

28 MARCH 2016

GUANTANAMO DETAINEE PROFILE

Detainee ISN: AF-10029

Detainee ISN	AF-10029
Detainee Name	Muhammad Rahim
Detainee Aliases	Abdul Basir, Skandar
Nationality	Afghan
Date of Birth	November/December 1965
Arrival at Guantanamo	March 2008

AF-10029 was one of a small number of Afghans to become trusted members of al-Qa'ida. He served as a translator, courier, facilitator, and operative for the group's senior leadership, including Usama Bin Ladin. His proficiency in several languages, including Arabic, made him invaluable for communicating with foreign fighters and local populations in Afghanistan and Pakistan, as well as facilitating the movement of al-Qa'ida leaders and rank and file between the two countries, particularly after the start of Operation Enduring Freedom. He had advance knowledge of many of al-Qa'ida's major attacks, including advanced knowledge of 9/11, and progressed to paying for, planning, and participating in attacks in Afghanistan against US and Coalition targets by al-Qa'ida, the Taliban, and other anti-Coalition militant groups. AF-10029 has admitted to working as a translator for al-Qa'ida and claims to have done so only for the money.

AF-10029 has been generally compliant with the guard staff since arriving at Guantanamo Bay detention facility in March 2008 and has been highly compliant since August 2015, according to Joint Task Force Guantanamo. Although AF-10029 has committed relatively few disciplinary infractions compared to the general population at Guantanamo, he has remained mostly uncooperative and defiant. He crosses the line into noncompliance when he thinks he is being disrespected, mistreated, or perceived as being weak. AF-10029 views his time in detention as a continuation of jihad. He claims the guard staff and the detainees' lawyers are enemies, and has reprimanded fellow detainees for showing the slightest courtesy toward them. He has sought to intimidate and taunt his captors even if it means never being released and dying as a martyr, which he appears to welcome.

AF-10029 was a hardened al-Qa'ida member and devoted Bin Ladin follower when he arrived at Guantanamo and has become even more deeply committed to the group's jihadist doctrine and Islamic extremism in general since that time. He continues to view the US and the West as enemies, has expressed support for and praised attacks by other terrorist groups, and has said he intends to return to jihad and kill Americans. We assess that given his language proficiency, al-Qa'ida bona fides, and extensive extremist connections established before his capture, AF-10029 has multiple conduits for reengaging should he be released. Although one of his brothers in particular, Abd Basit Zahdran, could also provide him a path to reengage.