

# ABDULLAH AL-FAISAL'S TIES TO EXTREMISTS

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## ABDULLAH AL-FAISAL'S TIES TO EXTREMISTS



### Key Points:

- CEP has documented a total of 52 extremists who have been linked to Abdullah al-Faisal. Of these, 26 are violent extremists, 12 are successful or attempted foreign fighters, and 18 are propagandists. (Some extremists are counted in multiple categories.)
- CEP has counted 25 U.S. extremists with ties to Faisal. His lectures, website, and videos have influenced Ohio State attacker Abdul Razak Ali Artan and Garland, Texas, attackers Nadir Soofi and Elton Simpson, among others.
- Faisal was convicted in the United Kingdom in 2003 for soliciting murder and inciting racial hatred. He was deported in 2007. CEP has identified 20 U.K. extremists with ties to Faisal, including 7/7 bomber Germaine Lindsay, London Bridge terrorist Khuram Shazad Butt, and London attacker Sudesh Amman.
- After a three-year legal fight, Faisal was extradited to the United States from Jamaica on August 13, 2020, on charges of recruiting and providing support to those seeking to commit acts of violence and terrorism in connection with ISIS. He was convicted on January 26, 2023.

Abdullah al-Faisal is a U.S.-designated Islamist propagandist who has recruited for ISIS and facilitated travel to ISIS-held territory.<sup>1</sup> After ISIS declared its caliphate in June 2014, Faisal called on Muslims around the world to support it and praised the concept of *hijra*, migration to the Islamic state.<sup>2</sup> In 2017, Jamaican police arrested Faisal after U.S. authorities indicted him for trying to recruit an undercover New York Police Department officer to the terror group. New York Police Commissioner James O’Neill told the *Daily News* that Faisal “has used his influence and direction to groom and inspire terrorists who have bombed trains, attempted to blow up airliners and attack Americans here and abroad.”<sup>3</sup> Faisal was extradited to the United States on

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<sup>1</sup> “Treasury Sanctions Jamaica-based ISIS Recruiter for Terror Support,” U.S. Department of the Treasury, December 5, 2017, <https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/sm0231.aspx?src=ilaw>.

<sup>2</sup> Abdullah Faisal, “The Importance of Hijrah,” Authentic Tauheed, July 9, 2014, <http://www.authentictauheed.com/2014/07/notes-importance-of-hijra.html>.

<sup>3</sup> Larry McShane, “Pro-ISIS Muslim cleric busted in native Jamaica for trying to recruit NYPD undercover cop,” *Daily News*, August 25, 2017, <https://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/pro-isis-muslim-cleric-busted-recruit-nypd-article-1.3442873>; Adam Goldman and Scott Shane, “A Long-Pursued Preacher Is Finally Charged in New York,” *New York Times*, September 1, 2017, <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/01/us/abdullah-faisal-al-qaeda.html>.

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August 13, 2020.<sup>4</sup> Faisal went on trial in New York City on November 28, 2022.<sup>5</sup> He was convicted on January 26, 2023.<sup>6</sup>

Born Trevor William Forrest in Jamaica, Faisal converted to Islam and changed his name while living abroad as a teenager in Saudi Arabia.<sup>7</sup> Faisal moved to the United Kingdom where he built his reputation as an Islamist cleric in the 1990s. British authorities first took note of Faisal in 2001 after discovering recordings of his lectures in the car of convicted rapist Richard Chinyoka. The lectures called for the murder of Jews, Hindus, and other so-called nonbelievers.<sup>8</sup> Faisal has since been linked to such notorious propagandists and violent extremists as pro-ISIS propagandist [Anjem Choudary](#), 7/7 bomber [Germaine Lindsay](#), and “underwear bomber” [Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab](#). In 2003, British prosecutors accused Faisal of encouraging Britons to become foreign fighters in Afghanistan. He was convicted of soliciting murder and inciting racial hatred.<sup>9</sup> While in prison, Faisal claimed he radicalized hundreds of other inmates.<sup>10</sup> U.K. authorities subsequently deported Faisal to Jamaica in 2007.<sup>11</sup>

