

# Man Haron Monis (detailed)

## Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheikh\\_Haron](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheikh_Haron) December 15, 2014

Sheikh Man Haron Monis; ... Bourjerdi fled Iran to Australia in 1996 as a refugee, and changed his name to Man Haron Monis, assuming the title of Sheikh Haron.

Man Haron Monis (1964 – 16 December 2014) was an Iranian self-styled Muslim cleric who had been granted political asylum in Australia.[1]

Haron was born in Iran where his liberal interpretation of Islam led to the detention of his wife and children.[2]

On 15 December 2014, Haron took hostages in a siege at the Lindt Chocolate Cafe in Sydney,[1][3] lasting until the early hours of the following morning; he was confirmed by police to be dead at the conclusion of the siege.[4][5][6][7]

Haron, together with his colleague Amirah Droudis, undertook a campaign protesting against the presence of Australian troops in Afghanistan, by writing letters to the families of soldiers killed there, in which he called the soldiers murderers,[8] and urged the soldiers' families to petition the government to remove its troops from Afghanistan. According to Justice Heydon of the High Court, the letters compared "the (deceased soldier) son to a pig and to a dirty animal. It calls the son's body 'contaminated'. It refers to it as 'the dirty body of a pig'. It describes Hitler as not inferior to the son in moral merit".[9] Haron was arrested on charges of "using a postal or similar service to menace, harass or cause offence".[10]

On 10 November 2009, Haron appeared in court and claimed through his lawyers to be a peace activist. He later chained himself to the courthouse in protest over the charges.[11] Haron was subsequently barred by the courts from expanding his protest to include letters to UK soldiers' families.[12]

In December 2011, Haron appeared before the Court of Criminal Appeal in Sydney arguing that the charges against him were invalid because they infringed on his implied constitutional freedom of political communication, but the three-judge panel unanimously dismissed his case.[13]

Upon further appeal to the High Court of Australia, the six-judge panel split 3–3 over the issue.[14] Although the High Court of Australia normally comprises seven judges, one seat was vacant and as yet unfilled at the time Haron's case appeared before the court. Failing to achieve a majority vote in Haron's favour, the lower court's unanimous decision was left to stand.[15]

On 15 November 2013, Haron was charged by NSW Police with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of Noleen Hayson Pal, allegedly stabbed and set alight in a Werrington apartment stairwell on 21 April 2013. His partner Amirah Droudis, was formally charged with Pal's murder.[16]

On 12 December 2013, Haron and Amirah were given bail at Penrith Local Court. Magistrate Darryl Pearce said there were significant flaws in the Crown's case against the pair. "It is a weak case" he said.[17] Prosecutor Brian Royce said Haron's claims the Iranian Secret Police and ASIO were trying to frame him for the murder was fanciful. Magistrate Pearce said all theories needed to be examined.[18]

On 22 January 2014, Haron told magistrate Joan Baptie that he was representing himself and proceeded to talk about documents ASIO has on him that he wanted to see. He told the court he has been charged in connection to the murder of his ex-wife because ASIO is conspiring against him to have him jailed. But Magistrate Baptie told him she cannot order ASIO to release documents about him. Haron stood outside the Parramatta Local Court wearing chains and holding a sign claiming he has been tortured in jail. He said: "This is not a criminal case. This is a political case." [19]

On 14 March 2014, Haron was arrested and charged with sexually and indecently assaulting a young woman who went to his consultancy in Wentworthville, New South Wales, for "spiritual healing", after seeing an advertisement in a local newspaper. Haron claimed he was an expert in "astrology, numerology, meditation and black magic" services. [20]

On the morning of 15 December 2014, Haron took employees and customers hostage at a Lindt chocolate café in Sydney, across from a television studio. Hostages were seen holding up a black Islamic flag with the Arabic shahādah. [21] Neighbouring buildings, including government offices and financial institutions, and an underground train station were evacuated and locked down. Some hostages managed to escape. The event lasted over 16 hours before police tactical operators stormed the café in the early hours of the following morning [22] [23] and Haron was confirmed by police to have died in the ensuing confrontation; [6] two of the hostages were killed, several wounded. A policeman suffered minor injuries. [6] [7]

## **Profile: Man Haron Monis**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-30484419> December 15, 2014

Profile of Man Haron Monis, who police say they believe is the man who seized hostages inside a cafe in Sydney, Australia.

Police say they believe the man who seized hostages inside a cafe in Sydney, Australia, is Man Haron Monis.

The self-styled Muslim cleric was born in Iran and sought political asylum in Australia in 1996.

He is well known to the Australian police and is currently on bail for being an accessory to the murder of his ex-wife.

He is also facing more than 40 sexual and indecent assault charges.

These relate to time allegedly spent as a self-proclaimed "spiritual healer" who dealt with so-called black magic at a premises in western Sydney, according to the Sydney Morning Herald.

Monis has previously been convicted of sending offensive letters to the families of deceased Australian soldiers.

There are reports that one of his demands is that an Islamic State flag be delivered to the Lindt cafe in Martin Place.

However, he has no known links to jihadist groups, and commentators have suggested he is likely to be working alone.

"Certainly this appears to be the actions of a lone actor, perhaps not very well prepared, perhaps not very well planned," Anne Aly, head of the counter terrorism research

programme at Australia's Curtin University, told the BBC.

His alleged actions in Sydney failed to gain traction among online jihad supporters, including Islamic State supporters who are often quick to link incidents with their cause, BBC Monitoring says.

Iranian-born Monis, also known as Sheikh Haron and Mohammad Hassan Manteghi, wrote on his website that he used to be Shia but is no longer.

He said he "used to be a Rafidi, but not any more [sic]", using a pejorative term that some hard-line Sunni Muslims use to refer to Shias.

He denied the criminal charges against him, saying they were politically motivated. He compared the accusations of sexual assault against him to the case of Julian Assange, founder of the whistle-blowing website Wikileaks.

His website had been suspended by the time his identity was revealed in the media in connection with the siege.

Monis' former lawyer, Manny Conditis, told ABC News that Monis was an isolated figure.

"His ideology is just so strong and so powerful that it clouds his vision for common sense and objectiveness," he said.

Mr Conditis, who represented Monis last year when he was charged with being accessory to the murder of ex-wife Noleen Hayson Pal, said he thought the suspect might feel "he's got nothing to lose".

"Hence participating in something as desperate and outrageous as this," he said.

## **'Lone Gunman': Sydney Hostage Taker Man Haron Monis Dead**

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/sydney-hostage-taker-identified-man-haron-monis/story?id=27607179>  
December 15, 2014

Man Haron Monis, the self-proclaimed Islamic "sheikh" and alleged sexual predator who held dozens of people hostage in a Sydney café for hours, has ...

Man Haron Monis, the self-proclaimed Islamic "sheikh" and alleged sexual predator who held dozens of people hostage in a Sydney café for hours, has died following a nighttime rescue operation, local police said.

Monis was identified by Australian media as the gunman behind the 16-hour standoff earlier today, hours after hostages inside the café reportedly spoke to local television stations and identified Monis as their captor.

Police stormed the building around 2 a.m. local time, freeing several hostages amid flashes of stun grenades and gunfire. Monis, identified only as a "lone gunman," was "shot and killed" during the operation, New South Wales Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione told reporters. Two hostages also died "as a result of an exchange of gunfire" between police and the gunman, Scipione said.

Monis, 50, was born in Iran as Manteghi Bourjerdi and migrated to Australia in 1996, according to Australia's 9News. In 2013 he made headlines when he pleaded guilty to sending letters to the families of fallen Australian servicemen in which he called the soldiers "murderers" and child killers. Monis was sentenced to community service.

Australian media reported more recently that Monis had been accused of dozens of counts of sexual assault while he was working as a “spiritual healer” and was allegedly linked to the brutal murder of an ex-wife.

A website that appears to have been made by Monis or his supporters says these latest allegations are “in fact political cases against this Muslim activist, not real criminal cases.”

Manny Conditis, an attorney who had represented Monis, told 9News he suspected Monis' mounting legal troubles may have prompted his violent act.

“All of things put together... may have put him over the edge finally,” said Conditis, who also said that at least as of January, Monis did not appear to be unstable. “My assessment of him was that he was an ideologue. He had extreme views, [but] he never spoke of any act of aggression.”

“There was nothing [to suggest] that he would be capable of doing anything like this,” Conditis added.

The website says Monis is “not a member of any organization or party” but he “supports his Muslim brothers [and] sisters... [and] he promotes peace.”

Up to 30 hostages were held in a Lindt chocolate shop in Sydney for hours. In addition to the calls to the news stations, the hostages were made to produce web videos in which they listed the gunman's demands.

Hours earlier, two hostages were made to hold a black flag with Islamic text on it up in the window of the shop.

Australian police previously had said they had identified the gunman and were aware of him prior to this incident.

Dr. Jamal Rifi, a Sydney Muslim community leader, told 9News that the Muslim community had approached police about Monis before.

“We're not going to let thugs or radicals or the racists decide our society for us,” he said.

Richard Clarke, former counter-terrorism advisor to the White House and current ABC News consultant, said that Monis was not a “lone wolf terrorist” but had mental problems and took advantage of the publicity surrounding ISIS.

## **Martin Place, Sydney siege gunman identified as Man Haron Monis**

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/martin-place-sydney-siege-gunman-identified-as-man-haron-monis-20141215-127sxt.html> December 15, 2014

Siege hostage taker identified as Man Haron Monis. Man Haron Monis was convicted in 2013 over offensive letters he wrote to families of dead Australian soldiers and ...

The man who held more than a dozen people hostage, placing Sydney's CBD into lockdown is no stranger to the NSW police or the judiciary.

Self-described cleric, Man Haron Monis, 50, first came to attention of police when he penned poisonous letters to the family of dead Australian soldiers seven years ago.

Last year he was charged with being an accessory to the murder of his ex-wife and mother of two.

Most recently, he was charged with more than 50 allegations of indecent and sexual assault relating to time allegedly spent as a self-proclaimed "spiritual healer" who dealt with black magic at a premises in western Sydney more than a decade ago.

Monis, who has also gone by the names of Sheikh Haron and Mohammad Hassan Manteghi, was born in Iran and most recently has been living at Bexley North in Sydney's south.

He recently likened himself on his own webpage to Wikileaks founder Julian Assange, claiming the most recent charges against him have been laid for "political reasons".

His website also carries a quote, posted earlier this month stating: "I used to be a Rafidi, but not any more. Now I am a Muslim, Alhamdu Lillah".

It has been Monis' on-going legal battle for his conviction for penning the poisonous letters to the families of dead Australian soldiers between 2007 and 2009 that has consumed him.

It is understood Monday's incident followed an unsuccessful, last-ditch attempt in the High Court on Friday to have the charges overturned.

Monis was sentenced to 300 hours of community service and placed on a two year good behaviour bond for the "offensive and deplorable letters" sent with the assistance of his girlfriend Amirah Droudis.

They were sent to the families of Private Luke Worsley and Lance Corporal Jason Marks, who were killed in Afghanistan in 2007 and 2008.

He also sent a letter in 2009 to the family of the Austrade official Craig Senger, who was killed in the bombing of the Marriott Hotel in Jakarta in 2007.

Monis claimed the letters were his own version of a "flower basket" or "condolence card".

Bree Till, widow of Sergeant Brett Till, killed while defusing a bomb on March 12, 2009, said at the time of his conviction: "We sat reading these letters (which) made out to be something supportive but then the juxtaposition of this man accusing my husband of being a child-killer while dictating how I should raise my children. It was scary," she said.

He fought the validity of the charges all the way to the High Court arguing they were political and only sought to persuade the families to oppose Australia's military involvement in Afghanistan.

But when he lost that battle, and had to stand trial, he pleaded guilty to all 12 charges against him in August 2013.

But his problems with the law did not end there. Monis is currently on bail in relation two separate, serious cases.

He was charged in November 2013 with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of his ex-wife Noleen Hayson Pal.

Ms Pal was stabbed and set alight in a Werrington apartment block.

Droudis has been charged with the murder.

And then in April this year, Monis was charged by sex crimes squad detectives with the indecent and sexual assault of a woman in western Sydney in 2002.

Police allege that Monis was a self-proclaimed "spiritual healer" who operated out of premises on Station Street at Wentworthville.

News of his arrest prompted more victims to come forward and Monis was hit with an additional 40 charges in October.

It is alleged that Monis placed ads in local newspapers offering "spiritual consultation".

He claimed to be an expert in astrology, numerology, meditation and black magic.

Monis has posted online that the police charges are part of a witch hunt against him.

"Since the Australian government cannot tolerate Sheikh Haron's activity, is trying to damage his image by these false accusations, and also for putting pressure on him to stop his activity and keep him silent, but God willing Man Haron Monis will not stop his political activity against oppression," he writes in a description of himself on his website, sheikhharon.com

His former Facebook page, pulled down on Monday night as the siege continued had 14,725 "likes" when it was shut down.

## **Sydney siege: Man behind Martin Place stand-off was Iranian Man Haron Monis, who had violent criminal history**

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-12-16/iranian-cleric-man-haron-monis-named-as-man-behind-sydney-siege/5969246> December 15, 2014

Iranian cleric Man Haron Monis is the man police believe is behind the siege at the Lindt Chocolat Cafe in Sydney's Martin Place. Monis, who was granted political ...

Iranian cleric Man Haron Monis is the man police believe was behind the siege at the Lindt Chocolate Cafe in Sydney's Martin Place.

Monis, who was granted political asylum in Australia, was on bail for a string of violent offences, including being an accessory to the murder of his ex-wife.

He was also facing more than 40 sexual and indecent assault charges and had a conviction for sending offensive letters to families of deceased Australian soldiers.

Police were negotiating with Monis for a large part of Monday prior to officers storming the building at 2:00am (AEDT) on Tuesday.

He had entered the cafe about 9:45am (AEDT) on Monday and was holding an unknown number of staff and customers inside throughout the day.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott revealed more about Monis' background in his press briefing this morning.

What we do know is that the perpetrator was well known to State and Commonwealth authorities. He had a long history of violent crime, infatuation with extremism and mental instability. We know that he sent offensive letters to the families of Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan and was found guilty of offences related to this. We also know that he posted graphic extremist material online. As the siege unfolded yesterday, he sought to cloak his actions with the symbolism of the ISIL death cult.

Monis' former lawyer, Manny Conditis, described Monis as an isolated figure who he

believed was probably acting alone.

"His ideology is just so strong and so powerful that it clouds his vision for common sense and objectiveness," he said.

Mr Conditis represented Monis last year when he was charged with being accessory to the murder of ex-wife Noleen Hayson Pal, who was stabbed and set alight outside a western Sydney unit.

"Knowing he was on bail for very serious offences, knowing that while he was in custody some terrible things happened to him, I thought he may consider that he's got nothing to lose," he said.

"Hence participating in something as desperate and outrageous as this."

He said Monis claimed to have suffered poor treatment while in prison.

"He was put through let's say some very unpleasant events, involving matters of excrement over himself and his cell," he said.

Mr Conditis said the public could be assured the siege was not the work of an organised terrorist group.

"This is a one-off random individual," he said. "It's not a concerted terrorism event or act. It's a damaged-goods individual who's done something outrageous."

### **Man Haron Monis, Iranian Refugee, Named As Sydney Hostage Taker**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/12/15/man-haron-monis-syria-hos\\_n\\_6326736.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/12/15/man-haron-monis-syria-hos_n_6326736.html) December 15, 2014

Monis, also known as Sheik Haron, was charged last year with being an accessory to the murder of his ex-wife who was stabbed and set alight in a Sydney ...

SYDNEY, Dec 16 (Reuters) - An Iranian refugee known for sending hate mail to the families of Australian soldiers killed overseas and facing several charges of sexual assault is the armed man holding an unknown number of hostages in a Sydney cafe, a police source said on Tuesday.

Man Haron Monis, a self-styled sheik, remained holed up in the cafe some 15 hours after the siege began.

"There's no operational reason for that name to be held back by us now," said the police source, who declined to be identified.

Monis, also known as Sheik Haron, was charged last year with being an accessory to the murder of his ex-wife who was stabbed and set alight in a Sydney apartment block.

He was found guilty in 2012 of sending offensive and threatening letters to families of eight Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan, as a protest against Australia's involvement in the conflict, according to local media reports.

Earlier this year, Monis, who describes himself as a "spiritual healer," was charged with the indecent and sexual assault of a Sydney woman in 2002. Further charges were laid in October.

Monis's website shows graphic images of children that the website says were killed by U.S. and Australian airstrikes, as well as media coverage following Monis's court appearances

and statements addressed to the Muslim community and Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott.

Local media reported his age at 49 or 50. (Reporting by Lincoln Feast; Editing by Mike Collett-White)

## **Radical self-styled sheik Man Haron Monis was on bail at time of siege**

<http://www.9news.com.au/national/2014/12/16/00/48/sydney-hostage-taker-named-as-man-monis> December 15, 2014

Radical Muslim cleric Sheik Man Haron Monis has been revealed to be the man behind the siege that saw up to 15 people held hostage in the Lindt cafe on Martin Place ...

