



Home » New opportunity opens for the Palestinians: Will they seize peace and prosperity . . . or let it slip away again

Get Notifications

THIS MONTH'S AD APPEARED IN MEDIA REACHING 10 MILLION PEOPLE NATIONWIDE.

# FLAME.HOTLINE

April 30, 2024



Anti-Israel protesters in Washington, DC liken Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to a Nazi. Team Biden has likewise unfairly scapegoated Netanyahu for Israel's war strategy against Hamas in Gaza as a ploy to please progressives and radical, anti-Israel voters.

## Biden Administration unfairly scapegoats Netanyahu to please progressives, radical left.

Dear Friend of Israel, Friend of FLAME:

Dear Friend of Israel, Friend of FLAME:

President Biden has found many opportunities to criticize Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's war strategy in the Gaza Strip—seemingly to placate his progressive wing and especially radical, anti-Israel voters whom Biden sees as key to saving his foundering re-election campaign. In an interview with Spanish language broadcaster, Univision, for example, he panned Netanyahu's handling of the war, saying, "I think what he's doing is a mistake. I don't agree with his approach."

The injustice of scapegoating Mr. Netanyahu is, he's implementing the will of most Israelis and following a strategy even his opponents largely bless.

Unfairly, Netanyahu has become a convenient target not only for the Biden administration, but also for leftists in his party. For example, U.S. Senate Majority leader Chuck Schumer, in a speech on March 14<sup>th</sup>, claimed Netanyahu was an "obstacle to peace," who has, "lost his way."

**YOU DESERVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH...**  
**Israel's Enemies Tell Five Big Lies**  
 Following the worst massacre of Jews since the Holocaust, antisemites mount a series of vicious attacks, threats and malicious lies against Jews and Israel

**What are the facts?**  
 The world for Jews and Israel will never be the same. Military College students received official messages from Hamas: "The usual Jewish students are not welcome in school days. Hamas official Chahar (Israel) in a TV news, someone (Israel) will report October 7 and Israel is attributed. West Bank Palestinian activist Abed Yamin says "What Hitler did to you was a joke—we will drink your blood and eat your flesh."  
 While Hamas October 7 atrocity caused many Palestinian supporters to rethink their positions, the event only ignited an explosion of hate from Israeli enemies. Tens of thousands of demonstrators demanded not two states living in peace, but justice. "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free... by any means necessary"—meaning, clearly, slaughter of civilians.  
**Power of Big Lies:** Though Israel was the victim of a massive massacre of innocent lives, its enemies blame the Jewish state not only for the Hamas massacre, but also for responding in defense. The reasons many Hamas loved for the atrocity are based on five Big Lies. Big Lies were used by Nazi leader Goebbels, who noted that if he told an outrageous lie often enough, people would begin to believe it. Alternatively, if you see truth as a basis for your judgments, you may find these facts so real.

**Lie #1: Israel is a colonial state that stole Palestinian land.** A colonizer is a foreign nation that conquers and exploits another nation. First, the Palestinians had never owned any land in Palestine. They were also never stolen. Nothing was stolen. Second, Jews are the indigenous people of the land of Israel. They have lived there continuously for 3,000 years and had been continuously there for over 1,000 years. They are not foreigners. **No colonial state.**

**Lie #2: Israel commits genocide.** Genocide is the intent to destroy a national, ethnic, racial or religious group by killing its members. Israel does not, nor has ever, targeted innocent Palestinian civilians for attack—nor mass murder, nor pogroms. All Palestinian civilian deaths have occurred as collateral damage while fighting terrorists who hid in residential or other public areas. Although the Palestinian population is and around Israel has diminished since Israeli founding by 100—often about 700,000 to seven million today. **No genocide.**

**Lie #3: Israel practices apartheid.** Apartheid is a system of racialized social organization in which one racial group is deprived of political and civil rights. Israel has no laws or policies

**Lie #4: Israel is committing war crimes.** War crimes include torture, hostage taking, acts of terrorism, rape and intentional targeting of civilians. While Hamas committed all these acts on October 7, Israel commits none. Though some media blame at what they consider excessive civilian deaths during Israeli military efforts, in fact, Israel attacks only military structures and personnel—never civilian-only targets. Hamas places its fighters in dense residential areas or in tunnels beneath them, endangering civilians. **No Israel-war crimes.**