Faisal’s lectures, websites, and videos have incited “untold numbers of people around the world to take up the cause of jihad,” according to the U.S. government.<sup>12</sup> Failed Times Square bomber [Faisal Shahzad](#) reportedly praised Faisal and al-Qaeda propagandist [Anwar al-Awlaki](#) as “the only two clerics out there who have got it right.”<sup>13</sup> Faisal gained a new global platform in 2007 when U.S. extremists Jesse Curtis Morton (a.k.a. Younus Abdullah Muhammad) and Joseph Cohen (a.k.a. Yousef al-Khattab) co-founded the group Revolution Muslim under Faisal’s guidance. Authorities have since linked Faisal and Revolution Muslim to some of the world’s most notorious extremists. Trinidadian Imam Umar Abdullah credited Faisal’s propaganda for influencing the more than 100 foreign fighters from Trinidad and Tobago, where Faisal’s

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<sup>4</sup> Ellen Nakashima, “Suspected ISIS cleric accused of inspiring American terrorists to stand trial in New York,” *Washington Post*, August 14, 2020, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/abdullah-faisal-arraignment-islamic-state/2020/08/14/7eae9372-ddc6-11ea-809e-b8be57ba616e\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/abdullah-faisal-arraignment-islamic-state/2020/08/14/7eae9372-ddc6-11ea-809e-b8be57ba616e_story.html).

<sup>5</sup> Colin Moynihan, “Marriage Broker Faces Trial in New York,” *New York Times*, November 28, 2022, <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/28/nyregion/abdullah-el-faisal-isis-marriage-trial.html>.

<sup>6</sup> “Jamaican cleric convicted in NY state terrorism trial,” Associated Press, January 27, 2023, <https://apnews.com/article/islamic-state-group-crime-legal-proceedings-new-york-city-manhattan-2167f5a7e5d6dad20310bd85f67668f9>.

<sup>7</sup> “Profile: Sheikh Abdullah al-Faisal,” BBC News, May 25, 2007, [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/6692243.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/6692243.stm).

<sup>8</sup> Nicola Harley, “Radical July 7 preacher arrested in undercover sting trying to recruit jihadis,” *Telegraph* (London), August 26, 2017, <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/08/25/radical-july-7-preacher-arrested-undercover-sting-trying-recruit/>.

<sup>9</sup> “Muslim cleric guilty of soliciting murder,” *Guardian* (London), February 24, 2003, <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2003/feb/24/race.world>.

<sup>10</sup> Abdullah Faisal, “My Life in Prison,” Authentic Tauheed, June 24, 2011, <http://www.authentictauheed.com/2011/06/96-my-life-in-prison.html>.

<sup>11</sup> “Race hate cleric Faisal deported,” BBC News, May 25, 2007, [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/6691701.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/6691701.stm).

<sup>12</sup> “Radical Cleric Shaikh Faisal Indicted For Recruiting Supporters and Facilitating Efforts To Join Islamic State,” New York County District Attorney’s Office, August 25, 2017, <http://manhattanda.org/press-release/radical-cleric-shaikh-faisal-indicted-recruiting-supporters-and-facilitating-efforts-j>.

<sup>13</sup> Dina Temple-Raston, “Jamaican Imam Said To Inspire Times Square Suspect,” NPR, May 19, 2010, <https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126962091>.

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recordings first gained popularity in the 1990s. According to Abdullah, Faisal’s justifications of violent jihad appeal to converts and Muslims without firm religious backgrounds.<sup>14</sup>

**CEP has documented 52 extremists and propagandists—25 U.S. extremists, 20 U.K. extremists, and seven other international extremists—who have worked with or otherwise been influenced by Faisal.**

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<sup>14</sup> Amandla Thomas-Johnson, “Caribbean to ‘Caliphate’: On the trail of the Trinidadians fighting for the Islamic State,” Middle East Eye, last updated March 1, 2018, <https://www.middleeasteye.net/essays/caribbean-caliphate-trail-trinidadians-fighting-808370626>.