The radical self-styled Muslim Sheik Man Haron Monis behind the siege that saw 17 people held hostage in the Lindt cafe on Martin Place was a "damaged-goods individual" who could have lashed out because he felt he had "nothing to lose", his former lawyer says.

Monis, who was killed during the final minutes of the siege in Sydney's CBD, was no stranger to police; with a long rap sheet including allegations of sexual abuse and organising the murder of his ex-wife.

Monis was born Manteghi Bourjerdi and fled from Iran to Australia in 1996 where he changed his name to Man Haron Monis and assumed the title of Sheik Haron.

Lawyer Manny Conditis, who represented Monis when he was charged last year with being accessory to the murder of ex-wife Noleen Hayson Pal, described the self-declared sheik as a "damaged-goods individual".

"His ideology is just so strong and so powerful that it clouds his vision for common sense and objectiveness," he told the ABC. "Knowing he was on bail for very serious offences, knowing that while he was in custody some terrible things happened to him, I thought he may consider that he's got nothing to lose."

"Hence participating in something as desperate and outrageous as this."

The self-styled sheik was shunned by Australia's Muslim community who disputed his claims of being a Sheik, according to community leader Dr Jamal Rifi

He had gained media attention in the past for a "hate mail" campaign, protesting the presence of Australian troops in Afghanistan by sending abusive letters to the loved ones of dead Australian servicemen.

Late last year he was charged with being an accessory to the murder of his ex-wife and mother of two.

More recently he was charged with a raft of offences in relation to indecent and sexual assault while operating as a self-proclaimed "spiritual healer" in Sydney's west more than a decade ago.

Mr Conditis said Monis claimed to have been abused while in prison "involving matters of excrement over himself and his cell".

He added that he did not believe Monis was a member of any organised terrorist group.

"This is a one-off random individual," he said. "It's not a concerted terrorism event or act."



"It's a damaged-goods individual who's done something outrageous."

The High Court had recently rejected Monis' latest appeal in relation to letters he had sent to the families of Australian servicemen.

The family of Brett Till, an Australian soldier killed by a roadside bomb in 2009, was one of the families who received a letter from Monis and his partner Amirah Droudis.

"We sat in our homes, reading these letters ... This man accusing my husband of being a child killer," widow Bree Till said at the time.

9NEWS was given police clearance to release Monis' name.

In November 2009 Monis appeared in court claiming to be a peace activist but later chained himself to the courthouse in protest of charges laid against him.

Monis escaped jail time but was sentenced to 300 hours of community service and placed on a two-year good behaviour bond in September 2013.

He again received attention from police in November last year when he allegedly organised the murder of his ex-wife and mother-of-two Noleen Hayson Pal.

Ms Pal had been stabbed and her body set alight in a Werrington apartment block, allegedly by Ms Droudis.

Monis was charged with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder while Ms Droudis was charged with murder. The couple won bail in Penrith Local Court after a magistrate noted the prosecution case was weak, News Corp reports.

In April this year he was charged with sexually assaulting seven women while working as a spiritual healer in Wentworthville, where he claimed to be an expert in "astrology, numerology, meditation and black magic".

In October Monis, who most recently had been living at Bexley North in Sydney's south, was charged with an extra 40 sexual offences relating to his work as a spiritual healer.

He was on bail at the time of the siege and due to appear in court over indecent and sexual assault charges in February 2015.

Earlier this month Monis announced via his website he used to be a Rafidi, one who rejects legitimate Islamic authority and leadership, but "now I am a Muslim".

## **Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia**

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police to be dead at the conclusion of the siege.[4][5][6][7]

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evacuated and locked down. Some hostages managed to escape. The event lasted over 16 hours before police tactical operators stormed the café in the early hours of the following morning[22][23] and Haron was confirmed by police to have died in the ensuing confrontation;[6] two of the hostages were killed, several wounded. A policeman suffered minor injuries.[6][7]

## **Muslim cleric Man Haron Monis loses bid to have charges over offensive letters quashed**

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/muslim-cleric-man-haron-monis-loses-bid-to-have-charges-over-offensive-letters-quashed/story-e6frg6nf-1226586784899> December 15, 2014

Sheik Man Haron Monis has lost his bid to have charges over allegedly sending offensive letters to widows of Diggers killed in Afghanistan quashed.

Man Haron Monis, also known as Sheik Haron, was charged in 2011 with 12 counts of using a postal service in a way that a reasonable person would consider menacing, harassing or offensive.

He allegedly sent letters - and in one case a recorded message - to the relatives of several diggers killed in action in Afghanistan and the mother of an Austrade official killed in the bombing of a hotel in Indonesia. His co-accused, Amirah Droudis faces eight counts of aiding an abetting Mr Monis.

The letters allegedly began by offering condolences to the families, before launching into an "intemperate and extravagant" criticism of Australia's involvement in Afghanistan. They also allegedly insulted the dead soldiers.

Lawyers for the pair argued the charges infringed on their constitutional right to free political communication.

Whilst the six High Court judges hearing the case unanimously agreed that the section of the Criminal Code under which the pair were charged restricts political communication, the bench was split in whether the section of the act was valid and justified.

Three High Court judges - Susan Crennan, Susan Keifel and Virginia Bell - called for the appeals to be dismissed on the grounds that the section of the act protects against the misuse of the postal service to deliver seriously offensive material into a person's home.

In their joint judgement they noted that communications restricted by the act "are limited to those which are of a seriously offensive nature".

"This does not suggest an effect upon the freedom which could be regarded as extensive. It does not prevent communications of a political nature which do not convey such offensive material," they said.

But in separate judgments the three other High Court judges hearing the case - Chief Justice Robert French, Kenneth Hayne, Dyson Heydon - wanted to allow the appeals, arguing the section of the act was invalid.

In his judgment Chief Justice French said, "given the scope of criminal liability created by section 471.12 in its application to offensive uses of postal or similar services, the section must be taken to effectively burden upon implied freedom of political communication".

"The reasonable persons test, even when applied to a high threshold definition of what is 'offensive', does not prevent the application of the prohibition to communications on

government or political matters in a range of circumstances the limits of which are not able to be defined with any such precision and which cannot be limited to the outer fringes of political discussions," Chief Justice French wrote.

But under the Judiciary Act when the High Court is equally split on a case, the decision of the lower court is affirmed.

For that reason, both Mr Monis and Ms Droudis' appeals to have the charges thrown out were dismissed.

## **Who Created Cartoon Character "Man Haron Monis" Behind "Sydney Siege" Circus?**

<http://landdestroyer.blogspot.com/2014/12/who-created-cartoon-character-man-haron.html> December 15, 2014

Who Created Cartoon Character "Man Haron Monis" Behind "Sydney Siege" Circus?

### **haron monis**

<http://www.tumblr.com/search/haron+monis> December 15, 2014

The man police believe is responsible for the Sydney siege is an Iranian cleric Man Haron Monis. Police have said they are happy for the identity of the hostage taker ...

Man Haron Monis. That's not anything close to an Iranian name, is it? He's the guy who took hostages in Sydney, Australia recently and wanted an ISIS flag. They're identifying him as an Iranian refugee. In the picture of him, his clothing is more similar to the tribal attire of a Pashtun, but there are no native Pashtuns in Iran, are there? Most Iranian Muslims are Shia too, but ISIS is a Sunni organization?

That name, not one part of it is Iranian. Not one. The media here (I don't know where you are) is saying "Iranian-born" as opposed to "Iranian" which means he is ethnically from somewhere else. Just like I'm Iranian but I am "British born". Now, Iran is not like the UK where there are millions of immigrants from countries all over the world giving birth to children. If you are Iranian born but not Iranian then the only alternative peoples who have migrated to Iran, legally and illegally, are from Afghanistan. I think there around 1 million officially. That was my instant hunch. He could be Pakistani too. But again that's not a common migration. Majority of Pakistani's are Sunni and many loathe Iran, we had to draw a wall to stop some rogue individual's terrorist attacks so really don't think it's a common thing to have them migrate over.

I'm not saying this to lay blame on any country. But it is important to identify the root of this person and where he comes from, just to know. Just to understand. Unfortunately also because it has become a fond habit of western politicians and media to instantly lay blame on Iran for every. Single. Thing. Which they ALWAYS end up being proved wrong. They jumped and said the terrorist plane attack in Lockerbie, Scotland a few decades ago was Iran's fault - how hilarious when Gaddafi proudly claimed it was him. I don't subscribe to the Sunni/Shia split either fyi. I embrace all Muslims (even when they don't embrace me) I really enjoy my sunni friends and have never made to feel uncomfortable with them and nor have I ever made them feel uncomfortable. I'm just telling the facts that unfortunately exist. I'm just saying, if the question is whether this repugnant individual was actually "Iranian" or not, all things considers I'd say no. We'll see what else we hear.

Wherever this guy is from, he's vermin. I'm elated he's dead. He was already on bail as a suspect for murdering his ex-wife AND he was a registered repeated sex offender - not exactly in line with a religion that teaches no sexual relations before marriage and that "if you

murder one person it's as if you have slain all of mankind".

I'm sick to death of these people who are mentally deranged, out of their minds that HAPPEN to be "Muslim" or more correctly call themselves Muslims, that cling to this part of themselves and use it as a tool to justify carrying out these obscene acts.

There are 1 billion Muslims on the planet. If the problem was Islam, we'd all be terrorists. 99.99% of us open our Qur'an's and learn love and patience and generosity and respect and humility. A bunch of mentally ill imbeciles somehow warp their idea of their religion into something that justifies them to behave in this way and I'm truly astounded.

Queen Rania of Jordan said a wonderful thing in a speech recently with regards to ISIS: "A minority of irreligious extremists is using social media to rewrite our narrative, hijack our identity and rebrand us".

### **'Sheikh' Man Haron Monis in court over woman's fiery death**

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/sheikh-man-haron-monis-in-court-over-womans-fiery-death/story-e6frg6nf-1226761316100> December 15, 2014

Man Haron Monis, 49, fronted Burwood Local Court charged with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of a woman allegedly stabbed and set alight ...

Man Haron Monis, 49, fronted Burwood Local Court charged with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of a woman allegedly stabbed and set alight in a western Sydney stairwell earlier this year.

Mr Monis, also known as Sheikh Haron, was arrested along with a woman who earlier today was charged with murder.

Dressed in black tracksuit pants and with a beard, Mr Monis didn't apply for bail and it was formally refused by Magistrate Christopher Longley.

Emergency workers found the woman's body in the Werrington apartment block on April 21 after responding to a fire.

The 30-year-old had allegedly been stabbed multiple times and set alight.

Police say the three people knew each other.

Amirah Droudis, who is believed to be the partner of Mr Monis, was charged with murdering Noleen Hayson Pal.

She sat quietly in the dock, wearing a black blouse and with her long dark hair out.

Her lawyer said she wouldn't apply for bail and it was formally refused.

The pair will appear in Penrith Local Court on November 22.

Mr Monis had sent offensive letters to the grieving families of seven soldiers killed in Afghanistan between 2007 and 2009.

The self-employed spiritual adviser and astrologer also wrote to the family of trade official Craig Senger, who was killed in the 2009 Marriott Hotel bombing in Jakarta.

In the letters, Mr Monis likened soldiers to murderers and killers, and in one letter said a Digger was going to hell.

## **Man Haron Monis - gunman behind the siege**

<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/world/261866/man-haron-monis-gunman-behind-the-siege> December 15, 2014

Siege - Man Haron Monis was a self-styled Muslim cleric who was born in Iran and went to Australia as a refugee almost 20 years ago.

Man Haron Monis was a self-styled Muslim cleric who was born in Iran and went to Australia as a refugee almost 20 years ago.

Monis, who was 50 when he died at the end of a 16-hour siege at the Lindt cafe in central Sydney on Tuesday, was no stranger to Australian authorities.

He first came to public notice in 2010 when he faced charges for sending offensive letters to the families of two Australian soldiers who died in Afghanistan and the family of a trade official, Craig Senger, who died in the 2009 Jakarta bombing.

His former lawyer, Manny Conditis, described him as a "damaged goods individual" with an ideology that clouded his common sense.

"This is a one-off random individual," Mr Conditis told ABC television during the siege. "It's not a concerted terrorism event or act. It's a damaged goods individual who's done something outrageous.

"His ideology is just so strong and so powerful that it clouds his vision for common sense and objectiveness."

In 2013, the Iranian man was convicted for penning a series of offensive letters to the grieving families of several soldiers killed in Afghanistan between 2007 and 2009.

Dubbed the "hate sheik", he had intended to send letters and flower baskets to the relatives of British soldiers killed in Afghanistan.

He was banned from sending the letters, placed on a two-year good behaviour bond and ordered to do 300 hours of community service.

But within months he was in the news again, this time accused of being an accessory to his ex-wife's murder.

Noleen Hayson Pal, 30, a mother-of-two was stabbed to death and set alight in April 2013 in a Werrington unit block in western Sydney. Monis' then partner, 34-year-old Amirah Droudis, was charged with Ms Pal's murder.

Monis was granted bail at Penrith Local Court in December 2013 after a three-hour application hearing.

Earlier this year, the so-called 'spiritual healer' was charged with more than 40 offences relating to the indecent and sexual assault of several women in 2002.

He was granted bail and was set to reappear in court in February 2015.

There were reports that one of his demands was that an Islamic State flag be delivered to the Lindt cafe in Martin Place.

However, he has no known links to jihadist groups, and commentators have suggested he is likely to be working alone.

## **Sydney siege gunman named as Man Haron Monis**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/australiaandthepacific/australia/11294514/Sydney-siege-gunman-named-as-Man-Haron-Monis.html> December 15, 2014

The man behind the shocking siege in a Sydney café was Man Haron Monis, a notorious 49-year-old self-proclaimed sheikh who claimed to practice black magic ...

The man behind the shocking siege in a Sydney café was Man Haron Monis, a notorious 49-year-old self-proclaimed sheikh who claimed to practice black magic and was well known for multiple crimes including sending offensive letters to grieving families of dead Australian soldiers and allegedly murdering his ex-wife.

In October, he was charged with 40 indecent and sexual assault charges, including 22 counts of aggravated sexual assault and 14 counts of aggravated indecent assault relating to six women.

In 2002 he faced charges of sexually assaulting a woman and of joining with his current wife to stab his ex-wife to death in Sydney last year.

Police apparently identified Monis as the gunman within hours of the siege: his appearance closely resembled the figure seen lurking behind the windows of the Lindt café in Sydney, where he took hostages and brought the city to a standstill. He also spoke to police, some of whom would have spoken to him during numerous investigations into his long history of crime and troublemaking.

Some of the media reporting on the siege, including the Telegraph, were aware of his identity but were asked by police not to reveal it.

Dubbed the “hate sheikh”, Monis, who was reportedly born in Iran, first made national headlines after he caused widespread outrage by sending insulting letters and a DVD to families of Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan and the mother of an Australian official killed in a bombing in Indonesia.

He was last year sentenced to 300 hours of community service after pleading guilty to sending the “grossly offensive” letters between 2007 and 2009. Amirah Droudis, 34, his wife, also pleaded guilty to participating in the abusive letter writing. She reportedly once approached a soldier's loved ones at his funeral.

A hostage runs to armed tactical response police officers for safety after she escaped from the cafe under siege. Credit: Rob Griffith/AP

Monis, who sometimes goes by the name Mohammad Hassan Manteghi, was charged this year with being an accessory to the murder of Noleen Hayson Pal, 30, his ex-wife and mother-of-two. She was stabbed multiple times and set alight before being found in an apartment stairwell in April. She apparently met Monis following newspaper advertisements in which he claimed to be a spiritual healer.

Monis has claimed he was framed by the Iranian Secret Police and ASIO, Australia's domestic spy agency.

Prosecutors said he constructed an “elaborate” alibi, including deliberately filming a clock, while asking for the time at a swimming pool before the murder and later faking a car crash outside a police station.

The pair were separated and in a bitter custody dispute. His current wife, Droudis, was also

accused of the murder.

Monis was charged in April with the sexual assault of a woman then aged 27 in Sydney in 2002. She met him after seeing his newspaper advertisement for "spiritual consultation" and he claimed to be an expert in astrology, numerology and black magic.

During court hearings after his arrest for the letter-writing, Monis claimed he was a peace activist and chained himself to the court, waving a small Australian flag.

He described his letters as "flowers of advices [sic]", saying "from now on when I want to advise people not to kill civilians I should do it by hand delivery".

Monis repeatedly refused to apologise and even brought an appeal to the High Court, claiming the letters were "purely political" and should be protected under the right to freedom of speech. The court dismissed the claim.

His next appearance in court on the sex assault charges was due to occur in February 2015.

### **ABC News** شيخ مأن هارون مونس

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7eG-ro1MC-g> December 15, 2014

ABC News: Sheik Man Haron Monis. ABC News: Sheik Man Haron Monis ...

