

Profile: Ahd Allah Islamic Movement

by [Hamdi Malik](#)

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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Dr. Hamdi Malik is an Associate Fellow with the Washington Institute, specializing in Shia militias. He is the co-founder of the Militia Spotlight platform, which offers in-depth analysis of developments related to the Iranian-backed militias in Iraq and Syria. He is the coauthor of the Institute's 2020 study "Honored, Not Contained: The Future of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Forces."



Brief Analysis

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Ahd Allah Islamic Movement is a social and cultural movement built around Kataib Hezbollah ideologue Sayyed Hashem al-Haidari.

Name: Harakat Ahd Allah al-Islamiya (HAAI), Ahd Allah Islamic Movement.

Type of movement: Social organization. Nonkinetic social and cultural operations, domestic counter-political/social moderate operations, domestic and foreign counter-U.S. operations.

History and objectives:

- HAAI was established on November 3, 2020, by Sayyed Hashem al-Haidari, an influential *muqawama* ideologue. He was secretary-general of [Kataib Hezbollah](#) (KH) between 2016 and 2018. HAAI "believes in *velayat-e faqih* (guardianship of the Islamic jurists)" and "that Imam Khomeini revived Islam."
- HAAI's activities revolve around Haidari's beliefs as expressed through his speeches, which propagate:
 - *velayat-e faqih*

- the ideologies of Ayatollahs Khomeini and Khamenei
- anti-U.S. and anti-Israeli sentiments
- the idea of taking up arms against the United States and Israel to prepare for the advent of Imam Mahdi
- HAAI mainly targets the younger generations, exposing them to Islamist ideologies and providing them with passionate speeches. It uses both traditional Shia mediums (e.g., *muharam* speeches in mosques) and social media.
- HAAI is a continuation of similar projects by Haidari that targeted the younger generation in cultural camps in the past.
- HAAI announced that it will also take up some charitable activities to help people in need, but so far no evidence of that has emerged.



Chain of command:

- Clear and convincing evidence shows that HAAI is controlled and operated by KH. Key links include the background of Haidari, who was KH's secretary-general between 2016 and 2018.



Sayyed Hashem al-Haidari

Affiliate relationships:

- Haidari seems to be the only Iraqi *muqawama* leader who has been interviewed by the official website of Iran's Supreme Leader.
- Haidari is reported to be close to Hassan Nasrallah, the leader of the Lebanese Hezbollah.

Ahd Allah logo

Subordinate elements:

- HAAI has social media channels on Telegram and YouTube as well as a Facebook page.



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