

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

**Name:** Muslim Brotherhood in Qatar

**Year of Origin:** Not determined.

**Founder(s):** Not determined.

**Place(s) of Operation:** Qatar

**Key Leaders:** Not determined.

**Also Known As:** Not determined.

The official Qatari chapter of the [Muslim Brotherhood](#) disbanded in 1999,<sup>1</sup> but Qatar has continued to provide the organization with financial, media and diplomatic support including through the Qatari-owned satellite network Al Jazeera, which has been accused of bias toward the Brotherhood.<sup>2</sup> Qatar is also home to prominent Brotherhood leaders such as the group's spiritual leader, [Yusuf al-Qaradawi](#).<sup>3</sup> [Khaled Meshaal](#), the former leader of the Brotherhood offshoot [Hammas](#), has long been based in Qatar.<sup>4</sup>

Qatar has a long history of supporting the Brotherhood and its offshoots. During the Brotherhood's year in power in [Egypt](#), Qatar loaned President [Mohammed Morsi](#)'s government approximately \$7.5 billion.<sup>5</sup> Qatar also reportedly aided Morsi's regime with grants and "energy supplies," according to Reuters.<sup>6</sup> During Morsi's presidency, funds as high as \$850,000 were reportedly secretly transferred to the Brotherhood from Qatar's former Prime Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jaber Al Thani.<sup>7</sup> A document dated March 28, 2013, details the allocation

---

<sup>1</sup> Christa Case Bryant, "Behind Qatar's bet on the Muslim Brotherhood," Christian Science Monitor, April 18, 2014, <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2014/0418/Behind-Qatar-s-bet-on-the-Muslim-Brotherhood>.

<sup>2</sup> Christa Case Bryant, "Behind Qatar's bet on the Muslim Brotherhood," Christian Science Monitor, April 18, 2014, <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2014/0418/Behind-Qatar-s-bet-on-the-Muslim-Brotherhood>.

<sup>3</sup> "Al Qaradawi in Al Azhar," Asharq al-Awsat, July 17, 2008, <http://www.aawsat.net/2008/07/article55258254/al-qaradawi-in-al-azhar>; Habib Toumi, "Cleric Yousef Al Qaradawi denies he is leaving Doha," gulfnews.com, April 20, 2014, <http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/qatar/cleric-yousef-al-qaradawi-denies-he-is-leaving-doha-1.1321789>.

<sup>4</sup> "Hammas Political Chiefs Exit Syria," BBC News, February 28, 2012, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-17192278>.

<sup>5</sup> "Egypt has paid back \$500 million to Qatar: central bank governor," Reuters, October 11, 2014, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/11/us-egypt-qatar-deposits-idUSKCN0I009A20141011>.

<sup>6</sup> "Egypt to repay \$2.5 bln Qatari deposit at end-Nov-Cbank source," Reuters, November 6, 2014, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/11/06/egypt-qatar-deposits-idUSL6N0SW1U420141106>.

<sup>7</sup> Paul Alster, "Secret Document Appears to Show Qatar Payoffs to Key Morsi Cronies," Fox News, June 9 2013, <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/09/secret-document-appears-to-show-qatar-payoffs-to-key-morsi-cronies/>.

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

of funds from Hamad bin Jassim to a “long list” of Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood leaders.<sup>8</sup> Egyptian courts have also charged Morsi and his aides with leaking state secrets to Qatar.<sup>9</sup>

Qatar has also provided political and economic support to Hamas, the Brotherhood’s most notorious offshoot. In 2008, Doha reportedly pledged \$250 million to Hamas one year after the terror group violently seized control of the Gaza Strip.<sup>10</sup> In 2012, Qatari Emir Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani became the first head of state to visit Gaza, pledging \$400 million to Hamas.<sup>11</sup> Since then, the Qatari government has continued to send money to Hamas. In July 2016, Qatar announced a payment of \$30 million to Hamas-hired workers in Gaza.<sup>12</sup>

Qatar has also long hosted a Hamas delegation, enabling the group to set up an office in Doha. Khaled Meshaal, the former leader of Hamas, has held press conferences on behalf of the terrorist group at internationally owned businesses in Qatar, including at the Four Seasons hotel and the Sheraton Doha (owned by Marriott).<sup>13</sup> Meshaal has previously resided “in the most luxurious hotel in the most beautiful district [in Qatar],” according to one Egyptian television host.<sup>14</sup> Meshaal is also reported to own four towers and a commercial center on a seven-acre plot in Qatar, developed by a domestic real estate agency.<sup>15</sup> Qatar has repeatedly denied rumors that Meshaal was evicted from Qatar, and in 2015 called him a “dear guest of Qatar.”<sup>16</sup>

---

<sup>8</sup> Paul Alster, “Secret Document Appears to Show Qatar Payoffs to Key Morsi Cronies,” Fox News, June 9 2013, <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/09/secret-document-appears-to-show-qatar-payoffs-to-key-morsi-cronies/>.

<sup>9</sup> “Egyptian court puts ousted president Morsi on trial over Qatar link,” Reuters, February 15, 2015, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/02/15/us-egypt-morsi-idUSKBN0LJ0ET20150215>; “Deposed Egyptian president Morsi to face military court,” Reuters, February 17, 2015, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/02/17/us-egypt-court-idUSKBN0LL1JX20150217>; “Egyptian court recommends death penalty for journalists, Morsi verdict postponed,” Reuters, May 7, 2016, <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-egypt-court-idUSKCN0XY0A9>.