Sign in to make your opinion count.

Sign in to make your opinion count.

Sign in to add this video to a playlist.

Ratings have been disabled for this video.

Rating is available when the video has been rented.

This feature is not available right now. Please try again later.

### **Man Haron Monis, also known as Sheik Haron loses appeal against charge in the High Court**

<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2013/02/notch-one-up-for-the-good-guys-man-haron-monis-also-known-as-sheik-haron-loses-appeal-against-charge.html> December 15, 2014

Notch one up for the good guys - Man Haron Monis, also known as Sheik Haron loses appeal against charge in the High Court

### **Photo-Full Background Australian Jihad Islamic Preacher Man Haron Monis Out on Bail for Honor Killing Ex-Wife**

<http://pamelageller.com/2014/12/photo-full-background-australian-jihad-islamic-preacher-man-haron-monis-out-on-bail-for-honor-killing-of-ex-wife.html/> December 15, 2014

Apparently the Australian jihadist Man Haron Monis was out on jail for the honor murder of his former wife. She had been stabbed and set alight.

Apparently the Australian jihadist Man Haron Monis was out on jail for the honor murder of his former wife. She had been stabbed and set alight.

Further, on 14 March 2014, Haron was arrested and charged with sexually and indecently



assaulting a young woman.

He led a disgusting letter writing campaign to the families of fallen soldiers. The letters compared "the (deceased soldier) son to a pig and to a dirty animal. It calls the son's body 'contaminated'. It refers to it as 'the dirty body of a pig'. It describes Hitler as not inferior to the son in moral merit."

Law enforcement has already taken his Facebook page down.

Sheikh Haron is an Australian Muslim cleric originally from Iran.

Haron was born Manteghi Bourjerdi in Iran where, as an ayatollah, his liberal interpretation of Islam led to the detention of his wife and children. Bourjerdi fled Iran to Australia in 1996 as a refugee, and changed his name to Man Haron Monis, assuming the title of Sheikh Haron.

Haron is notable for the campaign undertaken by him and his colleague, Amirah Droudis, protesting the presence of Australian troops in Afghanistan, which takes the form of letters sent to the families of fallen soldiers in which he denigrates the soldiers as murderers, and urged the soldiers' families to petition the government to remove its troops from Afghanistan. The letters were sent to the families of deceased Australian Soldiers. As per Justice Heydon of the High Court, the letters compared "the (deceased soldier) son to a pig and to a dirty animal. It calls the son's body "contaminated". It refers to it as "the dirty body of a pig". It describes Hitler as not inferior to the son in moral merit." Haron was arrested on charges of "using a postal or similar service to menace, harass or cause offence".

On 10 November 2009 Haron appeared in court and claimed through his lawyers to be a peace activist. He later chained himself to the courthouse in protest over the charges. Haron was subsequently barred by the courts from expanding his protest to include letters to UK soldiers' families.

In December 2011, Haron appeared before the Court of Criminal Appeal in Sydney arguing that the charges against him were invalid because they infringed on his implied constitutional freedom of political communication, but the three-judge panel unanimously dismissed his case.

Upon further appeal to the High Court of Australia, the six-judge panel split 3-3 over the issue. Although the High Court of Australia normally comprises seven judges, one seat was vacant and as yet unfilled at the time Haron's case appeared before the court. Failing to achieve a majority vote in Haron's favour, the lower court's unanimous decision was left to stand.

On 15 November 2013, Haron was charged by NSW Police with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of Noleen Hayson Pal, allegedly stabbed and set alight in a Werrington apartment stairwell on 21 April 2013. His partner Amirah Droudis, was formally charged with Pal's murder. Pal was Haron's ex-wife.

On 12 December 2013, Haron and Amirah were given bail at Penrith Local Court. Magistrate Darryl Pearce said there were significant flaws in the Crown's case against the pair. "It is a weak case" he said. Prosecutor Brian Royce said Monis' claims the Iranian Secret Police and ASIO were trying to frame him for the murder was fanciful. Magistrate Pearce said all theories needed to be examined.

On 22 January 2014, Haron told magistrate Joan Baptie that he was representing himself and proceeded to talk about documents ASIO has on him that he wanted to see. He told the

court he has been charged in connection to the murder of his ex-wife because ASIO is conspiring against him to have him jailed. But Magistrate Baptie told him she cannot order ASIO to release documents about him. Haron stood outside the Parramatta Local Court wearing chains and holding a sign claiming he has been tortured in jail. He said: "This is not a criminal case. This is a political case."

On 14 March 2014, Haron was arrested and charged with sexually and indecently assaulting a young woman who went to his consultancy in Wentworthville, New South Wales for "spiritual healing", after seeing an advertisement in a local newspaper. Haron claimed he was an expert in "astrology, numerology, meditation and black magic" services.

In December 2014 Haron announced that he used to be a Rafidi but he had converted to Islam, he announced it both on his website and his Facebook Page

## **Man Haron Monis - Trending Hashtag**

<https://trendinghashtag.com/man-haron-monis-2/> December 15, 2014

Man Haron Monis was the classic #ISIS 'recruit' - a scumbag criminal trying to do 'jihad' to make up for his guilty past #sydneysiege Mon Dec 15 16:05:28 ...

## **Tori Johnson, Katrina Dawson**

<http://www.news.com.au/national/martin-place-cafe-siege-police-storm-cafe-and-kill-gunman-sheik-man-haron-monis/story-fncynjr2-1227157498633> December 15, 2014

Gunman Man Haron Monis killed, two hostages dead Police stormed the cafe and multiple shots were fired after 2am Road diversions in place as train and bus ...

Tori Johnson, 34, was wrestling a gun from gunman Man Haron Monis when he was killed.

It is understood the cafe manager decided to take action when the hostage-taker begun to doze off after the siege had been ongoing for 17 hours.

He lunged at the gunman's weapon, enabling others to flee.

The second hostage killed has been identified as Katrina Dawson, 38. The mother-of-three is the sister of well known Sydney lawyer Sandy Dawson.

Ms Dawson was tragically killed trying to defend her pregnant friend, AAP reports.

Two pregnant women are among hostages who are currently being treated in hospital, and another injured woman has been identified as Marcia Mikhael, who was forced to send out a chilling video plea detailing the gunman's request yesterday.

Three people were killed, including gunman Man Haron Monis, in the Martin Place cafe siege after heavily armed police stormed the location just after 2am.

Police confirmed two hostages and the hostage-taker died and four others were injured during the police operation that brought the siege at Lindt cafe to an end.

MORE: Sydney siege: What we know, what we don't

A man was seen running with his hands up before a crowd of hostages following fleeing from the cafe just after 2am. A short burst of gunfire and flash grenades were heard as police stormed the building before declaring the siege over at around 2.45am.

Police have confirmed a man, aged 34, and a woman, aged 38, were pronounced dead after

being taken to hospital.

The 50-year-old Monis, who was known to police as a self-styled preacher of Islamic State on bail for an accessory to murder charge, was also pronounced dead at hospital.

Two women have been taken to hospital with non-life threatening injuries and another woman is being treated for a gunshot wound to her shoulder.

A police officer who was seen with an amount of blood streaming from his head has been transported to hospital and is being treated for a gunshot wound to the face.

Addressing media this morning Commissioner Scipione confirmed police were treating the operation as a critical incident and an investigation was underway.

"We need to actually find out what's happened here and what's happened inside that cafe," he said.

The Commissioner assured Sydneysiders this was an "isolated incident" and urged that this incident not "bring about any loss of confidence about working or visiting in our city".

Commissioner Scipione said his thoughts were with the hostages and their families, innocent people "who were just buying a cup of coffee and got caught up in this dreadful affair".

Premier Mike Baird has also addressed media paying tribute to the families of the deceased and hostages, and rallying the people of NSW to "come together like never before".

"We will get through this. The events we have seen have shaken us, but do not dampen our resolve," he said.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott has released a statement this morning following briefings with the NSW premier and police commissioner.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the two deceased hostages, the wounded and the other hostages," he said.

"I commend the courage and the professionalism of the New South Wales Police and other emergency services."

Mr Abbott will travel to Sydney early this afternoon to be further briefed by NSW police and other security agencies.

Lindt CEO Ernst Tanner has also released a statement this morning, expressing his "deepest sympathy to the victims and their families".

"In these difficult times we all need to stand together in order to defend the values of freedom, peace and tolerance," he said.

The company has offered support for victims and their families, as well as their staff affected.

Authorities have commenced an extensive investigation and are currently attempting to assess the damage and arrange urgent medical attention for the hostages and police.

It is believed the area has now been cleared for risk of explosives and floral tributes have begun to be laid outside the exclusion zone at Martin Place.

Hostages fled from the Sydney cafe where the gunman had been holding 17 hostages for 17

hours.

Police have been reluctant to reveal details of what prompted them to storm the building, but it has been reported hostages took the opportunity to escape as their captor began to doze off.

Television footage initially showed a man running from the eatery with his arms raised, shortly after 2am before being patted down by police and escorted to safety.

Minutes later, two more men and two women raced outside and were directed away by police.

Their escape was followed by about 40 seconds of rapid gunfire as heavily-armed police stormed the cafe in numbers, managing to release others.

A woman, apparently middle-aged, was carried from the scene injured.

A second volley of shots erupted before the cafe filled with police and paramedics.

A number of stretchers were wheeled into the building to treat the injured. A bomb disposal robot was sent into the cafe by police.

Mr Scipione said police had no choice but to enter the building, after hearing gunshots and feared hostages had been hit.

“They made the call because they believed at that time if they didn’t enter it would have been many more lives lost,” he said.

Monis was known to police as a self-styled preacher of Islamic State. He was on bail for accessory to murder, at the time he took the terrified hostages in Sydney’s Lindt cafe.

Haron was also charged this year with indecent and sexual assault of women in 2002. Monis was hit with an additional 40 charges in October.

The 50-year-old, originally from Iran who lived in southwest Sydney, had previously sent offensive letters to the families of dead Australian soldiers, calling them ‘murderers’, The Daily Telegraph says.

He had a sawn-off shotgun and was a fringe Islamist, The Australian and Sky News reports.

The self-proclaimed IS leader’s former lawyer has described his warped outlook, saying Monis was committed to his causes, and truly believed that by sending offensive letters to the families of Australian soldiers he would “get the families onside and they would assist him”.

The ordeal began around 10am on Monday when Monis entered the Lindt cafe and reportedly withdrew a shotgun from a blue bag.

Throughout the day hostages were seen pressed against the windows of the Lindt cafe, captured first by the Seven Network from their Martin Place studio directly opposite the location.

Some were forced to contact news outlets and use social media to relay the gunman’s demands.

At one stage a woman was used as a human shield as the gunman moved around inside the

cafe.

Hostages were forced to hold an Islamic flag against the windows in turn.

Five hostages managed to escape yesterday, running from the back service door of the cafe into the arms of heavily armed police officers outside.

From 8pm the building was in darkness with the 12 remaining hostages and hostage-taker inside.

Heavily armed police and other authorities waited outside alert to any activity going on in the cafe.

As shots were heard and hostages fled just after 2am they sprung into action.

As the siege exploded in Sydney's Lindt Cafe, the world watched.

In the United States, CNN, FOX News, MSNBC and other 24-hour news channels had already dedicated most of their Monday morning programming to coverage of the emergency.

When the situation climaxed with hostages fleeing and heavily armed authorities storming the cafe in Sydney's central business district, people around the world watched live.

CNN switched programming to the Seven Network's coverage, while FOX News switched to Australia's Sky News.

The New York Times, USA Today, the Los Angeles Times, the UK's Independent and Times, France's Le Monde and other news websites also were dominated by the harrowing photos of hostages running for their lives.

Residents and city workers have been advised to go about their day as usual, but police have advised some road diversions remain in place.

Trains are running normally but Martin Place station will be closed.

Traffic and Highway Patrol police have cordoned off parts of Hunter, King, Phillip and Elizabeth streets.

- Elizabeth Street between Hunter and King Streets — closed to all traffic
- Elizabeth Street — northbound between Market and King Street — closed to all traffic
- Phillip Street — between King and Hunter Streets — closed to all traffic
- King Street — between Elizabeth and Phillip Streets — closed to all traffic
- Macquarie Street — between St James Road and Hunter Street — closed to all traffic

Bus services will run according to regular schedules, although some routes will be diverted around the affected area.

People intending to travel to the Sydney CBD, away from the cordoned off area are advised, to go ahead with their plans.

Those affected by the operation are advised to contact their employers, monitor media

reports and seek advice via the NSW Police website and social media platforms.

## **Family blasts accused sheik Man Haron Monis**

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/family-blasts-accused-sheik-man-haron-monis/story-e6frf7jo-1225796243955>  
December 15, 2014

As the family of one of the Victorian men met in Canberra before special remembrance services - self-styled cleric Man Haron Monis chained himself to the steps of a ...

As the family of one of the Victorian men met in Canberra before special remembrance services - self-styled cleric Man Haron Monis chained himself to the steps of a Sydney court and waved an Australian flag in a "message of peace".

Accused of sending offensive mail to the families, Monis, also known as Sheik Haron, addressed a media contingent in arabic before refusing to apologise.

The latest controversial act by the cleric has been slammed by the RSL.

State president David McLachlan said: "I think Sheik Haron should be mindful of what tomorrow means. "It is a day we remember all those people in Australia who have fought for the freedom that allows him to express his opinion.

"It is not fitting, nor appropriate that he wrote to the families of these soldiers. He should take it up with the Government, not the people who have served.

"The RSL abhors the actions taken by the sheik."

The father of Victorian soldier Gregory Sher, killed in a January rocket attack in Afghanistan, said he struggled to find words to describe the sheik and his ongoing remarks.

"We are just overwhelmed by his stupidity, heartlessness and hypocrisy," Felix Sher said.

"I don't know what one can say but justice must prevail."

He said the family were still struggling with Pte Sher's death, but planned to use remembrance services in Canberra today as a fitting tribute to their son.

On Tuesday, Sheik Haron did not enter a plea and later said he had sent letters to the families offering his condolences, offering his help if they needed it, and asking them to tell the Government to stop killing innocent civilians.

Asked if the letters included claims that the dead men were "murderers", Monis stressed that the entire letters should be published rather than being "cut" (edited).

He then produced a small Australian flag and waved it, saying he loved Australia and whatever he did was for the safety of all nations, Australia included.

In court, his lawyer, Chris Murphy, said the sheik had been "preaching peace" and was "without a single blur" on his character.

Mr Murphy said the letters did not contain threats, adding: "He is a peace activist."

The sheik surrendered his passport under the court-ordered conditions.

The matter was adjourned until January 19.

## **Man Haron Monis: fringe figure whose crime record and erratic behaviour made him notorious**

<http://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2014/dec/15/man-haron-monis-sydney-siege-suspect> December 15, 2014

Until his entry into the global media spotlight as the shadowy figure at the centre of the Sydney siege, Man Haron Monis had long been viewed as a fringe ...

Until his entry into the global media spotlight as the shadowy figure at the centre of the Sydney siege, Man Haron Monis had long been viewed as a fringe figure in Sydney's Islamic community, his self-radicalisation rooted in grievances against the Australian government and increasing marginalisation among his peers.

The self-proclaimed spiritual healer had achieved a degree of notoriety as the author of "grossly offensive" letters sent to taunt parents and relatives of Australians killed by extremism in Indonesia as well as troops who lost their lives in Afghanistan between 2007 and 2009.

Well known to the Australian police, he had been consumed by his conviction for the offence, unsuccessfully challenging the conviction in the high court last year and making several vehement and erratic public statements claiming to be innocent.

Monis lost another bid to have the matter heard before the high court on Friday.

He also faced numerous charges relating to his time working as a "spiritual healer" – including 22 counts of aggravated sexual assault and 14 counts of aggravated indecent assault – and had been bailed for allegedly being an accessory to the killing of his former wife.

When Monis, who was also known as Mohammad Hassan Manteghi, appeared in court in October over the sex assault allegations, police charged him with 40 additional offences. It was alleged that he had advised a 27-year-old woman to visit him at his business in Wentworthville in 2002 after she contacted him through a "Spiritual Consultation" ad in a community newspaper.

He was charged last year with being an accessory to the murder of his 30-year-old former wife Noleen Hayson Pal, a mother-of-two who was allegedly stabbed to death and set alight in April 2013.

Iranian-born, Monis sought asylum in Australia in 1996, telling ABC News in 2001 he fled after falling foul of the Iranian regime, which he said had placed his wife and children under house arrest. "I can say they are hostage," he said at the time, having reportedly given himself the title Sheikh Haron.

As recently as last week on a website he used both to defend and promote himself, he announced that he had converted from Shia to Sunni Islam and pledged his allegiance to the caliphate declared by the militant group Islamic State. That website was shut down as Monday's siege developed, and police asked media outlets to refrain from giving him a platform as he held 17 hostages in the Lindt cafe in Martin Place.