**Lie #5: Israel oppresses the Palestinians.** Oppression is the systematic exercise of power to discriminate against some groups. Because Israel completely ended Gaza in 2005, it has no power over the daily lives of Gazans. However, because of Hamas' continuous terror, especially efforts to kill Jews and destroy the Jewish state, Israel and Egypt blockaded Gaza to prevent terror attacks. Likewise, under the Oslo Accords, Israel and the Palestinian Authority share governance of Judea and Samaria (the West Bank), and Israel plays virtually no role governing Palestinians daily lives. It enters Palestinian-controlled areas only when terrorists fail to take it to them. **No Israeli oppression.**

Above all, Israel and the U.S. have made numerous offers of land for an independent Palestinian state. Through the Palestinians have turned down five offers of land for peace since 1948. Since then, the land to the sea "has greater importance."  
**The brutality of the October 7 massacre checked us...**—including, including, rape, torture, mutilation, crucifixion, Israeli kidnappings. Even worse, the gates have opened to unbridled Jew-hatred on American streets and campuses. **Based on an offer for about the Jewish state, that Hamas and the Arabs should have done "Never Again" means fighting and defeating evil forever.**

**FLAME**  
 Facts and Logic About the Middle East  
 P.O. Box 1000, Berkeley, CA 94701  
 James Brinkman, President  
 Genesis 49:25, Proverbs

FLAME is a 501(c)(3) organization. Its income is the proceeds of the sale of its products. It is not a for-profit organization. No religious, racial, ethnic, or gender discrimination is allowed. All donations are tax-deductible contributions to persons.

To receive free FLAME updates, visit our website: [www.factsandlogic.org](http://www.factsandlogic.org)

SUBSCRIBE FREE

FLAME'S WEEKLY HOTLINE E-NEWSLETTER



FLAME's Hotline e-newsletter keeps you up to date on the most important pro-Israel advocacy issues and features our choice of the week's most informative and thought-provoking article on Israel and the Middle East. If you only subscribe to one pro-Israel news service, make it the FLAME Hotline.

SUBSCRIBE NOW >>

DONATE NOW

IF YOU SUPPORT PUBLISHING FLAME'S BOLD

Schumer also brazenly called on Israelis to elect a new leader, based on the belief that a different Israeli prime minister would be more receptive to Team Biden's way of doing things.

This anti-Netanyahu sentiment is also voiced by many liberal-minded American Jews, who "love Israel," but consider Netanyahu's duly elected government deeply flawed. Such a belief ignores or misunderstands the temper of the Israeli people in these trying times.

Surely, many valid criticisms can be and have been leveled at Mr. Netanyahu. However, his current policies on the conduct of the Gaza war are supported by a wide majority of Israelis, including the use of military pressure to secure the release of hostages held by the Hamas terrorist group and the rejection of a two-state solution.

Ironically, it seems that whenever Netanyahu does implement policies to placate the Biden administration, they tend to contradict the wishes of large swaths of Israeli voters. Thus, he has allowed generous humanitarian aid into Gaza, delayed finishing off Hamas in Rafah and refused the demand of his far-right coalition partners to re-establish Jewish communities in the coastal enclave.

Even if someone other than Netanyahu were Israel's Prime Minister, Israel's policies would not likely change, since they are supported by the majority of Israeli voters, as well as key players in the government, including opposition leaders. Moreover, Netanyahu is the democratically-elected leader of the Jewish state—one of America's greatest and most trusted allies. Team Biden's open attacks on him are unseemly, inappropriate and counterproductive.

**President Biden undeservedly uses Netanyahu as a scapegoat in a ploy to gain political points.** Back in March for example, he criticized the Israeli Prime Minister's policy in Gaza, saying it's "a big mistake and I want to see a ceasefire." Comments like this supposedly "balance" the U.S.-Israel relationship and help Biden win radical, anti-Israel voters.

But the President has also tried to win over *liberal Jewish voters* by criticizing Netanyahu, knowing that while most American Jews strongly support Israel, they don't necessarily support its leader. Indeed, according to a poll conducted by the Jewish Electorate Institute in early November, just 31% of American Jewish voters have a favorable view of Netanyahu. Thus, Biden has accused the Israeli Prime Minister of "hurting Israel more than helping Israel," and said that Netanyahu's policies in Gaza are "contrary to what Israel stands for," implying that he is not criticizing Israel itself, just its leader.

