounts of female suicide attacks in Russia, Israel, and Chechnya, as evidenced by this statement from AL KHANSAA, Al-Qaeda's new online magazine for women:**
 - **“We see the Muslim woman crying in sadness over her sisters in Iraq, over women prisoners in Palestine, over bereaved mothers in Chechnya, and over orphans in Afghanistan, and in the rest of the Islamic lands. We are walking, with Allah's help, in the path ... of Ayat (Al Akhras) and Reem (Al Riyashi)“ (references to Palestinian female suicide bombers)**
- ❑ **25 November 2005 - A report in the London Arabic newspaper ASHARQ AL AWSAT discussed Al-Qaeda Web sites which often refer to the role of women in the Chechen conflict. The article stated that Chechen rebel leader Shamol Basayev always took pride in the "Black Widows," females who conducted suicide attacks against Russian targets after their husbands were killed by Russian troops.**



TRISA-THREATS



AL-QAEDA'S INFLUENCES

- ❑ An al-Qaeda unit was formed around a female leader known as Umm Osama (the mother of Osama), who was reported to be in close contact with Osama Bin Laden and making extensive use of the internet to communicate with her network. The group was modeled after and inspired by the successful employment of women by the Palestinians and Chechens.
- ❑ In March, 2003, ASHARQ AL AWSAT published an interview with a female al-Qaeda leader. She stated al-Qaeda was inspired by the martyr operations carried out by Palestinian women.



Al-Qaeda in Iraq
(old name and
logo)



Islamic State of Iraq (ISI)
(new name and logo)



TRISA-THREATS

INSPIRATION



□ **Al KHANSAA, al-Qaeda's women's magazine, stated in the August 2004 first issue: "Our goal is Shahada (martyrdom) for the sake of Allah, and our goal is the pleasure of Allah and His Paradise. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our men. ... We will stand covered by our veils and wrapped in our robes, weapons in hand, our children in our laps, with the Koran and the Sunna of the Prophet of Allah directing and guiding us. The blood of our husbands and the body parts of our children are the sacrifice by means of which we draw closer to Allah.... The wind of Paradise is already blowing."**

- The magazine was named after Al Khansaa bint Omar, a female poet of the pre-Islamic period who converted to Islam during the time of Mohammad, and is considered to be the "mother of the Shahids (martyrs)." When her four sons died in the battle of Al Qadissiyya, she did not mourn but thanked Allah for honoring her with their death.



AL KHANSAA'S Internet Magazine
Front Cover www.siteinstitute.biz



COMMON CHARACTERISTICS

- Some characteristics and/or circumstances of women who have conducted suicide bombings include:**
 - **Dishonored through sexual indiscretion**
 - **Grieving the loss of family members, seeking revenge against those they feel are responsible for the loss**
 - **Desire to belong, be accepted or for heroic status**
 - **Impressionable, open to suggestion**
 - **Unable to produce children**
 - **Last resort to improve personal self-esteem and demonstrate the need for gender-equality**
 - **Many of the women discussed in this presentation were educated and successful**



TRISA-THREATS

RECRUITMENT



- **Samira Ahmed Jassim, 51, confessed to sending 28 women to conduct suicide attacks in Baghdad and Diyala, Iraq. She is suspected of recruiting more than 80 females to act as suicide bombers.**
 - Samira stated **she assisted in organizing rapes of women and then persuaded the women to commit suicide attacks as a means to atone for the shame of being raped.**



Samira Ahmed Jassim



TRISA-THREATS

MOTIVATION



- Shahida* (female martyr) or *fida'iyyat* (women warriors who are willing to die in action) are Islamic terms used for female suicide bombers.**

- According to the Koran, God promises martyrs heavenly rewards. One Palestinian woman, who did not go through with a planned bombing, was told she would become the purest and most beautiful form of angel at the highest level possible in heaven.**

- Many female bombers were motivated by the loss of loved ones. Other women appear to have been coerced or “shamed” into their actions. Yet, for some the motivation is unclear. Others actively sought to martyr themselves or were recruited.**

- Unsuccessful female suicide bombers in both Chechnya and Israel have stated they were given drugs prior to their suicide missions.**



TRISA-THREATS



MOTIVATION

- Dr Abdul Aziz al-Rantisi, spokesperson for Hamas, admitted during an on-camera interview that, depending on who takes responsibility for the attack, either Hamas, Islamic Jihad or the Palestinian Authority distributes a lifetime stipend of \$400 a month to the families of male suicide bombers; he pointed out that the **families of female bombers receive \$200 per month.**

- In conservative Muslim society, a woman who is involved in an intimate relationship with a man, whether outside or prior to marriage, violates a strict and unforgivable code of conduct and is therefore considered to be promiscuous, giving a bad name to both herself and her family. This can lead to “honor killings,” defined by UNICEF as a practice “in which men kill female relatives in the name of family ‘honor’ for forced or suspected sexual activity outside marriage.” **Often, the distress of these women is used by terrorist organizations to convince them to perform a suicide bombing as a way to clear their names and protect their families' honor.**

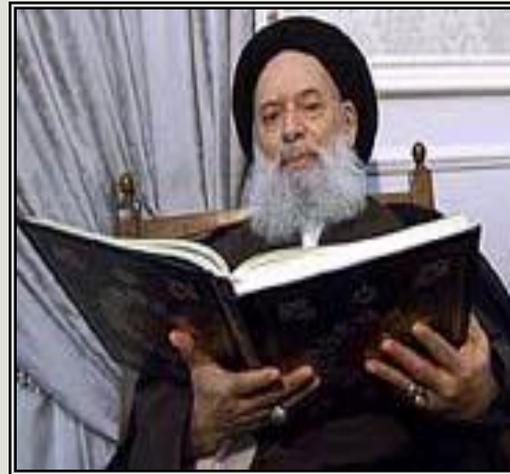


TRISA-THREATS



RELIGIOUS JUSTIFICATION

- ❑ August 2001 – The High Islamic Council in Saudi Arabia issued a fatwa encouraging women to become suicide bombers.
- ❑ 02 April 2002 – An article in Pakistan’s BUSINESS RECORDER quoted Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadllah stating, **“It is true that Islam has not asked women to carry out jihad, but it permits them to take part if the necessities dictate that women should carry out regular military operations or suicide operations.”**



Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadllah



RELIGIOUS JUSTIFICATION

- ❑ Hamas' spiritual leader, Sheikh Yassin, condoned the use of women as suicide bombers in February 2002.
- ❑ May 2003 - Egyptian cleric Yusuf al-Qaradawi, Dean of Islamic Studies at the University of Qatar, issued a fatwa in response to Hanadi Jaradat's female suicide bombing. He stated, "**The act is a form of martyrdom for the cause of Allah... that a woman should go out for jihad even without the permission of her husband...**" Qaradawi noted women "**may do what is impossible for men to do.**" In his opinion, women bombers are allowed to violate Islamic teachings, avoid wearing the veil, and be without a male escort when conducting a suicide attack.



