

Gaza Strip

Ruled by Hamas since 2007



Credit: CIA World Factbook

VI

The Hamas Covenant Analysis**Islamism, Jihad, and Antisemitism****By Yisrael Ne'eman****Overview**

The purpose of this review and analysis of *The Hamas Covenant* is to expose its true sources of inspiration, in particular the anti-Jewish attitudes in the Koran and the Hadith. Beyond using certain quotes from the Koran, whether in context or not, *The Hamas Covenant* is largely dependent on the infamous and viciously antisemitic Czarist forgery The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion and its nefarious inspired text, Hitler's *Mein Kampf*, in particular Chapter XI, entitled "Nation and Race." A more in depth discussion of the Czarist-Nazi connection to Jihadi Islam is presented in Chapter VIII "Czarist-Nazi Integration." *The Hamas Covenant* demands a spirit of anti-Jewish behavior from all Muslims; action is sought against Christians and people of the Far East as well. Its modern Islamist influences are directly attributable to Sheikh Hasan al-Banna, the ideological father and founder of the Muslim Brotherhood, Sayyid Qutb, the most influential of the Islamist thinkers, and the Palestinian Jihadist Abdullah Azzam. Other Muslim Brotherhood ideologues contributed to the compilation of this Islamist and Jihadi statement of identity and intent, particularly those men present when assembling the Covenant in 1988.

What follows is not a critique of Islam, but a critical investigation of a text with wide-ranging ramifications felt at the end of the twentieth century and into the twenty-first. Although at one time seen as marginal, the spirit of *The Hamas Covenant* and Muslim Brotherhood continue to make global inroads as Islamic extremism sweeps through Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran (although Shiite in belief), Yemen, Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Libya, Nigeria, the Horn of Africa, Turkey and among Muslim communities in Europe.

Let us recall that Hamas (the Islamic Resistance Movement or IRM) is only the Palestinian wing or faction of the Sunni Muslim Brotherhood, an organization advocating world domination as made clear in the Covenant. Lest we forget, Osama bin Laden's Al Qaeda is an extreme extension of Muslim Brotherhood thinking, which draws its strength from the more radical supporters of Islamic fundamentalism demanding no temporary compromises, but immediate action. As of mid-2014, the fanatical Jihadist Islamic State, ISIS or ISIL (Islamic State of

Iraq and Syria or Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant), began developing as a semi-state “Islamic Caliphate” entity in eastern Syria and western Iraq. We will refer to this group as the Islamic State.

This Covenant is the Hamas understanding of Islam, Jihad, and the need for world domination. Hamas does not represent the thinking of all Muslims, but it does represent a certain faction of that community of 1.5 billion believers. What exact percentage supports the ideals expressed in *The Hamas Covenant* is impossible to determine, but no doubt it is not a marginalized group. Over the years, estimates of support for Jihadi Islam of the Hamas type range between 10 to 15 percent of the world Muslim population, or some 200 million supporters in total. Others claim the number of adherents to be much higher, closer to one-third or half a billion Muslims. The Jewish population worldwide is approximately 13 million, meaning Jihadist support for the ideas expressed in the Covenant is 15 to 38 times the entire number of Jews in the world today.

As will be seen below, Hamas claims it is battling foreign influences in Islam. Their claim is only partially true. Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood are solidly anti-Enlightenment, anti-egalitarian, anti-universal human rights, anti-secular Arab nationalist, as well as against all forms of religious equality, cultural expression and personal freedoms, unless they are in line with Hamas’ form of Islam. Hence, Hamas condemns Western thinking, most notably the principle of equality.

Still, the Czarist (Russian) Protocols and fascism (in particular German National Socialism—or Nazism) clearly influenced Hamas. The Covenant is a throwback to the periods of extreme intolerance in Islam, and is now augmented ideologically with the two most reactionary regimes of recent times. One major historic common denominator between extremist Islamic regimes, Czarist rule and Nazi Germany, is their fanatical antisemitism. Previous Islamic regimes and Czarist rule oppressed Jews unbearably, yet Jews were still allowed to survive. The Nazis went a step further; achieving near-total Jewish extermination in areas under their control during WWII.

A careful reading of *The Hamas Covenant* places it between the oppressive Islamic regimes and the Russian Czars on one side, and the Nazis on the other, with a preference for the Nazi solution to “the Jewish problem.” For Jews in particular, understanding *The Hamas Covenant* in this context is of paramount significance. The Covenant is the harbinger of “evil times” for Jews, as Czarism and Nazism were previously. Antisemitism is inherent in the total world order envisioned by the Muslim Brotherhood adherents of Hamas. We can call this new round of Jew hatred—Islam-antisemitism.

Because of the dangerous reality we face in today’s world, a greater comprehension is necessary to understand Hamas priorities and guidelines. *The*

Hamas Covenant is rendered in full below in bold text. Commentary of each section follows, with bold italicized quotes from the Koran and Hadith when quoted within the context of *The Hamas Covenant*.

The Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement—Hamas¹

[Also known as “The Charter of Allah”]

**In the name of Allah the Merciful and the Compassionate
Palestine, Muharram 1, 1409 A.H./August 18, 1988**

In the name of Allah the Merciful and the Compassionate

“You are the best nation that has been brought out for mankind. You command good and forbid evil and believe in Allah. If only the people of the Book [i.e., Jews and Christians] had believed, it would have been well for them. Some of them believe, but most of them are iniquitous. They will never be able to do you serious harm, they will only be an annoyance. If they fight you, they will turn their backs and flee, and will not be succored. Humiliation is their lot wherever they may be, except where they are saved from it by a bond with Allah or by a bond with men. They incurred upon themselves Allah’s wrath, and wretchedness is their lot, because they denied Allah’s signs and wrongfully killed the prophets, and because they disobeyed and transgressed” (Koran 3:110-112).

The “Introduction” to *The Hamas Covenant* makes the fundamental understanding of Muslim superiority over the entire world abundantly clear. Muslims are superior and the “best nation.” Notice the included Koran verse 3:110–112 seemingly speaks to Muslims; however, it is also a statement against non-Arab Muslims. We can understand its interpretation in the full Arab Muslim Brotherhood light when reading the tract “Between Yesterday and Today,” by Hamas spiritual mentor Sheikh Hasan al-Banna. In it, he unequivocally speaks of the spread of Islam by saying, “The transfer of authority to non-Arabs – i.e., Persians at one time, [Shiite Iranians, 945-1055] at another, Mamlukes [Egyptian

¹ Translation of *The Hamas Covenant*, MEMRI – Middle East Media Research Institute Special Dispatch - No. 1092, February 14, 2006, No. 1092. Usage permission granted by Yigal Carmon through e-mail communication on June 23, 2014. Full credit given for English translation by MEMRI.

slave dynasty, 1250-1517], Turks, and others – who had never absorbed genuine Islam, and whose hearts had never been illuminated with the light of the Koran because of the difficulty they encountered in trying to grasp its concepts, for all that they [the Arabs] read the words of Allah (Blessed and Almighty is He!).”² Al-Banna himself then quotes Koran 3:118 immediately after making the above statement.

“O ye who believe! Do not take as confidants those who are not of you; they will not fail to cast disorder among you; they are pleased by what troubles you. Hatred has been revealed out of their mouths; what their hearts conceal is yet greater. We have made the signs clear to you, if you would but understand” (Koran 3:118).

This attempt at Arab superiority through use of Koranic quotes is deceptive. In full context, the preceding verses, Koran 3:115–117, speak of relationships with the People of the Book—Jews and Christians—and unbelievers. The Koranic quote used is the conclusion that Muslims should only trust each other concerning belief, yet al-Banna turns it into an affirmation of Arab superiority over all others. Those Arab Islamists reading and acting by *The Hamas Covenant* in tandem with al-Banna’s writings are absorbing two distinct yet integrated messages: First, Islam is the ultimate belief system and superior to all. Second, the Arab peoples are the only fully loyal messengers to proselytize Allah’s revealed religion of Islam since all the others, “had never absorbed genuine Islam” and therefore are less than trustworthy. The Arab understanding of Islam is intrinsic; other people can never grasp the full meaning of the Koran. Conclusion: Most Jews and Christians are evil and certainly inferior to Muslims. However on the ethnic level there is a difference between Muslims of different backgrounds, at least according to the followers of al-Banna. They believe the Arabs are superior both spiritually and as a people. Such beliefs are racist.

We are already aware of the usual Islamic condemnation of Jews and Christians for their refusal to believe in Islam. The People of the Book are legally *dhimmi*, or protected second-class people, provided they swear full loyalty to their Islamic overlords. Most are “iniquitous” and “humiliation is their lot” along with receiving “Allah’s wrath” and “wretchedness” because of their transgressions. And of course they are cowards in battle as “they will turn their backs and flee.” In particular these beliefs set up the great contradiction of Israeli (Jewish) battlefield victories over the Arab Muslims. The need arises for the demonization of the

² al-Banna, Hasan, *The Five Tracts of Hasan al-Banna*, translated by Wendell, Charles ed., University of California Press, Berkeley, 1978, Tract “Between Yesterday and Today,” p. 19

Jews; otherwise, how can anyone explain the repeated Israeli “*dhimmi*” victories for close to seventy years?

“Israel will exist, and will continue to exist, until Islam abolishes it, as it abolished that which was before it.” [From the words of] The martyr, Imam Hasan al-Banna’, Allah’s mercy be upon him. [2]

Here we see the outright demand for the destruction of Israel as part of a worldwide Jihad. It should be understood that this statement refers not only to Israel the State entity, which was in existence for only nine months upon al-Banna’s death, but the People of Israel or the Jews. In Arabic the terms “Jews” and “Israel” are often interchangeable (see al-Banna’s understanding of Jihad in Chapter II “Ideologies”).

“The Islamic world is burning, and each and every one of us must pour water, even if it be a little, to extinguish whatever he can extinguish, without waiting for others.” [From the words of] Sheikh Amjad Al-Zahawi, Allah’s mercy be upon him.[3]

This quote, which ends the Introduction to *The Hamas Covenant* (HC), paraphrases the Koran verse 5:64 in HC Article 32 (see below). Later, it is used in condemning the peace accords with Egypt and demanding Israel’s destruction.

In the Name of Allah the Merciful and the Compassionate

Preamble

Praise be to Allah. We seek help from Him, we ask forgiveness from Him, we ask Him for guidance, and we rely on Him. Prayer and peace be upon Allah’s messenger and upon his family and companions, and those who are loyal to him and spread his message and follow his sunna [the Prophet’s custom]. Prayer and peace be forever upon them as long as heaven and earth exist.

Oh people, from the midst of great troubles and in the depths of suffering, and from the beating of believing hearts and arms purified for worship, out of cognizance of duty and in response to Allah's command - thence came the call [of our movement] and the meeting and joining [of forces], and thence came education in accordance with Allah's way and a resolute will to carry out [the movement's] role in life, overcoming all of the obstacles and surmounting the difficulties of the journey. Thence came also continuous preparation, [along with] readiness to sacrifice one's life and all that is valuable for the sake of Allah.

Then the seed took form and [the movement] began to move forward through this stormy sea of wishes and hopes, yearnings and aspirations, dangers and obstacles, pains and challenges, both locally [in Palestine] and abroad.

When the idea ripened, and the seed grew, and the plant shot its roots into the ground of reality, away from fleeting emotions and improper hastiness, then the Islamic Resistance Movement [Hamas] [4] set out to play its role, marching onward for the sake of Allah. [In doing this, Hamas] joins arms with all those who wage jihad for the liberation of Palestine. [5] The souls of its jihad fighters meet the souls of all those jihad fighters who sacrificed their lives for the land of Palestine, from the time when the Prophet's companions conquered it until the present.

The covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) reveals its face, presents its identity, clarifies its stand, makes clear its aspiration, discusses its hopes, and calls out to help it and support it and to join its ranks, because our fight with the Jews [underline added for emphasis - YN] is very extensive and very grave, and it requires all the sincere efforts. It is a step that must be followed by further steps; it is a brigade that must be reinforced by brigades upon brigades from this vast Islamic world, until the enemies are defeated and Allah's victory is revealed.

In the Preamble of *The Hamas Covenant* is the call for Jihad; the battle against the enemy identified as “the Jews.” The war is “extensive and very grave” and must include “this vast Islamic world until the enemies are defeated and Allah’s victory is revealed.” Although Hamas is a Palestinian organization, its battle is not confined to Israel as the secular PLO/Fatah claims, but rather it is a universal struggle for the defeat of the Jews. It is in the Preamble we first see the all-encompassing hatred for the Jewish People, a common denominator with the Protocols of the Elders of Zion (mentioned in Article 32) and Hitler’s *Mein Kampf*.

There are many who maintain *The Hamas Covenant* to be little more than an internal liberation ideology circular, not a serious policy. The lack of differentiation between “Jews” and “Israelis” is said to be mere semantics. Islamists define Israelis as part of an illegitimate nation state, and the true enemy, which is accused of instigating wars to capture lands in the Muslim Middle East. Sheikh Ahmed Yasin, the leading light in the establishment of Hamas, uses the words “Jew” and “Israeli” interchangeably, as do many Muslims. The implication is that Yasin was not antisemitic because when he says “Jew” he means only those living in Israel. Such a contention is completely false as we will see when reading through and analyzing the Covenant. More so, Yasin and the Hamas leadership are fully responsible for this document and understand the scope of Jewish-Muslim relations in its complete theological/ historical light. Apologists claim *The Hamas Covenant* will either be canceled or changed,³ yet this event has not taken place, nor should one expect such a decision in the future. *The Hamas Covenant* Preamble accurately reflects Divinely inspired Islamist thinking, which is both Jihadist and antisemitic.

This is how we see them coming on the horizon: “And after a time you will come to know about it” (Koran 38:88).

“Allah has written: It is I and My messengers who will surely prevail. Allah is Strong and Mighty” (Koran 58:21).

“Say: This is my way. I call on Allah with certainty, I and those who follow me, and glory be to Allah, I am not among the polytheists [idolaters]” (Koran 12:108).

The first two quotes above from the Koran do not mention the Jews, but the third one (Koran 12:108) implies that the Jews are “polytheists.” Jews were accused both in ancient Arabia, and in modern times, of aligning themselves with

³ Tamimi, Azzam, Hamas, *The Inside Story*, Olive Branch Press, Northampton, Mass, USA, 2007, pp. 147-152.

the polytheists against Islam and the word of Allah. Nowadays polytheism is defined as democracy, pluralism, liberalism, socialism, communism, capitalism and the nation state. Jews are accused of promoting these modern ideals with the intent of undermining and destroying Islam. This original accusation can be traced back to the Koran 5:82 (see Chapter II “Ideologues”).

