#### VISUAL COMMUNICATION: USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING PLATFORMS DURING CONFLICT

Shayna T. Blum Principal, Blum Visual Communication Laboratory Assistant Professor of Graphic Design, Chair of the Department of Art Xavier University of Louisiana, <u>sblum@xula.edu</u>

## Propaganda / Persuasion

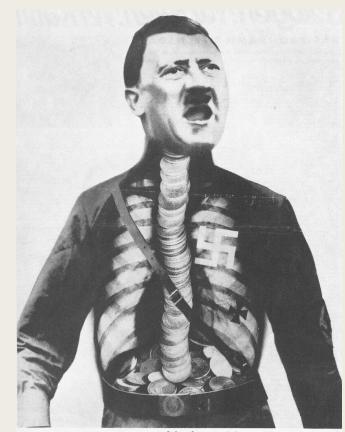
- What is propaganda / persuasion?
  - Visual communication used to persuade and influence an audience into following a set of concepts and beliefs
  - Utilized in advertising, education, political campaigns, and national agendas
  - Goal: Communicate an idea and initiate an emotional response from the viewer
- Propaganda not only inhibits our sense of reality, it frequently causes us to act against our own interests. It does this by affecting the primitive parts of the brain that are unaffected by logic or consciousness but respond to images and symbols." (Milton Glaser, Art and Propaganda, 2008)

# History / WWII

**Pro-Nazi:** The Guarantee of German Military Strength Hans Schweitzer, aka Mjolnir



Anti-Nazi: Adolf, the Superman, John Heartfield, 1932



ADOLF, DER UBERMENSCH: Schluckt Gold und redet Blech

# History

Anti-Vietnam Napalm Girl, Nick Ut, 1972

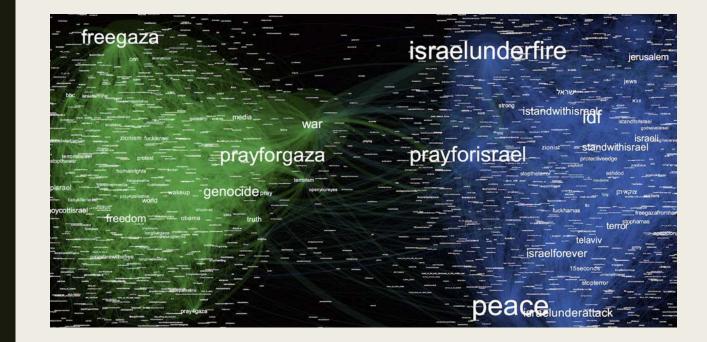


Pro-War / Iraq and Afganistan World Trade Center 9/11, 2001



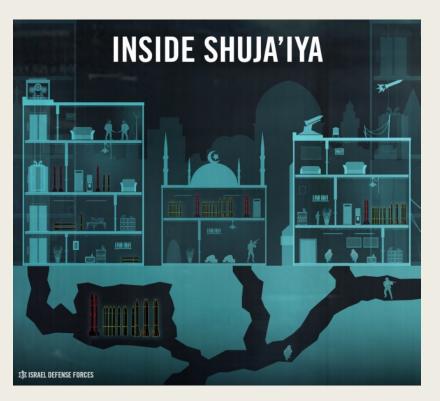
### **Operation Protective Edge**

- Launched July 8, 2014, 7/week war between Israel & Hamas
- "Social Media War"
- "Social media opened the opportunity to incite visual propaganda and persuade the global community to become followers of established sides." (Burrell, 2014)
- Image: Study by Gilad Lotan, Betaworks



# O.P.E – Shujaiya

Pro-Israel



### Pro-Gaza



## O.P.E – What Would You Do?

Pro-Israel



Pro-Gaza



# O.P.E – What Would You Do?

#### Pro-Israel

### WHAT IF HAMAS WAS IN **YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?**



Imagine if Hamas terrorists were targeting you and your family. No country would allow such danger on its border, and neither will Israel.

