

Asif Adnan's Direct Link to Al-Qaeda

Asif Adnan was arrested in Bangladesh with evidence linking him to Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS).

Source: [The Daily Star](#) [title: HC grants bail to Asif Adnan]

Messages revealed he was awaiting instructions on whether to travel to Syria or Myanmar for militant activities.

Source: [The Daily Star](#) [title: HC grants bail to Asif Adnan]

He and his associates were inspired by a video from Al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri and planned to train with Jabhat al-Nusra (Al-Qaeda's Syrian branch) before returning to Bangladesh to establish an AQIS network.

Post on how he got bail, and some news resources :

<https://www.facebook.com/Anik0000/posts/pfbid0VizL5c1ub6V9BY1qpAMxNeiEZhdTa7SDs48aPUGnHezqNGwGTpuPv54dNzYQz9rRI>

Archived version : <https://ghostarchive.org/archive/lw7bP>

Jabhat al-Nusra: Al-Qaeda's Syrian Branch and Asif Adnan's Destination

Jabhat al-Nusra was Al-Qaeda's official franchise in Syria.

Source: [Long War Journal](#) [title: Al Qaeda and allies announce 'new entity' in Syria]

Asif Adnan was planning to join Nusra's training camps, which were part of Al-Qaeda's global expansion strategy.

Source: [The Daily Star](#) [title: HC grants bail to Asif Adnan]

Nusra later rebranded itself as Jabhat Fath al-Sham (JFS) in 2016 to appear more independent from Al-Qaeda while still following its objectives.

Formation of Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) from Al-Qaeda Elements

In 2017, Nusra merged with several other jihadist groups to form Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS).

Source: [Long War Journal](#) [title: Al Qaeda and allies announce 'new entity' in Syria]

Despite the name change, HTS was still effectively led by Nusra's leadership and retained its Al-Qaeda ideology.

Source: [MintPress News](#) [title: How the US and Israel Quietly Revived Al-Qaeda Allies in Syria's Idlib Offensive]

HTS consolidated power in Idlib, Syria, becoming the dominant militant force in opposition-controlled areas.

Source: [The Grayzone](#) [title : Leaked files show secret UK Syria project boosted Jolani's HTS]

U.S. Alliance with HTS (Formerly Al-Qaeda's Syrian Branch)

James Jeffrey, a former U.S. envoy, called HTS "an asset" to U.S. strategy in Idlib.

Source: [MintPress News](#) [title: How the US and Israel Quietly Revived Al-Qaeda Allies in Syria's Idlib Offensive]

The U.S. maintained indirect communication with HTS and other Al-Qaeda factions through journalists, NGOs, and think tanks.

Source: [The Grayzone](#) [title: How Washington is positioning Syrian Al-Qaeda's founder as its 'asset']

CIA-backed weapons reached HTS allies, as Western support for "moderate rebels" often overlapped with extremist groups.

Source: [The Grayzone](#) [title: How Washington is positioning Syrian Al-Qaeda's founder as its 'asset']

The International Crisis Group and pro-Israel think tanks lobbied to normalize HTS, portraying it as a potential partner against Assad.

Source: [The Grayzone](#) [title: How Washington is positioning Syrian Al-Qaeda's founder as its 'asset']

British and Israeli Links to HTS

British intelligence funded projects in HTS-controlled Syria but instructed their operatives not to criticize HTS directly, fearing reprisals.

Source: [The Grayzone](#) [title : Leaked files show secret UK Syria project boosted Jolani's HTS]
UK-funded groups like the White Helmets and Free Syria Police operated freely under HTS rule, indirectly supporting its governance.

Source: [The Grayzone](#) [title : Leaked files show secret UK Syria project boosted Jolani's HTS]
HTS's influence expanded as Western-backed aid, governance structures, and propaganda strengthened opposition areas under its control.

Source: [The Grayzone](#) [title : Leaked files show secret UK Syria project boosted Jolani's HTS]
Leaked documents revealed that HTS was far less likely to attack opposition entities receiving British government funds.

Conclusion: HTS, Once Al-Qaeda's Syrian Branch, Became a U.S. and Western Asset

Asif Adnan's path from Bangladesh to Nusra (Al-Qaeda) to HTS follows a clear chain of allegiance.

Source: [The Daily Star](#) [title: HC grants bail to Asif Adnan]
HTS, born from Al-Qaeda, became an instrument of U.S. strategy in Idlib and received indirect support from Britain, the U.S., and Israel.

Source: [MintPress News](#) [title: How the US and Israel Quietly Revived Al-Qaeda Allies in Syria's Idlib Offensive]

Source: [The Grayzone](#) [title: How Washington is positioning Syrian Al-Qaeda's founder as its 'asset']

Western-backed governance structures thrived under HTS protection, while Western media framed HTS as a "moderate" force.

Source: [The Grayzone](#) [title : Leaked files show secret UK Syria project boosted Jolani's HTS]
The same Al-Qaeda-linked group that Asif Adnan sought to join ended up benefiting from U.S. and British involvement in Syria.

Sources: [The Grayzone](#), [MintPress News](#) [title: How the US and Israel Quietly Revived Al-Qaeda Allies in Syria's Idlib Offensive]