

Bah ag Moussa



Bah ag Moussa was a U.S.-and U.N.-designated terrorist leader based in Mali.

Overview

Bah ag Moussa was a U.S.-and U.N.-designated terrorist leader based in Mali. Moussa was a former officer of the Mallian Armed Forces—serving as the head of the Islamic police in Timbuktu—and a founding member of Ansar al-Dine. In 2013, Bah ag Moussa settled in Tin Zaouatène and joined the Haut Conseil pour l'Unité de l'Azawad (HCUA)—a Tuareg political and military movement that features many members of the al-Qaeda-allied Ansar al-Din movement. Bah ag Moussa then transmitted Iyad ag Ghali's, Ansar al-Din's leader, messages and recruited Tuareg fighters for the jihadist camp.

Date of Birth:	1950s	Place of Residence:	Mali
Place of Birth:	Mali	Citizenship:	Mali

Although he was not a public-facing member of AQIM, Bah ag Moussa—who developed a particular reputation for cruelty toward women—was far from unknown. In 2007, after spending time in Saudi Arabia, Bah ag Moussa established a mosque in Timbuktu and began to preach on Mali's official television station.

In 2017, Bah ag Moussa became the operational leader of Jama'at Nusrat ul-Islam wa al-Muslimin (JNIM) under the leadership of Iyad ag Ghali. Bah ag Moussa is the half-brother of Sidi Mohamed ag Oukana, Iyad ag Ghali's religious advisor.

Bah ag Moussa is responsible for leading attacks in several other localities throughout northern Mali. On July 16, 2016, he led the attack against the Nampala barracks, which resulted in the death of 20 Malian soldiers. In March 2019, Bah ag Moussa helped lead a terrorist operation against a Malian Armed Forces base in Dioura that killed at least 21 Malian soldiers.

On July 16, 2019, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), in concert with the Department of State, designated Bah ag Moussa as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13224, which targets terrorists and those providing support to terrorists or acts of terrorism. On August 14, 2019, the U.N. Security Council's ISIL (Da'esh) and al Qaeda Sanctions Committee imposed sanctions against Bah ag Moussa pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 4 of resolution 2368 (2017) as being associated with ISIL or Al-Qaida and otherwise supporting the groups' acts or activities.

On November 13, 2020, France announced the death of Bah ag Moussa. The operation involved helicopters and ground troops, which identified and "neutralized" Bah ag Moussa who was in a truck in the Menaka region of eastern Mali.

Also Known As

- Bamoussa Diarra
- Rabia Diarra
- Ba Ag Moussa
- Ammi Salim
- Mohamed ag Moussa

Collapse

Associated Groups

Extremist entity Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) Read Threat Report	Type(s) of Organization: Insurgent, non-state actor, religious, terrorist, transnational, violent Ideologies and Affiliations: Al-Qaeda affiliated group, Islamist, jihadist, Qutbist, Salafist, Sunni, takfiri Position(s): Senior leader of Jama'at Nusrat Al-Islam Wal-Muslimin (deceased)
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Al-Qaeda's North African branch, AQIM, operates in Algeria, Mali, Niger, Libya, Mauritania, and Tunisia. The group has executed numerous violent attacks in North and West Africa. The group is also known for its extensive history of kidnapping and extortion.

History

2007

UPON RETURNING FROM SAUDI ARABIA, BAH AG MOUSSA ESTABLISHES A MOSQUE IN TIMBUKTU AND PREACHES ON MALI'S OFFICIAL TELEVISION STATION.

Source: Andrew Lebovich, "The Local Face of Jihadism in Northern Mali," Combating Terrorism Center at West Point, June 2013, ctc.usma.edu/the-local-face-of-...

Timeline: 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011

Upon returning from Saudi Arabia, Bah ag Moussa established a mosque in Timbuktu and began to preach on Mali's official television station.

Designations

United States



On July 16, 2019, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), in concert with the Department of State, designates Ali Maychou as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13224, which targets terrorists and those providing support to terrorists or acts of terrorism.

United Nations



On August 14, 2019, the ISIL (Da'esh) and al Qaeda Sanctions Committee imposes sanctions against Bah Ag Moussa pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 4 of resolution 2368 (2017) as being associated with ISIL or Al-Qaida and otherwise supporting the groups' acts or activities.

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In Their Own Words:

“When the ruling Pharaoh died and a new Pharaoh came to power, he saw how the Jews indulged in the luxury of Egypt without working, he saw how the Jews' power had grown, and he saw that these Jews were internationally minded and 'friends' with Egypt's enemies, and thus a great danger. The Pharaoh then put the Jews to work for the nation and for their daily bread, like everyone else, and for this the Jews wanted revenge.”

- Nordic Resistance Movement (NRM), NRM website editorial staff
Apr. 10, 2021



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