> THAT'S WHY ISRAEL IS FIGHTING BACK

For more information, visit: www.adl.org



Pro-Gaza

### WHAT IF <u>YOUR</u> NEIGHBORHOOD **WAS A GIANT PRISON?**



Imagine you've been stateless for 66 years, living under military occupation for the last 47, and under a devastating trade embargo for the last 8. Imagine that anyone around you could be arbitrarily executed without due process by the occupying army. Imagine you had absolutely no legal recourse for addressing your predicament. No people would tolerate such conditions forever, and neither will Palestinians.

**THAT'S WHY PALESTINIANS ARE FIGHTING BACK** 

For more information, visit: www.electronicintifada.net



## O.P.E – Stand With Us

### Pro-Israel



Pro-Gaza



# Questions:

- How does social media influence conflict?
- What are the reactions / responses to visual communication exhibited on social media networks during conflict?
- Can the use of social media develop more harm (than good) during conflict?
  - Response via virtual feeds
  - Response via physical activity
    - Example: ISIS

### ISIS

- Jihadist Militant Group / Terrorist Organization
- Known As:
  - $\checkmark$  ISIS: Islamic State of Iraq and Syria
  - ✓ ISIL: Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
  - ✓ Daesh: Arabic acronym
- Questions:
  - ✓ How does ISIS use visual communication as propaganda via social media networks?
  - ✓ What are the aesthetic and conceptual elements that create viewer engagement?
  - ✓ What is the response / impact of these materials?



### Visual Identity: / Logo

- Symbol:
  - ✓ Black Standard Flag / Black Banner (Mohammad's flag),
  - ✓ Mohammad's seal
- Typography:
  - ✓ Rough, handwritten script, bold, heavy
- "There is no God but God. Mohammad is the messenger of Allah.", "Mohammed is the messenger of God"



### Target Market

- Primarily Male
- Muslim
- Youth / Millennials
- Tech Savy
- Global / Multi-racial
- Multilingual
- Urban (?)





### "Slogan"

- "There is no god but Allah. Mohammad is the messenger of Allah."
  - $\checkmark$  Appears on all videos and publications

#### MEMRI --- TV

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

MEMRI .... TV MEMIA-TV

PRESSCIEN GROUP MERIA GROUP Dissues GROUP FRONT MAINA

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



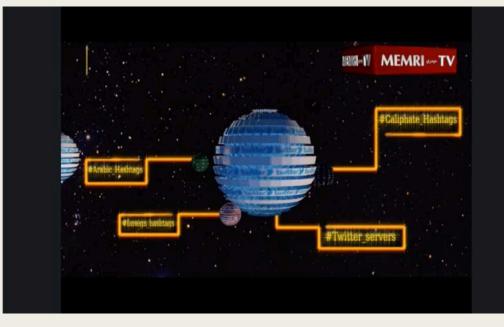
### **Visual Communication**

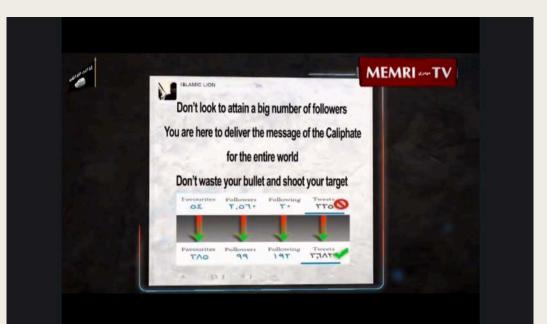
- Social Media
- Media Outlets
- Multilingual Magazine Publications
- Videos
- Hackers