Traditionally, Jews are considered one of the Peoples of the Book and are allowed to survive under Islamic sovereignty. Yet, already in the HC Preamble Jews are downgraded to a questionable existence since polytheism (“shirk” in Arabic) is apostasy and cannot be forgiven. Islamic scholars differ as to whether it is punishable by death. Polytheistic or idolatrous religions have no right to exist once they are informed and reject the virtues of Islam. “When the sacred months are over slay the idolaters wherever you find them” (Koran 9:5). For a fuller text including conversion to Islam see Sura or Chapter “Repentance” found in Koran 9:3-7.

The step taken here in the name of eradicating “polytheism” is no longer traditionally Islamic, but is more similar to the Nazism of Hitler’s Germany. The Nazis accused the Jews of the same secular polytheisms as mentioned in the Islamic context above. Under the Nuremberg Laws (September 1935) Jews first lost their rights when they were stripped of German citizenship and reduced to the status of “subjects.” Thirteen other laws followed, making Jewish existence illegal.⁴ The “Final Solution” was adopted for full implementation at the Wannsee Conference (January 1942), making the crime of Jewish existence punishable by death.⁵

Since *The Hamas Covenant* is not fully implemented due to Israeli sovereignty and the ability to fend off Jihadi attacks, it is still in the theoretical stage, untested. Hence we do not know for certain if Hamas jurists would demand capital punishment for Jews based on the charge of polytheism. It would not be unthinkable for Jihadis to insist on the death penalty (see Chapter II “Ideologues” Sayyid Qutb).

Chapter One:

Introduction to the Movement Ideological Premises

Article One

The Islamic Resistance Movement: Islam is its way. It is from Islam that it derives its ideas, concepts, and

⁴ Shirer, William, *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, Simon and Schuster, New York, 1960, p. 233.

⁵ Ibid, p. 965.

perceptions concerning the universe, life, and man, and it refers to Islam's judgment in all its actions. It is from Islam that it seeks direction so as to guide its steps.

Here Hamas claims Islam is the correct way. The only acceptable insight and understanding of Islam are those of the Islamic Resistance Movement or its Arabic acronym "HAMAS." Full explanations are rendered in the following articles below.

The Relation between the Islamic Resistance Movement and the Muslim Brotherhood

Article Two

The Islamic Resistance Movement is one of the wings of the Muslim Brotherhood in Palestine. The Muslim Brotherhood movement is a global organization and is the largest of the Islamic movements in modern times. It is distinguished by its profound understanding and its conceptual precision and by the fact that it encompasses the totality of Islamic concepts in all aspects of life, in thought and in creed, in politics and in economics, in education and in social affairs, in judicial matters and in matters of government, in preaching and in teaching, in art and in communications, in secret and in the open, and in all other areas of life.

Hamas is the Palestinian regional branch of the Muslim Brotherhood. The Brotherhood is the self-proclaimed world Islamic movement; the exclusive all-encompassing interpreter of the Islamic message, understandings, values and way of life. To be a true follower a believer must embrace the Brotherhood in its totality in all aspects of human existence as there are no other interpretations. Continuing after al-Banna, this is entirely in line with Sayyid Qutb's Islamist convictions as expressed in his work *Milestones*. Full obedience is reminiscent of all totalitarian regimes—whether religious or secular. We only need to recall all forms of fascism including its most radical expression—Nazism. On the left, totalitarianism was expressed through the communist movement turned dictatorial as implemented through Bolshevism (Stalinism) and Maoism.

Structure and Formation

Article Three

The Islamic Resistance Movement is founded upon Muslims who gave their allegiance to Allah and served Him as He ought to be served. *“I did not create jinns and men except that they should serve me”* (Koran 51:56).

[These Muslims] recognized their duty toward themselves, their families and their homeland, fearing Allah in all of this. They raised the banner of jihad in the face of the oppressors, in order to deliver the land and the believers from their filth, impurity and evil. *“We hurl the truth against falsehood and crush its head, and lo, it vanishes”* (Koran 21:18).

Hamas adherents serve Allah and are loyal to His demands, the foremost being the declaration of Jihad (Holy War) against all enemies who by definition suffer from “filth, impurity and evil.”

Article Four

The Islamic Resistance Movement welcomes every Muslim who embraces its creed, adopts its ideology, is committed to its way, keeps its secrets and desires to join its ranks in order to carry out the duty, and his reward is with Allah.

Hamas is a religious activist movement receiving only those who accept its ideals and calls to action or “duty” meaning Jihad, especially against the Jews as was made clear in the Preamble.

The Islamic Resistance Movement— Dimensions of Time and Place

Article Five

The temporal dimension of the Islamic Resistance Movement - in view of the fact that it has adopted Islam as

its way of life - go back to the birth of the Islamic message and to the righteous early believers; Allah is its goal, the Prophet is its example to be followed, and Koran is its constitution.

Its spatial dimension: wherever there are Muslims who embrace Islam as their way of life, everywhere upon the earth. Thus, [Hamas] sends its roots deep into the ground, and it extends to embrace the heavens.

“Do you not see how Allah has given us a parable? A good word is like a good tree; its roots are firm and its branches extend to the heavens. It always bears its fruit at the right time in accordance with God’s will. Allah recites parables to men so that they will take heed” (Koran 14:24-25).

The “Koran is its constitution” determination makes the central religious text in Islam a binding legal document for Hamas as a political movement— the same applies for the Muslim Brotherhood. The question becomes, “Who is interpreting the Koran?” The Hamas domain is all-inclusive, from “roots deep in the ground” to its “embrace the heavens” with all other interpretations invalid.

Distinctiveness and Independence

Article Six

The Islamic Resistance Movement is a distinct Palestinian movement that is loyal to Allah, adopts Islam as a way of life and works to raise the banner of Allah over every inch of Palestine. Under the wing of Islam, followers of other religions can all live safe and secure in their life, property and rights; whereas in the absence of Islam, discord arises, injustice spreads, corruption burgeons, and there are conflicts and wars. Allah bless the Muslim poet Muhammad Iqbal [6] who said: When faith is gone, there is no safety, And there is no life to him who has no religion. He who is content to live without religion has taken death as a consort of life.

The objective is clear, the Islamic imperative to conquer Palestine. Upon the Islamic conquest of Palestine other religions will be allowed to survive but must live under its banner. With “the absence of Islam” there is “discord,” “injustice,” “corruption,” “conflicts and wars.” For Jews and Christians who are “People of the Book” the Charter of Omar embodies legal discrimination or the *dhimma* status (see Chapter I “Negative Image of the Jew”). “Where faith is gone” refers only to the loss of the Islamic faith, otherwise why must all religions live “Under the wing of Islam?”

Paradoxically, Article 6 is quite “moderate” when only demanding legalized discrimination against the Jews. Previously the Jews/Israel were defined as the foremost enemy to be destroyed (al-Banna quote above).

The Universality of the Islamic Resistance Movement

Article Seven

Muslims who adopt the way of the Islamic Resistance Movement are found in all countries of the world, and act to support [the movement], to adopt its positions and to reinforce its jihad. Therefore, it is a world movement, and it is qualified for this [role] owing to the clarity of its ideology, the loftiness of its purpose and the exaltedness of its goals. It is on this basis that it should be regarded and evaluated; it is on this basis that its role should be recognized. Whoever denies its rights, refrains from helping it, becomes blind [to the truth] and makes an effort to blot out its role—he is like one who attempts to dispute with [divine] predestination. Whoever closes his eyes to the facts, intentionally or unintentionally, will eventually wake up [to find that] events have overtaken him and that the [weight of the] evidence has rendered him unable to justify his position. Precedence shall be given to those who come first [to the movement]. The iniquity of one’s own relatives is more painful to the soul than the blow of a sharp sword.

[7]

The leadership of the Islamic Resistance Movement or Hamas is Divinely self-evident. Hamas has an undeniable “predestination” or celestial victory at the End

of Days. This victory is through world Jihad. Theologically there is a universal bond between Islamists, whether we are speaking of the regime in Sudan, Hamas in Gaza or the rising Islamic State regime of 2014 in Iraq/Syria. As seen in the quote below, Allah gave the Koran for all nations to adopt thereby eliminating any differences. Such is the test of loyalty while kinship is of little value.

“We have revealed to you the Book in truth, confirming the scripture that came before it and guarding it. Judge between them according to what Allah has revealed, and follow not their capricious will, turning away from the truth that was revealed to you. To each among you Allah has appointed a law and a way. If Allah had so desired, he would have made you a single nation. However, he desired to test you in all that he had given you. So vie with one another in good works. It is to Allah that you shall all return, and He will then reveal to you [the truth] about the matters in which you differed” (Koran 5:48).

The Islamic Resistance Movement is one link in the chain of jihad in confronting the Zionist invasion. It is connected and linked to the [courageous] uprising of the martyr ‘Izz Al-Din Al-Qassam and his brethren the jihad fighters of the Muslim Brotherhood in the year 1936. It is further related and connected to another link, [namely] the jihad of the Palestinians, the efforts and jihad of the Muslim Brotherhood in the 1948 war, and the jihad operations of the Muslim Brotherhood in 1968 and afterwards. Although these links are far apart, and although the continuity of jihad was interrupted by obstacles placed in the path of the jihad fighters by those who circle in the orbit of Zionism, the Islamic Resistance Movement aspires to realize the promise of Allah, no matter how long it takes.

The above paragraph is a partial recounting of the history of Jihad against the Jewish national movement beginning with ‘Izz a-Din al-Qassam in the mid-1930s. The Muslim Brotherhood then takes credit for doing battle in 1948 through the Egyptian invasion of the newly proclaimed State of Israel even though the Brotherhood only fielded a small volunteer force. Speaking of Jihad from 1968 onwards is more fiction than fact since the secular Fatah and later the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) were the dominant groups from the late 1960s

until the rise of Hamas in the 1980s. Notice there is even an admission that the Jihadist battle against Zionism was sporadic.

The Prophet, Allah’s prayer and peace be upon him, says:
“The hour of judgment shall not come until the Muslims fight the Jews and kill them, so that the Jews hide behind trees and stones, and each tree and stone will say: ‘Oh Muslim, oh servant of Allah, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him,’ except for the Gharqad tree, for it is the tree of the Jews” (recorded in the Hadith collections of Bukhari and Muslim).

The above quote is a clear call to kill Jews since Judgment Day, “the hour of judgment” or End of Days, cannot arrive until Muslims kill the cowardly Jews who hide behind stones and trees. According to Islamist thinking, Jewish existence prevents the Messianic End Time from arriving. So hideous is the Jew that nature itself will turn Jews over to the Muslim so the Jew can suffer his just fate of execution. For example, the trees Jews hide behind will reveal their location.

The implication is that traitors exist everywhere, even in nature. For example, the “tree of the Jews” is the Gharqad tree, and it will not reveal a Jew is hiding behind it. This is despite the fact that Allah created the world in a perfect state. Such thinking is reinforced by Qutb when he wrote, “The Jews have instilled men and regimes (in the Islamic world), in order to conspire against this (Muslim) Community.”⁶ And again with this statement, “This antagonistic force threatening the Islamic world today has a massive army of agents in the form of professors, philosophers, doctors and researchers— sometimes also writers, poets, scientists and journalists—carrying Muslim names because they are of Muslim descent!! And some of them are from the ranks of the ‘Muslim religious authorities’!!”⁷

It must be emphasized that the above quote is not from the Koran, but as noted in the Covenant itself, is extracted from the Hadith collections. Furthermore there are those who argue that the quote is taken out of context from the Hadith. However we are speaking of its context within *The Hamas Covenant* where the authors chose the context accurately and effectively in their demand to destroy

⁶ Qutb, Sayyid, “Our Struggle With the Jews,” in Nettler, Ronald, *Past Trials and Present Tribulations: A Muslim Fundamentalist’s View of the Jews*, Vidal Sasson International Study of Antisemitism, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, 1987, p. 75.

⁷ *Ibid*, p. 76.

the Jews. Most significantly if there was any doubt as to the *dhimmi* status of the Jews and their right to exist with disabilities, here *The Hamas Covenant* determines the death sentence because Jews are an obstacle to the arrival of Judgment Day, when the good will be rewarded and the evil punished.

The word “Jews” is invoked in the above HC Article 7 passage, not the word “Zionists.” This betrays the claim of the Islamist/Jihadist advocates that these activist Hamas Muslims are battling the Zionists, but have no claim against the Jews. Hamas says what it means without euphemisms or downplaying their exact intentions. The process begun is reminiscent of Nazi Germany. Here in Article 7 the war against the Jews is absolute, there is no compromise; the Jews must be exterminated.

The Motto of the Islamic Resistance Movement

Article Eight

Allah is its goal, the Prophet its model to be followed, the Koran its constitution, Jihad its way, and death for the sake of Allah its loftiest desire.

Hamas followers must show no fear. “Death for the sake of Allah” is the most praiseworthy desire for Muslims. Determined by an absolutist diocentrism, the ultimate goal of life is the unification with Allah brought about through a Jihadist’s death. Speaking of “its most loftiest desire” means the Jihadist strives to become one with Allah. Allah is the almighty male Deity who is satisfied by worship and Jihadi actions. Just as Mohammed pleased Him previously, today’s Jihadist continues in his footsteps. Allah is the stern Father returning his love conditionally, provided his son fulfills His wishes through actions—Jihad until death.⁸ Unconditional or “motherly love” is completely absent. One’s existence without the Jihadi lifestyle and action is of no value. Jihad allows the suicide-homicide bomber to achieve the ultimate in love and hate simultaneously by destroying one’s enemy and fusing with Allah in the same action. This is a multiple human sacrifice—the infidels, whether *dhimmis*, heretics and/or pagans, alongside the “righteous” Jihadi warrior.

⁸ Both the concept of fusion with the beloved and satisfying the demanding, conditional fatherly love are developed by Erich Fromm, the famous philosopher psychoanalyst in his renowned work *The Art of Loving*, 1956.

Chapter Two:
Causes and Goals

Article Nine

The Islamic Resistance Movement has found itself in a period when Islam is absent from everyday life. Consequently, the balance has been disturbed, concepts have been confused, values have been altered, evil people have come into power, injustice and darkness have prevailed, the cowardly have become tigers, the homeland has been ravished, the people have been driven away and have been wandering in all the countries of the world. The rule of righteousness is absent, and the rule of falsehood prevails. Nothing is in its proper place. Thus, when Islam is absent, everything is transformed. These are the causes.

As for the goals, they are to fight falsehood, vanquish it and defeat it so that righteousness shall rule, the homeland shall return [to its rightful owner], and from the top of its mosques, the [Muslim] call for prayer will ring out announcing the rise of the rule of Islam, so that people and things shall all return to their proper place. From Allah we seek succor.

Only Islam can bring about righteousness and a better world. The “homeland,” referring to waqf lands, such as Palestine or any other territories ruled by Islam in the past, will be returned and there will be world order once again when Islam rules.

“If Allah did not ward off one group of people by means of another, the earth would certainly be in a state of disorder. Allah is most kind to all beings” (Koran 2:251).