Sheikh Yassin



Yusuf al-Qaradawi



TRISA-THREATS FRANCE



- ❑ **20 September 2010 – French announced they had thwarted a plot by a female suicide bomber.**
 - The woman was planning an attack in a “busy part of Paris.”
 - No details were given as to where the woman was from or whether or not she was captured by authorities.



TRISA-THREATS

AFGHANISTAN



- ❑ **24 December 2007 – Afghan intelligence agents said they detained a woman wearing an explosives-filled waistcoat under her burqa.**
 - The 55-year-old woman was followed from the eastern province of Kunar after a tip from an informant and arrested in the town of Jalalabad.
 - “She was carrying the suicide waistcoat for the Taliban. We had intelligence reports that she was working for the Taliban,” said an official in Kunar's intelligence department.

- ❑ **17 July 2008 – Police arrested a woman and a 13-year-old child they alleged were suicide bombers planning to attack the governor of Ghazni province. The pair were arrested as they were affixing explosives to themselves behind the governor’s residence.**
 - The woman and the child could not speak either of Afghanistan’s main languages, Dari and Pashtu, but spoke Pakistan’s Urdu and Arabic. The deputy police chief of Ghazni, Abdul Ghani, said the woman had confessed she was from Multan, in Pakistan, and had come to the city to carry out a suicide attack.



TRISA-THREATS

AFGHANISTAN



- ❑ **21 June 2010 - Kunar province, Segal district, Shaltan village, Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid claimed a female suicide bomber detonated an explosive vest amongst a crowd of military personnel who were helping at a clinic. He claimed 10 foreigners and two Afghan soldiers were killed, and seven foreigners and seven Afghans were wounded in the attack.**
 - An ISAF spokesman stated the explosion was an IED attack which killed two U.S. soldiers while wounding two U.S. soldiers and two Afghan soldiers.

- ❑ **July 2010 - Kabul province, Kabul, Afghan National Directorate of Security agents stormed a house in the capital and detained five militants. Spokesman Sayed Ansary stated a female suicide bomber blew herself up as the agents broke into the compound. A specific date for this incident was not stated.**



TRISA-THREATS PAKISTAN



❑ **01 October 2007 – A suicide bomber wearing a burqa detonated explosives at a police checkpoint in the town of Bannu, killing 14 people. This was initially reported as Pakistan's first female suicide attack but it was later determined the bomber was a male dressed as a woman.**

- The suicide bomber was in a rickshaw stopped by police at a checkpoint.
- Army spokesman Maj. Gen. Waheed Arshad said the dead included 4 police officers and 11 other people, among them the bomber. Many of the casualties were civilians waiting at a nearby bus stop.



TRISA-THREATS PAKISTAN



- ❑ **04 December 2007 – A woman wearing a blue burqa blew herself up after being stopped at a check point in Peshawar. The suicide bomber was killed but no one else was injured. A security official at the scene said the woman was thought to be an Afghan refugee aged about 40.**

- ❑ **16 October 2009 – A car filled with explosives drove to the main gate of a police station in Peshawar as a motorcycle carrying a man and a woman pulled up behind it. The woman ran toward a nearby housing complex for army officers, while the man crashed the motorcycle into the car, which exploded. Police shot the woman and she detonated explosives.**

- ❑ **01 October 2010 – *The Daily Times* reported three female students of Jamia Hafsa (a madrassa in Islamabad), aged between 14 and 16 years old and identified as Maryam Fatima, Ayesha Naseer, and Seema Tabassum, had been trained as suicide bombers. The three females were reported to be planning attacks in Pakistan.**



TRISA-THREATS PAKISTAN



- 25 December 2010 – Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Bajaur District, Khar, a female suicide bomber wearing a burqa killed at least 47 people and wounded more than 100 at a food distribution point. When she was challenged at a police checkpoint the woman ran toward a group of 300 people waiting for food distribution and threw two hand grenades before she detonated explosives she was carrying beneath her clothing.**



TRISA-THREATS

IRAQ



- ❑ **NUR al-SHAMMARI and WIDAD JAMIL– 04 April 2003 – Detonated a car bomb at a checkpoint near the Hadithah dam, 200 kilometers north-west of Baghdad. Three US soldiers and two civilians were killed. Two soldiers were injured.**
 - Al JAZEERA broadcast images of the two Iraqi women vowing to launch suicide attacks in the defense of Iraq.
 - According to witnesses, one of the women appeared to be pregnant.



Nur (right) and Widad (left) hold a rifle in one hand with the other hand placed on the Quran, as they speak on Iraqi TV.



TRISA-THREATS

IRAQ



- October 2003 – A female , carrying explosives, was caught trying to enter a government building inside the Green Zone, according to the Associated Press. No open source information could be found on the specifics of this incident.**

- 28 September 2005 – Tal Afar - Female dressed as a male detonated a bomb in the midst of a group of men waiting to enlist in the Iraqi army, killing 6 and wounding 30. Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for the attack. Their internet statement said the bombing was conducted by “a blessed sister from the al-Baraa bin Malek martyrdom brigade” and "May God accept our sister among the martyrs."**



TRISA-THREATS

IRAQ



- ❑ **MURIEL DEGAUQUE - 09 November 2005 – 38-year-old Belgian, detonated her explosive vest near an American patrol in Baquba, wounding one soldier. Muriel was unemployed and a known drug user, according to Belgian Police. Her husband, Issam Goris, the son of a Belgian man and Moroccan woman, was known to Belgian Police as a radical Islamist. He was shot and killed wearing an explosive vest by American troops the same day as Muriel's bombing attack.**



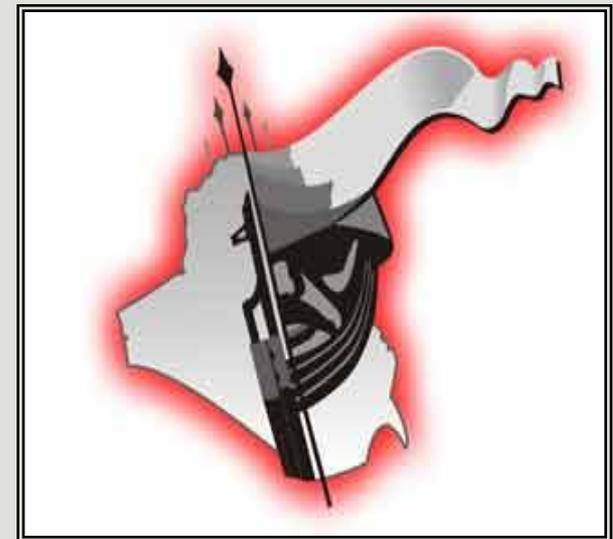


TRISA-THREATS

IRAQ



- 07 March 2005 - Iraqi police reported the arrest of two women wearing suicide belts outside the city courthouse in Al Iskandariyah. Two other women were captured wearing explosive belts at a checkpoint in the area. All four women reportedly confessed to working for the Islamic Army in Iraq.