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U.S. EXTREMISTS**

1. Parveg Ahmed [no image] ([New York Times](#), [New York Times](#), [U.S. Department of Justice](#))
  - a. Attempted foreign fighter: Arrested in 2017 for attempting to travel to Syria to join ISIS. Pleaded guilty in June 2018 to attempting to provide material support or resources to ISIS. Sentenced on December 20, 2022, to 153 months’ imprisonment and 15 years supervised release.
  - b. Investigators found evidence on Ahmed’s computer that he had been listening to Faisal’s lectures.
2. [Mohamed Hamoud Alessa](#) ([CNN](#), [New America](#), [U.S. Department of Justice](#))
  - a. Attempted foreign fighter: Arrested in June 2010 alongside Carlos Eduardo Almonte attempting to travel to Somalia to join al-Shabab. Sentenced to 22 years in prison.
  - b. Allegedly actively linked to the Faisal-inspired Revolution Muslim website.
3. [Carlos Eduardo Almonte](#) ([CNN](#), [New America](#), [U.S. Department of Justice](#))
  - a. Attempted foreign fighter: Arrested alongside Mohamed Alessa in June 2010 attempting to travel to Somalia to join al-Shabaab. Sentenced to 20 years in prison.
  - b. Allegedly actively linked to the Faisal-inspired Revolution Muslim website.
4. [Abdul Razak Ali Artan](#) ([U.S. Department of the Treasury](#), [New York Times](#), [ABC News](#))
  - a. Domestic terrorist: Drove his car into a crowd of people on a sidewalk at the Ohio State University on November 28, 2016, wounding 11. Shot and killed by campus police.
  - b. Allegedly influenced by Faisal, according to the U.S. government.
5. [Anwar al-Awlaki](#) ([USA Today](#), [U.S. Department of the Treasury](#), [New America](#), [Guardian](#))
  - a. Propagandist: U.S.-Yemeni dual citizen and longtime cleric, propagandist, and operative for al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula who directed a number of terrorist plots against the United States, and disseminated English- and Arabic-language videos, audio recordings, and articles online. Killed in a 2011 U.S. drone strike in Yemen.
  - b. Emailed directly with Faisal. Created al-Qaeda’s *Inspire* magazine with Samir Khan. The Faisal-linked Revolution Muslim allegedly influenced the content and direction of *Inspire*.
6. Jason Brown, a.k.a. Abdul Ja’Me [[image](#)] ([U.S. Department of Justice](#), [U.S. Department of Justice](#), [CBS Chicago](#))
  - a. Financier: Leader of the AHK street gang, which traffics in narcotics in the Chicago area. Arrested on November 14, 2019, on charges of attempting to provide material support to ISIS after allegedly attempting to provide \$500 in September 2019 to an individual he believed would then wire the money to an ISIS fighter. Initially arrested in June 2016 in Georgia on a firearms charge, for which he pleaded guilty. Released on parole in June 2018. Reportedly required all AHK members to convert to Islam if they were not already Muslim. Allegedly

