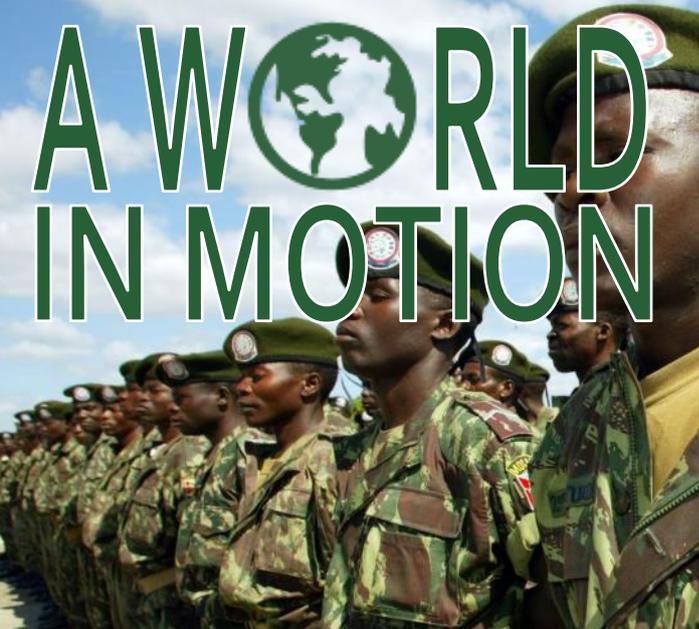


A WORLD IN MOTION



P1 | MOZAMBIQUE

An Islamist terror group has been linked to several brutal attacks in the northern province of Cabo Delgado, causing thousands to flee.

P2 | US-NORTH KOREA

The historic meeting between Donald Trump and Kim Jong-un garnered a mixed response, but many agree it's moving in the right direction.

P3 | YEMEN

The Saudi coalition's assault on Yemen's main port city of Hodeidah is expected to greatly exacerbate the country's humanitarian crisis.

P4 | PROJECTS

PROJECT RESTORATION—providing trauma counselling and training for South Sudanese refugee pastors in Uganda.



THE NUMBERS MOZAMBIQUE'S JIHADISTS



05.10.2017

The date of the first known attack by the group known as Ahlu Sunnah wa-Jama



±100

The estimated number of cells in the northern region of Mozambique where the group is active



35+

The number of people killed since May 2018



\$30 billion

The estimated worth of the natural gas discovered in the region where the group is active

JIHADISTS TERRORISE MOZAMBIQUE VILLAGES



By Andrew Richards

Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province is being held to ransom by an Islamist guerrilla movement. After months of skirmishes between police and members of the Al Sunnah wa Jama'ah, the region has now erupted into full violence. Since mid-May, 35 people have died in a series of brutal attacks. Various people have been beheaded, hundreds of houses have been burned and residents have been advised to be cautious. On 8 June local staff at Anadarko, an international oil and gas company, refused to go to work because they feared an attack. The company then asked its foreign staff not to leave their compound. The US embassy also asked its nationals to leave the province immediately. (*News24*)

Al Sunnah wa Jama'ah

Founders of the group range from local unemployed youth who started a movement against the perceived injustices they were facing to rebels who fought the Tanzanian government and escaped to Mozambique where they are now continuing their campaign for an Islamic state, free from secular government rule. Whatever their origin, one thing is apparent: the group – that has burned down villages like Boko Haram in Nigeria and decapitated people like the Islamic State in the Middle East – is being referred to as "rebels" and not Islamic terrorists. At least for now.

One possible reason for the 'mislabelling' is that once a government labels a group as 'terrorist', the population automatically begins to question their safety, so for the sake of stability and the economy, governments avoid labelling troublesome groups as 'terrorists'. The Western media, however, has

openly reported on the rise of Africa's new Islamic terrorist (jihadist) group in Mozambique. Their reasoning is that the group's behaviour resembles that of any other Islamic terrorist group, from Al-Qaeda to the Muslim Brotherhood.

According to *AFP*, the group surfaced on 5 October 2017, when its members stormed a police station and military post in the northern town of Mocimboa da Praia, 100 km from the Tanzanian border. It is believed to have formed in the predominantly Muslim province of Cabo Delgado in 2014, when its leaders called on followers to adhere to a more extreme form of Islam. The group is made up of "socially marginalised young people without formal employment or formal education," according to researchers at Mozambique's Eduardo Mondlane University.

