



ISLAMIC STATE LEADER
ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI

1971

Born Ibrahim Awwad Ibrahim al-Badri in Samarra, Iraq.

1996

Enrolls in master's program in Quranic recitation at Saddam University for Islamic Studies

LATE 1990s

Joins the Muslim Brotherhood.

2003

Helps found insurgent group to fight U.S. troops in northern and central Iraq.

2004

Arrested in Fallujah in February and held at Camp Bucca, an American detention facility in Iraq, until December.

2006

Joins umbrella organization formed by al-Qaida in Iraq for jihadist groups resisting the American occupation.

2007

Defends PhD dissertation in Quranic studies at Saddam University.

2010

Elected head of the Islamic State.

2011

Sets up a secret branch of the Islamic State in Syria, later known as the Nusra Front.

2014

February: Al-Qaida formally expels the Islamic State after it broadcasts enemy beheadings on YouTube.

June: The Islamic State proclaims return of God's kingdom on earth, the caliphate, and Baghdadi reverts to his given name preceded with the ultimate title: Caliph Ibrahim.



SAUDI CROWN PRINCE
MUHAMMAD BIN NAYEF

1959

Born in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

LATE 1970s

Attends Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon.

LATE 1980s

Studies at the FBI.

1992-94

Studies at Scotland Yard's antiterrorism institute.

1999

Named assistant interior minister, leads crackdown on jihadist militants after 9/11.

2003-06

Becomes CIA's closest partner in fighting al-Qaida in Saudi Arabia.

2009

Targeted by al-Qaida suicide bomber, escapes with minor injuries.

2012

Named minister of the interior, reforms the prison system to rehabilitate former jihadists.

2015

January: Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah dies, bin Nayef named deputy crown prince.

April: Elevated to crown prince in wake of cabinet reshuffle.