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- attempted to radicalize and recruit other AHK members to support ISIS. Recorded in early 2019 speaking of plans to migrate to ISIS-held territory in Syria.
- b. Radicalized in prison and from viewing Faisal’s lectures online. After Brown’s June 2016 arrest, police searched his phone’s browser history and discovered that he had repeatedly viewed videos on Faisal’s Authentic Tauheed website. Distributed Faisal’s videos to other AHK gang members. Claimed in July 2019 to have sent Faisal money. Referred to both Faisal and deceased al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula propagandist Anwar al-Awlaki as his “shaikh.”
7. [Zachary Chesser](#), a.k.a. Abu Talha al-Amrikee ([FBI](#), [New America](#), [Business Insider](#), [CNN](#), [CBS News](#), [Fox News](#))
    - a. Domestic terrorist and attempted foreign fighter: Attempted to travel to Somalia to fight alongside al-Shabab in 2009. Alongside Jesse Curtis Morton, urged U.S.-based extremists to attack the writers of the television show *South Park* in 2010. Sentenced to 25 years in prison.
    - b. Recruited by Morton to run the Faisal-influenced Revolution Muslim website. Issued violent threats with Morton through the site.
  8. Joseph Cohen, a.k.a. Yousef al-Khattab [[image](#)] ([CNN](#), [New York Times](#))
    - a. Propagandist: Co-founded Revolutionary Muslim with Jesse Curtis Morton under Faisal’s direction.
    - b. Regularly listened to, conferred with, and promoted Faisal while leading Revolution Muslim.
  9. [Rezwan Ferdaus](#) ([New America](#), [BBC News](#), [NBC News](#))
    - a. Domestic terrorist: Arrested on September 28, 2011, for plotting to attack the Pentagon and the U.S. Capitol with remote-controlled model aircraft packed with C-4 explosives. Sentenced to 17 years in prison.
    - b. Participated in Revolution Muslim chats and viewed the website regularly.
  10. Omar Hammami, a.k.a. Abu Mansour al Amriki [[image](#)] ([New America](#), [The Intercept](#))
    - a. Foreign fighter and propagandist: Traveled to Somalia in 2006 to join al-Shabab. Became the group’s chief propagandist and a field commander. Killed in September 2013.
    - b. Communicated directly with Yousef al-Khattab, co-founder of the Faisal-influenced website Revolution Muslim.
  11. [Abdul Malik Abdul Kareem](#) ([U.S. Department of the Treasury](#), [U.S. Department of Justice](#), [CNN](#), [New York Times](#))
    - a. Domestic terrorist: Helped plot the May 2015 attack on the “Draw Muhammad” cartoon contest in Garland, Texas, alongside co-conspirators Elton Simpson and Nadir Soofi. Convicted in March 2016 of providing material support to ISIS. Sentenced to 30 years in prison.
    - b. The FBI found CDs of Faisal’s lectures in the apartment shared by Simpson, Soofi, and Kareem.
  12. [Samir Khan](#) ([New America](#), [New York Times](#))
    - a. Propagandist: Top al-Qaeda propagandist who launched *Inspire* magazine with Anwar al-Awlaki. Killed in a U.S. drone strike in Yemen in September 2011.
    - b. Communicated with and published the leaders and members of Revolution

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Muslim who also advised on the development of *Inspire*.

13. [Antonio Benjamin Martinez](#) ([CNN](#), [U.S. Department of Justice](#), U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland)
  - a. Domestic terrorist: Attempted to bomb a military recruiting center in Baltimore, Maryland, in 2010. Sentenced to 25 years in prison after pleading guilty to attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction against federal property.
  - b. According to the FBI, Martinez’s Facebook “friends” included an account for Faisal’s Authentic Tauheed website.
14. Tarek Mehanna [[image](#)] ([New America](#), [Boston Globe](#), [CNN](#), [FBI](#))
  - a. Attempted foreign fighter: Convicted in 2011 for providing material support to al-Qaeda, to seek out training camps in Yemen. Sentenced in 2012 to 17 years in prison.
  - b. Actively followed the propaganda of the Faisal-influenced Revolution Muslim group.
15. Daniel Joseph Maldonado [[image](#)] ([New America](#), [FBI](#))
  - a. Foreign fighter: First American charged with fighting alongside al-Shabaab. Sentenced to 10 years in prison and fined.
  - b. Communicated directly with Yousef al-Khattab, co-founder of the Faisal-influenced group Revolution Muslim.
16. Jesse Curtis Morton, a.k.a. Younus Abdullah Muhammed ([Wall Street Journal](#), [New America](#), [New York Times](#))
  - a. Domestic terrorist and propagandist: Conspired with Zachary Chesser to kill the writers of the *South Park* television show in 2010.
  - b. Collaborated with Faisal in 2007 on how to spread Faisal’s teachings, which lead to the creation of Revolution Muslim that year. Regularly listened to, conferred with, and promoted Faisal while leading Revolution Muslim.
17. [Jose Pimentel](#) ([New America](#), [New York City Government](#), [New York Times](#))
  - a. Domestic terrorist: Arrested in his Bronx home in November 2011 while in possession of a homemade explosive device. Sentenced to 16 years in prison.
  - b. Followed the Faisal-influenced Revolution Muslim group and its successor, Islam Policy.
18. Paul “Bilal” Rockwood Jr. [[image](#)] ([New America](#), [Los Angeles Times](#), [FBI](#))
  - a. Attempted domestic terrorist: Arrested for lying to authorities in a domestic terrorist investigation. Sentenced to eight years in prison.
  - b. Reportedly visited the Faisal-influenced Revolution Muslim website.
19. [Faisal Shahzad](#) ([NPR](#), [New York Times](#))
  - a. Domestic terrorist: Attempted to detonate a car bomb in New York City in April 2010. Arrested at John F. Kennedy Airport after boarding a flight to Dubai. Pled guilty and received a life sentence.
  - b. Told authorities he had been listening to sermons by Faisal and Anwar al-Awlaki, who were “the only two clerics out there who have got it right.”
20. [Abdel Hameed Shehadeh](#) ([New America](#), [U.S. Department of Justice](#))