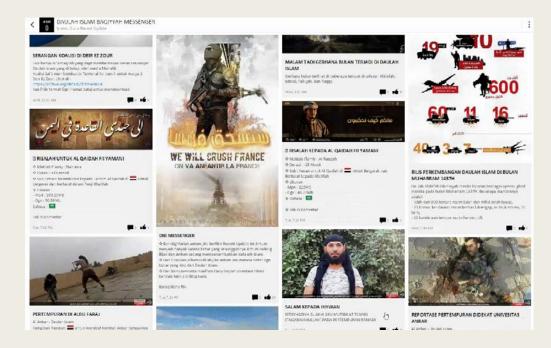
### Social Media

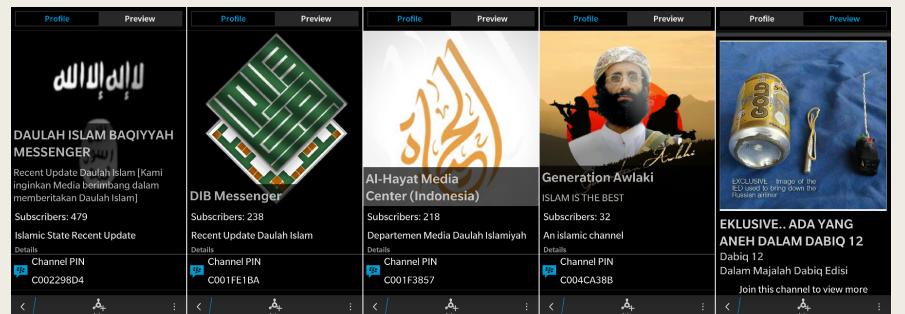
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Whatsapp
- Youtube
- Telegram











## Media Outlets

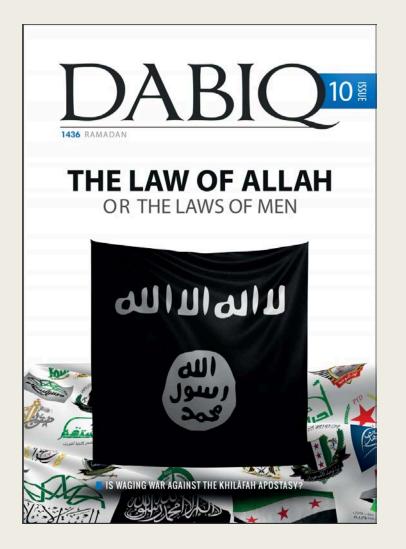
Al Hayat

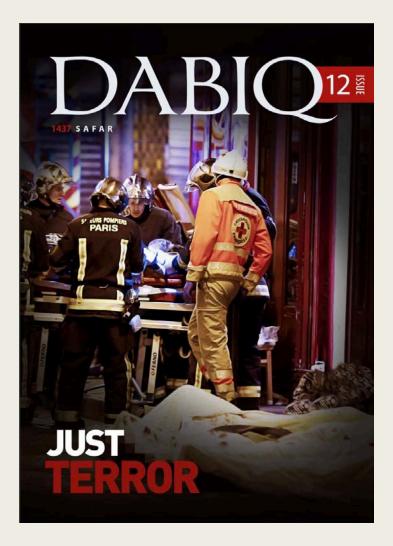


Wilayat - Bagdad



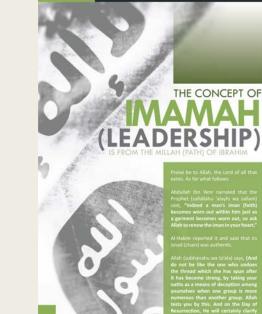
## Dabiq Magazine Publication (English)





### **Dabiq Magazine Publication**

#### ALLAH'S MESSENGER (SALLALLAHU 'ALAYHI WA SALLAM) SAID, RDER YOU WITH FIVE THINGS T ALLAH ORDERED ME WITH: 'UMAR IBN AL-KHATTAB (RADIYALLAHU 'ANH) SAID, (LEADERSHIP) EXCEPT (OBEDIENCE) FOR INDEED, WHOEVER LEAVES THE JAMA'AH BY A HAND SPAN HAS REMOVED THE NOOSE OF ISLAM FROM HIS NECK UNLESS HE RETURNS. AND WHOEVER CALLS TO THE CALL OF JAHILIYYAH THEN HE IS FROM THE GATHERINGS OF JAHANNAM (HELL)." THEY SAID, "O ALLAH'S MES-SENGER, EVEN IF HE FASTS AND PRAYS?" HE SAID, "EVEN IF HE FASTS, PRAYS, AND CLAIMS TO BE A MUSLIM. SO CALL THE MUSLIMS BY THEIR NAMES, BY WHAT ALLAH NAMED THEM: AL-MUSLIMIN, AL-MU'MININ, 'IBAD ALLAH (SLAVES OF ALLAH)." [AHMAD AND AT-TIRMIDHI] 30