The Koranic quote above implies justice in Allah’s “warding off one group of people by means of another” in obvious support for an Islamic military revival through Jihadist means and the great removal of people groups at the command of Allah to be implemented by the Muslim Brotherhood including Hamas. Islamic conquest is obligatory.

What is most interesting concerning Koranic quote 2:251 is that it is completely out of context since it refers to ancient the Israelites and later King David's victory over Goliath and the rout of the Philistines. The previous Koranic verse to the one quoted above states "David slew Goliath, and Allah bestowed on him [David] sovereignty and wisdom." When put in the Koranic context this quote justifies the Jewish return to the Land of Israel and the establishment of the Jewish State. The Covenant uses the verse out of context to justify Muslim conquests.

Article Ten

The Islamic Resistance Movement—while marching forward—offers support to all who are persecuted and protects all who are oppressed with all its strength. It spares no effort in upholding the truth and eradicating falsehood, in word and in action, here and in every place within its reach and its influence.

Hamas protects the "persecuted" and is the exclusive source of truth. In the spirit of *The Hamas Covenant* the persecuted are Muslims.

Chapter Three: Strategy and Means

The Strategy of the Islamic Resistance Movement Palestine Is an Islamic Waqf (Islamic Religious Endowment)

Article Eleven

The Islamic Resistance Movement maintains that the land of Palestine is Waqf land given as endowment for all generations of Muslims until the Day of Resurrection. One should not neglect it or [even] a part of it, nor should one relinquish it or [even] a part of it. No Arab State, or [even] all of the Arab States [together], have [the right] to do this; no king or president has this right nor all the kings and presidents together; no organization, or all the organizations together - be they Palestinian or Arab - [have the right to do this] because Palestine is Islamic Waqf land given to all generations of Muslims until the Day of Resurrection.

Palestine is Muslim land forever where no other people have a right to sovereignty. Muslims captured Palestine from the Byzantine Empire in 638 CE, upon which it became part of the “Islamic Waqf” and can never be relinquished to anyone. It is implied that to make a territorial compromise to achieve peace is unacceptable. Islamic ownership is eternal.

This is the legal status of the land of Palestine according to Islamic law. In this respect, it is like any other land that the Muslims have conquered by force, because the Muslims consecrated it at the time of the conquest as religious endowment for all generations of Muslims until the Day of Resurrection. This is how it was: when the conquest of Al-Sha’m [8] and Iraq was complete, the commanders of the Muslim armies sent messages to the Caliph ‘Umar b. AlKhattab, asking for instructions concerning the conquered land - should they divide it up among the troops or leave it in the hands of its owners or what?

Any land ever conquered by Islamic forces becomes an indivisible part of the “Islamic Waqf” as a “religious endowment for all generations of Muslims until the Day of Resurrection.” It is the obligation of all to liberate any territories ever having been possessed by Islam but henceforth held by foreigners. This is “defensive Jihad.” “Offensive Jihad” is the implied next step for full realization of universal Islamic domination (see Chapter II “Ideologues”).

The reference to the conquest Al-Sha’m (the Levant) and Iraq are instructive. The Islamic State (ISIL or ISIS) uses the same theological and historical message condoning conquest of these lands as a “religious endowment for all generations of Muslims.” Palestine/Land of Israel is part of the Levant and appears on the Islamic State maps for future conquest. Any “land to be left in the hands of its owners” is subject to a Sharia court of law where those non-Muslim owners have no judicial standing.

After discussions and consultations between the Caliph ‘Umar b. Al-Khattab and the Companions of the Prophet, they decided that the land should be left with its [original] owners to benefit from its crops, but the substance of the land, that is the land itself, should constitute Waqf for all the generations of Muslims until the Day of Resurrection. The tenure of the owners is only tenure of usufruct. This Waqf will exist as long as the heaven and earth exist. Any measure which does not conform to this

Islamic law regarding Palestine is null and void. “*This surely is the very truth. Therefore, praise the great name of your Lord*” (Koran 56:95-96).

The land belongs to Islam forever, “as long as heaven and earth exist.” The reference to “usufruct” is the right of the individual (in this case a non-Muslim) to work the land and enjoy its profits. This right is granted by Islamic rulers at their discretion as the land itself is waqf and belongs to Islam for eternity. Omitted from this section is any mention of taxes imposed on non-Muslims to be paid to the Muslim overlords. At the outset Muslims did not have to pay taxes.⁹

The present status of Palestine/Land of Israel is obviously not in line with Islamic law as the Jewish National Fund in the name of the Jewish People bought and owns large tracts of land, as does the Israeli State. Any such ownership of land by a national and/or state entity contradicts Islamic jurisprudence. Hamas considers the entire State of Israel (within the pre-1967 borders as well) to be illegally occupying waqf lands captured close to 1400 years ago in the name of Allah.

It must be pointed out that both the Crusaders (1099-1291) and the British (1917-1948) are seen to have illegally held these waqf lands, as Israel does today. All three entities are an affront to Allah’s will of Muslim sovereignty over all. Conversely, the Islamic Arab conquest of these lands from the Christian Byzantines is Divinely justified.

Homeland and Nationalism as seen by the Islamic Resistance Movement

Article Twelve

Nationalism [9], as seen by the Islamic Resistance Movement, is part of the [Islamic] religious creed. There is nothing that speaks more eloquently and more profoundly of nationalism than the following: when the enemy tramples Muslim territory, waging jihad and confronting the enemy become a personal duty of every Muslim man and Muslim woman. A woman may

⁹ Lewis, Bernard, *The Arabs in History*, Harper and Row Publishers, New York, 1966, p. 71.

go out to fight the enemy [even] without her husband's permission and a slave without his master's permission.

There is nothing like this in any other political system - this is an indisputable fact. Whereas the various other nationalist [ideologies] are connected to physical, human and regional factors, the nationalism of the Islamic Resistance Movement is [likewise] characterized by all of the above, and in addition - and most importantly - it is characterized by divine motives which endow it with spirit and life, since it is related to the source of the spirit, and to Him who gives life. [The Islamic Resistance Movement] is raising the divine banner in the skies of the homeland, so as to firmly connect heaven and earth. When Moses came and cast down his rod both sorcery and sorcerer came to naught.

“The right way stands out clearly from error; therefore, whoever renounces falsehood and believes in Allah, he has indeed grasped the firmest handhold, which never breaks, and Allah is Hearing and Knowing” (Koran 2:256).

Islam, as religion and nationalism, are one and together of the Divine spirit and not of the physical or regional types. Even a woman or a slave need not seek their master's permission to join the Jihad to defend waqf Muslim lands. This is a “given” in Jihadist writings and is a personal obligation in the implementation of defensive Jihad (see Chapter II “Ideologues”).

Peaceful Solutions, Initiatives and International Conferences

Article Thirteen

The initiatives, the so-called peace solutions, and the international conferences for resolving the Palestinian problem stand in contradiction to the principles of the Islamic Resistance Movement, for to neglect any part of Palestine is to neglect part of the Islamic faith. The nationalism of the Islamic Resistance Movement is part of its [Islamic] faith. It is in the light of this principle that its members are educated, and they

wage jihad in order to raise the banner of Allah over the homeland.

“And Allah has full control over His affairs; but most people do not know” (Koran 12:21).

From time to time there are calls to hold an international conference in order to seek a solution for the [Palestinian] problem. Some accept this [proposal] and some reject it, for one reason or another, demanding the fulfillment of some condition or conditions before they agree to hold the conference and participate in it. However, the Islamic Resistance Movement - since it is familiar with the parties participating in the conference and with their past and current positions on the issues of the Muslims - does not believe that these conferences can meet the demands or restore the rights [of the Palestinians], or bring equity to the oppressed. These conferences are nothing but a way to give the infidels power of arbitration over Muslim land, and when have the infidels ever been equitable toward the believers?

No one except Muslims have the right to rule over lands captured by Islam, in this case Palestine, at any given period. The above declaration speaks of giving “infidels the power of arbitration over Muslim land,” thereby nullifying any efforts as insincere by Jews, Christians or others willing to help in a negotiated settlement of the conflict. This follows the logic that the only solution is one where Islam controls all the land in Palestine. Implied is the condemnation of any Muslim state or authority agreeing to a compromise. Such a body is heretical for allowing compromise.

Specifically, as determined in the first paragraph, there are to be no negotiations with the Jewish State to achieve conflict resolution. To compromise is to “neglect” a “part of Palestine,” which is akin to abandoning the “Islamic faith.” Previously in the Preamble, Jews were relegated to polytheists; here in the last sentence they are “infidels.” Under Sharia law, in either case, whether considered a polytheist or an infidel, a Jew’s life is in jeopardy. The term “infidel” may also be read to mean those powers participating as brokers in the negotiations, meaning the Christian West and especially the US, the UN and the non-Islamist moderate Arab regimes. In the long run their fate cannot be expected to be much better than that of the Jews.

HC Article 13 reinforces the demand for Jihad against the Jews. There is to be no negotiation with the Jews, only war and destruction to solve the “problem” and restore “rights” in the Palestinian Muslim context. One does not negotiate with Jews nor accept any third party attempt to do so. Such absolutism is very reminiscent of Nazi racial attitudes toward the Jews.

“The Jews will never be content with you, nor will the Christians, until you follow their religion. Say: ‘The guidance of Allah is the right guidance.’ But if you follow their desires after the knowledge which has come to you, then you shall have no protector or guardian from Allah” (Koran 2:120).

Dhimmis have no protection from Allah and they will never allow a Muslim to worship freely. All gain Allah’s protection when the *dhimmis* live under Muslim domination.

The logical conclusion of Article 13 up to this point solidifies the injunction against Jewish sovereignty anywhere in Palestine. This reasoning follows that to allow Jewish rule leads Israeli Muslims to the acceptance of a *dhimmi* faith and punishment from Allah—the withdrawal of protection for the apostate, generally interpreted as capital punishment for those abandoning Islam. Advanced notice is also given to Muslims worldwide in the Koranic quote not to acquiesce to the sovereignty of the People of the Book or *dhimmis*.

There is no solution to the Palestinian problem except by jihad. Initiatives, proposals and international conferences are a waste of time and a farce. The Palestinian people is far too eminent to have its future, its rights and its destiny toyed with. As stated in the Hadith: “The people of Al-Sha’m are [Allah’s] rod in His land. Through them, He wreaks vengeance on whomever He wishes among His servants. The hypocrites among them are not allowed to be superior to the believers among them, and they shall die in grief and distress.” (Recorded by Al-Tabarani with a chain of transmitters to Muhammad, and by Ahmad [Ibn Hanbal] with an incomplete chain of transmitters to Muhammad which may be the accurate record, the transmitters in both cases being trustworthy - Allah alone is omniscient).

Jihad is the only answer to ensure the true destiny of the Palestinian Muslim people. Attempting to achieve peace is “a waste of time and a farce.” The

“hypocrites” involved in peace negotiations or conflict resolution with Israel “shall die in grief and distress.”

The Three Circles

Article Fourteen

The problem of liberating Palestine involves three circles: the Palestinian circle, the [pan] Arab circle and the Islamic circle. Each of these three circles has its role in the struggle against Zionism and has its duties. It is a grave error and shameful ignorance to neglect any of these circles, for Palestine is an Islamic land. In it is the first of the two qiblas [directions of prayer] and the third most holy mosque, after the mosques of Mecca and Medina. It is the destination of the Prophet’s nocturnal journey.

“Praise be to Him who carried His servant by night from the most sacred mosque to the farthest mosque whose surroundings We blessed, so as to show him Our signs. He is the One who is hearing and seeing” (Koran 17:1).

The first two circles involve the local Palestinian and the pan-Arab; by implication both are Muslim. The third circle brings in the remainder of the Islamic world. Only Islam can defeat the Zionists and Jews (see Articles 34 and 35 below, and Chapter II “Ideologues”).

Until 624 CE, the first “qibla,” or Muslim prayer direction, was Jerusalem; at that time it was replaced by Mecca. The Jerusalem prayer direction is often attributed to the Prophet Mohammed’s initial overtures to the Jews, which were rejected. The Prophet’s “nocturnal” or night journey takes place at the “farthest mosque,” the location of which Muslims identify as Jerusalem. Jerusalem is never mentioned in the Koran but gained major religious significance as the “Outer” or “Farthest Mosque”¹⁰ during the Umayyad reign (661-750) in the region when its leadership was in serious conflict with the inhabitants of the Arabian Peninsula, who controlled the two holy cities of Mecca and Medina. Both the Dome of the

¹⁰ *Koran*, Chapter or Sura 17 entitled “The Night Journey” opens with this passage. From verses 17:2-8 there is a brief theological discussion concerning the First and Second “Israelite” Temples.

Rock (691 CE) and Al-Aksa Mosque (711 CE) were constructed during the Umayyad era.¹¹

This being the case, the liberation [of Palestine] is a personal duty of every Muslim, wherever he be. It is on this basis that one should consider the problem, and every Muslim should understand this. When the day comes and the problem is treated on this basis, and all the capabilities of the three circles are mobilized - the current circumstances will change and the day of liberation will draw near.

All Muslims are obligated to battle the Jews to liberate the “farthest mosque,” and consequently all of Palestine. Unity through the three circles is imperative for victory. As you can see below, the foolish Jews can deny Allah but they fear the Jihadist.

“You strike more fear in the hearts of the Jews than does Allah, because they are people who do not understand” (Koran 59:13).

Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine is a Personal Duty

Article Fifteen

The day the enemies conquer some part of the Muslim land, jihad becomes a personal duty of every Muslim. In the face of the Jewish occupation of Palestine, it is necessary to raise the banner of jihad. This requires the propagation of Islamic consciousness among the masses, locally [in Palestine], in the Arab world and in the Islamic world. It is necessary to instill the spirit of jihad in the nation, engage the enemies and join the ranks of the jihad fighters.

Once again these are the demands for a defensive Jihad defined as “a personal obligation of every Muslim” in “the face of the Jewish occupation of Palestine.”

¹¹ Ben Dov, Meir, Jerusalem, *Man and Stone*, Modan Publishing House, Tel Aviv, Israel, 1990, p. 282.

Every Muslim is obligated to go to war against the Jews in any manner he or she sees fit. The struggle is not only about battling an army, but, in essence, a war against all the Jews as the enemy deserving of death by definition (Preamble and Article 7 respectively). By implication all methods are acceptable.

The above mentioned “spirit of jihad” leads the entire nation in a communal death for Allah in the ultimate human sacrifice through destruction of the enemy and oneself, if necessary. Jihadists sacrifice themselves in love and dedication to the cause of world Islamization (see HC Article 8). Whether one be a suicide-homicide bomber or acting as a human shield for a Jihadist operation, all actions and deaths are in the name of Allah. The true Muslim will receive his or her reward in heaven. Such is the spirit of Jihad (see Chapter II “Ideologues”).

