

Jihadi John flees Islamic State fearing own life: Report

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London: Jihadi John, the Islamic State's (IS) high profile masked executioner behind one of the most horrific beheadings recently, has reportedly fled the terror network and gone on the run in Syria fearing for his own life, according to a report.

The 26-year-old British terrorist Mohammed Emwazi, better known as Jihadi John, is believed to be heading to North Africa after having left the terror group several weeks ago, the Daily Express reported.

According to sources quoted by the daily, the IS would drop him "like a stone or worse if they feel he is no longer of any use to them. So it is possible he will end up suffering the same fate as his victims."

Emwazi has been shown speaking with a British accent, dressed in a black robe with a black balaclava covering his face in execution videos of IS. The Kuwaiti-born Emwazi is wanted for the brutal killings of journalists and aid workers Stephen Sotloff, James Foley, David Haines, Alan Henning and Peter Kassig.

Sources told the daily that Emwazi is said to be terrified by the publicity received after being identified as the murderer of British and American hostages. He fears being hunted down by British and US special-forces in Iraq and Syria, as one priority of the allied forces is to track Emwazi and either bring him to justice or kill him.

It had recently emerged that that the Tunisia beach gunman, Seifeddine Rezgui, allegedly trained at the same terror camp as Emwazi. Hailing from London, Emwazi first appeared in a video in August 2014, when he is believed to have killed the American journalist Foley.

Emwazi, who gained notoriety beheading innocent Western victims in ISIS propaganda footage, is also believed to fear his unmasking has diminished his value as an ISIS killer, the report said. He is also concerned that jealous fellow ISIS members might plot against him, according to sources.

Sources say that the computer science graduate may have teamed-up with a less well-known jihadist group somewhere in Syria, to try to keep a low profile.

- PTI