Some analysts suggest that the group fled from Tanzania where it waged a war against the government from a coastal base. The group also goes by the name 'Al-Shabaab' but has no official affiliation to its namesake in Somalia. Both groups, however, have similar goals: enforcement of Sharia Law and a fight against the ruling government.

In response to the ongoing violence, Mozambique has partnered with Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Uganda in setting up a regional military command, focused on groups such as the one currently terrorising the Cabo Delgado province in Mozambique.

Zanzibar

Following the popular uprisings in the Arab world in 2011, Muslim-majority Zanzibar proposed a secession from Tanzania that would see Zanzibar governed under Sharia Law, free from interference from the Christian-majority mainland of Tanzania. But the Tanzanian government blocked secession and imprisoned some imams accused of radicalising people against the 'Christian' mainland.

In the bigger picture of the quest to 'Islamise' Southern Africa, Zanzibar could prove instrumental. Zanzibar is 99 percent Muslim and becoming increasingly extreme in its interpretation of Islam,

NEWS HEADLINES



The Trump administration defended its immigration policy at the US-Mexico border as the furore grew over the separation of immigrant parents and children. There is a growing chorus of condemnation from both political parties, four former first ladies and national evangelical leaders. The children are being held separately from parents who are being prosecuted under the administration's "zero-tolerance" policy for illegal border crossings. Nearly 2,000 children were separated from their families over a six-week period in April and May.



Violence has marred the run-up to elections in Turkey on 24 June, in which President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is seeking another five-year term amid a crackdown on dissent following the 2016 failed coup.

At least 21 opposition supporters were injured in attacks from 30 April through 5 June, according to a report by the Human Rights Association, a Turkish NGO.



Iraq's nationalist cleric Muqtada Sadr announced on 13 June a surprise political alliance with pro-Iranian Hadi al-Ameri in a bid to lead Iraq over the next four years. The two blocs won first and second place in the war-scarred country's 12 May parliamentary election.

with various attacks on Christians in Tanzania being linked to terrorist groups in Zanzibar. More radicalised Muslims are immigrating to Mozambique and Zambia from Zanzibar with the purpose of establishing Islamic schools, intent on spreading Islam and radicalising followers in these countries.

John (not his real name), an INcontext contact in Tanzania, explains how a small band of radicals might overtake an otherwise non-Muslim area: "Muslim 'missionaries' (radical or not) don't jump from area to area like Christian missionaries do. They go to one region and stay permanently. Then they invite other Muslims (with their extended family) to come and live with them, build houses, thus multiplying Islam. Soon they become the majority population in the region, and the non-Muslims start to move out, or are forced out."

An impossible task

This is key to understanding why governments (such as those in Nigeria, Tanzania and now Mozambique) struggle to respond effectively to the terrorist threat, since it cannot simply be countered by military means.

If one compares the military strength of the Nigerian army to Boko Haram, they outnumber the terrorists 13 to 1. African Union forces in Somalia outnumber Al-Shabaab 3 to 1, and the Mozambique army outnumbers Al Sunnah wa Jama'ah 7 to 1. But even with these odds, Islamic terrorists continue to terrorise entire populations.

Another reason why it is so difficult to root out terrorist groups is the different ways of fighting.

Conventional government forces need to adhere to basic rules of engagement and human rights, but this does not apply to terrorists who routinely use innocent people as 'human shields' and hide in plain sight among the population, making it harder for government forces to catch them.

FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

John warns that the recent violence in Mozambique is just the beginning, and that Islam has a clear global objective that includes a focus on Southern Africa. According to John, prayer should be the first line of defence (and 'attack'): "Pray for missionaries in these areas. Where the government responds by killing terrorists, the terrorists will respond by killing Christians. White missionaries will become prime targets. Because the terrorists cannot successfully fight back against the government, their perception is that if the government is Christian, then all Christians are legitimate targets."

John also says that Islam only moves forward when it's confident it will win: "The move of Islam southwards in Africa forms part of its global strategy. The advance of Islam can be stopped by Christians moving to Muslim areas. If Christians can ensure that Muslim numbers don't out-grow Christian numbers, Muslims will start to lose confidence. Without confidence, Islam cannot move forward."

