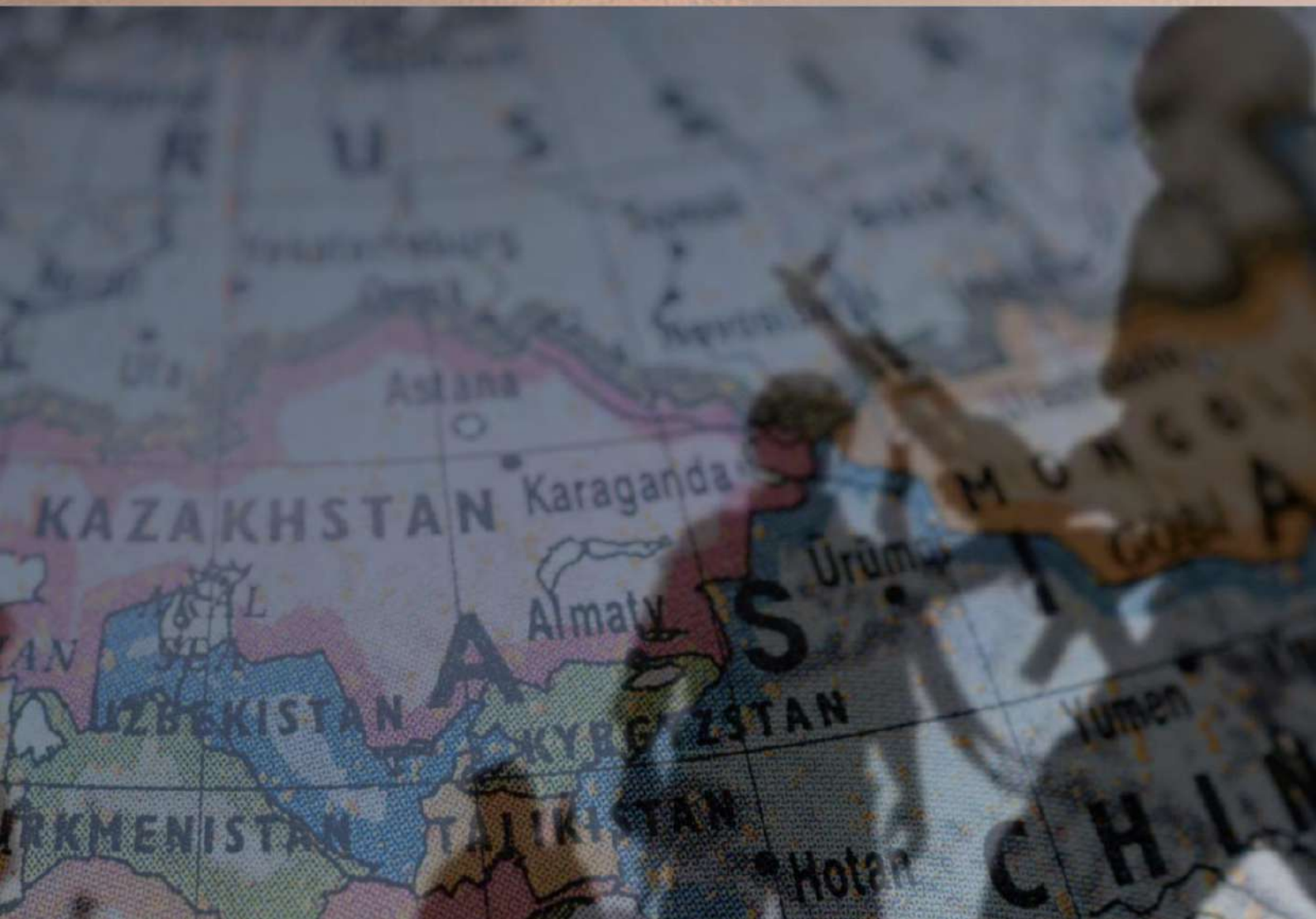


The University of World Economy and Diplomacy

Institute for Advanced
International Studies

CENTRAL ASIA MEDIA MONITORING ON RADICALISM AND TERRORISM ISSUES

Center for Afghanistan and South Asian Studies





The University of World Economy and Diplomacy

Institute for Advanced International Studies

For more information on this publication, visit www.iais.uz

Edited & Reviewed by

Hamza Boltaev
hamza.boltaev@iais.uz

Published by the IAIS, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

© Copyright 2024 IAIS.

IAIS® is a registered trademark.

Limited Print and Electronic Distribution Rights This document and trademark(s) contained herein are protected by law. This representation of IAIS intellectual property is provided for non-commercial use only. Unauthorized posting of this publication online is prohibited. Permission is given to duplicate this document for personal use only, as long as it is unaltered and complete.

Permission is required from IAIS to reproduce, or reuse in another form, any of its research documents for commercial use. For information on reprint and linking permissions, please visit <https://www.iais.uz/en/contact>.

The Institute for Advanced International Studies (IAIS) is an independent, international and interdisciplinary research institute at the University of World Economy and Diplomacy (UWED) in Uzbekistan. IAIS's publications do not necessarily reflect the opinions of its research partners and donors.

To cite the publication: *Institute for Advanced International Studies (IAIS). (July, 2024). Central Asia Media Monitoring on Radicalism and Terrorism Issues. Centre for Afghanistan and South Asian Studies, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.*

CONTENTS

Contributors	4
From the authors	5
Executive Summary	6
I. MONITORING ON UZBEK AND TAJIK LANGUAGE SEGMENTS OF SOCIAL MEDIA	9
1.1. Report for June 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media).....	10
1.2. Report for July 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media).....	18
1.3. Report for 15 August to 15 September 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)	25
1.4. Report from 15 to 25 September 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media).....	33
1.5. Report for 25 September to 25 October 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media).....	39
1.6. Report for 25 October to 25 December 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media).....	45
II. MONITORING RUSSIAN, KAZAKH AND KYRGYZ LANGUAGE SEGMENTS OF SOCIAL MEDIA	51
2.1. Report for June 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media).....	52
2.2. Report for August 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media).....	61
2.3. Report for 1-11 September 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)	71
2.4. Report for September 11th – October 5th 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)	77
2.5. Report for October 5th – November 25th 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)	82
2.6. Report for November 30th – December 25th 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)	88
Attachments	95
Conclusion	96

Contributors



Hamza Boltaev
Senior Research Fellow
Institute for Advanced International Studies

PROJECT COORDINATOR



Fazliddin Djamalov
Research Fellow
Institute for Advanced International Studies

PROJECT DESIGNER



Aziza Mukhammedova
Research Fellow
Institute for Advanced International Studies

PROJECT OFFICER



Raffaello Pantucci
Senior Research Fellow
International Centre for Political Violence
and Terrorism Research, RSIS

PROJECT PARTNER



Akram Umarov
First Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs
The University of World Economy and Diplomacy

PROJECT MANAGER

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH



From the authors

With a profound sense of responsibility and significance, we present to you a collection of reports compiled from the monitoring of social media networks engaged in the propagation of radicalism and religious extremism. From June to December 2023, we meticulously analyzed the activities and content shared in five languages - Tajik, Uzbek, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, and Russian - with the aim of tracking such a content dissemination in Central Asian countries and Russia.

The primary objective of this monitoring was not just identifying and tracking the methodologies employed by internet channels for recruiting individuals but also to comprehend the prevailing themes through which these groups attract people. Special attention was devoted to the most active online platforms that garnered the largest user base.

In this report, you will find detailed reports on our observations and analysis. We explore various aspects of radicalism and religious extremism propaganda, while also discussing potential countermeasures against this phenomenon. Our goal is also to shed light on these issues and contribute to understanding their scale and consequences.

We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who participated in this research, including our team of specialists who wholeheartedly and professionally contributed their expertise. We hope that this collection becomes a valuable research material for all those interested in the issue of radicalism and religious extremism.

Executive Summary

For June 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Calling for jihad, particularly in Syria, with a specific reference to Russian attacks and callings for retribution were significant. Tajik reporting covered greater emphasis on social justice, corruption, nepotism, and abusive approach towards Tajik migrants in Russia. Furthermore, there was widespread celebration of Eid al-Adha across channels, and strong reactions to a Quran burning in Sweden, with calls for diplomatic actions. Discussions also highlighted concerns about security agency monitoring and the role of jihad as an educational pursuit, prominently featuring Central Asian clerics. Potentially ISIS aligned users were also prominent.

For July 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Discussions condemned Muslim soldiers in the Middle East for not defending Palestinians and promoted jihad as an educational endeavor, featuring Central Asian clerics. Additionally, there were calls for jihad against Central Asian governments, particularly Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, and criticisms of their secular policies. Content glorifying martyrdom in jihad was also prevalent, portraying it as a noble sacrifice.

For 15 August to 15 September 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Social issues in Central Asia, especially Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan, were highlighted, alongside criticisms of the Uzbek government's restrictive religious policies. There were discussions supporting Palestinian causes and calls to fund Syrian charitable foundations. Historical Soviet efforts at modernization and secularization in Central Asia and the Caucasus were discussed, along with video lessons on weapon use. Additionally, content highlighted the plight of Tajik migrants in Russia and criticized the Tajik government's approach to free speech and journalist imprisonment.

For 15-25 September 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

There were criticisms of the Uzbek government's restrictive religious policies and support for Palestine, alongside video lessons on weapon use. A recurring theme was jihad against the enemies of Islam, both in foreign lands and against the governments of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. Additionally, social platforms discussed the threats to Tajik migrants in Russia and called for joining the fight in Syria against Russia, Iran, and the Assad regime.

For September 25th – October 25th 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Discussions supporting Palestine, including calls to boycott Israeli-supporting brands and fund Palestinian charities, were widespread. Passport regimes and legal barriers hindering Muslim travel were criticized. Video lessons on weapon use and the theme of jihad against

Islam's enemies, including calls to fight in Syria against Russia, Iran, and the Assad regime, were constant. Additionally, there was criticism of E. Rahmon's visit to Germany.

For October 25th – December 25th 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Some new content emphasized the significance of "Jihad in Media" as a means to engage in extremist activities. Calls to join the fight in Syria against Russia, Iran, and the Assad regime were noted alongside prioritized discussions on the war in Gaza and issues in Palestine. Other topics included calls for boycotting brands allegedly supporting Israel, criticism against Tajikistan's president, and the propagation of ISIS ideology on specific websites.

For June 2023 (Russian, Kazakh and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Strong rhetoric against Central Asian governments, especially Kyrgyzstan, advocating for the establishment of a Caliphate were observed. Quran burnings in Sweden and Denmark, along with the treatment of Muslim sites in Kyrgyzstan, were highlighted and linked to political meetings, illustrating perceived "betrayal" by certain secular leaders. There were also significant calls for the separation of Dagestan from Russia and criticism of Russian treatment of Muslims. Additionally, some criticism was directed at groups like Hizb ut-Tahrir and Ikhvan al-Muslimyn for their approaches, alongside references to Western policy failures in Africa, particularly in Sudan and Nigeria.

For August 2023 (Russian, Kazakh and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Appeals for the establishment of a Caliphate, particularly in Kyrgyzstan, were driven by both Hizb ut-Tahrir and Al-Qaeda inspired channels. There were also calls for the independence of Tatarstan from Russia, emphasizing cultural and historical distinctions. Criticisms were directed at groups like Hizb ut-Tahrir for hypocrisy, and against Bashar Assad's regime for past civilian attacks. Additionally, posts criticized Central Asian governments for oppressing Muslims and displayed strong anti-Russian sentiments, with some content supporting ISIS or Jabhat Fatah al-Sham.

For 1-11 September 2023 (Russian, Kazakh and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Criticisms of Bashar Assad's regime were prevalent, accusing it of imprisoning and abusing Muslim women, indicating sympathies towards ISIS or Jabhat Fatah al-Sham. Posts also highlighted the oppression of Muslims by Central Asian governments and included nationalistic, anti-Russian sentiments. Additionally, content from Hayat Tahrir al-Sham was observed, primarily criticizing Assad's regime.

For September 11th – October 5th 2023 (Russian, Kazakh and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Content in the Kyrgyz language segment of Facebook advocated for the establishment of a Caliphate, driven by both Hizb ut-Tahrir and Al-Qaeda inspired channels. There were also calls for Chechnya's independence from Russia, emphasizing cultural and historical differences. Posts highlighted the oppression of Muslims by Central Asian governments and included anti-Russian, nationalistic sentiments. Additionally, Hayat Tahrir al-Sham

content criticized Assad's regime, observed in both Russian and Kyrgyz language segments.

For October 5th – November 25th 2023 (Russian, Kazakh and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Dissatisfaction was expressed towards the inaction of leaders in Muslim states like Turkey, Egypt, and Jordan. Appeals were made to unite against perceived enemies attacking Palestine, with specific calls for change within the Jordanian National Army to support Palestine. Additionally, there were calls to end US influence in the region and for armed action to liberate Palestine, citing the failure of international organizations like the UN to address Muslim rights effectively.

For November 30th – December 25th 2023 (Russian, Kazakh and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

During the reporting period, there were fervent calls for the unification of Muslims for jihad and the establishment of Sharia law, alongside criticisms of government policies in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. Reports also surfaced about alleged Russian government targeting of Muslims and migrants, protests against tax increases in Kyrgyzstan, and criticisms of Uzbekistan's government for guarding a Jewish cemetery and mistreating prisoners.



**I.MONITORING ON UZBEK AND TAJIK
LANGUAGE SEGMENTS OF SOCIAL MEDIA**

1.1. Report for June 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Key Points

In this report, we monitored Uzbek and Tajik language segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the month of June 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms¹.

The key relevant points observed during the reporting period covered:


- *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, includes reporting from battlefield, as well as calls for people to come and fight. Specific references to Russian attacks and retribution for them. Most reporting (in both Tajik and Uzbek) that was observed appeared from Idlib, with little from ISIS controlled areas.*
- *Propagating social justice through fighting against corruption and nepotism – particular focus in Tajik reporting. Abuse of Tajik migrants in Russia also highlighted.*
- *Eid al-Adha – Muslims’ holiday that celebrated recently. Was celebrated across channels.*
- *Quran burning in Sweden – calls for Ambassador’s to be sent home, accusations that enemy states are supportive of the sacrilege rather than it being isolated individuals.*
- *Some discussion of events in Palestine, with condemnation observed on Uzbek channels particularly Muslim Middle Eastern soldiers who were failing to use their weapons to defend Palestinians.*
- *References to Uzbek intelligence pursuing believers, suggesting concerns about security agencies monitoring online discussions.*
- *Call for Jihad to fight in foreign lands as well as fighting against the countries of Central Asia as well as Russia and China.*
- *Jihad as an education. This is a constant theme across material during the reporting period, with prominent Central Asian clerics Sodiq Samarqandiy, Abdulloh Zufar, and Abu Saloh all being particularly featured on some channels discussing this within the context of Syria.*

¹ The reporting period covered 24 Facebook accounts with over 38 thousand audience (Uzbek language user), 23 Instagram with more than 28 thousand audience (both friends and followers combined) along with 8 Telegram messenger users (both individual users and groups) with more than 860 active subscribers. Average number of published materials on Instagram in June were around 150 with more than 3 thousand reactions (likes and comments). However, on Facebook more than 650 materials with several thousands of reactions posted in this monitoring period. Although Telegram messenger is the most popular platform among Uzbek speaking community, the number of publications in June were about 10 percent of entire contents that were posted in those 8 monitored users. Content creators that we were focused on the Telegram messenger were very dynamic and changed or completely closed the accounts they were using several times during this reporting period.

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China – some brief references to persecution of Muslims in China by Uzbek Instagram channels (“Ukkocha87”)
- Afghanistan/Pakistan – A number of channels were observed commenting/criticizing the Taliban’s March 8 congratulatory letter about “International women’s day” (this included Uzbek Telegram Channels: Asadulloh Urganchiy; JIHOD FIQH, though this may be historical reporting). More broadly many discussions were found criticising the Taliban government. Facebook user “Abu Huseyn” is observed to be posting contents sympathising the Taliban’s interim government in Afghanistan.
- Leadership changes – No changes reported.
- Funding/fundraising – No notable discussions of fundraising were observed
- Travel patterns – No notable discussions of travel patterns were observed

Uzbek language content

 – *Much of the observed discussion on Facebook appeared to be about Syria, calling attention to the suffering of Muslims there, revenge against apostates striking them, showing their Eid celebrations as well as preparations for jihad on the battlefield. Much appeared from Idlib but seemed ISIS supportive. Brief conversations related to Palestine and the Quran burning in Sweden were also observed.*

Public group called “**Ummat uyg‘on**” (Wake up ummah) (pic.1) on Facebook publishes materials mainly propagating rebuilding khalifate by criticizing common narratives such as patriotism including participating in elections. Moreover, on this channel’s feeds, video material by “**Банда Ожиз**” (human is weak) was published (pic.2). The narrator in this video criticised the social injustice and suggests that Islam is only true and reliable way for solving these problems.

Moreover, Facebook user “**Абдулазиз Умаров**” (pic. 3,4,5) reposted a video material titled “Armiyalarga nido | Ahmad Qasos” in which narrator criticizes army officers of Middle Eastern countries for not supporting Palestine as well as calls for fighting for the truth. Here are (O army officers Isn't it a shame that you walk proudly with your pogons (military rank) on your shoulders while your brothers are being killed in Palestine and exiled... You are proud of your pogons (military rank), which are useless without pointing your weapons at the enemy). Also, Facebook user “**Saad Muxtor**” (pic. 6,7) on 28 June 2023 published video material covering morning praying during Eid in Syria. Although video materials were mainly about history, culture, and traditions about the Syrian city – Idlib, he made claims about fighting none-believers by referring to Russian planes bombing of Idlib.

There were also posts where the publisher calls for defending Islam in any cases. In such posts, publisher position the religion as a victim of circumstances and by this method they spread information that by default creates defending mechanism among the “consumers” of such information and recruit them to fight for their religion. This user appears to sympathise the ideology of ISIS.

Facebook user “**Муҳаммад Тоҳир**” (Pic. 8-11) posted a video where the author says in Uzbek the following statement “*Кофирлар томонидан Идлибдаги мусулмон аҳлимизнинг бомбардимон қилинишига жавобан «Имом Бухорий Катибасининг» оғир қуроллар бўлими мужоҳидлари Лазиқия шимоли "Журин" шаҳридаги кофирларнинг марказларини 120 мм ҳавон ракеталари орқали ҳадафга олишди*” (In response to the infidels' bombing of our Muslim people in Idlib, the mujahideen of the heavy weapons department of "Imam Bukhari's Katibati" targeted the centers of infidels in the city of "Jurin" in the north of Lazikiya with 120 mm air rockets).



Author's note:

Here, the content creator, “Muhammad Tohir”, puts some actual fighting scenes with some weapons displayed. Through this way, he seems to be delivering a message that the group is capable of doing something as well as he appears to convince the possible “future recruiters” if they join the organization for “jihad” they can be a capable fighter. So, the key message here is not only creating contents for simply recruiting fighters, but also showing the capacity they have in actual combat areas. Based on the place (most likely Syria) and video materials, this user also might align itself with ISIS.

Moreover, in one of the interesting materials this user posted on Facebook, he talks about his goals. The video is titled “*Бизнинг мақсадимиз!*” (Our goal). “*kofirga qarshi bo'ladigan jangda birinchi safda bizlarni topasiz ... Biz In Sha Alloh shu manhaj sari davom etamiz*” (You will find us in the front line in the battle against the infidel... We will continue towards this manhaj In Sha Allah).

The publisher here, is trying to create “**heroes**” by saying that “**being in the frontline against infidels**”

The recent event in Sweden regarding burning Muslims holy book – The Qoran, sparked a huge backlash on social media platforms. Facebook user named “Abu Harun Oqtulpor (Abu Horun)” (pic. 12-14) posted video material that was published on YouTube channel named “Mahmud Abdulmomin”. The material is called “ЖОНЛИ ЭФИР. МАҲМУД АБДУЛИМЎМИН (Live. Mahmud Abdulmomin)”. In this video material, the narrator speaks about recent incident regarding the Qoran burning in Sweden. He says “Bu ishlar oddiy emas.... atayin uyushtirib qilinadi.... buni orqasida butun boshli davlat himoyasida turibdi....shu sabablar musulmonlar dushmanini dushman bilsin....dushmanday muomala qilsin... davlatlar elchilarini haydab chiqsin....” (These things are not simple.... it is organized on purpose.... the entire state is behind it in the protection.... for this reason, Muslims should consider their enemies as enemies.... treat them as enemies... expel the ambassadors of the countries....).

In the last month, Facebook user “**Abdulloh Toshkondiy**” (15) published 7 materials. Those materials are mainly about propagating defending Islam. In one post the user says “... Ko'pchilik jonini farzandlarini va molu mulkini saqlab qolish yo'lini izlaydi, Ba'zi (sodiqqlar) esa jonini o'ylamay dinni saqlab qolish yo'lini izlaydi, manashu (sodiqqlar) bilan din himoya qilinadi va ummat g'alaba qozonadi.!” (“... Many people seek a way to save their lives, children, and wealth, and some (faithful) seek a way to save their religion without thinking about their lives, and with this (faithful) religion is protected. and the Ummah will win.”) by referring to defending Islam in any circumstances.

There are also materials published on Facebook such user as “**Abu Huseyn**”. (pic. 16) On his profile in the last month the user published 51 posts. As its creator claims, the main purpose of the contents is raising awareness about what is happening in northern Syria


(mainly Idlib) “#Сурия Ҳалаб ғарбидаги кофирлар назорат нуқтаси "Фатҳ Ал-Мубин" амалиёт хонаси мужоҳидлари томонидан танк ёрдамида ҳадафга олинди”. (#Syria The checkpoint of the infidels in the west of Aleppo was targeted by the Mujahideen of the operational room "Fath Al-Mubin" with the help of a tank) Moreover, this page posts (re-posts) harsh criticism against religious policy and clerics of Uzbekistan. The most prominent ones are directed to famous Uzbek content creator (mostly religious one) Abror Mukhtor Ali “Ўзлари айтаётгандек тўвуқ калла булар!” (These are chicken heads, as they say!); “...Биздаги сароймуллалар эса отарчи артистларникини сифатли экан деб ялаб юрибди.” (And our royal mullahs are licking the artists’ back by saying that their works are in high quality). On this Facebook page, we can also observe some posts (re-posts) that sympathise the Taliban’s interim government’s policy in Afghanistan. Here are some of such posts: “Qunduz vloyatiga tashrifi chog’ida Alloh yo'lida jixod qilgan Va oyog'idan ajralgan mujoxid bn suxbati.” (Interview with mujahideen who fought in the cause of Allah and lost his leg during his visit to Kunduz province); “Афғонистон Ички ишлар вазири Сирожиддин Ҳаққоний Афғонистон Исломий ҳукумати зўравонлик ва куч ишлатишга йўл қўймаслигини таъкидлаб, амалдорлар ўз ваколатларини суиистеъмол қилмаслиги кераклигига эътибор қаратди.” (The Minister of Interior of Afghanistan, Sirajuddin Haqqani, emphasized that the Islamic government of Afghanistan does not allow violence and use of force, and emphasized that the officials should not abuse their powers). “**Abu Huseyn**”, based on the content published on this page, might support the ideology of “Hizb ut-Tahrir”.

Facebook user “**Фарук Шами** (Фарук Шами)” (Faruk Shami) (pic. 17-22) also published 12 posts in the last month. On this page the main discussions are centered around Eid holiday. “**Фарук Шами** (Фарук Шами)” also has accounts on Instagram (422 posts, 8483 followers), YouTube and Twitter (880 tweets, 9773 followers). The page, as its creator claims, raises awareness about what is happening in northern Syria (mainly Idlib). The poster is likely to be based in Syria (Idlib) and seems to sympathise the ideology of “Hizb ut-Tahrir”.

Author’s note:

! Such posts which are mainly informative in nature can also be used for so called “passive recruitment” for “jihad”. All these posts contain scenes of ruins and destruction of Muslims homes and land. Therefore, these are possibly the best way to create a ground for inducing radical extremist ideologies for the possible future recruitments.

Facebook user “**Yusuf Buxoriy**” (pic. 23-25) published 17 posts in the last month. The user reposted video material from YouTube “Haqiqiy jihod haqida va Allohning arqonini mahkam tutishga chaqiriq | Ustoz Abdulloh Zufar” (About the real Jihad and the call to hold tight to the rope of God | Teacher Abdullah Zufar). In this video the narrator discusses the idea of “jihad” by dividing it into jihad of words and jihad of swords.

 – *The most predominant narratives were about teaching and calling for jihad and use of violence. The conflict in Syria remains a major focus. A figure named Instructor Ayyub on the prominent Uzbek jihadist group Muhojir Tactical (unaffiliated but close to HTS) made reference to fears of Uzbek intelligence pursuing believers online, as well as using references to abuses by Kyrgyz authorities to highlight need for everyone to prepare for jihad. The suffering of Muslims in Russia, Central Asia and China was highlighted in particular.*

The Instagram user, “**hamza_shomiy**” (pic. 26) discussed various radical and extremist theses. One of the recurring themes was about how Muslims should fight/ pursue jihad in the name of Allah by **hamza_shomiy**. Moreover, this Instagram user also reposted some videos displaying fighting scenes with narrated by prominent Uzbek clerics such as Sodyq Samarqandi and Abdulloh Zufar which also propagate people to fight in the name of Islam.

The Instagram user “**shom_minbari**” (pic. 27) discusses the Syrian war, calling it the Syrian Jihad, with a broader context linking to the Arab Spring in the Middle East and North Africa. The gist was about how Muslims revolted against bloodthirsty tyrants, implicitly supporting the idea of jihad in fighting against social and political injustice. The materials posted on this page could be in support of ISIS.

Another Instagram user “**Muhojir tactical**” (pic. 28) talks about how people can find the truth through Jihad. In one of the videos, this account used interviewed a jihadist, called instructor Ayyub. Instructor Ayyub says that in the countries of Central Asia, particularly in Uzbekistan, the intelligence service (SNB) is putting strong pressure on people who are seeking the truth via jihad and discrediting them by linking to terrorists. In another video, Instructor Ayyub who claims to have 18-year experience, states that he instructed lots of Uzbek speaking people some of whom are still fighting in the name of the religion. He also argues that current governments of Central Asian countries can liquidate anyone, even their citizens. During the ethnic conflicts in Kyrgyzstan, government forces raped and killed many people because people are not allowed to use weapons. This is why, he argues, every Muslim should know how to use a weapon to defend themselves.

The Instagram user “**Ukkocha87**” (pic. 29) talks about how more than 100 thousand Muslims are imprisoned in so-called infidel countries, including Russia, China, and all Central Asia countries. In one video, posted on June 16, 2023, the Instagram user says that it is a “farth” (religious duty) for every Muslim to pursue jihad against tyrannical regimes that camouflage Islam.

The account user “**tchtbfrtb**” (pic. 30) posted a video with an Arabic song, showing the movement of the military echelon (of, most probably, the Taliban). This video explicitly glorifies the use of force.

The account user “**mujahid.787**” (pic. 31) argues that the death is inevitable for everyone, brave or cowardice propagating to be fearless and not afraid of dying in the name of religion.

The account user “**abu_saloh_ustoz**” (pic. 32) states that education and Jihad are hostile to each other. The user “**abu_saloh_ustoz**” also argues that education is important for internal defence, but jihad is important for external defence from infidels. This user is also seemingly ISIS sympathiser.



Author’s note:

These publications propagate for using violence, calling for Jihad. Most of these published videos have a target audience, they glorify using violence to achieve the end they wish; therefore, they create the belief that dying for the idea and religion is not dangerous rather it is a glory. Also, these videos present jihad as a “tool” for the violence. In the case of video materials published by account “**abu saloh ustoz**”, the narrator questions and annuls every traditional value in Islam regarding the concept of jihad and education.



– During the reporting period, condemnation for the Taliban’s letter congratulating women’s day was discussed negatively, within the context of condemning the Taliban, while prominent Central Asian clerics were highlighted discussing the conflict in Syria.

Telegram user **Asadulloh Urganchiy** | **Асадуллох Урганчи** has 661 subscribers (pic. 33,34). The channel mainly propagates and calls for making jihad, fighting nonbelievers. The latest posts were published in March 2023. As most of the episodes were about the “International women’s day.”, the narrator strongly criticized the Taliban government’s 8 march congratulatory letter for Afghani women.

Telegram user **JIHOD FIQH** has 21 subscribers (pic. 35-38). The channel mainly propagates and calls for making jihad, fighting nonbelievers. The latest posts were published in March 2023. As most of the episodes were about the “International women’s day.”, the narrator strongly criticized the Taliban government’s 8 march congratulatory letter for Afghani women.

Telegram user “👉 **Mujohidlar**” has 72 subscribers (this number might increase) (pic. 39-44). The channel mainly propagates and calls for fighting nonbelievers (mushriks) as well as there are videos of famous clerics (Sodiq Samarqandiy, Abdulloh Zufar, Abu Saloh) who call for fighting and “jihad”. In one video material the religious cleric (Abu Saloh) calls for jihad in Syria and talks about the atrocities that were carried out “nonbelievers” in Syria. “👉 **Mujohidlar**” could potentially align itself with ISIS.

Tajik language content



– a major theme across Tajik reporting was anger towards the political authority in Tajikistan, as well as the treatment of Tajiks working in Russia.

Groups and users of Facebook in Tajik language posted about 170 materials in June 2023. Those materials shared almost 2.5 thousand times and over 3,6 thousand times received reactions.



