

## Abssi Gets 10 Years with Hard Labor for 2006 Bank Robbery

Contributed by Naharnet  
Saturday, 07 November 2009

Former Fatah al-Islam leader Shaker al-Abssi was sentenced in absentia to 10 years in hard labor for taking part in an armed robbery on BLOM bank in Beirut's Corniche al-Mazraa neighborhood in April 2006.

Azzam Qassem Nhar and Khairallah Mohammed Khalaf, both Palestinians holding Syrian citizenship, got 10 year sentences with hard labor. Tah Hajji Ahmed Suleiman, a Syrian, was sentenced to 3 years in jail also with hard labor.

The Beirut criminal court said Abssi incited the three men to do the robbery to fund terrorist operations he was planning to carry out in the country.

At the time, media reports said four men stole \$100,000 from BLOM during a hold up in broad daylight. They said the thieves threatened to trigger a grenade if any of the staff members attempted to stop them. Then, they grabbed over \$100,000 in different currencies and made a quick and easy escape.

Beirut, 06 Nov 09, 14:51

<http://www.naharnet.com/domino/tn/NewsDesk.nsf/Lebanon/C2C3DA67B98EB836C22576660045F599?OpenDocument>