The indoctrination campaign must involve ulama, educators, teachers and information and media experts, as well as all intellectuals, especially the young people and the sheikhs of Islamic movements. It is [also] necessary to introduce essential changes in the curricula, in order to eliminate the influences of the intellectual invasion which were inflicted upon them by the Orientalists and the missionaries. This invasion came upon the region after Salah Al-Din Al-Ayyubi defeated the Crusaders. The Crusaders then realized that it is impossible to vanquish the Muslims unless the way is first paved by an intellectual invasion that would confuse the [Muslims’] thinking, distort their legacy and impugn their ideals. Only after this [intellectual invasion] would there come invasion with troops. This [intellectual invasion] prepared the ground for the colonialist invasion, as [General] Allenby declared upon entering Jerusalem: “Now the Crusades have come to an end.” General Gouraud stood at Salah Al-Din’s tomb, and said: “Oh, Salah Al-Din, we are back!” Colonialism helped to intensify the intellectual invasion and helped it to take root. It still does. All this paved the way toward the loss of Palestine.

Islamic consciousness and Jihad demand societal “indoctrination,” most especially of the Islamic scholars (ulama), teachers, media and intellectuals. With this there is the “elimination of the influence of the intellectual invasion” of the West, Christianity and especially its rational Enlightenment thinkers. Islam was weakened to the point of defeat by this invasion of foreign values and perspectives and now insists on the elimination of the free flow of ideas and freedom of

thought. This is Islamist totalitarianism or what is referred to at times as “Islamofascism.”

Indoctrination and elimination of intellectual influence is the foundation of the totalitarian state as described by the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini, who coined the term “totalitario” in the 1920s when referring to his rule of state. He furthermore exclaimed, “All within the state, none outside the state, none against the state.” It was absolute single party rule. Generally speaking, totalitarianism is the oppressive centralized state authority controlling all action through coercion, usually of the physical type.¹² Most often the people are swept up in euphoria and support such rule especially should the state be led by a popular charismatic figure such as Stalin, Mao or Hitler. The totalitarian state destroys or alters existing institutions and replaces them with monolithic goal-oriented ones. The infrastructure of state is directed toward centralized objectives, empowers and worships itself.

The Islamic totalitarian state would be something of a hybrid since certain objectives remain traditional in nature, such as the spreading of Islam worldwide. However, regime control where everyone works for the same ultimate purpose with no deviance and no freedom of maneuver or discourse is fully in the spirit of totalitarianism. Any form of dissent is crushed, even should it come from reformists inside the system. The monolithic state objective of spreading Islam through Jihad and the continual conflict status to which all Muslims are obligated must culminate in the universal totalitarian Islamic political entity of the future. The masses must conform to the will of the Jihadi state. Totalitarian states do not need one overriding powerful central figure, but more often than not this becomes the case.

As an example, Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran was moving in the direction of the dictatorial Islamic State by the time of his death in 1989, yet it was not quite totalitarian. The former Iranian President Ahmedinejad (2005-2013) was accused of attempting to overthrow the Islamic Republic in order to construct a hybrid Islamic-military totalitarian state where all loyalties were to him within the domain of a great Islamic leader.

Should a charismatic authoritarian leader arise in the image of Sheikh Hasan al-Banna he could take the reins of power in a Hamas or Muslim Brotherhood organization, unifying religion and state into one, and embody all decisions as Supreme Leader. Historically, such an eventuality can be seen as a reestablishment of the Caliphate even if it be more of a totalitarian system. The recent rise of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in June 2014 may take such a direction under

¹² “Totalitarianism,” *Encyclopedia Britannica*, retrieved November 3, 2014, www.britannica.com/topic/totalitarianism ..

the declared Caliph Abdul Bakr al-Baghdadi (original name Dr. Ibrahim Awwad Ibrahim).

Hasan al-Banna was critical of the German and Italian examples because their militarism was for the benefit of the secular nation and race, not for proselytizing the word of Allah and Islam.¹³ Al-Banna still showed great respect for these regimes and favored them over the Allies in WWII. Forms of Arab racism in his writings exist as noted above. As usual, there must be the agreed-upon enemy or scapegoat to blame for all of society's ills. Like the Czarists, Hitler, Stalin and Khomeinist Iran, Hamas found that common enemy in the Jews. As for Christianity, the Covenant connects the Crusaders and the French-British alliance of WWI by linking Generals Allenby and Gouraud to the overall Western Christian onslaught against Islam as a continuing phenomenon. According to Hamas, only Islam has the exclusive right to conquer the world.

It is necessary to establish in the minds of all the Muslim generations that the Palestinian issue is a religious issue, and that it must be dealt with as such, for [Palestine] contains Islamic holy places, [namely] the Al-Aqsa mosque, which is inseparably connected, for as long as heaven and earth shall endure, to the holy mosque of Mecca through the Prophet's nocturnal journey [from the mosque of Mecca to the Al-Aqsa mosque] and through his ascension to heaven thence.

For those with doubts concerning Jerusalem's holiness, *The Hamas Covenant* makes an inseparable connection between Jerusalem and Mecca by using the "Night Journey" (Koran 17:1). Islamic interpretation of the text identifies Jerusalem as the Al-Aksa, or "Outer" Mosque, therefore the city is Muslim, not Jewish or Israeli. As stated previously, Jerusalem is never mentioned by name in the Koran. The "Palestinian issue is a religious issue," which means it goes well beyond waqf territorial demands.

"Being stationed on the frontier for the sake of Allah for one day is better than this [entire] world and everything in it; and the place taken up in paradise by the [horseman's] whip of any one of you [jihad fighters] is better than this [entire] world and everything in it. Every evening [operation] and morning [the operation] performed by Muslims for the sake of Allah is better than this [entire] world and everything in it" (recorded in the

¹³ al-Banna, Hasan, Tract "Our Mission," pp. 109 and 113.

Hadith collections of Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmidhi and Ibn Maja).

“By the name of Him who holds Muhammad’s soul in His hand, I wish to launch an attack for the sake of Allah and be killed and attack again and be killed and attack again and be killed.” (Recorded in the Hadith collections of Bukhari and Muslim).

The Hadith quotes are general declarations of the nobility of Jihad. Multiple deaths and martyrdom indicate an infinite self-sacrifice in the physical sense and a spiritual fusion, at-oneness and eternal love for Allah. The love of death becomes a value in itself.

Educating the Next Generations

Article Sixteen

It is necessary to educate the next Islamic generations in our region in an Islamic way, based on the performance of the religious duties, attentive study of Allah’s book, study of the Prophet’s sunna [custom], perusal of Islamic history and legacy based on reliable sources under the instruction of experts and scholars, and reliance on methods which will produce a wholesome outlook in thought and in faith. In addition, it is necessary to closely study the enemy and his material and human capabilities, to become familiar with his weaknesses and strengths, to recognize the powers that assist and support him. It is also necessary to be familiar with current events, follow new developments and study the analyses and commentaries regarding them. It is likewise necessary to plan for the future and to study each and every phenomenon, so that Muslims engaged in jihad will live with full awareness of their purpose, goal and way, and [with full awareness of] what is happening around them.

“Oh my son! If [a thing] is but the weight of a grain of mustard, though it be in a rock, or in the heavens, or on earth, Allah will bring it forth. Allah discerns even the smallest thing; He is

omniscient. Oh my son! Keep up prayer and enjoin the good and forbid the evil, and persevere whatever may befall you; surely this [behavior] is worthy steadfastness. Turn not thy cheek in scorn away from people; do not walk haughtily in the land. Allah does not love the arrogant and self-conceited” (Koran 31:16-18).

A full and thorough Islamic education as prescribed by Hamas is a prerequisite for victory. One must know the enemy (Jews, Israel, Zionism) and be fully aware of everyday events, small as they may be. Hamas focuses, interprets and directs knowledge to ensure the defeat of the enemy and to guarantee the Islamic future. Indoctrination is through “Islamic history and legacy based on reliable sources” approved by Hamas.

The Role of Muslim Women

Article Seventeen

The role of the Muslim woman in the war of liberation is no less important than that of the man, for she is the maker of men. Her role in guiding and educating the next generation is very important. The enemies have realized [the significance of] her role, and they believe that if they can educate her according to their wishes, guiding her away from Islam, they will have won the war. You find, therefore, that they continually make great efforts [to do this] by means of the media, the cinema and school curricula, through their agents who are incorporated in Zionist organizations that assume various names and forms such as the Freemasons, Rotary Clubs, espionage groups, etc. - all of which are dens of sabotage and saboteurs. These Zionist organizations have an enormous abundance of material resources, which enable them to play their game in [various] societies with the aim of realizing their purpose while Islam is absent from the scene and the Muslims are estranged [from their faith]. The followers of the Islamic movements [10] should fulfill their role in countering the schemes of these saboteurs. When Islam is at the helm, it will totally eradicate these organizations, which are hostile to humanity and to Islam.

Muslim women have the all-important role of raising and educating their children to be the first to counter the Zionist organizations and their affiliates—the Freemasons, Rotary Clubs and other civic organizations seen as “espionage groups” with their “dens of sabotage and saboteurs.” The danger is especially for Muslim women living in Western societies, where these groups are most active. The fear is that Muslim women might adopt liberal democratic ideals and pass them on to their children.

It is interesting to note the condemnation of “the media, cinema and school curricula.” The average Muslim woman lives in a Muslim society, leading one to understand the Hamas assumption that the Muslim world has been infiltrated by the Zionists. The women themselves must make themselves immune to the influences of the above-mentioned organizations. The addition “etc.” leads to conjecture over whether Hamas is using a general term to indicate condemnation of feminist and women’s advocacy groups demanding equality with their male counterparts. Would they too be considered “dens of sabotage and saboteurs”?

Article Eighteen

The woman in the jihadist home and family, as mother or sister, has the primary role in managing the household, raising the children according to the moral ideas and values inspired by Islam, and teaching them to perform the religious duties in preparation for the jihadist role that awaits them. Hence, it is necessary to pay close attention to the schools in which the Muslim girl is educated, and to their curricula, so that she will grow to be a good mother, conscious of her role in the war of liberation. She should have adequate awareness and understanding concerning the management of domestic affairs, since economy and avoiding wastefulness in family expenses are among the requirements in the ability to persist in the current difficult circumstances. She should ever be aware that available funds are like blood that must flow only in the veins for life to continue in both young and old. *“Muslim men and Muslim women, the believing men and women, the truthful men and women, the persevering men and women, the humble men and women, the charitable men and women, the fasting men and women, the men and women who guard their chastity, and the men and women who remember Allah frequently - for them Allah has prepared forgiveness and great reward”* (Koran 33:35).

The role of the Muslim woman is to successfully administer her household. This includes a Jihadi education for all the children and in particular a domestic education for her daughter in practical matters such as family expenses since financial donations to the Jihad cause are important for the overall battle. The role of women in fascism is one of homemaker and, most importantly, child bearer. This model was followed by fascist societies in Europe and, in particular, Germany. Male children are raised in preparation for war, or in this case Jihad.

A Jihadi education includes dying for Allah and, if need be, becoming a suicide-homicide bomber. Jihadi mothers prepare their children to become a martyr or “shaheed”—a human sacrifice in the battle against the enemy. Such child sacrifice is reminiscent of the ancient Phoenician religion where children became live burnt offerings to the god Ba'al Hammon in a ceremony known as “tophet,” or incineration. Such was the custom, particularly in Carthage, and reviled throughout the ancient world.

Taking Articles 17 and 18 together one understands “the role of the Muslim woman,” but without the shadow of Koranic authority we lack the entire picture. Mothers, daughters and sisters are honored yet they lack equality, falling under male authority. Koran 4:34 is clear on the topic, “Men have authority over women because Allah has made the one superior to the others, and because they spend their wealth to maintain them. Good women are obedient. They guard their unseen parts because Allah has guarded them. As for those from whom you fear disobedience, admonish them and send them to beds apart and beat them. Then if they obey you, take no further action against them. Allah is high, supreme.”

And as for sex, the Koran 2:223 states clearly, “Women are your fields; go, then, into your fields as you please” however in the preceding verse men are not to go near women during menstruation (Koran 2:222). Women are often considered unclean and are not equal to men. They can be beaten if suspected of disobedience and are viewed as sexual property; the analogy given is that of a plowed field. Plowed, seeded fields produce crops; women produce children—the metaphor is clear. The role of the Muslim woman is to be subservient to her husband (see Chapter II “Ideologues”). For more on the status of women see Koran Chapters 2 (The Cow) and 4 (Women).¹⁴

¹⁴ “What does the Koran say about women?,” *Freethought Nation*, retrieved October 29, 2015, freethoughtnation.com/what-does-the-koran-say-about-women.

The Role of Islamic Art in the War of Liberation

Article Nineteen

Art has rules and standards by which it is possible to determine whether it is Islamic or pagan. The Islamic liberation is in need of Islamic art that uplifts the spirit without subjecting one aspect of human nature to another, but rather uplifts all aspects in [perfect] balance and harmony. Man is a marvelous and unique creature made from a handful of clay and a breath of spirit. Islamic art addresses man on this basis, while pagan art addresses the physical body and gives dominance to the component of clay.

Books, articles, pamphlets, sermons, epistles, traditional songs, poems, [patriotic] songs, plays, etc. - when they have the characteristics of Islamic art, they are among the necessary means of ideological indoctrination. [They constitute] self-renewing sustenance for continuing the journey and refreshing the spirit, for the road is long, the suffering is great and the souls grow weary. Islamic art renews the energies, revives motion and awakens the soul to lofty ideals and wholesome conduct.

Nothing heals the soul when it is in retreat save moving from mode to mode.

“Pagan” art is a façade, a useless materialism while Islamic art is spiritual. This is a condemnation of classical Western art, such as the Greco-Roman and European art in general. Human statues or depictions are forbidden. One should consider the ramifications for Western and Far Eastern art, in particular sculpture. In Afghanistan the Taliban destruction of ancient Buddhas carved out of mountain faces in Bamiyan, eastern Afghanistan in March of 2001 was considered one of the greatest cultural crimes against world civilization.

Since June of 2014 the Islamic State (ISIS or ISIL) has perfected the destruction of “pagan art” in the name of “Islamic liberation”—to use Hamas terminology. The Nineveh Wall, Nimrud, Hatra and ancient works of art from the Mosul Museum in Iraq were damaged or demolished while the archaeological site of Palmyra and artifacts in al-Raqqah suffered a similar fate in Syria. The lead archaeologist working in Palmyra was beheaded. Most relics are from the ancient

Assyrian era dating back thousands of years. Numerous Shiite mosques and Christian churches continue to suffer major damage and destruction. In Africa similar devastation hit Timbuktu in Mali when Islamic extremists condemned Sufi Muslim art and scripture in 2012.