Facebook profile named “**Abdukodir Talbakov**” (pic. 45) was created on May 4, 2012. The monitoring of this profile revealed that most published contents were mainly about the ancient Zoroastrianism and Atheism. Further monitoring also showed that propagating nationalism and praising Tajik language through belittling the role of Persian language were also dominant content on this profile. Moreover, there were posts and photo materials too displaying the attributes of the assumed armed militant groups and extremist.

“**Group-24**” (pic. 46) is a political organization which has pages on various social media platforms including Facebook and YouTube as well as it has a website called “**guruhiz4.net**”. This organization publishes different materials mainly about political dissatisfaction, criticism against Emomali Rahmon’s policy in Tajikistan. On Facebook, the group also published post about “miserable lives” of Tajik migrants in Russia. Also, on its website, the organization publishes various publications mostly about socio-political issues in Tajikistan with looking at it from historical point of view.



– all the monitored accounts shared similarities in form with video material posted highlighting fighting scenes with the same speeches playing over the top by prominent clerics². Most of the observed material appeared ISIS affiliated or interested. References to Syria and the ongoing conflict and jihad there.

Instagram user “**muwahido3**” (144 followers, 31 likes, 2 comments) (pic. 47) in the last month, posted 6 short videos. Posted videos visualize fighting scenes with a background music and the narrator’s voice included. This account motto reads as a following “*Бишитобед ба суи ҷиҳод Мо ҳаргиз хаста намешавем ва наздик ҳаст сарҳоятон зада шавад Мунофиқону Муртаддин сари роҳи моро ҳеҷгоҳ нахоҳенд гурифт*” (Rush to Jihad We will never get tired, and your heads will soon be hit. Hypocrites and Apostates will never get in our way) which clearly shows the purpose of this user. In one posted video, the priest (Абу Убайдуллоҳ Мутавакил Раҳимахуллаҳ), with a great enthusiasm, while standing at the pulpit speaks about the essence of “Jihad” and says, “*nothing is higher than Allah’s will as Jihad is the wishes of Allah, it is that much holy endeavour*”.

User “**hanzala_shamiy**” (8440 followers, 11 posts, 140 likes) posted 8 videos in June 2023 (pic. 48). The account’s motto is “*Ай аҳли тавҳид баргардед ба суи Аллоҳ #ҷиҳод #Идлиб #хилофат*   *барои тамос*” (O people of monotheism, return to Allah Jihad Idlib caliphate to contact). This user propagates how important the Jihad is and as well as calls for defending Muslim’s lands from nonbelievers. Also, the user posted a video where a cleric³ (pic...) preaches that “the only way to defeat and drive Israel out of the Palestine land is jihad and fight.”⁴ Based on the propaganda materials posted, and the flag on this page (pic...) the user seems to be the supporter of “HTI”.

Instagram user “**ulamoi_hakoni**” (840 followers, 45 posts (June-July 9 posts only), 3205 likes and 98 comments) published 9 posts in June (pic. 49-54). Almost all these posts on this account share similarities with the content of “**hanzala_shamiy**” account with small difference. Posts here also visualise fighting scenes. In one post, there is a caption “*Аз Абузар (р) ривоят аст ки гуфт гуфтам ё Расулуллоҳ кадом амал беҳтар аст Паёмбар фармуд имон ба Аллоҳ овардан ва дар роҳаш ҷиҳод кардан (ҳадис саҳеҳ Бухори 1287 боби ҷиҳод)*” (It is narrated from Abu Dharr (may Allah be pleased with him) that he said, "O Messenger of Allah, which action is better?" The Prophet commanded to believe in Allah and strive in His path (Sahih Bukhari 1287 chapter of Jihad).). Praising jihad, calling for the emigration to the warzones (hijrat) were dominating narratives in these posts. Based on the posts published on the page and flag it could potentially be an HTI sympathiser.

Instagram user “**abu_qudoma_shamiy**” (1094 followers, 26 posts, 162 likes, 32 comments, 630 seen) (pic. 55) with the posted materials openly propagates for killing and being killed. Moreover, the posts glorify killing for the sake of religion and belief. The motto of the account goes as “*Ай мусалмонон баргардед ба суи Аллоҳ бишитобед ба суи Тавҳид ҳиҷрат кунед ҷиҳод кунед кушед кушта шавед. Диёри Мубораки Шом Идлиб Сурия*” (O Muslims, return to Allah, hurry to Tawheed, (Oneness of God) migrate to Jihad, kill, and be killed. The land of Mubarak Sham, Idlib, Syria). (Probably an ISIS)

Instagram user “**blogi_tojik**” (273 followers, 31 posts, 853 likes and 125 comments) posted 10 materials in June 2023 (pic. 56). Most of the posts on this account are about Idlib, Syria.

² *Michibu Rahmoni Ansori (Муҷибу Раҳмони Ансорӣ), Abu Ubayduloh Mutawakil (Абу Убайдуллоҳ Мутавакил).*

³ This cleric seems to be based in Afghanistan and viciously propagate Jihad.

⁴ <https://www.instagram.com/p/Cukrfq4oVMJ/>

There are posts about the concept of life and death, the condition of youth. Moreover, the posts call for fighting for Islam. The user also has an account on Telegram named “**Blogi_tojik**” (207 subscribers) where he posts almost similar contents with this Instagram account. Apart from it, the user also has a personal account on Telegram named “**Muslim_muhojir**” where he probably recruits people. (Probably an ISIS)

Instagram user “**_muhsin_tj**” (98 posts, 1947 followers, 6174 likes, 1134 comments, 320514 seen) as the account’s motto indicates the posts are mostly about jihad, Syria, Islamic Khalifate, Sham, Idlib (“#Идлиб #Сурия #Шом #Муҷоҳид #Хилофат #Ҷиход #Мужоҳид #Ҷанг #Ҳақ #Давлатиисломи #Мухсинтҷ #Сирия #Муҳсинтҷ #Халифат #Ҷиход #Жиход”) (pic. 57). Although there are no published posts in June 2023, the account is posting materials periodically. (Probably ISIS)

1.2. Report for July 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Key points

In this report, we monitored Uzbek and Tajik language segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the month of June 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms⁵.

- *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, includes reporting from battlefield, as well as calls for people to come and fight. Specific references to Russian attacks and retribution for them. Most reporting (in both Tajik and Uzbek) that was observed appeared from Idlib, with little from ISIS controlled areas.*
- *Propagating social justice through fighting against corruption and nepotism – particular focus in Tajik reporting. Abuse of Tajik migrants in Russia also highlighted.*
- *Quran burning in Sweden – calls for Ambassador’s to be sent home, accusations that enemy states are supportive of the sacrilege rather than it being isolated individuals*
- *Some discussion of events in Palestine, with condemnation observed on Uzbek language contents in particular against Muslim Middle Eastern soldiers who were failing to use their weapons to defend Palestinians.*
- *Jihad as an education. This is a constant theme across material during the reporting period, with prominent Central Asian clerics Sodiq Samarqandiy, Abdulloh Zufar, and Abu Saloh all being particularly featured on some channels discussing this within the context of Syria.*
- *Call for Jihad to fight in foreign lands as well as against governments and authorities of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.*
- *Promoting of the idea that there should be a religious struggle against the political system in Uzbekistan and calls for this struggle to be waged silently.*
- *Posting contradictory and inconsistent content on one’s page (“Abu Huseyn” on Facebook).*
- *Some users showed total hostility towards the USA, Russia and Iran that means that these users could be aligned with any terrorist organisation fighting Assad regime.*
- *Promoting the idea of non-interference in religion matters by governments of Central Asia, arguing about the impossibility of separating politics from religion. References to the governments of Central Asian secular countries for their failure to rule their countries.*

⁵ The reporting period covered 22 Uzbek language Facebook accounts with over 20 thousand audience and 3 Tajik language Facebook profiles with over 14 thousand (both friends and followers combined), 8 Uzbek language Instagram with more than 15 thousand audience and 7 Tajik language Instagram accounts with over 22 thousand audience along with 9 Uzbek language Telegram messenger users (both individual users and groups) with more than 1146 active subscribers and 2 Tajik language Telegram messenger users with more than 772 active subscribers.

- *Glorification the idea of dying bravely for Jihad by publishing videos of dead fighters surrounded by grieving wives and children. They present these deaths as sacrifices to liberate those Muslims who suffer at the hands of nonbelievers.*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China - no prominent mention
- Afghanistan (and South Asia more widely – Pakistan in particular) – in one post on Faceook, the narrator mentioned Pakistan and Afghanistan in their fight against Americans in Afghanistan, in a context of explaining the role of jihad.
- Leadership changes - no prominent mention
- Funding/fundraising (methodologies in particular, but any discussion/comment observed is useful to hear about) - no prominent mention
- Travel patterns (discussions/evidence of action/suggested routes) - no prominent mention

Uzbek language content



Instagram

The Instagram user «*ahliddin.navqotiy*» (393 followers, 43 posts) posted 6 videos calling for Jihad. For the most part, videos are in a story telling style with background historical fighting scenes pictures and music. There are several videos about Muslim leaders' heroism (including Prophet Muhammad) in strengthening Islam. Moreover, videos call for Jihad through not only referencing the holy script but also bringing personal heroism of the historical Muslim leaders as an example for every Muslim to follow.



Author's note: During the monitoring period, it's revealed that there are some changes can be observed in propagating styles for delivering messages.

The Instagram user «*abu_saloh_ustoz*» (2602 followers 90 posts) published 7 videos on this profile. Videos on his profile mainly call for jihad (pic. 1,2). These videos mainly criticise Uzbek authority on duple standards. Moreover, the narrator emphasizes that despite the pressures from secular government similar to Uzbekistan, Jihad is spreading. The narrator calls for doctors and IT specialists to start Jihad. He says “Те, кто не может лично участвовать в джихаде на поле боя могут помогать финансово или просто распространять ее идею вокруг” (Those who cannot personally participate in jihad on the battlefield can help financially or simply spread its message around). The account is likely the supporter of ISIS.

The Instagram user «*abuvalid.videolar*» (75 post 1739 followers) During the period of 20 days 5 videos were posted calling Muslims for jihad in Syria. The account is likely the supporter of ISIS. During the monitoring period the profile has been deleted. (pic. 46)

The Instagram user «*xolis.nazar*» (241 posts, 2445 followers) posted 10 videos. In his posts he speaks about daily life in Syria, criticizes the authorities of the country for indifference to the “suffering Muslim population” in Syria and shows the beautiful nature of Idlib. In one video post, he goes to the refugee camp in place called **Harbanush** wherein, as he says, more than 250 families are located. He asked locals if the Russians had been saving Muslims from America’s oppression. To which locals answered that They are both killing Muslims. Therefore, more than 80-85 percent of total killed people were children and women. He also talks about atrocities that have been done by Iranians. This user could be aligned with any terrorist organisation fighting Assad regime.

During the monitoring period, the Instagram user “*yusufmedia_*” (484 posts, 6145 followers) published 17 videos of religious content, and promoted that Islam should not be controlled by the government, criticized Uzbek government for imprisoning Muslims who try to follow Islam and religious lifestyle (pic.3). This account user also promotes Muslims for Jihad by using the same technique - telling stories about heroism of historic Muslim leaders.

During the monitoring period, the Instagram user “*axi_holid*” (110 posts, 165 followers) posted 37 videos containing violence, scenes of fighting as well as suffered fighters, and called those who need weapons (to commit jihad) to get them by any means, including violence and robbing weapons stores in their hometowns. (pic. 3,4,5,6,7) Moreover, he shows videos that criticize Erdogan’s policy blaming him for being “Pro-American”. He also calls Muslims for jihad by posting videos about stories of Muslim women being raped, abused and call Muslims making Jihad for protecting women.

The Instagram user “*dinim.islam_17_*” (29 posts, 1873 followers) posted 9 videos promoting jihad, as well as content containing the suffering of Muslims in conflict areas such as Syria and Iraq. (pic. 8,9,10,11). Also, he posted the video of prominent Uzbek preacher, Abu Saloh, calling aggressively for jihad between two men holding weapon. Furthermore, he calls for Jihad by posting songs and speeches that propagate Muslims to sacrifice themselves on the path of jihad.

During this monitoring period, the Instagram user “*al_istiqoma777*” (23 posts, 309 followers) posted 3 videos containing an active call for jihad, using pictures of weapons and scenes of violence. (pic. 12) The profile also published the video that calls for jihad through calling for Muslims to sacrifice their lives and properties.

Websites

The website named “**turkiston.biz**” (<https://lotin.turkiston.biz/2023/07/17/islom-ummati-hizb-ut-tahrir-bilan-birgalikda-harakat-qilishga-shoshilmog'i-darkor/>) published an article titled “Islom Ummati Hizb ut-Tahrir bilan birgalikda harakat qilishga shoshilmog'i darkor” (The Islamic Ummah should hurry to act together with Hizb ut-Tahrir) where the author argues that “Xalifalikni barpo qilishga qaratilgan faoliyat yakka tartibda yoki tavakkaliga qilinadigan faoliyat emas. Aksincha, siyosiy, ongli, xolis va qodir uyushma safida.....” (The attempt aimed at establishing the caliphate is not the one to be done individually or at your own risk. On the contrary, it is in the ranks of a political, conscious, impartial, and capable association.....). On the Webpage there are also materials from YouTube, both about “Hizb ut-Tahrir”. The first is called “Hizbut-Tahrirni paydo bo'lishi”

(EMERGENCE OF HIZBUT-TAHRIR) the other is called “ҲИЗБУТ ТАҲРИРДАН БАРЧА СИЁСИЙ ПАРТИЯЛАРНИНГ АЪЗОЛАРИ ВА ФАОЛЛАРИГА ХОЛИС ДАЪВАТ” (An impartial call from Hizbut-Tahrir to the members and activists of all political parties). In the second video, the narrator calls for starting political fight against “imperialists” and their helpers. This Web resource support the ideology of “Hizb ut-Tahrir”.



Telegram

During the monitoring period, the telegram user “*Turkistonuz*” (308 followers) published 35 posts. These posts are mainly about current political events with criticism against the government authorities as well as their policies. There are ample of posts about Palestine as well as Kyrgyzstan. The post talks about Kyrgyzstan’s current pro-China foreign policy. Moreover, there are also several publications about terrorist organisation called “Hay’ati Tahriri Shom” (HTS) (as the post states, the organisation active in Syria’s Idlib). The post argues that the Islamic scientist Abu Sheikh al-Masriy was abducted and has not been returned for 6 days. Here is a little cut from the post “ҲТШга қарши бўлган олим ва адвокат Иъзас шаҳрида ўғирлаб кетилди Ислом олими Абу Шуайб ал-Масрий ва адвокат Исом Хатиб Ҳалабнинг шимолида жойлашган Иъзас шаҳрида Ҳайъати Таҳрири Шом (ҲТШ) кучлари тарафидан ўғирлаб кетилди...” “Anti-HTS scholar and lawyer abducted in I’zaz Islamic scholar Abu Shuayb al-Masri and lawyer Isam Khatib were kidnapped by Hay’ati Tahriri al-Sham (HTS) forces in Izaz, north of Aleppo.” Ased on the posted materials the account is likely the supporter of “Hizb ut-Tahrir”.

During this monitoring period, the telegram user “*Муаллиф: Шайх Хофиз ибн Аҳмад олу Ҳакамий*” (83 followers) published posts mainly about “Aqoid ilmi” (the science of belief) in a question answer format.

The following former active accounts: *Mujohidlar (not found)*, *Asadulloh Urganchiy (the last post was published in March, 23)*, *Мухажер (the last post was published in March, 23)*, *AL-HAQ MEDIA (no posts in July)* are not found during this monitoring period. The users called “*TOLIBI ILM BEZAGI*”, “*QISQA DARS*” hasn’t posted anything since las May.



Facebook

Facebook user *Islam Abu Khalil (4962 friends)*, *Жавохурбек Усмонов (3097 friends)* During the last month, these accounts have been actively publishing the same content containing of religious posts, as well as reposting posts of banned extremist organizations, such as Hizb ut-Tahrir Uzbekistan, and also criticizing the policy of the Uzbek authorities. The profiles were found publishing posts in which they discuss and prove that the policies of Western countries are hostile to Islam, calling people to Jihad and the creation of a Caliphate. (pic. 16,17,18,19,20). The profile *Жавохурбек Усмонов* published the ISIS flag as its profile image (pic. 21). The accounts are likely the supporter of the terrorist organisations called Hizb-ut Tahrir and ISIS.

During this monitoring period, Facebook user "**Turkiston**" (4900 followers) published various videos of a news format about current international events, such as summits, visits etc. criticizing the secular countries policies. This profile's publications on Facebook are similar to its Telegram account's content during this monitoring period.

Facebook user **Asadulloh Turkiy** (142 followers) it was observed showing posts from other accounts that contain scenes of weapons usage (pic. 27), and interviews about the recent histories of various fights. This user reposted from other account named "**Bilol Sohib**" about the role of women "Birgina ayolning dinida sobit turishi, munofiq din dushmanlariga mingta erkakning sobit turishidan og'irroqdir. {Ona madrasadir, uning to'g'riligi sababli madrasa o'quvchilari bo'lgan jamiyat tuzaladi}" (The steadfastness of one woman in her religion is more difficult for the steadfastness of a thousand men in fighting against hypocritical enemies of religion. The mother is the madrasa, due to its correctness, the society with the students of the madrasa will be improved). There is also video message in which the speaker gives his view on jihad by citing different directions of Islam. He also calls out some religious priests as "Saroy mullalari" (palace mullahs (priests)) for spreading "distorted" descriptions of true Jihad. This account seems to support the ideology of ISIS.

Facebook user "**Muhojir tactical**" (87 followers, 12 likes) It was found that the account mainly shows post such as calling for jihad and scenes of weapons usage, as well as teaches and shows how to use weapons. (pic. 30,31) The author also shares with its own combat experience. The account is likely the supporter of the terrorist organisation called ISIS.

Facebook user "**Abu Zubayr**" (135 followers) mainly published posts calling for jihad and scenes of weapons usage (pic. 33), as well as reposting posts of **Muhojir tactical** profile. It is also found illustrating videos of new fighters, videos criticizing the Uzbek authorities (pic.34,35), as well as interviews of fighters in Syria. In his videos he says that Jihad is a great glory, but not a mistake as the government authorities says.

Facebook user **Abdulloh Marvon** (843 followers) was observed to be posting materials mainly calling for jihad. The user accuses the Uzbek authority of injustice and cruelty because of which so many young people are leaving the country for Jihad. He also argues that many young men are being imprisoned in Uzbekistan for simply sharing "nasheeds" (songs with areligious content). (pic. 36). The account is likely the supporter of the terrorist organisation called Hizb-ut Tahrir.

During the monitored period, the Facebook user **Yusuf Buxoriy** (2738 friends) published religious videos, as well as calling for jihad in his posts. (pic. 38,39) In their videos they quote Uztoz Abdul Aziz "Pokiston bizga yerini ochib berdi, biz bu yerda turib Afgonistonda Jihodimizni qildik va 12 yilda Amerikani sindirib yubordik. Bu ishni qilgan kim? Albatta mujohidlar" (Pakistan shared its land to us, we lived here with our families and commit our jihad in Afghanistan and we have defeated America in 12 years. Who did it? Mujahideen, of course) The main idea of the video is that there is no absolute bonus in Jihad, you can get something but partially. The profile also promotes the idea of spreading Islamic ideas more deeply in every professional and social spheres.

Facebook user **Abu Huseyn** (4331 friends) is found to be publishing religious posts, as well as posts criticizing the policy of Uzbekistan (pic. 40) and promoting Jihad. In his post, he promotes the idea that there should be a religious struggle against the political system in Uzbekistan and calls for this struggle to be waged silently. However, in another post he

criticizes those who fight anonymously, which is very controversial to his first statements. Here we can see a clear contradiction of ideology. (pic. 46,47).

Facebook user **Mehmon Adolad** was observed posting messages of religious content on his page, it was found that most of the religious messages belong to Sodyq Samarqandiy. In his videos he actively criticizes the policy of Uzbekistan authorities and refers to the various social problems of the country. (pic. 41,42,43,44,45).

Facebook user **Фарук Шаму (Фарук Шаму) (1,2 followers)** during the last months only posted materials containing his daily life. Among his posts there was an interview with the president of the Ukrainian Congress of Peoples of Dagestan. In this interview, these official claims that today Ukraine is waging a war against the three "main evils" of the world, namely China, Russia and Iran. He is convinced that Russia's victory in the war will entail disastrous consequences for Muslims all over the world, because Russia, having won, will be able to influence Europe as well, and it will also implement and spread its destructive policy towards Muslims.

Tajik language content



Facebook

The Facebook user «**Abu Usoma**» (**391 friends**) was quite active during this monitoring period. The content this profile publishes are mainly about two things. 1. Call for jihad by giving examples from the Quran 2. Stories about historical Islamic figures as an example for Muslims to follow. There are also just posts teaching about different aspects of Muslims daily life. These posts were supplemented with illustrations of armed militants.

The Facebook user «**Маҳмудхон Бурҳонов**» (**2.8k friends**) reposted articles of news agencies such as Euronews, Reuter, and Foreign Policy, al Jazeera etc. After the incident with the burning of the Quran in Sweden, the author reposted videos of protests, and also criticized this action.

The Facebook user «**Group-24**» (**11k followers**) mainly posted and reposted video messages containing harsh criticism against the authority of Tajikistan, showing videos of conflicts between the citizens and some representatives of authorities etc.



Instagram



Over the past month, the Instagram user «**_muhsin_tj**» (**1,9k followers**), posted four videos in Tajik mainly calling for jihad. During the monitoring period, the page mainly contained educational materials about Jihad thus there is not specific exclamations or calls for migrating somewhere for Jihad. Thereby, the narrator, in these video tutorials manifests the abandoning jihad as a great sin. As posts on this account are mainly for an educational purpose about Jihad, it's very difficult to identify the alignment of this Instagram user.

The Instagram user «**abu_qudoma_shamuy**» (**1,1k followers**) recently published three videos of a religious nature as well as one video calling for jihad. The content of the posts during the monitoring period is aimed at promoting jihad and recruiting new members. In addition, the page expresses political views and opinions aimed at creating an Islamic state Tajikistan. Also, one video displays (with background music) the scene of several men

in military uniform with arms hugging each other and praying. Based on the video content along with the tutorials, the main purpose of this channel seems to attract more recruiters to join the ranks of the terrorist organisations.

During the monitoring period, the Instagram user «**muwahido3**» (165 followers, motto “**Биширобед ба суи чиҳод**” (Rush to Jihad) “Мо ҳаргиз хаста намешавем ва наздик ҳаст сарҳоятон зада шавад Мунофиқону Муртаддин сари роҳи моро ҳеҷгоҳ нахоҳенд гирифт” (We will never get tired, and your heads will soon be hit. Hypocrites and Apostates will never get in our way.) published 9 videos over the last month containing scenes of violence, illustrations of the ISIS flag as well as a video praising Osama bin Laden. Also, the video materials show leaders of extremist groups, images of battles and brutality.

In one narrated video, there are brutal beheading scenes displayed. This video also illustrates ISIS flag and probably propagating ISKP ideology as there are moments in video clip where some Taliban leaders’ faces were showed with an “X” on it. At the beginning and at the end of the video clip there is a writing as “инҷо хуросонаст сарзамини шеронаст” (This is Khorosan, the land of lions). This account, based on the content posted, appears to promote Jihad and support ISKP in Afghanistan.

During the monitoring period, 23 posts of the Instagram user “**hanzala_shamiy**” (8,3k followers) were monitored. The account’s motto is “Ай аҳли тавҳид баргардед ба суи Аллоҳ #чиҳод #Идлиб #хилофат   барои тамос” (O people of monotheism, return to Allah Jihad Idlib caliphate to contact). The analysis of the content shows that posts are mainly about calling to Jihad. In addition, situations on the battlefield, giving instructions on how to work with weapons, and scenes of women using weapons are also observed. The main photo of this profile illustrates the flag of Al-Qaeda thereby, the account seems to be aligned with Al-Qaeda’s ideology. The Instagram user «**ulamoi_hakoni**» (848 followers) posts the same content with “hanzala_shamiy ” as though both accounts are probably managed by the same person.

The posted videos by Instagram user «**blogi_tojik** » (280 followers) are likely filmed in Syria’s Idlib. The content is mainly about the daily life of the migrants who went to Syria and the conditions created for them. As many of the content about the social condition in Idlib, it’s quite difficult to assume that which terrorist group this user shares the ideology with. This user also runs a telegram account named “Blogi Tojik” (https://t.me/blogi_tojik). On its telegram page, “Blogi Tojik” provides a link to the personal account named “Muslim Muhojir”. As “Muslim Mihojir” on its page says “Барои тамос ва алоқа” (For contact and communication), this account could possibly manages travelling to Syria.

The Instagram user «**imonizulol**» (10,2k followers) it was found that the page operates in a religious-political direction, among the materials there are posts directed against the Tajik government, in addition, armed individuals and their leaders are often shown in the posts. From the observations, it was observed that the page actively propagates the ideologies of “Hizb-ut-Tahrir.

1.3. Report for 15 August to 15 September 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Key points

In this report, we monitored Uzbek and Tajik language segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the month of June 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms.


- o *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, includes reporting from battlefield, as well as calls for people to come and fight. Specific references to Russian attacks and retribution for them. Most reporting (in both Tajik and Uzbek) that was observed appeared from Idlib, with little from ISIS controlled areas.*
- o *Some reporting about social issues in Central Asian countries - Kyrgyzstan specifically together with searching houses of people in Turkmenistan.*
- o *Criticizing Uzbek government's religious policy (both restrictions on religious education and religious outfit - hijab) along with condemning religious clerks for being too pro-government. Also, some discussions about supporting Palestine.*
- o *Talking about the charitable foundation for supporting the Syrian people and calling on Muslims to finance it via transferring money.*
- o *Discussion about the efforts taken by the soviets on "modernization" and "secularization" in Central Asia and Caucasus.*
- o *Some video lessons were published about how to use weapons.*
- o *Jihad against the enemies of Islam was a constant theme across material during the reporting period, some channels discussing this within the context of Syria.*
- o *Call for Jihad to fight in foreign lands as well as against governments and authorities of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.*
- o *Discussions ranging from the Tajik migrants' lives being threatened in Russia and Tajik government's apathetic approach towards it to the Russian bombings in Syria have been at the centre on some social platforms.*
- o *Dismissing the Tajik president's comment about Afghanistan being a danger to Tajikistan was also observed.*
- o *Some observation found that the «Jihad in Media» being labelled as the greatest Jihad since everyone can join Jihad by posting extremist content via any available social networks. Some contents call for using extreme measures such as calling them "libertine" against people who don't wear hijab.*
- o *Some contents were calling for joining them in Syria for fighting against Russia, Iran, and Assad regime.*
- o *Observed contents were also discussed the Tajik government's affairs in imprisoning journalists, "killing" the people of free speech in Gorno- Badakhshan Autonomous Region.*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China - no prominent mention
- Afghanistan (and South Asia more widely – Pakistan in particular) – telegram channel named "Blogi Tojik" posted about Afghanistan and criticized president E. Rahmon's comment about Afghanistan was posing a danger on Tajikistan.

- Leadership changes - no prominent mention
- Funding/fundraising (methodologies in particular, but any discussion/comment observed is useful to hear about) – Facebook user “**Saad Muxtor**” posted a video in which the narrator talks about the charitable foundation they founded to help the Syrian people and called on Muslims to finance this fund via transfer money to it.
- Travel patterns (discussions/evidence of action/suggested routes) - no prominent mention

Uzbek language content

 - During the reporting period, channels published contents criticizing the religious leaders for being pro-government. There were also contents about education system of Uzbekistan where the publisher heavily criticizes it for the complete abandonment of Islamic traditions. Reports were also noticed about the charitable foundation for helping Syrian people. The publisher of this content actively calls for the Muslims to finance this fund via transfer money to it. Some contents criticizing Uzbek authority for jailing bloggers were also monitored.

The Facebook user **Islam Abu Khalil (4962 friends)** published videos criticising uzbek religious clerks for their comments about non-necessity of wearing a hijab (scarf for women to cover face). They also posted a video of religious clerks who sing the anthem and swear to serve the Uzbek people faithfully with the following comments «Ватан гимни асосида касамёд ичишиб уммат билан жанг қилишга таёрланишяпти» (*They have sworn on the anthem and are going to fight against the Ummah of Muslims*). Moreover, they published post with article

blaming the Uzbek government for providing the wrong educational system saying “Исломга эътиқод қилсалару, бироқ таълимнинг барча босқичларида Исломга зид бўлган таълим-тарбия олишса, улар қандай қилиб одоб- ахлоқли, ибо-ҳаёли, ҳалол-ҳаромни фарқлайдиган Исломий шахсиялар бўлиб етишишлари мумкин?!”. (*How can they grow up to be Muslims with all moral qualities when they are taught subjects that are forbidden in Islam?*) and reposted posts of banned extremist organizations, such as Hizb ut-Tahrir Uzbekistan, criticizing the policy of the Uzbek authorities. (pic. 1,2,3,4) Therefore, this account likely supports Hizb-ut Tahrir.

