

## Profile: Liwa Khaybar

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### ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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### Brief Analysis

Part of a series: [Militia Spotlight: Profiles \(https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/series/militia-spotlight-profiles\)](https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/series/militia-spotlight-profiles)

or see Part 1: [How to Use Militia Spotlight: Profiles \(/policy-analysis/how-use-militia-spotlight-profiles\)](#)

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**With probable links to Kataib Hezbollah, this minor facade group claimed a major rocket attack on al-Asad Air Base, but mainly limits itself to claimed bombings against U.S. supply convoys.**

**Name:** Liwa Khaybar (LK). The name is a reference to a Jewish citadel in Hejaz that was conquered by Muslim warriors led by the Prophet Muhammad. Based on Islamic texts, Ali, the first Shia Imam, played a crucial role in this victory.

**Type of movement:** Facade group.

Kinetic military operations. Domestic

counter-U.S. operations.

**History and objectives:**

- LK first appeared on March 17, 2021, when it published a video purportedly showing two operations. One of these operations was a claimed rocket

attack against U.S. troops at al-Asad Air Base on March 3 of that year.

- LK claimed responsibility for a purported drone attack on Iraqi facilities at Balad, north of Baghdad, on April 28, 2021.
- LK has claimed a few attacks against U.S. logistical convoys: near Yusufiya, Baghdad province, on February 8, 2021 (the claim was made after the group announced its existence that March); in Anbar province on April 29, 2021 (exact location unknown); in Diwaniyah province on December 16, 2021; on the Basra-Diwaniyah highway on December 21, 2021; and again in Yusufiya on January 9, 2022.
- On May 13, 2021, in the midst of escalated fighting between Hamas and Israel, LK posted a graphic portraying al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. The image also showed three rockets seemingly directed at the city, with a caption reading “You will hear their sound, in support of Quds.”



Liwa Khaybar Logo

#### Chain of command:

The preponderance of evidence shows that LK is linked to the Iran-backed militia [Kataib Hezbollah \(/node/16641\)](#) (KH). For example, the activities of KH-affiliated media platforms suggested that LK was behind the March 3, 2021, rocket attack against al-Asad Air Base. LK subsequently claimed the operation directly.

#### Affiliate relationships:

No known affiliate relationships at present. As noted below, [Sabereen News \(/node/16673\)](#) reposts LK claims.

#### Subordinate elements:

LK ran a Telegram channel for around four months. The account's last message was posted July 3, 2021, after which the channel was disbanded. Subsequent LK attack claims were posted by wider *muqawama* (resistance) social media networks, especially Sabereen News. ❖

## PART OF A SERIES

[Militia Spotlight: Profiles \(/policy-analysis/series/militia-spotlight-profiles\)](#)



### How to Use Militia Spotlight: Profiles

(/policy-analysis/how-use-militia-spotlight-profiles)



### Profile: The Muhandis General Company

(/policy-analysis/profile-muhandis-general-company)

الرأي والتعبير واعتناق الآراء دون مضايقة، وكذلك المادتين (١٩) و (٢٠) من العهد الدولي الخاص بالحقوق المدنية والسياسية

وإستناداً للتصاريح الممنوحة لهيئة الإعلام والاتصالات وفقاً لأحكام القسمين (١) والفقرة (٤) و(٥) الفقرة (٦) من الأمر (٦٥) لسنة ٢٠٠٤ بشأن تشجيع التطور في الإعلام الإلكتروني، وفي شبكات الاتصالات من أجل تحقيق أكبر قدر من المنفعة للمستخدمين.

واعتزافاً من الهيئة بان الحوار والنشر المبني على تبادل المعلومات بحرية لا يتحقق إلا بتسكين جميع العراقيين من الوصول بحرية الى وسائل الاعلام الحرة المستقلة والمتنوعة المهنية.

ورغبة من الهيئة في المساهمة الفاعلة في تعزيز التنمية والتثقيف والتنظيم والترويج وتعزيز الاستخدام الرقمي في كافة المجالات في جمهورية العراق عبر التعاون مع الجهات الرسمية كذلك الرغبة المحيطة في تحسين المجتمع والقطاعات

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