Non-Islamic art is illegal and illegitimate. Pagan artists are identified with their work and both are to be destroyed. To destroy art is similar to book burning. We are reminded of Heinrich Heine who declared, “Where books are burned, people are next.”¹⁵ We know this is what happened in Nazi Germany. When quoting the above Article 19, “When works have the characteristics of Islamic art, they are among the necessary means of ideological indoctrination,” we understand that art is in the service of Jihad and the Islamic totalitarian state.

On the seemingly more moderate side, we have art in the service of the secular totalitarian state. One sees its degradation by communism, whether of the Bolshevik Russian or Maoist Chinese type, and fascism—Nazi German, Italian, Eastern European, and Iberian in the twentieth century. Any form of dictatorship infringing on free will and free expression curtails artistic ability and brings about its elimination. But this pales in comparison to Islamic Jihadi artistic dictates.

An extreme response can be expected to any use of art to criticize Islam as evidenced by the Mohammed cartoons printed in Denmark (2005) which led to worldwide Islamic protests and rioting (2005-2006) and the Charlie Hebdo massacre in Paris (January 2015), an even more fanatical Islamist reaction to political cartoons relating to the Prophet.

All this is utterly serious and no jest, for the nation engaged in jihad knows no jest.

This last sentence sets the tone for Hamas society at large when stating, “the nation engaged in jihad knows no jest.” Laughing, smiling, singing or a general light moment is forbidden in the Jihadi society. Enforcement of such puritanical laws and behavior began in Gaza in December 2008 (see Chapter V “Hamas Ideological Victory,” subheading “The ‘Cast Lead’ Gaza War and Repercussions”).

¹⁵ Exhibit in Historic Museum, short film “Book Burning,” *Yad VaShem Holocaust Museum and Documentation Center*, Jerusalem, Israel.

Social Solidarity**Article Twenty**

Muslim society is characterized by solidarity. The Prophet, Allah's prayer and peace be upon him, says: "Blessed are the Banu Al-Ash'ar tribe. When they are afflicted with drought - whether in a town or on a journey - they would collect all that they have and divide it among themselves in equal shares."

This is the Islamic spirit that should prevail in every Muslim society. A society which is facing a wicked enemy with Nazi behavior, that does not distinguish between men and women, old and young, has an even greater need to grace itself with this Islamic spirit [of solidarity]. Our enemy employs the method of collective punishment, depriving people of their homes and possessions. He pursued them [even] in their places of exile, breaking bones, shooting women, children and elderly people with or without reason. He established detention camps to imprison thousands and thousands [of people] in inhuman conditions, all this in addition to destroying houses, orphaning children and unjustly convicting thousands of young people to spend the best years of their youth in the darkness of prison.

The Nazism of the Jews targeted both women and children. The terror they spread is directed at everyone. They fight people by destroying their livelihood, stealing their money and trampling their dignity. Their horrible treatment of people is like that of the worst war criminals. Deportation from one's homeland is a form of murder.

In the face of such behavior, we must have social solidarity among the people, and we must face the enemy as one body, which, when one of its limbs is in pain, the rest of it reacts with sleeplessness and fever.

Article 20 is a call for solidarity, indicating it is seriously lacking. Much of Israel's success against Hamas is the result of intelligence information provided

by Palestinian Muslims themselves, which resulted in detentions, arrests and street battles with Hamas Jihadists. Most notably, Hamas antisemitism borrows heavily from Nazism, particularly in Article 22 (see below) and engages in role reversal accusations.

The Covenant was published in August 1988 when Hamas was beginning to lose the upper hand in the battle against Israel, known as the “First Intifada,” hence the accusations include that of Nazism. Under Nazi rule, populations dwindled as Jews were exterminated. The exact opposite took place from the twenty years after the 1967 Six Day War in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem.

The Palestinian population grew from some 586,000 in the West Bank in 1967 to some 858,000 by the end of 1987¹⁶ when Hamas was officially established. This is an absolute population growth of over 46 percent in 20 years, quite a high level by anyone’s calculations. This was accompanied by rapid economic growth. In 1967 the Gaza population was approximately 390,000 and increased to 633,000¹⁷ twenty years later, an increase of 62 percent. The Palestinian Arab West Bank population as of 2013 was said to be some 2.5 million,¹⁸ and Gaza some 1.7 million,¹⁹ while East Jerusalem’s was 372,000²⁰ up from 66,000 in 1967,²¹ more than five-fold increase in four and a half decades. In summary, the Palestinian population was four and a half times larger in 2013 than it was in 1967 when the population was just over one million.

Equating Jews with Nazism is a phenomenon begun with the Soviet penetration into the Arab Middle East during the mid-1950s as Egypt, Syria and Iraq shifted toward the communist world. In particular the Baathist ideals of Assad’s Syrian regime and Saddam Hussein’s Iraq borrowed heavily from the

¹⁶ Benvenisti, Meron and Khayat, Shlomo, *The West Bank and Gaza Atlas*, The Jerusalem Post, Jerusalem, 1988, p. 27.

¹⁷ Ibid, p. 109.

¹⁸ Hasson, Nir, “Demographic Debate Continues // How Many Palestinians Actually Live in the West Bank?,” *Haaretz*, retrieved October 1, 2014, <http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/.premium-1.532703>.

¹⁹ Abu Toameh, Khaled, “Palestinian Population in W. Bank, Gaza, about 4.5 million,” *The Jerusalem Post*, November 7, 2013, retrieved October 1, 2014, <http://www.jpost.com/National-News/Palestinian-population-in-W-Bank-Gazaabout-45-million-319569>.

²⁰ “East Jerusalem by the Numbers,” *Association for Civil Rights in Israel*, May 7, 2013, retrieved October 1, 2014, www.acri.org.il/en/2013/05/07/ej-figures.

²¹ “East Jerusalem,” *Wikipedia*, retrieved October 1, 2014, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Jerusalem.

Nazis.²² Jews and Israelis were no longer being depicted as communists and Bolsheviks, as had been done previously. A composite caricature was developed in popular cartoons of long-nosed Jews in Nazi uniform with swastikas, their knives and/or teeth dripping with blood. The bloody long-nosed Jew is derived from Nazi publications pushing the accusation of the Blood Libel where Jews were accused of killing Christian children to use their blood for baking matzot for Passover. This new “Jew as Nazi” stereotype is used in the Arab world to the present day and is now part of the Arab/Islamist lexicon, enhancing the condemnation of Israel and the Jews.²³ Articles 31 and 32 follow suit, making the same accusation.

In the aftermath of WWII the Soviets believed everyone would forget their non-aggression pact with Nazi Germany (1939-41), just as the Arab nationalists and the Islamists hope their overtures, cooperation and support of the Nazis during WWII will be forgotten. In both cases wiping out the memory of their own alliances with Hitler is best served by eternalizing the false charge of Nazism against their Jewish victims. Public opinion does not recall the Soviet and Arab alliances with Nazism while the accusations against the Jews are of recent memory.

The accuser-perpetrator blames his victim for the heinous crimes he intends to impose or has imposed on his victim, thereby justifying his actions to himself, his people and others. Such behavior is in line with what is known as “The Big Lie” used by dictators and in particular by the Nazis. The bigger and more hideous it is, the more likely the constantly repeated lie will eventually be believed. Hitler lied when he accused the Jews of instigating WWII. Hamas follows in his footsteps knowing full well that the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin el-Husseini, was the foremost Palestinian Arab-Nazi collaborator (see Chapter III “Jewish National Liberation” subsection “Haj Amin El Husseini” and Chapter VIII “Czarist-Nazi Integration into the Palestinian Islamist Jihad”).

Through this role reversal “Big Lie” accusation the Arab Muslim world with Hamas in the lead works to convince everyone of the illegitimacy and pariah status of the Jewish State and Jewish existence. By exposing the “Big Lie” the Jewish State takes its place as equal to all other states and exercises the right to defend itself. Legitimate Israeli responses to ensure security are in accordance with the “Fourth Geneva Convention,” August 1949:

²² Patterson, David, *A Genealogy of Evil, Anti-Semitism from Nazism to Islamic Jihad*, Cambridge University Press, New York, 2010, Chapter 7, “Secular Offshoots: The Baath Party and the PLO.”

²³ Lewis, Bernard, *Semites and Anti-Semites*, W. W. Norton and Co., New York and London, 1999, see “Afterword to the Norton Paperback Edition,” pp. 260-272.

- Article 5 allows for actions to be taken against a “spy and saboteur” or if a “person is definitely suspected of or engaged in activities hostile to the security of the State.”
- Article 28 explains that the “presence of a protected person [civilian] may not be used to render certain points or areas immune from military operations.” In other words, Hamas operatives may be apprehended or killed even if Israeli forces operate within a civilian environment.
- Article 49 determines that the “Occupying Power may undertake total or partial evacuation of a given area if the security of the population or imperative military reasons so demand.” Persons are to remain in the overall territory however.
- Article 54 deals with house destruction when considered “absolutely necessary by military operations.” Once this was implemented, the question for Israel was whether it deterred terrorist activities. At times Israel ended the policy but more recently this course of action has been reinstated. The policy is legal but demands discretion.

Article Twenty-One

Social solidarity means offering help to everyone who is in need, be it material or moral, or joining with him to complete some work. Members of the Islamic Resistance Movement should regard the interests of the masses as their own, and they should spare no effort to achieve them and protect them. They must prevent reckless playing with matters affecting the future of the next generations or causing losses to their society. The masses are of them and for them, and the strength of the masses is strength for them; their future is theirs. The members of the Islamic Resistance Movement should be with the people on joyous occasions and at times of grief. They should espouse the demands of the masses and strive to serve the masses' interests, which are indeed their own. When this spirit prevails, friendship will deepen and there will be cooperation and empathy, unity will increase and the ranks will be strengthened to confront the enemies.

Unity with the masses and social cohesion on every level is the Hamas recipe for success. Hamas should not get involved in actions detrimental to their society, because their strength comes from mass support. This article could call into question popular support for attacks against Israel, which resulted in the defensive actions Cast Lead (2008-09), Pillar of Strength (2012) and Protective Edge (2014) operations and created extensive damage to Gaza infrastructure. It appears that popular backing for Hamas' Islamist ideals remain high and keeps them in tandem with "the demands of the masses" despite material suffering.

The Forces which Support the Enemy

Article Twenty-Two

The enemies have been planning expertly and thoroughly for a long time in order to achieve what they have achieved, employing those means which affect the course of events. They strove to accumulate huge financial resources which they used to realize their dream.

With money they have taken control of the world media - news agencies, the press, publishing houses, broadcasting services, etc. With money they sparked revolutions in various countries around the world in order to serve their interests and to reap profits. They were behind the French Revolution and the Communist Revolution and [they are behind] most of the revolutions about which we hear from time to time here and there. With money they have formed secret organizations, all over the world, in order to destroy [those countries'] societies and to serve the Zionists' interests, such as the Freemasons, the Rotary Clubs, the Lions, the Sons of the Covenant [i.e. B'nei B'rith], etc. All of these are organizations of espionage and sabotage. With money they were able to take control of the colonialist countries, and [they] urged them to colonize many countries so that they could exploit their resources and spread moral corruption there.

For an historical understanding of the accusations throughout Article 22, one can review the stereotypes portraying Jewish conspiracies as expressed by the Russian Czarist antisemites in *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion* and in Adolf Hitler's *Mein Kampf*. In particular, Jewish money is said to lead to world domination. This is more fully discussed in Chapter VIII "Czarist-Nazi Integration with the Palestinian Islamic Jihad." Overall the Jews are the enemy, as stated in the Introduction-Preamble of *The Hamas Covenant*. Jewry is castigated for developing huge financial reserves to initiate their assault on the Muslim world. Hamas believes Jews initiated their conquests by capturing the media and continue to advance onward to achieve global domination.

The truth is that the Jews have little influence on the world media. The Arab/Muslim media throughout the Middle East is anti-Israel, pro-Palestinian and often pro-Islamist. Al Jazeera and Al Arabiya are the two most prominent satellite stations, with the former being accused by many in the Arab world of working for the rise of Islamism and the downfall of the Arab secular regimes. In particular, the Egyptian governments of former President Hosni Mubarak and current President Abdel Fattah a-Sisi have made the accusation against Al Jazeera. Media in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia and the majority in Turkey are anti-Israel and often antisemitic. Quite a few are pro-Islamist.

Over the years, major Western media in Europe, including Sky News, the BBC, France 24 and at times CNN's European cable channel, are noted as quite critical

of Israeli government policies and even as leaning pro-Palestinian, but not pro-Islamist. European newspapers and magazines are sympathetic to the Palestinians or considered “balanced.” CNN’s European affiliate was considered so anti-Israel during the 2000-2004 Palestinian Low Intensity Conflict against Israel, commonly known as the Second Intifada, that Israelis demanded its removal from the general package offered by its two major cable TV suppliers. CNN in North America is considered “balanced,” while Fox News is seen as pro-Israel. The New York Times, while supporting Israel’s right to exist, is viewed as much more critical of Israel than it is of the Palestinians, while the Wall Street Journal leans more pro-Israel.

Most developing countries in Africa and Latin America lean heavily toward the Palestinian cause, though they are generally not pro-Islamist while Far Eastern countries such as China and Japan may be considered somewhat more balanced, but still tilting toward the Palestinians. India is inclined toward Israel, especially the present government which identifies more with the Jewish State because of its own continuing fears of Pakistani Islamist attacks. The above countries and media usually advocate a two-state solution. In the UN, however, these same member states constantly vote in favor of resolutions condemning Israel. Jewish influence in the media and the international community is negligible.

Only in the US and Canada is there more sympathy for Israel than for the Palestinians, both in governmental circles and the media. Many attribute this to Jewish activism in the “Israel Lobby,” yet the largest group of pro-Israel support comes from Evangelical Christians.

Once again, non-Jewish international liberal community service organizations, such as the Rotary, Lions Club and the Freemasons, are blamed for serving Zionist and Jewish interests. To round out the international conspiracy, the French and communist revolutions as well as colonialism are blamed on the Jews.

There is no end to what can be said about [their involvement in] local wars and world wars. They were behind World War I, through which they achieved the destruction of the Islamic Caliphate, reaped material profits, took control of numerous resources, obtained the Balfour Declaration, and established the League of the United Nations [sic] so as to rule the world through this organization. They were [also] behind World War II, through which they reaped enormous profits from commerce in war materials and paved the way for the establishment of their state. They [also] suggested the formation of the United Nations and the Security Council to replace the League of the United Nations [sic] and to rule the

world through this [new organization]. Wherever there is war in the world, it is they who are pulling the strings behind the scenes. *“Whenever they ignite the fire of war, Allah extinguishes it. They strive to spread evil in the land, but Allah does not love those who do evil”* (Koran 5:64).

