

ISIS supporter from North London admits to terror offences

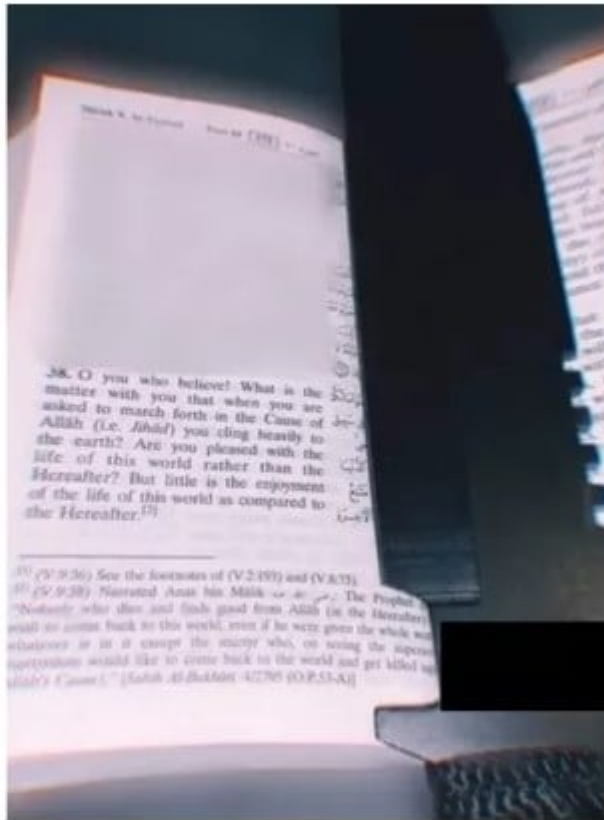
From the [Ham and High](#) (local newspaper of Hampstead and Highgate in North London) and the [Metropolitan Police](#) newsletter

A man from North London has admitted to committing terrorism offences before a court.

Al-Arfat Hassan, 20, appeared at the Old Bailey on Friday (November 10) and confessed that he possessed chemicals for terrorism purposes. A Met Police spokesperson said Hassan was previously convicted in December 2022 of collecting information likely to be used for the cause too.

A 17-year-old from Leeds, who cannot be named, similarly accepted that he had gathered details that could have been useful for an ISIS propaganda video. The young boy, who was aged 15 at the time of arrest, also agreed that he had information about terrorism acts. Hassan reportedly became friends with the teenager online and they bonded over their extremist views.

The investigation uncovered that Hassan bought chemicals that were ingredients for an explosive device. Videos of him posing with a sword and the chemicals were also discovered.



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| An image of a hunting knife on a Koran, taken by the 15-year-old the 15-year-old co-defendant in this case.

Detectives discovered that Hassan – who made rap videos – was in regular contact with someone online, who shared his views. Enquiries led officers to identify

Several of these messages said to have contained videos and images of the teenage boy in Leeds, who was seen posing with knives and featuring flags from ISIS and other terrorist groups. He was arrested nine days after Hassan on March 12, 2022.

They were each later charged with preparation of terrorism acts. After two trials, at Leeds and Sheffield Crown Courts respectively, both Hassan and the 17-year-old boy offered guilty pleas which were accepted by prosecutors.

The duo will be sentenced on February 02 next year at a court to be confirmed.

Hassan, from Enfield, north London, is [known to drill-music fans as Official TS](#). His early songs were about violent street life – but in 2021, they changed. “I don’t care about the fame, girls, money and guns,” he sang in a track called Noor. “Rely on Allah when things get tough. No more drugs and guns

in the palm. I promise you I'll leave the haram."

Some of his ideas were drawn more from Islamic State (IS) group ideology than any religious texts. In 2022 he released a track called Habibti, which included the lyrics: "I don't do love – I'm a full-time mujahid. Married to the gun and the sword, I'm charging. If I chop them multiple times with a axe, they'll fall on their... knees."



| Official TS in the video of a track called Habibti

The lyrics to another song, Bengali, Boss were even more graphic: "Had a smile on my face when that kafir dropped. Should have seen my eyes when his heartbeat stopped.

"Kafir" is one spelling of an Arabic word commonly used for "unbeliever". But Hassan did more than sing about religiously inspired violence. . . the material on the phones included an IS video demonstrating, on a real prisoner, how to kill with a knife. Downloaded on 12 January 2022, it also shows how to make a bomb from easily obtainable chemicals – the ones Hassan had bought – and a bulb.

The detectives also found: An unreleased rap, The London Verse, listing Western victims of IS beheadings and ending with the line “Central London explosion”



In one video, Hassan posed with a machete, a knife and the chemicals he had bought. “I need to go out looking nice, though – final moments and that,” he said.

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| Al-Arfat Hassan posing with a sword

Commander Dominic Murphy who leads the Met’s Counter Terrorism Command, said: “These two young defendants were brought to justice as the result of incredible work by counter-terrorism officers at the Met, with colleagues in the North East. . . The fact that these two defendants are so young is disturbing and saddening. Unfortunately, in recent years we have seen growing numbers of young people, some still in school, being arrested for involvement in terrorist activity. They are often radicalised by material and extremists they come across online, as was seen in this case.