Islamic Army in Iraq



TRISA-THREATS

IRAQ



- ❑ 27 November 2005 - The Saudi newspaper Al WATAN reported 122 women were recently arrested in Iraq for "attempting to carry out suicide operations." This appears to be an exaggeration at best or a total fabrication, as the alleged arrests were not reported by any other source and the United States government claimed to be holding a total of only 8 Iraqi women. If the statement is true, no additional information regarding the arrests is available, via open source research.**

- ❑ 07 April 2006 - Multiple suicide bombers detonated explosive devices at the Buratha Mosque in Kadamiyah, killing an estimated 75 Iraqis and wounding 135 at approximately 4 p.m. Reporting indicates that there were three male suicide bombers on the inside and one female suicide bomber on the outside of the Shiite mosque.**

- ❑ 16 August 2006 - Mujahidin Shura Council claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing executed by a female targeting a combined patrol of American forces and Iraqi National Guards in al-Muqdadiya. Media reports indicate the woman was wearing an explosive belt and detonated near a bus stop, killing seven and wounding twenty, including civilians and military personnel.**



TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- 25 February 2007 - A female suicide bomber wearing a vest packed with explosives and ball bearings blew herself up at Mustansiriya University, killing at least 40 people and wounding at least 55. When guards saw the woman trying to enter and questioned her, she moved quickly toward the building where female students pass through a security checkpoint.**
- 10 April 2007 - A female suicide bomber dressed in the traditional black abaya detonated a bomb within a crowd of about 200 people in Muqdadia. The crowd consisted mostly of men who were seeking recruitment forms to join the police force. About 20 people were reported to have been wounded and at least 14 dead.**
- 05 June 2007 - Alert guards at a police recruiting station near Sadr al-Qanat saw a suspicious woman wearing a black abaya and ordered her to stop. When she did not respond and approached the recruits, she was shot. She then detonated explosives, slightly wounding 3 policemen.**
- 27 November 2007 - Seven US soldiers and 5 Iraqi civilians were wounded when a female suicide bomber blew herself up near a passing American patrol in the Al-Amin neighborhood Baquba.**



TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- 07 December 2007 - A female suicide bomber wearing an explosive vest killed 16 people and wounded 27 more during an attack in Muqdadia. The attack targeted a building used by members of the 1920 Revolutionary Brigades, a Sunni Arab insurgency group. A number of its members have begun working with Iraqi security forces against Al-Qaeda.**
- 31 December 2007 – A female suicide bomber wounded 7 people at a police station in Baquba, Diyala province.**
- 02 January 2008 - A female suicide bomber wearing an explosive vest struck a checkpoint of neighborhood patrol volunteers in Baquba, killing 10 people and wounding 8 others. Two policemen and four patrol volunteers were among the dead. Among those killed was Abdul-Rafaa al-Nidawi, the coordinator between U.S. forces and the volunteer patrols in the city.**
- 16 January 2008 – A female suicide bomber concealing an explosive vest under her *abaya* struck worshippers as they prepared for the Shiite holy day of Ashura, killing at least 9 people in Khan Bani Saad, Diyala province.**



TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- ❑ **01 February 2008 - Two female suicide bombers killed at least 99 people in separate attacks in Baghdad.**
 - The first blast occurred about 10:20 am at the al-Ghazl pet market in the city center where at least 62 people died and approximately 88 were wounded in the deadliest bombing to strike the capital since the US surge began. The pet bazaar had recently re-emerged as a popular shopping venue as Baghdad security improved and a ban on driving was lifted.
 - About 20 minutes later, a second woman struck a bird market in a predominantly Shiite area in south-eastern Baghdad, killing at least 37 people and wounding at least 56.
- ❑ **Brigadier General Qassim al-Moussawi, Iraq's chief military spokesman in Baghdad, said the women had down syndrome and may not have known they were carrying explosives. He said the explosives were detonated by remote control.**
 - The al-Ghazl pet market has been the target of at least 4 previous bombings. See the TRISA – Threats product *Iraqi Pet Market Bombings* for more information.



TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- ❑ 28 February 2008 - The U.S. military announced the capture of an insurgent leader who was recruiting and training women, including his wife, for suicide bombings. The man was arrested near the town of Khan Bani Sad in Diyala province.**

- ❑ 10 March 2008 - A female suicide bomber went to the home of Thaer Saggban al-Karkhi in Kanaan, southeast of the Diyala province capital Baquba, knocked on the door and told guards she needed to speak to him. When Karkhi, a prominent Sunni Arab tribal chief who led a neighborhood security unit, came to the door she detonated a vest packed with explosives she was wearing underneath her robes. Karkhi's niece was among the dead and two of his bodyguards were wounded.**

- ❑ 17 March 2008 - A suicide attack around 100 meters from the Imam Hussein shrine in Karbala killed at least 40 people and injured at least 65. Alaa Hamud Dadair, head of Karbala's health directorate, said it was apparently a female bomber.**



TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- ❑ **19 March 2008 - At least 4 people died and at least 12 were injured, when a female suicide bomber blew herself up near a police patrol in a market in Baldrouz, Diyala province.**

- ❑ **21 April 2008 - A female suicide bomber detonated explosives in the Al-Mafraq neighborhood of Baquba, Diyala province, killing 3 members of the Sons of Iraq (a Sunni Muslim paramilitary group allied with the U.S. Army) and wounding 4 people.**
 - "The woman attacker tried to get inside the office that lies in the middle of the market. The guards at the first checkpoint stopped the woman and asked her to open her robes to check if she wore an explosive belt, but at this moment she exploded herself outside the office," Sons of Iraq commander Abu Talib said.

- ❑ **22 April 2008 - A female suicide bomber blew herself up near a police station in the town of Jawala, Diyala province, killing 5 policemen and a security guard while wounding 2 policemen and 10 civilians.**



TRISA-THREATS

IRAQ



- ❑ **14 May 2008 - A female suicide bomber killed an Iraqi Army captain and wounded seven Iraqi soldiers south of Baghdad near Yusufiya.**
 - Iraqis in the area described the bomber as being 8 to 12 years old, but an American military spokesman said the bomber appeared to be 16 to 18 years old.
 - The bomber waited four hours for the captain to return to the company's headquarters, telling soldiers there she needed to talk to him according to an Iraqi officer who was in the same brigade as the captain. He said Al-Qaeda in Mesopotamia had offered a reward for the captain's death.

