

## Leader's death will damage ISIS, but not destroy it

The violent death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of the Islamic State, in a **raid** by United States forces announced Sunday by President Trump, is a significant blow to the world's most fearsome terrorist group. But analysts said it was unlikely to freeze attempts by Islamic State franchises and **sympathizers** around the world to **sow mayhem** and fear in the name of their extremist ideology.

raid 袭击; 突袭

sympathizer 支持者

sow 播种

mayhem 骚乱; 混乱

Under Mr. al-Baghdadi, the Islamic State largely ran on its own. While he demanded **fealty** and built a **cult** of personality around himself — followers considered him the leader of Muslims worldwide — he was obsessed with security and is known to have given **subordinates** considerable latitude to act autonomously. Numerous references in Islamic State **propaganda** offer reminders that its leaders may come and go, but the movement remains.

fealty 忠诚; 效忠

cult 狂热; 宗教信仰

subordinate 下属

propaganda 宣传

The Islamic State itself did not immediately comment on Mr. al-Baghdadi's fate, and terrorism experts said his death could set off a succession struggle among subordinates. American **drone** strikes and air raids have **decimated** the group's top ranks, and it was not immediately clear who could possibly replace him.

drone 无人机

decimate 大大削弱; 大批杀害

**Al Qaeda**, an Islamic State rival, also survived the killing of founder Osama bin Laden in 2011. Its operations also have become more diffuse in recent years, with affiliates in different countries operating somewhat independently.

Al Qaeda 基地组织