# Article information:

The New Face of the Islamic State in Southeast Asia – The Diplomat  
<https://thediplomat.com/2022/05/the-new-face-of-the-islamic-state-in-southeast-asia/>

# Article summary:

1. Abu Zacharia is the leader of the Islamic State's East Asia province, which includes Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and possibly Thailand.

2. His real name is Jer Mimbantas and he was previously the chief of an IS-supporting terror outfit in the southern Philippines known as the Maute group.

3. Abu Zacharia's uncle was a former vice chairman for military affairs of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), but his family is against his terrorist ideology.

# Article rating:

Appears strongly imbalanced: The article is written in a biased or one-sided way, and the information it provides is not trustworthy enough to be considered a reliable source. You should consult other sources to find reliable information on the presented issues.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "The New Face of the Islamic State in Southeast Asia" by The Diplomat provides some information about the new leader of the Islamic State's East Asia province, Abu Zacharia. However, the article has several shortcomings that limit its credibility and objectivity.

Firstly, the article relies heavily on unnamed sources and does not provide any evidence to support its claims. For instance, it states that Abu Zacharia is the chief of an IS-supporting terror outfit in southern Philippines known as the Maute group but does not provide any proof to back up this assertion. Similarly, it claims that Abu Zacharia was part of the Maute group that laid siege to Marawi city in 2017 without providing any evidence to support this claim.

Secondly, the article appears to be one-sided and biased towards portraying Abu Zacharia as a terrorist with no consideration for other perspectives. For example, it mentions that Abu Zacharia's uncle was a vice chairman for military affairs of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), a former insurgent group now friendly with the Philippine government. However, it fails to explore how this familial connection may have influenced Abu Zacharia's radicalization or whether he had any grievances against the government.

Thirdly, there are some missing points of consideration in the article. For instance, it does not mention how Abu Zacharia became involved with ISIS or what his motivations are for leading their East Asia branch. Additionally, it does not explore how his leadership may impact terrorism in Southeast Asia or what measures governments can take to counter his influence.

In conclusion, while The Diplomat's article provides some information about Abu Zacharia and his background, its reliance on unnamed sources and lack of evidence undermines its credibility. Furthermore, its one-sided reporting and missing points of consideration limit its objectivity and usefulness as a source for understanding terrorism in Southeast Asia.

# Topics for further research:

* Abu Zacharia's involvement with ISIS and motivations for leading their East Asia branch
* The impact of Abu Zacharia's leadership on terrorism in Southeast Asia
* Measures governments can take to counter Abu Zacharia's influence
* The history and current status of the Maute group in southern Philippines
* The role of familial connections in radicalization and involvement in terrorist groups
* Perspectives from the Philippine government and other stakeholders on Abu Zacharia and terrorism in Southeast Asia.

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/9b8ec071f71f8641ed7989b9dd2ff2c6>