

# What The Saudis Did When They Took The Shi'a Holy City Of Karbala

From the Wikipedia entry on Shi'a Islam in Saudi Arabia:

In 1802, the Saud-Wahhabi alliance waged *jihād* (or at least *qital*, i.e. war) on the Shia holy city of [Karbala](#). There, according to a Wahhabi chronicler `Uthman b. `Abdullah b. Bishr:

*Muslims [Wahhabis referred to themselves as Muslims, not believing Shia to be Muslims] scaled the walls, entered the city ... and killed the majority of its people in the markets and in their homes. [They] destroyed the dome placed over the grave of [al-Husayn](#) [and took] whatever they found inside the dome and its surroundings ... the grille surrounding the tomb which was encrusted with emeralds, rubies, and other jewels ... different types of property, weapons, clothing, carpets, gold, silver, precious copies of the Qur'an.*