<sup>10</sup> Adnan Abu Amer, “Hamas Ties to Qatar Have Cost,” Al Monitor, April 22, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/04/hamas-qatar-relationship-independence.html>.

<sup>11</sup> Jodi Rudoren, “Qatar’s Emir Visits Gaza, Pledging \$400 Million to Hamas,” *New York Times*, October 23, 2012, <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/10/24/world/middleeast/pledging-400-million-qatari-emir-makes-historic-visit-to-gaza-strip.html>.

<sup>12</sup> “Qatar Says Gives \$30 Million to Pay Gaza Public Sector Workers,” Reuters, July 22, 2016, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-palestinians-gaza-qatar-idUKKCN1021B6>.

<sup>13</sup> Elizabeth Dickinson, “The Case Against Qatar,” *Foreign Policy*, September 30, 2014, <http://foreignpolicy.com/2014/09/30/the-case-against-qatar/>; Jenna Lifhits, “Hamas Again Forced to Move Event Announcing Its New Charter,” *Weekly Standard*, May 1, 2017, <http://www.weeklystandard.com/hamas-again-forced-to-move-event-announcing-its-new-charter/article/2007852>.

<sup>14</sup> Globes, “The Corruption at the Head of Hamas,” *Jerusalem Post*, July 20, 2014, <http://www.jpost.com/Business/Business-Features/The-corruption-at-the-head-of-Hamas-363550>.

<sup>15</sup> Globes, “The Corruption at the Head of Hamas,” *Jerusalem Post*, July 20, 2014, <http://www.jpost.com/Business/Business-Features/The-corruption-at-the-head-of-Hamas-363550>.

<sup>16</sup> Peter Kovessy, “Qatar FM: Hamas leader to remain in Doha as ‘dear guest,’” Doha News, January 13, 2015, <https://dohanews.co/qatar-fm-hamas-leader-remain-doha-dear-guest/>.

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

Qatar has hosted other internationally sanctioned Hamas officials as well. In June 2017, following pressure from several neighboring Gulf States, Qatar finally evicted U.S.-sanctioned [Saleh al-Aroui](#), a senior Hamas military leader and financier who has directed Hamas military operations from both Turkey and Qatar.<sup>17</sup> Additionally, after [Ismail Haniyeh](#) won Hamas's May 2017 internal elections, the *New York Times* reported that Haniyeh would move to Qatar. *Haaretz* later reported that Haniyeh intended to travel between Gaza and Qatar, though the plans would be largely dependent whether Egypt would allow him to exit Gaza.<sup>18</sup>

In addition to supporting the Brotherhood and Hamas through political and economic means, Qatar also stands accused of promoting extremist groups like the Brotherhood and others through Qatar-run news outlet Al Jazeera. [Iraq](#) banned the channel in April 2016 and Egypt has arrested several Al Jazeera reporters on charges of supporting the Brotherhood.<sup>19</sup> Al Jazeera has long broadcast a program hosted by Qatari-based Brotherhood ideologue Yusuf al-Qaradawi, famous for his incitement against Americans, gay people, and Jews. Qaradawi has also expressed support for domestic violence against women.<sup>20</sup> Yigal Carmon, president of the Washington-based Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI), told the *Washington Post* that Al Jazeera attacks the military and defends the Brotherhood "in every way possible."<sup>21</sup>

Qatar refused to join its Gulf neighbors when a number of states labeled the Brotherhood a terrorist organization in 2013 and 2014. However, in mid-September 2014, top Brotherhood members claimed that they had been "asked to leave Qatar" as the small Arab country came

---

<sup>17</sup> "Treasury Sanctions Major Hamas Leaders, Financial Facilitators and a Front Company," U.S. Department of the Treasury, September 10, 2015, <https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/jl0159.aspx>; Avi Issacharoff, "PA Security Raids Hamas Cell Planning Attacks Against Israelis," Times of Israel, March 8, 2016, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/pa-security-raids-hamas-cell-planning-attacks-against-israelis/>.

<sup>18</sup> Jack Khoury, "Analysis No Reconciliation in Sight: Abbas' Team Is Unenthused by Hamas' New Leadership," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), May 8, 2017, <http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/premium-1.787690>; Adam Rasgon, "Hamas Leader: Haniyeh To Return To Gaza After Qatar Stint," *Jerusalem Post*, November 22, 2016, <http://www.jpost.com/Middle-East/Hamas-leader-Haniyeh-to-return-to-Gaza-after-Qatar-stint-473328>.

<sup>19</sup> "Former imprisoned Al Jazeera journalist says Canadian PM betrayed him," Deutsche Welle, April 28, 2016, <http://www.dw.com/en/former-imprisoned-al-jazeera-journalist-says-canadian-pm-betrayed-him/a-18779904>; "Al Jazeera says it has been banned from Iraq over its reporting," Deutsche Welle, April 28, 2016, <http://www.dw.com/en/al-jazeera-says-it-has-been-banned-from-iraq-over-its-reporting/a-19221499>; Louisa Loveluck, "Egypt arrests al-Jazeera journalists," *Guardian* (London), December 30, 2013, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/dec/30/egypt-arrests-al-jazeera-journalists>.