PRAY > For an effective response from Mozambique's government > For the families and communities impacted by these brutal attacks > For believers in both Tanzania and Mozambique to boldly reach out to their Muslim neighbours

TRUMP AND KIM MEET AT HISTORIC SUMMIT



By Donnelly McClelland

Donald Trump and Kim Jong-un have become the first sitting US president and North Korean leader to meet, an unprecedented development after a year of exchanging threats. The pair shook hands at a luxury hotel on Singapore's Sentosa island before proceeding to talks. After the summit the leaders signed a "comprehensive" document, promising a new relationship between the nations. (BBC News)

Historic meeting

The meeting of these two leaders seemed almost unimaginable less than a year ago as they exchanged fiery insults amidst North Korea's testing of numerous ballistic missiles that defied the international community. In 2018, there appeared to be a change in Kim Jong-un's approach as he expressed a willingness to dialogue after years of sabre-rattling. The Winter Olympics

in South Korea (February 2018) offered an opportunity to thaw relationships between the two Koreas, with South Korean President Moon Jae-in fulfilling his campaign commitment to pursue peace on the Korean peninsula. In April, the two Korean leaders met and agreed to find a way to peace and to "denuclearise the peninsula".

Mr Trump, unlike previous US presidents, agreed on a face-to-face meeting because he was convinced that North Korea was serious about denuclearisation and "sincere" in showing a willingness to halt nuclear tests. Despite an initial hiccup in May, when the proposed summit appeared to be in jeopardy, it went ahead on 12 June in Singapore, where the two leaders firmly gripped each other's hands in front of US and North Korean flags. After a private meeting with only their translators present, they were joined by small delegations of advisors (Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and security adviser John Bolton for the US, and Mr Kim's "right-hand man" and former spy chief Kim Yong-chol and foreign minister Ri Yong-ho for North Korea) for a working lunch.

What was achieved?

In the lead up to the summit, North Korea ordered a halt to its tests, freed US detainees and destroyed its nuclear test site. Some analysts viewed these as good demonstrations of the North's commitment to the process, while others remain hesitant and sceptical. The communique signed by both leaders in Singapore

NEWS HEADLINES



Iran has no plans to extend the range of its missiles since their 2,000-km (1,240-mile) reach is enough to protect the country, the Revolutionary Guards commander said, amid mounting US pressure over Tehran's missile program. Iran's government again ruled out negotiations with US President Donald Trump over Tehran's military capabilities and regional influence, saying that such talks would be against the values of the Islamic Republic.



US President Donald Trump threatened to impose a 10% tariff on \$200 billion of Chinese goods and Beijing warned it would retaliate, in a rapid escalation of the trade conflict between the world's two biggest economies. Mr Trump said it was in response to China's decision to raise tariffs on \$50 billion in US goods, which came after the US announced similar tariffs on Chinese goods on 15 June. The two countries' threats sent global stock markets skidding and weakened both the dollar and the Chinese yuan. Shanghai stocks plunged to two-year lows.



Deadly attacks by suspected Boko Haram jihadists using young girls as suicide bombers killed 43 people in north-eastern **Nigeria**. Bombs ripped through the town of Damboa in Borno state on 16 June, targeting people returning from celebrating the Eid al-Fitr holiday.

also garnered a mixed response. Some believe it is a promising start to a potentially long process, while others feel that the US gave more than what the North offered in return. The document appears somewhat vague, in that it speaks of both countries' commitment to denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula without specifying the process to follow, or there being a direct invitation to independent inspectors.

In what some analysts viewed as a surprise move, Mr Trump announced that "the very provocative" military exercises between the US and South Korea would end, and that he hoped to see the eventual withdrawal of the 28,000 US troops on the peninsula. Many commentators viewed the end to military exercises as a "stunning concession", but Beatrice Fihn (Executive Director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons – ICAN) points out that the annual practice of simulated nuclear attacks "to wipe North Korea off the map in the event of any conflict" by the US was itself a form of legitimisation of nuclear weapons. Fihn concludes: "By saying he would discontinue this practice, Mr Trump is in effect offering to stop the simulated mass murder of innocent civilians."