The Facebook user “**Turkiston**” has been actively publishing posts including articles about current political events in the world as well as criticizing the policy of Central Asian countries by posting the following «Turkmanistonda dindorlarning uylarida tintuv o‘tkazilmoqda» (*The houses of Muslims have been searched in Turkmenistan*) “Qirg‘iziston energiya sohasida favqulodda holat e’lon qildi” (*Kyrgyzstan declared a state of emergency in the energy sector*). “Turli bahonalar bilan masjid va madrasalar yopilmoqda!” (*Mosques and madrasas are closing with different excuses!*) (pic. 5,6,7).

The Facebook user **Abu Harun Oqtulpor (7,9k followers)** published videos calling the government of Uzbekistan the traitors of the nation and calling Uzbek religious clerks as “bastards of the palace (government)”. He also reposted from the user Islam Abu Khalil (pic.8). The profile image of this account illustrates flags of Taliban and Al-Qaeda. (pic.10) The Facebook user **Abdulloh Marvon (1,1k followers)** published posts illustrating photo

of a tortured young Palestinian man whose face was stamped with a burning star of David (pic.11) and the photo of fighters who were saying that they had been fighting for the liberation of Muslims even in 46-degree heat (pic.12). Moreover, they blame Bashar Assad's regime for desecration of the grave of one of the caliphs who ruled in the 8th century. They also criticize the Uzbek government for "restricting" hijab (scarf) as well as putting it as a main source of the early pregnancy among female students in schools (pic.13).

The Facebook user **Муҳаммад Тоҳир (550 followers)** posted videos some of which show the military trainings of fighters where the instructor for the fighters says, "If you don't commit Jihad, you are not under the grace of Allah" (pic.14). Posts also illustrate flags of Taliban and Al-Qaeda.

The Facebook user **Saad Muxtor (6,2k followers)** posted only videos in which the narrator talks about the charitable foundation they founded to help the Syrian people and called on Muslims to finance this fund via transfer money to it. Moreover, he also mentions that Muslims are suffering all over the world, particularly in Palestine, as well as in Central Asian countries where Muslims are forbidden to profess Islam. He also criticizes the government of Uzbekistan for restricting the wearing of niqabs. (pic.15,16)

The Facebook user **Yusuf Buxoriy** published videos where the narrators criticize the policy of Uzbekistan for imprisoning Muslims (pic.17), videos of a crowd tearing the flag of Israel, noting that Allah himself gives this sign to Muslims, urging them to fight against Israel (pic.18). They oppose the banning of channels promoting radical views, calling those who bans «them enemies of religion». (pic.19)

The Facebook user **Асирни Озод Қилунг (Asirniozodqiling) (1k followers)** posted 2 videos. One of it illustrates the starving and homeless people suffering in Syria, and in the next post they published money sent by volunteers to help the Syrian people. (pic.20,22)

The Facebook user **Фарук Шами (Фарук Шами)** only posted contents about his daily life. One post speaks about "modernization" and "secularization" efforts of soviet period: «Такое же масштабное влияние пропаганда оказала и на исламские народы СНГ и Кавказа в постсоветский период. Под знаменем "модернизации" и "секуляризации" многие из этих народов стали объектом активного внедрения новых культурных и социальных норм, часто абсолютно чуждых их историческим традициям.» (*"Propaganda had the same large-scale impact on the Islamic peoples of the CIS and the Caucasus in the post-Soviet period. Under the banner of "modernization" and "secularization", many of these peoples have become the object of the active introduction of new cultural and social norms, often completely alien to their historical traditions."*) (pic.23)

The Facebook user **Mehmon Adolad** he publishes a video in which the narrator talks about the greatness of the Central Asian region a long ago. Answering a question of why only a small part of a large empire remains today, he says that earlier our rulers always made war on those who unjustly oppressed minorities or Muslims, i.e., they were very fair and always protected weak nations, therefore Allah himself protected them. (this implies a parallel with a war for suffering Muslims and a hidden call to commit Jihad. The narrator is trying to say that in order to restore the former power of the country, it is necessary to do justice by saving Muslims) (pic.24). In one of his videos the narrator blames authorities for imprisonment of a blogger who openly criticized the government, promising that in case of creation of Caliphate in Uzbekistan such truthful people will be in power. (pic.25). Videos of this profile also include the following «С самого своего создания история России пропитана кровью невинных мусульман. Это продолжается еще со времен

Ивана Грозного мечтавшего завоевать и христианизировать мусульманские народы» (Since its creation, the history of Russia has been soaked in the blood of innocent Muslims. This has been going on since the time of Ivan the Terrible, who dreamed of conquering and Christianizing Muslim peoples). (pic. 26)



- couple of monitored profiles post videos instructing how to use weapons along with an active call for joining them in Syria for fighting against Russia, Iran, and Assad regime. Some observation found that the «Jihad in Media» being labelled as the greatest Jihad since everyone can join Jihad by posting extremist content via any available social networks. Some contents call for using extreme measures such as calling them “libertine” against people who don’t wear hijab.

The Instagram user «**muhojir_tactical**» published 20 posts during the monitored period. The contents this account posts (by Instructor Ayyub (one of the fighters)) mostly are dedicated to teaching active and potential jihadists how to fight and sharing life hacks for using on the battlefield as well as calling Muslims all over the world come to Syria and join a real Jihad. In one of his videos, he mentions how they fought against Russia, Iran, and the Syrian authorities. They also publish videos saying that in 2018, their fighters released civilians from prisons held by Iranians, Russians, and the Assad government, thereby, positing themselves as saviours and defenders of peaceful Muslims living in Syria. (pic.27,28,29,30,31). This page is seemingly the sympathizer/supporter of group called “Katibati Bukhari”.

The Instagram user «**Muhojirtactical**» published only 3 videos during the monitored period. This profile is almost similar to «muhojir_tactical» (Instructor Ayuub). They published video lessons of how to use the weapons. Moreover, some difference of this account from the previous one is that in addition to the fighting scenes, they also published a video in which the Instructor Ayyub gives an interview in his house, talking about his family and daily life trying to present it in a way that fighters also have a normal life. These types of interviews seem to be prepared in order to attract even more people who want to come to Syria. (pic.32). This page is seemingly the sympathizer/supporter of group called “Katibati Bukhari”.

The Instagram user «**ukkosha87**» published 8 videos calling Muslims for Jihad without specifying the country and place. This profile mainly reposts videos of Akhmad Medinsky and Nodir Abu Khalid who are loyal to ISIS. (pic.33,34)

The Instagram user **usama_b21 (211 followers)** published 3 videos during the monitored period criticizing Uzbek religious clerics and illustrating suffering people. The content implies that Muslims are the only ones who can protect them, thereby calling them to commit Jihad.

The Instagram user **hamza_shomiy (576 followers)** has published 3 videos during this monitoring period among which a video containing of scenes of fighting (pic.35) and the video glorifying the personality of Abduvali Qori. (pic.36) The narrator in such videos says that the greatest Jihad is «Jihad in Media», saying that everyone can join to Jihad by recruiting extremist content via any available social networks (pic.37)

The Instagram user **ahliddin.navqotiy (586 followers)** published 12 videos during this monitoring period. The videos have a quote from the Quran arguing that Muslims should finance and support jihad with everything they have, even if it is a little thing (pic.38). These videos are mainly about glorifying the idea of getting suffered in the name of Allah

(pic.39), praising Jihad by portraying it as a war between the nonbelievers and Allah (pic.40), criticizing Uzbek religious clerks and blaming them on distancing Muslims from a true Islam.

The Instagram user ***abu_saloh_ustoz*** (2,6 followers) published four videos. These videos speak about mistakes that Mujahideen and ordinary people can make as well as the qualities of the best Mujahideen, raising children as a loyal fighter. (pic.40) The account is likely the sympathiser of ISIS.

The Instagram user ***saadmuxtor_live*** (3k followers) was found to be publishing the same content as on his Facebook account.

The Instagram user ***xolis.nazar*** (2.5k followers) published 16 videos. The videos speak about the daily life in Syria, criticizes the authorities of the country for their indifference to the “suffering Muslim population” in Syria and shows the daily life of Idlib. The videos also show ruined parts of the cities and blame the Iranian, Russian and Assad’s forces for it. In videos, the disaster in Ghouta was mentioned where a chemical attack by Assad government as it’s put, killed thousands of people. (pic.41,42,43)

The Instagram user ***asirni_ozod_qiling*** (1,2 followers) published 2 posts calling Muslims to help suffering Muslims in Syria by sending money. “Умматнинг бир қисми қийналиб-азоб чекаётган пайтда қолган қисми ёрдамга сафарбар бўлмаса, демак умматнинг танаси ўлик ёки сархушдир.” (*If the rest of the nation does not mobilize for help while part of the nation is struggling and suffering, then the body of the nation is dead or drunk.*)

The Instagram user ***yusufmedia_*** (6,3 followers) posted similar content to its Facebook page. In addition to criticizing the government of Uzbekistan for restricting the wearing of hijab in public places and posted video saying that Muslims cannot live along with Buddhists. (pic.44,45)

The Instagram user ***faruq_info*** (2,7k followers) posted similar content with Facebook page named “Фарук Шахи”.

The Instagram user ***shom_minbari*** (1,9k followers) published similar content with Instagram user “***abu_saloh_ustoz***”. The account is likely the supporter of ISIS.

The Instagram user ***roshodhon_domla*** (25k followers) mainly published videos talking about the rules of the life according to Sharia. In of the videos, the narrator calls Muslim men for not allowing women to wear open clothes, if they see one on the street, then call her a libertine (pic.46)

The Instagram user ***nashida_uzo*** (364 followers) published videos mainly about praising Islam, the path of jihad. (pic.47)

The Instagram user ***xarunn_1*** (2k followers) posted videos praising jihad and suicide bombings. Along with reposted videos of such clerks as Takhir Yuldash, Shayx sodiq Samarqandiy, Shayx Abduvaki Qori, Abdulloh Zufar Hafizahulloh etc. (pic. 48,49,50,51)

The Instagram user ***abu15688*** (109 followers) posted videos in which the user called for the commission of jihad in the name of the liberation of women in prisons in Syria. Moreover, they promoted the idea of enmity between Sunnis and Shiites. (pic. 52,53)

The Instagram user ***muhojir_life*** (1.4k followers) published a post calling for jihad “Ular bilan jang qilinglar, (shunda) Alloh ularni sizlarning qo‘lingiz bilan azoblaydi” (*Fight with them, and Allah will punish them with your hands*). This post had a photo of Twin Towers surrounded with planes. This page also posted a video about the chemical attack in Ghouta where thousands of people were “killed by the Assad

government". (Pic. 52A, 53B)

The Instagram user **abudirar (256 followers)** posted videos calling Muslims for joining jihad in Syria along with a video where the fighter shows a video of a signed missiles as a gift from the Ansar al-Tawhid terrorist group for Assad's militants. (pic. 54, 55) He also published a post celebrating the twenty- two anniversaries of September 11, 2001. (pic.56)



– posts were observed to criticize the government of Central Asian countries for their religious policies.

The telegram user **Turkistonuz (298 followers)** published the same materials as on their Facebook account "**Turkiston**". Several posts share similarities as they mostly criticize the religious policies of Central Asian countries.

Tajik language sources



– Observed content on Facebook were mostly about calling for jihad with a specific attention given to the role of Usama bin Laden in the events of September 11. Observed contents were also discussed the Tajik government's affairs in imprisoning journalists, "killing" the people of free speech in Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region.

The Facebook user "**Abu Usoma**" published posts about the September 11, 2001, saying the following: "В память о Соединенных Штатах Америки в целом и их собаках в частности говорим им: Пусть ваш год будет полон печали, страха и безумия" (*In memory of the United States of America in*

general and their dogs in particular, we say to them: May your year be full of sadness, fear and madness). He also published post praising the personality of Usama ben Laden "Давайте не будем забывать, что сегодня был тот день, когда ход истории изменился, и сердце врага было нацелено. Современные джихадские движения следили за этими операциями, и это повысило их моральный дух, и все они были совершенством ревностного сына ислама Шейха Осамеха. Он был основателем современного джихада. Исламская умма должна уважать Шейха Осаму как имама и следовать его примеру." (*"Let's not forget that today (11.9) was the day when the course of history changed and the enemy's heart was targeted. The modern jihadist movements followed these operations, and it boosted their morale, and they were all the perfection of the zealous son of Islam, Sheikh Osameh. He was the founder of modern jihad.*

The Islamic Ummah should respect Sheikh Osama as an imam and follow his example."). Moreover, the user also published posts about promoting Jihad: "Джихад-это дух уммы. В джихаде жизнь этой уммы. Так же, как Луна не может жить без воды, эта община будет унижена и унижена без джихада." (*Jihad is the spirit of the Ummah. The life of this ummah is in jihad. Just as the Moon cannot live without water, this community will be humiliated without jihad.*) (pic. 57,58,59). This page seems to be s supporter of Al-Qaida.

The Facebook user "**Group-24**" (**3,1 followers**) mainly posted about criticizing the Tajik authorities for injustice and cruelty. In one of such posts the user writes the following: "Иқдоми ҷинояткоронаи режим дар ду соли ахир, зиндонӣ кардани рӯзноманигор, қатлу куштори чехраҳои бонуфузи озодандеши мардумӣ дар Вилояти Мухтори

Кӯҳистони Бадахшон ва ба зиндон равона кардани ҷавонони озодфикр ва намояндагони ҷомеаи шахрвандӣ ва инак боздошти нависандагон ҳушдорест, ки "эй мардум, фардо навбати шумост!" (*The criminal step of the regime over the past two years has imprisoned journalists, killed freedom-loving people in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region and sent young people to prison, and here is the arrest of writers as warning: "Oh people, tomorrow it's your turn!"*) (pic.60)



– most observed contents are centred around fights in Syria (by Guraba Turkestan battalion), showing young children being trained including ISIS inclined video posts.

The Instagram user “**_muhsin_tj**” (1,9k followers) published only one video called “Маълумоти мухтасар оиди охири чангҳои дар Сурия шуда истода 2023.” (*Information about the latest fights in Syria 2023*) where he talks about their fights against Assad’s forces. (pic. 61)

The Instagram user “**muwahido3**” (299 followers) published two videos illustrating young children during military trainings (pic.62), as well as a video praising ISIS (pic.63) The Instagram user “**hanzala_shamy**” (8,3 followers) published video of the military operation of the Guraba Turkestan battalion in the west of Aleppo. Moreover, they published 3 videos showing Muslim women being discriminated and suffered. The user called for the whole Ummah to fight in order to prevent such violations (pic. 64,65,66,67) The Instagram user “**ulamoi_hakoni**” (886 followers) published the same material as the Instagram user “**hanzala_shamy**”

The Instagram user **axi muvahibinn** (69 followers) posted religious videos as well as videos with lectures by religious clerks, such as Ahmad Medinsky, Sheikh Abdulzohiri Doi, Ustod Abu Ubaydullo etc. (pic. 68)



– Ranging from the Tajik migrants’ lives being threatened in Russia and Tajik government’s apathetic approach towards it to the Russian bombings in Syria have been at the centre of the posts published on this telegram channel. Dismissing the Tajik president’s comment about Afghanistan being a danger to Tajikistan was also observed.

During the monitored period Telegram user “**Blogi Tojik**” (227 followers) published posts including a video of Tajiks who have suffered rudeness from law enforcement agencies in Russia, as well as the video of Tajik migrant being attacked by two Russian citizens: “Ҳукумати Тоҷикистон чаро имрӯз чорае намеандешад барои муҳоҷирон дар Русия?” (*Why is the Government of Tajikistan not taking action for Tajik migrants in Russia?*) (pic.69, 69A). The user posted a text He published anti-russian posts saying that “Минтақаи Чабал Ал Завия ки дар ҷануби шаҳри Идлиб ҷойгир аст аз дируз то ҳол аз ҷониби ҳавопаймоҳои ҳарбӣ, ракетаҳо ва силоҳҳои вазнини ишғолгари Расия бомбардон шуда истодааст. Дар зери ин бомбардони ваҳшиёнаи Расияи ишғолгар хонаҳои халқи бегуноҳи ин минтақа аз байн рафта ва мардум минтақаро тарк карданд.” (*In the Jabal al-Zawiya region, which is located south of the city of Idlib, has been bombarded by Russian warplanes, missiles, and heavy weapons since yesterday. Under these brutal bombardments of the occupying Russia, the homes of innocent people in this region disappeared, and people left these places.*) (pic.71) Moreover, in response to the statements of the President of Tajikistan about the danger from Afghanistan and the possibility of a

Taliban invasion of the territory of Tajikistan he posted the following: “Ин Диктатор, ки мусулмононро дар Тоҷикистон азоб медиҳад, як чизро фаромӯш кардааст: Афғонистон кишваре нест, ки ӯ метавонад таҳдид кунад. Афғонистон тайёр аст ба ҳар касе, ки душман шудан мехоҳад, ҷавоби сазовор диҳад.” (*This dictator who torments Muslims in Tajikistan has forgotten one thing: Afghanistan is not a country he can threaten. Afghanistan is ready to give a decent answer to everyone who wants to become its enemies*) (pic. 72).

1.4. Report from 15 to 25 September 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Key points

In this report, we monitored Uzbek and Tajik language segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the month of September 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms.

- *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, includes reporting from battlefield, as well as calls for people to come and fight. Specific references to Russian attacks and retribution for them. Most reporting (in both Tajik and Uzbek) that was observed appeared from Idlib.*
- *Some reporting about social issues in Central Asian countries.*
- *Criticizing Uzbek government's religious policy (both restrictions on religious education and religious outfit - hijab) along with condemning religious clerks for being too pro-government. Also, some discussions about supporting Palestine.*
- *Some video lessons were published about how to use weapons.*
- *Jihad against the enemies of Islam was a constant theme across material during the reporting period, some channels discussing this within the context of Syria.*
- *Call for Jihad to fight in foreign lands as well as against governments and authorities of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.*
- *Discussions ranging from the Tajik migrants' lives being threatened in Russia have been at the centre on some social platforms.*
- *Some contents were calling for joining them in Syria for fighting against Russia, Iran, and Assad regime.*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China - no prominent mention
- Afghanistan – no prominent mention
- Leadership changes - no prominent mention
- Funding/fundraising (methodologies in particular, but any discussion/comment observed is useful to hear about) – Facebook user “**Saad Muxtor**” posted a video in which the narrator talks about the charitable foundation they founded to help the Syrian people and called on Muslims to finance this fund via transfer money to it.
- Travel patterns (discussions/evidence of action/suggested routes) - no prominent mention

Uzbek language content

f - *During the reporting period, channels published contents criticizing the religious leaders for being pro-government. There were also contents about education system of Uzbekistan where the publisher heavily criticizes it for the complete abandonment of Islamic traditions. Nationalist posts against Russians were also published, as well as posts criticising Assad's regime. New psychological methods for recruiters to influence people were also used.*


The Facebook user **Islam Abu Khalil (4962 friends, 21 posts)** they blame the internal policy of Uzbekistan and Uzbek religious clerks for abusing Muslims, particularly women wearing hijabs by posting videos of a women in Islamic clothes who faced rudeness from the representatives of intelligence services, “Ўзбекистонда ҳижобли аёллар қадрланмайди аксинча хўрланади!” (*Women with hijabs in Uzbekistan are not appreciated but rather humiliated!*). They also commented the C5+1 meeting, saying that Uzbekistan is a victim of the Russian- American confrontation. According to this user, Russia is using Uzbek migrants for putting pressure on Uzbekistan authority and prevent them from getting too close to the USA. In another post they showed a video illustrating a Muslim man who was beaten by Russian law enforcement officers, «Буюк халифатни» фуқаролари хорланяпти» (*The great caliphate is being despised by its citizens*). In addition to posts criticizing the policy of Uzbekistan, they post charges for the introduction of administrative punishment for persons promoting polygamy and violating the principle of equality of men and women. In one of their posts, they published a video where the narrator propagates a content that wasn't typical for such profiles previously. The video says, «Вооруженное войско мусульманских стран на сегодняшний день достигает 10 млн. воинов. Они все могли бы быть воинами джихада, они все дети ислама. Однако ими руководят предатели, и когда провозгласится великий Халифат, эти головы предателей будут отрублены в первую очередь. В то время как воины их отрядов будут с честью приняты в армию джихада» (*The armed forces of Muslim countries today reach 10 million soldiers in total. They could all be jihadi warriors; they are all children of Islam. However, they are led by traitors, and when the great Caliphate is proclaimed, these traitors' heads will be cut off first. While the soldiers of their detachments will be honorably accepted into the army of jihad*). This message will make those warriors who read it think about justice and impressing the idea of radicals. Since the narrator is trying to convince them that they are welcome, that they are not at all to blame and they have a chance, thereby extending their hand to them. Government warriors who have listened to this video may become confused by unexpected "kindness" and begin to doubt who their enemy really is. (pic. 1,2,3,4,5,6,7).

The Facebook user **“Turkiston” (4,9k followers, 15 posts)** mainly posted about current political events in the world as well as Russia's decision to open Russian-language schools in Uzbekistan. The user states that Russian culture will spoil the education of Uzbek youth «Mustamlakachi davlatlar boshqa xalqlarni o'ziga tobe qilishning eng samarali yo'llaridan biri o'sha xalqning ongiga o'z saqofatini singdirishdir. Bu esa, ta'lim-tarbiya tizimini qo'lga olish bilan amalga oshadi» (*One of the most effective ways in which colonial powers subjugate other peoples is to instill their own culture in the minds of that people. This is achieved with the capture of the educational system*). Moreover, the user also criticised Turkey's desire to join the EU: “Darhaqiqat Turkiya ittifoqqa a'zo bo'lish uchun Yevropaning Islomdan uzoqlashtirib, yevropacha hayotga olib boradigan bir qancha talablarini ikkilanmay qabul qildi. Hatto la'nati Mustafa Kamol davrida ham bekor

qilinmagan zinoni taqiqlovchi qonun bandi Yevropaning talabi bilan Erdog'an davrida bekor qilindi" (*Indeed Turkey hesitantly accepted several European demands for membership in the union that would lead to European life by distancing itself from Islam. A law bans on adultery, The Curse of which was not lifted even during the reign of Mustafa Kemal, was repealed under Erdogan at the request of Europe*) (pic. 8,9)

The Facebook user **Asadulloh Turkiy (234 followers, 2 posts)** published a video reposted from the Facebook user "Abu Valid" where they blame Assad's regime for a chemical attack on Ghouta region, as a result of which thousands of civilians were killed. Moreover, he reposts videos containing scenes from the battlefield in Idlib, Syria. (Pic. 10,11).

The Facebook user **Abdulloh Marvon (1,1k followers, 2 posts)** published photos of district in Idlib, demonstrating good infrastructures of childrens' playgrounds. In his second post he published news about the death of a former Uzbek migrant in Russia who came to Damascus and became an influential major recruiter. Abdulahad became the founder of the large blog "*muhajir uz*", where he appointed Abu Walid as a main speaker, as well as the blog "*Shom Ovozi*". Moreover, he supported (presumably financially and ideologically) such radical Russian-speaking recruiters as **Faruk Shami**, as well as Uzbek-speaking blogger **Saad Mukhtor**. In his post, he wrote that Abdulahad is also the founder and sponsor of many Uzbek-speaking, Russian-speaking, Tatar-speaking, Tajik-speaking and Kyrgyz-speaking recruiters.

 **Author's note: all the marked profiles are being constantly monitored in our reports and known as the influential ones with quite large audience in each.**

The Facebook user **Saad Muxtor (6,2k followers, 6 posts)** posted mainly videos in which the narrator talks about the charitable foundation they founded to help the Syrian people and the construction of a new mosque. Previously, the profile mainly posted information regarding charity activity and called for Muslims all over the world to help Syrian people. In addition, posts also criticized mainly Central Asian countries, partly Muslims around the world for their indifference to the suffering Muslims in the Middle East. However, this monitoring period, three posts were devoted to criticizing Uzbekistan for its policy towards Muslims. (pic.12,13,14)

The Facebook user **Yusuf Buxoriy (2,4k followers, 3 posts)** posted a video in which the narrator spoke about secular countries putting restrictions on the study of Arabic in madrassas. The user states that these restrictions are the result of the fear that the population of these countries will be able to read and understand the Quran and thereby demand a life according to Sharia law.

The Facebook user **Mehmon Adolad (1,5k followers, 22 posts)** posted various criticism directed to Uzbek government including the law enforcement agencies. One post spoke about the police texting through schoolchildren phones their parents and ask them whether they listen to the banned religious clerks. (Pic.15). The user also called upon religious clerks of Uzbekistan to issue a fatwa on wearing the burqas (pic.17)



- Couple of monitored profiles post videos instructing how to use weapons along with an active call for joining them in Syria for fighting against Russia, Iran, and Assad regime. Some observation found that the majority of posts focused on criticism of the new law in Uzbekistan banning the wearing of the niqab in public places, as well as videos showing violent attitudes towards women in hijabs on the part of law enforcement agencies.

The Instagram user «**muhojir_tactical**» (1,9k followers, 7 posts) published a video illustrating the combat exercises conducted by instructor Ayyub, in which they are urged not to be afraid of Russia and the United States, but to fight them. demonstrates the fact that young people from Uzbekistan are trying to imitate him and recognize him as their idol (pic.18,19)

The Instagram user «**Muhojirtactical**» (475 followers, 1 post) is almost identical to «muhojir_tactical» (Instructor Ayuub). They mostly publish similar content about how to use weapons. This page seems to be a sympathizer/supporter of group called “Katibati Bukhari”.

The Instagram user **ahliddin.navqotiy** (586 followers, 2 posts) published only 2 videos where he personally spoke about the ideology of jihad. (pic.20)

The Instagram user **abu_saloh_ustoz** (2,6 followers, 1 post) published one video stating that it was not a sin for a Muslim during jihad to fake a document for crossing certain border.

The Instagram user **saadmuxtor_live** (3k followers, 1 post) he published one video where the police rudely treat a woman in a hijab and her child while forcibly pushing them into a car.

The Instagram user **yusufmedia_** (6,3 followers, 4 posts) published 4 videos criticizing the Uzbek authorities for following the example of France in banning hijab for women. Moreover, the user states that the secular countries' governments do not support the learning of Arabic language in their countries because they are afraid of people beginning to understand the Quran and demand a life according to Sharia. Moreover, they equalize the presidents of secular countries with Shaitan and call their citizens its followers. (Pic. 21,22,23)

The Instagram user **shom_minbari** (1,9k followers) published similar content with Instagram user “**abu_saloh_ustoz**”.

The Instagram user **roshodhon_domla** (25k followers, 1 post) published a video with his interviews where he says that today the Ummah needs a true religion, which is not available in secular countries.

The Instagram user “**itraqilah__**” (488 followers, 1 post) published an audio titled “Qanaqangi Adolatsiz Taqsim bu” (*What an unfair distribution this is*) where the narrator speaks about the function of hijab in Islam. The post also contains a picture captioned as “Toshkentda ochiq kiyinadigan ayollarni tanqid qilgan qiz jarimaga tortildi” (*a girl who criticized women who dress openly in Tashkent was fined*).


This monitoring period, the Instagram user **xarunn_1** (2k followers, 8 posts) posted videos about jihad, following Islamic rules, being ready always for even dedicating one's own life for the prosperity of true religion. In most videos, famous cleric Sodik Samarqandiy appeared along with Abdulloh Zufar who mainly narrated about jihad and the role of genuine Islamic education. Moreover, the head of “Islamic movement of

Uzbekistan” Tohir Yuldosh’s speech about the current state of Islam and ummah (Muslim population, society) was also posted. One video discussed how hijab should be worn in Uzbekistan narrated by Abdulloh Zufar where he blames Uzbek imams for their “controversial” statements on this issue and call them as “Saroy imomlari” (Palace Imams) (Pic. a, b, c). (Pic. 25,26)


– Posts were observed to criticize the government of Central Asian countries for their religious policies.

The telegram user **Turkistonuz (298 followers)** published the same materials as on their Facebook account **“Turkiston”**. Several posts share similarities as they mostly criticize the religious policies of Central Asian countries.

Tajik language sources

 – Observed contents on Facebook were mostly about calling for jihad with lectures by banned religious clerks of Tajikistan. Some of the contents also discussed the certain officials, accusing them of failing to properly perform their duties.

The Facebook user **“Group-24” (3,1 followers)** mainly posted contents of criticism against the Tajik government for injustice and cruelty on its part. In one such post, the user demands the resignation of the member of parliament and wrote the following “ДАҲШАТ: ДАР ҶОМЕЪАИ СОЛИМ ЧУНИН ВАКИЛ БОЯД БА ИСТЕЪФО МЕРАФТ!” (IN A HEALTHY SOCIETY, SUCH A DEPUTY SHOULD HAVE RESIGNED!) (pic.29)

 – most observed contents were centred around fights in Syria and problems of Tajik migrants in Russia, as well as how they are discriminated against.

The Instagram user **“hanzala_shamy” (8,3 followers, 35 posts)** published a video illustrating the Quran being torn apart: “Тундрав Эдвин Вагенсвелд, раҳбари чунбиши зиддиисломии PEGIDA, ки муҳолифи муҳоҷират ва ислом аст, дар назди сафорати Туркия дар Ҳолланд боз саҳифаҳои Қуръонро пора кард” (Extremist Edwin Wagensveld, the leader of the anti-Islam movement PAGODA, which opposes immigration and Islam, tore up the pages of the Koran again in front of the Turkish embassy in the Netherlands) (pic.30). The account also published a video narrating about all democratic countries for non-believers. (pic.31). The account further posted several videos where the majority discussions were about the Tajik migrants being beaten by Russians, and law enforcement agencies in Russia. One video also shows a woman in hijab with her child suffering from an ill-treatment by law enforcement agencies of Uzbekistan. (pic.32,33)

The Instagram user **axi muvahibinn (69 followers, 11 posts)** posted several statements about the current leaders of several countries being a grief for the Islamic Ummah, and Allah punishes us with troubles for this. Moreover, he publishes videos in which Muslims are subjected to violence, and women in hijabs are arrested, while repeating that Muslims will only suffer worse humiliation.