Sydney Shia leaders had apparently urged federal police to probe his claim to be a leading cleric, while he was ignored by the Sunni community. He had no links to the Islamic State terrorist group, and despite his criminal past was not seen as a likely exponent of the group's ideology.

One upshot, some would argue, is that he fits bill of a classic lone wolf – a profile that had been much feared by security officials. Monis is believed to have been a self-starter, who had attached himself to the virulent worldview of Isis. His self-radicalisation appeared to be rooted in grievances against the government and fueled by his increasing marginalisation.

Earlier this month, Monis had posted on his website that Shia muslims were rejectionists – a key message of extremist Sunnis in the Middle East.

But there were other hints on the web post that Monis had become radicalised: a rambling October letter he penned to the Muslim community rejected the “new religion” of moderate Islam. ‘This pen is my gun and these words are my bullets, I fight by these weapons against oppression to promote peace,’ he wrote.

An image on the website appears to show Monis wearing the same headband that photographs suggest he donned during the Martin Place siege, reading: “We are ready to sacrifice for you, O Muhammad.”

Shortly after Tony Abbott’s government was elected in September last year, Monis sent the prime minister a letter inviting him to a live debate in which he said he would prove that “Australia and Australians will be attacked” as a result of the country’s participation in the war in Afghanistan.

Manny Conditis, a lawyer who represented Monis at one point, has decribed his former client as an isolated figure who might have felt that he had nothing to lose, “hence participating in something as desperate and outrageous as this”.

“His ideology is just so strong and so powerful that it clouds his vision for common sense and objectiveness,” Conditis told ABC news.

## **Online references**

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Sheikh Haron is an Australian Muslim cleric originally from Iran. Haron was born Manteghi Bourjerdi in Iran where, as an ayatollah, his liberal interpretation of ...

Sheikh Haron is an Australian cleric originally from Haron was born Manteghi Bourjerdi in Iran where, as an, his liberal interpretation of Islam led to the detention of his wife and children. Bourjerdi fled Iran to Australia and changed his name to Man Haron Monis, assuming the title of Sheikh Haron. Haron is notable for the campaign undertaken by him and his colleague, Amirah Droudis, protesting the presence of Australian troops in Afghanistan, which takes the form of letters sent to the families of fallen soldiers in which he denigrates the soldiers as murderers, and urged the soldiers' families to petition the government to remove its troops from Afghanistan. Haron was arrested on charges of "using a postal or similar service to menace, harass or cause offence". On 10 November 2009 Haron appeared in court and claimed through his lawyers to be a peace activist. He later chained himself to the courthouse in protest over the charges. Haron was subsequently barred by the courts from expanding his protest to include letters to UK soldiers' families. In December 2011, Haron appeared before thein Sydney arguing that the charges against him were invalid because they infringed on his implied constitutional freedom of political communication, but the three-judge panel unanimously dismissed his case. Upon further appeal to the, the six-judge panel split 3-3 over the issue. Failing to achieve a majority vote in Haron's favor, the lower court's unanimous decision was left to stand. On 15 November 2013, Haron was charged by NSW Police with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of Noleen Hayson Pal, allegedly stabbed and set alight in a Werrington apartment stairwell on 21 April 2013. His partner Amirah Droudis, was formerly charged with Pal's murder. This is



an excerpt from the article Man Haron Monis from the Wikipedia free encyclopedia. A list of authors is available at Wikipedia.

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<http://trendinghashtags.com/man-haron-monis-2/> December 15, 2014

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2014

## High Court rules on constitutional appeal of Sheik Man Haron Monis

<http://www.news.com.au/national/high-court-rules-on-constitutional-appeal-of-sheik-man-haron-monis/story-fncynjr2-1226587155679> December 15, 2014

THREE of Australia's top judges believe a radical Muslim cleric had a legal right to send offensive letters to the families of dead Australian soldiers. In ...

In a major freedom-of-speech case that split the High Court, Chief Justice Robert French, Justice Kenneth Hayne and Justice Dyson Heydon yesterday upheld the appeal of Sheik Man Haron Monis because they agreed a section of the Criminal Code contradicted the

constitution.

But Sheik Haron and an alleged helper lost their bid to have a raft of criminal charges thrown out because Justice Susan Crennan, Justice Susan Kiefel and Justice Virginia Bell ruled the opposite and dismissed their appeal.

The 3-3 tie meant the original NSW Court of Criminal Appeal decision was affirmed.

RSL Australia and relatives of the diggers yesterday welcomed the outcome, but suggested the Criminal Code be clarified given the differing legal opinions.

"I certainly welcome the result. They should not be allowed to bypass the justice system," said Felix Sher, who allegedly received letters before his son Private Gregory Sher's funeral in 2009.

Sheik Haron launched the appeal after being charged with 12 counts of using a postal or similar service in a menacing, harassing and offensive way between 2007 and 2009.

His co-accused, Amirah Droudis, also appealed after being charged with eight counts of aiding and abetting.

The appeal was based on their claim that the Criminal Code section was invalid because it was inconsistent with the implied constitutional freedom of political communication.

Letters and a recorded message were allegedly sent to the relatives of Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan and to the mother of an Austrade official killed in Indonesia, condemning the Diggers.

In his judgement yesterday, Justice French said the question was whether the law exceeded the limit of legislative power and burdened freedom of communication about political matter.

"The answer to the question is in the affirmative," he said, noting that it was not about characterising the alleged conduct, but rather one of legal interpretation.

In his decision, Justice Heydon also upheld the appeal, but said it may demonstrate to some people "how flawed that law is".

But Justice Crennan, Kiefel and Bell ruled the appeals should be dismissed because communications prohibited under the section of law were limited to those only of a "seriously offensive nature".

"This does not suggest an effect upon the freedom which could be regarded as extensive," they said.

RSL Australia NSW president Don Rowe said the government needed to revisit the law because "there is obviously some confusion when the High Court is split like this".

"The law needs to be looked at and changed and to be strengthened so we can protect the good name and integrity of those who have made a supreme sacrifice while serving in our defence forces," he said.

## **Online references**

<http://www.cyclopaedia.info/wiki/Man-Monis> December 15, 2014

Bourjerdi fled Iran to Australia and changed his name to Man Haron Monis, assuming the title of Sheikh Haron. Haron is notable for the campaign undertaken by ...

Sheikh Haron is an Australian cleric originally from Iran. Haron was born Manteghi Bourjerdi in Iran where, as an, his liberal interpretation of Islam led to the detention of his wife and children. Bourjerdi fled Iran to Australia and changed his name to Man Haron Monis, assuming the title of Sheikh Haron. Haron is notable for the campaign undertaken by him and his colleague, Amirah Droudis, protesting the presence of Australian troops in Afghanistan, which takes the form of letters sent to the families of fallen soldiers in which he denigrates the soldiers as murderers, and urged the soldiers' families to petition the government to remove its troops from Afghanistan. Haron was arrested on charges of "using a postal or similar service to menace, harass or cause offence". On 10 November 2009 Haron appeared in court and claimed through his lawyers to be a peace activist. He later chained himself to the courthouse in protest over the charges. Haron was subsequently barred by the courts from expanding his protest to include letters to UK soldiers' families. In December 2011, Haron appeared before the Sydney court arguing that the charges against him were invalid because they infringed on his implied constitutional freedom of political communication, but the three-judge panel unanimously dismissed his case. Upon further appeal to the High Court, the six-judge panel split 3-3 over the issue. Failing to achieve a majority vote in Haron's favor, the lower court's unanimous decision was left to stand. On 15 November 2013, Haron was charged by NSW Police with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of Noleen Hayson Pal, allegedly stabbed and set alight in a Werrington apartment stairwell on 21 April 2013. His partner Amirah Droudis, was formerly charged with Pal's murder. This is an excerpt from the article Man Monis from the Wikipedia free encyclopedia. A list of authors is available at Wikipedia.

## **Man Haron Monis**

<http://libreprensa.com/k/man-haron-monis/2309119> December 15, 2014

Updated December 16, 2014 05:22:48 . Iranian cleric Man Haron Monis is the man police believe is behind the siege at the Lindt Chocolat Cafe in Sydney 's ...

Police three people have died and four others were injured during the police operation that brought the siege at Lindt cafe to an end just after 2am today after more than 16 hours. Two hostages and a lone gunman were killed and a total of 17 hostages were held throughout the siege. A man was seen running with his hands up before a crowd of hostages following fleeing from the cafe just after 2am.

A man was seen running with his hands up before a crowd of hostages following fleeing from the cafe just after 2am. A short burst of gunfire and flash grenades were heard as police stormed the building before declaring the siege over at around 2.45am.

A police officer who was seen with an amount of blood streaming from his head has been transported to hospital and is being treated for a gunshot wound to the face.

He had a sawn-off shotgun and was a fringe Islamist, The Australian and Sky News reports.

## **Sydney Siege Ends: Police Storm Cafe Where Man Haron Monis Held Hostages**

<http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/sydney-hostage-standoff/sydney-siege-ends-police-storm-cafe-where-man-haron-monis-n268321> December 15, 2014

A gunman was killed and two hostages are dead after police stormed a chocolate shop in Sydney on Monday, ending a 16-hour siege by a self-professed sheik.

A gunman was killed and two hostages are dead after police stormed a chocolate shop in Sydney on Monday, ending a 16-hour siege by a self-professed sheik.

An intelligence source named the gunman as Man Haron Monis, who is also known as Sheikh Haron. He appeared to be making demands to negotiators through Facebook, YouTube and local news media.

In addition to the gunman, two hostages — a 34-year-old man and a 38-year-old woman — suffered fatal injuries, police said. They were pronounced dead at a hospital, New South Wales Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione said during an early morning news conference. Four others, including a police officer, suffered non-life-threatening injuries and were transported to the hospital.

Police stormed the chocolate shop after gunfire erupted early Tuesday morning local time (around 10 a.m. ET Monday.) Flashes of light could be seen coming from inside the cafe and glass had blown out onto the street.

At least five of the 17 hostages escaped at that time. Another five had escaped hours earlier.

Scipione said police decided to enter the shop "as a result of gunfire inside the premises." He said they believed that more lives would have been lost if police didn't enter when they did but, he added, "until we were involved in this emergency action, we believe that no one had been injured."

About 20 minutes after the building was stormed, a bomb-disposal robot was seen outside the entrance. No explosive devices were found, Scipione, adding that the incident was isolated. "Do not let this sort of incident bring about any sort of loss of confidence about working and visiting in our city," he said.

The drama began shortly after 9:45 a.m. local time (5:45 p.m. ET Sunday). A black flag used by Islamist groups in the Middle East had been shown in the window of the Lindt cafe.

Monis is described as a "cleric and activist" on a website in his name, which also likens him to WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange. He had been convicted of penning offensive letters to the families of Australian soldiers slain during the war in Afghanistan.

Will Geddes, a hostage negotiator and founder of International Corporate Protection, told NBC News the decision to storm the building would not have been taken lightly. "They would only move in like that if there was some serious threat to those inside," he said. "This had been going on for more than 16 hours, and in situations where you have a lone wolf there is the risk that the suspect can become very fatigued and volatile."

Earlier, Prime Minister Tony Abbott said the gunman was "claiming political motivation." Police said they were "operating according to our counter-terrorism protocols," and ex-FBI agent Don Borelli told TODAY that the suspect appeared to be inspired by ISIS.

Speaking before the site was stormed, New South Wales Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione said "the very best negotiators in the world" were trying to end the standoff.

Asked about reports that hostages were being forced to use Facebook and YouTube to pass on the gunman's demands, Scipione said: "There's no place on earth that doesn't have access to social media. Our plans are built around that."

Scipione said reports of bomb threats in other parts of Sydney had been investigated but they not did not appear to be legitimate.

Chris Reason, a journalist with NBC News' Australian partner Channel 7, said the hostage-taker had forced victims to "stand against windows, sometimes two hours at a time." He

added that the suspect seemed to be "getting extremely agitated" after the first five hostages left.

Nearby streets and office buildings were cleared and police were seen using ladders to rescue bystanders — including babies — from the building's other floors. The U.S. Consulate in Sydney was evacuated and all U.S. personnel had been accounted for, the State Department told NBC News.

The Lindt Chocolate Cafe is in Martin Place, a busy tourist, transportation and shopping district home to several major banks — including the Reserve Bank of Australia — as well as the state Parliament. The nearby Sydney Opera House cancelled Monday night's performances.

The flag shown in the cafe's window as the hostage drama unfolded appeared to be the Tawhid Banner. NBC News terrorism analyst Evan Kohlmann, added that it was frequently used by Jabhat Al-Nusra and other armed Islamist groups in the region — but not ISIS.

Grand Mufti Ibrahim Abu Mohamed, the highest Islamic office holder in Australia, said in a statement that the Muslim community was "devastated" by the incident, adding that "such actions are denounced in part and in whole in Islam."

The hostage incident comes after police carried out a series of major anti-terrorism raids throughout Sydney in September. ISIS spokesman Abu Muhammad al-Adnani has also urged Muslims in Australia to carry out "lone-wolf" attacks against civilians, according to terrorism analysts at the SITE Intelligence Group.

NBC News' Andrea Mitchell, Marc Smith, Matthew Grimson and Jason Cumming and Reuters contributed to this report.

## **man haron monis Gematria Value**

<http://www.gematrix.org/?word=Man+Haron+Monis> December 15, 2014

Online Gematria Calculator with same phrases values search and words. English Gematria, Hebrew Gematria and Jewish Gematria and Numerology, value of man haron monis ...

(Type in a word or a number e.g. God 666 - To calculate gematria values) -

## **Sheikh Man Haron Monis: From now on I should do it by hand delivery!**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rEdYvz2zQ6I> December 15, 2014

A Muslim cleric in Sydney has sent letters (using postal service) to the families of the Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan and after offering his ...

A Muslim cleric in Sydney has sent letters (using postal service) to the families of the Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan and after offering his condolences for their loss, he requested them to advise the Australian government not to kill Afghan children as it has happened before. The Australian government charged Sheikh Haron for using postal service to cause offense. Using postal service made Sheikh Haron plead guilty. The High Court of Australia confirmed that if he would hand delivered the letters it wouldn't breach the law. He was sentenced to 300 hours community service and two year good behaviour bond on 6 September 2013. After court, Sheikh Haron said that from now on he should hand deliver his letters instead of using postal service.

## **Sheik Haron chains himself to court after being accused of sending offensive letters to Diggers' families**



In the Downing Centre Local Court today, Man Monis, also known as Sheik Haron, made a brief appearance with his lawyer, Chris Murphy. The 45-year-old Croydon Park man ...

Sheik Haron chains himself to court after being accused of sending offensive letters to Diggers' families

In the Downing Centre Local Court today, Man Monis, also known as Sheik Haron, made a brief appearance with his lawyer, Chris Murphy.

The 45-year-old Croydon Park man is accused of seven counts of using a postal or similar service to menace, harass or cause offence.

Mr Monis allegedly sent the letters over two years, devastating the families of seven Diggers who died in Afghanistan.

One letter was addressed to a widow care of a funeral home, and he apparently accused some of the dead Australian soldiers of being "criminals", "killers" and "murderers" fighting a war of invasion.

Outside court today, Sheik Haron refused to apologise to the recipients, urging the letters be taken in their entirety.

He attacked Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and former PM John Howard who have "made Australia unsafe".

"I don't want Australia to be unsafe," he said.

"Which country has attacked us? If a country attacks us unjustly, I'm happy to go to war."

Monis addressed journalists in Arabic for some minutes before switching to English, then strongly criticised Australia's military presence in Afghanistan.

He referred to a comment reportedly made by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd that he could not "stomach" the allegations against him.

"I ask Mr Kevin Rudd, did your stomach turn when you read the news about killing innocent Afghanistani civilians?" he said.

Mr Monis said he had sent the letters to the families offering his condolences, offering his help if they needed it, and asking them to tell the government to stop killing innocent civilians.

He produced a small Australian flag and waved it, saying he loved Australia and whatever he did was for the safety of all nations, Australia included.

During an application to scrap a bail condition that Mr Monis report to police three times a week, Mr Murphy said it was "quite unprecedented" for such a minor charge, which carried a maximum penalty of two years in jail.

He said Mr Monis was "without a single blur" on his character and had been "preaching peace".

The magistrate reduced the reporting conditions to one day a week after Mr Monis agreed to

surrender his passport to authorities. The matter was adjourned to January 19.

## **'Sheikh' Man Haron Monis and partner in court in connection with woman's murder**

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/sheikh-man-haron-monis-and-partner-in-court-in-connection-with-womans-murder/story-fni0cx12-1226761460137> December 15, 2014

Man Haron Monis, 49, fronted Burwood Local Court yesterday charged with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of Noleen Hayson Pal ...

'Sheikh' Man Haron Monis and partner in court in connection with woman's murder

Man Haron Monis, 49, fronted Burwood Local Court yesterday charged with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of Noleen Hayson Pal, who was stabbed and set alight in a western Sydney apartment stairwell earlier this year.