<sup>20</sup> Melanie Phillips, *The World Turned Upside Down* (New York: Encounter Books, 2010), 214; "Sheik Yousuf Al-Qaradawi: Homosexuals Should Be Punished Like Fornicators But Their Harm Is Less When Not Done in Public," MEMRI, June 5, 2006, [http://www.memri.org/clip\\_transcript/en/1170.htm](http://www.memri.org/clip_transcript/en/1170.htm); "Sheik Yusuf al-Qaradawi: Theologian of Terror," Anti-Defamation League, March 15, 2011, <http://archive.adl.org/nr/exeres/788c5421-70e3-4e4d-bff4-9be14e4a2e58.db7611a2-02cd-43af-8147-649e26813571.frameless.html>.

<sup>21</sup> Paul Farhi, "Al Jazeera Faces Criticism in Egypt over Its Coverage of Muslim Brotherhood," *Washington Post*, January 6, 2014, [http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/al-jazeera-faces-criticism-in-egypt-over-its-coverage-of-muslim-brotherhood/2014/01/05/04a397f4-74b3-11e3-9389-09ef9944065e\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/al-jazeera-faces-criticism-in-egypt-over-its-coverage-of-muslim-brotherhood/2014/01/05/04a397f4-74b3-11e3-9389-09ef9944065e_story.html).

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

under pressure from neighbors to cut off support for the Brotherhood.<sup>22</sup> An unnamed Qatari diplomat told the *New York Times* that Qatar had not forced the Brotherhood members out and that they were welcome to return.<sup>23</sup>

In June 2017, several Arab countries cut diplomatic ties with Qatar in response to that country's ongoing support for the Muslim Brotherhood and other extremist and internationally-sanctioned terrorist groups.<sup>24</sup> In response, Qatari Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani told the Associated Press that the country has the right to support groups like the Muslim Brotherhood.<sup>25</sup> Speaking about Hamas—the Brotherhood's most notorious offshoot—Al Thani called it “a legitimate resistance movement.”<sup>26</sup> The United States has routinely criticized Qatar for its support of Hamas.<sup>27</sup>

In June 2018, two American consultants employed by the Qatari government to improve its image in the United States resigned over Qatar's continued support of Qaradawi.<sup>28</sup> In April 2019, French journalists Christian Chesnot and Georges Malbrunot published *The Qatar Papers – How the Emirate Finances Islam in France and Europe*. The book details Qatari financial support for 140 mosques and Islamic centers throughout Europe, including several linked to Brotherhood-related individuals and groups. Among the groups and individuals the authors cite in the book is the Geneva-based museum Le Musée des civilisations de l'Islam, which allegedly displays

---

<sup>22</sup> David D. Kirkpatrick, “Muslim Brotherhood Says Qatar Ousted Its Members,” *New York Times*, September 13, 2014, <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/14/world/middleeast/bowing-to-pressure-qatar-asks-some-muslim-brotherhood-leaders-to-leave.html?action=click&contentCollection=Middle%20East%C2%AEion=Footer&module=MoreInSection&pgtype=article>.

<sup>23</sup> David D. Kirkpatrick, “Muslim Brotherhood Says Qatar Ousted Its Members,” *New York Times*, September 13, 2014, <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/14/world/middleeast/bowing-to-pressure-qatar-asks-some-muslim-brotherhood-leaders-to-leave.html?action=click&contentCollection=Middle%20East%C2%AEion=Footer&module=MoreInSection&pgtype=article>.

<sup>24</sup> Patrick Wintour, “Gulf Plunged into Diplomatic Crisis as Countries Cut Ties with Qatar,” *Guardian* (London), June 5, 2017, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jun/05/saudi-arabia-and-bahrain-break-diplomatic-ties-with-qatar-over-terrorism>.

<sup>25</sup> Malak Harb and Jon Gambrell, “Arab Nations Add Names to Terror List amid Qatar Dispute,” Associated Press, June 9, 2017, <https://apnews.com/0f252c487b7b431682a3555f68703eeb>.

<sup>26</sup> “Qatari FM Insists Hamas ‘a Legitimate Resistance Movement,’” *Times of Israel*, June 10, 2017, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/qatari-fm-insists-hamas-a-legitimate-resistance-movement/>.

<sup>27</sup> Associated Press, “US Congress criticises Qatar support for Hamas,” *Gulf News*, November 16, 2017, <http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/qatar/qatar-crisis/us-congress-criticises-qatar-support-for-hamas-1.2125553>.

<sup>28</sup> “US advisers quit Qatar role as emir dines with Muslim Brotherhood leader,” *The National* (Abu Dhabi), June 7, 2018, <https://www.thenational.ae/world/gcc/us-advisers-quit-qatar-role-as-emir-dines-with-muslim-brotherhood-leader-1.737981>.

