



Radical Islamist group threatens France

2012-01-03 18:00

Bamako - The Mauritanian Hamada Ould Mohamed Kheirou, presumed leader of an armed Islamist group active in west Africa, has again threatened France with war in a video seen Tuesday by an AFP journalist.

"We again declare war on France, which is hostile to the interests of Islam," Kheirou said in Arabic, wearing dark glasses and with his head wrapped in a turban. "The jihad [holy war] will be exported everywhere it is necessary and for God, we must be ready for anything."

The video also showed images of three Westerners - a Spanish man and woman and an Italian woman - who were kidnapped late in October in a camp for Sahrawi refugees near Tindouf in southern Algeria.

That kidnapping was claimed by Kheirou's Movement for Unity and Justice in West Africa, which then emerged as a breakaway group from Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), which originated in Algeria and now has bases in northern Mali.

The last part of the video was concerned with the ideology of the group and its ambitions, particularly "to impose shari'ah [Islamic law] across the whole of west Africa." Young black fighters were shown calling for "pure and tough" Islam.

Mauritania last week issued an international arrest warrant against Kheirou, also known as Abou Qumqum. The mandate also targeted three other Mauritians, including Moustapha Ould Limam Chafi, an influential man in west Africa who has notably negotiated the release of Western hostages by AQIM.

All four men are accused of being "influential members" of AQIM, of financing terrorism and of supporting terrorist groups in the Sahel strip of northwest African nations on the southern edge of the Sahara.

This zone is difficult to patrol and monitor and AQIM has carried out many attacks on troops, kidnappings of Westerners and traffic of various kinds, including drugs.

Twelve Europeans, including six French nationals, are currently hostage in the Sahel.

Comments

goyougoodthing - 2012-01-03 19:01

A war for religion, how very normal and yet very against the laws of all religions. Hasn't stopped them fighting for 3000 years though

Jeffrey - 2012-01-03 19:16

What's the matter with you? Islam is the "Religion of Peace", they keep telling us this and yet you don't seem to believe them.

Riaad - 2012-01-03 19:29

Actually, war is not against the teachings of all religions. Islam teaches Jihaad which is fought in self-defence. The Judeo-Christian tradition also has 'Jihaad' for example when the Prophet David (Pbuh) killed the infidel aggressor Goliath. The problem is when terrorists and extremists like to twist the self-defence teaching and apply it to the murder of innocent civilians. This may apply to extremist groups such as Boko Haram, or State terror governments like the US who refer to the murder of innocent civilians in their drone attacks as "collateral damage".

Jonathon - 2012-01-03 19:36

I hope the french stuff these guys up.

Gerhard - 2012-01-03 19:51

@Riaad. King David was a murderer. He had Bathsheba's husband killed in battle so he could marry her. You know nothing. Islam just perpetuates ignorance.

Gerhard - 2012-01-03 19:36

Mohammed married a 6 year old girl but did not consummate the marriage until she was 9. How thoughtful. How dare this bastard kill the soul of a child? Islam has got nothing to teach me. I have seen enough.

Bounca363 - 2012-01-03 20:08

A group of stupid muslim asswipes who knows jack about their religion feeding more fuel to the world to paint all us muslims as terrorist and a religion of conflict. I hate all these so called Jihaad extremists. Go read the Quran over again and wipe the crap outta ur eyes before you do. Its just sickening to read this.

Johncarlos Cynical Biza - 2012-01-03 21:17

Not enough condemnation shown to lunatics by the Muslim societies. Creates the impression that Muslims are not against terrorism and intolerance.

Philip - 2012-01-07 13:16

read this "holy" book and found nothing but being it a war manual. And I believe that its sickening to you coz truth sometimes is hard to accept

Katherine - 2012-01-04 22:41

"Islam makes it incumbent on all adult males, provided they are not disabled and incapacitated, to prepare themselves for the conquest of [other] countries so that the writ of Islam is obeyed in every country in the world. But those who study Islamic Holy War will understand why Islam wants to conquer the whole world. Those who know nothing of Islam pretend that Islam counsels against war. Those [who say this] are witless. Islam says, kill all the unbelievers just as they would kill you all! ...Whatever good there is, exists thanks to the sword, and in the shadow of the sword! People cannot be made obedient, except with the sword! The sword is the key to Paradise, which can be opened only for Holy Warriors! ...Does all that mean that Islam is a religion that prevents men from waging war? I spit upon those foolish souls who make such a claim." ----Ayatollah Khomeini (1902-1989) Iran's Supreme Leader from 1979 to 1989—the highest ranking political and religious authority of the nation.

