YOU DESERVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH...

## **The Ugly Truth About Hamas**

Hamas attacks on Israel fulfill a terrorist mission to kill Jews and destroy Israel—they don't support a two-state solution or any form of Israel-Palestinian peace.

Those who oppose Israel's response to Hamas's unprovoked attacks usually base their feelings on lies and unsupported assumptions. They ignore Hamas's true mission and massive, Iran-backed firepower, and embrace false myths about Israel's regard for Palestinians.

## Facts about six false myths

Self-determination for Palestinian Arabs is an admirable goal—one that has always been embraced by Israel. But it's a mistake to believe that Hamas's launch of some 4,300 missiles against Israel in the May 2020 war is connected to any quest for peace or to a future Palestinian state. Indeed, sympathy for Hamas's attacks on Israel is generally based on six false myths about the conflict and a profound misunderstanding of the terror group itself.

- **1) Hamas is the underdog:** In truth, Hamas is supported by heavyweights in the radical Islamist world—Iran, Turkey and Qatar—who send Hamas hundreds of millions of dollars and weapons. Hamas has amassed 14,000 deadly missiles to bomb Israel. *This is no weakling*.
- **2) Israel occupies Palestinian territory:** Israel retreated entirely from the Gaza Strip in 2005. Hamas exclusively rules that land and its two million people. However, because of Hamas terror attacks, Israel imposed a blockade on the territory in 2007, and Egypt later followed suit.
- **3)** Israel won't let the Palestinians have a state: Israel has made three peace offers of land and its own state to the Palestinian Authority in the last 21 years, but the PA rebuked them all. Hamas could have built a flourishing state in Gaza, but they have chosen to squander their resources to create terror against Israeli civilians.
- **4)** Hamas is fighting for the Palestinian people: Hamas is a brutal dictatorship that has no functioning relationship or cooperation with the Palestinian Authority (and its two million people) in the West Bank—indeed, the two groups are bitter enemies. Nor does Hamas "represent" Palestinians in Gaza—the people under its rule have not voted for 15 years.
- 5) Israel is stealing private Palestinian land in Jerusalem: The issue in Jerusalem is a property dispute based upon non-payment of rent on property agreed by its Palestinian residents to be owned by Jews. The case now rests with Israel's Supreme Court.
- **6)** Israel wants to take over the Al Aqsa mosque: Israel allows Muslims to manage the Temple Mount, and hundreds of thousands of Muslims regularly pray there. Israel has no plans to change this. Jews, however, are forbidden to pray on the Temple Mount, Judaism's holiest site.

In addition to these misconceptions, some mainstream media and other Hamas supporters fail to accurately describe the group. Above all, the media rarely mention that dozens of governments worldwide—including the U.S., European Union and Arab nations—classify Hamas as a terrorist organization.

Hamas' founding charter bluntly communicates its goals. The charter starts: "Israel . . . will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it." Thus, Hamas is dedicated to the utter destruction of Israel.

The charter also frequently mentions violent Jihad—it has no interest in peace or negotiations—clearly stating: "[Peace]

"Peaceful solutions" contradict Hamas's principles.

initiatives, and so-called peaceful solutions and international conferences are in contradiction to the principles of the Islamic Resistance Movement."

Most egregiously, Hamas's charter spells out its aspiration to kill all Jews: "The Day of Judgment will not come about until Moslems fight Jews and kill them."

Though many Western progressives

defend Hamas, it is a misogynist, anti-LGBTQ, anti-Christian ruler of the Gaza Strip, which it seized brutally in 2007 by throwing opponents from high-rise buildings. Hamas refers to Christians as "infidels." Christian churches have been targeted and its leaders killed.

Ordinary Palestinians suffer most from Hamas. They are violently repressed and used as "human shields"—producing bloody Hamas propaganda pictures to evoke sympathy. While Hamas receives hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign aid, they do not create hospitals, jobs or electricity. Rather, they build thousands of offensive rockets and underground military tunnels.

When sympathizers create an equivalence between Israel and Hamas, they hide the truth. This is not a war between equivalents. It is a war between a genocidal organization that seeks the blood of innocents, against a democratic people defending its homeland from incessant attacks. Anyone who sympathizes with Hamas's cause—or who objects to Israel's defensive response to unprovoked aggression—should be called to account for Hamas's oppressive, murderous behavior.

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