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

Muslim Brotherhood propaganda and received 1.4 million Swiss francs from Qatar.<sup>29</sup> The authors further allege they found multiple books by Qaradawi when they visited mosques and schools funded by Qatar around Europe.<sup>30</sup>

**History:**

- **1999:** The Brotherhood's Qatari branch voluntarily disbands.<sup>31</sup>
- **2008:** Doha reportedly pledges \$250 million to Brotherhood offshoot Hamas one year after the terror group violently seizes control of the Gaza Strip.<sup>32</sup>
- **January 2012:** With Syria's civil war raging, Hamas's leaders based there flee for Egypt and Qatar, where they are allowed to set up a political office.<sup>33</sup> Also in 2012, Qatari Emir Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani becomes the first head of state to visit Hamas-run Gaza, pledging \$400 million to Hamas.<sup>34</sup>
- **March 5, 2012:** Al Jazeera broadcasts Brotherhood ideologue Yusuf al-Qaradawi, who says that the leaders of the United Arab Emirates will "face the wrath of God" after they deported a group of Syrians to Egypt.<sup>35</sup>
- **November 2013:** Qatar agrees to expel Brotherhood leaders in order to repair relations with Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and other Gulf countries. Qatar agrees to stop attacking Egypt through Al Jazeera and not to support "anyone threatening the security and stability" of the Gulf countries.<sup>36</sup>

---

<sup>29</sup> "Qatar 'spent huge sums on Muslim Brotherhood groups in Europe,'" *The National* (Abu Dhabi), April 5, 2019, <https://www.thenational.ae/world/qatar-spent-huge-sums-on-muslim-brotherhood-groups-in-europe-1.845510>; "French book reveals how Qatar funded Muslim Brotherhood mosques in Europe," *Al Arabiya*, April 7, 2019, <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/features/2019/04/07/French-book-reveals-how-Qatar-funded-Muslim-Brotherhood-mosques-in-Europe-.html>.

<sup>30</sup> Sami Moubayed, "How Qatar funds Muslim Brotherhood expansion in Europe," *Gulf News*, April 17, 2019, <https://gulfnews.com/world/gulf/qatar/how-qatar-funds-muslim-brotherhood-expansion-in-europe-1.63386835>.

<sup>31</sup> Christa Case Bryant, "Behind Qatar's bet on the Muslim Brotherhood," *Christian Science Monitor*, April 18, 2014, <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2014/0418/Behind-Qatar-s-bet-on-the-Muslim-Brotherhood>.

<sup>32</sup> Adnan Abu Amer, "Hamas Ties to Qatar Have Cost," *Al Monitor*, April 22, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/04/hamas-qatar-relationship-independence.html>.

<sup>33</sup> "Hamas Political Chiefs Exit Syria," *BBC News*, February 28, 2012, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-17192278>.

<sup>34</sup> Jodi Rudoren, "Qatar's Emir Visits Gaza, Pledging \$400 Million to Hamas," *New York Times*, October 23, 2012, <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/10/24/world/middleeast/pledging-400-million-qatari-emir-makes-historic-visit-to-gaza-strip.html>.

<sup>35</sup> Sultan Sooud Al Qassemi, "Qatar's Brotherhood Ties Alienate Fellow Gulf States," *Al-Monitor*, January 23, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/01/qatar-muslim-brotherhood.html>.

<sup>36</sup> Ian Black, "Qatar-Gulf deal forces expulsion of Muslim Brotherhood leaders," *Guardian* (London), September 16, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/sep/16/qatar-orders-expulsion-exiled-egyptian-muslim-brotherhood-leaders>; Angus McDowell and Amena Bakr, "Three Gulf Arab states recall envoys in rift with Qatar," *Reuters*, March 5, 2014, <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-gulf-qatar-ambassadors-idUSBREA2413N20140305>.

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

- **March 4, 2014:** Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain withdraw their ambassadors from Qatar in protest of what they call the country's interference in regional affairs. The nations cite Qatari support for the Brotherhood as an example of the country's interference.<sup>37</sup>
- **September 13-14, 2014:** Qatar expels seven Brotherhood leaders as part of its 2013 agreement with neighboring Gulf states.<sup>38</sup> According to a Qatari diplomat, the Brotherhood members left on their own accord and are welcome to return. In a statement on the Brotherhood's website, senior Brotherhood leader [Amr Darrag](#) says that members of the Brotherhood were asked to leave Qatar and would do so to "avoid causing any embarrassment for the state of Qatar."<sup>39</sup>
- **Late September 2014:** Rumors emerge that Turkey may accept Qatar's expelled Brotherhood members. Turkish President Erdogan tells the media, "If they [Muslim Brotherhood leaders] request to come to Turkey, we will review these requests case by case. If there are no reasons preventing them from coming to Turkey, we can facilitate their requests. They can come to Turkey like any foreign guest." Soon after, media report that Brotherhood leader Amr Darrag and Wagdi Ghoneim have already arrived in Turkey.<sup>40</sup>
- **November 28, 2014:** Following Brotherhood protests in Egypt, Al Jazeera refers to Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi as a "putschist" or "usurper." The classification fuels accusations that Al Jazeera favors the Brotherhood.<sup>41</sup>
- **2015:** Qatar denies rumors that then Hamas leader Khaled Meshaal has been evicted from Qatar. Qatar's Foreign Minister Khalid bin Mohammed Al Attiyah calls Meshaal a "dear guest of Qatar."<sup>42</sup>
- **January 25, 2015:** The Brotherhood's Qatari-based ideologue and spiritual adviser Yusuf al-Qaradawi calls for protests in Egypt on the anniversary of the country's uprising

---

<sup>37</sup> Ian Black, "Arab states withdraw ambassadors from Qatar in protest at 'interference,'" *Guardian* (London), March 4, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/mar/05/arab-states-qatar-withdraw-ambassadors-protest>.

