Radical Islamist Tattoos

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The following presentation is for law enforcement personnel only. Please do not attempt to copy or share this material with non-law enforcement personnel.
The purpose of this presentation is to familiarize law enforcement personnel with radical Islamist tattoos. I had dozens of middle east linguists attempt to translate the attached tattoo examples and unfortunately had multiple interpretations for many of them. As you would suspect, the true meaning of each tattoo rests entirely with the wearer alone.

As such, please do not use this presentation as a translation reference, but more as a guide as to what a radical Islamic tattoo may look like, and most importantly, to report any sighting to your Jail Gang Intelligence Unit.

- Deputy John Williams
Radical Islamist Groups in our Prison & Jails

- Jama’at al-Mutaraabiteen (JAM) “Society of Connectors”
- Ansar El Muhammad (AEM) “Army ( Helpers) of the Prophet”
- Jam’iyaat ul-Islam Is-Saheeh (JIS) “Assembly of Authentic Islam”
- Jama’at ul-Fuqra (JUF/MOA) (Muslims Of America)
- Tajdeed ul-Islam (TUI) “The Rejuvenation of Submission”
- As-Sabiqun (SBQ) “The Vanguard”
- Black Guerrilla Family (BGF) (Black Muslim Prison Gang)
- Islamist Sympathizers and Lone Wolfs
- El Rukins (5% Nation or Nation of Gods and Earth)
  - Chicago based street gang made up of Black Muslims.

Arabic Translation: “Sedition is stronger than killing”

“Dios protegome de mis amigos” = God you protect me of my friends
Radical Islamist Groups in our Prison & Jails

“Soldier of Allah”

Muslim studies Koran

“Freedom or Death” or possibly “I proclaim your will”

Hezbollah Flag
Radical Islamist Groups in our Prison & Jails
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“Mohammad”

“Hezb Allah” (Party of God)

“H f z”

“Mohammad”

BAGDAD, IRAQ

Crossed Swords of “Hamás”

“Allah the Merciful & Compassionate”

“Allah”

“The Greatest” & “Allah”
Radical Islamist Groups in our Prison & Jails

“Otpor” means: Resistance!. Was a Muslim youth movement in Serbia that overthrew President Slobodan Milosevic in 2000

“Nulli-Secudus” = is Latin for “Second to none”

“facilis descensus averno” is Latin for “the road to evil is easy”

World Trade Center – NYC: 9-11 Terrorist Strike SEPT 2001
Radical Islamist Groups in our Prison & Jails

“Dushman Kush” = “Enemy Killer”

“Rasul” = “Messenger of Allah”

“Taqiyya” is a term used to describe how Islamic believers may conceal their faith when under threat.

Crossed AK-47’s = Symbol of Hezbollah

Yawm Al Din = “Day of Judgement”

Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem
Radical Islamist Groups in our Prison & Jails

“There is no god but Allah, and Mohammad is his prophet”
(Must be read three times to become a Muslim)

Symbol for “Allah”

As-Sabiqun (SBQ)
“The Vanguard”

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD

“Be Prepared”

“The Brotherhood”

“Stacy”

“Family”

“Leiley”
Terrorist Tattoos?

In September 2006, an inmate of Palestine decent was screened through the Los Angeles County Jail who had some unknown tattoos, some of which were marked “SOA”. It was later learned that “SOA” stood for “Soldiers of Allah”
In May 2005, a LASD Deputy booked a clothing store owner on charges of selling counterfeit high-fashion merchandise, his attention was drawn to a large tattoo on the man's arm.

After a little research, it turned out to be a symbol associated with the “Fedayeen” which were soldiers loyal to Saddam Hussein and an organization that the U.S. government has designated as a terrorist group.
If you have any questions or comments about this presentation, please contact Custody Training and Standards Bureau at (213) 893-5171, or email jpledwid@lasd.org, Thanks.
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