

# Salafi Jihadism



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Political Parties

IRD 233

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## Salafi Jihadism:



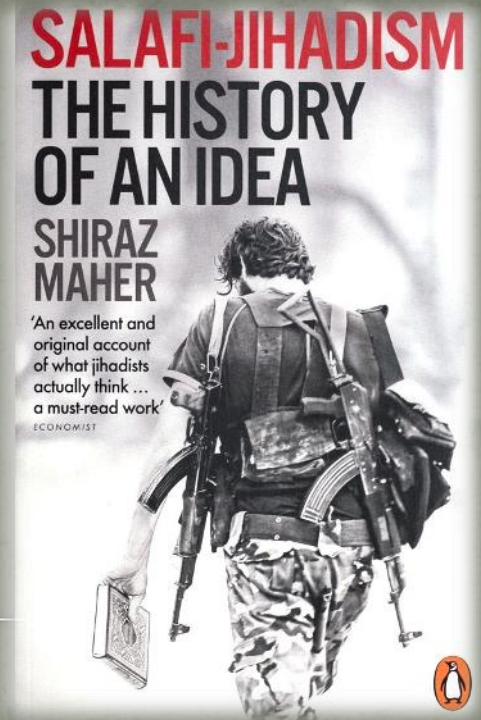
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A movement within Sunni Islam that promotes armed jihad together with a return to the pious customs of the Salaf, the religion's founders.



## Key Principles:

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- Emphasis on interpreting Islam in a puritanical manner, rejecting contemporary influences, and promoting strict devotion to Sharia law.
- justification of using violence, including terrorism, to fight perceived enemies of Islam and create an Islamic state.

## Origins and Spread:



- Appeared in the 20th century and was impacted by the Afghani Jihad.
- Gained prominence in the 1980s Afghan-Soviet War, when Osama bin Laden and other Salafi jihadists fought the Soviet Union.
- Proliferated worldwide via networks of radicalized individuals, mosques, and internet propaganda, with affiliates functioning in multiple nations.



## Key Actors and Organizations:

- Al-Qaeda: Osama bin Laden founded the organization, which at first targeted governments and Western interests that were seen to be supporting them.
- The Islamic State (ISIS or ISIL) is a violent extremist organization that split off from Al-Qaeda and formed its own caliphate over portions of Syria and Iraq.
- Boko Haram: Based mostly in Nigeria, this group aims to create an Islamic state under Sharia rule.
- Al-Shabaab: Currently operating in Somalia, this group aims to topple the government and impose its own version of Islamic law.



## Tactics and Targets:

- To accomplish their objectives, they use guerilla warfare techniques, suicide bombers, and terrorist acts.
- Target perceived opponents, such as secular regimes, Muslim collaborators or apostates, religious minorities, and Western nations.

## Responses and Countermeasures:

- Airstrikes, ground operations, and targeted executions are among the military actions taken by national governments and multinational coalitions against terrorist organizations.
- tactics for combating terrorism that emphasize information collecting, border security, radicalization prevention, and finance network disruption.
- attempts to address the underlying issues that lead to radicalization, such as political tyranny, socioeconomic injustice, and a lack of opportunities for oppressed groups.



# Seminar Question:

In what ways has Salafi Jihadism spread over the world, and what are the best ways to lessen its impact on regional stability and resist its influence?