Monis, also known as Sheikh Haron, was arrested in Campsie yesterday along with his partner Amirah Droudis, 34, who has been charged with murdering Ms Pal.

Dressed in black tracksuit pants, Monis did not apply for bail and it was formally refused. Droudis, wearing a black blouse, also did not apply for bail.

Police say the three people knew each other.

Emergency workers found Ms Pal's body in a Werrington apartment block on April 21 after responding to a fire.

The 30-year-old had allegedly been stabbed multiple times and set alight.

The pair will appear in Penrith Local Court on November 22.

Monis caused outrage when he sent letters to the grieving families of seven soldiers killed in Afghanistan between 2007 and 2009, likening the dead diggers to murderers and killers.

## **Sydney gunman identified as Iranian-born Man Haron Monis, on bail for violent crimes — RT News**

<http://rt.com/news/214547-sydney-hostage-gunman-identified/> December 15, 2014

Sheik Man Haron Monis, an Islamic 'spiritual healer' who is facing charges of sexual assault and being an accessory to murder, has been identified as ...



## **30 MAN HARON MONIS THE QUEEN ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR ...**

[http://www.hcourt.gov.au/assets/cases/s172-2012/Monis-Droudis\\_AGVic.pdf](http://www.hcourt.gov.au/assets/cases/s172-2012/Monis-Droudis_AGVic.pdf) December 15, 2014

10 20 30 IN THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA SYDNEY REGISTRY NoS172of2012  
BETWEEN: BETWEEN: MAN HARON MONIS Appellant and THE QUEEN First  
Respondent

IN THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA  
SYDNEY REGISTRY  
172of2012

NoS

BETWEEN:

MAN HARON MONIS

Appellant

and  
10

QUEEN

Respondent

THE  
First

ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
. Second Respondent

N o S1

79 of 20 12  
BETWEEN:  
20

DROUDIS

AMIRAH

Appellant

and

QUEEN

Respondent

THE  
First

30 ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
Second Respondent

ANNOTATED SUBMISSIONS OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR THE STATE  
OF VICTORIA (INTERVENING)

PART I: CERTIFICATION

40 1.

Date of document:  
Filed on behalf of:  
Prepared by:

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PART II: BASIS OF INTERVENTION

2. The Attorney-General for Victoria intervenes in this proceeding pursuant to s  
78A of the Judicimy Act 1903 (Cth) in support of the respondents.

PART III: WHY LEAVE TO INTERVENE SHOULD BE GRANTED

3. Not applicable.

PART IV: CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

4. It is not necessary to add to the statement of applicable statutory provisions set out in the annexures to the submissions of the appellants and the Attorney-General of the Commonwealth.

10 PART V: ARGUMENT

Summary of argument

5. In summary:

- particular
- (a) The offence created by s 471.12 of the Criminal Code (the Code) is concerned with conduct -the use of a postal or similar service in a manner- and not solely with the contents of a pmicular communication.
- to
- (b) The word "offensive" should be understood in the sense adopted by the New South Wales Comi of Criminal Appeal. The circumstances relevant whether a reasonable person would regard a use of a postal service as offensive in that sense include the fact that robust expression is a legitimate aspect of political communication in Australia.
- 20
- (c) To contravenes 471.12, a person must either intend or be reckless as to the prospect that a reasonable person would regard the use of the postal service as offensive in the relevant sense.
- the
- (d) Section 471.12 does not impede the use of the postal service to engage in communication on political and govemmental matters in a manner that is not offensive in the relevant sense and does not restrict the availability of means of communication other than postal or similar services.

- 2
- (e) As such, if s 471.12 imposes any burden at all on the ability of voters to exercise a free and infonned choice under the Constitution, that burden is very slight.

- of a
- (f) The legitimate end sought to be achieved by the prohibition on the use postal or similar service in a mmmer that is "offensive" in the sense that word was constmed by the Court of Criminal Appeal is to protect individuals from being. confi-onted by unsolicited and offensive material in the mail.

- adapted
- (g) In light of the above matters, s 471.12 is reasonably appropriate and 10 to serve that legitimate end.

Construction of s 471.12 of the Criminal Code

6. The first step in considering the validity of s 471.12 of the Code is one of statutory construction. 1 That process must begin with a consideration of the words of the section, read as a whole and in light of their context and purpose. 2

7. It is not sufficient to focus, as the appellant Manis does, 3 solely upon the word "offensive". When read as a whole, two important features of s 471.12 emerge. The first is that the offence created is concerned with conduct: the use of a postal or similar service in a particular manner. It is not concerned merely with the content of communications. The word "use" is not defined in the Code, but would include the common use of a postal service by sending a letter or parcel to another person. 20 Sending a letter or parcel with exactly the same content to two different people may constitute separate and different uses of a postal service. 4

8. Secondly, whether a particular "use" of a postal service contravenes the section is to be determined objectively by reference to what "reasonable persons would regard as

Coleman v Power (2004) 220 CLR 1 at 21 [3] (Gleeson CJ), 68 [158] (Gummow and Hayne JJ); Gypsy Jokers Motorcycle Club Inc v Commissioner of Police (2008) 234 CLR 532 at 553 [11] (Gummow, Hayne, Heydon and Kiefel JJ). A/can (NT) Alumina Pty Ltd v Commissioner of Territory Revenue (NT) (2009) 239 CLR 27 at 46-47 [47] (Hayne, Heydon, Crennan and Kiefel JJ); Momcilovic v The Queen (2011) 85 ALJR 957; 280 ALR 221 at [56] (French CJ). Monis submissions at pars 11-16.

4 In that regard it may be noted that the appellants were not charged with offences as a result of the same letters as those the subject of these proceedings being sent to various political and public figures.

3 being, in all the circumstances, menacing, harassing or offensive". The identity of the recipient or recipients is a relevant circumstance: a communication with exactly the same content may constitute an offence when sent to one recipient, but not to another. As the Court of Criminal Appeal recognised, the existence and importance of the freedom of political communication and the fact that such communication can legitimately be conducted in robust terms are also relevant circumstances. 5 This is significant for both limbs of the Lange test.

9. The meaning and significance of the word "offensive" in s 471.12(b) falls to be considered in this context. The construction adopted by the Court of Criminal Appeal should be accepted. Bathurst CJ, with whom AllsopP agreed, considered a number of relevant textual and contextual factors, many of which find reflection in

the reasoning of this Comi in *Coleman v Power*, including the fact that the section creates a criminal offence with a relatively severe maximum penalty; 7 the collocation of the words "menacing", "harassing" and "offensive";8 and the statutory context of s 471.12. 9 His Honour concluded that to be "offensive" withiii the meaning of s 471.12, the use must be "calculated or likely to arouse significant anger, significant resentment, outrage, disgust, or hatred in the mind of a reasonable person in all the circumstances. However, it is not sufficient if the use would only hmi or wound the feelings of the recipient, in the mind of a reasonable person." 10

20 10. The scope of s 4 71.12 is fmiher confined when regard is had to the "fault element" applicable to the provision. Paragraph (b) of s 471.12 constitutes a physical element of the offence that consists of a circumstance in which the conduct specified in paragraph (a) occurs. 11 By virtue of the operation ofs 5.6(2) of the Code, the "fault

5 (2011) 256 FLR 28 at [65] (Bathurst CJ) [JAB 100-101], [88] (AllsopP) [JAB 110], [99] (McClellan CJ at CL) [JAB 113].

6 (2004) 220 CLR 1.

7 (2011) 256 FLR 28 at [39]-[40] (Bathurst CJ) [JAB 92], [72] (AllsopP) [JAB 102], [106] (McLellan CJ at CL) [JAB 115]; cf *Coleman v Power* (2004) 220 CLR 1 at 25 [12] (Gleeson CJ), 74 [183], 75 [185] (Gummow and Hayne JJ), 87 [224] (Kirby J).

(201 I) 256 FLR 28 at [42], [45] (Bathurst CJ) [JAB 93], [73] (AllsopP) [JAB 103]; cf *Coleman v Power* (2004) 220 CLR 1 at 77 [192] (Gununow and Hayne JJ), 87 [224] (Kirby J).

9 (2011) 256 FLR 28 at [37]-[38] (Bathurst CJ) [JAB 92], [74] (AllsopP) [JAB 103].

10 (2011) 256 FLR 28 at [44] (Bathurst CJ) [JAB 93]. In context, the last sentence excludes from the provision "mere" hurt or wounded feelings, rather than offence caused only to the particular recipient.

II Sees 4.1(1)(c) of the Code.

4 element" in respect of the circumstance that reasonable persons would regard the use of the postal service as being, in all the circumstances, offensive, is recklessnessu "Recklessness" is defined ins 5.4 of the Code. By that definition, it must be proved under s 417.12: (a) that the person was at least aware of a substantial risk that reasonable persons would regard his or her use of the postal service as offensive in all the circumstances; and (b) that, having regard to the circumstances known to the person, it was unjustifiable to take that risk. 13

II. In addition, as Gummow and Hayne JJ and Kirby J noted in *Coleman v Power*, an offence such as that created by s 471.12 which potentially restricts the freedom of speech recognised at common law should be narrowly construed, so far as constructional choices are open, in order to limit the restriction imposed upon the freedom. 14

12. Bathurst CJ held that only those uses of a postal system that cause "significant" anger or resentment would be "offensive" for the purposes of the section. The appellants contend that the legislative history of s 471.12 stands against the use of the qualification "significant". 15 However, Bathurst CJ did not construe "offensive" as meaning "significantly offensive". Moreover, where constitutional considerations are relevant, the construction of a word or phrase capable of different shades of meaning, 16 such as "offensive", must ordinarily be constrained by the principle that a construction should be adopted which avoids, rather than leads to, constitutional

12 See *Crowther v Sa/a* [2008] 1 Qd R 127, concerning the equivalent provision regarding use of a carriage service, s 474.17 of the Code: at 135-137 [43]-[48] (McMurdo J, with whom Muir J agreed); cf at 132-133 [24]-[26] (Williams JA). Section 5.6(2) provides that, if the law creating an offence does not specify a fault element for a physical element that consists of a circumstance, recklessness is the fault element for that physical element.

13 The fault element of recklessness will also be satisfied by "knowledge", namely awareness that reasonable persons do or will regard the use in question as offensive in all the circumstances: s 5.4(4), read with s 5.3 of the Code. Similarly, "intention" will also satisfy the fault element of recklessness: s 5.4(4) read with s 5.2 of the Code.

14 See *Coleman v Power* (2004) 220 CLR 1 at 75-76 [185]-[188] (Gummow and Hayne JJ), 87 [225], 96-98 [250]-[253] (Kirby J); *Hogan v Hinch* (2011) 243 CLR 506 at 542 [47] (French CJ); *Momcilovic v The Queen* (2011) 85 ALJR 957; 280 ALR 221 at [42]-[45] (French CJ). AllsopP referred to the principle of legality: (2011) 256 FLR 28 at [72] (AllsopP) [JAB 102]. See also *Sunol v Collier (No 2)* (2012) 289 ALR 128; (2012) 260 FLR 414 at [59] (AllsopP).

IS Monis submissions at par 16; Droudis submissions at pars 41-59, 64.

16 What AllsopP called "a broad relative concept": (2011) 256 FLR 28 at [77] [JAB 102-103]. See also *Sunol v Collier (No 2)* (2012) 289 ALR 128; (2012) 260 FLR 414 at [63] (AllsopP): "a wide relative descriptor".

invalidity. 17 It would only be in rare cases that considerations of legislative history are so compelling that they remove any element of ambiguity or constructional choice and require a general word or phrase to be construed in a manner that would lead to invalidity. This is not such a case.

13. The legislative history outlined by the appellant Droudis 18 does indicate, however, that the focus of the various offences has shifted since 1901 from the content of

19  
 This history reinforces what is in any event apparent from the text of s 471.12, namely that it is not solely concerned with the content of postal communications.

10 The first Lange question

14. The terms of the two questions that arise when determining whether a law infringes the implied freedom of political communication (the Lange 20 questions) are well settled. 21

15. The first question asks whether in its terms, operation or effect, the law effectively burdens freedom of communication about government or political matters. 22 To constitute an "effective" burden, the law must impose a real, meaningful and not insubstantial limit or restriction on the freedom of political and governmental communication protected by the Constitution. 23 The relevant inquiry concerns

the effect, if any, that the law has on the freedom of communication generally, not upon how a particular individual might want to construct a particular communication. 24

17  
 553 [II] Gypsy Jokers Motorcycle Club Inc v Commissioner of Police (2008) 234 CLR 532 at (Gummow, Hayne, Heydon and Kiefel JJ); Acts Interpretation Act 1901 (Cth), s 15A.  
 18 Droudis submissions at pars 41-59.

19 Sees 107 of the Post and Telegraph Act 1901 (Cth), referred to at par 47 of the Droudis submissions.

20 Lange v Australian Broadcasting Corporation (1997) 189 CLR 520 (Lange) at 567-568 (the Court).

21 Wotton v Queensland (2012) 86 ALJR 246; 285 ALR 1 (Wotton) at [25] (French CJ, Gununow, Hayne, Crennan and Bell JJ), [75], [77] (Kiefel J); cf Heydon J at [41].

22 Wotton at [25] (French CJ, Gummow, Hayne, Crennan and Bell JJ); Hogan v Hinch (2011) 243 CLR 506 at 542 [47] (French CJ), 555-556 [94]-[97] (Gummow, Hayne, Heydon,



Crennan, Kiefel and  
Bell JJ).

23

Wotton at [54] (Heydon J).

24

APLA v Legal Services Commissioner (NSW) (2005) 224 CLR 322 at 451 [381],  
endorsed by French CJ in Hogan v Hinch (2011) 243 CLR 506 at 544 [50]; Wotton at [80]  
(Kiefel J).

6

16. The particular communication said to contravene the law in question may serve to  
illustrate whether and how the law might restrict communication of a political

25

nature. However, the freedom extends only so far as to protect that  
"communication between the people concerning political or governmental matters  
which enables the people to exercise a free and informed choice as electors".

26 It is

therefore necessary to consider whether the law in question imposes a real and  
meaningful restriction on the ability of electors "to gain an appreciation of

the

available alternatives" 27 so as to enable them to exercise a true choice. To

focus

only upon whether there is a burden upon a particular form or manner of  
communication is to risk characterisation of the law in question not by its

10 effect on

the freedom of political communication, the constitutional issue, but by its

effect

upon a particular communication by a particular person. 28 That would

impermissibly

treat the implied freedom as an individual free speech right instead of a

limitation on

power directed to protecting the electoral element of the constitutional system

of

government. The fact that a law may incidentally restrict a particular

form of

communication on political or governmental matters does not necessarily mean

that

the law burdens the ability of voters to exercise a true, free and informed

choice.

17. Section 471.12 imposes criminal liability on the use of a postal or similar  
service in a

manner that reasonable persons would regard in all the circumstances as  
"offensive"

20 in the sense explained by the Court of Criminal Appeal. Resolution of the  
question

whether, so construed, s 471.12 imposes an effective burden on the freedom of  
political communication must take into account the following matters:

(a) First, as Allsop P recognised, 29 the use of postal or similar  
services is an

essential and well-established means of communication on government  
and

political matters.

25

Wotton at [80] (Kiefel J).

26

Lange at 560 (the Court).

27

Australian Capital Television Pty Ltd v The Commonwealth (1992) 177 CLR 106 at 187 (Dawson J),  
quoted in Lange at 560 (the Court).

28

A similar risk is recognised in the application of s 92 of the Constitution:  
Betfair Pty Limited v Racing  
New South Wales (2012) 86 ALJ 418, 286 ALR 221 at [46] (French CJ, Gummow,  
Hayne, Crennan  
and Bell JJ).

29

(2011) 256 FLR 28 at [84] [JAB 108].

7

(b) Secondly, the use of means of expression that are robust, insulting and  
that  
some people may find confronting can be a legitimate part of the  
exercise of  
the freedom of political and governmental communication protected by  
the  
Constitution. 30

would

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hatred in

(c) Thirdly, the circumstances relevant to whether a reasonable person  
regard a use of a postal service as offensive in the relevant sense  
fact that reasonable persons would understand that the use of such  
means of expression can be a legitimate part of political communication  
this country. 31 As a result, the offence will only prohibit those uses  
postal service that the tribunal of fact considers, even after having  
its political context, has crossed those boundaries and is therefore  
arouse significant anger, significant resentment, outrage, disgust, or  
the mind of a reasonable person in all the circumstances". 32

(d) Fourthly, as set out above, the person using the postal service must at  
least be  
reckless as to whether reasonable persons would regard that use as being  
offensive in all the circumstances.