Jews are said to profit from involvement in all wars. Likewise they are alleged to have ruled humanity through the establishment of the League of Nations between the world wars. Most ludicrous is the claim of Jewish gain from WWII, where six million Jews perished in the Holocaust. As for the Jewish State, it almost did not come into being because the so-called “Jewish Problem” in Europe was virtually “solved” through annihilation. In 1948 the Arab world invaded the new-born State of Israel with the declared purpose of its extermination. As is documented, there are more UN resolutions castigating Israel than there are condemning any other state.

The colonialist powers, both in the capitalist West and the communist East, support the enemy with all their might, both materially and with manpower, alternating one with the other [in giving support]. When Islam appears, all the forces of unbelief unite to oppose it, for all unbelief is one denomination.

The “capitalist West and the communist East” are accused of supporting the Jews. The Covenant was written in 1988, hence not only are the US and its allies said to be supporting Israel, but also the Soviet Union and the East Bloc. Lest one forget, Soviet Jews suffered persecution for decades and fought to leave the USSR because the situation was so dire. Many were jailed, suffered job loss and/or were denied exit permits. Finally succeeding in their battle for free immigration well over a million Jews immigrated to the West and Israel beginning in the 1970s.

“Oh you who believe, do not take as your intimate friends those outside your ranks, for they will spare no effort to harm you. They desire that which causes you suffering. Hatred has indeed come out of their mouths, but what they hide in their hearts is even worse. We have given you clear signs, if you understand” (Koran 3:118). It is not for nothing that the verse ends with His words *“if you understand.”*

The above schemes, plots and condemnations of the Jewish People originate in Czarist and Nazi antisemitism and are now blended into one entity with Jihadi Islam, best expressed by Hamas. Article 22 represents the full demonization of the Jews.

Chapter Four: Our Positions on

A. The Islamic Movements

Article Twenty-Three

The Islamic Resistance Movement looks on the other Islamic movements with respect and appreciation, for even if it is at variance with them in some given respect or thought, it agrees with them in many more respects or thoughts, and it views them - so long as their intentions are good and they are devoted to Allah - as falling under the rubric of legitimate opinion, that is, as long as their actions are within the bounds of the Islamic circle. Everyone who strives for truth receives his reward.

Theoretically and theologically the above paragraph could include the newly rising Islamic State. As of this writing Hamas and the global Muslim Brotherhood consider the Islamic State fanatical adversaries, yet they more often than not derive their ideological perspectives and incentives for action from the same Salafist sources (see Chapter V “Hamas Ideological Victory” and Chapter IX “Summary and Conclusions”).

The Islamic Resistance Movement considers these movements as reinforcing it, and asks [Allah] to guide and direct us all. It never forgets to constantly raise the banner of unity and to strive assiduously to achieve unity in accordance with the Koran and the sunna. *“Hold fast to Allah’s rope, all of you. Do not be divided among yourselves, and remember Allah’s favor to you. When you were enemies to one another, He brought your hearts together, and through his favor you became brothers. You were on the brink of a pit of fire, and He saved you from it. Thus Allah shows you His signs, so that you may follow the right way”* (Koran 3:103). [11]

Article 23 is a call for unity among all Islamic movements “in accordance with the Koran and sunna.” Several years ago, Sunni Hamas expanded the interpretation of this clause to include the Shiites and therefore accept military and financial aid from Hezbollah and Iran to use in confronting Israel and the Jews. This change in policy took place after the death of Sheikh Ahmed Yasin (2004), who refused to work with the Shiites. As of 2011, there were disagreements with Tehran and reportedly certain ventures were suspended on the background of the recent Sunni Arab Islamic Awakening and the intervention of Turkish interests as directed by today’s president but at the time, Prime Minister Erdogan. Joint efforts with Iran and Hezbollah can be resumed when deemed necessary.

Article Twenty-Four

The Islamic Resistance Movement does not allow to impugn or to blacken the name of individuals or groups, for [true] Muslims do not impugn or curse others. One should make a clear distinction between this and positions or behavior, for the Islamic Resistance Movement does have the right to expose error and to deter people from it and to strive to make the truth known and to adopt it in an impartial way in every given case. Wisdom is what the Muslim looks for, and he takes it wherever he finds it. [12]

Hamas has a mission to “expose error and deter people from it” while making “the truth known.” Believers should steer others to the correct course of Islam as determined only by Hamas.

“Allah does not like it when people speak ill in public, except for those who have been wronged. Allah hears all and knows all. When you do good openly, or in secret, or forgive a wrong [done to you], surely Allah is Forgiving and Almighty” (Koran 4:148-149).

What of the *dhimmi* Jews and Christians? They have not been wronged? How should one view the fate what of those beneath the *dhimmi* status such as Zoroastrians, Bahai adherents and Hindus? Does Allah hear their voices or does he only hear the voice of the Islamist who oppresses the above mentioned groups?

B. The Nationalist Movements in the Palestinian Arena

Article Twenty-Five

[The Islamic Resistance Movement] respects them and appreciates the conditions that surround and affect them. It supports them as long as they do not pay allegiance to the Communist East or to the Crusader West, and it emphasizes to all the members and supporters [of these movements] that it is a jihadist, ethical movement, conscientious in its worldview and in its treatment of others. It abhors opportunism, wants only good for the people, both as individuals and as groups, and does not strive to attain material gain or fame for itself. It does not seek reward from people, and it goes forth with its own resources and what it has at hand - *“Muster against them all the force you can”* (Koran 8:60) - in order to carry out the duty and win Allah’s favor. It has no desire other than that.

It reassures all the nationalist [groups] of all orientations that are operating in the Palestinian arena for the liberation of Palestine that it shall never be anything other than a support and an aid for them, in word and in deed, at present and in the future. It joins together and does not separate, preserves and does not scatter, unites and does not divide, it values every kind word, every sincere effort and every praiseworthy endeavor. It closes the door in the face of petty disagreements. It pays no heed to rumors and biased remarks, but is fully aware of [its] right to defend itself.

Anything that opposes or contradicts this orientation is fabricated by the enemy or by their lackeys in order to cause confusion, divide the ranks and create distraction with side issues. *“OH you who believe, if an evildoer brings you information [about any person], you should examine it carefully lest you hurt [innocent] people out of ignorance, and afterwards come to regret it”* (Koran 49:6).

Palestinian movements are forbidden any allegiance with foreign ideologies whether they are from the Communist world (atheism), as led historically by the Russians and Chinese, or the Crusader West of Christendom, represented by the US and Europe. Such alliances are viewed as “opportunism” and betraying the true “jihadist, ethical movement” of the Islamic Resistance. Any ideal besides that of Hamas only brings about a fracturing of the Jihadi movement.

In practice, Article 25 is an ideological attack against the PLO, whose greatest support came from the communist bloc until its collapse in Europe between 1989 and 1991. The PLO and its leader Yasir Arafat received some sympathy in Western Europe during this period, but on the diplomatic level they sought greater Western support in the 1990s, due to lack of choice. Alongside the collapse of communism, Arafat and the PLO lost a powerful patron in Iraq’s secular Baathist leader Saddam Hussein as a result of his defeat at the hands of the Americans, Europeans and their Arab allies in the Desert Storm Gulf War of 1991. Arafat left Baghdad a day before the American air offensive in mid-January.

This clause is still fully relevant in the aftermath of the Oslo Accords (1993-95) and Wye Agreement (1998) which worked toward conflict resolution with Israel and were negotiated with the aid of the “Crusader West,” in particular the United States.

Article Twenty-Six

The Islamic Resistance Movement - looking favorably as it does on the Palestinian nationalist movements - does not refrain from discussing new developments concerning the Palestinian problem in the local and international arena in an objective manner, so as to find to what extent [these developments] agree or disagree with the national interests in the light of the Islamic vision.

Article 26 is an invitation for the PLO to clarify its position in “light of the Islamic vision” of Hamas. Put bluntly the PLO is expected to reject secular nationalism and embrace the Hamas global Jihad initiative. Together the groups will merge under the Islamic banner and commence with the destruction of the State of Israel. The PLO/Palestinian Authority has not quite taken up the Jihadi challenge in the physical sense. Although in recent years there are many more calls for violence from the PLO and the ruling Fatah faction, the PA is working much more on the diplomatic front against Israel, in particular at the UN.

C. The Palestine Liberation Organization

Article Twenty-Seven

The Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO] is closest to the heart of the Islamic Resistance Movement. [We regard it as] a father, brother or friend, and a true Muslim does not spurn his father, his brother or his friend. Our homeland is one, our misfortune is one, our destiny is one and we share the same enemy.

Owing to the circumstances that surrounded the establishment of the PLO, and [owing to] the intellectual confusion which prevails in the Arab world as a result of the intellectual invasion to which it has been subject since the defeat of the Crusaders, and which was intensified, and continues to be intensified by Orientalism and Christian missionary activities - the PLO has adopted the idea of the secular state, and we view [the PLO] accordingly. Secularist ideology stands in total contradiction to the religious ideology, and it is ideas which are the basis of positions, behavior and decisions.

There is expressed solidarity with the PLO as a blood relative and/or friend, and as one who shares a common destiny or fate. Here, Hamas extends sympathy and understanding because they share a common homeland and enemy. As well, Hamas is aware of the historic circumstances leading to the establishment of the PLO, which were heavily influenced by Western-secular ideas molding Arab and Palestinian nationalism. Still, Hamas holds to the idea that secularism is in complete contradiction to Islamic fundamentalism. In wishing to establish a secular state, Hamas believes the PLO is a victim not only of “Christian missionary activities,” but of Orientalism, since advocating for a secular state is a Western invention.

“Orientalism” is the study of Eastern cultures by Western scholars. Arabs often accuse researchers of being insensitive through their study of the East as an “object.” In particular, the Christian Palestinian scholar Edward Said is known for his attacks against Western academics and their criticisms of the Arab Middle East. Said wrote his famous book *Orientalism*, to condemn Western research and attitudes when investigating the Middle East. Hamas accuses the PLO of being part of the crime since their “Western” view of history is said to be analytical,

rooted in deductive reasoning and devoid of Sharia law. On the other hand, Said showed allegiance to the PLO and believed in secular humanism, equal rights for all, advocated for democracy and sympathized with Jews as a persecuted group despite his anti-Israel stance. He bewailed the disappearance of “ijtihad” or critical thinking in Islam.²⁴ Hamas would certainly accuse Said of taking a secular jahili Christian missionary Orientalist approach.

The West’s so-called “intellectual invasion” commenced in the nineteenth century when missionaries began their liaison with the Eastern Christian communities, particularly in the Beirut and Damascus urban centers. The contours of secular Arab nationalism began to develop and eventually brought in Muslim sympathizers, which overrode Sharia law. Hamas blames the secularization of the Arab world on Christian Europe and its Middle Eastern Christian co-religionists. The Hamas analysis is essentially correct. Had Enlightenment ideals such as “equality for all” not impacted Islam, Sharia law would continue to rule and European nation-state style governments in the region would be greatly curtailed or possibly not exist at all (see Chapter II “Ideologues” in particular the subsection on Abdullah Azzam).

Hence, with all our appreciation for the Palestine Liberation Organization and what it may yet become, and without belittling its role in the Arab-Israeli conflict, we cannot give up the Islamic identity of Palestine in the present and in the future to adopt the secularist ideology - for the Islamic identity of Palestine is part of our faith, and whoever is lax with his faith is lost. “Who spurns the religion of Abraham but one who has made himself into a fool?” (Koran 2:130).

Hamas condemns the PLO for advocating a secular society, an obvious Christian European influence. Palestine must be Islamic—this is the one and only truth. Using the Koranic quote Hamas claims “the religion of Abraham” to be Islam.

²⁴ Said, Edward, *Orientalism*, Vintage Books, New York, (1978) 2003 edition, Preface to the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Edition.

Previously, in his book *Covering Islam* (1981), Said accused the Western news media of enormous bias while he presented Islam as much more liberal and equality based. The Jihadi Islamists would not agree but we do not know what Said’s stand would be in 2015 as he died in Sept. 2003. Politically Edward Said served on the Palestine National Council of the PLO from 1977-91, but resigned when he felt the PLO under Arafat was conceding too much to Israel in negotiations.

When the PLO adopts Islam as its way of life, then we shall be its troops and the fuel for its fire that will burn the enemies. But until this time comes - and we pray to Allah that it be soon - the position of the Islamic Resistance Movement vis a vis the PLO is that of a son toward his father, a brother toward his brother or a relative toward his relative. He shares the other's pain when he is pricked by a thorn, and supports him in facing the enemy, and he wishes for him to find divine guidance and [follow] the right path. Your brother, your brother before all others! He who has no brother is like one who goes to war unarmed. Your cousin, you must know the strength of his wing, for how can the falcon rise up without wings? [13]

The Hamas Covenant acknowledges appreciation for the PLO struggle, yet Hamas continues to emphasize their belief that the Islamic faith is the only acceptable identity for Palestinians. Despite expressing solidarity with the PLO as a father or brother, Hamas will only join them when the PLO “adopts Islam as a way of life.”

D. Arab and Islamic States and Governments

Article Twenty-Eight

The Zionist invasion is a cruel invasion, which has no scruples whatsoever; it uses every vicious and vile method to achieve its goals. In its infiltration and espionage operations, it greatly relies on secret organizations which grew out of it, such as the Freemasons, the Rotary Clubs, the Lions and other such espionage groups. All these organizations, covert or overt, work for the interests of Zionism and under its direction, and their aim is to break societies, undermine values, destroy people's honor, create moral degeneration and annihilate Islam. [Zionism] is behind all types of trafficking in drugs and alcohol, so as to make it easier for it to take control and expand.

Article 28 is a continuation of the conspiracy theories condemning secular civic organizations such as the Freemasons, the Rotary and the Lions, who in reality are all dedicated to bettering society. Hamas accuses the groups of advocating “Zionism” and in helping in the proliferation of the drug and alcohol markets to

destroy society through “moral degeneration” and to “annihilate Islam.” These organizations are liberal universalist in their concerns and the attacks against them for immoral behavior are preposterous. The accusations of “trafficking in drugs and alcohol” even go beyond certain slanders of the Czarist *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion* against the Jews and Freemasons.

We demand that the Arab countries around Israel open their borders to jihad fighters from among the Arab and Islamic peoples, so they may fulfill their role and join their efforts to the efforts of their brothers - the Muslim brethren in Palestine. As for the rest of the Arab and Muslim countries, we demand that they facilitate the passage of the jihad fighters into them and out of them - that is the very least [they can do].

All Arab countries must aid their Jihadist brethren, at least allowing them passage to attack Israel. Such a demand lines up with the minimum expected from neighboring Muslim countries during “defensive Jihad” (see Chapter II “Ideologies”).

We should not fail to remind every Muslim that when the Jews occupied the Sacred place [i.e., Jerusalem] in 1967 and stood on the threshold of the blessed Al-Aqsa mosque, they shouted: “Muhammad is dead; his offspring are women.” Israel with its Jewish identity and Jewish people is challenging Islam and the Muslims. May the cowardly know no sleep.