- ❑ **14 June 2008 - A female suicide bomber wearing a burqa targeted a crowd of soccer fans, wounding at least 34 people near a cafe in the town of Qara Tappah a mainly Kurdish and Shi'ite Turkmen city, about 75 miles northeast of Baghdad in Diyala province .**
 - The woman was dropped off by a car and told suspicious police she was waiting for her husband. She blew herself up after an officer spotted the detonator and began screaming at the crowd to disperse.



TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- ❑ **22 June 2008 - A female suicide bomber detonated explosives in front of an Iraqi government compound in Baquba, the capital of Diyala province.**
 - The attack killed 15 people, including 7 police, and wounded 40 people.

- ❑ **29 June 2008 - A female suicide bomber detonated explosives in front of an Iraqi Awakening Council office in Baquba.**
 - A U.S. military statement said the dead included 7 Iraqi police and 8 civilians and 10 police were among the wounded.
 - Iraqi authorities said 16 people were killed and 42 wounded.

- ❑ **24 July 2008 - A female suicide bomber detonated explosives at a checkpoint manned by U.S.-allied Sunni security forces in Baquba, the capital of Diyala province.**
 - At least 8 guards were killed and 24 people were wounded.
 - U.S. military figures show the number of female suicide attacks has risen from eight in 2007 to 22 so far this year - nine of those in Diyala province.



TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- ❑ **28 June 2008 - Female suicide bombers struck a Shiite pilgrimage in Baghdad and a Kurdish protest rally in northern Iraq on Monday, killing at least 57 people and wounding nearly 300.**
 - Three women detonated explosive vests in the middle of pilgrims in Baghdad, moments after a roadside bomb attack, killing at least 32 people and wounding 102, Iraqi officials.
 - In Kirkuk, 25 people were killed and 185 wounded when a bomber attacked a crowd of Kurds protesting a draft provincial elections law. Police spokesman Brig. Gen. Burhan Tayeb Taha said the bomber was a woman, saying he had seen the remains.

- ❑ **14 August 2008 – A female suicide bomber detonated explosives amidst a group of Shiite pilgrims resting by a roadside in Iskandariyah, 30 miles south of Baghdad. The U.S. military put the death toll at 17, including one policeman and 16 civilians. A senior provincial security officer said 26 people were killed and 75 wounded. The pilgrims were heading to Karbala to attend the Shabaniyah celebration, which commemorates the birth of Shiite Islam's 12th imam, Muhammad al-Mahdi, who vanished in the 9th century.**



TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- ❑ **26 August 2008 – Iraqi police released video of a girl arrested in Baqouba who was wearing a suicide vest containing 33 pounds of explosives.**
 - The exact circumstances of the girl's arrest remain unclear. US officials said she turned herself in after being hooked to the explosives against her will. Iraqi police said she was captured after arousing suspicion while walking in downtown Baqouba.
 - A police officer is heard on the videotape saying the girl appeared to have been drugged.





TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- 15 September 2008 - A female suicide bomber killed 22 people (including 11 policemen) and wounded 33 others in Balad Ruz, Diyala province.**
 - The female bomber targeted the home of a police commissioner who had been detained by American troops for allegedly cooperating with the Mahdi Army.
- 08 October 2008 – A female suicide bomber detonated an explosives vest in front of a courthouse in downtown Baqouba, killing 11 people and wounding 19.**
- 24 November 2008 – A female suicide bomber killed 5 and wounded 11 in an attack near the Green Zone in Baghdad.**
- 04 January 2009 – A female suicide bomber blew herself while among a group of Iranian pilgrims in front of the main gate of to the shrine of Imam Mousa al-Kazim in northern Baghdad, killing at least 38 people and wounding about 72.**



TRISA-THREATS



IRAQ

- 13 February 2009 - A female suicide bomber killed 35 people and wounded 65 others between the cities of Mussayib and Iskandariyah.**
 - The female bomber targeted Shiite pilgrims walking to the holy city of Karbala for religious ceremonies.

- 01 February 2010 - A female suicide bomber detonated explosives among a group of pilgrims on the outskirts of Baghdad's Shiite-dominated neighborhood of Shaab as hundreds of thousands of Shiites were traveling to Karbala to mark the end of 40 days of mourning following the anniversary of the death Imam Hussein.**
 - A police official said 54 people, including 18 women and 12 children, were killed and 117 were wounded. A hospital official confirmed the casualties.

- 04 July 2010 - A female suicide bomber detonated explosives in the governor's compound of Anbar province, killing three people and wounding 39, as U.S. Vice President Joe Biden was visiting Baghdad.**



TRISA-THREATS

SRI LANKA



- 21 May 1991 – A female member of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam assassinated former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi after placing a garland around his neck at a political rally.**

- Since the Gandhi assassination, the Tamil Tigers have used more female suicide bombers than any other militant group, reportedly deploying at least 46 women on suicide missions since 1991.**

- 24 October 1994 – Leader of the Opposition and United National Party candidate for the Presidential Elections, Gamini Dissanayake, and 58 persons were killed by a female suicide bomber at Thotalaga (Grandpass) Junction in Colombo.**

- 11 November 1995 – A female suicide bomber attacked near the Slave Island Railway Station in Colombo killing 15 children, a police officer and one soldier.**

- 24 November 1995 – Two women suicide bombers struck the headquarters of the Sri Lankan Army, killing at least 16 people and wounding 52 others.**



TRISA-THREATS

SRI LANKA



- ☐ 04 July 1996 – At least 20 people, including Jaffna military commander Ananda Hamangoda, were killed and approximately 60 others were injured when a female suicide bomber detonated explosives strapped to her waist as Housing and Construction Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva’s motorcade stopped on the Stanley Road in Jaffna town. The minister escaped with minor injuries.**
- ☐ 06 February 1998 – A female suicide bomber detonated her explosives when she failed to penetrate through the SLAF road block near the Rio Cinema at Slave Island. Six soldiers and two civilians were killed.**
- ☐ 14 May 1998 – Sri Lankan Army Brigadier Larry Wijeyaratne is killed in Jaffna by a female suicide bomber.**
- ☐ 18 March 1999 – A female suicide bomber killed 2 people near a police station in Colombo in an attack on Chief Inspector Mohammed Nilabdeen, head of the terrorism investigation unit. Nilabdeen and 8 civilians were injured.**
- ☐ 25 July 1999 – A female suicide bomber killed one person on a ship docked in the Trincomalee harbor.**