18. In addition, the section leaves ample alternative avenues for political  
communication

and agitation. It does not touch upon political communication through postal or  
similar services that is conducted in terms that are not offensive in the  
relevant sense,

20

which must account for the vast majority of political communication through the  
post. It does not touch upon communications by any other means. In its potential  
application to any person who wishes to disseminate a political message, the  
section

"does not prevent the substance of what he wants to communicate from being  
communicated",<sup>33</sup> either through the post or by other means.

30

Coleman v Power (2004) 220 CLR 1 at 45-46 [81], 54 [105] (McHugh J), 78 [197]  
(Gummow and

Hayne JJ), 91 [239] (Kirby J).

31

Similarly, in *R (ProLife Alliance) v British Broadcasting Co* [2004] 1 AC 185 at 225 [12],

Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead observed that "the context in which material is transmitted can [clearly]

play a major part in deciding whether transmission will breach the offensive material restriction"

(citing the acceptable broadcast, within strict limits, of "harrowing", "gruesome", "distressing" and

"unpleasant" material to illustrate political points).

32

(2011) 256 FLR 28 at [44] (Bathurst CJ) [JAB 93].

33

Wotton at [59] (Heydon J).

8

19. Having regard to these matters, if the prohibition in s 471.12 constitutes any burden on the ability of voters to exercise an informed choice under the Constitution, it is a very slight one.

The second Lange question

The legitimate ends served by s 471.12

20. If the first question is answered in the affirmative, the second Lange question asks

whether the law is nevertheless reasonably appropriate and adapted to serve a legitimate end in a manner compatible with the maintenance of the constitutionally

prescribed system of representative and responsible government. 34 As French CJ, Gummow, Hayne, Crennan and Bell JJ said in *Wotton*; that system of government has the features identified in *Aid/Watch Incorporated v Federal Commissioner of Taxation*, 36 namely, "a universal adult franchise/ 7 and a system for amendment

of the Constitution in which the proposed law to effect the amendment is to be submitted to the electors. Communication between electors and legislators and

the officers of the executive, and between electors themselves, on matters of government and politics is 'an indispensable incident' of that constitutional system 38 ". The

system thus "postulates, for its operation, communication in the nature of agitation for legislative and political changes". 39

21. The fact that, as discussed above, s 471.12 is concerned with conduct - the use of a

postal or similar service in a particular manner, including by sending a particular

communication to another person - and not merely with the content of

communications is relevant to the identification of the end to which the section is

directed. It indicates that the end is not, as the appellant *Droudis* suggests,<sup>40</sup> just to

Wotton at [25] (French CJ, Gummow, Hayne, Crennan and Bell JJ).

35

Wotton at [25] (French CJ, Gummow, Hayne, Crennan and Bell JJ).

36

(20 I 0) 241 CLR 539.

37

Roach v Electoral Commissioner (2007) 233 CLR 162 at 174-175 [7]-[8] (Gleeson CJ), 186-188 [44]-[49] (Gummow, Kirby and Crennan JJ).

35

Lange at 559-560.

39

Wo//on at [20] (French CJ, Gummow, Hayne, Crennan and Bell JJ), referring to Incorporated v Federal Commissioner of Taxation (2010) 241 CLR 539 at 556 [45] (French CJ, Gummow, Hayne, Crennan and Bell JJ).

40

Droudis submissions at pars 70-71, 86. The appellant Manis does not appear to dispute that the ends identified by the Court of Criminal Appeal, at least those identified by Allsop P, are legitimate.

9

prevent "laceration of feelings" or to ensure civility of discourse. The end to which s 471.12 is directed, as AllsopP held,<sup>41</sup> is to protect individuals from the sense of intrusion or invasion brought about by receiving unsolicited and offensive material in the mail.

22. As Bathurst CJ recognised, material sent in the mail is generally sent to a person's home or work and is therefore personalised, usually opened by the person to whom it is addressed and often unable to be avoided: "[a] recipient of material sent by post essentially is a captive audience".<sup>42</sup> Mail may be targeted to particular recipients, or recipients may at least apprehend that they have been targeted. It may be anonymous and so unable to be answered. The offensive material might not be enclosed within an envelope or wrapping; even if it is, the recipient may examine the contents before appreciating their offensive character. It can readily be understood how the receipt of material in the post that is "likely to arouse significant anger, significant resentment, outrage, disgust or hatred in the mind of a reasonable person" even after having regard to its political context can undermine public confidence in the postal service.<sup>43</sup> These are matters of legitimate concern for the legislature.

23. Even in the context of the First Amendment, the Supreme Court of the United States has recognised the legitimate governmental interest in legislating to protect people from such unwanted offensive intrusions. Allsop P referred<sup>44</sup> in this context to Rowan v United States Post Office,<sup>45</sup> where the Supreme Court upheld a law permitting recipients of advertising material they considered to be "sexually provocative" to remove themselves from the sender's mailing list.

24. Similarly, in *Federal Communications Commission v Pacifica Foundation*, 46 the Supreme Court upheld a declaratory order that the respondent had contravened a

Rather, his submissions appear to be directed to whether s 471.12 is reasonably appropriate and adapted to achieve those ends: Manis submissions at pars 33-40.

41 (2011) 256 FLR 28 at [87]-[88] [JAB 110].  
(2011) 256 FLR 28 at [59] [JAB 98-99].

43 (2011) 256 FLR 28 at [78] [JAB 105].  
(2011) 256 FLR 28 at [87] [JAB 110].  
397 us 728 (1970).  
438 US 726 at 747 (1978).

10

statutory prohibition on the use of indecent language  
radio broadcasting.

111

Stevens J, delivering the opinion of the Court, said that:

the broadcast media have established a uniquely pervasive presence in  
the lives of all Americans. Patently offensive, indecent material presented over the  
airwaves confronts the citizen, not only in public, but also in the privacy of  
the home, where the individual's right to be left alone plainly outweighs the First  
Amendment rights of an intruder.'

25. *Snyder v Phelps*, 48 on which both appellants rely, 49 does not assist them. In  
*Snyder*, the Supreme Court decided that the First Amendment protected a group of persons  
10 picketing on public land near a soldier's funeral from liability for  
intentional infliction of emotional distress and other torts at the suit of relatives of  
the deceased. The Court emphasised the importance of the public forum on which the picketing  
took place and specifically noted that the protest group's "choice of where and  
when to conduct its picketing [was] not beyond the Government's regulatory reach".  
50 However, a State law prohibiting funeral picketing was not in effect at the  
time of the events in question and the Court therefore had no occasion to consider  
whether that law was a reasonable time, place or manner restriction upon the freedom of  
speech. 51

Reasonably appropriate and adapted

20 26. Section 471.12 regulates all communications through the postal and similar  
services.

Any burden It is not directed to communications that are inherently political.

more imposed upon political communication is incidental to the achievement of the  
legitimate end to which the section is directed. As such, the conclusion will

readily be reached that the section is reasonably appropriate and adapted to

serve

438 US 726 at 748 (1978) (Stevens J, with whom Burger CJ, Rehnquist, Powell and Blackmun JJ joined); see also at 759-760 (Powell J, with whom Blackmun J joined, concurring). This statement was endorsed by Lord Hoffmann in *R (Pro Life Alliance) v British Broadcasting Corporation* [2004] 1 AC 185 at 228 [22].

48

No 09-75, 2 March 2011, to be reported in 562 US (2011).

49

Manis submissions at par 55; Droudis submissions at pars 81-82.

50

Slip Opinion of Roberts CJ (in which Scalia, Kennedy, Thomas, Ginsburg, Breyer, Sotomayor and Kagan JJ joined) at p 10. Contrast *Frisby v Shultz* 487 US 474 (1988), which concerned conduct directed at a private residence. O'Connor J, delivering the opinion of the Court, said that the First Amendment "permits the government to prohibit offensive speech as intrusive when the 'captive' audience cannot avoid the objectionable speech": at 487 (citations omitted).

51

Slip Opinion of Roberts CJ (in which Scalia, Kennedy, Thomas, Ginsburg, Breyer, Sotomayor and Kagan JJ joined) at pp 10-11.

11

of the

identified legitimate ends in a manner that is compatible with the maintenance of the constitutionally prescribed system of government. 52

27. impose,

As submitted above, in so far as s 471.12 burdens the freedom of political communication at all, any such burden is very slight. The section does not

<in the

in the words of McHugh J in *Coleman v Power*, 53 "an unqualified prohibition"

It criminalises such

use of offensive communications in political discussion.

and

communications only where they take place through a postal or similar service

political

where, considered objectively and in all the circumstances (including their

likely to

context where relevant), the degree of offence caused is such that they are

10 the

arouse significant anger, significant resentment, outrage, disgust or hatred in

element"

mind of a reasonable person.

Moreover, as already noted, the "fault

offensive uses

associated with the provision operates to exclude from its scope those

of a postal service which are not intentionally or recklessly so.

of

28. The reasonableness standard operates as a substantial qualification on the reach

political

the section and therefore on the extent of any burden on the freedom of

of

communication. As discussed above, the reasonableness standard would require the tribunal of fact to give due weight, in an appropriate case, to the importance

political communication and the fact that the use of robust or insulting means

of expression can be a legitimate part of political communication in Australia. 54

20 29. The operation of s 471.12 will therefore be sensitive to the context in which  
the particular "use" of the postal service occurs, including not only the content of  
the communication but also the identity of the recipient or recipients, whether the  
communication was made pursuant to a subscription between the sender and the  
recipient, 55 whether the communication was targeted to particular individuals or  
was, for example, part of a general mailing out to all residents in a particular  
electorate, and

52 Coleman v Power (2004) 220 CLR 1 at 30 [27], 31 [31] (Gleeson CJ); Hogan v Hinch  
(2011) 243 CLR 506 at 555-556 [95]-[99] (Gummow, Hayne, Heydon, Crennan, Kiefel and Bell  
JJ); Wotton at [30] (French CJ, Gummow, Hayne, Crennan and Bell JJ).

53 (2004) 220 CLR 1 at 54 [105].  
An analogy may be drawn to Hogan v Hinch (2011) 243 CLR 506 where the power of  
the court to make a suppression order if satisfied it was in the public interest to do so was  
to be exercised in light of the constitutional and legal context, including the open court principle and  
the common law freedom of communication: (2011) 243 CLR 506 at 537 [32], 544 [50] (French CJ).

55 Cf Manis submissions at par 46.

12 whether it occurred during an election period or the period leading up to a  
postal referendum. The reasonableness standard will therefore insulate uses of the  
service which may otherwise be considered offensive in the relevant sense but,  
so, having regard to their political content and context, cannot be considered to be  
tribunal of fact considers, having regard to such considerations, are "likely to arouse  
significant anger, significant resentment, outrage, disgust, or hatred in the mind of a  
reasonable person in all the circumstances". 56 It is very unlikely, for example, that the  
'how to vote' cards considered in Patrick v Cobain, 57 referred to by the appellant  
Monis, 58 would fall foul of the section.

10

30. The jury would have to be directed accordingly, but this does not leave  
compliance with the implied freedom in any particular case in the hands of the jury. The  
trial judge would be able to withdraw from the consideration of the jury an alleged  
offence against s 471.12 of the Code if, having regard to the circumstances and  
the existence of the constitutional freedom, a particular use of a postal service  
is incapable as a matter of law of being regarded by reasonable persons as  
offensive in

reasonable persons would regard a particular use of the postal service in question as being in all the circumstances "offensive", notwithstanding its political content, involves no constitutional question and is a matter eminently suited to the determination of a Jury.

31. Neither appellant has identified any less restrictive means by which the legitimate ends pursued by s 471.12 could be achieved as effectively as the section in its current form. 59 The fact that the section does not contain any qualification in the nature of a "fighting words" construction is irrelevant. 60 In this respect, both appellants rely

56 (2011) 256 FLR 28 at [44] (Bathurst CJ) [JAB 93].  
57 [1993]1 VR 290.  
58 Manis submissions at par 44.  
Uebelgang v Australian Wheat Board (1980) 145 CLR 266 at 306 (Stephen and Mason JJ); Rowe v E/ectorcil Commissioner (2010) 243 CLR 1 at 134 [438] (Kiefel J); and Momcilovic v The Queen (2011) 85 ALJR 957; 280 ALR 221 at [556] (Crennan and Kiefel JJ).  
60 Cf Monis submissions at par 50.

13 heavily upon Coleman v Power 61 In that case, Gummow and Hayne JJ and Kirby J construed the term "insulting words" in a criminal offence to mean words which in the circumstances in which they were used were intended or reasonably likely to provoke unlawful physical retaliation. Coleman v Power does not offer an analogy in this case. The law in question in Coleman v Power prohibited the use of insulting words to a person in a public place. The fact that the Court of Criminal Appeal's construction of the word "offensive" in s 471.12 is not limited in the same way does not suggest any discordance with Coleman v Power 62 The constitutional limits of the legislature's ability to criminalise conduct occurring in a public place on the ground that it is "insulting" or even "offensive" are not inconsistent with the limits of its ability to criminalise conduct on those grounds that takes place through the postal system. The context necessarily affects the extent to which Parliament can validly proscribe conduct of an "offensive" nature. 63

32. For the same reason, the fact that s 471.12 does not contain an exception or defence for offensive communications relevant to government and political matters does not



suggest that it is not reasonably appropriate and adapted to serve the identified end. 64  
The freedom of political communication is not absolute<sup>65</sup> and "offensive" expression is not entitled to a constitutional immunity just because it has a political element.

33. The analogy drawn by the appellants to the range of defences to a defamation claim is also inapt: 66  
20

(a) The two laws serve different purposes and attach to different conduct. The purpose of the law of defamation is to protect individuals from injury to their reputation. An essential element of the tort is the publication of defamatory matter to a third party. The defences of truth, fair comment and qualified

61 (2004) 220 CLR I.  
62 Cf Monis submissions at paras 49-50.  
63 Cf Federal Communications Commission v Pacifica Foundation 438 US 726 at 747 (1978) (Stevens J, with whom Burger CJ and Rehnquist J joined in this part of the opinion): "the constitutional protection accorded to a communication containing such patently offensive sexual and excretory language need not be the same in every context".  
64 Cf Droudis submissions at par 96.  
Lange at 561.  
66 Manis submissions at paras 47, 53; Droudis submissions at paras 74-77.

14 privilege identify circumstances where the publication of defamatory matter to a third party is nevertheless justified in order to strike a fair balance  
67 between the protection of reputation and freedom of speech.  
The prohibition in s 471.12 of the Code on the use of a postal service in an offensive manner serves the quite different purpose identified above.  
The offence need not involve the communication of offensive or defamatory matter to any third party.

(b) To the extent that there is any analogy, it may be found in the reasonableness requirement of the extended qualified privilege defence formulated in Lange.  
10 The publication of defamatory matter to a wide audience on a subject of government or political discussion will be protected by the extended defence

The if the publisher's conduct was reasonable in all the circumstances.  
the use reasonableness standard in s 471.12 serves a similar function because  
sense, of a postal service may be less likely to be offensive in the relevant  
of based on the reasonable persons test, where that use was in the course  
discussion of political or governmental matters.

34. The appellant Monis submits that the extent of the burden imposed by s 471.12 is  
States exacerbated by "the vagueness of the word 'offensive'", 68 referring to United  
"chilling authority to the effect that regulations expressed in vague terms may have a  
20 effect" on free speech. But construed in the manner adopted by the Court  
of Criminal Appeal, the word "offensive" in s 471.12 cannot fairly be described as  
by vague. In any event, even assuming the existence of a "chilling effect" caused  
mind of a s 471.12, it may deter only communications that are arguably such as to arouse  
not significant anger, significant resentment, outrage, disgust or hatred in the  
communications reasonable person, and made by persons intending or reckless as to whether or  
informed they be so. The impact of such communications on the free flow of  
choice under the Constitution is marginal at best.

67 Lange at 568.  
68

Monis submissions at par 48.

15 35. Further, the concept of a "chilling effect" cuts both ways: as McHugh J  
recognised in Coleman v Power<sup>69</sup> in relation to the use of insulting words, communications of  
an offensive nature may themselves have a chilling effect on political debate. The  
recipient of such communications may be unwilling to respond, whether to the  
sender through the mail or by more public means, for fear of encouraging further  
offensive communications to be sent to them through the postal system.  
Their contribution to the political debate may be lost.

36. A law may restrict political communication in one respect (for example, by  
enable a establishing a permit system regulating the use of public spaces) in order to  
10 multitude of voices to be heard by ensuring that that the loudest do not  
dominate.<sup>70</sup> Similarly, one of the effects of s 471.12 could be said to be the enhancement  
of the postal service so as to facilitate the free exchange of ideas and information  
necessary for electors to make informed choices under the constitutional system of  
government.

37. For these reasons, s 471.12 of the Code is reasonably appropriate and adapted to serve the identified legitimate end in a manner that is compatible with the maintenance of the constitutionally prescribed system of government.

