

# 10

Things  
You Should  
Know About  
the Violent  
Gaza  
Riots



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# 1

Iranian Regime



Islamic Jihad



Hamas



Hezbollah

The weekly riots on the Gaza–Israel border have been a tragedy for Palestinians and Israelis alike. Funded by the Iranian regime and orchestrated by the terrorist group Hamas, these riots are neither peaceful nor spontaneous. Hamas, which rules Gaza, is exploiting Palestinian civilians to ensure its political survival and continue its destructive war against Israel.

# 2

Hamas is responsible for countless terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians, including scores of suicide bombings and thousands of deadly rockets launched at Israeli communities. Its racist ideology calls for Israel's destruction and is laced with genocidal anti-Semitism. This ideology is reflected in the words of its leaders:

**Over is the time Hamas spent discussing recognizing Israel. Now Hamas will discuss when we will wipe out Israel.**

—Yahya Sinwar, Hamas Political Leader in Gaza, October 20, 2017

**Those Jews are the vilest and most despicable nation in history.**

—Hamas MP Marwan Abu Ras, August 25, 2016

**Oh Allah, destroy the Jews and their supporters. ... Oh Allah, count them one by one, kill them all, without leaving a single one.**

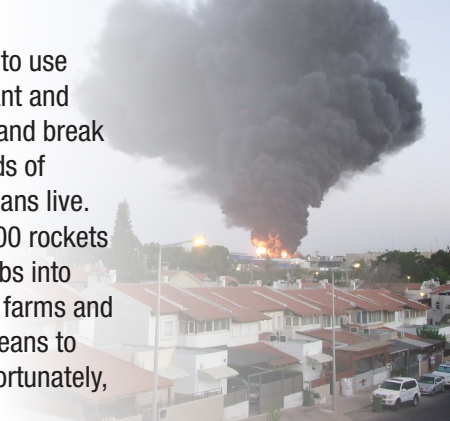
—Ahmed Bahr, Deputy Speaker of the Hamas Parliament in Gaza, 2012

**The Jews are the most despicable and contemptible nation to crawl upon the face of the Earth.**

—Atallah Abu Al-Subh, Former Hamas Minister of Culture, 2011

3

During the riots, terrorists have tried to use thousands of civilians as cover to plant and hurl explosives, fire guns at Israelis, and break through a border that is only hundreds of meters away from where Israeli civilians live. Terrorists have also launched over 300 rockets and sent kites attached with firebombs into Israel, burning thousands of acres of farms and forests. Israel has used non-lethal means to try to stop this violence and has, unfortunately, had to resort to live fire as well.



4

At a rally near Israeli territory, Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar threatened to “take down the border [with Israel]” and “tear out their hearts from their bodies.” At another rally led by Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh, the crowd chanted about murdering Jews. On May 13, 2018, Hamas co-founder Mahmoud al Zaher told Al Jazeera, “When we talk about ‘peaceful resistance,’ we are deceiving the public. This is a peaceful resistance bolstered by a military force and by security agencies.”

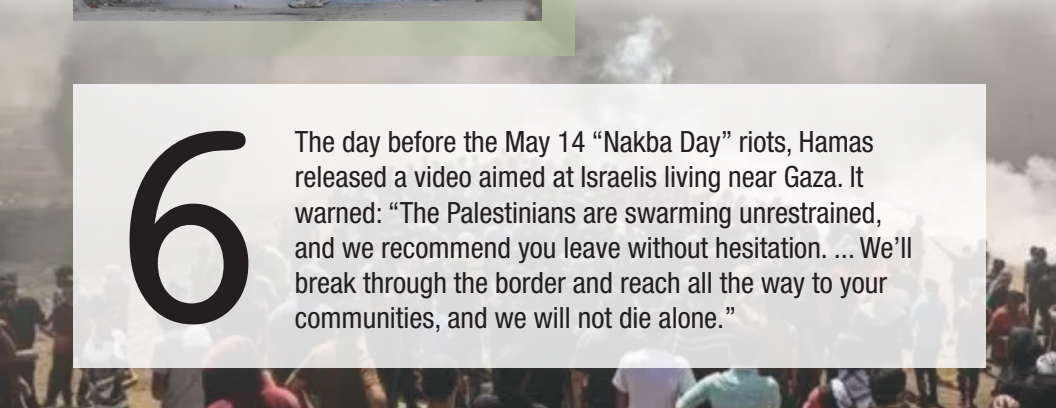


5

After the bloody “Nakba Day” riots, a Hamas leader proudly announced that 50 of the 62 people killed on the border were Hamas operatives. Another three were identified as Islamic Jihad members. Furthermore, Israel is investigating tragic cases in which civilians were injured or killed. Nevertheless, some in the media and international community continue to disregard these facts and make false accusations about Israel’s efforts to defend itself.

6

The day before the May 14 “Nakba Day” riots, Hamas released a video aimed at Israelis living near Gaza. It warned: “The Palestinians are swarming unrestrained, and we recommend you leave without hesitation. ... We’ll break through the border and reach all the way to your communities, and we will not die alone.”



## *Hamas' instructions to bring knives and guns to capture Israeli civilians and soldiers.*



7 Hamas recruited Palestinian civilians—particularly teens—to breach the border fence. Hamas issued instructions over social media to “bring a knife or a handgun, to hide them under their clothes” to be used “to capture soldiers or residents of Israel” and to “hand them over” to Hamas, “as this is an important bargaining chip.” Hamas distributed maps to the rioters, showing the location of nearby Jewish homes to help them carry out this terror mission.



8 Using children in combat is a crime against humanity and a violation of international law. Heartbreakingly, some have been killed at the border and used by Hamas as propaganda props. Their images and stories are often picked up by the media and used to paint a black-and-white picture of the situation, misleading people around the world.

Hamas spends hundreds of millions of dollars to build terror tunnels and other military infrastructure, hoping to kill and kidnap Israelis. Hamas makes and smuggles tons of weapons into Gaza and hides them in schools and mosques. It launches rockets at Israelis from crowded Palestinian neighborhoods, turning their people into human shields. **The international community should help stop Hamas and replace it with a responsible government that will work toward a peaceful future for Israelis and Palestinians.**

9 Hamas is funded and supplied with weapons by Iran, the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism. Iran's regime openly seeks Israel's destruction, denies the Holocaust, threatens others in the region, and frequently calls for “death to America.” It is a key supporter of Assad's murderous regime in Syria and uses terrorist groups, like Hezbollah, to fuel conflict across the Middle East.

If Hamas were truly interested in its people's welfare, it would invest in state-building. Gaza is on the same Mediterranean coastline as Tel Aviv and could be a major tourist destination. Instead,

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