<sup>38</sup> Ian Black, "Qatar-Gulf deal forces expulsion of Muslim Brotherhood leaders," *Guardian* (London), September 16, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/sep/16/qatar-orders-expulsion-exiled-egyptian-muslim-brotherhood-leaders>.

<sup>39</sup> David P. Kirkpatrick, "Muslim Brotherhood Says Qatar Ousted Its Members," *New York Times*, September 13, 2014, <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/14/world/middleeast/bowing-to-pressure-qatar-asks-some-muslim-brotherhood-leaders-to-leave.html>.

<sup>40</sup> Paul Alster, "Turkey may welcome Muslim Brotherhood brass after ouster from Qatar," Fox News, September 21, 2014, <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2014/09/21/turkey-may-welcome-muslim-brotherhood-brass-after-ouster-from-qatar/>; "Three Muslim Brotherhood leaders arrive in Turkey after leaving Qatar," Sunday's Zaman (Istanbul), September 19, 2014, [http://www.todayszaman.com/diplomacy\\_three-muslim-brotherhood-leaders-arrive-in-turkey-after-leaving-qatar\\_359250.html](http://www.todayszaman.com/diplomacy_three-muslim-brotherhood-leaders-arrive-in-turkey-after-leaving-qatar_359250.html).

<sup>41</sup> Walaa Hussein, "Egypt cautiously accepts reconciliation with Qatar," Al-Monitor, December 8, 2014, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/12/egypt-qatar-reconciliation-conditions-muslim-brotherhood.html>.

<sup>42</sup> Peter Kovessy, "Qatar FM: Hamas leader to remain in Doha as 'dear guest,'" Doha News, January 13, 2015, <https://dohanews.co/qatar-fm-hamas-leader-remain-doha-dear-guest/>.

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

against former President Hosni Mubarak. Qaradawi declares that Morsi is the “legitimate” leader of Egypt.<sup>43</sup>

- **February 2015:** Qatari Foreign Minister Khalid al-Attiyah denies Qatari support the Muslim Brotherhood. He adds that Qatar continues to host families of Brotherhood members who recently left the country after “feeling pressured by some Arab brothers.” Their families remain “our guests,” he said.<sup>44</sup>
- **February 15, 2015:** An Egyptian civilian court charges Morsi with sharing state secrets with Qatar and endangering national security. Two days later, the court announces that Morsi will face trial in a military court alongside senior Brotherhood leaders Mohammed Badie and Khairat el-Shater.<sup>45</sup>
- **May 16, 2015:** An Egyptian court hands the death sentence to Morsi, and in absentia to Qatari-based ideologue Yusuf al-Qaradawi, as well as over 100 Brotherhood supporters for their roles in a mass prison break in 2011.<sup>46</sup>
- **May 17, 2015:** Qaradawi condemns the death sentences leveled against himself, Morsi, and over 100 Brotherhood members, calling the rulings “nonsense.” In a message broadcast on Al Jazeera in Qatar, Qaradawi declares, “These rulings have no value and cannot be implemented because they are against the rules of God, against the people’s law...no one will accept it.”<sup>47</sup>
- **May 7, 2016:** An Egyptian court sentences three journalists to death in absentia for leaking state secrets to Qatar. Two of the journalists, Alaa Omar Sablan and Ibrahim Mohammed Helal, work for Al Jazeera. The third, Asmaa Al Khateeb, works for pro-Brotherhood network Rassd. Prosecutors also allege that Morsi’s aides had leaked information to Qatar on Egypt’s armed forces.<sup>48</sup>

---

<sup>43</sup> “Qatar-based cleric urges protests in Egypt on uprising’s anniversary,” Reuters, January 25, 2015, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/01/25/egypt-qatar-idUSL6N0V402Z20150125>.

<sup>44</sup> Jamil al Ziabi, “Qatari FM: We do not support the Muslim Brotherhood,” Al-Monitor, February 22, 2015, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/politics/2015/02/qatar-foreign-minister-gulf-hezbollah-brotherhood.html>.

<sup>45</sup> “Egyptian court puts ousted president Mursi on trial over Qatar link,” Reuters, February 15, 2015, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/02/15/us-egypt-mursi-idUSKBN0LJ0ET20150215>; “Deposed Egyptian president Mursi to face military court,” Reuters, February 17, 2015, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/02/17/us-egypt-court-idUSKBN0LL1JX20150217>.

<sup>46</sup> “Mohammed Morsi, Egypt’s ex-leader, sentenced to death,” BBC News, May 16, 2015, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-32763215>;

Michael Georgy, “Egypt’s Mursi defiant as court seeks death penalty,” Reuters, May 16, 2015, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/05/16/us-egypt-court-mursi-defiance-idUSKBN0O10GE20150516>.

<sup>47</sup> Ben Tufft, “Senior Muslim cleric Qaradawi denounces death sentences against Mohamed Morsi and Muslim Brotherhood leaders as ‘nonsense,’” *Independent* (London), May 17, 2015, <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/senior-muslim-cleric-qaradawi-denounces-death-sentences-against-mohamed-morsi-and-muslim-brotherhood-leaders-as-nonsense-10256086.html>.

<sup>48</sup> “Egyptian court recommends death penalty for journalists, Mursi verdict postponed,” Reuters, May 7, 2016, <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-egypt-court-idUSKCN0XY0A9>.