Reading down

38. In the alternative, if s 471.12 is invalid in any aspect of its operation, it may be read down pursuant to s 15A of the Acts Interpretation Act 1901 (Cth) so as to exclude from the scope of the word "offensive" those uses of a postal or similar service connected with communication on government and political matters. In accordance with the principles stated in *Victoria v The Commonwealth (Industrial Relations Act)*<sup>1</sup> Case/ and earlier cases, s 15A may be applied to read down general words or expressions so long as it is possible to identify from the terms of the law or its subject matter a reason for limiting its application and the operation of the remaining provisions remains unchanged. In the *Industrial Relations Act* Case, an example was

69 (2004) 220 CLR 1 at 54 [105]: "fear of insult may have a chilling effect on political debate".

70 See, e.g., *Corporation of the City of Adelaide v Comeloup* (2011) 110 SASR 334 at 367 [128] where Kourakis J referred to the use of a permit system to avoid "what might be described as the 'Olympic system' where the fastest, loudest, or most numerous prevail".

71 (1996) 187 CLR 416 at 502-503 (Brennan CJ, Toohey, Gaudron, McHugh and Gummow JJ).

16 given of law made in exercise of the power to make laws with respect to trade and commerce being susceptible to reading down so as to limit its application to inter-State and overseas trade and commerce. 72

39. Similarly, s 471.12 has been made with the intention of exercising the Commonwealth's power to regulate the use of a means of communication which, among its other uses, is essential to the freedom of political communication protected by the Constitution. The general word "offensive" may therefore be read down so far as necessary to ensure that the law does not encroach on that freedom. This is consistent with the approach adopted by McHugh J in *Coleman v Power*. 73 It would not alter the operation of the prohibition on "offensive" uses of a postal service in so far as such uses do not involve political communication.

PARTY: ESTIMATE OF TIME FOR ORAL ARGUMENT

40. Victoria estimates that it will require approximately 30 minutes for the

presentation of  
oral submissions in these appeals.

Dated: 11 September 2012

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72  
JJ), (1996) 187 CLR 416 at 502-503 (Brennan CJ, Toohey, Gaudron, McHugh and Gummow  
referring to *Pidoto v Victoria* (1943) 68 CLR 87 at 109 (Latham CJ).  
(2004) 220 CLR 1 at 54-56 [107]-[110].

17

## Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP)

<http://www.cdpp.gov.au/case-reports/man-haron-monis-and-amir-droudiss/> December 15, 2014

Man Haron MONIS and Amir DROUDIS. Category : General Prosecutions Year : 2011-2012  
. Monis used Australia Post to send offensive or in one instance, harassing ...

Monis used Australia Post to send offensive or in one instance, harassing, letters to relatives of Australian Defence Force members killed in combat in Afghanistan. Another letter was sent to relatives of an Austrade official who had been killed in the bombing of the Marriot Hotel in Jakarta in 2009. Droudiss assisted Monis to send the letters.

Monis was charged with 12 counts of using a postal service in a way that reasonable persons would regard as being, in all the circumstances, offensive pursuant to section 471.12 of the Criminal Code and 1 count of using a postal service in a way that reasonable persons would regard as being, in all the circumstances, harassing pursuant to section 471.12 of the Criminal Code.

Droudiss was charged with 8 counts of aiding and abetting the commission of an offence by Monis in relation to the offensive letters pursuant to sections 11.2(1) and 474.12 of the Criminal Code.

In the NSW District Court the defendants challenged the validity of the offence provision arguing that it was invalid as it infringed the implied Constitutional freedom of communication regarding government and political matters. Notices of motion were filed seeking to quash the joint indictment. On 18 April 2011 Tupman J refused to make these orders and found the

offence provision valid.

The defendants lodged appeals to the NSW Court of Criminal Appeal. The appeals were heard on 23 August 2011. On 6 December 2011, the court held that section 471.12 of the Criminal Code did not infringe the implied freedom of communication.

On 3 January 2012 the defendants applied for Special Leave to Appeal to the High Court of Australia. The applications were heard on 22 June 2012 and special leave was granted to appeal to the Full Court.

## **What we know about the alleged hostage-taker in Sydney**

<http://www.macleans.ca/news/world/newsmaker-of-the-day-man-haron-monis/> December 15, 2014

Man Haron Monis, the man identified as the hostage-taker who held dozens of people captive in a Sydney café, was evidently disturbed and allegedly violent well ...

Man Haron Monis, the man identified as the hostage-taker who held dozens of people captive in a café in Sydney, Australia, was evidently disturbed and allegedly violent, well before Australian security forces put an end to the siege he started by storming the café early on Tuesday morning.

The Iranian refugee and his current partner, Amirah Droudis, were charged as accessories to the murder of his ex-wife, Noleen Hayson Pal, last year. Both were released on bail.

The two had earlier sent offensive letters to the families of Australians killed in Afghanistan. Monis pleaded guilty to charges related to the letters and was sentenced to community service last year. It appears he was not remorseful, claiming after his guilty plea that, from then on, he would “advise people not to kill children” without using the postal service.

He had also been charged with numerous sex crimes, including indecent assault and aggravated sexual assault.

Monis had appeared in public dressed as a sheikh. According to press reports, he also claimed to be a “spiritual healer.” It’s unclear if he actually ever led prayers at a mosque, or had any formal affiliation with a religious institution.

It seems even his own faith changed. According to the British broadcaster Channel 4, citing Monis’s website, he appeared to have recently converted from Shia to Sunni Islam.

“I used to be a Rafidi, but not anymore,” he reportedly wrote on his website last month, employing a slur that means “rejecter” and is sometimes used by fundamentalist Sunnis to describe Shias.

“Now I am a Muslim, Alhamdu Lillah [all praise and gratitude to God].”

Hostages in the café were forced to hold to the window a black banner with the Muslim shahada, or declaration of faith, inscribed in Arabic on it. The shahada can be translated as: “There is no god but God. Muhammad is the messenger of God.”

A flag with the shahada written in white on a black background has been used by a variety of Islamist groups around the world, including the Taliban, al-Qaeda and Jabhat al-Nusra.

According to Maajid Nawaz, a former activist in Hizb ut-Tahrir who now campaigns against Islamism, the banner is now used “exclusively” by such organizations.

Islamic State, the jihadist group that controls large chunks of Syria and Iraq, recently called

for attacks against Western targets, including in Australia. Its flag also features white on black writing but is different than the one displayed in the Sydney café. According to press reports, one of Monis's demands was a proper Islamic State flag.

He never got one. After more than 16 hours, Australian commandos stormed the café amid what sounded like sustained gunfire or explosions. Unconfirmed local media reports said Monis and one other person are dead. [Update: Australian police say three people died, including the gunman.]

## **Man Haron Monis at pre-trial hearing Monday, April 18, 2011**

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-02-27/man-haron-monis/4542598> December 15, 2014

Monis.jpg. Posted February 27, 2013 11:34:15 Man Haron Monis, whose appeal was turned down, speaks to the press at the pre-trial hearing in 2011

Man Haron Monis, whose appeal was turned down, speaks to the press at the pre-trial hearing in 2011

## **Worldwide Trending Topic «Man Haron Monis»**

<http://m.trending-topic.com/en/topics/%22Man+Haron+Monis%22/> December 15, 2014

Worldwide Trending Topic «Man Haron Monis»: What people are talking about «Man Haron Monis» on Twitter.

8 hours ago ... The Sydney Morning Herald takes a detailed look into the criminal background of hostage taker Man Haron Monis and the different charges ...

7 hours ago ... Profile of Man Haron Monis, who police say they believe is the man who seized hostages inside a cafe in Sydney, Australia.

7 hours ago ... Police have identified the man behind the on-going siege in Sydney as Man Haron Monis, a self-proclaimed cleric and former "spiritual healer" ...

Sheikh Man Haron Monis ... Bourjerdi fled Iran to Australia in 1996 as a refugee, and changed his name to Man Haron Monis, assuming the title of Sheikh Haron.

8 hours ago ... The gunman who held up to 15 people hostage in a Sydney cafe before being reportedly killed has been named as Sheikh Man Haron Monis, ...

7 hours ago ... Sheik Man Haron Monis, an Islamic 'spiritual healer' who is facing charges of sexual assault and being an accessory to murder, has been ...

1 hour ago ... Man Haron Monis, the gunman who held hostages for hours in a Sydney cafe, was no stranger to police.

2 hours ago ... Until his entry into the global media spotlight as the shadowy figure at the centre of the Sydney siege, Man Haron Monis had long been viewed ...

## **Picture emerges of Sydney hostage-taker Man Haron Monis**

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/12/15/world/asia/australia-hostage-taker/index.html> December 15, 2014

NEW: Man Haron Monis embraced a radical Sunni theology, according to social media; An official says Monis was the gunman who took hostages at a Sydney cafe

(CNN) -- Before he was killed in a Sydney cafe, the gunman who held hostages there for

more than 16 hours was no stranger to police.

The hostage-taker was Man Haron Monis, an official with direct knowledge of the situation said Monday.

"He had a long history of violent crime, infatuation with extremism and mental instability," Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott told reporters.

Australian media reports paint a harrowing picture of Monis and his lengthy criminal history.

The self-styled Muslim cleric, also known as Sheikh Haron, pleaded guilty last year to writing offensive letters to the families of Australian troops.

That same year, he was charged with being an accessory to the murder of his ex-wife, the Australian news reports said.

In April, sex crimes detectives arrested Monis and charged him with sexually assaulting a woman in western Sydney in 2002, according to The Sydney Morning Herald. Other sex-related charges were added regarding six additional victims, the newspaper said. Police reportedly said Monis was using the name Mohammad Hassan Manteghi and claimed to be a "healer."

Monis was out on bail, the reports said. He was sentenced to 300 hours of community service after sending letters to the families of Australian soldiers who died in Afghanistan. The letters were "sadistic, wantonly cruel and deeply wounding," one High Court judge said at the time, according to CNN affiliate Seven News.

Monis was an Iranian refugee living in Australia who used the Internet to spread extremist beliefs.

And during the siege, Abbott said, the hostage-taker "sought to cloak his actions with the symbolism of the (ISIS) death cult," Abbott said.

On his apparent website, there's a pledge of allegiance to the so-called Islamic State terror group.

The site describes Monis as a Muslim cleric and activist based in Sydney who has "continuously been under attack & false accusation by the Australian government & media since he started his political letter campaign from 2007."

There's a graphic photo of slain children at the top of the site. Under the image, it reads, "This is an evidence for the terrorism of America and its allies including Australia. The result of their airstrikes."

A description on the site portrays Monis as a victim of a political vendetta and compares him to Julian Assange, the WikiLeaks founder who has claimed the sex crime allegations he faces are politically motivated.

A YouTube video posted in November shows Monis standing on a street corner, chains draped over him, carrying a sign that says, "I have been tortured in prison for my political letters."

His former lawyer, Manny Conditis, told Australian public broadcaster ABC that Monis was an isolated figure who was probably acting alone.

"His ideology is just so strong and so powerful that it clouds his vision for common sense

and objectiveness," Conditis said.

The ABC report said Monis had been granted political asylum in Australia.

Monday's hostage situation began around 10 a.m. Hundreds of police officers, including snipers, took position around the Lindt Chocolate Cafe in Sydney's central business district.

Australian media captured haunting images of hostages pressing their hands against the cafe's windows. They were reportedly taking turns holding a black flag with Arabic writing on it that said, "There is no God but God and Mohammed is the prophet of God."

The man holding the hostages demanded to speak to Abbott. Police were monitoring social media because hostages appeared to be posting information about the man's demands.

Hours into the crisis, at least five hostages managed to escape, running terrified toward police in riot gear. That made the hostage-taker furious, reported Chris Reason, a correspondent for CNN affiliate Seven Network. Reason said he could see the gunman become "extremely agitated" when he realized what had happened, and he "started screaming orders" at the remaining hostages.

Gunfire erupted early Tuesday as police stormed the cafe where the gunman had been holding hostages.

Two hostages were killed during the standoff. Police later announced that the siege was over and that the lone gunman had been killed.

CNN's Elizabeth Joseph and Hamdi Alkhshali contributed to this report.

## **Not Men: Man Haron Monis & Amirah Droudis**

<http://themellowjihadi.com/2013/02/28/men-man-haron-monis-amirah-droudis/> December 15, 2014

Man Haron Monis is so not a "man" that he had to resort to calling himself that for self-esteem purposes. He and his broffa, Amirah Droudis,

Man Haron Monis is so not a man that he had to resort to calling himself that for self-esteem purposes. He and his broffa, Amirah Droudis, sent offensive letters to the families of Australian soldiers killed in Operation Enduring Freedom. (Hand Salute for the link-a-roo: Pax from Marion's Meepings.)

## **Just a moment...**

<http://freedomwatch.ipa.org.au/freedom-of-speech-and-the-man-monis-case/> December 15, 2014

Of the two freedom of speech High Court cases that were ruled yesterday, it seems to me the Sheikh Man Haron Monis case is the most significant.

This process is automatic. Your browser will redirect to your requested content shortly.

Please allow up to 5 seconds...

## **Man Monis**

[http://wn.com/Man\\_Monis](http://wn.com/Man_Monis) December 15, 2014

Spider man - Always

The New York Review of Books



## **Self-styled sheik Mon Haron Monis refused bail over alleged sex assault on woman who went to him for 'spiritual healing'**

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/selfstyled-sheik-mon-haron-monis-refused-bail-over-alleged-sex-assault-on-woman-who-went-to-him-for-spiritual-healing/story-fni0cx4q-1226884053064> December 15, 2014

Self-styled sheik Mon Haron Monis refused bail over alleged sex assault on woman who went to him for 'spiritual healing'

Self-styled sheik Mon Haron Monis refused bail over alleged sex assault on woman who went to him for 'spiritual healing'

In opposing bail, police said they feared for the safety of the alleged victim, who was 27 when she was allegedly attacked by Mon Haron Monis during healing sessions.

The court heard Monis, 49, who was charged under the name Manteghi Mohammad Hassan, had also been convicted of sending offensive letters to the grieving families of seven soldiers killed in Afghanistan between 2007 and 2009.

Monis had been on bail for being an accessory to the murder of his former wife Noleen Hayson Pal, when he was arrested by police yesterday.

Monis's current wife and accused killer, Amirah Droudis, 34, sat in Kogarah Court yesterday while her 49-year-old husband applied for bail.

She is alleged to have stabbed Ms Hayson Pal, 30, multiple times before setting her on fire in a unit block at Werrington last April.

Police refused to reveal the name of the woman to the court for her own protection.

"His co-accused is currently on bail and present in court," police prosecutor Sergeant Kristy Zurvas said.

Sgt Zurvas said Mr Monis's deceased wife met him in similar circumstances to the victim he allegedly sexually assaulted.

"There appears there are concerns she could end up the same way, is that right?" asked Magistrate Catherine Haskett.

It was also revealed photos of her were found during a search of Monis's home last year in relation to the murder of his wife.

The assaults in 2002 are alleged to have been undertaken under the guise of a spiritual healing technique, and the man warned the woman not to tell anyone about them.

Mr Greg Scragg for Monis said police arranged a meeting between the victim and the accused yesterday, where she wore a listening device.

On that Mr Scragg said he denied he was a spiritual healer named Marcus or had committed any indecent assaults.

Magistrate Haskett refused bail, ordering him to appear in court on April 16, when he is also due to appear on the accessory to murder charges.

## **Sydney hostage crisis: Who is Man Haron Monis**

[http://article.wn.com/view/2014/12/15/Sydney\\_hostage\\_crisis\\_Who\\_is\\_Man\\_Haron\\_Monis/](http://article.wn.com/view/2014/12/15/Sydney_hostage_crisis_Who_is_Man_Haron_Monis/) December 15, 2014

SYDNEY: Man Haron Monis, the Sydney hostage-taker killed in a 16-hour siege, was a self-styled sheikh with his own Wikipedia entry who was on bail when he ...