The Instagram user **“abubaker8141” (502 followers, 221 posts)** shared content similar to the Instagram account **“vorisoni_rasululloh” (478 followers, 35 posts)**



- Ranging from the Tajik migrants' lives being threatened in Russia and Tajik government's apathetic approach towards it to the Russian bombings in Syria have been at the centre of the posts published on this telegram channel. Dismissing the Tajik president's comment about Afghanistan being a danger to Tajikistan was also observed.

During this monitoring period, the Telegram user "**Blogi Tojik**" (227 followers) published posts criticizing the Tajik government along with a low-key corruption in country. Several other posts illustrate weapons seized from Russian fighters in Idlib. The account also criticizes the Russian government for harassing Tajik migrants, forbidding them to move their families to Russia. This user also published a video of Tajik migrants were brutally beaten by Russian law enforcement personal. (pic.34,35).

1.5. Report for 25 September to 25 October 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Key points

In this report, we monitored Uzbek and Tajik language segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the months of September and October 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms.


- *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, includes reporting from battlefield, as well as calls for people to come and fight. Specific references to Russian attacks and retribution for them. Most reporting (in both Tajik and Uzbek) that was observed appeared from Idlib, with little from ISIS controlled areas.*
- *Criticizing Uzbek government's religious policy (both restrictions on religious education and religious outfit - hijab) along with condemning religious clerks for being too pro-government.*
- *There are plethora of publications about Israeli actions in Gaza strip with discussions about supporting Palestine.*
- *Posts calling for people to boycott famous brands who support Israel were also observed.*
- *Some criticism about the passport regimes and various legal barriers that is preventing Muslims from freely traveling between countries were also discovered.*
- *Talking about the charitable foundation for supporting the Palestinians and calling for Muslims to finance it via transferring money.*
- *Some video lessons were published about how to use weapons.*
- *Jihad against the enemies of Islam was a constant theme across material during the reporting period, some channels discussing this within the context of Syria.*
- *Call for Jihad to fight in foreign lands as well as against governments and authorities of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.*
- *Some contents were calling for joining them in Syria for fighting against Russia, Iran, and Assad regime.*
- *Reports about criticising E. Rahmon's Germany visit were observed.*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China - no prominent mention
- Afghanistan (and South Asia more widely – Pakistan in particular) – no prominent mention.
- Leadership changes - no prominent mention

- Funding/fundraising (methodologies in particular, but any discussion/comment observed is useful to hear about) – the Instagram user “*muhsin_tj*” (1,9k followers) posted a video where the narrator talks about donating to the Palestinians mentioning about the collection of more than 8 thousand USD so far.
- Travel patterns (discussions/evidence of action/suggested routes) - no prominent mention

Uzbek language content

 – videos and posts that were published on the Uzbek-language segment of Facebook mostly criticized the Muslim countries for their indifference towards the Palestinians. Numerous videos and photos from the events in Palestine were discovered, as well as calls for donating money and even lives for the liberation of Palestine.

The Facebook user “*Turkiston*” published 38 posts during the monitored period. In its posts, the account criticizes the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia for his desire to "normalize relations with Israel," calling him as a “traitor” for the Islamic Ummah. There are also shared posts discussing the establishment of a support centre for women suffering from domestic violence in Kyrgyzstan, claiming that the solution to this problem is the establishment of a Caliphate in countries that would prevent such occurrences. In one of their posts, they committed the same atrocities and killings in Syria «Бу эса мустамлакачилар сиёсатининг накадар иккиюзламачи ва куш-стандратлигининг бир асаридир» (also criticized Putin for his remarks against Israel, calling him a hypocrite, as Russia is *This is yet another proof that the policy of colonialist countries is hypocritical and based on double standards.*). Moreover, the profile also criticizes Russia for its desire to establish several Russian-speaking schools in Uzbekistan, and they condemn the Uzbek authorities for enthusiastically accepting this proposal. The author of the post claims that it will only lead to a disruption of upbringing and national consciousness among the young people. (Pics. 1-4)

The Facebook user *Ҳизб ум-Тахрирнинг марказий матбуот бўлими* (334 followers) had not been active for a month but began publishing posts since the beginning of Israeli-Palestinian conflict on October 8th. The profile publishes posts in the format of an "official statement" from the extremist organization Hizb ut-Tahrir and says the following «Sizlarga nima bo’ldi?! Agar Islom Ummatini va Uning armiyalarini Allohning yo’lidagi jihodga safarbar qilish uchun harakatga kelmasangiz, u holda sizning vazifangiz va ishingiz nima?! Islom Ummati maydonlarda. Kelinglar, malay rejimlarni qulatish hamda Allohning yo’lidagi urush va jihod brigadalarini tuzishda Ummatga yetakchilik qilinglar.» (What happened to you?! If you don't take action to join the Islamic Ummah and its armies in the journey of Allah's path and jihad, then what is your duty and purpose?! Stand up for the Ummah in the fields. Come on, prioritize liberating the oppressed regimes and establishing Allah's war and jihad brigades for the Ummah.); «Ey Pokiston Qurolli kuchlari safidagi Salohiddin avlodlari! Endi hammasi sizlarga bog’liq. Shunday ekan, o’zingiz uchun foydali bo’lgan eng yaxshi tijoratga shoshiling. Diningiz foydasi uchun muborak

Falastin zaminidagi birodarlaringizga joningiz va qurolingiz bilan yordam berish fursatidan foydalaning» (*Oh, descendants of the brave Salahuddin in the ranks of the Pakistani Armed Forces! Now everything depends on you. In this case, engage in the most beneficial trade for yourselves. Take advantage of the opportunity to support your blessed brethren and use your weapons to aid them in the land of Palestine for the benefit of your faith.*); Musulmonlarning musibati ularning hukmdorlaridir. Chunki hukmdorlar armiyalarning G'azodagi birodarlariga yordam ko'rsatishlariga to'sqinlik qilishdi. Ular faqatgina bo'layotgan voqealarni kuzatib turishibdi (*The suffering of Muslims is caused by their rulers. Because the rulers hinder their armies from providing assistance to their oppressed brethren in Gaza. They only monitor the events that are happening without taking any decisive action.*); «Эй мусулмон қўшинлар, Фаластиннинг мард ўғлонлари душман вужудини ларзага солдилар, бас, уларга ёрдам бериб, яҳудий вужуди пойдеворини яксон қилинг! Бугун шанба куни эрталаб Ғазо секторидаги қаҳрамон мужоҳидлар яҳудий вужуди линиясини ёриб ўтиб, кўчманчи яҳудийлар пунктларига бостириб кирдилар» (*Oh, Muslim warriors, shake the existence of the enemy and crush their Jewish presence by providing support to the brave martyrs of Palestine! Today, on Saturday morning, the heroic mujahideen penetrated the Jewish front lines in the Gaza sector and infiltrated their temporary Jewish settlements.*) (5-8)

The Facebook user **Asadulloh Turkiy (273 followers)** published 38 posts during the monitored period. In their posts, they published announcements to raise funds for assisting Palestinians. Moreover, they actively shared videos and photos of suffering Palestinians and reposted videos of religious cleric Ahladdin Navkoti, in which he spoke about anyone who supports Israel or remains neutral towards Palestine being a Zionist. (Pic. 9-11)

The Facebook user **Abdulloh Marvon (1,1k followers)** primarily posted about the war in Palestine. In one of their posts, they shared a story about a Turkish guy who fled from home, leaving a note stating that he went to fight in the Gaza Strip, using him as an example. Furthermore, they covered protests taking place in Tel Aviv, where Israelis protested against the bombardment of the Gaza Strip and the loss of civilian lives. In one of their posts, they also showed how fighters from the Gaza Strip, disguised as Israeli soldiers, conducted raids in various regions of Israel. (12-14)

The Facebook user **Saad Muxtor (6,2k followers)** published lectures in which the speaker criticized Arab countries, stating that they couldn't even offer a glass of water to help Palestinians. They also posted numerous videos from the scenes of the conflict in Palestine and urged people to send financial aid to Palestinians, highlighting examples of women who donated significant amounts of gold for the benefit of the affected Palestinians.

The Facebook user **Yusuf Buxoriy** posted content supporting Palestine and encouraged people to boycott famous brands that support Israel. They also shared videos of Ustadh Abdulaziz, in which he claims that passport regimes and various legal barriers hindering Muslims from freely traveling between countries are factors that impede Muslim nations. Additionally, he urged people to support Palestine in any way possible, whether through financial means, social media activism, or even sacrificing their lives.

The Facebook user **Асирни Озод Қилинг (Asirniozodqiling) (1k followers)** posted 2 posts that illustrate the starving and homeless people suffering in Syria, and money sent by volunteers to help the Syrian people.



- couple of monitored profiles post videos instructing how to use weapons along with an active call for joining them in Syria for fighting against Russia, Iran, and Assad regime. Some observation found that the «Jihad in Media» being labelled as the greatest Jihad since everyone can join Jihad by posting extremist content via any available social networks. Some contents call for using extreme measures such as calling them “libertine” against people who don’t wear hijab.

The Instagram user «**muhojir_tactical**» published 20 posts during the monitored period. The contents this account posts (by Instructor Ayyub (one of the fighters)) mostly are dedicated to teaching active and potential jihadists how to fight and sharing life hacks for using on the battlefield as well as calling Muslims all over the world come to Syria and join a real Jihad, thereby, positing themselves as saviours and defenders of peaceful Muslims living in Syria. This page is seemingly the sympathizer/supporter of group called “Katibati Bukhari”.

The Instagram user «**Muhojirtactical**» published only 3 videos during the monitored period. This profile is almost similar to «muhojir_tactical» (Instructor Ayuub). They published video lessons of how to use the weapons. Bukhari”.

The Instagram user **ahliddin.navqotiy (586 followers)** published 12 videos during this monitoring period. The videos have a quote from the Quran arguing that Muslims should spread their ideas and advocating among their close friends and family members. These videos are mainly about glorifying the idea of getting suffered in the name of Allah, praising Jihad. He also published videos in which he talks about Palestinian conflict and agitates people to take more intensive steps to help the Palestinians.

The Instagram user **xolis.nazar (2.5k followers)** published 3 videos. In their videos, they showcase the suffering of the Palestinian population and accuse the Muslim world of inaction.

The Instagram user **shom_minbari (1,9k followers)** published similar content with Instagram user “**abu_saloh_ustoz**”. The account is likely the supporter of ISIS.

The Instagram user **roshodhon_domla (25k followers)** mainly published videos talking about the rules of the life according to Sharia.


The Instagram user **abudirar (256 followers)** posted videos calling Muslims for joining jihad, in which he said, « Бугунда жиҳод ҳар бир унга қодир бўлган муслмон учун фарздир. Бу йўл ила Аллоҳнинг ризосини қозонмоқни истаган киши, жиҳод амали учун йўллар қидирмоғи ва Аллоҳ йўлидаги жиҳодни дастакламоғи(қўллаб қувватламоғи) унинг устидаги бир қарздир.» (*Today, jihad is obligatory for every capable Muslim. This path is a debt that seeks to attain the pleasure of Allah. The one who desires to strive in the cause of Allah should pave the way for jihad and take upon himself the responsibility of supporting it*)



- posts were observed to criticize the government of Central Asian countries for their religious policies.


The telegram user **Turkistonuz (298 followers)** published the same materials as on their Facebook account “**Turkiston**”. Several posts share similarities as they mostly criticize the religious policies of Central Asian countries.

Tajik language sources

 – Observed content on Facebook were mostly regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, specifically the lack of action by Muslims worldwide in supporting the Palestinian people and joining the war on the side of Palestine, there has been a significant amount of opposition material published against the regime of the President of Tajikistan. This includes calls for protests in foreign countries and attacks on his convoys.

The Facebook user “**Abu Usoma**” published 49 new posts during the monitored period. This profile mainly published the video talks (addresses) by famous clerks such as Abdulzohir Khafizahullah, Abu Ubaidullah, etc. The main point made by these clerks addressed the incapability of Muslims themselves along with their government to thwart the attacks of nonbelievers. There were also addresses mentioning Falastin - Israel war (pic.1)

The Facebook user “**Group-24**” (3,1 followers) published 21 posts during the monitored period. This account appears to be oppositional to the regime of Rahmon and primarily shares links to various live broadcasts where their "experts" criticize and assess Tajikistan's domestic and foreign policies. Furthermore, in one of their posts, they issued a call for a protest by Tajikistan citizens residing in Berlin. They urged them to gather near the Tajikistan embassy due to the announced visit of the President to Germany, «Бубинем, ки Раҳмонов оё қодир аст, бо шаҳрвандони худ дар як фазои озод дидоре дошта бошад ва дарду мушкилоти мардумро мустақиман, бидуни хушомадгӯйҳояш, бишунавад ё хайр!» (Let's see if Rahmon will be able to meet his citizens in an open and candid manner, free from flattery, to genuinely empathize with the pain and challenges faced by the people.) Following this the profile subsequently published a series of posts highlighting the events of the protest against the Rahmon regime. Moreover, they shared a video in which members of the «Group 24» pursued Rahmon during his visit, and one of them even managed to throw eggs at his car as the convoy drove through the city streets, «муборизон тавонистанд ба мошинҳои Раҳмонов бо садо ва наъраи “Диктатор Раҳмонов” ва “Раҳмонов террорист” ҳуҷум кунанд! Дар ин набард аз тарафи чанд гурӯҳи ҷудоғона, мошини Раҳмонов зери ҳамла қарор гирифт! Муборизон бо ҷайбҳои пур аз тухм ба сару рӯи мошини Раҳмонов ҳамла бурданд, ки дигар издиҳоми пулис ҳам ба Раҳмонов кумак накард!! Ин диктатори хунхор дар торих бори аввал аст, ки ба чунин набарде ру ба рӯ шуд!!» (Despite the level of security, our lions managed to confront Rahmon's vehicles, shouting "Rahmon the dictator" and "Rahmon the terrorist!" The brave individuals, armed with pockets full of eggs, attacked the windshields of Rahmon's car, and not even a crowd of police could help him! This bloodthirsty dictator faced with such resistance for the first time in a history!) (pic. 2.3.4.5)

 – most observed contents are centred around fights in Syria and Palestine, as well as video lectures of religious clerks.

The Instagram user “**muhsin_tj**” (1,9k followers) published 2 videos that narrate about Palestine - Israel war mentioning "how the Israeli army is so negligible in front of couple of Muslims gunned with small automatic rifles. Despite entire western countries standing behind it the Israel could not break the will of few Mujahid fighters". During the video address, the guy also says the following "We have launched a donation to our Palestinian

brothers and so far, we have collected more than 8 thousand USD". He also assures that each penny will be delivered its address. (pic. 6,7)

The Instagram user "**muwahido3**" (299 followers) published one video in which the narrator says "И вот оно поле сражения! И мы не допустим установления государства, которое не устанавливает закон Аллаха и не согласимся с этим! Мы разожжём пламя войн и будем сражаться против армий всего мира, до тех пор, пока религия не будет принадлежать Аллаху полностью на все 100%" (*And here it is the battlefield! And we will not allow the establishment of a state that does not establish the law of Allah and will not agree with it! We will rekindle the flame of wars and fight against the armies of the whole world until the religion belongs to Allah completely 100%.*) (pic.8)

The Instagram user "**hanzala_shamiy**" (8,3 followers) published 41 posts during the monitored period. Among them the video talks (addresses) by famous clerks such as Abdulzohir Khafizahullah and Mujib Rahmon Ansari Rahimahuloh, Abu Ubaidullah Mutawakil Rahimahullah. The account also posted videos in which Edwin Wagenveld, the leader of the anti-Islam movement PAGODA, which opposes immigration and Islam, tore up the pages of the Koran several times in front of the Turkish embassy in the Netherlands. In their videos, these individuals also levelled accusations against Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Dubai for their inaction towards Palestine and their cooperation with the United States. The profile predominantly shared content highlighting the plight of the Palestinian people, including videos capturing the events on the ground, footage of children who have been killed, and those who have been left orphaned. (pic. 9-16)

The Instagram user "**blogi_tojik**" (4,1 followers) published 110 new posts during the monitored period. Almost the entire publications relate to the Palestinian-Israeli war. Most contents showed the suffering of wounded and killed children. Moreover, the publications compare the events in Gaza with events that are happening in Syria with posting videos of Syrian citizens who have suffered from Russian airstrikes and saying the following "Суриягиҳо бо сокинони Ғазза изҳори ҳамдардӣ мекунанд: "Дарди мо як аст." (*Syrians express grief to Gazans: "Our pain is one."*). (pic. 17-21)

The Instagram user [axi_muvahibinn](#) (69 followers) posted religious videos as well as videos with lectures by such religious clerks as Mavlun Nematulloh, Eshoni Nuriddin. Based on the contents the account published, it's obvious that most criticism is directed to the world leaders, Biden, Netanyahu, Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin with calling them as "contemporary demons". (pic.22,23)



– the observed profiles showed that the main contents of their posts were about military conflict in Palestine with several mentions about Syrian mujahedeen as well.

During the monitored period Telegram user "**Мухсин Фаластин**" (1,2k followers) published 236 posts containing mostly videos about Palestine and suffering Palestinian people, as well as news from Syrian battlefield. (pic.24,25)

During the monitored period Telegram user "**ИМОНИ ЗУЛОЛ**" (491 followers) published 48 posts. As many other profiles, this profile has also been posting content regarding Palestinian-Israelian conflict, particularly videos about suffering the Palestine people. Some posts reflect the mass demonstrations took place in Turkey and Russia, where people demonstrate their support of Palestine. As many other profiles, the posts call for people to boycott famous brands who support Israel as well as to demonstrate that Syrian people share the Palestinians' struggle. (26-31)

1.6. Report for 25 October to 25 December 2023 (Uzbek and Tajik language segments of social media)

Key points

In this report, we monitored Uzbek and Tajik language segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the months of November and December 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms.

- *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, includes reporting from battlefield, as well as calls for people to come and fight. Specific references to Russian attacks and retribution for them. Most reporting (in both Tajik and Uzbek) that was observed appeared from Idlib, with little from ISIS controlled areas.*
- *Talking about the charitable foundation for supporting the Syrian people and calling on Muslims to finance it via transferring money.*
- *Monitored accounts published instructions about using weapons.*
- *Jihad against the enemies of Islam was a constant theme across material during the reporting period, some channels discussing this within the context of Syria.*
- *Some observation found that the «Jihad in Media» being labelled as the greatest Jihad since everyone can join Jihad by posting extremist content via any available social networks.*
- *Some contents were calling for joining them in Syria for fighting against Russia, Iran, and Assad regime.*
- *War in Gaza and issues in Palestine were monitored to be a prioritized by almost all the monitored accounts.*
- *Calls for boycotting famous brands allegedly support Israel.*
- *Targeting family members and close friends for spreading ideas about jihad.*
- *Famous cleric known as Rashodhon Domla rejects the idea, proposed by some religious clerics (imams), of the complete boycotting products from famous brands.*
- *Strong criticism against the president E. Rahmon's regime in Tajikistan was observed.*
- *Website called "i3l.pw" was monitored to be propagating the ISIS ideology.*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China - no prominent mention
- Afghanistan (and South Asia more widely – Pakistan in particular) – no prominent mention
- Leadership changes - no prominent mention

- Funding/fundraising (methodologies in particular, but any discussion/comment observed is useful to hear about) – Instagram user “**Muhsin tj**” posted a video talking about the charitable foundation they founded to help the Syrian people. Also, charity foundation “**Саховатли Куллар**” (on Facebook) and “**Saxovatli Qo'llar Insoniylik Yordam Fondi**” (on Telegram) was observed to be calling for a money raising in support of Gaza.
- Travel patterns (discussions/evidence of action/suggested routes) - no prominent mention.

Uzbek language content

f – *In the Uzbek-language segment of Facebook, primarily videos and posts were published criticizing Muslim countries for their inaction and indifference towards the Palestinian people. Numerous videos and photos from the events in Palestine were discovered, as well as calls to donate money and even lives for the liberation of Palestine.*

The Facebook user “**Turkiston**” published 62 posts during the monitored period. In its posts, the account criticizes the Egyptian President Abdulfattoh as-Sisi for warning his troops against direct intervention in the war “**Shunday ekan, Islomiy yurtlardagi ushbu armiyalarning harakatga kelishidan to’sayotgan hamda Aqso uchun Jihod qilishga ishtiyoqmand musulmon xalqlarga qarshi turib, yahudiylar uchun jonkuyarlik qilayotgan bu xoinlardan qutilish Islom Ummatining birlamchi vazifasiga aylandi, deyish mumkin. Chunki ular Islom qo’shinlarini G’azodagi musulmonlarni ommatan qig’in qilayotgan yahudiylarga qarshi emas, balki (Isroil) chegarasi tomon yo’l olgan musulmonlarga qarshi safarbar qilmoqda. Bunday kimsalar Islom Ummatiga rahbarlik qilishga aslo loyiq emaslar**” (*it can be said that getting rid of these traitors who are passionate for the Jews, standing up against Muslim peoples who are blocking these armies from moving in Islamic lands and who are passionate about jihad for Aqsa, has become a primary task of the Islamic Community. Because they are mobilizing Islamic troops against Muslims in Gaza who are heading towards the border with (Israel), and not against Jews who are publicly condemning Muslims in Gaza. Such persons are never worthy to lead the Islamic Community*) - Similar critical quotes advocating for military intervention for Palestine or the overthrow of rulers in Muslim countries are found in almost every post the account published. There blames addressing the President of Kyrgyzstan for imprisoning Muslims, saying that “**Aslida Falastindagi qirg’in qilinayotgan musulmonlar uchun tinchlik bilan olib borilayotgan tadbirlarga g’ayridinlar ham qarshilik qilmayotgan bir paytda, Qirg’izistonda mazlum Falastin ahli uchun duo qilgan insonlarni qamoqqa olish Japarov hukumati uchun haqiqiy sharmandalikdir. Chunki duo ibodat bo’lib, uni “terrorizm” va “ekstremizm” bog’lash sharmandalikdan boshqa narsa emas.**” (*At a time when peace-keeping activities for Muslims who are actually being massacred in Palestine are also not opposed by non-Muslims, the imprisonment of people who bless the oppressed Palestinians in Kyrgyzstan is a real shame for the Japarov government. Because prayer is prayer, and linking it to” terrorism “and” extremism ” is nothing more than shame.*) **Musulmonlar va musulmalar o’z yurtlarida emin-erkin dinlariga amal qilish imkonidan mahrum**

qilinishi o'ta achinarli holatdir. Musulmonlar birlashib, Islom qadriyatlarini o'zlarini himoya qiluvchi Xalifalik davlatini barpo etmas ekanlar, bu holatdan aslo qutila olmaydi (*It is a sad situation that Muslims and Muslims are deprived of the opportunity to follow free religions in their land. As Muslims unite and Islam does not establish a Caliphate state that protects the values themselves, it cannot be spared*) (pic. 1-3)

The Facebook user **Asadulloh Turkiy (273 followers)** published 28 posts during the monitored period. These posts contain plenty of information about the so called Charitable Foundation "Sahovat qo'llari". This organisation according to its Facebook page, mostly aid the Palestinians. The Facebook user also videos with a narrated criticism against Muslim countries and their "betrayal". (pic. 4-5)

The Facebook user **Saad Muxtor (6,2k followers)** published posts illustrating children and adults who died or were injured in Palestine or Syria. Numerous narrated videos mostly from the scenes of the conflict in Palestine call for sending financial aid to Palestinians. (6-8 pic.)

The Facebook user **Yusuf Buxoriy** posted content supporting Palestine and encouraged people to boycott famous brands that support Israel. The videos of a famous cleric Abdula Zufar were also shared where he claims that the passport regimes and various legal barriers hindering Muslims from freely traveling between countries are factors that impede Muslim nations. (9-10pic.)

The Facebook user **Асирни Озод Қилинг (Asirniozodqiling) (1k followers)** posted 2 posts that illustrate the starving and homeless people suffering in Syria, and money sent by volunteers to help the Syrian people.

The Facebook user **"Саховатли Куллар"** (572 followers) stopped posting on November 10, 2023, but prior to that, the user published posts identical to this page's Telegram account. The page posted materials about fundraising and attached payment details for the money to be transferred through the following platforms "Payeer," "Binance Pay," and "USDT".



- couple of monitored profiles post videos instructing how to use weapons along with an active call for joining them in Syria for fighting against Russia, Iran, and Assad regime. Most of the posts contained materials on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict

The Instagram user **«muhojir_tactical»** published 20 posts during the monitored period. The contents this account posts (by Instructor Ayyub (one of the fighters)) mostly are dedicated to teaching active and potential jihadists how to fight and sharing lifehacks for using on the battlefield as well as calling Muslims all over the world come to Syria and join a real Jihad, thereby, positing themselves as a saviours and defenders of peaceful Muslims living in Syria. This page is seemingly the sympathizer/supporter of group called "Katibati Bukhari".



Author's note: *During the monitoring period, some new page elements were identified. Previously, the main content of the account was videos and photos, while over the past couple of months there have been posts with long campaigning texts,*

which tells about a possible transformation of style or a change of recruiter. Moreover, there has been a significant improvement in the design of the page. (pic.11-15)

The Instagram user «**Muhojirtactical**» published only 5 videos during the monitored period. This profile is almost similar to «muhojir_tactical» (Instructor Ayuub). The page also published video lessons and instructions about using the weapons.

The Instagram user **ahliddin.navqotiy (586 followers)** published 11 videos during this monitoring period. The main narratives in these videos are about the needs for the Muslims to spread their ideas among their family members and close friends. Sufferings and glorifying the Jihad are the most praised ideas in posted videos. Also, the page published videos about the war in Gaza and calls for the people to take more intensive steps for helping the Palestinians.

The Instagram user **xolis.nazar (2.5k followers)** published 3 posts, where they showcase the suffering of the Palestinian population saying “Сўнги 62 кун ичида Ғазода 6700 бола ҳалок бўлди” (*During the past 62 days 6700 children were killed in Gaza Sector*). Moreover, in one of their posts they published a photo of Syrian refugees living in tents, saying the following “Suriya shimoli. Uylari Rus va Bashar Asad jangarilari tomonidan vayron qilingan va bosib olingani milionlagan aholilar ayni damda shunday qiyin sharoitlarda jon saqlamoda” (*The North of Syria. Millions of people are living in tents because their houses were destroyed by Russian and Bashar Assad’s military forces. (16-18 pic.)*)

The Instagram user **shom_minbari (1,9k followers)** published similar content with Instagram user “**abu_saloh_ustoz**” (21-22 pic.), thereby the accounts are likely to be run by the same group. Based on the contents, the page is likely the supporter of the ISIS.

The Instagram user **roshodhon_domla (25k followers)** posted 43 video and audio publications during the monitored period. Published audios in the form of an online Q&A. Each audio posts titled according to the discussion’s main directions. Great deal of audio records is narrated by a famous cleric known as Rashodhon Domla. The main topic was about war in Gaza and supporting Palestinians along with some novel ideas such as “criticizing indiscriminately boycotting products from famous brands allegedly owned by Jews” and he states that “if the products are halal anyone can use it”. (pic. 31)

During the monitored period, The Instagram user **abudirar (256 followers)** published a post with a religious song propagating about the fighting for Islam. (pic.19-20)



– posts were observed to criticize the government of Central Asian countries for their religious policies. Fundraising by some accounts was also monitored.


The telegram user **Turkistonuz (298 followers)** published the same materials as on their Facebook account “**Turkiston**”. Several posts share similarities as they mostly criticize the religious policies of Central Asian countries.

