

ISIS's statement claiming responsibility for the Paris attacks

Friday 20 November 2015, by [Islamic State](#) (Date first published: 14 November 2015).

ISIS has issued a statement claiming responsibility for the attacks in Paris, calling the city a capital of “crusaders” as well as “prostitution and vice.” It warns of more attacks if France continues in the “crusader campaign,” an apparent reference to France’s role in airstrikes against ISIS in Syria and Iraq.

The statement, below, is not surprising: ISIS often claims credit for terror attacks, whether or not it was actually responsible. And while there is strong reason to suspect ISIS responsibility for the Paris attacks that killed more than 120, including the fact that French President François Hollande stated as much, the ISIS statement is still a bit odd.

Terror groups, when they claim credit for attacks, will sometimes include details of the planning or execution that establish the group was indeed responsible. There are none here; the statement details nothing that was not publicly available information from news reports. It also includes no biographical information on the attackers, even a name or photo, though terror groups will often lionize its attackers as “martyrs” in such statements.

None of this is to argue that ISIS is thus not responsible; it is entirely possible the group may later release more information to establish its role. It is also possible that the attack was launched by a local ISIS cell that did not share, or was unable to share, background details with the group’s central command back in Syria. But it is worth keeping this in mind as you read the group’s claim of responsibility below.

Max Fisher

In the Name of Allah, the Most Merciful, the Most Beneficent

Allah (ta’ala) said, They thought that their fortresses would protect them from Allah but Allah came upon them from where they had not expected, and He cast terror into their hearts so they destroyed their houses by their own hands and the hands of the believers. So take warning, O people of vision [Al-Hashr:2].

In a blessed battle whose causes of success were enabled by Allah, a group of believers from the soldiers of the Caliphate (may Allah strengthen and support it) set out targeting the capital of prostitution and vice, the lead carrier of the cross in Europe — Paris. This group of believers were youth who divorced the worldly life and advanced towards their enemy hoping to be killed for Allah’s sake, doing so in support of His religion, His Prophet (blessing and peace be upon him), and His allies. They did so in spite of His enemies. Thus, they were truthful with Allah — we consider them so

— and Allah granted victory upon their hands and cast terror into the hearts of the crusaders in their very own homeland.

And so eight brothers equipped with explosive belts and assault rifles attacked precisely chosen targets in the center of the capital of France. These targets included the Stade de France stadium during a soccer match — between the teams of Germany and France, both of which are crusader nations — attended by the imbecile of France (Francois Hollande). The targets included the Bataclan theatre for exhibitions, where hundreds of pagans gathered for a concert of prostitution and vice. There were also simultaneous attacks on other targets in the tenth, eleventh, and eighteenth districts, and elsewhere. Paris was thereby shaken beneath the crusaders' feet, who were constricted by its streets. The result of the attacks was the deaths of no less than two hundred crusaders and the wounding of even more. All praise, grace, and favor belong to Allah.

Allah blessed our brothers and granted them what they desired. They detonated their explosive belts in the masses of the disbelievers after finishing all their ammunition. We ask Allah to accept them amongst the martyrs and to allow us to follow them.

Let France and all nations following its path know that they will continue to be at the top of the target list for the Islamic State and that the scent of death will not leave their nostrils as long as they partake in the crusader campaign, as long as they dare to curse our Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him), and as long as they boast about their war against Islam in France and their strikes against Muslims in the lands of the Caliphate with their jets, which were of no avail to them in the filthy streets and alleys of Paris. Indeed, this is just the beginning. It is also a warning for any who wish to take heed.

Allah is the greatest.

(And to Allah belongs all honor, and to His Messenger, and to the believers, but the hypocrites do not know) [Al-Munafiqun: 8]

P.S.

* Updated on November 14, 2015, 11:27 a.m. ET

<http://www.vox.com/2015/11/14/9734794/isis-claim-paris-statement>