Man Monis, Iranian Refugee, Named As Gunman Holding Hostages at Lindt Cafe, Sydney Australia BREAKING. Sydney Siege: We can reveal that the gunman in the #sydneysiege is 50yr old Man Monis. Yesterday he posted this message online: "Islam is the religion of peace, that's why Muslims fight against the oppression and terrorism of USA and its allies including UK and Australia" (SMH) Siege hostage taker identified as Man Monis Man Haron Monis was convicted in 2013 over offensive letters he wrote to families of dead Australian soldiers and was charged with sexual offences in October relating to his time as a self-proclaimed "spiritual leader". The man who continues to hold more than a dozen people hostage, placing Sydney's CBD into lockdown is no stranger to the NSW police or the judiciary. Self-described cleric, Man Maron Monis, 50, first came to attention of police when he penned poisonous letters to the family of dead Australian soldiers. Last year he was charged with being an accessory to the murder of his ex-wife and mother of two. And most recently, he was charged with more than 50 allegations of indecent and sexual assault relating to time allegedly spent as a self-proclaimed "spiritual healer" who dealt with black magic at a premises in western Sydney more than a decade ago. Monis, who has also gone by the names of Sheikh Haron and Mohammad Hassan Manteghi, was born in Iran and most recently has been living at Bexley North in Sydney's south. He recently likened himself on his own webpage to Wikileaks founder Julian Assange, claiming the most recent charges against him have been laid for "political reasons". His website also carries a quote, posted earlier this month stating: "I used to be a Rafidi, but not any more. Now I am a Muslim, Alhamdu Lillah". It has been Monis on-going legal battle for his conviction for penning those poisoned letters to the families of dead Australian soldiers between 2007 and 2009 that has consumed him. It is understood Monday's incident followed an unsuccessful, last-ditch attempted in the High Court on Friday to have the charges overturned. Monis was sentenced to 300 hours of community service and placed on a two year good behaviour bond for the "offensive and deplorable letters" sent with the assistance of his girlfriend Amirah Droudis. They were sent to the families of Private Luke Worsley and Lance Corporal Jason Marks, who were killed in Afghanistan in 2007 and 2008. He also sent a letter in 2009 to the family of the Austrade official Craig Senger, who was killed in the bombing of the Marriott Hotel in Jakarta in 2007. Monis claimed the letters were his own version of a "flower basket" or "condolence card". Bree Till, widow of Sergeant Brett Till, killed while defusing a bomb on March 12, 2009, said at the time of his conviction: "We sat reading these letters (which) made out to be something supportive but then the juxtaposition of this man accusing my husband of being a child-killer while dictating how I should raise my children. It was scary," she said. He fought the validity of the charges all the way to the High Court arguing they were political and only sought to persuade the families to oppose Australia's military involvement in Afghanistan. But when he lost that battle, and had to stand trial, he pleaded guilty to all 12 charges against him in August 2013. But his problems with the law did not end there and Monis is currently on bail in relation two separate, serious cases. He was charged in November 2013 with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of his ex-wife Noleen Hayson Pal. Ms Pal was stabbed and set alight in a Werrington apartment block. Droudis has been charged with the murder. And then in April this year, Monis was charged by sex crimes squad detectives with the indecent and sexual assault of a woman in western Sydney in 2002. Police allege that Monis was a self-proclaimed "spiritual healer" who operated out of premises on Station Street at Wentworthville. News of his arrest prompted more victims to come forward and Monis was hit with an additional 40 charges in October. It is alleged that Monis placed ads in local newspapers offering "spiritual consultation". He claimed to be an expert in astrology, numerology, meditation and black magic. Monis has posted online that the police charges are part of a witch hunt against him. "Since the Australian government cannot tolerate Sheikh Haron's activity, is trying to damage his image by these false accusations, and also for putting pressure on him to stop

his activity and keep him silent, but God willing Man Haron Monis will not stop his political activity against oppression," he writes in a description of himself on his website, sheikhharon.com His former Facebook page, pulled down on Monday night as the siege continued had 14,725 "likes" when it was shut down.

## **'Spiritual healer' Man Haron Monis charged with sexually assaulting woman**

<http://www.theleader.com.au/story/2219011/spiritual-healer-man-haron-monis-charged-with-sexually-assaulting-woman/> December 15, 2014

A self-styled sheikh from Bexley North who sent offensive letters to the families of dead Australian soldiers has been charged with sexually assaulting a woman during ...

A self-styled sheikh from Bexley North who sent offensive letters to the families of dead Australian soldiers has been charged with sexually assaulting a woman during "spiritual healing" sessions in western Sydney.

A self-styled sheikh from Bexley North who sent offensive letters to the families of dead Australian soldiers has been charged with sexually assaulting a woman during "spiritual healing" sessions in western Sydney.

Man Haron Monis, 49, was arrested by detectives from the sex crimes squad on Monday morning and charged with the indecent and sexual assault of a woman in western Sydney in 2002.

Police allege that Monis, who also goes by the name Mohammad Hassan Manteghi, was a self-proclaimed "spiritual healer" who was an expert in black magic and astrology and operated out of a premises on Station Street, Wentworthville.

The woman who claims she was assaulted allegedly saw an advertisement for "Spiritual Consultation" in a community newspaper and contacted Monis.

He advised her he was an expert in astrology, numerology, meditation and black magic and advised her to visit his clinic.

The woman visited the clinic twice within a week. On the first occasion it will be alleged that Monis indecently assaulted the woman, who was 27 at the time.

A week later he is alleged to have indecently and sexually assaulted her.

"The assaults are alleged to have been undertaken under the guise of a spiritual healing technique and the man warned the woman not to tell anyone about them," police said.

The woman reported the incident to police in January this year and the sex crimes squad set up Strike Force Yorkfield to investigate the allegations.

It culminated in the arrest of Monis at Bexley North on Monday morning. He was charged and appeared in Kogarah Local Court on Monday afternoon, where he was refused bail.

## **'Spiritual healer' Man Haron Monis charged with sexually assaulting client**

<http://www.stockjournal.com.au/news/metro/national/general/spiritual-healer-man-haron-monis-charged-with-sexually-assaulting-client/2695304.aspx> December 15, 2014

'Spiritual healer' Man Haron Monis charged with sexually assaulting client

A self-styled sheikh who sent offensive letters to the families of dead Australian soldiers has been charged with sexually assaulting a woman during "spiritual healing" sessions in western Sydney.

Man Haron Monis, 49, was arrested by sex crimes squad detectives on Monday morning and charged with the indecent and sexual assault of a woman in western Sydney in 2002.

Police allege that Monis, pictured, who also goes by the name Mohammad Hassan Manteghi, was a self-proclaimed "spiritual healer" who operated out of a premises on Station Street at Wentworthville.

His alleged victim, who was 27 at the time, allegedly saw an advertisement for "Spiritual Consultation" in a local newspaper and contacted Monis. He told her he was an expert in astrology, numerology, meditation and black magic and advised her to visit his clinic.

The woman visited the clinic twice within a week. On the first occasion it will be alleged that Monis indecently assaulted her. A week later he is alleged to have indecently and sexually assaulted her. "The assaults are alleged to have been undertaken under the guise of a spiritual healing technique, and the man warned the woman not to tell anyone about them," police said in a statement.

The woman reported the incident to police in January this year, with Strike Force Yorkfield established to investigate the allegations. It culminated in the arrest of Monis at Bexley North on Monday morning. He was charged and appeared in Kogarah Local Court on Monday afternoon where he was refused bail.

The court was told that Monis is on bail after being charged in November with being an accessory before and after the fact to the murder of his ex-wife and mother-of-two Noleen Hayson Pal.

Detective Inspector Mick Haddow said police believe Monis ran his spiritual healing clinic at the site between 2000 and 2002 and would not rule out the possibility there would be other victims.

## **Man Haron Monis News**

<http://snewsi.com/all/tag/Man+Haron+Monis> December 15, 2014

A man who has been holed up in a Sydney cafe after taking dozens of citizens hostage has been identified as Man Haron Monis. He has also been described by followers ...

The hostage situation in an Australia cafe carried out by an Iranian gunman should galvanize America and her allies against the threat of Islamic extremism, House Committee on Homeland Security Chairman Michael McCaul (R-TX) says. "What we've witnessed in Sydney should be a call to action for the United States and all our allies who have been threatened by violent Islamist extremists," McCaul said. Monday, a man identified as Man Haron Monis...

The gunman who was holding an undisclosed number of hostages at a Sydney cafe reportedly demanded that an Islamic State flag be delivered to him, according to various media accounts. Hostages were forced to hold a black flag with Arabic writing against a window at the Lindt Chocolate Cafe in Sydney. According to various media reports, the flag appears to be the Shahada known as the profession of faith in Islam. Britain's...

Police have now confirmed that the siege in Sydney has ended but questions about how it happened, what the motives were, and how Australia should respond will continue for some

time. The man who held up to 30 people hostage in a cafe in the central business district has been identified as Man Haron Monis, an Iranian refugee who moved to Australia in 1996. Monis is already on bail after being accused...

About seventeen hours after Man Haron Monis walked into the Lindt Chocolat on Martin Place, in Sydney, Australia, and took the staff and customers hostage, the police stormed the shop. It was dark--after 2 A.M. local time on Tuesday, though still Monday morning in New York--and the interior lit up with flashes. Martin Place, which might be described as a cross between Rockefeller Center and Times Square, near banks, Parliament, and the...

These Dramatic Photos Show The Hostage Crisis In Sydney From Beginning To End The Australian police forced their way into the Lindt Cafe in Sydney a few minutes ago and put an end to a 17-hour siege in which hostages were held and forced to post Islamic messages in the cafe window and on social media. The gunman, Man Haron Monis, an Iranian-born self-styled cleric currently on bail over the murder of his former wife, was killed in the raid. Two of the hostages died...

The man behind a hostage situation just ended at a Sydney chocolate cafe has been identified as Man Haron Monis, who calls himself a cleric and was already in serious trouble with the law. Monis, 50, has previously been charged as an accessory to his ex-wife's murder. And after working...

A man who has been holed up in a Sydney cafe after taking dozens of citizens hostage has been identified as Man Haron Monis. He has also been described by followers as "Sheikh Haron" or "Ayatollah Manteghi." Haron was born in Iran but had recently moved to Bexley North in the south of Sydney, Australia, the Sydney Morning Herald reported. The hostage-taker reportedly left Iran after he was deemed too "liberal" for...

### **'Spiritual healer' Man Haron Monis charged with sexually assaulting client**

<http://skepticswars.blogspot.com/2014/04/spiritual-healer-man-haron-monis.html> December 15, 2014

'Spiritual healer' Man Haron Monis charged with sexually assaulting client

Sometimes woo sites do encourage you to do stuff that is good for you, but they encourage you in the wrong way. An example of this would be this pic from \*...

### **Worldwide Trending Topic «Man Haron Monis**

<http://www.trending-topic.com/en/topics/%22Man+Haron+Monis%22/> December 15, 2014

Worldwide Trending Topic «Man Haron Monis»: What people are talking about the topic «Man Haron Monis» on Twitter.

15/12/2014 13:13

Officials have told CBS News that Man Haron Monis, the gunman who allegedly took several people hostage in a Sydney cafe on Monday, has been killed. Police confirmed the news in a press conference early on Tuesday. CBS news reports that Monis was ...

15/12/2014 09:13

SYDNEY, Dec 16 (Reuters) - An Iranian refugee known for sending hate mail to the families of Australian soldiers killed overseas and facing several charges of sexual assault is the armed man holding an unknown number of hostages in a Sydney cafe, ...

15/12/2014 10:22

According to multiple news outlets, the gunman currently holding hostages in a Sydney, Australia cafe has been identified as 49-year-old Man Haron Monis – also known as “Sheikh Haron.” CNN reported that U.S. intelligence officials first identified him ...

15/12/2014 09:38

Man Haron Monis SheikhHaron.comMan Haron Monis. Police in Sydney, Australia have confirmed that the gunman who took hostages in a café in the city's central business district is Man Haron Monis, a self-styled "Muslim cleric and peace activist." Monis ...

15/12/2014 10:11

Police have identified the man behind the on-going siege in Sydney as Man Haron Monis, a self-proclaimed cleric and former "spiritual healer" granted political asylum in Australia from Iran. Monis was recently charged with 50 counts of indecent ...

15/12/2014 09:07

Sheik Man Haron Monis, an Islamic 'spiritual healer' who is facing charges of sexual assault and being an accessory to murder, has been identified as the man who has taken civilians hostage in a Sydney café, according to local media citing police sources.

15/12/2014 00:00

Gunfire erupted as police stormed a chocolate shop where a self-professed sheik was holding hostages in Sydney early Tuesday. An intelligence source named the gunman as Man Haron Monis, who is also known as Sheikh Haron. He appeared to be ...

15/12/2014 14:18

More than a year before the Sydney hostage siege, Man Haron Monis was arrested for accessory to the murder of his ex-wife — who was repeatedly stabbed and set on fire — and then released on bail. "They should have put him away and thrown away the ...

## **Man Haron Monis News**

[http://www.onenewspage.us/topic/Man\\_Haron\\_Monis.htm](http://www.onenewspage.us/topic/Man_Haron_Monis.htm) December 15, 2014

Man Haron Monis news, photos, videos • Follow the latest Man Haron Monis coverage from thousands of high quality sources worldwide on One News Page [United States].

Self-proclaimed cleric Man Haron Monis was known to authorities for his indiscriminate rage long before he staged an attack on a Sydney cafe that left himself and two hostages dead.

SYDNEY (AP) — Amid a barrage of gunfire, police stormed a cafe in the heart of Sydney early Tuesday to end a 16-hour hostage siege by an Iranian-born gunman. Police said three people were killed —..

The hostage situation in an Australia cafe carried out by an Iranian gunman should galvanize America and her allies against the threat of Islamic extremism, House Committee on Homeland Security..

On the day three convicted bombers were executed for their roles in the 2002 Bali blast, which killed 202 people, Man Haron Monis, the Australian hostage taker, wrote a letter congratulating the..

Up to nine more hostages escaped from a Sydney chocolate shop early Tuesday as heavily-

armed cops stormed the cafe, hoping to end the standoff with gunman Man Haron Monis. Monis was killed in the..

Fox's Gasparino: Who Wouldn't Support Waterboarding to Prevent Hostage Situation in NYC? While the hostage crisis was ongoing in Sydney, Australia Monday morning, Fox Business Network reporter \*Charlie Gasparino\* wondered whether waterboarding would have prevented \*Man Haron Monis\*'s..

A number of individuals passing by the Lindt Café in Sydney, Australia--the site of a violent siege by an Islamist terrorist--began posting "selfie" photos of themselves smiling in front of the..

Officials have told CBS News that Man Haron Monis, the gunman who allegedly took several people hostage in a Sydney cafe on Monday, has been killed. CBS news reports that Monis was killed when..

The Iranian refugee identified as the man who held more than a dozen people hostage in a Sydney cafe during a nearly 16-hour standoff was no stranger to Australian authorities. Before he allegedly..

Man Haron Monis has been identified as the Iranian-born gunman who held an unknown number of people hostage in a Sydney cafe for more than 16 hours early Tuesday, and now police have confirmed that the..

Who is the hostage-taker? The man who held hostages in a Sydney cafe for nearly 16 hours is Man Haron Monis, an official with direct knowledge of the situation said Monday.

## **Man Haron Monis News**

[http://www.onenewspage.com/topic/man\\_haron\\_monis.htm](http://www.onenewspage.com/topic/man_haron_monis.htm) December 15, 2014

Man Haron Monis news, photos, videos • Follow the latest Man Haron Monis coverage from thousands of high quality sources worldwide on One News Page.

THE Sydney siege gunman Man Haron Monis criticised Australian "terrorism" on his website a day before he took hostages at a chocolate cafe.

Australian police say the 16-hour siege in Sydney, where a gunman was holding dozens of people hostage, is now over.

Australian police say three people, including the gunman, are dead after a hostage siege that lasted for more than 16 hours at a cafe in downtown Sydney. They say the gunman died in a confrontation..

A swarm of heavily-armed Australian police storm a downtown Sydney cafe ending the siege a gunman had been holding an unknown number of people for more than 16 hours. (Dec. 15)

Man Haron Monis, the lone gunman who held hostages in a Sydney cafe until police stormed the building, had an extensive history with Australian law enforcement. Photo: AP

What's News: The gunman who held hostages in a Sydney cafe is identified as Man Haron Monis. The French government says Uber is illegal and Petsmart agrees to be bough for \$8.2 billion. Photo:AP

THREE people have been killed including gunman Man Haron Monis, in the Martin Place

cafe siege after heavily armed police stormed the location bringing the 17-hour ordeal to a dramatic end.

Self-proclaimed cleric Man Haron Monis was known to authorities for his indiscriminate rage long before he staged an attack on a Sydney cafe that left himself and two hostages dead.

Marcia Mikhael, who works as a Westpac executive, was forced to record a chilling video message listing demands made by gunman Man Haron Monis as she was held hostage at Sydney's Lindt cafe.

SYDNEY (Reuters) - Heavily armed Australian police stormed a Sydney cafe early on Tuesday morning and freed a number of hostages being held there at gunpoint, in a dramatic end to a 16-hour siege in..

SYDNEY (AP) — Amid a barrage of gunfire, police stormed a cafe in the heart of Sydney early Tuesday to end a 16-hour hostage siege by an Iranian-born gunman. Police said three people were killed —..

A group of hostages held by a self-styled Islamic preacher in a 16-hour siege in Sydney, were able to escape when Man Haron Monis' back was turned, it has been revealed.

BFF BLOG: Man Haron Monis used the hostages, media, police and public to create a siege as dramatic as a Broadway play, an ex-hostage negotiator says.

Until 2am local time, Australian police – and everyone else – had hoped the hostage crisis inside Lindt Chocolat Cafe in Sydney might end without bloodshed. Because until then, none of the luckless..

Why was Man Haron Monis on bail? A lawyer for terrorist Man Haron Monis said his client had an ideology so powerful he was always going to be on the verge of something we now know is extreme violence (Martin Place, Sydney siege gunman..