The telegram user “**Saxovatli Qo'llar Insoniylik Yordam Fondi**” (**4,4k followers**) published 83 posts during the monitored period. In its posts the profile showcases the activities of the organization, illustrating the food distribution to the wounded people and children. Furthermore, the posts are accompanied by numerous photos and videos depicting maimed and starving children and adults. The organization’s bank details are


also attached in posts and the user urges people to donate money for helping Palestinians. (pic. 32-34)

Websites

The website called “**isl.pw**” propagates the ISIS ideology. This website is run in 28 languages including Uzbek. The webpage also contains info about the different geographical locations such as West and Central Africa, Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and others. Recent terrorist attack in Turkiye was mentioned in this website stating as follows: “Аллоҳ таолонинг марҳамати билан Хилофат аскарларидан иборат хавфсизлик отряди Истанбулнинг Буюкдере маҳалласидаги черков ичида мушрик маросимларини ўтказаяётган кофир насронийлар йиғинига пистолетдан отишган, натижада бир насроний ўлган, яна бири яраланган. Аллоҳга ҳамдлар бўлсин” (*At the mercy of Allah, a security detachment consisting of renegade soldiers fired a pistol at a gathering of unbelieving Christians who were performing polytheistic rituals inside a church in the Büyükdere neighborhood of Istanbul, resulting in the death of one Christian and the wounding of another. Praise God*). Moreover, some posts, as audio and video lessons, posters call for a murder. Donation of money and property on the path of Jihad were also promoted. One section was dedicated to the newspaper titled “Naba Gazetasi” where they write about the weekly events held in different countries by the organization. (pic.28-29)

 **Author’s note:** *The motto “ULARNI QAYERDA TOPSANGIZ HAM O’LDIRING” (Kill them wherever you find them) for a several months has been used for launching a large campaign under which almost all the news about murders, kidnappings and terrorist attacks around the globe were published. There are also announcements about the numerous terrorist attacks in Syria, Africa, Iraq and Iran, Pakistan, Turkey etc., allegedly organised by ISIS (pic. 30).*

Tajik language sources

 – *Observed contents on Facebook were mostly regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, specifically the lack of action by Muslims worldwide in supporting the Palestinian people and joining the war on the side of Palestine. There were also a significant posts criticising Tajikistan’s president.*

The Facebook user “**Abu Usoma**” published 75 new posts during the monitored period. This profile mainly published the video talks (addresses) by famous clerks such as Abu Mustafo Darveshzoda, Abdulzohir Khafizahullah, Abu Ubaidullah, etc. The main point made by these clerks addressed the inability of Muslims themselves along with their government to thwart the attacks of nonbelievers. There were also addresses mentioning Falastin - Israel war. Some videos illustrated the white flag with Shahada (resembling strongly to the Taliban’s flag). (pic.21)

The Facebook user “**Group-24**” (3,1 followers) published 26 posts during the monitored period. This account appears to be oppositional to the regime of Rahmon and primarily

shares links to various live broadcasts where their "experts" criticize and assess Tajikistan's domestic and foreign policies. Furthermore, in one post, they announced the deportation of the Group-24's member from Germany to Tajikistan because of his attitude towards President Rakhmon when the president payed a visit to Berlin "Дар ҳоли ҳозир барои Ҳимояи Билол Қурбоналиев аз ҷониби Ҳаракати сиёсии " Гурӯҳи-24 " вакили дифоъ гирифта шудааст ва кор мебарад." (*Right now we are trying to help our brother and cooperating with layers*). They also published posts praising the person who was first to establish Group-24 in Tajikistan. (pic.22-23)



– most observed contents are centred around the fights in Syria and Palestine, as well as video lectures of religious clerks.

The Instagram user "**muhsin_tj**" (**1,9k followers**) published 6 videos about Palestine - Israel war. The narrator also published videos telling about his life in Syria and calling others to join him. Moreover, he propagates a charity foundation and tells that they had already managed to gather \$ 22.000 U.S.D from people all over the world to help Palestinians. (pic. 24-26)

The Instagram user "**hanzala_shamiy**" (**8,3 followers**) published 41 posts during the monitored period. Many video talks narrated by famous clerks such as Abdulzohir Khafizahullah and Mujib Rahmon Ansari Rahimahuloh, Abu Ubaidullah Mutawakil Rahimahullah. The page published the military exercises of the Ghurab battalion in Syria, as well as promoted jihad and sharia as well as called on people to join the war against non-believers. The profile predominantly shared content highlighting the plight of the Palestinian people, including videos capturing the events on the ground, footage of children who have been killed, and those who have been left orphaned. (pic.27)

The Instagram user "**blogi_tojik**" (**4,1 followers**) published 35 new posts during the monitored period. Almost all of the videos published by the account relate to the Palestinian-Israeli war, in which it publishes videos and photos from the scenes of events, showing the suffering of wounded and killed children and women, as well as children left without families.



– the observed profiles predominantly discussed the military conflict in Palestine with several references to the Syrian mujahedeen.

During the monitored period Telegram user "**Blogi Tojik**" (**227 followers**) published the same posts with its Instagram page.

During the monitored period Telegram user "**ИМОНИ ЗУЛОЛ**" (**491 followers**) published 48 posts. As many other profiles it's been actively posting content regarding Palestinian-Israelian conflict, particularly videos about suffering nation of Palestine. As many other profiles, in their posts they call people to ban famous brands supporting Israel and shows that Syrian nations shares the Palestinians' struggles.

II.MONITORING RUSSIAN, KAZAKH AND KYRGYZ LANGUAGE SEGMENTS OF SOCIAL MEDIA

2.1. Report for June 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Key Points

In this report, we monitored Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the month of June 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms⁶.

- *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, though a number of calls also for fighters to go to Palestine.*
- *Quran burning in Sweden and Denmark was highlighted alongside condemnation of treatment of Muslim sites in Kyrgyzstan. Quran burnings also linked to Netanyahu meeting with Erdogan, as illustrative of perfidy of Erdogan government.*
- *Calls for the building of a Caliphate in Central Asian countries – in particular Kyrgyzstan (calls came from both Hizb ut Tahrir and ISIS affiliated/inspired channels). All governments in the region attacked rhetorically with calls for them to be overthrown using religion, but greatest focus on Kyrgyz government in observed channels.*
- *Calls for separating Dagestan from Russia, condemnation of leadership in region, and of Russia more broadly. Moscow more broadly condemned for its treatment of Muslims at home.*
- *Criticism of prominent groups “Hizb ut-Tahrir” for failing to be practical in its advance of a Caliphate, and “Ikhvan al-Muslimyn” for committing criminal acts.*
- *Some references to events in Africa, in particular the failure of western policy in Sudan and Nigeria.*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China – no prominent mention
- Afghanistan/Pakistan – no prominent mention
- Leadership changes – no changes reported
- Funding/fundraising – no notable discussions of fundraising were observed
- Travel patterns – no notable discussions of travel patterns were observed

⁶ The reporting period covered 13 Facebook and 5 Instagram, 1 YouTube and 1 Telegram accounts. All these accounts with more than several thousand audience (both friends and followers combined).

Russian language content

f – During the reporting period, channels supportive of Hizb ut Tahrir were very active across the Russian-speaking world. There was also condemnation of Russia's actions tormenting Muslims in places that were occupied by Russian empire (Caucasus, Povolzhe (Volga Region), Crimea and Central Asia - Кавказ, Поволжье, Крыма и Центральной Азии). Posters discussed events in Palestine a great deal, including calling for people to go and fight/protect the Palestinians suffering in Jenin. There was also linking of Netanyahu's visit to Erdogan to Jews burning the Quran (a reference to events in Sweden/Denmark). There was also some evidence of the Taliban getting support from groups who celebrated their successful Caliphate.

Facebook user «Живая Умма» (24k followers, 7,6k likes) posted materials mainly about various political situations and conflicts. The poster linked them with the ideas of "wrong Islam" in many countries, discrimination against Muslims around the world as well as tried to show how the Western ideology is "destroying" the countries which have a close contact with it. Each such publication contains lines from the Qur'an at the end.

One of the last posts was about Russia's actions on tormenting Muslims living in Caucasus, Povolzhe (Volga Region), Crimea, and Central Asia (Кавказа, Крыма и Центральной Азии) during different periods of time. «Преступления неверных государств по отношению к исламской умме». Another posts, similar to «Капитализм – причина детского труда» (Capitalism is the cause of child labor); «Евреи жгут Коран, а Эрдоган готовится к встрече с Нетаньяху» (Jews burn Koran as Erdogan prepares to meet Netanyahu); «Американские посольства в наших странах равносильны военно-шпионским центрам!» (American embassies in our countries are tantamount to military spy centers!) expresses a strong criticism against the Western values and events. In addition, there are some small posts about the political and economic structure of the real Caliphate. Some posts also use the flag of Taliban (white flag with Shahada) as a representative of the Muslim Ummah.

! Author's note:

Along with the engagement in a conventional propaganda for influencing, and playing with the feelings of people, such as compassion, helping a neighbour brother or saving tormented Muslims, this account also posts materials analysing current situations in the international arena and compare those with the pure idea of caliphate. The purpose of this tactic appears to spread doubts about the justice, objectivity and correctness of the political structures and policies of secular countries.

The Facebook user «Хизб ут-Тахрир Украина» (760 followers) posted materials related to socio-political situations along with material praising jihad and radical ideologies. These posts mostly criticise countries like the USA, UK, France, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Israel, their governments and international organisations. Here are some of such posts: «Организация Объединённых Наций — звучит красиво, но, на самом деле, эта

организация – смертельный яд для Исламской Уммы и других колонизированных стран (UN is a death poison) », they call the leader of Muslim countries as «Правители-предатели (Traitor-rulers)». Moreover, a material posted on June 19th calls for the return of the Caliphate in those oppressed lands – Syria, Iraq, Palestine. Also, the post further talks about the bloodshed and massacre in Libya, Yemen, Somalia, Bosnia, and Kashmir. “...и этот список становится всё длиннее и длиннее с каждым днём с тех пор, как исчезло сияние Халифата и претворение законов Аллаха” (and this list is getting longer and longer every day since the radiance of the Caliphate and the implementation of the laws of Allah disappeared). “Халифат должен вернуться вновь, чего бы это ни стоило, все силы должны собраться и объединиться для целенаправленной и чёткой цели, которая состоит в том, чтобы восстановить Халифат и избавиться от режимов Сайкс–Пико. Это можно осуществить, если военные помогут делу Хизб ут-Тахрир, направленному на установление Халифата” (The Caliphate must return again, whatever the cost, all forces must come together and unite for a purposeful and clear goal, which is to restore the Caliphate and get rid of the Sykes-Picot regimes. This can be done if the military helps the cause of Hizb ut-Tahrir, aimed at establishing the Caliphate).

Furthermore, the user posted the apostrophe of the head of НТ “ОБРАЩЕНИЕ ОТ АМИРА ХИЗБ УТ-ТАХРИР, УЧЁНОГО АТА ИБН ХАЛИЛЯ АБУ АР-РАШТЫ К НОСИТЕЛЯМ ПРИЗЫВА, БОРЮЩИМСЯ ЗА ИСТИНУ НА ЗЕМЛЕ БЛАГОСЛОВЕННОГО ШАМА” (Appeal from Amir Hizb ut-Tahrir, scientist Ata Ibn Khalil Abu ar-Rashta to the bearers of the call fighting for the truth in the land of the blessed Sham) which basically calls for a Jihad in Sham (Syria). (Pic. 1)

There is also Instagram user named “*hizbuttahrir_ua*” (712 followers) that posts similar contents with this Facebook account. This cluster of channels appears close to Hizb ut Tahrir.

Facebook user “ВАТАНЧЫ” (1,8k followers, 1,6k likes) posits itself as an official page for Tatar movements in Russia. The user propagates the nationalistic ideology of Turkism, conservatism, progressivism. Also, major topics posted in the channel are about traditions, culture, history, language, religion, and information about ongoing events among the Tatars in Russia. During this monitoring period, the most dominant topics were about the history, tradition, and culture of Tatars in Russia. There was a post about the establishment of Muslim fraction in State Duma of Russian empire in 1906. “21 июня в составе 22 депутатов (12 татар) из числа представителей интеллигенции, помещиков и улемов была сформирована мусульманская фракция Госдумы I созыва (27 апреля - 8 июля 1906 года)” (On June 21, consisting of 22 deputies (12 Tatars), from among the representatives of the intelligentsia, landlords and ulema, the Muslim faction of the State Duma of the 1st convocation was formed (April 27 - July 8, 1906). (Pic. 2)

Facebook user “**Рустам Ахмедов**” (1,9k friends) mainly reposts the materials from the sources such as Hizb ut-Tahrir Ukraine, Hizb ut-Tahrir Uzbekistan, Living Umma (which call for the creation of a Caliphate and criticize the policies of secular Muslim countries) and many other videos containing extreme religious views. During this monitoring period, on this account also, dominating theme was about the burning of Quran in Sweden along with two reposts (by user named “**Jeck Vorobey**”) in uzbek regarding Iran-Afghan conflict over water issues and about World Labour Organisation. the post about the latter goes as

follows: “Ғарбнинг фисқ-фасод омили бўлмиш лойиҳаларини амалга оширишда Халқаро меҳнат ташкилотининг роли” (The role of the International Labor Organization in the implementation of projects that are a factor of corruption of the West). There was also a repost by user named “[Ахмад Одил](#)” titled “Зиндон хотиралари” туркумидан. Халифалик давлатини тилларингизга жойлаган Аллоҳга ҳамдлар бўлсин!. (From the series "Dungeon Memories". Praise be to God who placed the Caliphate in your languages!). This repost was one of such a series of posts where the talk is about the prison life of the religious prisoners. (Pics. 3, 4)

The open channel on **Facebook** called “**Turkiston Rus**” (2,1k followers, 1,7k likes) posted materials mainly about the socio-political situation in Central Asian countries especially Kyrgyzstan. During the monitoring period posts on this channel. were mostly found to be news buoyed with criticism against governments of the region. Moreover, posts mainly criticize as well as accuse the governments of CA countries of misinterpreting the role of Islam in their countries. The channel also posts about calling for standing up to the "Palestinian brothers". On this post there were criticism against Egypt and Turkiye for “failing” to actively support Palestinians. “...Вместо этого были слышны призывы к мобилизации мусульманской армии. Во время марша звучали вопросы: “Неужели армия Египта не в силах искоренить иудейское образование? Разве Иорданская армия не сможет уничтожить иудеев? Разве армии Турции и Пакистана не в состоянии освободить Куддус от захватчиков и восстановить государство Халифат, которое было обещано Аллахом и Его Посланником?!” ... Вслед за акцией, прошедшей в Анкаре, Абдуллах Иمامуулу выступил с речью о том, что и мусульмане, и Коран, и Ислам подвергаются нападению со всех точек мира. Он напомнил слова Пророка (С.А.В.): «Жизнь мусульманина более почтительна перед Аллахом, чем Кааба», и обращаясь к правителям, он сказал: "Разве вы не приведете в действие армии за кровь мусульман, которые более почтительны, чем Кааба? Разве среди вас нет храброго лидера, который повинуется Аллаху и Его Посланнику и освободит мечеть Аксо?" (.....Instead, calls were heard for the mobilization of the Muslim army. During the march, questions were raised: “Is the army of Egypt unable to eradicate Jewish education? Wouldn't the Jordanian army be able to destroy the Jews? Are the armies of Turkey and Pakistan not able to free Quddus from the invaders and restore the state of the Caliphate, which was promised by Allah and His Messenger?!” Following the action held in Ankara, Abdullah Imamuulu delivered a speech that Muslims, the Koran, and Islam are being attacked from all over the world. He recalled the words of the Prophet (S.A.W.): “The life of a Muslim is more respectful to Allah than the Kaaba“, and addressing the rulers, he said: “Will you not put in action armies for the blood of Muslims who are more respectful than Is there not a brave leader among you who will obey Allah and His Messenger and free the Akso Mosque?) Also, the channel propagates about the early period of the Islamic khalifate mainly the time of the Prophet. Also, this user posted material criticizing Kyrgyz government’s decision on closing Islamic schools and mosques and using the land for building Russian schools funded by Russian government. “...На фоне того, как увеличиваются различные проверки с последующими закрытиями исламских школ и медресе, которых на сегодня не хватает, правительство Кыргызстана определило места для строительства российских школ” (Against the background of how various inspections are increasing with the subsequent closure of Islamic schools and madrasahs,

which are currently in short supply, the government of Kyrgyzstan has identified sites for the construction of Russian schools). (Pic. 5, 6)



– Observed channels discussed events in Syria, touching on historical actions by the Assad regime as well as the current conflict. Condemnation was seen of Hizb ut Tahrir and Ixvan al-Muslimiyn by others saying they were failing to deliver. Russia was criticized repeatedly, with particular scorn for the government in Dagestan which was seen as being too pro-Moscow.

The Instagram users named **“tullab.sham” (24,8k followers)** and **“student_t22” (1,1 followers)** posted similar video materials containing lectures which are mainly about Jihad and establishing Caliphate. There is a video post where the narrator speaks about how “Bashar Assad’s “regime” on 12 July, 2012 massacred people in a village called al-Trimsa in northern Hama province of Syria (pic.7). These two accounts also criticize the political leadership of Dagestan region for being under Russia, and call Russia as its enemy. They also criticize “Hizb ut-Tahrir” for being too ideological and not acting practically and “Ikhvan al-Muslimiyn” for committing crimes as well as not following the rules of Allah.

The Instagram user named **“hamiz_az_zahrani” (19,9 followers)** posted short videos in which the narrator (the account puts him Hamis Az-Zahrani) speaks about the essence of Islam, what Quran says about particular things such as how to live a good live, what to do for being a good person and so on. The propagating how to live according to sharia and Quran.



– some changes were observed in a Channel called ‘Jihad’ which went from posting images of weapons to images showing both ISIS and al Qaeda material supportive of defending Muslims and fighting jihad.

Telegram channel called “Жихад” (Jihad, Link: <https://t.me/jixodiy1>) has 30 subscribers. In this channel, the dominating posts were about publishing the pictures of various weapons (mainly light weapons) until May of this year. However, since May, the channel has changed its tactics and started posting videos about glorifying the Jihad with a background music. Among those published materials, first dominating scenes are showing a dead person with either woman or a child kissing them as well as many gunned people holding up a coffin of a dead person with also background music. Second, there are many pictures and video posts showing the formation of armed militants with several flags mostly white and black with Arabic characters. Third, there are interesting video posts, with also background music, visualising the playing children on a playground and one man teaching them how to shut from a pistol. This channel seems to be propagating the ideology of both ISIS and Al-Qaeda as there are posts regarding the two. (pic. 15-18)

Kyrgyz language content

f – considerable criticism was observed of Kyrgyz government religious policy, including linking the closures of Madrassas/Mosques in Kyrgyzstan to the Quran burning in. A number of calls for Caliphate in Kyrgyzstan were observed, both by followers of pro-Caliphate groups like Hizb ut Tahrir, as well as others. There was also criticism of western policies towards Israel/Palestine and Sudan (both linked to recent events).

During this monitoring period, Facebook users “**Арстанов Чоро**” (2,1k friends, 117 followers) mainly published posts (mainly reposts from other sources) regarding the closing of mosques in different parts of Kyrgyzstan (for example As-Sarakhsii mosque in Kara-Suu district). “Кара-Суудагы ас-Сарахсий мечити санитариялык абал шылтоосу менен жабылып, 21-июлда жума намазы окутулбады. Негизи, жайкы каникулда миңдеген ата-энелер перзенттерин мечит-медреселерге тапшыруу үчүн кезек күтүп турушканда, орундар толуп калып, улам башка орундарга мухтаж болуп жатышканда, мечит-медреселерибиз бийлик тарабынан ушундай каршылыктарга учуроодо. Бул каафир империалисттердин динге каршы күрөшүнө малайлык кызмат кылуудан башка нерсе эмес!” (Al-Sarakhsii mosque in Kara-Suu was closed on the pretext of sanitary conditions, and Friday prayers were not held on July 21. Basically, during the summer holidays, when thousands of parents are waiting in line to send their children to mosques and madrasahs, when the places are full and they are in need of other places, our mosques and madrasahs are faced with such objections by the authorities. This is nothing but a servant to the infidel imperialists' fight against religion!). Another post about the closing of mosques went “Мечит-медреселерди жабуу, жакшылык алып келбейт.” (Closing mosques and madrassas will not bring good). (pic. 8-10). Although the criticism against the Kyrgyz government for closing mosques was a predominant narrative during this monitoring period, there are also posts (reposts) with harsh anti-China sentiments. This post called “Кытайлык дарыгерлер боо адамдын көзүнө акысыз операция жасашат” (Chinese doctors will perform free eye surgery on 600 people) criticized Chinese medical personal in Kyrgyzstan. Here are some examples from the post “Кытайлык дарыгерлер боо адамдын көзүнө акысыз операция жасашат Кабар: Кытайлык врачтар боо кыргызстандыкка көздүн катарактасына каршы акысыз операция жасайт. Бул тууралуу саламаттыкты сактоо министрлиги кабарлады.....” (Chinese doctors will perform free eye surgery on 600 people News: Chinese doctors will perform free cataract surgery on 600 Kyrgyz people. This was reported by the Ministry of Health.....). “Кытай курбай эле Кытай ээлик кылат дегени. Кытай ТЭЦти курду, кайра эле карыз кылып койду, кийин жол курду карыз кылды, бийлик кытайга элди кул кылганы жатат окшойт. Кытай эч качан кыргызга жакшылык кылайын дебейт” (It means that China will own it without building it. China built the thermal power plant, then loaned it again, and then built the road. China will never do good to Kyrgyz). (pic.11, 12).

Other Facebook accounts named “**Эркин Мамбетов**” (227 friends) and “**Чындык Акыйкат**” (2,1k followers) posted similar contents with abovementioned user. However, these two users also published posts in both Russian and Uzbek along with Kyrgyz language. The user “**Эркин Мамбетов**” published couple of posts regarding Kyrgyz

government's action against bloggers. The post goes as follows “Бийликтин блогерлердин үнүн басуу максаты. 14-июлда блогер Улукбек Карыбек уулу бейбаштыкка шек саналып, 48 саатка камакка алынган. 16-июлда бөгөт чарасын караган Ош шаардык соту Карыбек уулун эч жакка кетпөө тил каты менен бошотту. Ош шаардык милициясынын басма сөз кызматкери Абсаттар Тавакаловдун айтымында, Карыбек уулу Ош шаарындагы төрөткананын башкы дарыгери Асылкан Асанованын жазган арызынын негизинде кармалган.” (The government's goal is to silence bloggers. On July 14, blogger Ulukbek Karybek uulu was suspected of bullying and was arrested for 48 hours. On July 16, the Osh city court, which considered the restraining order, released Karybek uul with a warning not to go anywhere. According to Absattar Tavakalov, press officer of the Osh city police, Karybek uulu was arrested based on the complaint written by Asylkan Asanova, the chief doctor of the maternity hospital in Osh). This user also left a post that propagates the “Hizb ut-Tahrir”. Here is an example of it “Ислам Умматы Хизб-ут-Тахрир менен биргеликте аракет кылууга шашылышы керек” (Islamic Ummat must hurry to act together with Hizb-ut-Tahrir). (pic. 13,14).

Facebook user “**Мусульмандар группасы**” (2,1k followers) mainly reposts various publications from other sources that criticize countries for oppressing Muslims for several years, and call for a global Jihad. The page also posted videos showing violence and destruction, as well as videos showing acute social problems such as hunger and homelessness. These posts blame secular countries for contemporary situation and propagate that establishing Caliphate will solve all these problems. (pic. 19-22)

Facebook user “**Turkistankg Turkistankg**” published mainly informative posts about religious and political news in Islamic world. Moreover, there are some posts related to the ideologies of “Hizb ut-Tahrir” as well as materials propagating Jihad. Posts on this page further call for the type of Jihad which is against even Muslim “regimes”⁷

Facebook user “**Turkistan-kg**” posts mainly about religious and political events in Kyrgyzstan as well as in the world, some posts call for establishing Islamic state in Kyrgyzstan. Also, there are some posts show the attributes of an extremist organizations.

Facebook group called “**Turkestan-KG группа**” regularly posts materials about religious and political events happening in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan and the world, as well as information about the establishment of an Islamic state in Kyrgyzstan, moreover, information about the activities of extremist groups. The predominant topic in this channel is about criticizing the religious policy of Kyrgyzstan. For example, such posts as “ҚИРҒИЗИСТОНДА МАСЖИДЛАРГА ХУЖУМ/ MADRASALAR BERKILISHI” (ATTACK ON MOSQUES/ ATTACK OF MADRASES IN KYRGYZSTAN), “Данияда кайрадан Куран өрттөлдү, Кыргызстанда мечит-медреселер жабылууда” (The Koran

⁷ “Оо, мубарек жердин калкы, сабыр кылгыла жана сабырдуулукта үстөм болгула о.э. ар дайым жихад үчүн даяр болуп тургула! Анткени, силер ыйманыңар жана кайратыңар менен бийиксиңер. Умматыңарга жүздөнүп, алардан нусрат талап кылгыла. Анын ойгонуу кыймылдаткычы жана улуулугунун булагы болгула. Диниңерге, Умматыңарга жана нусрат-жеңишиңер колунда болгон Роббиңерге ишенгиле. Моюн сунуу долбоорлорунан жана малай мусулман режимдеринен баш тарткыла. Аллахтын рахматынан таптакыр үмүтсүз болбогула!” (O people of the blessed land, be patient and prevail in patience o.e. Always be ready for jihad! Because you are high with your faith and courage. Face your ummah and ask them for help. Be the engine of his awakening and the source of his greatness. Believe in your religion, your Ummah and your Lord, in whose hand is your victory. Reject subjugation projects and Malay Muslim regimes. Do not despair of God's grace!)

was burned again in Denmark, mosques and madrassas are being closed in Kyrgyzstan) demonstrate the dominant narrative of this group. Also, this group has almost the same content with the Facebook page called "Turkistan-kg".

Facebook user “Хизб ут-Тахрир маалымат бөлүмү” (97 followers, 17 likes) posted materials mainly about restoring Islamic Califate, even congratulation posts actively call for the creation of a Caliphate. Several other posts sharply criticize Western countries’ foreign policy regarding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and the conflict in Sudan. Also, one post “Басма сөз баянаты. Халифалык мамлекети жок болгондуктан Нигерия балдары ачкалыктан кырылып набыт болууда” (Press release. Because there is no caliphate, Nigeria's children are starving to death) with a picture of starving children puts it as a result of a Caliphate absence. «Шек-күмөнсүз, Халифалык мамлекети Умматтын коргоочусу болуп, Ислам шарияты астында Умматты коопсуздук жана бакубатчылык менен камсыздай алган жалгыз түзүм» (Undoubtedly, the State of the Caliphate is the defender and the only structure that can ensure the security and prosperity of the Ummah in accordance with the Islamic Sharia). (Pic. 23-25)



– Criticisms were observed about Kyrgyz democracy, including threats to those who participate. Reference was also made to the Quran burnings in Sweden. Particular reference was made on the closing of masjids (mosques) in various parts of Kyrgyzstan. Also, criticism about Chinese pharmacists.

Instagram user “turkistankg” (744 posts, 433 followers) instagram page posts similar contents with the pages on Facebook. Therefore, most of the posts are about socio-political issues also with a religious focus for instance the post “Бишкекте да мечит-медреселер текшерилүүдө” (Mosques and madrassas are also being inspected in Bishkek) says “Шаардык казыят тарабынан түзүлгөн атайын комиссия 11-августтан тарта шаардагы бардык диний мекемелердин ишмердүүлүгүн текшерүүдө. Анын алкагында диний окуу жайлардын жана мечиттердин курулуш документтеринин тактыгына, санитардык жана өрт коопсуздугу талаптарынын сакталышына жана медреселердеги окуу программаларына көңүл бурулат.” (The special commission established by the city judge is inspecting the activities of all religious institutions in the city from August 11. In its framework, attention is paid to the accuracy of construction documents of religious schools and mosques, compliance with sanitary and fire safety requirements, and educational programs in madrasahs). Another post criticizes the election policy in Kyrgyzstan saying “Шайлоого катышпагандарга айып салынат” (Those who do not participate in the election will be fined). Moreover, Quran burning in Sweden and many other international events were on focus for example one post speaks about the food crisis “Европа Союзу “азык-түлүк кризиси” тууралуу эскертти” (The European Union has warned about the "food crisis").

Kazakh language content



– analysis of this platform during this monitoring period showed most of the content are critical about the religious breaching of the laws and seemingly supportive of the government religion policy.

The Instagram user “**dynmendyl**” (4691 followers, 1676 posts) published 27 posts and most of them were videos. The language of this channel was dual mixed with some Russian language posts. During the monitoring period, many publications were about the Aid Fitr along with posts about the arrest of people for breaching religious laws and regulations in Kazakhstan. “ЗАСТАВЛЯЛИ ЧИТАТЬ НАМАЗ: ШКОЛЬНИЦА СБЕЖАЛА ОТ РЕЛИГИОЗНЫХ РОДИТЕЛЕЙ В АТЫРАУ” (FORCED TO READ NAMAZH: SCHOOLGIRL RUNNED FROM RELIGIOUS PARENTS IN АТЫРАУ). (pic. 29) “ПРИВЕРЖЕНЦЫ ДРТ ОСУЖДЕНЫ ЗА ВЫМОГАТЕЛЬСТВО В АКТОБЕ” (DRT FAMILY CONDEMNED FOR EXTORTIATION IN АКТОБЕ). (pic. 30). The analysis of this account shows that most of the content are critical about the religious breaching of the laws and seemingly supportive of the government religion policy. Also, the Instagram accounts named “**din_dialog**” (22.8 k followers, 3193 posts) and “**otpan_news**” (21.9k followers, 1231 posts) published similar content with this account.

2.2. Report for August 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Key Points

In this report, we monitored Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz languages segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the month of August 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms⁸.

- *Women and women's body being the source of income in the burgeoning business model in capitalistic societies.*
- *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, though a number of calls also for fighters to go to Palestine.*
- *Quran burning in Sweden and Denmark was highlighted alongside condemnation of treatment of Muslim schools in Kyrgyzstan.*
- *Calls for the building of a Caliphate in Kyrgyz language segment of Facebook (calls came from both Hizb ut-Tahrir and Al-Qaeda affiliated/inspired channels).*
- *Calls for independence of Tatarstan as an individual entity from Russia were also observed with a specific focus given to the cultural and historical differences.*
- *Criticism of prominent groups "Hizb ut-Tahrir" for failing to be practical in its advance of a Caliphate and being "hypocritic" in its words and actions.*
- *Some criticisms were observed against Assad's regime by blaming him for attacking civilians in Ghouta (2015) and Yarmouk (2013) (pic 6,7), for example. These users are seemingly ISIS or "Jabhat Fatah al-Sham" sympathizers.*
- *Some posts were also centered around how the governments of the Central Asian countries oppressed Muslims.*
- *Posts about the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham were also observed in both Russian and Kyrgyz language segments primarily criticizing the Bashar Assad's regime.*
- *Posts and comments with a strong nationalistic view were observed to be publishing with an anti-Russian inclination.*


Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China – Kyrgyz language page on Facebook named «**Жытайдын баскынчылыгына каршыбыз**» (We are against Chinese invasion) was in focus

⁸ The reporting period covered 13 Facebook and 5 Instagram, 1 YouTube and 1 Telegram accounts. All these accounts with more than several thousand audience (both friends and followers combined).

