

Islamic State in Afghanistan

Two months after seizing power, the Taliban faces an insurgency led by Islamic State-Khorasan. ISIS-K attacks are eroding public confidence in the Taliban, which has pledged to deliver peace



▲ Jun 2020: Shahab al-Muhajir becomes ISIS-K leader. 31-year-old Afghan – real name **Sanaullah** – is graduate of Kabul Polytechnic Institute. Trained in Pakistan by Taliban-affiliated Haqqani network. ISIS-K estimated to have 2,000-plus fighters

Attacks since Muhajir became leader

1 Oct 24, 2020: Suicide bombing kills at least 30 people at educational centre in Kabul

2 Nov 2: At least 35 killed in attack on Kabul University

3 Mar 4, 2021: Gunmen kill seven **Hazara** labourers at factory in Jalalabad

4 May 8: Bombs at girls' high school in Kabul kill at least 85 people, including 70 women and girls

5 May 14: Bomb attack kills 12 at Kabul mosque

6 Jun 9: Gunmen kill 10 workers at UK-based **HALO Trust** charity clearing land mines in Baghlan province



7 Aug 26: Two suicide bombers kill 13 U.S. troops and 170 Afghans at Kabul airport – deadliest day for U.S. forces in Afghanistan since 2011

8 Oct 8: Suicide attack at Shia mosque in Kunduz kills 72

9 Oct 15: Suicide bomb kills 63 people at mosque in Kandahar