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

- **July 2016:** Qatar announces a payment of \$30 million to Hamas-hired workers in Gaza.<sup>49</sup>
- **June 2017:** Several Arab countries cut diplomatic ties with Qatar in response to that country's ongoing support for the Muslim Brotherhood and other extremist and terrorist groups.<sup>50</sup> Qatari Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani tells the Associated Press that the country has the right to support groups like the Muslim Brotherhood.<sup>51</sup> Speaking about Hamas—the Brotherhood's most notorious offshoot—Al Thani calls it “a legitimate resistance movement.”<sup>52</sup>
- **November 2017:** The U.S. Congress criticizes Qatar for its support of Hamas and considers its own legislation to sanction supporters of the group.<sup>53</sup>
- **June 2018:** Two American consultants employed by the Qatari government to improve its image in the United States resign over Qatar's continued support of Qaradawi.<sup>54</sup>
- **April 2019:** French journalists Christian Chesnot and Georges Malbrunot publish *The Qatar Papers – How the Emirate Finances Islam in France and Europe*. The book details Qatari financial support for 140 mosques and Islamic centers throughout Europe, including several linked to the Brotherhood. Among the groups and individuals the authors cite in the book is the Geneva-based museum Le Musée des civilisations de l'islam, which allegedly displays Muslim Brotherhood propaganda and received 1.4 million Swiss francs from Qatar.<sup>55</sup>

**Violent Activities:** Not determined.

---

<sup>49</sup> “Qatar Says Gives \$30 Million to Pay Gaza Public Sector Workers,” Reuters, July 22, 2016, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-palestinians-gaza-qatar-idUKKCN1021B6>.

<sup>50</sup> Patrick Wintour, “Gulf Plunged into Diplomatic Crisis as Countries Cut Ties with Qatar,” *Guardian* (London), June 5, 2017, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jun/05/saudi-arabia-and-bahrain-break-diplomatic-ties-with-qatar-over-terrorism>.

<sup>51</sup> Malak Harb and Jon Gambrell, “Arab Nations Add Names to Terror List amid Qatar Dispute,” Associated Press, June 9, 2017, <https://apnews.com/0f252c487b7b431682a3555f68703eeb>.

<sup>52</sup> “Qatari FM Insists Hamas ‘a Legitimate Resistance Movement,’” *Times of Israel*, June 10, 2017, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/qatari-fm-insists-hamas-a-legitimate-resistance-movement/>.

<sup>53</sup> Associated Press, “US Congress criticises Qatar support for Hamas,” *Gulf News*, November 16, 2017, <http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/qatar/qatar-crisis/us-congress-criticises-qatar-support-for-hamas-1.2125553>.

<sup>54</sup> “US advisers quit Qatar role as emir dines with Muslim Brotherhood leader,” *The National* (Abu Dhabi), June 7, 2018, <https://www.thenational.ae/world/gcc/us-advisers-quit-qatar-role-as-emir-dines-with-muslim-brotherhood-leader-1.737981>.

<sup>55</sup> “Qatar ‘spent huge sums on Muslim Brotherhood groups in Europe,’” *The National* (Abu Dhabi), April 5, 2019, <https://www.thenational.ae/world/qatar-spent-huge-sums-on-muslim-brotherhood-groups-in-europe-1.845510>; “French book reveals how Qatar funded Muslim Brotherhood mosques in Europe,” *Al Arabiya*, April 7, 2019, <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/features/2019/04/07/French-book-reveals-how-Qatar-funded-Muslim-Brotherhood-mosques-in-Europe-.html>.



**Ties to Extremist Groups:** Not determined.

**Designations by Governments and Organizations:** Qatar has not designated the Muslim Brotherhood as a terrorist organization. For a full list countries that have designated the Muslim Brotherhood as a terrorist organization, please see the [Designations](#) section of CEP's [Muslim Brotherhood](#) report.

**In Their Own Words:**

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, May 9, 2013

“Our wish should be that we carry out Jihad to death... We should seek to liberate Palestine, all of Palestine, inch by inch.”<sup>56</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, Brotherhood spiritual and intellectual leader, January 30, 2009

“Throughout history, Allah has imposed upon the [Jews] people who would punish them for their corruption. The last punishment was carried out by Hitler. By means of all the things he did to them – even though they exaggerated this issue – he managed to put them in their place. This was divine punishment for them. Allah willing, the next time will be at the hand of the believers.”<sup>57</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, January 28, 2009

“To conclude my speech, I'd like to say that the only thing I hope for is that as my life approaches its end, Allah will give me an opportunity to go to the land of Jihad and resistance, even if in a wheelchair. I will shoot Allah's enemies, the Jews, and they will throw a bomb at me, and thus, I will seal my life with martyrdom.”<sup>58</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, January 9, 2009

“Oh Allah, take this oppressive, Jewish, Zionist band of people... do not spare a single one of them. Oh Allah, count their numbers, and kill them, down to the very last one.”<sup>59</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, June 5, 2006

---

<sup>56</sup> Nidal al-Mughrabi, “Influential Muslim cleric visits Hamas-controlled Gaza,” Reuters, May 9, 2013, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/05/08/us-palestinians-gaza-cleric-idUSBRE94714Y20130508>.