The way forward

Fihn (in *Time Magazine*) suggests that in order to truly denuclearise the entire Korean peninsula, South Korea (as a sign of good faith) would need to opt out of the US 'nuclear umbrella'. They would not have to forsake their military alliance, but would need to give up their reliance on the extended US nuclear deterrence. Should the Koreans succeed in their ambition, they would join the 122 states at the UN who are in favour of adopting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) which was passed on 7 July 2017. Fihn says that ending the simulated nuclear attacks on North Korea was not a "concession", or the giving up of something "valuable" or a "right". She stated: "There is no weakness in giving up

something that the majority of nations have decided is illegal in the first place."

There may be a long road ahead, but dramatic and very visible steps have been taken in the right direction, and the two nations have promised to hold follow up talks and work towards building a lasting peace. This will be a sensitive and delicate task, which should not be rushed if it is to be a lasting solution.

FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

Franklin Graham (son of evangelist Billy Graham), in a recent opinion piece for *Fox News*, said: "Peace among people of different cultures and views takes patience and work, but it's worth it."

US and world leaders have been seeking a solution to the unresolved conflict on the Korean Peninsula for almost seven decades, and while the summit on 12 June may not have taken huge earthly steps, in spiritual terms, it went a long way towards establishing a lasting peace. Jesus said: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9). Millions have been praying for peace in Korea over the years and one must believe that the Lord has heard those prayers and is able to move the 'immovable' and bring about results that the world cannot achieve on its own.

Graham went on to say: "The human race does not have the capacity in itself to eliminate hatred and bloodshed totally, but as we have opportunities we should do all we can to promote peace, to 'seek peace and pursue it' (1 Peter 3:11). It pleases God. It's good for our nation. And it matters for our children and grandchildren."

PRAY > For effective and continued diplomatic efforts to denuclearise the Korean peninsula > For peacemakers to continue to play a key role > For Korean Christians on both sides of the DMZ to be catalysts of peace and reconciliation

SAUDI COALITION ATTACKS PORT OF HODEIDAH



By Andrew Richards

Troops backed by a Saudi-led coalition on Wednesday [13 June] launched an assault on Yemen's main port city of Hodeidah, in the biggest battle of a three-year war between an alliance of Arab states and the Iran-aligned Houthis. Coalition warplanes and warships were carrying out strikes on Houthi fortifications to support ground operations by Yemeni troops massed south of the Red Sea port, the internationally recognized Yemeni government in exile said in a statement. The "Golden Victory" operation began after the passing of a deadline set by the United Arab

Emirates for the Houthis, who hold the capital Sanaa, to quit the sole port under their control. (*Reuters*)

Proxy war

The ongoing war in Yemen broke out shortly after a popular uprising ousted President Ali Abdullah Saleh during the 'Arab Spring' revolution wave that hit the Arab world, which also saw the ousting of long-time leaders from Tunisia, Libya and Egypt. Saudi Arabia, backed by the West, helped set up Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi as the new president, but Yemenis loyal to Saleh quickly revolted against the new government that was viewed as a Saudi proxy attempting to enforce Sunni rule. Saudi Arabia saw the uprising of mostly Shia-Houthi rebels as interference from Iran, and soon stepped in to help Mr Hadi. The war, now in its third year, is widely seen as a proxy war between Saudi Arabia and Iran, with the fight for the port city of Hodeidah set to be one of its fiercest battles yet.

Ironically, the new 'reformer' of Saudi Arabia, Prince Mohammad bin Salman – who has opened movie

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Please visit our website for up-to-date information on events around the world.

If you have any questions or comments relating to the articles in this publication or on the website, please feel free to contact us at any time.

INcontext Team Details



Contact:

General - Mike:

Mobile - 0828657380

mike@incontextministries.org

AWIM - Andrew:

andrew@incontextministries.org

Communication & Prayer - Donnelly:

donnely@incontextministries.org

Seminars - Eric:

eric@incontextministries.org

Events - Hanlie:

hanlie@incontextministries.org

Projects - Gustav:

gustav@incontextministries.org

Travel /IT- Stefan:

stefan@incontextministries.org

Book orders - Beatrice:

lom@incontextministries.org



INcontext Banking Details

SOUTH AFRICA

Bank: ABSA

Name: INcontext

Cheque acc no: 4078983933
Branch: Durbanville (632 005)

theatres and allowed woman to drive – is the main driving force behind the Saudi-led coalition in the Yemen war.