- Afghanistan/Pakistan – no prominent mention
- Leadership changes – no changes reported
- Funding/fundraising – no notable discussions of fundraising were observed
- Travel patterns – no notable discussions of travel patterns were observed

Russian language content

 – *During the reporting period, channels mostly published contents about separatism mainly Tatar separatism coupled with nationalistic ideology of Turkism. Also, there were posts supporting Hizb ut-Tahrir. Posters also discussed how Central Asian countries oppress their Muslim population. Dominating theme was also about the burning of Quran in Sweden. The issue of women in the West also touched by some posters.*

The Facebook user «*Живая Умма*» (24k followers, 7,6k likes) published posts containing short articles from the channel editors that criticize Western countries and call for reunion of Muslims. Some of these posts include the following «Запад боится объединения мусульман» (West is afraid of the Muslims reunion) (pic.1), and when asked whether the government of European countries is involved in the burning and humiliation of the Quran, they answer the following: «Если неверные государства, их политики и спецслужбы долгое время копят тяжёлую злобу на мусульман, то, конечно же, когда-нибудь извергнут свой яд против них» (If the authorities of non-believers, their politicians and special services have been accumulating a heavy grudge against Muslims for a long time, then, of course, someday they will spew their poison against them) (pic.2). In their posts, they call for establishing the Caliphate along with some publications such as «Госаппараты халифата в правлении и администрации», «Экономическая система Халифата» ("State Apparatuses of the Caliphate in the Board and Administration", "Economic System of the Caliphate") (pic.3). Interestingly, the user also touched the women topic and published several posts addressing the deepest cultural “inferiority” of the “Western” civilization regarding women “issues”⁹. (pic.4,5,6)

The Facebook user «*Хизб ум-Тahrup Украина*» (760 followers) shares similar content with its Instagram page named «*hizbuttahrir_ua*».

The Facebook user «*БАТАНЧЫ*» (1,8k followers, 1,6k likes) posits itself as an official page for Tatar movements in Russia. The user propagates the nationalistic ideology of Turkism, conservatism, progressivism, and separatism¹⁰ (pic.7). Also, major topics posted in the

⁹ СРЕДСТВА МАССОВОЙ ИНФОРМАЦИИ, КАПИТАЛИСТИЧЕСКИЕ КОМПАНИИ И ЖЕНЩИНА
Часть 2

И мы также видим, что #западная_культура через сотни тысяч фотографий, показ мод, фильмов и обложек журналов распространила модели идеального женского тела, его критерии и стандарты: что должно быть видно из этого и что не должно. (MEDIA, CAPITALIST COMPANIES AND WOMAN

Part 2

And we also see that #western_culture, through hundreds of thousands of photographs, fashion shows, films, and magazine covers, has spread models of the ideal female body, its criteria and standards: what should be seen from this and what should not.)


¹⁰ Татарстан - не Россия. “История татарского народа...” (Tatarstan is not Russia

channel are about traditions, culture, history, language, religion, and information about ongoing events among the Tatars in Russia. During this monitoring period, the most dominant topics were about the history, tradition, and culture of Tatars in Russia.

The Facebook user «**Рафис Кауанов**» posits itself as a Prime Minister to the Independent Government of Tatarstan. In his posts, he promotes the idea of an independent Tatarstan, which is currently under the rule of Russia.¹¹ (pic.8) in these posts the publisher talks about how more than 400 years Tatarstan were under terrible oppression - Russian colonialism. (pic.9, 10,11)

The Facebook user «**Turkiston Rus**» (2,1k followers, 1,7k likes) published posts that gives information about how the Central Asian countries oppress Muslims (pic.12). In their posts, they also published news covering the social problems of Central Asian countries: «В Туркменистане дефицит продуктов заставляет граждан выходить на протесты» (In Turkmenistan, the shortage of food forces citizens to protest); «В Кыргызстане введен режим чрезвычайной ситуации в энергетической отрасли» (An emergency regime has been introduced in the energy sector in Kyrgyzstan) (pic.13,14). Also, expressed condolences to the deceased members of “Hizb ut-Tahrir” calling them «brothers». (pic.15)

The Facebook user «**Рустам Ахмедов**» (1,9k friends) mainly reposts the materials from the sources such as Hizb ut-Tahrir Ukraine, Hizb ut-Tahrir Uzbekistan, Living Umma (which call for the creation of a Caliphate and criticize the policies of secular Muslim countries) and many other videos containing extreme religious views. During this monitoring period, on this account also, dominating theme was about the burning of Quran in Sweden. There was also a repost by user named “[Ахмад Одил](#)” titled “Зиндон хотиралари” туркумидан (From the "Dungeon Memories" series). In their posts they use the symbols of Al-Qaeda and Taliban movement.

 - Observed channels discussed events in Syria, touching on historical actions by the Assad regime as well as the current conflict. Also, there were calls for the Muslims of Central Asia and Caucasus to join the fights in Syria. Some posts also criticised the Saudi government on the burning of the Quran in Sweden. Calls for supporting ISIS were also noted. Posts with distinguished high-quality about the group called Hayat Tahrir al-Sham which strongly criticised the Bashar Assad's regime were also observed. high-quality and thoughtful materials, which distinguishes it from other profiles. Some posts also show the Russian military campaigns in Syria's Idlib with disdain. Russia was criticized repeatedly, with particular scorn for the government in Chechnya which was seen as being too pro-Moscow as well as criticize fighters from the Chechen Republic fighting for Russia in Ukrain war and call them «Putin's slaves».

History of the Tatar people...)

¹¹ НАША ЦЕЛЬ-НЕЗАВИСИМОСТЬ ТАТАРСТАНА “Вот уже 456 лет татары находятся под гнетом самого свирепого человеческого деяния — русского колониализма...” (OUR GOAL IS THE INDEPENDENCE OF TATARSTAN “For 456 years the Tatars have been under the yoke of the most ferocious human deed — Russian colonialism...”)

The Instagram users «*tullab.sham*» (24,8k followers); *student_t22* (1,1 followers) published similar contents during this monitoring period. They published videos criticizing the Arab countries of the Middle East (specifically Iraq) for having relations with Assads regime and called them "traitors" (pic.16). They openly oppose the diasporas of Shiites in Syria and accuse Iran of recruiting children and training them to become potential combatants (pic.17). Arslan Bulgarsky, the speaker of «*student_t22*» whose posts have been constantly reposted by «*tullab.sham*», calls for Muslims being more braver the fact that Muslims should not be afraid of police and law enforcement agencies of their countries (pic.18), he also propagates that Muslims of Central Asia and Caucasus should join Jihad in Syria. In many posts, the narrator praises jihad, speaks about paradise. Also, posted video shows the scenes of wounded militants as heroes. (pic 19,20)]

! *Author's note: These users share some similarities in their criticism against Assad's regime by blaming him for attacking civilians in Ghouta (2015) and Yarmouk (2013) (pic 21,22), for example. These users are seemingly ISIS or "Jabhat Fatah al-Sham" sympathisers.*

The Instagram user «*hamiz_az_zahrani*» (17,1k followers) posted 12 short videos in which the narrator (the account puts him Hamis Az-Zahrani) speaks about the essence of Islam, what Quran says about particular things such as how to live a good life, what to do for being a good person and so on. The propagating how to live according to sharia and Quran.

During this monitoring period, the Instagram user «*hizbuttahrir_ua*» (760 followers) made 50 posts mainly news information in political and economic nature. Also, there are comments from the editors of the channel, as well as posts with an Islamic ideology. The comments on politics and economy include the followings: «Очередная агрессия на Священный Коран под защитой правительства Нидерландов» (Another aggression on the Holy Koran under the protection of the Dutch government) (pic.23), criticism of the Saudi government on the burning of the Koran in Sweden (pic.24), «Запад уже давно утратил лидерство в идеологическом смысле» (The West has long lost the ideological leadership) (pic.25), «Сожжение Корана – дело не в личности, а в ненависти Запада» (The burning of the Koran is not about personality, but about the hatred of the West) (pic. 26) «Гендерное равенство – это порочный проект, вдохновленный шайтаном» (Gender equality is a vicious project inspired by Shaitan) (pic.27) «Ливан запрещает, а Саудовская Аравия разрешает фильм, пропагандирующий ЛГБТ» (Lebanon bans, and Saudi Arabia allows a film promoting LGBTQ) (pic.28) «Французский министр призвал опасаться Халифата» (French minister urged to fear the Caliphate) (pic.29) «Капиталистическая система и оон — причина голода и страданий» (The capitalist system and the un are the cause of hunger and suffering) (pic.30)

The Instagram user «*blvck_rose13*» (6.6k followers) published 30 videos during this monitoring period. The main theme of those posts was about organising the Islamic education and lifestyle. Also, there were a propaganda posts about living according to sharia and Quran. However, there are some publications propagating Jihad and call it «благая смерть» (Blessed death) (pic.31,32,33)

The Instagram user «*_axi_muvahhid_qab_rkan*» (55 followers) posted 51 videos during this monitoring period. Most of the videos were found to be propagating the preferences of living according to the Islamic traditions – Sharia and Quran. Among those posts there were also videos illustrating the flag of ISIS (pic.34, 35). In their videos they show women arrested in Syria and call for getting them free, by joining the Jihad (pic.36). They also publish lectures by Ahmad Medinsky, who is believed to have sworn allegiance to ISIS. (pic.37). Therefore, this user is seemingly an ISIS sympathiser.

The Instagram user «*abdullah._kostekskiy*» (34.9k followers) has been found to publish 11 videos during the monitoring period. This account seems to be the personal profile of the radical preacher Abdullah Kostetsky, who, in one of video-lectures, complained (criticised) about suffering Muslim women in Syria: «Куда делись мужчины этой уммы? Раньше из-за одной мусульманки, мусульмане собирали целую армию чтобы освободить ее, а сегодня нам совсем плевать на наших сестер, сердце разрывается от таких вопросов» (where have the men of this Ummah gone? Previously, because of one Muslim woman, Muslims gathered an entire army to free her, but today we don't care about our sisters at all, our hearts are torn by such violence towards them in prisons) (pic.38). He also published videos propagating that Jihad is the only right path for Muslims and jihadists will certainly reach their goals. (pic.39) therefore, the user more likely to propagate jihadism.

The Instagram user «*alwarisung*» (553 followers) posted 100 videos during the monitoring period. The content of these profile can be divided into three directions – 1. Videos with scenes of real fighting (pic. 40), posts illustrating the training battalions of Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, which is the Syrian branch of Al-Qaeda (pic. 41,42,43,44); 2. Videos with interviews of the fighters of the above-mentioned organization and reports from the front line; Documentaries about Assad's policy, criticizing it and calling for fighting against his regime. (pic.45,46)

! Author's note: This account seems to be a Russian-language version of profile actively covering the activities of the organization called Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, which publishes surprisingly high-quality and thoughtful materials, which distinguishes it from other profiles. The content of the account strongly criticised the Bashar Assad's regime.

The Instagram user «*abu.daud.sh*» (219 followers) published materials similar to «alwarisung» such as videos containing the real fighting scenes and fighters of organizations such as Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (pic. 47,48), they also call for Jihad showing videos of suffered civilians, blaming Asad's regime for it. (pic.49, 50)

The Instagram user «*Dagestanifisham*» (1.7k followers) is observed to be a private blog of the “mujahid” from Sham (Syria), who posted only 6 videos during the monitored period. In his posts the fighter shows the videos of them being bombed by Russian forces and streets of the city Idlib.

The Instagram user «*shahada1443*» (651 followers) published 46 which mainly propagate the idea of liberating the Caucasus as it is illustrated on the main page (pic.51). Their posts include the following «Несмотря на то, что в оккупированной Чечне безнаказанно

орудуют западные агенты, Кадыров заявляет, что именно они являются хозяевами республики» (Despite the fact that Western agents operate with impunity in occupied Chechnya, Kadyrov declares that they are the masters of the republic) (pic.52). They blame Kadyrov's regime for abduction, murder and illegal arrest of civilians and criticize the Chechen authorities. (pic.53) They also criticize fighters from the Chechen Republic for fighting on the side of Russia in the Ukrainian war and call them «Putin's slaves» (pic.54).

The Instagram user «**Muaz_23_**» (**633 followers**) posted 5 videos one of which speaks about the American prison torture. «Афия Сиддики Пакистанский ученый-ядерщик одна из немногих женщин-ученых в мире которым Аллах дал такую возможность. Ей предложили работать с Америкой, Но она отказалась. После чего она предстала перед американским судом по ложному обвинению, в котором она не смогла доказать свою невиновность. Ее приговорили к 86 годам. Ее сестра рассказывала что Афию Сиддики пытали и насиловали на протяжении 5 лет. От изнасилований она забеременела в тюрьме.» (Afiya Siddiqui is a Pakistani nuclear scientist. And she is one of the few women scientists in the world to whom Allah has given such an opportunity. She was offered to work with America, but she refused. After that, she appeared before an American court on false charges, in which she could not prove her innocence. She was sentenced to 86 years. Her sister said that Afiya Siddiqui was tortured and raped for 5 years. The rapes got her pregnant in prison). It seems that with this post they are promoting the idea that the West is torturing Muslims, thereby trying to arouse anger and a sense of injustice among Muslim readers. (pic.55)

The Instagram users «**lemka4567**» (**158 followers**) and «**tsehoev77**» (**3k followers**) mainly published videos and photos teaching Arabic, as well as quotes from hadith and calls to pray and live according to Sharia. (pic.56, 57,58)

Kyrgyz language content

f – *considerable criticism was observed of Kyrgyz government religious policy, including linking the closures of Madrassas/Mosques in Kyrgyzstan to the Quran burning in Sweden. A number of calls for Caliphate in Kyrgyzstan were observed, both by followers of pro-Caliphate groups like Hizb ut Tahrir, as well as others. There was also criticism of western policies towards Israel/Palestine. A handful of users also fiercely criticize the Chinese for mining operation in Kyrgyz land.*

The Facebook user «**Turkistonkg Turkistonkg**» posts mainly about religious and political events in Kyrgyzstan as well as in the world, some posts call for establishing Islamic state in Kyrgyzstan. Also, they criticize the Kyrgyz educational system along with closing mosques throughout the country. Here are some of those posts: «При этом Образованные в этой стране оказываются капиталистами, которые прочно устанавливают капитализм в нашей стране, а необразованные-рабами, которые без презрения подчиняются капитализму. Если мы посмотрим правде в глаза, не обманывая себя, в общественной жизни мы увидим, как наше население блуждает по извращенному полю воспитания, возвращаясь во тьму невежества» (At the same

time, the educated ones in this country turn out to be capitalists who firmly establish capitalism in our country, and the uneducated are slaves who submit to capitalism without contempt. If we face the truth, without deceiving ourselves, in public life we will see how our population wanders through the perverted field of education, returning to the darkness of ignorance). «Политика здравоохранения в государстве халифат» (Health policy in the Caliphate State). They also criticize the governments of secular Central Asian countries for abusing Muslims «В Туркменистане прошли обыски в домах мусульман» (Houses of Muslims have been searched in Turkmenistan) «В Бишкеке также проверяется деятельность мечетей и медресе» (Mosques and madrassas are also being checked in Bishkek) (pic. 59,60,61,62)

The Facebook user «*Turkiston-kg*» (1,3k followers) published similar posts with its previous contents. One post particularly condemns the Kyrgyz government for allegedly preventing people from learning and practicing Islam: «Их цель-держать ислам подальше от власти. Это потому, что политический ислам не позволяет им судить мусульман по своему усмотрению по западным законам. Поэтому любой человек, поднявший политическую сторону ислама, в их глазах считается настоящим террористом» (Their goal is to keep Islam away from power. This is because political Islam does not allow them to judge Muslims at their discretion according to Western laws. Therefore, any person who has raised the political side of Islam is considered a real terrorist in their eyes) (pic. 63)

The Facebook user «*Turkiston-KG группа*» (1.8k followers) regularly posts materials about religious and political events happening in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan and the world. The predominant topic in this channel is about criticizing the religious policy of Kyrgyzstan. The account posted almost similar content with the Facebook page called "Turkiston Turkiston kg". They also repost contents from profiles that quote extremist organizations such as Hizb ut-Tahrir. (pic. 64)

The Facebook user «*Роя гезуми*» (152 followers) published 10 posts. The post published on August 3, 2023, was clearly sympathizer of Al-Qaeda and speaks about the indiscriminate brutality of the group called “Hayat Tahrir al -Sham” in Syria: “Курайштыктардын жахилияттагы ахлагына карагыла жана Хаят Тахрир Шамдын ахлаксыздыгына карагыла... Курайш кафирлери Пайгамбарыбыз Мухаммад... Бирок, андай кылышкан жок. Алар Пайгамбар алайхиссаламдан коркушканы үчүн эмес, балким, тууган аялдардын уятын сакташканы үчүн бастырып киришкен жок...” (Look at the morals of Quraysh in ignorance and look at the immorality of Hayat Tahrir Sham...When the infidels of Quraish wanted to kill the Prophet Muhammad (PВН)... However, they did not do so. They did not enter because they were afraid of the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, but perhaps because of the shame of their female relatives). Some posts were also in support of establishing Islamic Khalifate initially through teachings and education: “Мусулмандар кыйналып жаткан таалим көйгөйлөрүн чечүүнүн жалгыз чечими. Мусулмандар кыйналып жаткан таалим көйгөйлөрүн чечүүнүн жалгыз чечими – Халифалык мамлекетин тикелөө. Себеби, Халифалыкты тикелөө биринчиден фарз. Кала берсе, Халифалык мамлекети өкүм сүргөн кылымдарда Ислам Умматын атак-даңк чокусуна жана бүткүл адамзаттын жетекчисине айлантууга жетишип, бардык тармакта биринчи болду”. (Teaching is the

only solution to the problems faced by Muslims. The only solution to the problems of teaching that Muslims are suffering from is the establishment of the Caliphate. The reason is that establishing the Caliphate is a fard first. In the centuries during which the Caliphate reigned, he managed to make the Islamic Ummah the pinnacle of glory and the leader of all mankind and was the first in all fields).

The Facebook user «**Хизб ут-Тахрир маалымат бөлүмү**» (100 followers) published 3 posts. In these posts, they criticized the Kyrgyz government for being dependent on foreign powers. «1991-жылдан бери 31-август Кыргызстандын көз карандысыздык алган күнү катары белгиленип келет. А Кыргызстан чындыгында эгемендүүбү?» (Since 1991, August 31 has been celebrated as Kyrgyzstan's Independence Day. Is Kyrgyzstan really independent?). The profile picture illustrates the attributes of extremist organizations such as Hizb ut-Tahrir. (pic. 65,66)

The Facebook user «**Арстанов Чоро**» (2,1k friends, 117 followers) posts (mainly reposts from other sources) regarding the policy of the current president. In the following example, the author of the post questions the Sadir Japarov's educational policy regarding religious disciplines: «Садыр Жапаров еще до того, как стал президентом, выступил с инициативой ввести в школах урок "Иман". На сегодняшний день эта тема изменилась на "история развития религий". Это связано с тем, что страны-колонизаторы не довольны тем, что Ислам в школах Кыргызстана и других исламских стран, где большая часть населения-мусульмане.» (Sadyr Zhaparov, even before he became president, took the initiative to introduce a lesson in schools "Iman." To date, this topic has changed to "the history of the development of religions". This is due to the fact that the colonizing countries are dissatisfied with the fact that Islam is in the schools of Kyrgyzstan and other Islamic countries, where most of the population are Muslims). They also repost content from the Facebook profiles such as «**Turkiston-KG гpynна**», «**Turkiston-kg**», «**Turkistonkg Turkistonkg**». (pic. 67,68,69)

The Facebook user «**Мусульмандар гpynnасы**» (2,1k followers) mainly reposts various publications from other sources that criticize countries for oppressing Muslims for several years, and call for a global Jihad. Its slogan on the main page says «Бардык Кыргызстан мусульмандары бирикеле Алланын жолуна кызмат кылалы урматту мумун мусульмандар бул жерде Хизб ут Тахрирге орун жок» (All Muslims of Kyrgyzstan let's serve the way of Allah, **there is no place for Hizb ut Tahrir here**). However, it reposts contents including the texts of Hizb ut-Tahrir Uzbekistan for showing their "hypocrisy" (difference between their ideology and actions). (pic. 70,71)

The name of the Facebook user «**Кытайдын баскынчылыгына каршыбыз**» (7.k followers) means «We are against the Chinese invasion». They actively oppose the mining of Kyrgyz fields by Chinese companies. Here are some of their posts: «Эй эл журт, Аллах байлыкты бийликтеги бир ууч адамдарга жаратпаган, жалпы адамзат үчүн жараткан, андан баарыбыз пайдаланууга укугубуз бар. Элдин байлыгын элге бергиле!» (O people, Allah has created wealth for all mankind, not for a handful of people in power, and we all have the right to use it. Give people the wealth of the nation!); Бийликте жалан саткындар иштет окшойт, өзүбүздүн өндүрүштү колдобой кытайдын өтпөй калган автобустарын толтуруп жатышат. (It seems that deceitful traitors are working in

power, who fill Chinese buses with our raw materials, without supporting their own production); «Акылбек Жапаров бийликке келишке чейин мурунку бийликтин Кытайга болгон келишимдер кыянат деп келип, бүгүн өзү ошо жолдо баратат. Буларда элди жерди ойлоо деген түшүнүк жок экен, эптеп сатып байыштын эле амалы экен. Кытай келишим түзгөндө эч качан эки тараптын пайдасы үчүн же өнүгүп алсын дебейт, алар басып алуу, колония кылуу көз карашы менен берет. Кытай менен келишим кылды дегени кытайга кул болду дегени эле болот, мына далилдер.» (Before coming to power, Akylbek Zhaparov stated that the former government abused agreements with China, and today he himself is following this path. When China enters into a treaty, it never says that both sides should prosper, they do it from the point of view of conquest, colonization.) (pic. 72,73)



– closure of the mosques along with raising socio-political issues in the country were a prime focus of the monitored account which shares almost the same content with a similar Facebook user.

The Instagram user «*turkistankg*» (433 followers) posits itself as an Islamic, political, analytical website and published 30 videos. The Instagram page posts similar contents with the pages on Facebook. Therefore, most of the posts are about socio-political issues also with a religious focus.

Kazakh language content



– analysis of this platform during this monitoring period showed most of the content are critical about breaching the religious regulations and laws. The post was seemingly supportive of the government religion policy.

The Instagram user “*dynmendyl*” (4691 followers, 1676 posts) published 16 video posts. The language of this channel was dual mixed with some Russian publications. Posts on this page were mainly supportive of the political narratives of the Kazakh government: “Қазақтың діндегі дәстүрлі жолы – ата-бабамыз ұстанған ханафи мәзһабы. Халқымыздың дүниетанымы да, дәстүрі де, әдет-ғұрпы да сол ұстанған діни сенімімізге негізделген. «Дәстүрлі ислам» деген түсініктің түп мәні осында” (The traditional way of Kazakh religion is the Hanafi mazhab that our ancestors followed. Both the world knowledge, tradition, and customs of our people are based on our religious beliefs. The basic meaning of "Traditional Islam" is here). Posts also call for the core idea of Islam – praying to be unconditionally followed: “НАМАЗСЫЗ ӨМІР СҮРУГЕ БОЛМАЙДЫ• ЕСКЕРТ, РАСЫНДА ЕСКЕРТУ МҮМІНДЕРГЕ ПАЙДА БЕРЕДІ.(ЗАРИЯТ/55)” (It is impossible to live without prayer WARNING, IN REALITY WARNING BENEFITS BELIEVERS. (THE SUN RISE / 55)). The user published post about so called “Suleimanjists” (pic. 74) the post goes as following: “В казахстанских СМИ время от времени появляется информация о разоблачении так называемых сулейманджистов. Так, в начале года стало известно об обысках в одном из филиалов ассоциации благотворительных учреждений «Жібек жолы»

в Алматы.... «Там нас учили идее, что к Аллаху нельзя призывать самим, что устаз — это некий трансформатор. Обращаться к Аллаху нужно только через него. А то якобы мы сгорим. Мы говорим: „Устаза же нет в живых“. Но они нас учили, что он не умер, а превратился в властелина духовного мира. Нам дают его фотографию, представляешь, будто он сидит перед тобой, плачешь», — рассказал Ербол Кудабаяев... Также он сообщил, что сулейманджисты тайно вывозят детей в Турцию для обучения. По последним данным, в РК действует 92 пансионата, принадлежащих сулейманджистам. Фонды регистрируются на частных лица, причем разные. Отследить связь между членами организации — затруднительно. Названия фондов выбираются абстрактные и уводящие от сути, например, «Абай» или «Бекет ата» (From time to time, information appears in the Kazakh media about the exposure of the so-called Suleymanjists. Thus, at the beginning of the year it became known about searches in one of the branches of the Zhibek Zholy association of charitable institutions in Almaty.. “There we were taught the idea that we cannot call to Allah ourselves, that ustaz is a kind of transformer. You need to turn to Allah only through him. Otherwise, supposedly we will burn. We say: “Ustaz is no longer alive.” But they taught us that he did not die but turned into the ruler of the spiritual world. They give us a photograph of him, you imagine that he is sitting in front of you, you cry,” said Erbol Kudabaev... He also said that the Suleymanjists secretly take children to Turkey for education. According to the latest data, there are 92 boarding houses in the Republic of Kazakhstan owned by Suleimanjists. Funds are registered in the name of private individuals, and different ones at that. It is difficult to trace connections between members of an organization. The names of the funds are chosen to be abstract and distracting from the essence, for example, “Abai” or “Becket ata).



- The user with a strong nationalistic view on this platform was observed to be publishing posts and comments exclusively with an anti-Russian inclination.

The Facebook user «*Жаңа Qazaqstan*» (288k followers) mainly reposts from other users that criticise the Kazakhs for its unwillingness to “eradicate” the influence of Russian culture, which persists in the region as a post-Soviet consequence. They support the idea of excluding the discipline called Russian literature from the teaching syllabus of public schools (pic.75). Moreover, the posts also were critical about the appropriation of Kazakh enterprises by Russian entrepreneurs: «Россия входит в нас без войны! Кулыбаев завод будет собственностью российского олигарха...» ("Russia enters us without war! Kulybayev plant will be the property of a Russian oligarch...") (pic.76). Some posts say: «Если вы отдали своего ребенка в русскую школу – выбирайте себе место в доме престарелых!» ("If you have sent your child to a Russian-language school, choose a place in a nursing home!") meaning that Russian-language schools will spoil the upbringing of children, distancing them from morality and respect for parents. (pic.77)

2.3. Report for 1-11 September 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Key Points

In this report, we monitored Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz languages segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the month of August 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms¹².

- *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, through a number of calls also for fighters to go to Palestine.*
- *Calls for the building of a Caliphate in Kyrgyz language segment of Facebook (calls came from both Hizb ut-Tahrir and Al-Qaeda affiliated/inspired channels).*
- *Calls for independence of Tatarstan as an individual entity from Russia were also observed with a specific focus given to the cultural and historical differences.*
- *Some criticisms were observed against Assad's regime by blaming him for imprisoning and abusing Muslim women. These users are seemingly ISIS or "Jabhat Fatah al-Sham" sympathizers.*
- *Some posts were also centered around how the governments of the Central Asian countries oppressed Muslims.*
- *Posts about the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham were also observed in both Russian and Kyrgyz language segments primarily criticizing the Bashar Assad's regime.*
- *Posts and comments with a strong nationalistic view were observed to be publishing with an anti-Russian inclination.*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China – no prominent mention
- Afghanistan/Pakistan – no prominent mention
- Leadership changes – no changes reported
- Funding/fundraising – no notable discussions of fundraising were observed
- Travel patterns – no notable discussions of travel patterns were observed

¹² The reporting period covered 9 Facebook and 10 Instagram profiles with more than several thousand audience (both friends and followers combined).

Russian language content

f – During the reporting period, channels mostly published contents about separatism mainly Tatar separatism coupled with nationalistic ideology of Turkism. Also, there were posts supporting Hizb ut-Tahrir. Posters also discussed how Central Asian countries oppress their Muslim population. Some profiles published a number of materials criticizing the policy of Saudi Arabia.

