

## Triste bombemænd vil bare dø



New research suggests that suicide terrorists are not necessarily religious fanatics, many of them are depressed and above all trying to commit suicide - not murder, says new research. Here is site where Taimour Abdulwahad blew himself - on the amateurish way - in the air in downtown Stockholm in the middle of the busy Christmas shopping.

### **Suicide bombers are not necessarily religious fanatics**

By Poul Høi, hoi@berlingske.dk, Tuesday, 14 December 2010, 22:46

SANTA FE: Swedish bomber was extremist. He was a political extremist, he was a religious extremist.

It's at least what his teachers and his entourage says to many media.

But perhaps overlook the crucial tracks in search of a motive: his psyche.

**Also read:** [Again an angry young man behind the attack](#)

A number of American and Israeli scientists are questioning the idea of suicide bombers as zealots - kindled the sacred fire – who make themselves into martyrs for their cause. For many of them are not particularly eager to become martyrs, they're just interested in dying, researchers said. They suffer from depression and a suicide attack is their ticket out of life.

The Boston Globe just put in last week's research in the theory; other media such as NPR (National Public Radio) and The New York Times has previously dealt with the phenomenon, and so has the specialized journal Aggression and Violent Behavior.

### **Ineptitude**

The theory is controversial, but it can at least explain a tendency in many of the suicide attacks: ineptitude. Take the Swedish suicide bomber, roof Loris Doukaiev who klumrede with his bomb at the Hotel Jorgensen, or take the so-called underwear bomber, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab.

**Also Read:** [bomber chased wife two](#)

Their ineptitude as terrorists is striking, but it makes sense if you consider that maybe they really were not so preoccupied with beating anyone but themselves to death.

An Afghan coroner has delivered one of the circumstantial evidence for the theory. Yusef Yadgari at Kabul Medical University autopsied the remains of the suicide bomber men and women, and 80 percent of them had been disabled in one form or another, he told NPR. Several of them had been blind, suffered from cancer, missing limbs, and one was a leper, and the kind of disabilities which will expel them from a society like Afghanistan. Their bodies are often never identified because their families either did not know they were dead or did not intend to recognize them because they were untouchables.

### **Desire for suicide**

So it is not unthinkable to suggest that many of them suffered from depression prior to the attack and that they wanted to commit suicide, say researchers.

**Read also:** [What did the Swedish defense forces do after the terrorist attack?](#)

But an orthodox Muslim should not commit suicide. While the Bible does not contain an express prohibition against suicide, either Jewish or Christian form, the Koran does. Prophet Muhammad says that even murderers are among the lowest of the low in hell and Allah says direct one place: "And do not beat yourself to death."

This problem can be avoided through a suicidal Muslim escape by becoming suicide bombers, argue extreme mullahs, as they did not commit suicide but jihad.

The Boston Globe highlights the case of Qari Sami, who after his bomb at a cafe in Kabul in 2005 was highlighted as a typical religious fanatic. He was a university student, he tried to imitate and dress like a terrorist. He spoke about holy war, and one day he walked into a cafe with a bomb belt around his chest.

**Read also:** [This bomb explodes](#)

But what did he do? He placed himself between the mass of humanity in the café - and beam? He sat at one of the full tables? No, he went into the bathroom and blew himself up. One innocent was killed. It is one too many, but the loss of lives would have been so much worse and bigger if Sami had blown himself up inside the cafe. Why didn't he?

### **Down into darkness**

Associate Professor at the University of Massachusetts, Brian Williams, believe they have the answer. He tells the Boston Globe that the more one examines Sami's background, the more you realize that he was a suicide, not a murderer. He suffered from depression and took antidepressants, but the pills did not help and he sank deeper and deeper into darkness, his friends explained.

In many other communities he could have chosen other ways to do suicide but for a Muslim - at least one Muslim as Sami - jihad was the only option.

Another example comes from Iraq.

Al-Qaeda terrorists raped here groups of local women, and women were traumatized, not only for all the obvious reasons but also for religious reasons. Quran prohibits rape, and it is a myth that a Muslim woman must have four witnesses to prove rape, but especially in less developed areas, the victims are often ostracized, and an elderly woman, Samira Jassim, exploited the victims. She told them that they could only get honorary redress if they were suicide bombers, and she sent them back to the men who had raped them, and they were sent out as suicide bombers.

That was the whole strategy from the beginning, says terror researcher Adam Lankford in the Boston Globe. Women were raped, they were alienated and depressed, and they were sent out as suicide bombers.

**Read also:** [Swedish police hunt helpers in bombesag](#)

"If you just needed true believers for suicide bombers, you wouldn't need them to be raped first," he says.

Lankford will publish next year a list of 75 examples of suicide bombers, which in his opinion, clearly suffered from depression before the attack, and Israeli researchers have studied Palestinians who would carry out suicide attacks, but were caught. 53 percent of them suffered from "depressive tendencies" and 40 percent of them long before the terror trial toyed with the idea of suicide.

<http://www.berlingske.dk/verden/triste-bombemaend-vil-bare-doe>