Katherine - 2012-01-04 22:42

"In the Muslim community, the holy war is a religious duty, because of the universalism of the [Muslim] mission and [the obligation to] convert everyone to Islam either by persuasion or by force... The other religious groups did not have a universal mission, and the holy war was not a religious duty for them, save only for purposes of defense... Islam is under obligation to gain power over other nations... It is conversion to Islam, payment of the poll tax, or death." ----Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406), renowned Maliki jurist, Islamic lawyer, scholar, theologian "The Western distinction between just and unjust wars linked to specific grounds for war is unknown in Islam. Any war against unbelievers, whatever its immediate ground, is morally justified. Only in this sense can one distinguish just and unjust wars in Islamic tradition. When Muslims wage war for the dissemination of Islam, it is a just war (futuhāt, literally "opening," in the sense of opening the world, through the use of force, to the call to Islam); when non-Muslims attack Muslims, it is an unjust war ('idwān)." ----Bassam Tibi (b. 1944), Muslim German political scientist of Syrian origin who has taught at Göttingen, Harvard, and Cornell University.

Katherine - 2012-01-04 22:43

"The theory that our religion is a peaceful and loving religion is a wrong theory...The Holy War as it is known in Islam is basically an offensive war, and it is the duty of all Muslims of every age, when the needed military power is available, because our prophet Muhammad said that he is ordered by Allah to fight all people until they say 'No God but Allah,' and he is his messenger... It is meaningless to talk about the Holy War as only defensive, otherwise, what did the prophet mean when he said, "from now on even if they don't invade you, you must invade them." ----Dr. M. Sa'id Ramadan Al-Buti (b. 1929), head of the Beliefs and Religions Department in The Faculty of the Islamic Law, Damascus University, and a member of the High Council of Oxford Academy in England, author of 'Jihad: How to Understand and Practice It'

Katherine - 2012-01-04 22:44

"In reality Islam is a revolutionary ideology and programme which seeks to alter the social order of the whole world and rebuild it in conformity with its own tenets and ideals. 'Muslim' is the title of that International Revolutionary Party organized by Islam to carry into effect its revolutionary programme. And 'Jihad' refers to that revolutionary struggle and utmost exertion which the Islamic Party brings into play to achieve this objective... Islam wishes to destroy all States and Governments anywhere on the face of the earth which are opposed to the ideology and programme of Islam regardless of the country or the Nation which rules it... It must be evident to you from this discussion that the objective of Islamic 'Jihad' is to eliminate the rule of an un-Islamic system and establish in its stead an Islamic system of State rule. Islam does not intend to confine this revolution to a single State or a few countries; the aim of Islam is to bring about a universal revolution." ---- Syed Abul A'ala Maududi (1903 – 1979) Sunni Pakistani journalist, theologian, Muslim revivalist leader and political philosopher, major 20th century Islamist thinker, prominent political figure in Pakistan and the founder of Jamaat-e-Islami, the Islamic revivalist party "The whole of Europe will become Islamic. Like the army of the sultan we will conquer Rome." --- Former Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, June 2002

Garth - 2012-01-05 12:06

Well `said' Katherine! Now is there any muslim out there with a rebuttal to these quotations from all sides of the islamic spectrum? I see only one `thumb down'.

RajKumarUsa - 2012-01-05 01:33

Islam is at war with the rest of the world ever since it started by desert pedophile psychopath. Learn more about it : FAITHFREEDOM.org

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Hannelore - 2012-01-06 09:12

and read the Quran

Frank - 2012-01-05 11:25

Muslims claim that nothing in the koran can be dismissed because it is supposedly god's word (because good old child abusing Mo said so). Well, what about the claims in the koran that -the earth is flat -the sun rotates around the earth - mountains were built to prevent earthquakes -that semen comes from behind the kidneys? Considering the koran is god's word (at least that's what the muslims claim), these obvious mistakes are kind of surprising, ain't it? And if it really was god's word, then the muslim god must be -pretty stupid or -not exist. No matter how you look at it, islam is a lie and mohammed a fraud. Did I hurt any feelings here or outrage any muslims here? I frankly don't care. Get a life.

Garth - 2012-01-05 12:16

Read in the same way, without translation or modernisation, all religious tenets are the same: written too long ago to afford any truth. The history of the world evolves with each scientific discovery. `Factual' history books from 300 years ago are so filled with inaccuracies as to make them laughable. When will the people of this earth throw away these religious fantasies, or better yet, consign them to where they belong: the fiction section.

philip.ravicher - 2013-01-12 15:53

Interesting to read so many silly comments on Islam. In reality, this war has nothing to do with Islam and everything to do with Tuareg nationalism slowly gaining ground in North Africa. It is often to best to look outside religion when seeking source of conflict. Religion is frequently a mere justification. The same holds for the Arab-Israeli or Indo-Pakistani conflicts. The roots of these are simple territorial disputes that turned into a seemingly religious battles over the years.

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