<sup>57</sup> “Sheikh Yousuf Al-Qaradhawi: Allah Imposed Hitler On the Jews to Punish Them – 'Allah Willing, the Next Time Will Be at the Hand of the Believers,” MEMRI, February 3, 2009, <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/802/3062.htm>.

<sup>58</sup> “Sheikh Yousuf Al-Qaradhawi: Allah Imposed Hitler On the Jews to Punish Them – 'Allah Willing, the Next Time Will Be at the Hand of the Believers,” MEMRI, February 3, 2009, <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/802/3062.htm>.

<sup>59</sup> “Muslim Brotherhood Ideologue Incites Violence Against Jews and Israel,” Anti-Defamation League, February 2, 2009, [http://archive.adl.org/main\\_terrorism/qaradawi\\_gaza\\_threats.html#.U4IMhZRdXMd](http://archive.adl.org/main_terrorism/qaradawi_gaza_threats.html#.U4IMhZRdXMd).

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

“[A gay person] should be punished just like a fornicator. What is fornication? It is a sexual perversion. A perversion cannot possibly be innate.”<sup>60</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, June 5, 2006

“The schools of thought disagree about the punishment [for gay people]. Some say they should be punished like fornicators, and then we distinguish between married and unmarried men, and between married and unmarried women. Some say both should be punished the same way. Some say we should throw them from a high place, like God did with the people of Sodom. Some say we should burn them, and so on. There is disagreement...the important thing is to treat this act as a crime.”<sup>61</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, August 2004

*In reference to the Iraq war:*

“All of the Americans in Iraq are combatants, there is no difference between civilians and soldiers, and one should fight them, since the American civilians came to Iraq in order to serve the occupation. The abduction and killing of Americans in Iraq is a [religious] obligation so as to cause them to leave Iraq immediately. The mutilation of corpses [however] is forbidden in Islam.”<sup>62</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, May 28, 2004

“The Jews caused us a great injustice, the greatest injustice. They have expelled our people, stolen our land, shed our brothers’ blood, and are still shedding blood, and there should be no contact between them and us. How could I agree to meet with them? They have killed our brothers in Rafah and destroyed their homes, and today I am supposed to shake their hand? The problem between them and us should be solved first. There is no way I will take part or agree that any observant Muslim take part in a dialogue with those Jews before our problem with them is solved. True, there are a few Jews who do not agree, but about these, Islam says that the majority rules all, while the minority has no influence. We judge according to the majority... The Jews around the world, as a rule, support Israel. And this is well known. Therefore, we will not agree to meet with them until our problem with the Zionist entity and those Westerners and Christians who support them is solved.”<sup>63</sup>

---

<sup>60</sup> “Sheik Yousuf Al-Qaradhawi: Homosexuals Should Be Punished Like Fornicators But Their Harm Is Less When Not Done in Public,” MEMRI, June 5, 2006, [http://www.memri.org/clip\\_transcript/en/1170.htm](http://www.memri.org/clip_transcript/en/1170.htm).

<sup>61</sup> “Sheik Yousuf Al-Qaradhawi: Homosexuals Should Be Punished Like Fornicators But Their Harm Is Less When Not Done in Public,” MEMRI, June 5, 2006, [http://www.memri.org/clip\\_transcript/en/1170.htm](http://www.memri.org/clip_transcript/en/1170.htm).

<sup>62</sup> “Reactions to Sheikh Qaradhawi’s Fatwa Calling for the Abduction and Killing of American Civilians in Iraq,” MEMRI, October 6, 2004, <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1231.htm>.

<sup>63</sup> “Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi in London to Establish ‘The International Council of Muslim Clerics,’” MEMRI, July 8, 2004, [http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#\\_edn2](http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#_edn2).

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, May 15, 2004

“Judaism is the No. 1 propagator of violence.”<sup>64</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, 2004

“We must be aware that in regulating the sexual drive Islam has prohibited not only illicit sexual relations and all what leads to them, but also the sexual deviation known as homosexuality. This perverted act is a reversal of the natural order, a corruption of man's sexuality, and a crime against the rights of females. (The same applies equally to the case of lesbianism.)”<sup>65</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, 2004

“The spread of this depraved practice [gay sex] in a society disrupts its natural life pattern and makes those who practice it slaves to their lusts, depriving them of decent taste, decent morals, and a decent manner of living.”<sup>66</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, July 19, 2003

“[T]he one who carries out a martyrdom operation does not think of himself. He sacrifices himself for the sake of a higher goal, for which all sacrifices become meaningless. He sells himself to Allah in order to buy Paradise in exchange. Allah said: ‘Allah has bought from the believers their souls and their properties for they shall inherit Paradise...[Koran 9:111]’”<sup>67</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, July 2003

“Those who oppose martyrdom operations and claim that they are suicide... While the [person who commits] suicide dies in escape and retreat, the one who carries out a martyrdom operation dies in advance and attack. Unlike the [person who commits] suicide, who has no goal except escape from confrontation, the one who carries out a martyrdom operation has a clear goal, and that is to please Allah...”<sup>68</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, July 2003

---

<sup>64</sup> Steven Stalinsky, “Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi in London to Establish ‘The International Council of Muslim Clerics’,” MEMRI, July 8, 2004, [http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#\\_edn2](http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#_edn2).

<sup>65</sup> “The Qaradawi Fatwas,” *Middle East Quarterly*, 2004, <http://www.meforum.org/646/the-qaradawi-fatwas>.