TRISA-THREATS

SRI LANKA



- 04 August 1999 – A female suicide bomber attacked a police truck in Vavuniya, northern Sri Lanka, killing 9 police commandos and one civilian and wounding 18 commandos.**

- 18 December 1999 – A female suicide bomber failed to kill President Chandrika Kumaratunga at an election meeting at the Town Hall in Colombo; 21 people are killed and over 100 wounded. The President was injured in one eye by shrapnel. Among those killed were 4 police personnel, including Colombo's Deputy Inspector-General T.N. De Silva.**

- 05 January 2000 – A female suicide bomber detonated explosives while being searched by police in front of the Prime Minister's Office in Colombo, killing 13 civilians and 3 police officers and injuring 27 people.**

- 02 March 2000 – Col. Piyal Abeysekera is targeted by a female suicide bomber at Inner Harbour Road in Trincomalee. The Colonel survives but his driver is killed.**



TRISA-THREATS

SRI LANKA



- 30 October 2001 – Two men and two women launch a suicide boat attack on an oil tanker, MV Silk Pride, off the port of Point Pedro on the northern Jaffna peninsula.**

- 07 July 2004 – A female suicide bomber killed four police officers while being searched in a police station after being arrested near the Sri Lankan prime minister's official residence in the capital, Colombo. The blast injured 11 other officers.**

- 25 April 2006 – A female suicide bomber pretending to be pregnant blew herself up inside Sri Lanka's army headquarters seriously injuring Lt.-Gen. Sarath Fonseka, Sri Lanka's army commander and killing 8 others. The general's driver and escort and 27 others were wounded. The attacker entered the grounds using fake identification and claiming to have a prenatal appointment at the army's hospital, the military officials said. She was wearing explosives to make her appear pregnant.**



TRISA-THREATS

SRI LANKA



- ❑ 28 January 2007 – A disabled female LTTE suicide bomber targeting Eelam People’s Democratic Party (EPDP) leader and Social Services Minister Douglas Devananda blew herself up near the Ministry’s Public Relations Office at Narahenpita, killing the Public Relations Officer and injuring two Security Guards.**

- ❑ 28 November 2007 – A female suicide bomber struck in Sri Lanka's capital, Colombo, killing herself and one other person, near the office of Welfare Minister Douglas Devananda, an ethnic Tamil who heads a pro-government political party. He is seen as a traitor by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE - Tamil Tigers) and “has survived 12 previous assassination attempts” according to CNN.**



TRISA-THREATS

SRI LANKA



- 03 February 2008 – A female suicide bomber detonated explosives amidst a crowd awaiting a train at Colombo's main rail station, killing at least 11 and injuring more than 100 others on the eve of Sri Lanka's independence day celebrations .**

- A police spokesman said the train attack was carried out by a female operative of the Tamil Tigers.**
 - "The bombing has all the hallmarks of the Tigers," a police officer at the scene said. "The head of the was found on a platform."

- 09 February 2009 – When soldiers attempted to search a female among a group of refugees, she detonated explosives, killing at least 24 people and wounding at least 20 more.**



TRISA-THREATS TURKEY



- 30 June 1996 - The first female PKK suicide bomber killed 6 Turkish soldiers, and injured 30 people. The explosives were strapped to her stomach as if she were pregnant.**
- 25 October 1996 - a 17 year-old PKK suicide bomber Laila Kaplan, disguised as a pregnant woman, killed 5 and injured 12 at the police headquarters in Adana.**
- 29 October 1996 - Otas Gular, a 29-year-old dressed as a pregnant woman and accompanied by another member of the PKK, killed 2 policemen and one civilian in Sivas.**
- 17 November 1998 - Ozen Fatma wounded 6 people outside a police station in Yuksekova.**





TRISA-THREATS TURKEY



- 24 December 1998 - A woman detonated a bomb outside an army barracks in East Turkey killing herself and a passer-by, and wounding 22 people.**
- 04 March 1999 - A woman set off a bomb in the main square of Batman, Turkey. Four people were wounded.**
- 27 March 1999 - 21 year-old Esmâ Yurdakul, injured 10 people in Istanbul.**
- 05 July 1999 - 19 year-old Rusen Tabancı flashed the “V for victory” and detonated a bomb strapped to her body, wounding 17 people in Adana.**
- 76% of Kurdistan Workers’ Party suicide bombers in Turkey have been women.**



PKK – Kurdistan Worker’s Party



TRISA-THREATS

ISRAEL



- ❑ **Wafa IDRIS – 27 January 2002- Killed one Israeli and wounded more than 150 others on Jaffa Road in west Jerusalem. First female Palestinian bomber.**
 - She was a 27-year-old paramedic in the Palestinian Red Crescent Society.
 - Wafa was born in the al-Amari refugee camp. In 1998, her husband divorced her because she had not given birth to any children.
 - She is a heroine to Palestinians and is the subject of a song and a book.

Front cover of the book [*Wafa Idris and other Palestinian Stories*](#)





TRISA-THREATS

ISRAEL



- **DAREEN ABU AISHEH - 27 February 2002 - A resident of Beit Wazan in Northern West Bank, was dispatched by the Fatah's Tanzim organization in the vicinity of the Maccabim roadblock (some 20 kilometers west of Jerusalem). Two Israeli policemen were wounded in the attack.**
 - A 22-year-old divorced woman, Dareen Abu Aisheh was known as a pious Muslim. Within several months after her divorce, her former husband and her brother were killed in clashes with Israeli troops. According to Palestinian sources, she contacted Hamas operatives on several occasions, asking them to carry out a suicide bombing attack against Israel. Eventually, she was assisted by Fatah operatives.





TRISA-THREATS

ISRAEL



- ❑ **AAYAT al-AKHRAS* - 29 March 2002-** An 18-year-old female from Dehaishe refugee camp (located in the vicinity of Bethlehem), member of the Fatah's Tanzim organization, perpetrated a suicide bombing attack at a supermarket in the neighborhood of Kiryat Yovel in Jerusalem. Two Israeli civilians died and 22 were wounded in the attack.
 - Aayat was an 18-year-old single woman and an outstanding high school student. She was recruited by her fiancé, a Fatah's Tanzim operative. Apparently, she was engaged in a pre-marital relationship with her fiancé and was rumored to be pregnant with his child.



***Aayat's example was referenced by Al-Qaeda's AL KHANSAA online magazine.**



TRISA-THREATS

ISRAEL



- **ANDALIB SULEIMAN al-TAQATIQAH - 12 April 2002- A 21-year-old Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine operative from Bethlehem, detonated explosives near a bus at Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem. The attack left 6 dead and over 60 wounded.**
 - Andalib apparently volunteered for the suicide bombing attack to redeem herself for her alleged extra-marital relations with a Fatah operative. According to one version, she became pregnant with his child.



Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine





TRISA-THREATS

ISRAEL



- **ARIN AHMED - 22 May 2002-** Volunteered to conduct a suicide bombing to avenge Tanzim militant Jad Salem, her boyfriend. She changed her mind after seeing a male suicide bomber detonate his explosives. She was to have targeted the crowd fleeing from the male bomber's blast. She was arrested by the Israeli Defense Forces a week after the incident.
 - Arin was a 20-year-old communications and computer programming student at Bethlehem University and speaks fluent English. She was instructed to wear jeans and a revealing top so she would blend into the crowd. She carried her bomb in a backpack.



Al Aksa Martyrs Brigade



TRISA-THREATS

ISRAEL



- **THAURIA HAMUR – 30 May 2002-** A 26-year-old Palestinian woman living in the West Bank, recruited by Fatah's military wing to carry out a suicide bombing in Jerusalem. She was captured by Israeli authorities and is serving a six-year sentence at Neve Tirzah Prison in central Israel.
 - Thauria explained, “My own cousin was killed in the lounge of our house near Jenin by Israeli soldiers. The Israelis invaded my homeland and decided they weren't going to be merciful, and they massacred my people. So I decided not to feel sorry or to be merciful with their people.”



Al Aksa Martyrs Brigade



TRISA-THREATS

ISRAEL



- **HIBA AZEM DARAGHMEH - 19 May 2003 – Member of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, detonated explosives at Kanyon ha-Amakim, a shopping mall in Afula (a city southeast of Haifa). The attack left 3 Israeli civilians dead and 50 wounded.**
 - Hiba was an unmarried religious student from Tubas. It appears she conducted her suicide bombing attack to avenge the death of her brother in Israel.



Palestinian Islamic Jihad



TRISA-THREATS

ISRAEL



- **HANADI JARADAT*** - 04 October 2003 - A female suicide bomber dispatched by the Palestinian Islamic Jihad in Jenin, conducted a suicide bombing at Maxim restaurant in Haifa. The attack left 21 Israeli civilians dead and 48 wounded. She utilized explosives around her waist and feigned pregnancy.
 - Hanadi was a 29-year-old single lawyer and was involved in an pre-marital relationship with her fiancé, a Palestinian Islamic Jihad operative, who was killed in a battle with Israeli troops.



Palestinian Islamic Jihad

*Hanadi's bombing prompted Egyptian cleric Yusuf al-Qaradawi to issue a fatwa approving of female suicide bombings.



TRISA-THREATS

ISRAEL



- **REEM RIASHI* – 14 January 2004 - Killed four Israelis and wounded nine others at the Erez crossing between Gaza and Israel. First female suicide bomber from Hamas. She was 22-years-old and had two children, a three-year-old son and one-year-old daughter.**
 - Reem dishonored her family by having an extra-marital affair. She became convinced she could atone for the shame she had caused her family by dying as a Shahida. She was stopped at a checkpoint and detonated her explosives as soldiers told her to wait for a female guard to search her.



Hamas



*Reem's example was referenced by Al-Qaeda's AL KHANSAA online magazine.



TRISA-THREATS



ISRAEL

- **ZEINAB ABU SALEM - 22 September 2004 - Age 18, blew herself up near a bus stop, killing two Israeli border police and wounding 17 others. The attack occurred in the mainly Jewish district of French Hill, in Arab East Jerusalem. Fatah Tanzim's Al Aksa Martyrs Brigade claimed responsibility for the attack.**
 - Zeinab was a children's TV show hostess on a local station in Shechem. Her family is very wealthy and owns the TV station where she worked.



Al Aksa Martyrs Brigade

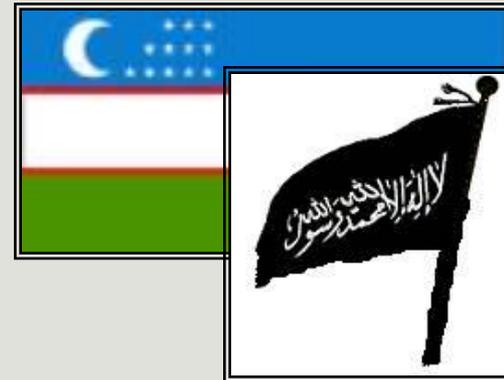


TRISA-THREATS

UZBEKISTAN



- **DILNOZA HOLMURADOVA – 29 March 2004 - 19-year-old detonated explosives at Tashkent's Chorsu market. The explosion killed two policemen. It was the first suicide bombing in Uzbekistan.**
 - According to a report by the Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR), Dilnoza was a computer programmer and enrolled at the Tashkent police academy in 2001. She spoke Uzbek, Russian, English, Turkish and Arabic. She was recruited by the Islamic Jihad Group, a radical offshoot of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU).



Islamic Jihad Group



TRISA-THREATS

NORTH OSSETIA



- ❑ **06 November 2008 – A female suicide bomber killed 11 people and wounded as many as 40 others.**
 - The bomber struck as passengers were leaving a minibus at a bus stop next to the central market in Vladikavkaz, capital of the North Ossetia region.



TRISA-THREATS DAGESTAN



- **14 July 2010 – The Russian National Anti-Terror Committee announced six female suicide bombers preparing attacks in central Russia were arrested in Makhachkala, the capital of Dagestan.**
 - The women, aged 15 to 29, were the widows of Islamic militants killed by the authorities.
 - A video played on state television showed two handguns, a silencer, a belt for explosives and three grenades. The video included footage of a young girl in a gray headscarf describing how she was trained to use grenades.



TRISA-THREATS

RUSSIA



- ❑ **ZAREMA MUZHAKHOYEVA - 10 July 2003 - 22 year-old widow from Chechnya, arrested after being spotted acting suspiciously as she carried a backpack into a Moscow restaurant. She threw the backpack into the street. A Russian bomb disposal expert was killed when a bomb in the backpack detonated as he approached.**
 - Zarema initially admitted pressing the button of the bomb several times to try to set it off, but later said she had decided not to commit a suicide bombing and tried to attract attention to herself without alerting handlers, who she believed could detonate the bomb by remote control. She also claimed to have been drugged by her handlers. She was sentenced to 20 years in prison.



