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Guantanamo detainees didn't commit suicide- They were subject to torture

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A few days ago, the American President George W. Bush was quoted as saying that he would like to close the U.S. detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, "but I also recognize that we're holding some people there that are darn dangerous, and that we better have a plan to deal with them in our courts."

But the fact of the matter is that "some darn dangerous people" are running the prison camp and the White House, and that's why we had Guantanamo back on news headlines over the past week.

Following last week's suicide of three detainees held at the U.S. detention facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, two Saudis and one Yemeni, Saudi authorities ordered post-mortems on the bodies of its two nationals repatriated from the U.S. prison, to ascertain the causes of their death.

As for the family of the Yemeni detainee, they called for an immediate investigation into his death.



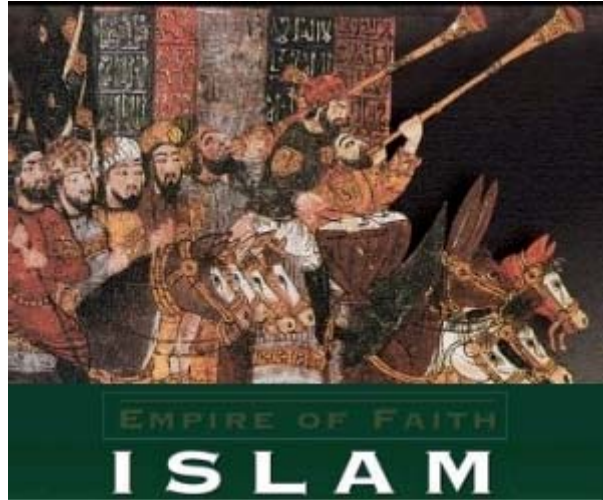
The U.S. initial reports following the outbreak of news of June 10 suicides at Guantanamo, the first at the camp since its establishment in 2002, claimed that the men hanged themselves with clothes and bed-sheets.

But the men's families questioned the circumstances of their deaths. The father of Yassir al-Zahrani, one of two Saudi Guantanamo detainees who allegedly committed suicide, challenges U.S. reports suggesting that his son hanged himself, asserting that his dead son's body bore signs of violence, according to an article on *Business Day*.

"My son was a strong believer and suicide is against the teachings of Islam. He had memorized the Holy Quran and the letters we received from him while he was in Guantanamo indicate that his faith was strong. In fact, he was looking forward to a reunion with his family," he said.

Checking parts of Yassir's body, including his head, face and chest, at Shumaisy Hospital, Brig Talal Abdullah al-Zahrani affirmed that "there are marks on Yassir's body that show that he was beaten. This is in spite of the fact that 20 days have passed since his death and the body had undergone reconditioning."

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The bodies of Yassir and Manie Shaman al-Utaibi, the other Saudi national whom the U.S. alleged to have committed suicide, along with a Yemeni prisoner, arrived Saturday in Saudi Arabia.

Rejecting the U.S. postmortem report finding that their son has committed suicide, Yassir's family demanded another postmortem to be conducted by a neutral agency.

Yassir's father suggests that his son died in one of the fierce fights with the prison guards in which detainees usually get hurt, according to the BBC.

Currently doctors are performing an autopsy on the bodies of the two Saudi nationals to determine the cause of the death, Saudi interior ministry spokesman Maj-Gen Mansour al-Turki said.



Also the father of Saleh Ali Abdullah Ahmed, the third prisoner found dead in his cell in [Guantanamo](#), had questioned the circumstances of his son's death.

The remains of Saleh were incomplete, which makes it difficult to determine the real causes of his death, former Yemeni health minister Naguig Ghanem was quoted as saying.

Al-Zahrani accused the U.S. authorities of strangling his son, arguing that it was difficult for a [Guantanamo](#) prisoner to commit suicide, given the strict rules and continuous surveillance at the jail.

Treatment of detainees at [Guantanamo](#) prison, where the U.S. says it holds "terror" suspects with alleged links to Taliban regime and [Al Qaeda](#) had long been the subject of international controversy, with human rights groups repetitively complaining of the inhuman conditions in which the U.S. keeps those prisoners and the harsh interrogation methods used to break them.

The U.S. detention camp at [Guantanamo](#) and its key questionable attributes; interrogation techniques, treatment of prisoners, the lack of due process of law protections, and the absence of credible "trials" for the prisoners, do not emanate from a political vacuum, they reflect the true policies of the [Bush](#) administration that justifies any action, even a crime, as long as it brings it closer to achieving its agenda.



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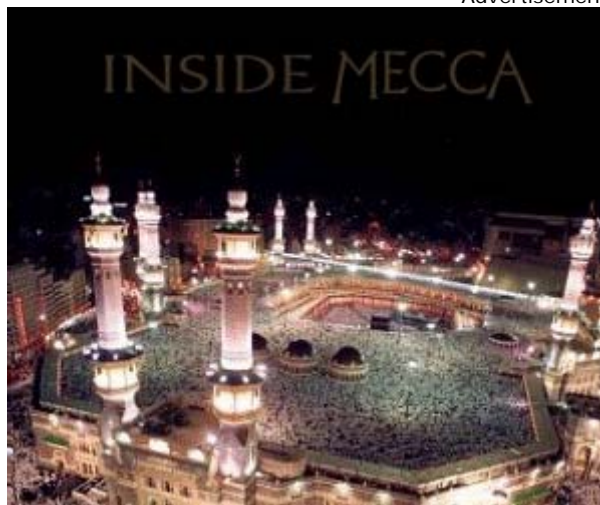
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