In explaining this verse, the scholars of tafsir stated, "This was a foolish woman in Makkah. Every time she spun some thread and made it strong, she would undo it

rikin and began pre ting the falsely claiming that this was for the sake of global peace which the United Nations and

This even reached the extent that some of the very individuals who had spun this "garment", strengthened it, written about it and openly declared it, were now setting out to undo it with their own hands like the foolish woman of Makkah.

ad become so strong All this, in the hopes that Allah would lead

ing the truth and following the

restored his confidence in his religion and creed, especially with respect to the issue of openly disassociating oneself from the kuffar and mushrikin (polytheists). This is in contrast to those who for so long have bowed and prostrated submissively before the muchtimic and hence necessaries the

Indeed the millah of Ibrahim ('alayhis-salam) has strongly re-emerged within the soul of the young Muslim muwahhld (monotheist), such that he believed in it, loved it, declared it openly, and worked in accordance with re-environment. But accordance with It openity, and worked in accordance with its requirements. By doing so, this young Muslim muwahhid was simply following those who had preceded him in iman from amongst the scholars whose knowledge and religious practice he trusted.

Then after some time had passed, this millah was afflicted within the souls of its proponents by the same thing that afflicts the iman in a man's heart, and it started

As such, these scholars guided him with shar'l evidence to the reality of this great millah, and authored a number of works that bore its name, insisting on the obligation to follow it and call others to it:

It reached a point where the echoes of this great millah reverberated amongst the young Muslim muwahhidin in just about every corner of the world, including the European nations.

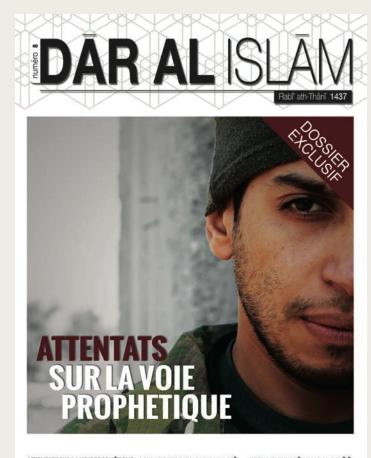
So it became incumbent upon us to revive the characteristics of this millah that had decayed within the people's souls, and attempt to advise those individuals working to undo the thread they had spun after it Many of these youth began directing others toit, embracing it as a defining characteristic, speaking about it and explaining its meaning inside the masajid, centers, and places of gathering. Some would even express their love for it by singing tislamic anashid in English and in various other European Language.

them to repent and that they would return once more to the guidance they were upor

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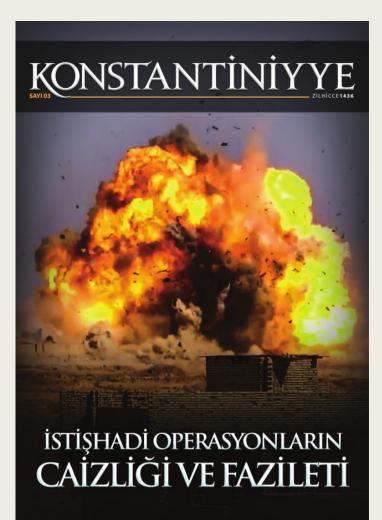
## Dar Al Islam Magazine Publication (French)





ATTENTATS SUR LA VOIE PROPHETIQUE	LES RAFIDITES D'IBN SABA' AU DAJJÄL	TESTAMENT D'ABU 'UMAR AL-BALJÎKÎ
Dossier exclusif sur la légitimité is- larnique des attentats en France et réfu- tation des opposants		Document exclusif : les demières recommandations d'Abû 'Umar al-Bal- jîkl à ses frères