The Facebook user «Живая Умма» (24k followers, 20 new posts) published mainly reposts of its previous posts. However, they have published several new posts as well, such as “Запад боится объединения мусульман” (*The west is afraid of uniting muslims*). They also promoted the idea of the incorrectness of the methods of wiretapping or surveillance that are allegedly used by intelligence agencies “Хукм запрета шпионажа охватывает как мусульман, так и зиммиев, являющихся гражданами государства. Имеется в виду любой вид шпионажа, будь то через прослушивающие устройства, камеры наблюдения, #обыск личных вещей через нарушение конфиденциальности, даже под предлогом желаня убедиться, совершал ли некий человек преступление или нет.” (*The rule of the espionage ban covers both Muslims and who are also citizens of the state. This refers to any kind of espionage, whether through listening devices, surveillance cameras, or the search of personal belongings through a violation of confidentiality, even under the pretext of wanting to make sure whether a certain person committed a crime or not*). Moreover, there was a post containing of a comment on Ukrainian War saying that “Медведев, вам следовало бы быть более откровенным, и сказать, что война не закончится, пока Россия не подчинится и не примет условия США, будь то явно или тайно за закрытыми дверями. И неважно, сохранит Россия свою репутацию или нет. Что касается украинской власти и её народа, то для США и Запада они не имеют никакой ценности.” (*Medvedev, you should have been more frank and said that the war will not end until Russia submits and accepts the conditions of the United States, whether openly or secretly behind closed doors. And it doesn't matter whether Russia retains its reputation or not. As for the Ukrainian government and its people, they have no value for the United States and the West*) (pic. 1,2,3,4)

The Facebook user «Хизб ум-Тахрир Украина» (760 followers, 17 new posts) had been actively publishing its content during the monitored period. Its noticed that in 10 days they posted three articles criticizing the policy of Saudi Arabia, in which publications they said the following “Саудовский режим на грани нормализации отношений с еврейским образованием!”, “Сотни мигрантов были убиты саудовскими пограничниками”, “Саудовский уголовный суд вынес несправедливый смертный приговор Мухаммаду аль-Гамди” (*The Saudi regime is on the verge of normalizing relations with jewish education!*”, *Hundreds of migrants were killed by Saudi border guards*”, *The Saudi Criminal Court handed down an unfair death sentence to Muhammad al-Ghamdi*”). Moreover, they published posts accusing Europe and European countries, in particular France, of expanding the natural resources of Muslim countries, as well as discrimination against Muslims (in the case of France) by publishing the following posts “Europe is in a hurry to seize Tunisia's energy resources” “France declares a new war on Islam”. They posted content that criticizes the policy of Palestinian government calling it “the traitors of Palestinians

and slaves of the Jews”. In addition, some of their posts are completely similar to the posts of the user «*Живая Умма*» (pic. 5,6,7,8,9,10) Their profile image illustrates the flag of ISIS.

The Facebook user «*Turkiston Rus*» (2,1k followers, 4 new posts) published posts that gives information about how the Central Asian countries oppress Muslims (particularly Kyrgyzstan) “Враги Ислама не только в Центральной Азии, но и во всем мире распространили ложь, что «чем более человек привержен к Исламу, тем большую потенциальную угрозу он представляет». Поэтому, мы мусульмане не должны попадать в ловушку пропаганды и агентов колонизаторов, которые пытаются разделить умму на течения и секты.” (“*The enemies of Islam not only in Central Asia, but also around the world have spread the lie that "the more committed a person is to Islam, the greater the potential threat he poses." Therefore, we Muslims should not fall into the trap of propaganda and agents of colonialists who are trying to divide the Ummah into sects.*”) “Кыргызстан торопится в колониальные объятия Всемирного банка” (“*Kyrgyzstan is rushing into the colonial embrace of the World Bank*”) “В Кыргызстане вновь обсуждают запрет на паранджу. Этими и другими подобными запретами правительство КР будут стараться не отставать от соседей в войне против Ислама.” (“*Kyrgyzstan is once again discussing a ban on the burqa. With these and other similar prohibitions, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic will try to keep up with its neighbors in the war against Islam.*”) (pic. 11,12,13)



– Observed channels discussed events in Syria, touching on historical actions by the Assad regime as well as the current conflict. Also, there were calls for the Muslims of Central Asia and Caucasus to join the fights in Syria. Posts with distinguished high-quality videos about the group called Hayat Tahrir al-Sham which strongly criticized the Bashar Assad’s regime were also observed. Some posts also show the Russian military campaigns in Syria’s Idlib with disdain. Russia was criticized repeatedly, with particular scorn for the government in Chechnya which was seen as being too pro-Moscow as well as criticize fighters from the Chechen Republic fighting for Russia in Ukrain war and call them «Putin’s slaves». Different profiles published quite similar posts about women released by the Mujahideen, who talked about their torment and curses the Assad regime.

The Instagram users «*tullab.sham*» (24,8k followers, 17 new posts); *student_t22* (1,1 followers, 3 new posts) published similar contents during this monitoring period. In both accounts, the same narrator talks about hadith and calls the Muslim Ummah to jihad. In one of the posts, they published a video in which a woman sentenced to life imprisonment in Syria, but released by the Mujahideen, talks about her torment and curses the Assad regime. (pic. 14)\



Author’s note: Previously, these users also used to share some similarities in their criticism against Assad’s regime. They are seemingly ISIS or "Jabhat Fatah al-Sham" sympathisers.

During this monitoring period, the Instagram user «*hizbuttahrir_ua*» (760 followers, 17 posts) was found to be publishing the same content as on its Facebook profile.

The Instagram user «*blvck_rose13*» (6.6k followers, 14 new posts) actively published its content during the monitored period. The main theme of those posts was about organising the Islamic education and lifestyle. Also, there were a propaganda posts about living according to sharia and Quran. Moreover, there were post showing a video of a woman sentenced to life imprisonment in Syria, but released by the Mujahideen. (pic. 15)

The Instagram user «*alwarisung*» (553 followers, 24 new posts) regularly published videos with reports from the scene of the fighting of the HTSH forces against Assad's military forces, showing the fighters and interviewing them. In addition, they published the same video that was published by the Instagram user «*blvck_rose13*» showing the story of a liberated Syrian woman. (pic. 16)

! *Author's note: This account seems to be a Russian-language version of profile actively covering the activities of the organization called Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, which publishes surprisingly high-quality and thoughtful materials, which distinguishes it from other profiles. The content of the account strongly criticised the Bashar Assad's regime.*

The Instagram user «*abu.daud.sh*» (219 followers, 4 new posts) published mainly religious posts as well as a video of the funeral of Amir Dokku Abu Usman¹³.

The Instagram user «*shahada1443*» (651 followers, 19 new posts) published post that mainly propagate the idea of liberating the Caucasus as it is illustrated on the main page. Moreover, they put up posts describing Ramzan Kadyrov and his family as pro-Russian people who occupied Chechnya and blames Kadyrov's relatives for two women's murder. (pic. 17,18). They blame Kadyrov's regime for abduction, murder and illegal arrest of civilians and criticize the Chechen authorities. (pic.19) They also criticize fighters from the Chechen Republic for fighting on the side of Russia in the Ukrainian war and call them «Putin's slaves».

The Instagram users «*lemka4567*» (158 followers, 4 new posts) and «*tsehoev77*» (3k followers, 4 new posts) mainly published videos and photos teaching Arabic, as well as quotes from hadith and calls to pray and live according to Sharia.

Kyrgyz language content

f – considerable criticism was observed of Kyrgyz government religious policy. A number of calls for Caliphate in Kyrgyzstan were observed, both by followers of pro-Caliphate groups like Hizb ut Tahrir.

The Facebook user «*Turkistonkg Turkistonkg*» (184 followers, 6 new posts) posts mainly about religious and political events in Kyrgyzstan as well as in the world, some posts call for establishing Islamic state in Kyrgyzstan. Also, they criticize the Kyrgyz educational

¹³ One of the leaders of illegal armed groups in the North Caucasus

system. Here are some of those posts: «При этом Образованные в этой стране оказываются капиталистами, которые прочно устанавливают капитализм в нашей стране, а необразованные-рабами, которые без презрения подчиняются капитализму. Если мы посмотрим правде в глаза, не обманывая себя, в общественной жизни мы увидим, как наше население блуждает по извращенному полю воспитания, возвращаясь во тьму невежества» (At the same time, the educated ones in this country turn out to be capitalists who firmly establish capitalism in our country, and the uneducated are slaves who submit to capitalism without contempt. If we face the truth, without deceiving ourselves, in public life we will see how our population wanders through the perverted field of education, returning to the darkness of ignorance). The other posts are completely the same as it is posted by the Facebook user “**Turkiston Rus**”

The Facebook user «**Turkiston-kg**» (1,4k followers, 3 new posts) published similar posts with its previous contents. One post particularly condemns the Kyrgyz government for allegedly preventing people from learning and practicing Islam: «Их цель-держат ислам подальше от власти. Это потому, что политический ислам не позволяет им судить мусульман по своему усмотрению по западным законам. Поэтому любой человек, поднявший политическую сторону ислама, в их глазах считается настоящим террористом» (Their goal is to keep Islam away from power. This is because political Islam does not allow them to judge Muslims at their discretion according to Western laws. Therefore, any person who has raised the political side of Islam is considered a real terrorist in their eyes)

The Facebook user «**Turkiston-KG группа**» (1.8k followers, 5 new posts) regularly posts materials about religious and political events happening in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan and the world. The predominant topic in this channel is about criticizing the religious policy of Kyrgyzstan. The account posted almost similar content with the Facebook page called “**Turkiston Turkiston kg**”. They also repost contents from profiles that quote extremist organizations such as Hizb ut-Tahrir.

The Facebook user «**Арстанов Чоро**» (2,1k friends, 117 followers, 30 new posts) in one of his posts says that America staged the 9.11 terrorist attack in order to create an opportunity to invade Afghanistan and Iraq. (pic.20). He posts (mainly reposts from other sources) regarding the policy of the current president and criticizes the Kyrgyz religious clerks. There is also reposted content from the Facebook profiles such as «**Turkiston-KG группа**», «**Turkiston-kg**», «**Turkistonkg Turkistonkg**». (pic. 21,22,23)

The Facebook user «**Мусульмандар группасы**» (2,1k followers, 18 new posts) mainly reposts various publications from other sources that criticize the policy of Kyrgyzstan showing its socio-political problems and call for a global Jihad. Its slogan on the main page says «Бардык Кыргызстан мусульмандары бирикеле Алланын жолуна кызмат кылалы урматту мунун мусульмандар бул жерде Хизб ут Тахрирге орун жок» (*All Muslims of Kyrgyzstan let's serve the way of Allah, there is no place for Hizb ut Tahrir here*). (pic.24)



–raising socio-political issues in the country were a prime focus of the monitored account which shares almost the same content with a similar Facebook user.

The Instagram user «*turkistankg*» (*433 followers, 3 new posts*) posits itself as an Islamic, political, analytical website and published 3 posts during the monitored period. The Instagram page posts similar contents with the pages on Facebook. Therefore, most of the posts are about socio-political issues also with a religious focus.

Kazakh language content



– analysis of this platform during this monitoring period showed that majority of the content are critical about breaching the religious regulations and laws. The post was seemingly supportive of the government religion policy.

The Instagram user “*dynmendyl*” (*4691 followers, 2 new posts*) published only two posts during the monitored period. The language of this channel was dual mixed with some Russian publications. Posts on this page were mainly supportive of the political narratives of the Kazakh government: they justify the state's decision to ban the wearing of the hijab in schools, arguing that radical Salafist ideology could spread by this way.



- The user with a strong nationalistic view on this platform was observed to be publishing posts and comments exclusively with an anti-Russian inclination.

The Facebook user «*Жаңа Qazaqstan*» (*288k followers*) mainly reposts from other users that criticise the Kazakhs for its unwillingness to “eradicate” the influence of Russian culture, which persists in the region as a post-Soviet consequence. They support the idea of excluding the discipline called Russian literature from the teaching syllabus of public schools (pic.25). There are also posts demanding imprisonment of the first President’s daughter Aliya Nazarbaeva, saying the following “Әлияны жазаға тартпай әділдік орнамайды! Назарбаевтың кіші қызы тыпырши бастады...” (Justice will not prevail without Aliya's punishment!) (pic.26). Moreover, in their posts they publish statements demanding that key positions in city administrations and political parties should be occupied by politicians of the "new Kazakhstan", since politicians of the "old Kazakhstan" continue to conduct policies beneficial to them more than to the nation. (pic.27)

2.4. Report for September 11th – October 5th 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Key Points

In this report, we monitored Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz languages segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the month of August 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms¹⁴.

- *Calls for Jihad mainly in Syria, through a number of calls also for fighters to go to Palestine.*
- *Calls for the building of a Caliphate in Kyrgyz language segment of Facebook (calls came from both Hizb ut-Tahrir and Al-Qaeda affiliated/inspired channels).*
- *Calls for independence of Chechnya as an individual entity from Russia were also observed with a specific focus given to the cultural and historical differences.*
- *Some criticisms were observed against Assad's regime by blaming him for imprisoning and abusing Muslim women. These users are seemingly ISIS or "Jabhat Fatah al-Sham" sympathizers.*
- *Some posts were also centered around how the governments of the Central Asian countries oppressed Muslims.*
- *Posts about the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham were also observed in both Russian and Kyrgyz language segments primarily criticizing the Bashar Assad's regime.*
- *Posts and comments with a strong nationalistic view were observed to be publishing with an anti-Russian inclination.*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China – post calling for stopping “Uyghur genocide”.
- Afghanistan/Pakistan – no prominent mention
- Leadership changes – no changes reported
- Funding/fundraising – no notable discussions of fundraising were observed
- Travel patterns – no notable discussions of travel patterns were observed

¹⁴ The reporting period covered 12 Facebook and 11 Instagram accounts. All these accounts with more than several thousand audience (both friends and followers combined).

Russian language content

f – During the reporting period, channels mostly published contents about consequences of 9.11 tragedy. Also, there were posts supporting Hizb ut-Tahrir. Posters also discussed how Central Asian countries oppress their Muslim population. Some profiles published a number of materials criticizing the policy of America blaming it for causing many conflicts in different regions.

The Facebook user «*Живая Умма*» (**24k followers, 41 new posts**) published mainly reposts of its previous posts as well as posts about over 2,000 people killed by flooding in Libya due to a dam collapse. The user also published about the aftermath of 9/11: "Америка нашла нового врага для Запада, и им стал Ислам. Ответом на эти вопросы является то, что Америка основывалась в своей политической деятельности на идее, которая была принята ею и её союзниками уже десятки лет назад, т. е. идее терроризма. И то, что произошло, абсолютно соответствовало определению терроризма, в точности как они его описывали. Первые впечатления от случившегося – террористическая атака, невиданного масштаба. Поэтому Америка применила метод укоренения идеи терроризма и борьбы против него среди стран мира. Таким образом, исключалась вероятность того, что кто-то посмел бы встать против неё в этом деле или замедлился бы в содействии ей в силу своих возможностей." (*America has found a new enemy for the West, and it is Islam. The answer to these questions is that America based its political activity on an idea that it and its allies had already adopted decades ago, i.e., the idea of terrorism. And what happened absolutely met the definition of terrorism, exactly as they described it. First impressions of what happened were that it was a terrorist attack on an unprecedented scale. Therefore, America applied the method of perpetuating the idea of terrorism and the fight against it among the countries of the world. Thus, eliminating the possibility that anyone would dare to stand against her in this endeavor or be slowed down in assisting her by virtue of their capabilities*). Moreover, the user posted the following statement «Сражаться, обучаться и обучать исламу, читать коран, давать милостыню — всё это должно быть только ради всевышнего Аллаха» (To fight, to learn and teach Islam, to read the Qur'an, to give alms, all this should be only for the sake of Allah). They wrote an analytical post on the coup in Gabon, accusing France of enriching itself at the expense of the country, plunging Gabon into crisis. (pic. 1,2,3).

The Facebook user «*Хизб ут-Тахрир Украина*» (**760 followers, 18 new posts**) posted criticisms regarding the Uzbek government's decision on banning polygamy and wearing the niqab in public places, calling it "an attack on Islamic values". Moreover, there were posts criticizing Erdogan for meeting with Putin, calling it a "betrayal of the Ummah". Some posts popularize radicalism. E: "Muslims have a responsibility to restore Islam in every sphere of life, state and society. Muslims perceive this responsibility as a life-or-death struggle." They also publish criticism of the Saudi government accusing them of blasphemy for allowing obscene concerts. They made a comment about the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict «Политический факт современной истории — Америка преуспевает в создании кризисов и получении из них выгоды; её политика в этом регионе Азии не исключение. Любой наблюдатель может подтвердить американское желание подстрекать противоречия и создавать напряжённость между Ираном с Арменией, с одной стороны, и Турцией с Азербайджаном, с другой. Особенно после проведения совместных учений между США и Арменией, которые вызвали определённое беспокойство у нескольких сторон в этом регионе, включая Россию. Неудивительно,

если США разожгут войну между этими сторонами или поспособствуют её началу.» *(It is a political fact of modern history that America excels at creating crises and capitalizing on them; its policy in this region of Asia is no exception. Any observer can attest to the American desire to incite controversy and create tension between Iran with Armenia on the one hand and Turkey with Azerbaijan on the other. Especially after the joint exercises between the U.S. and Armenia, which have caused some concern among several parties in the region, including Russia. It would not be surprising if the U.S. ignites a war between these sides or contributes to starting one)* In addition, some of their posts are completely similar to the posts of the user «*Живая Умма*». Their profile image illustrates the flag of Al Qaeda. (pic. 4,5,6,7,8)

The Facebook user «*Turkiston Rus*» (*2,1k followers, 5 new posts*) criticizes the Kyrgyz government for spreading domestic violence, saying that the only way to stop it is to establish Sharia law in the country. Also, it criticizes the Kyrgyz president for trying to copy the Singaporean model of development. The account further posts criticism about Shavkat Mirziyoyev's speech about the protection of Islam at the 78th UN General Assembly. The user accused the president along with the Uzbek government of discriminating against women wearing hijabs in public places. (Pic.9,10)



– *Observed channels discussed events in Syria, touching on historical actions by the Assad regime as well as the current conflict. Also, there were calls for the Muslims of Central Asia and Caucasus to join the fights in Syria. Posts about the group “Hayat Tahrir al-Sham” which strongly criticized the Bashar Assad’s regime were also observed. Some posts also show the Russian military campaigns in Syria’s Idlib with disdain. Russia was criticized repeatedly, with particular scorn for the government in Chechnya which was seen as being too pro-Moscow as well as criticize fighters from the Chechen Republic fighting for Russia in Ukrain war and call them “Putin's slaves”.*


The Instagram users «*tullab.sham*» (*24,8k followers, 29 new posts*); *student_t22* (*1,1 followers, 3 new posts*) call for Jihad in Syria: "То, что происходит в Сирии - великое благо, мы все должны стоять с ними по мере возможности, душой, имуществом и молитвами" (*What is happening in Syria is a great good, we should all stand with them to the best of our ability, with our souls, possessions and prayers*). Many posts criticizing Assad's regime, accusing him of bombing civilians in Aleppo were also published: «Они обрушили лавину бомб на невинных людей» (*They unleashed an avalanche of bombs on civilians in Aleppo 8 years ago*) (pic.11,12). As previously these users shared some similarities in their criticism against Assad’s regime, they seem to be sympathising ISIS or "Jabhat Fatah al-Sham".

The Instagram user «*alwarisun9*» (*553 followers, 24 new posts*) regularly published videos with reports from places where the HTSH forces fought Assad's military forces. In addition, they published the same video that was published by the Instagram user «*blvck_rose13*» showing the story of a liberated Syrian woman (Pic. 14). Based on the similarities and posted contents this account seems to be a Russian-language version of profile covering the activities of the organization called Hayat Tahrir al-Sham.

The Instagram user «*abu.daud.sh*» (*219 followers, 4 new posts*) published mainly religious posts as well as a video supporting Palestinians as well as calling for coming to the Palestinian lands for fighting. Moreover, they also published pictures of military equipment.

The Instagram user «*shahada1443*» (651 followers, 19 new posts) published post that mainly propagate the idea of liberating the Caucasus as it is illustrated on the main page. They also criticize fighters from the Chechen Republic for fighting on the side of Russia in the Ukrainian war and call them «Putin's slaves». They also criticize Ramzan Kadyrov for corruption. (pic.15,16,17)

Kyrgyz language content

 - considerable criticism towards Kyrgyz government's religious policy as well as several calls for Caliphate in Kyrgyzstan mostly by the followers of pro-Caliphate groups like Hizb ut Tahrir were observed. There were also posts containing information about Xinjiang Uyghur conflict.

The Facebook user «*Turkistonkg Turkistonkg*» (184 followers, 21 new posts) posted mainly about religious and political events in Kyrgyzstan as well as in the world, some posts called for building an Islamic state in Kyrgyzstan. These posts were mostly similar to Facebook user "*Turkiston Rus*". The user criticized the \$190 million agreement between Uzbekistan and China, saying the following "Россия азыркы экономикалык абалында Орто Азия мамлекеттерине карыз, кредит, грант көрүнүшүндө экономикалык жардам бере албай жатканы себептүү, Орто Азия колонизаторлор АКШ жана Кытайдын ортосунда кызуу күрөш майданына айланып бара жатат." (in the current economic state, Russia cannot provide economic assistance to Central Asian states in the form of loans, credits, and grants; Central Asian countries are becoming the scene of a fierce struggle between the colonizers such as United States and China). They have made several posts criticizing Saudi Arabia for their relationship with Israel. (pic.18,19)

The Facebook users «*Turkiston-KG группа*» (1.8k followers, 5 new posts) and «*Turkiston-kg*» (1,4k followers, 3 new posts) regularly posted contents about the religious and political events in Kyrgyzstan and the world. The predominant topic in this channel was about criticizing the religious policy of Kyrgyzstan. The account posted almost similar content with the Facebook page called "*Turkiston Turkiston kg*". They also repost contents from profiles that quote extremist organizations such as Hizb ut-Tahrir. (Pic.20)

The Facebook user «*Арстанов Чоро*» (2,1k friends, 117 followers, 30 new posts) published videos calling on Muslims and Palestinians through mosque loudspeakers throughout Jerusalem to rise up and wage a "Holy War" against Israel. He also wrote posts in which he openly advocates support for Hizb ut-Tahrir. There is also reposted content from the Facebook profiles such as «*Turkiston-KG группа*», «*Turkiston-kg*», «*Turkistonkg Turkistonkg*». (pic. 21,22)

The Facebook user «*Мусульмандар группасы*» (2,1k followers, 36 new posts) mainly reposts various publications from other sources that criticize the policy of Kyrgyzstan and Central Asian countries showing their socio-political problems and call for a global Jihad. The motto on the main page says «Бардык Кыргызстан мусульмандары бирикиле Алланын жолуна кызмат кылалы урматту мумун мусульмандар бул жерде Хизб ут Тахрирге орун жок» (All Muslims of Kyrgyzstan let's serve the way of Allah, **there is no place for Hizb ut Tahrir here**). (pic.24)

The Facebook user «**Чындык Акыйкат**» (**3,4k followers, 89 new posts**) published many posts in both Uzbek and Kyrgyz. Most reposts were from «**Turkiston-KG эрынна**», «**Turkiston-kg**», «**Turkistonkg Turkistonkg**» criticising the Kyrgyz and Uzbek governments. Some photos showed the President Mirziyoyev's family where president's daughters were accused of blasphemy for not dressing up according to Shariah. There were also posts calling to stop “Uyghur genocide” (pic.25).



– raising socio-political issues in the country were a prime focus of the monitored accounts which share almost the same content with a similar Facebook user.

The Instagram user «**turkistankg**» (**433 followers, 13 new posts**) posits itself as an Islamic, political, analytical website and published posts during the monitored period. The Instagram page posts similar contents with the pages on Facebook. Therefore, most of the posts are about socio-political issues also with a religious focus.

Kazakh language content



– analysis of this platform during this monitoring period showed majority of the content were critical about the breaching the religious regulations and laws. The post was seemingly supportive of the government religious policy.

The Instagram user “**dynmendyl**” (**4691 followers, 21 new posts**) posted some contents in Russian. Posts on this page were mainly supportive of the political narratives of the Kazakh government: they justify the government's decision on banning the wearing of hijab in schools, arguing that the radical Salafi ideology could be spread if harsh measures were not taken.



- a strong nationalistic view with an obvious anti-Russian inclination on this platform was observed.

The Facebook user «**Жаңа Qazaqstan**» (**288k followers**) mainly reposted from other users that criticised the kazakhs for their unwillingness to “eradicate” the influence of Russian cultural influence. In some reposts, the account accused the Kazakh government of corruption and blamed it for the country's socio-political problems.

2.5. Report for October 5th – November 25th 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Key Points

In this report, we monitored Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz languages segments of various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram messenger. This report covers the months of October and November 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms¹⁵.

- *Calls for the unification of Muslims for a Jihad and the establishment of Sharia*
- *Strong dissatisfaction with the inaction of some Muslim states rulers, notably Turkey, Egypt, and Jordan.*
- *Appeals reminding of historical turning points of the Islamic Ummah, which also needs to unite now against the «enemy» attacking Palestine.*
- *Calls for the Jordanian National Army to change the existing state regime that does not support Palestine*
- *Calls for ending US influence in the region, which dictates its own rules*
- *Calls for armed action to liberate Palestine, as international organizations like the UN ignore the rights of Muslims and fail to take effective measures to address the issue*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China – post calling for stopping “Uyghur genocide” and destroying the Muslim’s mosques.
- Afghanistan/Pakistan – no prominent mention
- Leadership changes – no changes reported
- Funding/fundraising – no notable discussions of fundraising were observed
- Travel patterns – no notable discussions of travel patterns were observed

¹⁵ During this reporting period there were used more than 30 Facebook and Instagram accounts and only extremely important 11 of them were included in the final report. All these accounts with more than several thousand audience (both friends and followers combined).

Russian language content

f – *During the reporting period, channels mostly published contents about the Hamas-Israel conflict with calls for Muslims to be united and react to the aggression against Palestine and calls for a major military attack on Israel. There are several cites from the Holy Koran. In addition, the inaction of the leaders of Muslim states is interpreted as "dependence on Western colonialists, primarily on the United States. The object of the negativity was the meeting of the leaders of the OIC member states in Riyadh, who referred to international organizations to stop Israeli attacks, instead of launching direct military action against Israel.*

The Facebook user «*Живая Умма*» (24k followers, 41 new posts) posted mainly about war in Ukraine and Palestine. In the channel's posts, there is a comparison between the conflict in Ukraine and the war in the Middle East. The war in the Middle East was described as a real clash of ideologies. According to authors of such posts Russian-Ukrainian conflict became minor against the backdrop of the ideology of Islam opposing capitalism: «*Ислам — это живая идеология, которая имеет около двух миллиардов последователей, и она продолжает распространяться даже в крупнейших капиталистических странах. Поэтому неудивительно, что всё внимание было направлено на этот конфликт, разгоревшийся между небольшой группой мусульман и еврейской армии. Никто больше не интересуется Украиной и её войной, Тайванем и другими мировыми конфликтами...*» («*Islam is a living ideology that has about two billion followers, and it continues to spread even in the largest capitalist countries. Therefore, it is not surprising that all attention was focused on this conflict, which broke out between a small group of Muslims and the Jewish army. No one is interested in Ukraine and its war, Taiwan and other world conflicts anymore...*»). (pic. 1)

Many posts call for the immediate liberation of occupied Palestine with the help of the army, as other means are ineffective: «*Оккупированные земли необходимо освободить, а это возможно только с помощью армии, так как на силу нужно отвечать силой. Любые другие действия считаются напрасными. Предоставление гуманитарной помощи, строительство больниц, отзыв посла и т.д. — всё это является предательством перед Аллахом, Его Посланником и верующими*» («*Occupied lands must be liberated, and this is possible only with the help of the army, as force must be responded to by force. Any other action is considered futile. The provision of humanitarian aid, the building of hospitals, the recall of the ambassador, etc. are all betrayals before Allah, His Messenger and the faithful*»).