Chechen Wolf



TRISA-THREATS

RUSSIA



- ❑ **24 August 2004 – Eighty-nine people died after explosions caused near-simultaneous crashes of two Russian jetliners. Two Chechen women purchased last minute tickets on the flights. No one came forward to claim the remains of either woman. Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) officials believe the women were “Black Widows,” a term often used to describe Chechen female suicide bombers.**
- ❑ **31 August 2004 - A female suicide bomber killed nine people and wounded 51 others when she detonated a bomb outside a subway station in Moscow. Witnesses said the woman walked toward the entrance to the Rizhskaya station, but turned back when she saw police checking commuters' bags and blew herself up.**



Chechen Wolf



TRISA-THREATS

RUSSIA



□ **29 March 2010 – Two female suicide bombers killed at least 40 people and wounded at least 90 others in attacks on Moscow subway stations. The first attack occurred just before eight in the morning at the Lubyanka station, located beneath a building which houses offices of the Federal Security Service. About 45 minutes later a second female bomber detonated explosives in the Park Kultury station near Gorky Park.**

- Russian investigators identified one of the bombers as 17-year-old Dzhannet Abdurakhmanova, from the predominately Muslim North Caucasus region of Dagestan.
- The second suicide bomber has been tentatively identified as 20-year-old Markha Ustarkhanova from Chechnya, the widow of a militant leader killed last October while he was preparing to assassinate Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov,



Dzhannet Abdurakhmanova, with her husband Umalat Magomedov



TRISA-THREATS

RUSSIA



❑ **24 January 2011 – An explosion at Domodedovo airport in Moscow killed 30 people and wounded 180 others.**

- A Russian security official said the bomb was carried by a woman who mingled in the crowd at the arrivals area. An eyewitness said the woman had been dressed in black and had worn a veil, suggesting she may have been a 'Black Widow' suicide bomber from the North Caucasus region. "The explosion occurred the moment the presumed female suicide bomber opened her bag," a security source told the RIA Novosti news agency.
- A newspaper close to Russia's FSB security service published what it claimed was a warning to Moscow police issued in December. The warning stated there was credible intelligence indicating a suicide squad made up of three women and one man from Chechnya was headed to Moscow. The memo said the team had spent time in Pakistan and Iran and one of the women had a relative with a flat in Moscow which might be used as a bomb making factory. Another group of five Islamist militants trained in Pakistan was also expected to cross into Russia soon, according to the warning.
- The daily Kommersant newspaper noted a woman accidentally blew herself up on New Year's Eve in Moscow. It later emerged her husband was in jail for being a member of an Islamist terror group and she and a girlfriend had been sent to Moscow from the internal Muslim republic of Dagestan to commit an act of terror.



TRISA-THREATS

CHECHNYA



- ❑ **HAWA BARAYEV - 09 June 2000 – Accompanied by a man, she drove a vehicle filled with explosives into a building housing Russian Special Forces in Alkhan Kala killing 27 soldiers.**
 - Chechen rebels defended her on their website, stating Hawa’s last words were: “I know what I am doing, paradise has a price, and I hope this will be the price for paradise.”



Chechen Flag and Wolf Crest





TRISA-THREATS

CHECHNYA



- **AIZAN (LUIZA) VAKHAYEVNA GAZUYEVA - 29 June 2001 – 18-year-old widow approached Russian Maj. Gen. Gaidar Gadzhiyev outside his office in the city of Urus-Martan and asked "Do you recognize me?" before detonating a grenade hidden under her clothing.**
 - Her husband, uncle and two brothers were apparently killed by Russian soldiers under Maj. Gen. Gadzhiyev's command. She had previously approached him and inquired about her relatives' welfare. According to several accounts, Maj. Gen. Gadzhiyev mocked her and laughed at her. One account states he told Luiza he had personally killed her husband.
 - Maj. Gen. Gadzhiyev received fatal wounds and died several days later. One of his guards was seriously wounded.
 - Luiza was one of the first Chechen women to be referred to as a "Black Widow." (Chechnya's Black Widows are often praised by al-Qaeda.)



TRISA-THREATS

CHECHNYA



- **NATALIYA KHALKAYEVA - 22 September 2004 - 31-year-old captured by Russian special forces. Sister of Khassan Khalkayev, who took part in the kidnapping of citizens for ransom in Krasnodar Territory.**
 - According to the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB), she was responsible for “transfer of funds to Chechnya via bank remittance, funds that were collected by agents of international terrorist organizations to commit terrorist attacks and recruit young girls as suicide bombers.”
 - She allegedly had connections in United Arab Emirates, Germany, the Czech Republic, Poland, Austria, Turkey, and several other countries in Europe and the Middle East.



Chechen Wolf





TRISA-THREATS CHECHNYA



- ❑ **Grozny – 16 September 2009 – A suicide bomber detonated explosives as two police officers walked by, seriously injuring them and wounding four civilians in a nearby car.**
 - Chechen Interior Minister Ruslan Alkhanov said the bomber was a woman.
 - At least six suicide bombings have occurred in Chechnya between late July and 16 September 2009, killing at least 12 people.



TRISA-THREATS

JORDAN



- ❑ **SAJIDA MUBARAK ATROUS al-RISHAWI – 09 November 2005 - Attempted to detonate herself at the Radisson hotel in Amman, Jordan. The explosive device failed to function and she was later captured still wearing the explosive belt by Jordanian authorities.**
 - Sajida is a 35-year-old Iraqi and the sister of Mubarak Atrous al-Rishawi, a leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq in Anbar province. He is believed to have been killed by US forces in Fallujah.





TRISA-THREATS



IRANIAN VIEW OF SHAHIDAS

- ❑ During a 01 May 2002 speech, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Khamenei said, **“It is the zenith of honor for a man, a young person, boy or girl, to be prepared to sacrifice his life in order to serve the interests of his nation and his religion. This is the zenith of courage and bravery.... martyrdom-seeking operations demonstrate the pinnacle of a nation's honor.”**

- ❑ Female suicide bombers are commonly referred to in Iran as **“Olive Girls”** and ceremonies to honor them were held in Tehran on 20 April 2005 and in Tabriz on 18 July 2005. These events were organized by the Headquarters for Tribute to the Martyrs of the Global Islamic Movement, local members of the Basij Resistance Forces, and a local husseinieh (prayer hall).

- ❑ 23 August 2005 - Brigadier General Mohammad-Reza Jaafari, commander of Iran's **“Lovers of Martyrdom Garrison,”** stated **Iranian suicide bombers would strike American interests “all over the world,”** if Iran were attacked.



TRISA-THREATS



IRANIAN SHAHIDA RECRUITMENT

- ❑ The Iranian newspaper PARTO SOKHAN regularly runs the ad pictured below requesting “**all our pious brothers and sisters**” to volunteer for suicide missions. The ad includes a form for volunteers to send in.

بسمه تعالی

وَمَا تَنْتَظِرُونَ إِلَّا شَهَادَةً مِنْ رَبِّكُمْ

عملیات استشهدی اوج عظمت یک ملت و اوج حماسه است .

