



FLASHPOINT
PARTNERS

Jund al-Khilafah: “Yusef al-Faransi as I Knew Him, Penned by ‘Abu Qaqa al-Andalusi’” (April 1, 2012)

In an April 1, 2012 post on a prominent jihadist forum, a member of Jund al-Khilafah detailed the organization’s relationship with “the Mujahid brother Mohammed Merah, known by us [Jund al-Khilafah] as ‘Yusef al-Faransi,’” the French gunman responsible for killing seven French citizens in March 2012. In the lengthy post, Abu Qaqa al-Andalusi described al-Faransi as a “model for the [pious Muslim] youth” who had grown disenchanted with the “darkness” of Western culture. Al-Andalusi claimed that al-Faransi’s “journey on this path [to jihad] was long...from Egypt, to As-Sham, from there to Palestine...to Kurdistan, Iraq, and then Tajikistan, where he was able to get a visa to Afghanistan.” During this first trip, al-Andalusi stated that al-Faransi was detained in an “American camp,” and sent back to France, where he acquired “a visa to Pakistan with the excuse of trade.” Once in Pakistan, according to al-Andalusi, al-Faransi “arrived at our [Jund al-Khilafah’s] training camp...[and] showed great interest in acquiring weapons and instruction...[al-Faransi] did not want to train in explosives...he preferred a confrontation with firearms.” Al-Andalusi claimed that the “[training] program changed for reasons that can’t be discussed...[prompting al-Faransi to return to France] promising to accomplish what he could...And Allah graced him to these blessed operations that formed a strong slap to the crusader France.”

"...since the death of the Mujahid brother Mohamed Merah, known by us as ‘Yusef al-Faransi,’ in Toulouse on the 22nd of this month, the infidel media outlets didn't stop broadcasting lies and fabrications regarding the persona of the brother. The enemy has sought, through marketing its fallacies, to deface the image of the brother and illustrate him before the Muslim public and the world as a reckless and confused young man who suffered from psychological illnesses that pushed him to carry the weapon and do what he did..."

"...The amount of lies that were said regarding the martyred mujahid...unveil the extent of the grudge that filled the hearts of the infidels..and that wasn't a strange thing, as Yusef has hit in a weakness point and rubbed their false arrogance in the mud..."

"And since I got to know the brother closely and sat with him in many occasions, and for a short period I was one of his mentors, I see that it is my duty to defend the honor of the brother...and seek to remove the fiction from the truth of what was going on in his mind, and the motives that pushed him to carry out the operations in France."

"I met Yusef for the first time when he came to visit some friends, some other brothers, and in side-talks I realized that he didn't speak Arabic fluently and he tried...to give us some of what went through his mind to the rest of the brothers. When I asked him about his native tongue, he said French, so I began speaking to him in the language he speaks best...he became joyous...and began talking asking me to help him translate the

meaning of his words to the others, and from his southern dialect I assumed he was from Marseilles but he told me he was from Toulouse. Ever since then, the relationship between us got stronger and the brother began visiting me daily, which allowed me to know him better..."

"My brother Yusef was not reckless or confused, but he was a man who grew up in the infidel countries and only saw ignorance and darkness in his youth, which shadow the lives of the infidels in the western countries. This darkness undoubtedly influences every man negatively...but they go away...should Allah guide the confused soul to faith in Allah and his messengers..."

"Brother Yusef was a model for the youth who were filled with the love of Allah, and his heart became attached to Islam and Qur'an, and he saw that his Muslim Ummah is living in injustice and death, so protectiveness and zeal were ignited in him, and I saw that certainly when we discussed the situation of Muslims around the world and especially in Palestine...."

"Brother, Yusef was a young man who was emotional, sensitive, who loved to recite the Qur'an despite no understanding its meaning, and always carried with him a Qur'an accompanied with meanings in French...and never departed him except when we left...a calm guy who never clashed with anyone, and hated arguments even when he was right..."

"When he knew about the duty of jihad and its obligation,...he didn't accept the excuse of no way and shortage of money...he took off searching for a way to one of the trenches of jihad...his journey on this path was long, which he told us, supported with images that were on his computer. From Egypt to Ash-Sham, and from there to Palestine...where he visited Jerusalem and prayed there, and thereafter to Kurdistan, Iraq, and then to Tajikistan, where he was able to get a visa to Afghanistan, and entered and searched for who would help him join the Taliban. But he didn't succeed as he appeared suspicious and the Afghan apostates led him to one of the American camps. Yusef was able to deter any suspicion due to what he enjoyed of steadfastness and ability to maneuver...and he left the Americans' center after he took pictures of their vehicles and tanks from inside the vehicle of the apostates. From Afghanistan he returned to France when he prepared a visa to Pakistan with the excuse of trade and went there. Allah graced him this time, as in Islamabad he met people who took him to the Taliban, who in turn facilitated his arrival in the tribal regions, when he ended up joining our brigade."

"Brother, Yusef is not a reckless man as the media in the Western countries wants to view him. He was a serious young man...who was intelligent and mastered the use of a Linux computer and an Apple Mac in his possession and prepped it with many software programs for film production because he was fond of photography and always carried a Panasonic Full HD 14.2 Megapixels camera, which he said he spent a significant amount

of money in France to buy. This camera is still owned by the Mujahideen, we use it in recording..."

" as for his love for weapons...one of the brothers told me that when he arrived at the foundational training center, he showed a big will to possess weapons and wanted to own the best...aside from possessing a bomb-thrower 'Narenjak' and various ammo, and he showed a high interest in caring for his weapon and cared for it as a piece of his own body..."

"...he didn't want to train on explosives although that was available and in a very closed circle of no more than 3 people. But he favored confrontation with the weapon as he told me..."

"According to his will, physical and mental abilities, the most suitable for him were assassinations, albeit that an agreement was conducted with him initially to execute a martyrdom operation on one of the important enemy sites using an explosive belt, after infiltration with weapons and bombs...he was very happy with the idea and insisted, although late at night, to accompany me to the storage to see with his own eyes the explosive belt that he was supposed to use in his mission. When he wore it he showed happiness and his face brightened up...Martyrdom was his goal and hope..."

"A day later, the program changed for reasons that can't be discussed and Yusef took off returning to France, promising to accomplish what he could...And Allah graced him to these blessed operations that formed a strong slap to the crusader France and its security apparatus that always boasted about their ability to deter any infiltration from the Mujahideen in its land..."

Written by Abu Qaqaa al-Andalusi
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