To rally the Arab world, included is a reminder of the Israeli conquest of Jerusalem and the Al-Aksa mosque in 1967. To claim Israelis shouted “Muhammad is dead; his offspring are women,” is absurd. Rather this article shows the Hamas contempt and misogynous attitude toward women, as they consider it an insult to say Muhammad’s descendants are female. For the Islamic attitude toward women see Articles 17 and 18 above.

Upon the Jordanian surrender of Jerusalem close to fifty years ago and the symbolic “handing over of the keys,” to the Temple Mount or Noble Sanctuary domain of the Al-Aksa Mosque and Dome of the Rock to Israel’s Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, he returned the keys to those same Muslim religious waqf authorities who offered their submission. In so doing Israel showed the highest respect for Islam. From 1967 until what is known as the “Second Intifada” or Low Intensity Conflict-Terror Offensive in October 2000, there was freedom of visitation for all people to the mosques. Such open visitation was done in the spirit

of the separation of state and religion. Hostilities have calmed down for the most part, yet since the year 2000 entry into the mosques is allowed only to Muslims and preferred “others” given special permission by the waqf authorities. Everyone else is allowed to visit the Temple Mount, but cannot enter the mosques. Due to everyday tensions and the separation between religion and state, Israel does not enforce the right of visitation by non-Muslims nor does Israel allow for Jews or Christians to pray on the Temple Mount. The right of prayer is exclusively Muslim, a “status quo” arrangement actively discriminating against non-Muslims.

The second-to-last sentence in the final paragraph “Israel with its Jewish identity and Jewish people is challenging Islam and the Muslims” proves Hamas cannot deny the fact that Israel is the Jewish State. That the Jewish State has repulsed all Muslim attempts to destroy it contradicts the interpretations of the Koran by Islamic jurists over the centuries claiming the covenant with the Israelites/Jewish People was nullified. The fact that Hamas included this line in its Covenant is a challenge to Islam and Muslims who demand nullification of the Jewish State. Otherwise one could surmise that the continued existence of the State of Israel has Divine support, hence the almost hysterical demand for its destruction. As for the “cowardly,” see Chapter II “Ideologues,” most notably the subsection on Abdullah Azzam.

Nationalist and Religious Groups and Organizations, Intellectuals, and the Arab and Islamic World

Article Twenty-Nine

The Islamic Resistance Movement hopes that these groups will stand by it in every respect, help it, espouse its positions, back its activities and strive to enlist support for it, so that the Muslim peoples will be a support and a reinforcement for it, and [will provide] strategic depth on all levels: [in terms of] human and material resources, information, in every time and every place. [This should be done] by holding conferences, publishing ideological pamphlets, and by indoctrination of the masses with regards to the Palestinian issue - what is facing [the Palestinians] and what is plotted against [them]. [Likewise they should work to] mobilize the Islamic peoples, ideologically, educationally and culturally, so that they will play their role in the decisive war of liberation just as they did in defeating the Crusaders and routing out the Mongols, thus saving human civilization. This is not difficult for Allah.

“Allah has decreed: ‘I and My messengers shall prevail’; Allah is strong and all-powerful” (Koran 58:21).

All cultural and educational groups in the Muslim world have an obligation to support Hamas in its struggle against their enemy the Jews, just as the Muslim world is said to have united to defeat the Mongols (1260 at Ein Jalut) and Crusaders (1265 and final destruction 1291) some seven to eight hundred years ago, “thus saving human civilization.” This includes “indoctrination of the masses” to guarantee their mobilization in the decisive “war of liberation,” better known as Jihad. The Egyptian non-Arab Mamluk leader Baybars is credited with the great victories of the 1260s yet as noted previously in the Introduction, Sheikh Hasan al-Banna defines the Mamluks as spiritually inferior despite their conquests in the name of Islam.

Article Thirty

Writers, intellectuals, media people, preachers in mosques, educators and all the various sectors in the Arab and Islamic world, are all required to fulfill their role and perform their duty. [This is necessary] due to the ferocity of the Zionist onslaught and the fact that it has infiltrated many countries and has taken control of the finances and media - with all the ramifications that follow from this - in most countries of the world.

Jihad is not limited to wielding arms and fighting the enemies face to face, for eloquent speech, persuasive writing, effective books, support and help - when [they are] performed with the sincere intention that Allah’s banner will reign supreme - all constitute jihad for the sake of Allah.

[As the prophet said:] *“Whoever equips a warrior fighting for the sake of Allah is [himself] a warrior, and whoever supports the family of a warrior [who has set out to fight for the sake of Allah] is [himself] a warrior”* (recorded by Bukhari, Muslim, Abu Da’ud and Tirmidhi in their Hadith collections).

Whoever supports the military and takes orders from Hamas joins the Jihad. Aiding a warrior is another stipulation for Jihad (see Chapter II “Ideologues”). People of influence in the Arab/Muslim world—intellectuals, preachers,

journalists and educators are called upon as loyal soldiers with no discretionary powers, but rather are “required to fulfill their role and perform their duty” in the battle against the “Zionist onslaught,” who are once again accused of controlling the world’s finances and media.

Article 30 is a restatement of Article 22 (see above) when claiming Zionist/Jewish control over world finances and the media. As noted in the commentary for Article 22, Protocols and Hitler’s *Mein Kampf* made the same reprehensible accusations.

Followers of the Other Religions

The Islamic Resistance Movement is a Humane Movement

Article Thirty-One

The Islamic Resistance Movement is a humane movement which respects human rights and is committed to the Islamic tolerance toward the followers of the other religions. It is hostile only to those among them who display hostility toward it or stand in its way, hampering its activities and foiling its efforts. Under the wing of Islam, the followers of the three religions - Islam, Christianity and Judaism - can coexist in security and safety. It is only under the wing of Islam that safety and security prevail. Recent and ancient history provide the best evidence for this. The followers of the other religions should stop competing with Islam for sovereignty in this region, because, when they rule, there is nothing but carnage, torture and deportation, and they cannot get along with their own, let alone with followers of other religions. Both the present and the past are full of evidence for this.

Article 31 embodies both deceit and honesty. The Islamic Resistance Movement is not a “humane movement which respects human rights,” as stated in the above and in previous articles. Throughout *The Hamas Covenant*, there are demands for Jihad and annihilation of all enemies, in particular the Jews. The key phrase to accurately describe Hamas’ tolerance is “Islamic tolerance,” which stipulates Jews and Christians are to live under the confines of the *dhimma*, or second-class status, and accept the full authority and superiority of Islam. The comment “they cannot get along with their own” refers to the various Christian sects who clashed with each other throughout the centuries in the Middle East.

Hamas claims that if all Christians lived as *dhimmi* under Sharia law, there would be no conflicts between Christian denominations. It is possible that the Judaism referred to above relates to the tiny group of rabidly anti-Zionists, and at times the Holocaust-doubting Neturei Karta type and its affiliates—who have an overall population of several thousand, yet gain tremendous media attention, especially in the Arab Muslim world. They are well-known for supporting all enemies of the State of Israel, whether it is Iran’s Ahmedinejad or Hamas.

Article 31 makes the claim that “only under the wing of Islam can safety and security prevail.” This is partially true because of Hamas’ self-proclaimed need for Jihad against any group with sovereignty, whether it be the Jews in Israel, Christian power-sharing in Lebanon or Coptic Christian equal rights in Egypt. The process of Jihad against these groups began in the seventh century when the Arab Islamic invasion overran the southern part of the Byzantine Empire and completely destroyed the Persians. The Turks finally wiped out the Byzantines during the sack of Constantinople in 1453—long after Jihad spread Islam to North Africa, Spain, Portugal and even to southern France. Eventually Christian forces retook the Iberian Peninsula in January 1492.

Omitted by Hamas are all of the inter-Arab, inter-Muslim wars plaguing Middle Eastern history from the time of the Arab Muslim invasion (638) to the present. Following are examples of the lack of “safety and security” when Islam prevails. Just to name a few: the Ummayyad rise to power (661), the Abbasid defeat of the Ummayyads (750), the massacre of Shiites at Karbala by the Sunnis (680), the numerous revolts against the Abbasids (750-1258), the Ismaili revolts in the Middle Ages, the Fatamid wars against the Ismailis, the Fatamid-Seljuk wars (900s-1000s), and the Mamluk territorial wars from the mid-thirteenth century until their defeat by the Ottoman Turks in the sixteenth century. During the Turks’ four hundred year rule in the Arab world, from the early 1500s until 1917, there were numerous Muslim rebellions within the Ottoman Empire in addition to constant wars with the Persian Shiites. The twentieth century witnessed a civil war in Yemen where Egypt and Saudi Arabia squared off against each other in the mid-1960s, and the Iraq-Iran War (1980-1988) with well over a million dead and wounded. In both cases chemical weapons were used, first by the Egyptians and then by the Iraqis. Massacres in Sudan, Libya and Somalia accompanied by intra-Islamic Sunni versus Shiite strife in Iraq and Yemen continue to plague the Muslim world into the twenty-first century. Most recently the Islamic State (ISIS/ISIL) is terrorizing large swaths of the Middle East in particular in Iraq and Syria, the latter once again using chemical weapons, this time against its own population.

Hamas supporters constantly point out the supposed expansive liberal understandings of the Muslim Brotherhood toward Jews and Christians, always

omitting the Charter of Omar and *dhimma* disabilities forced upon these populations, which would make their lives difficult at best and often quite miserable.

“They do not fight you together, except from within fortified villages, or from behind walls. They fight fiercely with one another. You consider them to be united, but their hearts are divided, for they are a people with no sense” (Koran 59:14).

This quote from the Koran refers to the numerous battles Mohammed waged against the Jews. It is used in *The Hamas Covenant* to recall the 1948 Israeli defense line of fortified kibbutzim in the Negev who were given much credit for halting the Muslim Brotherhood and Egyptian army offensive directed toward Tel Aviv in Israel’s War of Independence. Sayyid Qutb makes reference to this quote in his essay “Our Struggle With the Jews” Using it as a rallying cry for the Egyptian onslaught into the new born Jewish State. Jews and/or Israelis may have sharp disagreements with each other, but they are not involved in a civil war and certainly do not “fight fiercely with one another.”

Islam accords to every person his rights, and prevents any infringement on other people’s rights. The Nazi Zionist measures against our people will not succeed in prolonging the duration of their invasion, for the rule of injustice lasts but one hour, while the rule of the truth will last until the Hour of Resurrection.

“Islam accords to every person his rights” is another deceitful statement. These rights are only according to Islamic Sharia law, and Hamas will be the arbiter of it when they rule. The simple conclusion is that the Zionist invasion (Israel) must collapse since it is not the “rule of truth.” Hamas’ great fear is that some form of negotiated agreement will take hold between Israelis and Palestinians. They do not want Muslims to continue to live in the Jewish State while holding Israeli citizenship and accepting Israeli sovereignty. To do so would undermine the Islamic “rule of the truth,” which is said to “last until the Hour of Resurrection.”

In the year 2000, the Israeli-Arab weekly newspaper *Kul al-Arab* conducted a poll to determine whether Arabs living in Israel would agree to living under the Palestinian Authority as part of a land swap between Israel and the PA in order to ensure national and demographic consistency on both sides of the future border. The results showed that even in Umm el-Fahm, a Muslim Arab-Israeli city controlled by the Islamic Movement, well over 80 percent of the city’s residents

claimed they wanted to remain in Israel and retain Israeli citizenship in any peace accords with the Palestinian Authority.²⁵

The Islamic Movement in Israel is theologically akin to Hamas and denies Israel's right to exist as a Jewish State. Anti-Israel as they may be, its members served and serve on Arab municipal councils and were elected to Israel's parliament, the Knesset. The best example of this seeming contradiction is former Knesset member Abdulmalik Dehamshe, who served from 1996-2006. Dehamshe was not only a member of the Islamic Movement in Israel, but he also believes in the destruction of the Jewish State. As of the time of this writing, in the mixed municipalities of Akko, Ma'alot and Misgav, coalitions have developed where Arabs serve as deputy mayors, although their populations are one-third or less than the total population. All of this begs the question: why would Arabs in Israel want to live and serve under a "Nazi Zionist" regime and how do Israeli Arab Muslims view this "rule of injustice?"

“Allah does not forbid you to show kindness and act justly toward those who do not fight you on account of your religion, and do not drive you from your homes. Allah loves those who act justly” (Koran 60:8).

Islamists are not forbidden “to show kindness and act justly toward those” who are not doing battle against Muslims; however, a Muslim is not obligated to behave in a positive manner toward such people. The conclusion here is, a believer is not commanded to show these people mercy either—they are not Muslims and not deserving of simple mercies. A Muslim is permitted, however, to take extra steps to treat non-Muslims with kindness.

The Attempt to Isolate the Palestinian People

Article Thirty-Two

World Zionism and the colonialist powers attempt, by clever maneuvering and meticulous planning, to pull the Arab States, one by one, out of the circle of the conflict with Zionism, so as to ultimately isolate the Palestinian people. It has already taken Egypt out of the circle of conflict to a large extent through the treacherous Camp David Accords [of September 1978], and it is

²⁵ Dershowitz, Alan, *The Case for Israel*, John Wiley and Sons Inc., Hoboken, NJ, 2005, p. 223.

trying to pull additional [Arab] countries into similar agreements so that they leave the circle of conflict.

In Article 32, Hamas accuses worldwide-Zionism and the Western powers of trying to make peace. Hamas fully condemns all conflict resolution as agreed upon in the “Israel-Egyptian Peace Treaty” and the “Framework for Peace in the Middle East,” between Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in 1978-79 at Camp David, as well as what was achieved under the American auspices of President Jimmy Carter. The “Framework for Peace” obligates the parties to work for a “full and comprehensive peace,” and was meant to include every state in the region putting an end to all conflict. Peace is founded on mutual recognition, secure, recognized boundaries and normalization.

Hamas condemned Egypt for leaving the conflict and would condemn Jordan for its peace agreement with Israel in 1994, fifteen years later. The Egyptian wing of the Muslim Brotherhood assassinated President Sadat in October of 1981. Thirty years earlier, in July 1951, a member of the Muslim Brotherhood assassinated King Abdullah I of Jordan after it became known that he secretly initiated peace talks with Israel in late 1950. Israel and Jordan were on the verge of ending the conflict. From Israel’s inception the Muslim Brotherhood is consistent in its efforts to halt the peace process.

The Islamic Resistance Movement calls upon all the Arab and Muslim peoples to strive seriously and diligently to prevent this horrible scheme, and to alert the masses to the danger inherent in leaving the circle of the conflict with Zionism. Today it is Palestine, and tomorrow some other country or countries, for the Zionist plan has no limits, and after Palestine they want to expand [their territory] from the Nile to the Euphrates, and when they finish devouring one area, they hunger for further expansion and so on, indefinitely. Their plan is expounded in *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, and their present [behavior] is the best proof for what we are saying.

