

Abu Ayyub al-Masri factfile



■ **1965-66:** Sheikh **Abu Ayyub al-Masri**, also known as **Abu Hamza al-Muhajir**, born in Egypt

■ **1982:** Joins Egyptian Islamic Jihad, led by al-Qaeda number two **Ayman al-Zawahiri**

■ **1992-95:** Works and lives in Khartoum, Sudan, with **Osama bin Laden**

■ **1995:** Moves to Peshawar, Pakistan

■ **1999:** Travels to al-Farouq training camp near Kandahar, Afghanistan, where he meets Jordanian militant **Abu Musab al-Zarqawi**. Al-Masri becomes expert in making explosives and roadside bombs

■ **2002:** Works with al-Zarqawi and **Ansar al-Islam** group in northern Iraq

■ **2003:** Becomes chief of al-Qaeda's recruitment and intelligence arm in Iraq, travelling throughout Middle East and North Africa

■ **2004:** Moves to Kirkuk during siege of Fallujah by U.S. Marines

■ **2006:** U.S. puts \$5-million bounty on al-Masri's head

■ **June:** Al-Masri becomes leader of

al-Qaeda in Iraq after al-Zarqawi is killed in U.S. air strike

■ **2007:** Friction grows between Sunni groups over al-Qaeda's indiscriminate killing of civilians and imposition of austere **Salafi-Jihadist** brand of Islam

■ **May 1:** Al-Masri reported killed by Sunni tribesmen in Baghdad