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- a. Attempted foreign fighter: Arrested after flying to Pakistan from New York City in June 2008. Later told investigators he had sought to join al-Qaeda or the Taliban. Sentenced to 13 years in prison.
  - b. Regularly attended meetings of Faisal-influenced Revolution Muslim and updated the group's website.
21. [Elton Simpson](#) ([U.S. Department of the Treasury](#), [CNN](#), [New York Times](#))
- a. Domestic terrorist: Attacked a Draw Muhammad cartoon contest in Garland, Texas, alongside Nadir Soofi on May 3, 2015. Shot and killed by police after wounding a security guard. ISIS claimed responsibility for the attack.
  - b. The FBI found CDs of Faisal's lectures in the apartment shared by Simpson, Soofi, and Abdul Malik Abdul Kareem.
22. [Nadir Soofi](#) ([U.S. Department of the Treasury](#), [CNN](#), [New York Times](#))
- a. Domestic terrorist: Attacked a Draw Muhammad cartoon contest in Garland, Texas, alongside Nadir Soofi on May 3, 2015. Shot and killed by police after wounding a security guard. ISIS claimed responsibility for the attack.
  - b. The FBI found CDs of Faisal lectures in the apartment shared by Simpson, Soofi, and Abdul Malik Abdul Kareem.
23. [Keonna Thomas](#) ([U.S. Department of Justice](#), [Inquirer](#), [Philadelphia](#))
- a. Propagandist and attempted foreign fighter: Accused of communicating with jihadists abroad between August 2013 and March 2015. Accused of attempting to travel to Syria to join ISIS. Arrested in April 2015. Sentenced to eight years in prison.
  - b. Directly communicated with Faisal about her plans to migrate to ISIS-held territory. Faisal offered to arrange a marriage to an ISIS fighter for Thomas.
24. James Ujaama [[image](#)] ([Guardian](#), [Associated Press](#), [U.S. Department of Justice](#))
- a. Domestic terrorist: Attempted with Abu Hamza al-Masri to set up a domestic training camp for al-Qaeda in Oregon between 1999 and 2000. Arrested in 2002. Sentenced in 2015 to time served for testimony and assistance in U.S. terror investigations, particularly against, Mustafa Kamel Mustafa, a.k.a. Abu Hamza.
  - b. Reportedly attended at least two Faisal lectures.
25. Najibullah Zazi [[image](#)] ([U.S. Department of Justice](#), [New York Times](#), [CBS News](#))
- a. Domestic terrorist: Sought to carry out bomb attacks in New York's subway system on September 10, 2009. Pled guilty to conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction in the United States, conspiracy to commit murder in a foreign country, and providing material support to al-Qaeda.
  - b. Listened to Faisal's sermons condoning suicide bombings.