**While Netanyahu isn't very popular with Israeli voters right now, his policies on the war in Gaza are.** The Israeli Prime Minister was unpopular with the Israeli public long before Israel's war on Hamas in Gaza began, mainly because of his attempts to reform the country's justice system and corruption allegations. But the primary reason Netanyahu is viewed with scorn by the Israeli public now is the perceived failure of him and his government to foresee and prevent the atrocities of October 7<sup>th</sup>. Not surprisingly, the latest polls show that Netanyahu would likely not be re-elected if elections were held now.

Nevertheless, most Israelis still support how Netanyahu is conducting the war in Gaza. For instance, the Israeli Prime Minister has always insisted that military pressure is the best way to secure the release of hostages held by Hamas. Most Israelis polled—81.5%—agree. A majority of Israelis also agree with Netanyahu's stance on what should happen in Gaza "the day after" the war is over. This includes 55.4% of Israelis who somewhat or strongly oppose the creation of a "demilitarized" Palestinian state. In addition, although Team Biden wants a "reformed" Palestinian Authority to rule Gaza after the war, a resounding majority of 81% of Israelis agree with Netanyahu that the PA will not reform.

**Netanyahu has, at times, implemented policies that go against the wishes of the Israeli majority—in deference to President Biden.** For instance, over the course of the war, the Israeli leader has bowed to the demands of the U.S. President and allowed more and more aid into the Gaza Strip, despite the fact that 72% of Israelis *oppose* allowing aid into the territory until the hostages are released. Moreover, inasmuch as Chuck Schumer and other members of Team Biden accuse Netanyahu of being too beholden to far-right factions in his government, the Israeli Prime Minister has actually held these groups in check—for one, by shutting down any idea that Israel will resettle Jews in Gaza after the war.

Team Biden's accusations against Netanyahu are unfair and misplaced, not to mention unbecoming of how a staunch ally that is fighting terrorists should be treated. Polls show

PR MESSAGES, PLEASE HELP US!

FLAME is the only organization that defends Israel with paid editorial *hasbarah* messages placed in media nationwide every month: The dire threats from Iran, Hamas and Hizbollah, the injustice of BDS, Palestinian anti-Semitism and more. If you support a bold voice that tells the truth about Israel in American media, please donate now.

[DONATE NOW >>](#)

Netanyahu is simply carrying out the wishes of Israel's voters, the majority of whom don't want a two-state solution that would reward Palestinian terrorism, or a ceasefire that would leave Hamas in charge of Gaza and would not lead to the release of hostages.

Please make the point when speaking with family, friends, colleagues—or in letters to the editor—that it is not Netanyahu's job to conduct the war in Gaza in a way that will help Biden get re-elected. The Prime Minister is accountable primarily to Israeli voters, who expect him to conduct the war aggressively. Based on current polls, that's exactly what he's doing.

Best regards,

Jason Shvili, Contributing Editor  
Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. The events of October 7 have changed our world forever—and especially the world for Israel and the Jewish people. Likewise, the words “Never Again” will never be the same for us. October 7 has shown us that despite all promises of equity and commitments against hate on campus and on our streets, we can never depend on it. We will likely never be free of the scourge of antisemitism, fueled by the most outrageous slanders. I hope you'll agree that we opponents of Hamas and its savage massacre—and of all who support Hamas, against all humanitarian values—need to speak out. FLAME's new *hasbarah*—explanatory message —“**Enemies of Israel Tell Five Big Lies**”—refutes today's most vicious lies against Israel and the Jewish people. I hope you'll review this convincing, fact-based editorial, which FLAME published in the *Washington Post*, *New York Post*, *Chicago Tribune* and *Los Angeles Times*. This piece will also be sent to all members of Congress, Vice President Harris and President Biden. If you agree that this kind of public relations effort on Israel's behalf is critical, I urge you to **support us** with a donation.



Facts and Logic  
About the Middle East  
PO Box 3460  
Berkeley, CA 94703

ABOUT FLAME

- > FLAME's Purpose
- > FLAME's Leadership
- > FLAME—User Agreement  
Privacy Policy
- > FLAME 2021 Financial  
Statement
- > FLAME 2021 Form 990
- > Flame Whistleblower Policy
- > Records Retention and  
Destruction policy

FLAME'S PUBLICATIONS

- > PR for Israel
- > Chairman's Letter
- > Hotline Archive

GET INVOLVED

- > Subscribe to FLAME  
Hotline
- > Make a Donation to FLAME

SHARE, EMAIL OR PRINT