Hodeidah

Capturing the city of Hodeidah is strategic for two reasons. Firstly, it is believed that Hodeidah is the last major stronghold of the Houthi rebels, and if taken, would be the final step in capturing the capital, Saana. Secondly, the port of Hodeidah is vital for controlling the Bab-el-Mandeb strait, connecting Yemen (in the Arabian Peninsula) with Djibouti and Eritrea (in the Horn of Africa), and connecting the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden. According to *The National*, the Bab-el-Mandeb strait is the fourth busiest shipping 'choke-point' in the world, with more than four million barrels of oil passing through daily. Houthi rebels have been accused of attacking several Saudi oil tankers, providing further reason for Saudi forces to try and liberate the city.

The port of Hodeidah is also the main entry point for much of Yemen's food aid. Some estimate that as much as eighty percent of all food aid for Yemen comes through this strategic port. The Saudi-led assault on Hodeidah threatens millions of lives, as the port is now rendered useless during the siege. UNICEF executive director, Henrietta Fore, fears that more than 11 million children will face starvation if the lifeline of Hodeidah is compromised.

How many at risk?

Abdi Mohamud (Mercy Corps' Yemen country director) said the following: "Whatever the strategic or political gains that might be won by taking or holding Hodeidah, these will be eclipsed by the suffering, misery and needless loss of life that will be paid by the Yemeni people. There can be no winner in this conflict. Now that fighting has begun, all we can do is prepare for the worst." And the 'worst' estimate is 250,000 lives at risk.

According to the UN World Food Programme, 20.7 million Yemenis (76 percent of the population) need humanitarian assistance as of September 2017. 17 million are food insecure, with 2.2 million acutely malnourished children. An estimated 130 Yemeni

children are dying daily due to disease resulting from malnutrition. The cholera outbreak in 2016, seen as the worst in recorded history worldwide, has claimed the lives of more than 2,500 people. *The Guardian* reports: "The spread of the outbreak, which has quickly surpassed Haiti as the biggest since modern records began in 1949, has been exacerbated by hunger and malnutrition. While there were 815,000 cases of cholera in Haiti between 2010 and 2017, Yemen exceeded that number in just six months. About 4,000 suspected cases are being reported daily, more than half of which are among children under 18."

FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

The war in Yemen has displaced more than three million people, and killed over 13,000, with child victims outnumbering adults. With very little hope for peace, Christians are among the few that have 'good news' to share in an otherwise desperate situation.

In a testimony published by the Evangelical Focus Group, Jamil (not his real name), a former Yemeni Muslim who is now a follower of Christ, shared a unique insight into the Body of Christ in Yemen:

"As Christians we feel like strangers in our own country. The war has focused us on what really matters—following Christ—even if it costs us our lives. The Bible is very clear about what we can expect; suffering is a part of Christian life. That is why many Yemeni Christians really long for Jesus to return. We lost so much; we reach out to the everlasting peace that He will bring one day—hopefully soon! The violence has affected the Church enormously. Many Christians had to leave their communities; they are now scattered all over the country. It may sound strange, but the fact that many Christian families had to flee has become a huge blessing. There are Christians everywhere in the country now, not just in certain places. And the faith is growing because, as Christians, we seem to have lost our fear. Through the crisis and the war, God has empowered us to share the Gospel wherever we are."

PRAY > For an end to the war in Yemen > For key leaders to take bold steps towards the negotiating table > For the courageous Yemeni believers as they share the hope they have in Christ

KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION

PROJECT RESTORATION

Providing trauma counselling and trauma counselling training for South Sudanese refugees



The next trauma counselling training will be in **August 2018**, and again we ask you to please consider supporting this project.

There are various expenses that need to be covered in order to see this happen (such as travel costs, accommodation and meals) and it will not be possible without the support of friends, partners and fellow believers. We therefore invite you to take hands with us and with the refugees from South Sudan, who need to know that all is not lost and that there are believers across the world who know about their needs and care for them.

To support this project, please make use of the **INcontext** bank details and use 'Rest' together with your email address (as much as possible of it) as reference.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact our project department (gustav@incontextministries.org) or [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the website.