<sup>66</sup> “The Qaradawi Fatwas,” *Middle East Quarterly*, 2004, <http://www.meforum.org/646/the-qaradawi-fatwas>.

<sup>67</sup> “Sheikh Yousuf Al-Qaradhawi: Allah Imposed Hitler On the Jews to Punish Them – ‘Allah Willing, the Next Time Will Be at the Hand of the Believers’,” MEMRI, February 3, 2009, <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/802/3062.htm>.

<sup>68</sup> “Al-Qaradhawi Speaks In Favor of Suicide Operations at an Islamic Conference in Sweden,” Middle East Media Research Institute, July 24, 2003, <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/914.htm>.

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

“The martyrdom operations carried out by the Palestinian factions to resist the Zionist occupation are not in any way included in the framework of prohibited terrorism, even if the victims include some civilians.”<sup>69</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, March 7, 2003

“[Suicide bombings are] the supreme form of Jihad... that is allowed by the Shari’a... These are heroic operations of martyrdom.”<sup>70</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, March 7, 2003

“O God, destroy the Zionist, the American, and the British aggressors. O God, shake the ground under them and protect us from them.”<sup>71</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, January 8, 2003

“Those killed fighting the American forces are martyrs, given their good intentions, since they consider these invading troops an enemy within their territories but without their will... The issue is not with the Americans who are peace-loving, but with their arrogant government.”<sup>72</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, October 18, 2002

“ Hamas and its counterparts cannot be wiped out, for they are the mouthpiece of the Islamic nation all over the world.”<sup>73</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, September 16, 2001

“The West has made Islam his enemy for many reasons. One is [the Middle East's natural] resources. [Since] the days of the Crusades, there are some mental complexes from which the West has not freed itself. [The West] attacked the Muslim countries, but Islam triumphed, with 'Immad Al-Din Zangi, Saladin, Baibars, and others... Colonialism's aspirations are greedy and full of hate; this hatred still motivates it... The Taliban have nothing to do with this matter [9/11]; they are preoccupied with their own internal problems... I also think that Osama bin Laden no longer has the means to carry out something like this...”<sup>74</sup>

---

<sup>69</sup> Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi in London to Establish 'The International Council of Muslim Clerics',” MEMRI, July 8, 2004, [http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#\\_edn2](http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#_edn2).

<sup>70</sup> Steven Stalinsky, “Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi in London to Establish ‘The International Council of Muslim Clerics’,” MEMRI, July 8, 2004, [http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#\\_edn2](http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#_edn2).

<sup>71</sup> Steven Stalinsky, “Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi in London to Establish ‘The International Council of Muslim Clerics,’” MEMRI, July 8, 2004, [http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#\\_edn2](http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#_edn2).

<sup>72</sup> “Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi in London to Establish ‘The International Council of Muslim Clerics,’” MEMRI, July 8, 2004, [http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#\\_edn2](http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#_edn2).

<sup>73</sup> “Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi in London to Establish ‘The International Council of Muslim Clerics,’” MEMRI, July 8, 2004, [http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#\\_edn2](http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#_edn2).

<sup>74</sup> “Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi in London to Establish ‘The International Council of Muslim Clerics,’” MEMRI, July 8, 2004, accessed May 31, 2014, [http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#\\_edn2](http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#_edn2).

*MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN QATAR*

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, March 2001

“Muslim jurists have held differing opinions concerning the punishment for this abominable practice. Should it be the same as the punishment for fornication, or should both the active and passive participants be put to death? While such punishments may seem cruel, they have been suggested to maintain the purity of the Islamic society and to keep it clean of perverted elements.”<sup>75</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, 2001

“There are various ways to prepare for Jihad: there is mental preparation, there is physical preparation, and there is material preparation, meaning the preparation of the weapons. The Prophet [Muhammad] prepared all his friends first mentally, since equipment and weapons cannot fight by themselves but rather need hands to operate them, and those hands must also have a purpose.”<sup>76</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, 1999

“[I support] the martyrdom operations in which a given Muslim fighter turns himself or herself into a human bomb that casts terror in the hearts of the enemy...if we can’t carry out acts of Jihad ourselves, we at least should support and prop up the Mujahidden financially and morally so that they will be steadfast until God’s victory.”<sup>77</sup>

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, 1995

*At a conference held by the Muslim Arab Youth Association in the Toledo, Ohio:*

“You shall continue to fight the Jews and they will fight you, until the Muslims will kill them. And the Jew will hide behind the stone and the tree, and the stone and the tree will say: ‘Oh, servant of Allah, oh Muslim, this is a Jew behind me. Come and kill him!’ The resurrection will not come before this happens.”<sup>78</sup>

---

<sup>75</sup> “The Qaradawi Fatwas,” *Middle East Quarterly*, 2004, <http://www.meforum.org/646/the-qaradawi-fatwas>.

<sup>76</sup> “Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi in London to Establish ‘The International Council of Muslim Clerics,’” MEMRI, July 8, 2004, [http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#\\_edn2](http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1168.htm#_edn2).

<sup>77</sup> Lamar Smith, “Terrorist Threats to the United States: Congressional Hearing,” Committee on the Judiciary House of Representatives, 27.

<sup>78</sup> Lamar Smith, “Terrorist Threats to the United States: Congressional Hearing,” Committee on the Judiciary House of Representatives, 27.