



Luai Ahmed

Luai Ahmed (Arabic: لوي أحمد; born September 5, 1993) is a Yemeni and Swedish journalist, columnist, and influencer. Ahmed is active on social media and is considered a critic of radical Islam and antisemitism in Islam.^[1] Ahmed is openly gay and considers himself a Zionist.^{[2][3]}

Biography

Ahmed was raised in the capital of Yemen, Sana'a. He grew up in his home with the values instilled in him by his mother, Amal Basha, a peace and women's rights activist^[4] and winner of several honors, including an honorary doctorate from the University of Toronto.^[5]

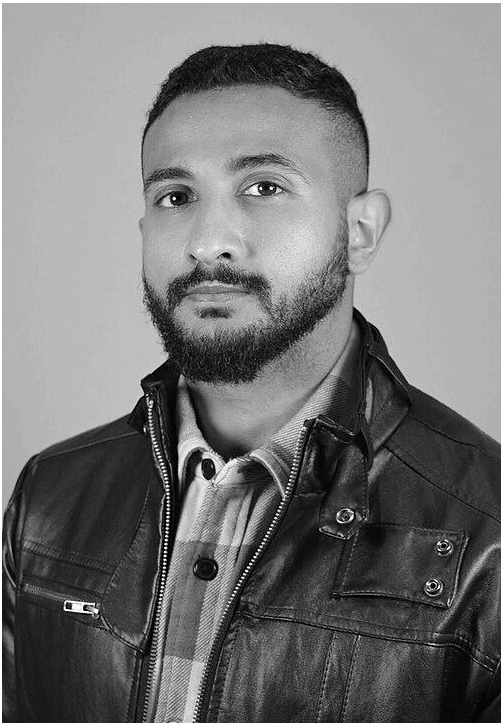
Following his mother's feminist activism, the Al-Qaeda organization threatened his family in 2013^{[6][7][8]} in an open letter to the population in Yemen to receive his family's address.^[1]

In 2014 Luai Ahmed got an opportunity to hold a lecture at the invitation of the "Olof Palme Foundation" in Sweden. His family members urged him to seek asylum there.^[1] He came to Halmstad and since then and for the next four years, he lived there. He asked for and received political asylum, and later also Swedish citizenship.^{[4][1]} After that he lived in Malmö and in Stockholm. He sympathized with the political party Sweden Democrats, and wrote against the Swedish society's contempt towards the party's policies.^[9]

Ahmed is active on social networks with accumulatively more than 390k followers, on X^[10] with 192,000 followers, 112,000 on Instagram, 75,000 on TikTok, and 11,000 on Facebook. His videos get millions of views on average. During October 2023, his videos went viral on the network, and in the months since October and November 2023, he added about 100,000 followers.^[11] He condemns what he says is the hypocrisy of the Middle East, the hatred of Jews that is instilled from a young age,^[12] the servitude to religion and the Muslim world's delay in social and technological progress.^[10]

In addition, he was a columnist for the conservative Swedish newspaper *Bulletin*, where he writes articles against anti-Semitism and hatred of Jews as well as articles in which Islam, integration and immigration policy are recurring topics. In Yemen he wrote for the newspapers *Yemen Today*, the

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Yemen Times and the youth magazine *YoO*. According to him, he does not agree with the concept of Islamophobia,^[13] because phobia (according to him) expresses an extremely irrational and exaggerated fear. Atheists are not "phobic" because they fear of prison or the death penalty in Muslim societies. It is a very rational and tangible fear. Homosexuals' fear of prison or the death penalty in Muslim societies is palpable and rational. The fear of liberals, and especially free women in Islamic societies, of prison or the death penalty, is a rational and legitimate fear – so Ahmed said in an interview with the liberal newspaper *Charlie Hebdo*.^[10]

In 2021, he published his book "A Paradoxical Journey of a Refugee from the Sharia of Yemen to the Rainbow in Sweden", which tells about his first five years in Sweden, with a humorous critique of extreme Islam, but also of Sweden, where he currently lives.^[8]

Work and Advocacy

Ahmed visited Israel in November 2023 during the war with Hamas, and his impressions of his visit to Al-Aqsa Mosque, which according to him the fact that non-Muslims are not allowed to enter, is actually apartheid, he spread on the network.^{[14][15]}

On February 27th, 2025, Ahmed delivered a speech at the UN Human Rights Watch, where he condemned the organization's purported silence on the ongoing crises in Yemen, Syria, and Sudan, and claimed that they are consistently overshadowed by the UN's primary focus on Israel.^{[16][17]}

Ahmed has made numerous high-profile appearances such as Piers Morgan,^[18] Sky News, as well as Swedish national television, SVT, and Israeli television channels.^[19]

His story has been profiled in a variety of international publications, such as *Charlie Hebdo*,^[20] *The Jerusalem Post*,^[21] and *The Times of Israel*.^[22] He has also been featured in respected European outlets, including Germany's Die Welt, Sweden's Hallandsposten, and Israel Hayom.

Education

Ahmed studied international business at the Lebanese International University in Yemen. He also studied International Migration and Ethnic Relations at Malmö University.

See also

- Amal Basha

Notes and references

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External links

- My Chat with Yemmeni-Swedish Activist Luai Ahmed – On Islamic Culture (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=31d1ZXpP_6g) (The Saad Truth_1632)
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