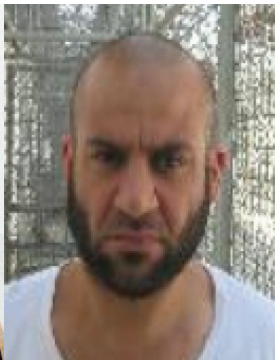
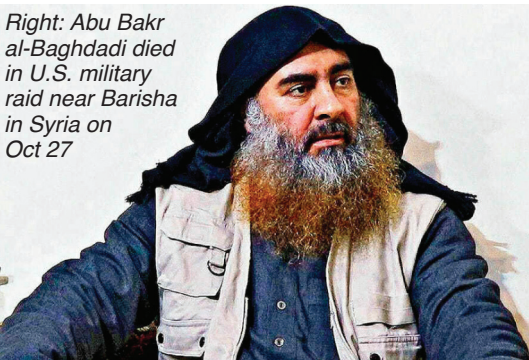


IS group names successor to al-Baghdadi

The so-called Islamic State militant group has confirmed the death of its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and named a successor, identified as Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Quraishi

Right: Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi died in U.S. military raid near Barisha in Syria on Oct 27



Above right: Hajj Abdullah, aka Mohamed Said Abdelrahman al-Mawla

■ **Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Quraishi:** Name of new leader could refer to leading IS figure **Hajj Abdullah** – identified by U.S. Department of State as possible al-Baghdadi successor

■ Hajj Abdullah, also known as **Mohamed Said Abdelrahman al-Mawla**, was senior figure in IS predecessor group **Al Qaeda in Iraq**

■ U.S. government says al-Mawla helped to “drive and justify the abduction, slaughter and trafficking” of Yazidi religious minority in northwest Iraq in 2014 – atrocities recognised as genocide by UN

■ **Other possible successors:** Saudi **Abu Abdullah al-Jizrawi**, Iraqi **Abdullah Qaradash** – one of al-Baghdadi’s right-hand men – and Tunisian **Abu Othman al-Tunisi**

■ Analysts say Baghdadi’s death could cause IS to fragment, leaving new leader with task of rebuilding militant group as fighting force

■ IS named new spokesman as **Abu Hamza al-Quraishi** following death of **Abu Hassan al-Muhajir** (right) in joint U.S. operation with Kurdish forces in Jarabulus

