

31 MARCH 2016

## GUANTANAMO DETAINEE PROFILE

Detainee ISN: GZ-10016

Detainee ISN	GZ-10016
Detainee Name	Zayn al-'Abd Din Mohammed, variant Zain ul-'Abidin
Detainee Aliases	Abu Zubaydah, Abu Hilal, Abu Hajir, Abu Munir, Abu Zubair, Hani, Musharif, Tariq, Muhammad Husayn, Daud
Nationality	Palestinian
Date of Birth	12 March 1971
Arrival at Guantanamo	September 2006

Zayn al-'Abd Din Mohammed, a.k.a. Abu Zubaydah, (GZ-10016) trained and later supervised the training of militant recruits in Afghanistan starting in 1989. In 1994, he started building a mujahidin facilitation network that he ran for several years, recruiting and facilitating the travel of operatives to Afghanistan and on to destinations abroad, including Europe and North America. GZ-10016 played a key role in al-Qa'ida's communications with supporters and operatives abroad and closely interacted with al-Qa'ida's second-in-command at the time, Abu Hafs al-Masri.

- GZ-10016 possibly had some advanced knowledge of the bombings of the US Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998 and the USS Cole bombing in 2000. GZ-10016 also was generally aware of the impending 9/11 attacks and possibly coordinated the training at Khaldan camp of two of the hijackers.
- GZ-10016 most actively plotted attacks against Israel, enlisting operatives from various militant groups, including al-Qa'ida, to conduct operations in Israel and against Israeli interests abroad. He was convicted in absentia by the Jordanian Government for his role in planning attacks against Israeli, Jordanian, and Western targets during the Millennium time frame in Jordan.
- Following 9/11, GZ-10016 took a more active role in attack preparations, sending operatives to al-Qa'ida senior member Khalid Shaykh Muhammad (KU-10024) to discuss the feasibility of exploding a radiological device in the United States, and supporting remote-controlled bomb attacks against US and Coalition Forces in Afghanistan.

GZ-10016 has shown a high level of cooperation with the staff at Guantanamo Bay and has served as a cell block leader, assuming responsibility for communicating detainees' messages and grievances to the staff and maintaining order among the detainees. He readily and consistently responded to most if not all lines of questioning by the debriefers, including providing detailed information on his terrorist activities and those of his associates. His debriefers assessed that he withheld information, which might have been to protect historical or current activities. GZ-10016 has used his time in Guantanamo to hone his organizational skills, assess US custodial and debriefing practices, and solidify his reputation as a leader of his peers, all of which would help him should he choose to reengage in terrorist activity.

GZ-10016 probably retains an extremist mindset, judging from his earlier statements. GZ-10016 has not made such statements recently, probably to improve his chances for repatriation. GZ-10016 has condemned ISIL atrocities and the killing of innocent people. He has had little communication with his family, suggesting he would lack a support network, even if he tried to leverage his university coursework in computer programming to get a job and reintegrate into society. Some of GZ-10016's former colleagues continue to engage in terrorist activities and could help GZ-10016 return to planning attacks against Israel and the United States in Pakistan, should he choose to do so.