



Figure 1 ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi is passed a report on Islamic State's new Central Africa Province in a video released by al-Furqan on April 29, 2019.

BAGHDADI'S ISIS COOPERATION MADE STAKE IN AFRICA BUT AL-QAEDA'S WING IS ON THE RISE

The entry of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and new splinter groups are challenging Al-Shabaab's dominance. This has raised the stakes to the state of terror in the region and growing threat to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

While the death of Ibrahim Awad Ibrahim al-Badri, appealingly known to many as Abū Bakr al-Baghdadi, may have had a slight blow to the ISIS Cooperation, ISIS has emerged to be the fastest growing terrorist enterprise globally. Its footprints in Africa, like all other cooperation

including China, Russia and others are looking to set base, ISIS has grown power and influence. In the Western Africa region, the Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP), a splinter of Boko Haram, is glowing its territorial base on the banks and islands of Lake Chad, waging terror across North-Eastern Nigeria. In East Africa, ISIS is dominantly gaining foothold showcasing its fighters and recruiting new members in South Sudan and Somali's Northern Puntland's Bari Mountains, South of Basaso. In the Sinai Peninsula, the Ansar Bait al-Maqdis group with

ties to militants in Libya proclaimed themselves as the Sinai Province of the Islamic States in 2014. On April 29, 2019, al-Baghdadi received a report on Islamic State's new Central Africa Province with militants in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Mozambique.

But unlike ISIS, Al-Qaeda's Al Shabaab front is changing face. Its 'modus operandi' has become more, strategic, versatile and local; especially gaining a large social base within Somali government and major institution. All this against the backdrop of a fierce rivalry between ISIS and Al-Qaeda's for the control of Somalia.

However, Baghdadi's death does not signify the fall of ISIS, the grounds for ISIS to metamorphosize

remain much fertile; including the militaristic nature of governments within ethnic socialized communities (such as Ethiopia, Egypt and Somalia) and the entry of America's militarism in such regions. Therefore, the counter-militarism narrative will always lead to the rise of radical ideologies. More so, the sentiments of President Trump on 27th October 2019, might have emboldened those who were left behind and the likelihood of getting a stronger ISIS is inevitable. To this end, replacing the militarism mind set to a more democratic mind set will go a long way in dealing with the question of radical Islam. Finally, neighboring countries in the Horn and Africa at large should not be confined to a resource-conflict lens but to the grave threat of terrorism.



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