مقام معظم رهبری مدظله العالی

اطلا عیه ثبت نام نیروهای استشهدی قرارگاه عاشقان شهادت

قرارگاه عاشقان شهادت به منظور آمادگی همه جانبه علیه دشمنان اسلام و نظام مقدس جمهوری اسلامی و نیز حراست از کیان اسلام در نظر دارد در هر استان کشور «**یک لشکر استشهدی**» را از بین نیروهای شهادت طلب و شجاع مردمی همان استان تشکیل داده و آنان را تحت آموزش های تخصصی و ویژه قرار دهد، لذا از کلیه برادران و خواهران مؤمن، علاقمند و معتقد به دفاع از اسلام درخواست می گردد در صورت تمایل با ارسال دو قطعه عکس ۳×۴، کپی شناسنامه و برگ درخواست عضویت به آدرس:

تهران صندوق پستی ۶۶۴-۱۶۵۳۵

ثبت نام به عمل آورده تا مقدمات سازماندهی و آموزش آنها فراهم گردد، قابل ذکر است نیروهای **لشکر استشهدی** هر استان در همان استان تجهیز و آماده عملیات استشهدی خواهند شد.

فرم درخواست عضویت

اینجانب..... فرزند..... ش.ش..... تاریخ تولد.....
 به آدرس..... تلفن.....
 متقاضی عضویت در لشکر استشهدی استان..... می باشم.....
 امضا.....



TRISA-THREATS



CONCLUSIONS

- Many female suicide bombers have strapped explosives to their stomachs, giving the appearance of being pregnant and allowing them to carry a large amount of explosives. Women, especially pregnant women, tend to be viewed as non-threatening by Western males.
- It is rare for a pregnant Muslim woman to be without a male escort.
- Male handlers will attach explosive materiel to “non-bulging” parts of a woman’s body dependent upon the build and shape of the woman.
- Richard Pape of the University of Chicago has calculated that between 1998 and 2001 Chechen suicide bombers killed an average of more than twice as many people per incident than other suicide bombers.
- The majority (66%) of Chechen suicide bombers are women. This suggests females are more effective in this role than males. Women bombers also tend to generate more media attention than males.



TRISA-THREATS



CONCLUSIONS

- Prior to assuming the role of a suicide bomber or shakhidka, women are often taught to handle assault rifles (M16s and AK-47s), and become familiar with explosives, hand grenades, and pistols.
- PKK women operatives train in one of two areas: (1) PKK organization duties such as media and propaganda work and (2) military activities such as terrorist attacks and suicide bombings.
- Mujahidat (female mujahideen) in countries such as Iraq, Jordan, Afghanistan, and the Indian Kashmir receive first-aid training to save injured mujahideen (males) on the battlefield. Training is rudimentary and received from jihadi websites.
- LTTE, or Sri Lanka's Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, use more female suicide bombers than any other organization in the world. Grueling training deep in the jungles of Sri Lanka produce brainwashed and idealistic suicide bombing candidates.
- LTTE voices gender equality, which is known to be untrue. Their version of equality allows and encourages men and women to become suicide bombers; ultimately martyrs.



TRISA-THREATS



CONCLUSIONS

- Muriel Degauque (Belgian who blew herself up in Iraq) is not the only ethnically European woman known to have been involved in Islamic extremism. Martine van der Oeven, a Dutch police officer and member of the Hofstad Group, was arrested in the summer of 2005. The Hofstad Group consists of Islamic extremists, including several women, operating in the Netherlands and allegedly linked to Al-Qaeda.**
- Female bombers do not come from a single ethnic or religious faction. Kurds, Palestinians, Chechens, Uzbeks, Sunni Arabs, and Shia Arabs have all conducted suicide attacks.**



Martine van der Oeven



TRISA-THREATS



CONCLUSIONS

- Iran is actively recruiting suicide bombing volunteers and the Iranian leadership praises suicide attacks by females. It is reasonable to assume Iranian females would conduct such attacks, if tensions between the United States and Iran were to escalate.**

- Suicide attacks present a favorable cost/effect ratio to insurgents. This has resulted in a steady expansion of the use of suicide bombers. According to a Rand Corporation study, suicide plays a role in two out of every three insurgent bombings in Iraq.**

- There were at least 350 suicide bombings in Iraq between March 2003 and May 2007.**

- In Afghanistan, suicide attacks rose from 3 in 2004 to 106 in 2009.**

- Associated Press records show at least 151 people have been killed in at least 17 attacks or attempted attacks by female suicide bombers in Iraq between March 2003 and February 2008.**

- The past migration and expansion of effective insurgent TTP suggests there will be an increase in female suicide attacks in the future.**



TRISA-THREATS



CONCLUSIONS

- More women carried out suicide attacks in Iraq in the first four months of 2008 than in the previous five years combined.**

- “Between January and April, there were 12 suicide attacks by women in Iraq. That marks an exponential increase,” Farhana Ali, a US international policy analyst of Pakistani origin, told AFP after a symposium on terrorism at the American Psychiatric Association’s annual meeting in Washington D.C. on 05 May 2008. Twelve women carried out suicide attacks in Iraq in the first few months of 2008, compared with 11 between 2003 and 2007, according to Ali.**

- “So long as this conflict continues, you will see greater instability in Iraq and women will be greatly victimized — you will see more women in Iraq choose suicide terrorism in the next few months,” she predicted, adding she had warned US officials and policy makers of the threat since 2005.**

- According to an International Herald Tribune article published on 27 May 2008, 18 women had conducted suicide attacks in Iraq from 01 January – 27 May 2008. As of 02 August 2008, there were 27 suicide attacks by women.**



TRISA-THREATS



CONCLUSIONS

- Although women make up roughly 15% of the suicide bombers within groups which utilize females, they were responsible for 65% of assassinations; 20% of women who committed a suicide attack did so with the purpose of assassinating a specific individual, compared with 04% of male attackers.

- Secular organizations employing suicide bombings have used female attackers early and often. The percentage of suicide bombers who were female (as of August 2008):
 - Kurdistan Workers' Party: 76%
 - Chechen separatist groups: 66%
 - Syrian Socialist National Party: 45%
 - Tamil Tigers: 25%



Additional TRISA OEA Team Resources

- Afghanistan Operational Environment Assessment**
- Iraq Operational Environment Assessment**
- Pakistan Operational Environment Assessment**
- Suicide Attacks – AFGHANISTAN**
- Suicide Attacks – PAKISTAN**
- Introduction to Islam**
- And many more...**



TRISA-THREATS



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TRISA-THREATS



□ BCKS

- <https://dcsint-threats.leavenworth.army.mil/default.aspx>



□ AKO

<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/portal/index.jsp>

Threat Products: AKO“Easy-Link”

Contemporary Operational Environment and Threat Integration Directorate

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4. “Click” & Find !