The user's posts also demonstrate direct resentment towards Muslim rulers who do nothing when other Muslims suffer: «*Если у кого и были сомнения относительно правителей, то события 7 октября открыли глаза всем, что мусульманские правители являются предателями. Предателями по отношению к Аллаху, Его Посланнику и верующим. Освобождение Палестины произойдёт после освобождения Иордании, Египта, Турции...*» («*If anyone had doubts about the rulers, the events of October 7 have opened the eyes of all that Muslim rulers are traitors. By traitors to Allah, His Messenger and believers. The liberation of Palestine will take place after the liberation of Jordan, Egypt, Turkey...*»). (pic. 2)

The Facebook user «Хизб ут-Тахрир Украина» (1k followers, 28 new posts) posted content criticising the leaders of Islamic states in the Middle East who do not support Palestine properly by tight actions against Israel and the West. Moreover, this channel calls for the prominent Islamic clerks of al-Azhar to promote Muslims for Jihad: **«Обязанность аль-Азхара, его учёных и шейхов — не просто осуждать действия евреев и обращаться к свободным людям мира, у которых нет никакой власти. Напротив, их речь должна быть обращена к армиям Уммы, чтобы они воплотили предписанный им джихад, освободили оккупированную землю Ислама, поддержали наших угнетённых братьев в секторе Газа и во всей Палестине, а также противостояли каждому, кто встанет на этом пути»** («*It is the duty of al-Azhar, his scientists and sheikhs, not just to condemn the actions of the Jews and to address the free people of the world who have no authority. On the contrary, their speech should be addressed to the armies of the Ummah, that they embody the jihad prescribed to them, liberate the occupied land of Islam, support our oppressed brothers in the Gaza Strip and throughout Palestine, and confront anyone who stands in their way*»). (pic. 3)

Another post also criticizes the royal regime in Jordan, which is reinforcing military forces on the Palestinian border to stem the flow of refugees. In this regard, the users of the page call upon the national army to put an end to this «injustice» and restore the honor of their state: **«Пришло время для всех искренних и отважных солдат иорданской армии восстановить честь и достоинство своей армии! Прогоните британцев и их подручных — короля и режим! Освободите Палестину и нанесите удар по евреям, после которого они уже не поднимут головы! О армия Иордании, если вы верите в Аллаха и искренни по отношению к Нему, то вы способны не только на такое!»** («*It is time for all sincere and courageous soldiers of the Jordanian army to restore the honor and dignity of their army! Drive out the British and their allies - the King and the regime! Free Palestine and strike at the Jews, after which they will not lift their heads! O Army of Jordan, if you believe in Allah and are sincere to Him, you are capable of more than that!*»). (pic. 4)

Several posts on the channel consider all Arab countries to be dependent on the US, and Palestine has risk to become such country: **«Эти вероломные арабские государства со своими дорогостоящими армиями получали указания от Блинкена, который называл их «партнёрами», хотя на самом деле они гораздо ниже статусом. Ни одно из этих государств не является независимым, и если США решат, что должно появиться «государство Палестина» в секторе Газа и на некоторых участках земли на Западном берегу, то оно будет ещё одним государством-рабом, созданным для защиты сионистского образования»** («*These treacherous Arab states with their costly armies received instructions from Blinken, who called them «partners», although in reality they are much lower status. None of these states is independent, and if the US decides that there should be a «State of Palestine» in the Gaza Strip and some parts of the West Bank, it will be another slave state created to protect the Zionist entity*»). (pic. 5)

The channel also published a post featuring the absolute futility and ineffectiveness of international resolutions that only pursue the self-serving goals of the «colonial West»: **«Мы призываем каждого богобоязненного мусульманина, стремящегося к довольству Аллаха, и прежде всего — лидеров сопротивления в Газе и Палестине: решительно отвергайте любые переговоры, основанные на так**

называемых «международных резолюциях»! В этом вопросе источник решения — только один, и это — Шариат Аллаха! Шариат предписывает джихад для освобождения всей Палестины, а не участие в бесполезных переговорах по освобождению пленных и пропуску гуманитарной помощи. Эти переговоры равносильны поиску питьевой воды в открытом океане. Марионеточные правители препятствуют выполнению шариатской обязанности, т.е. джихаду, отсюда следует, что мусульманам, в первую очередь — тем, у кого есть сила и власть, необходимо избавиться от предателей и дать байат (присягу) Имаму». («*We call upon every God-fearing Muslim who seeks the satisfaction of Allah, and above all, the leaders of the resistance in Gaza and Palestine: strongly reject any negotiations based on so-called «international resolutions»! In this matter the source of the solution is only one, and it is the Shariah of Allah! The Shari'a dictates jihad for the liberation of all Palestine, not participation in fruitless negotiations for the release of prisoners and the passage of humanitarian aid. These negotiations are tantamount to searching for drinking water in the open ocean. Puppet rulers obstruct the fulfilment of Sharia duty, i.e. jihad, hence it follows that Muslims, first of all - those who have power and authority, need to get rid of traitors and give a bayat (oath) to the Imam*»). (pic. 6)

The Facebook user «*Turkiston Rus*» (2,1k followers, 35 new posts) criticizes the UN for the fact that, since its establishment, the organization has not provided security on the territory populated with Muslims. With its broad powers, the organization cannot stop the bloodshed of Muslims in Palestine: «Раз уж у ООН имеются подобные полномочия, почему этот орган не применяет вышеупомянутые меры в отношении иудейского образования, истребляющего жителей Газы - маленьких детей, женщин и пожилых людей? Это потому, что сторона, на которой совершается резня, - мусульмане?» («*If the United Nations has such powers, why does this body not apply the above-mentioned measures to the Jewish entity that exterminates Gazans - young children, women and the elderly? Is it because the side of the massacre is Muslim?* »). «*Turkiston Rus*» also criticizes the summit of the Organization of Turkic States, which was held on November 3 in Astana. According to the Facebook user, the organization was created for the interests of imperialist states that's why Muslims should not recognize such associations: «Напротив, вместо этих организаций мы обязаны создать государство, которое выведет из тьмы империализма не только мусульман, но и все человечество к свету Ислама!» («*On the contrary, instead of these organizations, we are obliged to create a state that will lead not only Muslims, but all mankind from the darkness of imperialism to the light of Islam!* »). Negative attitude was also expressed regarding the visit of E. Macron to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, which seeks to plunder the wealth of these countries: «Поэтому, когда Второе Праведное государство Халифат будет возрождено по методу пророчества, оно укажет место Макрону и ему подобным, раскрыв перед всем миром их немощность и преступную подлость по отношению к мусульманам!» («*Therefore, when the Second Righteous State of the Caliphate is resurrected by prophecy, it will show the place of Macron and his like revealing to the whole world their infirmity and criminal meanness towards Muslims!* »). (pic. 7)



– Observed channels discussed events in Syria, touching on successful attacks of militants fighting against Bashar's regime. Also, there were calls for the Muslims to perform religious duties. Moreover, the posts contain appeals to Muslim leaders and armies that are clearly inferior to Western rivals and cannot unite into a single force to deliver a powerful blow for Palestine.

The Instagram user «*tullab.sham*» (24,8k followers, 67 new posts) calls all Muslims to pray «**Намаз индивидуальной обязанностью каждого совершеннолетнего мужчины мусульманина**» («*Namaz is the individual responsibility of every adult Muslim man*»). In addition, the channel has published a number of videos calling for «Jihad», helping Palestinian brothers to free themselves from the oppression of Israel and the West: «**Европейские режимы понимают сущность противостояния, и они подготовились к нему. А где наши лидеры? А где наши армии?**» («*European regimes understand the essence of confrontation, and they have prepared for it. And where are our leaders? Where are our armies?* »).

The Instagram user «*alwarisung*» (553 followers, 146 new posts) regularly published videos with reports from places where the HTSH forces fought Assad's military forces. In addition, they published several videos with a military instructor who answers questions about joining the military groups of those fighting in Syria against the regime of Bashar al-Assad. Also, there were posted many reports from the battlefield in Syria and Gaza. (pic. 8)

Kyrgyz language content



– considerable criticism regarding Kyrgyzstan government's religious policy as well as corruption among Kyrgyz politicians. Dissatisfaction is also expressed with anti-Muslim China, which is strengthening its presence in Kyrgyzstan.

The Facebook user «*Turkiston-kg*» (2,3k followers, 15 new posts) and "*Turkiston Turkiston kg*" (1,8k, 39 new posts) regularly posts content about the antireligious policy and political events in Kyrgyzstan. The predominant topic in this channel were calls for powerful retaliatory attacks against Israel: «**Анткени, Палестина маселесинин түпкү чечими мусулман армияларын аракетке келтирүү жана кыянатчы жетекчилерди тактыларынан оодаруу аркылуу ишке ашат!**» («*In the end, a final solution to the Palestinian question will be achieved by activating Muslim armies and overthrowing violent leaders!*»). Kyrgyz civil servants have also been criticized due to the increase in the state's external debt to \$6 billion. In addition, tax reforms in Kyrgyzstan are causing discontent among the broad masses of the Kyrgyz population: «**Мунун каршысында Ислам түзүмүндө, мамлекет өз иштерин жүргүзүү үчүн салык салууга муктаж болбойт. Анткени, өз иштерин жүргүзүү үчүн жер жана кыймылсыз мүлк сыяктуу мамлекеттик мүлктөрдөн пайдаланат**» («*On the contrary, within the Islamic structure, the State does not need taxation to carry out its activities. After all, he uses public assets such as land and real estate*»). Moreover, a number of posts criticize cooperation with atheistic China, which oppresses Muslims living in Xinjiang. The rise of criticism towards China destroying historical mosques in East Turkestan was observed. (pic. 9,10)

The Facebook user «**Арстанов Чоро**» (2,2k friends, 160 followers, 35 new posts) posted content that was addressed to the leaders of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation states, who do not undertake any action to stop Israel's military attacks on Gaza during last summit in Saudi Arabia on 11 November. (pic. 11)



- raising socio-political issues in the country were a prime focus of the monitored accounts which share almost the same content with a similar Facebook user.

The Instagram user «**turkistankg**» (443 followers, 13 new posts) posits itself as an Islamic, political, analytical website and published posts during the monitored period. The Instagram page posts similar contents with the pages on Facebook. Therefore, most of the posts are about socio-political issues also with a religious focus.

Kazakh language content



- analysis of this platform during October and November showed majority of the content was critical about the breaching the religious regulations and laws. The posts were seemingly preventing the state population to be involved in different kind of Islamic radical groups.

The Instagram user “**dynmendyl**” (4857 followers, 35 new posts) posted some content that demonstrate successful actions of law enforcement agencies in the fight against Islamic radical individuals in Kazakhstan. Also, there were video reports with regret and remorse of accused Kazakh extremists who joined military groups in Syria. A few posts also contain the correct interpretation of Islamic dogmas, hadiths and rituals to avoid misunderstandings that lead to extremist views. (pic. 11)



- a strong nationalistic view with obvious support of the current course of the government in the way of developing the concept of «New Kazakhstan».

The Facebook user «**Жаңа Qazaqstan**» (288k followers) mainly posted patriotic and nationalistic publications that support the actions of mayors and express trust in the policy of the head of the Republic to build a «New Kazakhstan». Several posts express great respect and deference to Kazakh officials who advocate for the popularization and widespread dissemination of the Kazakh language: «**Аида Балаева қазақ тіліне қатысты батыл сөйлейтін болыпты! Осы ұстанымнан айнымаңыз. Қазақ тіліне құрмет көрсеткен министр халыққа да сыйлы болады**» («*Aida Balayeva was a brave native of the Kazakh language! Do not retreat from this position. A minister who respected the Kazakh language would also respect the people*»).

Several posts on the channel were published in response to criticism of the activities of the former President of Kazakhstan, N.Nazarbayev, which noted the positive results of his reign: «**Аида Балаева қазақ тіліне қатысты батыл сөйлейтін болыпты! Осы ұстанымнан айнымаңыз**» («*Its unity and integrity of our country, its work on the formation of the Institute of Public Administration, the system of training (good or bad, the personnel system of Nazarbayev's time, which holds our current system of public administration), the nails of our borders, No war, etc. I do not want to deny all his works and suffer from Nazarbayev*»)). (pic. 12)

2.6. Report for November 30th – December 25th 2023 (Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz language segments of social media)

Key Points

In this report, we monitored Russian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz languages segments of various social media platforms. This report covers December 2023 with focusing mainly on how terrorist and extremist ideologies are being spread through those social media platforms¹⁶.

- *Calls for the unification of Muslims for a Jihad and the establishment of Shariah Allah*
- *Criticism of Kyrgyz and Kazakh governments' policies*
- *Strong dissatisfaction with the inaction of the rulers some Muslim states, notably Turkey, Egypt, and Jordan.*
- *Appeals reminding of historical turning points of the Islamic Ummah, which also needs to unite now against the «enemy» attacking Palestine.*
- *Calls for the Jordanian National Army to change the existing state regime that does not support Palestine*
- *Calls for ending US influence in the region, which dictates its rules in the region*
- *Calls for armed action to liberate Palestine, as international organizations like the UN ignore the rights of Muslims and fail to take effective measures to address the issue.*
- *Reports about alleged Russian government's activity on targeting Muslims and migrants with a Russian citizenship and sending them to war.*
- *Reports about the protests in various cities of Kyrgyzstan against tax increases, criticism against the country's government.*
- *Posting a criticism against the Uzbek government for guarding the Jewish cemetery from possible attacks amid the situation in Palestine.*
- *Criticism against the Uzbek authority for torturing and mistreating of prisoners.*

Focused content

- Southeast Asia (ASEAN countries) – no prominent mention
- China – post calling for stopping “Uyghur genocide” and destroying Muslim’s mosques.
- Afghanistan/Pakistan – no prominent mention
- Leadership changes – no changes reported
- Funding/fundraising – no notable discussions of fundraising were observed

¹⁶ During this reporting period there were used more than 30 Facebook and Instagram accounts and only extremely important 11 of them were included in the final report. All these accounts with more than several thousand audience (both friends and followers combined).

- Travel patterns – no notable discussions of travel patterns were observed

Russian language content

f – *During the reporting period, channels mostly published contents about the Palestine and Israel conflict that calls for Muslim unification and reaction to aggression against Palestine. This kind of aggression, according to the publications of a number of radical channels, calls for a major military attack on Israel. Many posts targeted the governments of Central Asian countries, specifically Kyrgyzstan.*

The Facebook user «*Живая Умма*» (24k followers, 50 new posts) continued covering the events of the conflict in Palestine, sharing statistics on the casualties from the Palestinian side. Moreover, they posted publications discussing the creation of a Russian backed military group against the West, «*Несколько месяцев назад было объявлено о военном сотрудничестве между российскими властями и Халифой Хафтаром, военным лидером Ливии, с целью создания российского военного корпуса в Африке. Заместитель министра обороны России Юнусбек Евкуров посетил Ливию по приглашению Хафтара*» (*Several months ago, it was announced that there was a military cooperation between Russian authorities and Khalifa Haftar, the military leader of Libya, with the aim of establishing a Russian military corps in Africa. Deputy Minister of Defense of Russia, Yunusbek Yevkurov, visited Libya upon Haftar's invitation*). The posts also criticized Saudi Arabian authority for being trapped in debts despite having colossal natural reserves. «*Страна Двух Святынь обладает колоссальными залежами нефти, газа, золота и полезных ископаемых, но узурпировавшие власть #Сауды разворовывают всё это на протяжении последних двух веков. Они, не насытившись этим, ещё и отдают народ своей страны под власть кредитных банков за запретные процентные кредиты, что непременно приведёт к дороговизне жизни и распространению бедности*» (*The Country of the Two Holy Mosques possesses colossal reserves of oil, gas, gold, and other valuable minerals. However, the usurping authorities, the Saudis, have been plundering all of these resources for the past two centuries. Not content with that, they also subject their own people to the control of credit banks through forbidden interest-based loans, which will inevitably lead to a high cost of living and the spread of poverty*). The account praised an American blogger Abby Hafiz, who embraced Islam inspired by the resilience of the Palestinians. The user also blames America for conflict in Yemen saying that «*Америка стоит за продолжающимся конфликтом в Йемене, чтобы установить там своё политическое влияние, приведя к власти хуситов, сместив британское влияние, которое представлено партией убитого Али Салеха*» (*America is backing the ongoing conflict in Yemen to establish its own political influence by supporting the Houthi rebels, thereby displacing British influence represented by the party of the late Ali Abdullah Saleh*). The user also posted great deal of criticism against many Muslim countries for their stance towards Israel – Gaza war. For example, «*Эрдоган назвал еврейского премьер-министра Нетаньяху «палачом Газы», а Умма имеет полное право назвать Эрдогана «предателем Газы». Он и его коллеги из числа правителей мусульман подвели народ Газы и не выполнили свой долг, а некоторые из них и вовсе открыто поддержали оккупантов*» (*Erdogan referred to the Jewish Prime Minister Netanyahu as the "butcher of Gaza," while the Ummah has every right to call Erdogan the "traitor of Gaza." He and his colleagues*

among the Muslim rulers have let down the people of Gaza and failed to fulfill their duty, with some of them openly supporting the occupiers.), «В нынешней войне в Газе Катар и Египет гордятся той ролью, которую они играют в достижении перемирия между «ХАМАС» и еврейским образованием, хотя их роль в этом носит формальный характер, так как они являются лишь слугами и подчиняются воле Америки» (*In the current Gaza conflict, Qatar and Egypt take pride in the role they play in achieving a ceasefire between Hamas and the Israeli entity. However, their role in this matter is mostly ceremonial, as they are mere servants who adhere to the will of America.*), «ТУРЦИЯ СНАБЖАЕТ ЕВРЕЙСКУЮ АРМИЮ! В социальных сетях распространился видеоролик, где говорилось, что торговля Турции с еврейским образованием продолжается и что многие потребности еврейской армии удовлетворяются турецкими компаниями. На видеоролике прозвучали следующие слова: «В Турции был произведён заказ контейнера с одеждой и необходимым оборудованием для солдат армии «Израиля».» (*Turkey supplies the Jewish army! A video has been circulating on social media claiming that trade between Turkey and the Israeli entity continues, and that many of the needs of the Israeli army are met by Turkish companies. In the video, the following words were spoken: "A container order for clothing and necessary equipment for the soldiers of the 'Israel' army was placed in Turkey."*) (pic. 1-7)

The Facebook user «Хузб ум-Тахрир Украина» (*1k followers, 32 new posts*) made a post and criticised the Saudi authorities for the arrest of Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahdal in Mecca. He was arrested for writing an article about the weak position of Arab rulers towards the Gaza war after a recent Arab summit, «САУДИТЫ, ДОКАЗЫВАЯ СВОЮ ПРЕДАННОСТЬ ЗАПАДУ, АРЕСТОВЫВАЮТ УЧЁНЫХ СТРАНЫ, ГОВОРЯЩИХ ПРАВДУ!» (*The Saudis, in an attempt to demonstrate their loyalty to the West, are arresting country's scientists who speak the truth!*). The user also blamed the British government for supporting Israel saying that «Британские власти изо всех сил пытаются замаскировать свою поддержку геноцида палестинского народа» (*The British authorities are making every effort to disguise their support for the genocide of the Palestinian people.*) The user also criticized the USA for vetoing the UN resolution on calling for a ceasefire in Gaza «Наложив вето на прекращение огня, Америка не показала ничего нового, а скорее, в очередной раз подтвердила, что еврейское образование со своими гнусными преступлениями является одним из американских грехов. Пролитие невинной крови со стороны этого преступного образования осуществляется с помощью американского оружия, американских денег и американского прикрытия. Вето — это решение Америки продолжить преступление и геноцид. Америка пачкает свои руки кровью мусульман, куда бы она ни пошла.» (*By vetoing the ceasefire, America has shown nothing new but rather once again confirmed that the Israeli entity, with its heinous crimes, is one of America's sins. The shedding of innocent blood by this criminal entity is carried out with the help of American weapons, American money, and American cover. The veto is America's decision to continue the crime and genocide. America stains its hands with the blood of Muslims whatever it does*) (pic. 8-11)

! *Author's note: as this account published some similar posts with "Живая умма" profile regarding Saudi Arabia's debts, etc, it might be run by the same recruiter.*

The Facebook user «*Turkiston Rus*» (*2,1k followers, 12 new posts*) posted about protests in various cities of Kyrgyzstan against tax increases, criticizing the country's

government «Государство, снова вооружившись лозунгами о необходимости борьбы с коррупцией внедряет схему «законного» пополнения бюджета для достойной зарплаты чиновникам и обещаний улучшить уровень жизни граждан в целом, строя дороги и больницы и конечно же школы с садами, пытается узаконить обычным для капитализма способом – изъятием средств, посредством налогов» (*The state, armed once again with slogans about the necessity to fight corruption, is implementing a scheme for "legitimate" budget replenishment to provide decent salaries to officials and promises to improve the overall standard of living for citizens by constructing roads, hospitals, and, of course, schools with kindergartens. It attempts to legitimize the usual capitalist way of extracting funds through taxation*). Some posts claimed that the Russian government is targeting Muslims and migrants with a Russian citizenship and sending them to war «Действовали правоохранители особенно жестко и вполне целенаправленно, всех у кого имелось, нужно заметить - российское гражданство, тут же задерживались и доставлялись в Люберцы, где располагается тренировочный центр» (*Law enforcement officers acted particularly harshly and purposefully, detaining and transporting to Lyubertsy all those who, it should be noted, had Russian citizenship. Lyubertsy is where the training center is located.*) (pic. 12-13). The majority of posts here are related to criticizing the domestic policy of Kyrgyzstan.



– Observed channels discussed events in Syria, touching on successful attacks of militants fighting against Bashar’s regime. Also, there were calls for the Muslims to perform religious duties. Moreover, the posts contain appeals to Muslim leaders and armies that are clearly inferior to Western rivals and cannot unite into a single force to deliver a powerful blow for Palestine.

The Instagram user «*tullab.sham*» (24,8k followers, 17 new posts) mostly published posts about the importance of performing the religious rituals (reading namaz) and adhering to Sharia rules. Furthermore, in their posts, they call for support to the Mujahideen in Syria, citing Sheikh Abdul Aziz at-Tarifi. (pic.14)



Author’s note: For the last two months, Abdul Aziz Kazanly has been active with his narrates as an active speaker in this account. He mainly focuses on Hanafi Fiqh rather than other narratives of the Shariah.

The Instagram user «*alwarisung*» (553 followers, 45 new posts) regularly published videos with reports from places where the HTSH forces fought Assad's military forces. In addition, they published several videos with a military instructor who answers questions about joining the military groups of those fighting in Syria against the regime of Bashar al-Assad. Also, there were posted many reports from the battlefield in Syria and in Gaza. (pic. 15-16)

Kyrgyz language content

f – considerable criticism regarding Kyrgyzstan government's religious policy as well as corruption among Kyrgyz politicians. Dissatisfaction is also expressed with Arab countries, for providing a corridor for the transfer of goods to Jews.

The Facebook user «*Turkiston-kg*» (2,3k followers, 15 new posts) and "*Turkiston Turkiston kg*" (1,8k, 26 new posts) primarily published posts criticizing the Kyrgyz government. Moreover, the account criticizes Arab countries for opening a humanitarian corridor to deliver aid to Israel "Араб өлкөлөрү жөөттөргө товар өткөрүү үчүн коридор ачып берүүдө" (Arab countries open a corridor for the transfer of goods to Jews). Furthermore, they posted videos illustrating protests in Turkey, where participants chanted "The Caliphate will save Palestine." These videos also depict individuals carrying flags of Al-Qaeda and flags with the Shahada on a white background. (pic.17-19).

The Facebook user «*Арстанов Чоро*» (2,2k friends, 160 followers, 56 new posts) reposted the majority of its posts from profiles namely «*Turkiston-kg*» "*Turkiston Turkiston kg*" etc. Moreover, he posted illustrations of Al Qaeda flag/ saying «Менин желегим, Ислам желеги, башка менен ишим жок!» (I know any other flag foe me besides the flag of Islam). He also published parts of an interview with Sheikh Mohammad Abdulwahid's Piers Morgan, and accused the journalist of Islamophobia «Хизбут Тахрирдин мүчөсү болгон АбдулВахид менен түз эфирде Палестина жана башка суроо жооптор болуп өттү.

Журналисттин динге душмандыгы билинип жатты, капыр акыйкатты билип алайын деп чакырбайт экен, булар тескери мусулмандарды чалгытуу үчүн же мусулмандардын аброюн түшүрүү үчүн экен.» (The journalist's hostility to religion was obvious, the non-believers did not call for finding out the truth, but on the contrary, to expose Muslims or undermine the authority of Muslims.) (pic. 20-22)

The Facebook user «*МУСОФИР ЖАХОНГАШТА*» (3,2k followers) mainly posted about the unification of Muslims and many other radical contents. In his posts, he writes the following «Мусулмандар биригип, бирге болушса, Ислам душмандарынын канчалык алсыз жана коркок экенин билишмек. Эй, мусулман бир туугандар, бириккиле жана бир туугандарыңар менен бирге болгула, анткени момундар бир тууган.» (Muslims would know how weak and cowardly their enemies of Islam are if they were together. Hey Muslim Brothers, unite and stay with your brothers and sisters, because believers are brothers.). Moreover, he published a video of an Afghan woman saying: «Кудайга ант берем! Кудайга ант берем! Бүгүнкү күндө мусулмандардын согуш талаасында жеңишке жетишине биз аялдар себепкербиз. Арстандарды машыктырсак, майдандагы жеңиш биздики болот. Кудду өстүрсөк каалайбызбы каалабайбызбы баарыбыз кул болобуз!» (I swear to God! I swear to God! Today, we women are responsible for the victory of Muslims on the battlefield. When we train the Lions, victory on the battlefield will be ours. We will all be slaves, whether we want to or not, if we raise a slave!). Many posts are also about the role of women and education in Islamic world. These posts emphasise on the fighting spirit of Muslims. In one post, there is also a criticism against the Uzbek government for guarding the Jewish cemetery from possible attacks amid the situation in Palestine. (pic.25-28)

The Facebook user «*АЛЛАХ БУЮРУБАСА МУСУЛМАН ОЛА БАЛБАЙСЫН*» (2,1k followers) mostly posted reciting of Qoran by young boys in a madrasa as well as the criticism against the Uzbek authority for torturing and mistreating of prisoners. «Аммо мабодо ўлдирилган азизларнинг оиласи анави яхудий Каримовдан ҳисобот сўрагудай бўлса, "томдан йиқилди", "оҳак печкасига тушиб кетибди",

“бошқалар билан муштлашиб, болта бошига тегибди” каби сабабларни келтиришганини эшитганман холос. Хуллас, бу зулм ўчоғи ҳақида, уларни инсон туққанига шубҳа қилинадиган расволар бошқарадиган зона эди, десак тўғри бўлади. У зонадаги ўша қотилларнинг барчасига Аллоҳнинг лаънати бўлсин!» (*But I have heard that the family of the brothers who were killed at the temple, that is, asked for a report from the Jew Karimov, gave reasons such as "fell from the roof", "fell into a lime kiln", "punched with others and touched the head of an ax". It would be true to say that it was a prison about the furnace of oppression, ruled by the bastards, who are suspected of human birth. May God curse all those murderers in those prisons!*). Also, some posts were shared illustrating the suffering of the Palestinian people. (pic.29-30)



– raising socio-political issues in the country were a prime focus of the monitored accounts which share almost the same content with a similar Facebook user.

The Instagram user «*turkistankg*» (443 followers, 13 new posts) posits itself as an Islamic, political, analytical website and published posts during the monitored period. The Instagram page posts similar contents with the pages on Facebook. Therefore, most of the posts are about socio-political issues also with a religious focus.

Kazakh language content



– analysis of this platform during October and November showed majority of the content was critical about the breaching the religious regulations and laws. The posts were seemingly preventing the state population to be involved in different kind of Islamic radical groups.

The Instagram user “*dynmendyl*” (4857 followers, 19 new posts) posted some content that demonstrate successful actions of law enforcement agencies in the fight against Islamic radical individuals in Kazakhstan. Also, there were video reports with regret and remorse of accused Kazakh extremists who joined military groups in Syria. A few posts also contain the correct interpretation of Islamic dogmas, hadiths and rituals to avoid misunderstandings that lead to extremist views. (pic. 32)



- a strong nationalistic view with obvious support of the current course of the government in the way of developing the concept of «New Kazakhstan».

The Facebook user «*Жаңа Qazaqstan*» (288k followers) mainly posted patriotic and nationalistic reminiscent of national values that support the actions of mayors and express trust in the policy of the head of the Republic to build a «New Kazakhstan». They also published posts against domestic violence and urged women who had experienced domestic violence not to cover up for the rapist and seek help.

Moreover, they reposted articles about searches in the homes of some high-ranking officials, saying that the "New Kazakhstan" is moving in the right direction, arresting officials who abuse their power «*Дұрыс, әкең! Нығматуллиндер кланын талқандау операциясы басталды... Мәжілістің экс-спикері Нығматуллиннің құдасы, олигарх Дінмұхамед Идрисовтың Алматыдағы кеңсесінде тінту жүрге. Жаңа Қазақстан Нығматуллиндер кланын талқандауға кірісіп кетті...*» (*That's right!*

The operation to defeat the nigmatullins clan began... A search was carried out in the Almaty Office of ex-Speaker of the Majilis Nigmatullin's godfather, oligarch Dinmukhamed Idrisov. The New Kazakhstan has begun to defeat the Nigmatullins clan...) (pic. 33-34)

Attachments

To access the photo attachments accompanying this publication, please scan the provided QR code.



Conclusion

Throughout our research, we conducted monitoring of various social media platforms, including Facebook, Telegram, Instagram, and YouTube, in languages such as Russian, Uzbek, Tajik, Kyrgyz, and Kazakh. Our aim was to examine the spread of radical ideology within these networks and assess their influence.

One of the key findings of our study was the identification of high activity among radical groups and propagandists in Uzbek and Tajik-speaking social media platforms. We discovered a significant amount of propaganda originating from these networks. It is noteworthy that even the official ISIS account was found and analyzed during our research.

A crucial conclusion drawn from our investigation is that monitoring social media plays a critical role in analyzing and predicting the actions of extremists and various groups. We observed that propaganda targeting migrants residing in Russia played a role in provocation leading up to the terrorist attack in Crocus City, Moscow. Prolonged dissemination of statements regarding the derogatory treatment of migrants from Central Asia by Russian authorities was evident.

Additionally, our research revealed that analyzing the content produced by recruiters can help determine their affiliation with specific organizations or groups. Understanding the target audience and objectives of propaganda proved to be essential factors in identifying relevant affiliations.

Overall, our study confirms the importance of monitoring social media platforms propagating radical content. It enables us to gain a deeper understanding of the mechanisms of radicalization, predict the actions of extremists, and take measures to counter the spread of radical ideologies in the online sphere.

This page left intentionally blank

This page left intentionally blank

Published 2024 by IAIS

54 Mustaqillik Avenue, Mirzo-Ulugbek District,

Tashkent, 100007, Uzbekistan, URL: <https://iais.uz/en>

To order IAIS documents or to obtain additional information,
contact Distribution Services: Tel.: +998 71 267 58 44; Email: info@iais.uz



«IAIS» All rights reserved