## Konstantiniyye Magazine Publication (Turkish)





EY KAVMİMİZ ALLAH'IN DAVETÇİSİNE İCABET EDİN

14

## Multilingual Publication / Al Hayat





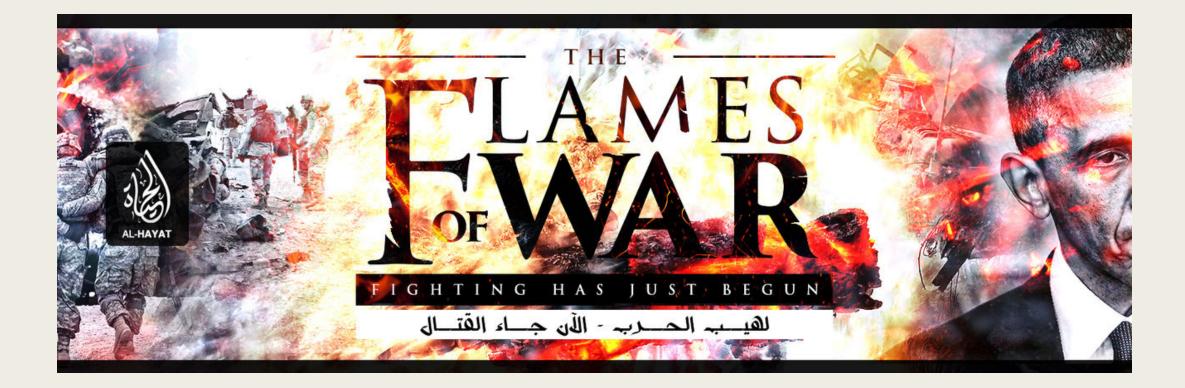
mücahitlere ve İslam ümmetine **MESAJI** 

> Müminlerin emiri Ebu Bekir El Huseyni El Kureyşi El Bağdadi'nin (Allah onu korusun)



**আমীর-উল-মু'মিনীন** আবু বকর আল-হুসাইনী আল-কুরাঈশী আল-বাগ্বদাদী

## Video Banner / Al Hayat



# Video / Al Hayat



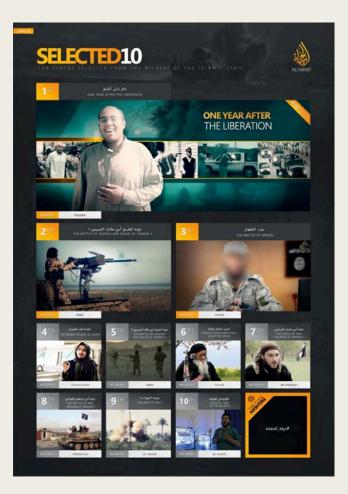


## Video / Wilhayat – Al Jazirah

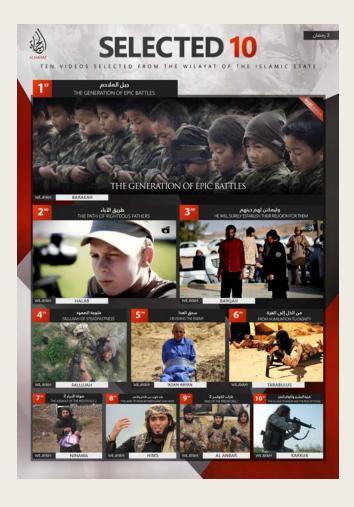




# Top 10 Videos / Al Hayat







# Cyber Caliphate / Hacker Group



## Internet Defenders / Hacker Group



# Conclusion

- Visual Communication
  - sophisticated and strategic
  - branded and organized
  - multiple systems of new technologies being used to present propaganda / visual content.
- Has ISIS developed a new form of warfare created via visual communication, social media, and new technology?
- One in which is influenced by persuasive components utilized in advertising and marketing; visual aesthetics, design, and new technology.