**U.K. EXTREMISTS**

1. [Mohammed Abdul Ahad](#), a.k.a Abu Hafiza ([IslamTruth1](#), [Twitter](#), [Authentic Tauheed](#), [The Times](#), [Daily Mail](#), [Daily Mail](#), [Metropolitan Police](#), [BBC News](#))



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- a. Propagandist: U.K.-based propagandist linked to pro-ISIS propagandist Anjem Choudary, deceased London Bridge terrorist Khuram Butt, and other propagandists. Convicted in England in December 2019 alongside Mohammad Abdur Raheem Kamali on charges of possessing and disseminating terrorist material. Arrested with Kamali on March 1, 2017. Sentenced in 2020 to four-and-a-half years in prison.
- b. Ran Faisal’s Authentic Tauheed website with Kamali and others between 2012 and 2014. Uploaded material in support of ISIS and al-Qaeda. Encouraged terrorism through the website. Allegedly a close associate of Faisal’s.
2. [Bilal Zaheer Ahmad](#) ([New America](#), [BBC News](#))
  - a. Domestic terrorist: Arrested in November 2010 for soliciting the murder of parliamentarians who voted for the Iraq war. Sentenced to 12 years in prison.
  - b. Administrator of the Faisal-influenced Revolution Muslim website. Used the site to encourage others to attack members of parliament.
3. Atilla Ahmet, a.k.a. Abu Abdullah [[image](#)] ([Anti-Defamation League](#), [BBC News](#))
  - a. Propagandist: Convicted in 2008 for solicitation of murder. Sentenced to six years and 11 months in prison.
  - b. Lectured alongside Faisal in online chatrooms.
4. [Sudesh Amman](#) ([Guardian](#), [The Times](#), [France 24](#), [Associated Press](#), [BBC News](#))
  - a. Domestic terrorist: Shot dead after stabbing and wounding two people in south London while wearing a fake bomb vest on February 2, 2020. A third person was wounded by shattered glass from a police firearm. Had been released from prison 10 days earlier after serving half of a three-year and four-month sentence for 13 separate offenses of possessing and distributing terrorist documents including publishing graphic terrorist videos online and stockpiling instructions on bomb making and knife attacks. ISIS claimed responsibility for the knife attack.
  - b. Police found text messages attributed to Faisal on Amman’s phone at the time of his December 2018 arrest. Possessed a USB stick with Faisal’s lectures while imprisoned.
5. [Abu Izzadeen](#) ([New America](#), [BBC News](#), [Telegraph](#), [Daily Mail](#), [Times](#))
  - a. A.k.a. Omar Brooks. Propagandist: Islamist cleric previously imprisoned in the United Kingdom for inciting and fundraising for terrorism. Released in December 2017.
  - b. Spoke alongside Faisal in online chatrooms following Faisal’s rise in popularity with the 2007 creation of the Revolution Muslim website.
6. [Khuram Shazad Butt](#) ([New America](#), [New York Times](#), [Telegraph](#))
  - a. Domestic terrorist: Suspected ringleader of the June 2017 London Bridge terror attack that killed eight individuals and injured 48 others. Killed by police during the attack.
  - b. Administered Revolution Muslim’s PalTalk forum in 2010, according to group leader Jesse Morton.
7. [Anjem Choudary](#) ([New America](#), [Telegraph](#), [Telegraph](#))
  - a. Propagandist: Internationally designated Islamist cleric and convicted ISIS supporter. Released on probation in 2018 under government restrictions, which

