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# Jihad of the sword: Traditional and extremist interpretations in contemporary society

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*The article compares interpretation of the “jihad of the sword” concept by theorists of middle-of-the-road version of Islam and ideologists of extremist organizations. A revised definition of the “jihad of the sword” is introduced on the basis of generalization of materials on the subject. The wrongfulness of conducting jihad of the sword by terrorist groups is substantiated. It is alleged that the term jihad must be used with reference to its particular type in order to separate armed confrontation from peaceful manifestations of the phenomenon.*

**Keywords:** *jihad of the sword, traditional Islam, jihad, terrorist ideology*

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