**The Rise of ISIS**

* Has had a variety of names and affiliations
* Islamic State of Iraq and Syria
* Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)



* Militant, fundamentalist, Sunni Muslim organization
* Gains int’l attention when it captures cities in western Iraq in 2014
* Known for beheadings, human rights abuses, and other war crimes



ISIS History

* Founded in 1999 by Jordanian radical Abu Musab al-Zarqawi
* Participated in the Iraqi insurgency following US invasion of 2003
* Also was involved in the Syrian civil war starting in 2011
* Cuts ties with al-Qaeda in Feb of 2014
* Begins referring to itself as the Islamic State in 2014

Ideology and Goals

Recruits