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- expired in 2021.
- b. Spoke alongside Faisal in online chatrooms and conferences following Faisal’s rise in popularity with the 2007 creation of the Revolution Muslim website.
  8. Roshonara Choudhry [[image](#)] ([New America](#), [Guardian](#), [BBC News](#))
    - a. Domestic terrorist: Stabbed Member of Parliament Stephen Timms in May 2010. Sentenced to life in prison.
    - b. Partially radicalized through the Faisal-influenced Revolution Muslim website.
  9. Mohammed Chowdhury [[image](#)] ([U.S. Department of the Treasury](#), [New America](#), [Telegraph](#), [Telegraph](#))
    - a. Attempted domestic terrorist: Organized a plot to bomb the London stock exchange in 2010. Pled guilty and given a reduced sentence of six years.
    - b. Participated in the Authentic Tauheed PalTalk chatroom and the Revolution Muslim website, according to group leader Jesse Morton. Had Faisal’s phone number stored in his phone at time of his arrest. Allegedly communicated with co-conspirators on Revolution Muslim’s PalTalk forum.
  10. [Mohammad Abdur Raheem Kamali](#) ([The Times](#), [Daily Mail](#), [Daily Mail](#), [Metropolitan Police](#), [BBC News](#))
    - a. Propagandist: Convicted in England in December 2019 alongside Mohammed Abdul Ahad on charges of possessing and disseminating terrorist material. Arrested with Ahad on March 1, 2017. Sentenced in 2020 to four-and-a-half years in prison.
    - b. Ran Faisal’s Authentic Tauheed website with Ahad and others between 2012 and 2014. Uploaded material in support of ISIS and al-Qaeda. Encouraged terrorism through the website.
  11. Usman Khan [[image](#)] ([New America](#), [Telegraph](#), [Telegraph](#))
    - a. Attempted domestic terrorist: Participated in a failed plot to bomb the London stock exchange in 2010. Pled guilty and given an indeterminate sentence with a minimum of eight years.
    - b. Had Faisal’s phone number stored in his phone at time of his arrest. Allegedly communicated with co-conspirators on Revolution Muslim’s PalTalk forum.
  12. Omar Khyam [[image](#)] ([BBC News](#), [Guardian](#))
    - a. Domestic terrorist: Convicted ringleader of cell of domestic terrorists that sought to set off fertilizer bombs in London in 2004. Sentenced to life in prison.
    - b. Joined extremist network al-Muhajiroun at age 18. Listened to guest lectures by Faisal and other extremists.
  13. [Germaine Lindsay](#) ([U.S. Department of the Treasury](#), [BBC News](#), [Express](#))
    - a. Domestic terrorist: One of four suicide bombers who attacked London on July 7, 2005, on behalf of al-Qaeda. Killed 26 people and wounded 340.
    - b. According to the British Home Office, Faisal “strongly influenced” Lindsay, who attended at least one Faisal lecture and listened to recordings of others.
  14. [Omar Bakri Muhammad](#) ([New America](#), [Telegraph](#), [Daily Mail](#))
    - a. Propagandist: Islamist cleric who created the banned al-Muhajiroun network in the United Kingdom and influenced such jihadists as Lee Rigby murderers Michael Adebolajo and Michael Adebolawe. Imprisoned in Lebanon on terrorism

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- charges in 2015.
- b. Spoke alongside Faisal in online chatrooms and conferences following Faisal’s rise in popularity with the 2007 creation of the Revolution Muslim website.
15. [Mustafa Kamel Mustafa](#), a.k.a. Abu Hamza al Masri ([Anti-Defamation League](#), [U.S. Department of Justice](#), [Guardian](#))
    - a. Propagandist: Former preacher at London’s Finsbury Park mosque whose rhetoric attracted numerous radicals. Convicted in the United States on multiple counts, including his role in a 1998 hostage-taking attack in Yemen, his support for terrorist operatives in Afghanistan, and for plotting to establish a U.S.-based al-Qaeda training camp. Serving two life sentences without parole.
    - b. Faisal listened to Abu Hamza’s lectures while living in London until the two became estranged. Abu Hamza had been scheduled to testify on Faisal’s behalf at the latter’s 2003 trial but was dismissed because of his own charges of extremism.
  16. [Mohammed Mizanur Rahman](#) ([Anti-Defamation League](#), [New York Times](#), [Daily Mail](#))
    - a. A.k.a. Abu Baraa. Propagandist: Pro-ISIS preacher convicted in 2006 on charges of hate speech and solicitation to murder. Sentenced in 2016 to five-and-a-half years in prison. Released early in 2018.
    - b. Spoke alongside Faisal at events.
  17. Mohibur Rahman [[image](#)] ([New America](#), [Telegraph](#), [Telegraph](#))
    - a. Attempted domestic terrorist: Participated in a failed plot to bomb the London stock exchange in 2010. Pled guilty and sentenced to five years in prison.
    - b. Had Faisal’s phone number stored in his phone at time of his arrest. Allegedly communicated with co-conspirators on Revolution Muslim’s PalTalk forum.
  18. [Richard Reid](#) ([U.S. Department of the Treasury](#), [NPR](#), [Anti-Defamation League](#), [BBC News](#), [Daily Mail](#))
    - a. International terrorist: British national, known colloquially as the “shoe bomber,” who attempted to blow up a civilian airliner with a shoe-bomb in December 2001. Serving a life sentence in the United States.
    - b. Allegedly attended the Brixton Mosque in London while Faisal was the imam, though Faisal claims Reid joined the mosque after he had left.
  19. [Mohammed Shahjahan](#) [[image](#)] ([New America](#), [Telegraph](#), [Telegraph](#), [Times](#))
    - a. Attempted domestic terrorist: Participated in a failed plot to bomb the London stock exchange in 2010. Given an indeterminate sentence with a minimum of eight years and 10 months. Released in 2019.
    - b. Had Faisal’s phone number stored in his phone at time of his arrest. Allegedly communicated with co-conspirators on Revolution Muslim’s PalTalk forum.
  20. Abu Waleed, a.k.a. Shahid Janjua [[image](#)] ([New America](#), [Daily Mail](#))
    - a. Propagandist: Ran the Islamist website SalafiMediaUK and its website, which are accused of radicalizing British Muslims and inciting support for ISIS.
    - b. Student of Faisal who collaborated with Revolution Muslim.

**MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EXTREMISTS**

**COUNTER  
EXTREMISM  
PROJECT**

**ABDULLAH AL-FAISAL’S TIES TO EXTREMISTS**

1. [Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab](#) ([U.S. Department of the Treasury](#), [CNN](#), [New York Times](#))
  - a. International terrorist: Nigerian, known colloquially as the “underwear bomber,” who attempted a suicide bombing on board a Detroit-bound airliner on Christmas Day 2009. Sentenced to life in prison in the United States.
  - b. Listened to Faisal lectures online.
2. [Shane Crawford](#) ([Middle East Eye](#), [U.S. Department of State](#))
  - a. Foreign fighter and propagandist: Citizen of Trinidad and Tobago who traveled to Syria to join ISIS alongside his roommate Fareed. Allegedly acted as an English language propagandist for the group.
  - b. Reportedly influenced by Faisal’s online lectures.
3. Fareed [no image] ([Middle East Eye](#))
  - a. Foreign fighter: Citizen of Trinidad and Tobago who traveled to Syria to join ISIS alongside his roommate Shane Crawford.
  - b. Reportedly influenced by Faisal’s online lectures.
4. [Zacarias Moussaoui](#) ([New York Times](#), [Guardian](#), [Anti-Defamation League](#), [BBC News](#))
  - a. International terrorist: Convicted member of al-Qaeda and the alleged would-be 20th hijacker in the 9/11 terror plot. Serving a life sentence in a maximum-security prison in Colorado.
  - b. Allegedly attended London’s Brixton mosque in the 1990s while Faisal served as imam, though Faisal claims Moussaoui joined the mosque after he had left.
5. Shawn Parsons [no image] ([Anti-Defamation League](#))
  - a. Foreign fighter: Traveled from Trinidad to Syria in 2014. Married propagandist and attempted foreign fighter Keonna Thomas in an online ceremony. Advised Thomas on traveling to Syria.
  - b. Allegedly influenced by a personal relationship with Faisal.
6. [Abu Bilal Philips](#) ([Anti-Defamation League](#), [Authentic Tauheed](#), [Ottawa Citizen](#))
  - a. Propagandist: Extremist preacher residing in Qatar and named by the United States as an unindicted co-conspirator in the 1993 World Trade Center bombings.
  - b. Faisal claims Philips helped him through university in Saudi Arabia.
7. [Abu Qatada](#) ([Anti-Defamation League](#), [New York Times](#))
  - a. Propagandist: U.S.- and U.N.-designated al-Qaeda cleric and propagandist accused of spreading radicalism and influencing jihadists such as the September 11 hijackers.
  - b. Appeared with Faisal at speaking engagements around London in the 1990s. Faisal later denounced Abu Qatada.