Hamas lambastes the Camp David Accords as a “horrible scheme,” citing supposed Zionist plans for expanding from the Nile to the Euphrates, all the while not explaining the apparent contradiction of Israel’s second return of Sinai to Egyptian rule by 1982 as part of the 1979 Peace Agreement. The first time Israel returned Sinai to Egypt was in 1957 after the 1956 Sinai Campaign. As well,

Hamas negates Israel's and Jordan's reconciliation and mutual recognition of each other's independence and territorial integrity. Geographically, Sinai sits between Israel's Negev Desert and the Nile River of Egypt, while the entire Jordanian kingdom is located between the Jordan River and Iraq, home of the Euphrates. The Camp David Accords and peace agreement with Jordan lay bare the outright lies and perfidy of Hamas claims on this issue.

Hamas used Protocols as their ultimate truth despite hard facts to the contrary. Article 32 shows the complete Hamas endorsement of all the false accusations made in The Protocols of the Elders of Zion. A supposed "Jewish super-state" is discussed (Protocol 5, Clause 11 and Protocol 9, Clause 3), but it does not define borders. Rather the Jews are accused of first devouring Europe over the ages and only finally coming to Jerusalem, which is found in the Introduction of the Protocols. Hamas transmits the same spirit of lies and deceit into the Middle East by claiming, "the Zionist plan has no limits" and using as supposed proof the desire to capture land from the Nile to the Euphrates.

Writing in *Mein Kampf*, Hitler claims that any Jewish State is "completely unlimited as to territory." He uses a racial explanation concerning the Jewish inability to live in a finite region as the reason for a borderless state that attempts to dominate the world. Hamas does not use racial terms but makes the same claim stating, "When they [the Jews] finish devouring one area, they hunger for further expansion and so on, indefinitely."

Following the Nazi lead, Hamas embraced *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* as a fundamental text in its war for Jewish destruction. Whereas the Nazis succeeded in murdering six million Jews, Hamas is still in the declarative state of calling for the death of the Jews (Article 7) and a Jihad or Holy War to accomplish that mission (in particular Articles 8,13, 15, 33 and quotes below).

Leaving the circle of the conflict with Zionism is an act of high treason; all those who do this shall be cursed. "Whoever [when fighting the infidels] turns his back to them, unless maneuvering for battle or intending to join another [fighting] company, he incurs Allah's wrath, and his abode shall be hell. Most unfortunate is his fate" (Koran 8:16).

In this passage of *The Hamas Covenant*, anyone making a peace agreement with Israel is engaged in "high treason" and will be damned to hell. Logically, assassination of such traitors is not only legitimate, but obligatory.

All forces and capabilities must be pooled to confront this ferocious Mongol, Nazi onslaught, lest homelands be lost, people be exiled, evil spread on the earth and all religious values

be destroyed. Each and every person should know that he is responsible to Allah.

“Anyone who does a grain’s weight of good shall see it, and anyone who does a grain’s weight of evil shall see it” (Koran 99:7-8).

In the circle of the conflict against world Zionism, the Islamic Resistance Movement sees itself as a spearhead or as a step forward on the road [to victory]. It joins its efforts to the efforts of all those who are active in the Palestinian arena. It now remains for steps to be taken by the Arab and Islamic world. [The Islamic Resistance Movement] is well qualified for the upcoming stage [of the struggle] with the Jews, the warmongers.

“We have planted enmity and hatred among them [i.e., among the Jews] until the Day of Resurrection. Every time they kindle the fire of war, Allah extinguishes it. They strive to spread evil upon the earth, and Allah does not love those who do evil” (Koran 5:64).

Hamas views the Jews and Zionism as the ultimate evil. The Arab Islamic world must aid in the destruction of the Jews and their state. Jihad is the only answer against Zionism and the Jews—notice once again there is no differentiation. The Koranic verse refers to the Jews and is a continuation of two previous verses (5:62-63), which accuse the Jews of being blasphemous and doing evil. Hamas attempts to demonstrate Divine proof of satanic-Jewish intrigues.

Article Thirty-Three

The Islamic Resistance Movement - proceeding from these general concepts which are in harmony and agreement with the laws of nature, and following the current of divine destiny toward confrontation with the enemies and jihad against them in defense of Muslims, Islamic civilization and Islamic sanctities, primarily the Al-Aqsa mosque - calls on the Arab and Islamic peoples and their governments, and on their NGOs and official organizations, to fear Allah in their attitude toward the

Islamic Resistance Movement and in their treatment of it. They should act toward it as Allah wants them to, namely back it, support it, assist it and continuously reinforce it, until Allah's word is fulfilled. Then the ranks will all be united, jihad fighters will join other jihad fighters, and the masses all over the Islamic world will rush out and answer the call of duty, shouting: "Hasten to jihad!" This call will penetrate the clouds in the sky and continue to ring out, until liberation is accomplished, the invaders are defeated and Allah's victory is revealed.

"Allah surely helps whoever helps Him; Allah is strong and mighty" (Koran 22:40).

Article 33 is the Hamas self-proclamation of Divinity. Hamas flows with Allah's "laws of nature" as it declares Jihad against its enemies. As a summation of previous articles, this is yet another call for total unity among Arab Muslims and the Islamic world to support and join the Jihad against Zionism (Israel) and the Jews. Heavily inferred is the unity necessary for universal Jihad.

**Chapter Five:
Historical Evidence Throughout the Generations
Regarding Confrontation with Aggressors**

Article Thirty-Four

Palestine is the center of the Earth and the meeting place of the continents; it has always been the target of greedy aggressors. This has been the case since the dawn of history. The Prophet, Allah's prayer and peace be upon him, points to this in his noble words with which he addressed his exalted companion, Mu'adh b. Jabal, saying: *"Oh Mu'adh, Allah will give you the land of Al-Sha'm after my death, from Al'Arish to the Euphrates. Its men, women and handmaids will be [constantly] stationed on the frontier until the Day of Resurrection, for any one of you who chooses [to live in] some part of the coastal plains of Al-Sha'm or Bayt Al-Maqdis [i.e., Palestine], will be in a [constant] state of jihad until the Day of Resurrection."*

The aggressors coveted Palestine on many occasions. They attacked it with great armies in attempt to realize their greedy aspirations. The great armies of the Crusaders came there, bringing their religious creed and hoisting their cross. They managed to defeat the Muslims for a while, and the Muslims only managed to regain it when they fought under their religious banner, joined forces crying “Allah Akbar,” and set forth in jihad under the command of Salah Al-Din AlAyyubi for nearly two decades, which led to a clear victory: the Crusaders were defeated and Palestine was liberated.

According to Islam, the Christian Crusaders lost to Jihad and now it is the Jew’s turn to suffer defeat in the never-ending battle for an Islamic Palestine. “Palestine is the center of the Earth” and has known many wars and will continue to be a battlefield until the Day of Resurrection or the End Time. The Islamic invasion led by the Caliph Omar in 638 captured the Land of Israel/Palestine from the Christian Byzantines. This is further emphasized by the Prophet Mohammed’s promise to give Mu’adh b. Jabal “the land from El Arish to the Euphrates.” Notice that the Prophet Mohammed himself refers to the Holy Land as “Bayt Al-Maqdis.” This is a direct translation from the Hebrew “Bet Hamikdash,” meaning “The House of the Holy,” or the Temple. Here we have another full admission in Islamic literature of the Jewish connection to Jerusalem and the Land of Israel.

“Say to the unbelievers: You will surely be defeated and gathered in Hell. Most terrible shall be your resting-place” (Koran 3:12).

By quoting Koran 3:12, *The Hamas Covenant* implies and accuses both Christians and Jews as “unbelievers.” In this instance the verse is used out of context, as its true reference is to “Pharaoh’s people” or idolaters/polytheists as cited in the previous two Koranic verses 3:10-11. This Koranic quote is purposefully taken out of context and used as “proof” of Christian and Jewish non-belief and condemnation to Hell.

The Hamas Covenant builds new theological contexts. Some refer to *The Hamas Covenant* as “The Charter of Allah,” which is now holy writ. Koran Chapter 3 begins, “He has revealed to you the Book with the truth confirming the scriptures which preceded it; for he has already revealed the Torah and the Gospel for the guidance of men, and the distinction between right and wrong” (Koran 3:2-3). This Koranic quote is at least a partial endorsement of Judaism and Christianity, not a condemnation of these two religions as Hamas would have us believe.

However, the Hamas text is full of hatred and Jihad and could not allow belief that any good could come from Christianity or Judaism.

This is the only way to liberation, and one cannot doubt the testimony of history. This is one of the rules of the universe and the laws of reality. Only iron can break iron, and their false, fabricated faith can only be overcome by the true faith of Islam, for religious faith cannot be attacked except through religious faith. And truth shall eventually triumph, for truth is the strongest.

“We have already given Our Word to Our servants, the messengers, that they would be helped to victory and that Our army will triumph” (Koran 37:171-173).

By innuendo, Hamas accuses Judaism and Christianity of being a “false, fabricated faith” to be defeated by the true devotion of Islam. The quote from the Koran concerns idol worshipers, as can be noted in the previous verses (37:158-170). Once again, *The Hamas Covenant* attempts to manipulate readers by quoting the Koran completely out of context to ensure condemnation of Christians and Jews.

Article Thirty-Five

The Islamic Resistance Movement studies the defeat of the Crusaders at the hands of Salah Al-Din Al-Ayyubi, the liberation of Palestine from them, as well as the defeat of the Mongols at ‘Ayn Jalut and the breaking of their military strength at the hands of Qutuz and Al-Zahir Baybars, and the delivery of the Arab world from the Mongol conquest which destroyed all aspects of human civilization. [14] [The Islamic Resistance Movement] studies these [events] seriously, and draws lessons and examples from them. The current Zionist invasion was preceded by Crusader invasions from the west, and by Mongol invasion from the east. And just as the Muslims faced these invasions, made plans for fighting them and defeated them, they can [now] confront the Zionist invasion and defeat it. This is not difficult for Allah, providing that intentions are sincere and resolve is strong, and that Muslims draw benefit from the

experiences of the past, shed off the influences of the intellectual invasion, and follow the ways of their predecessors.

Hamas believes the “Zionist invasion” will fail, as did the Christian Crusaders and the Mongols before them. Reading this far in *The Hamas Covenant*, one is expected to classify all invasions together as that of infidels to be destroyed by the Divine forces of the Islamic Jihad. The “intellectual invasion” is that of the secularists and Orientalists; these too will meet their demise at the hands of the Jihadists.

Conclusion:

The Islamic Resistance Movement-Soldiers [for the Cause]

Article Thirty-Six

The Islamic Resistance Movement, in its march forward, repeatedly emphasizes to all members of our people and of the Arab and Muslim peoples that it is not seeking fame for itself, or material gain, or social status, and that it is not aimed against any of our own people in an attempt to compete with them or to take their place - nothing of the kind. It does not oppose any Muslim, or any non-Muslim who is peaceful toward it, here [in Palestine] or elsewhere. It will always offer nothing but help to all groups and organizations that strive against the Zionist enemy and against its lackeys.

The Islamic Resistance Movement adopts Islam as its way of life. [Islam] is its creed and its law. [Any group that] adopts Islam as its way of life, here or elsewhere - be it an organization, association, state or any other group - the Islamic Resistance Movement will serve as its soldiers. We ask Allah to guide us, to guide [others] through us, and to judge between us and our people with truth.

“Oh, Lord, judge between us and our people with truth. You are the best of judges” (Koran 7:89).

At the end, we beseech: Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Universe.

Hamas poses as an altruistic movement claiming it seeks no fame in its Jihad, seeking only mutual aid and friendship to all those who do battle against Zionism. It does not oppose “any non-Muslim who is peaceful toward it,” meaning those subservient, non-Muslims accepting Islamic religious law relegating them to the *dhimma* status and not asserting themselves in any independent manner—this being the condition for peace (see HC Article 31). Islam is the way of life for the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas. Anyone adopting Islam in the same manner as determined by Hamas will find support from Hamas as allies and soldiers.

Endnotes from Memri Translation

- [1] Islamonline,
<http://www.islamonline.net/Arabic/doc/2004/03/article11.SH>
TML.
- [2] Hasan al-Banna (1906-1949) founded the Muslim Brotherhood in 1928 and was its Director General until his assassination in 1949.
- [3] Amjad Al-Zahawi was an Iraqi Sunni religious scholar who was affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood and active in various initiatives to support the Palestinian cause.
- [4] Hamas is the Arabic acronym for Islamic Resistance Movement (*harakat al-muqawama al-islamiyya*); it is also an Arabic word meaning enthusiasm, ardor or zeal.
- [5] Due to the importance of the concept of Jihad in the Hamas ideology, we leave this term in Arabic wherever it appears in the text.
- [6] The verses of Muhammad Iqbal (1873-1938), an Indian Muslim poet and religious thinker, are often used by both reformist and conservative Muslims in support of their opposite orientations.
- [7] This is an oft-quoted verse by the famous pre-Islamic poet Tarafa.
- [8] In medieval Islamic writings, Al-Sha'm usually refers to an area roughly corresponding to present-day Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria.
- [9] The word “nationalism” here and elsewhere in this document is used as the equivalent of the term *wataniyya*, which is derived from the Arabic word *watan* (“homeland”), and in modern

Arabic discourse signifies particularist territorial nationalism, in contradistinction to *qawmiyya*, which also means “nationalism,” but is used to refer to panArab nationalism.

- [10] The phrase “the followers of the Islamic movements” is used here to translate the Arabic term *al-islamiyyun*.
- [11] In the Arabic original the verse is mistakenly given as 3:102.
- [12] This is a well-known Hadith (i.e., a saying attributed to the Prophet).
- [13] These are two oft-quoted verses by the seventh century poet Miskin al-Darimi.
- [14] Saif Al-Din Qutuz (d. 1260) was the Mamluk Sultan of Egypt from 1257 until his death. In 1260, the commander of his army, Al-Zahir Baybars (1223-1277), defeated the Mongols in the battle of Ain-Jalut. Copyright© 2006 The Middle East Media Research Institute

Summary and Conclusion

The Muslim Brotherhood and its Palestinian Arab faction Hamas fully believe in the superiority of Muslims above all others. In their minds, Islam is the perfect religion and a calling all humanity should accept. A Holy War, or Jihad, is to be waged against all who deny such “truths” and the deniers will be defeated just like the Mongols, Crusaders and the People of the Book were in previous centuries. The People of the Book are expected to be granted the right to exist under Islamic rule provided they adhere to certain harsh stipulations known as the Charter of Omar (see Chapter I “Negative Image of the Jew”).

Islamists such as those belonging to Hamas believe Jews and Christians should only be allowed *dhimmi* “advantages” as the People of the Book. Yet the contradiction exists in the more extreme punishments allocated for the Jews. In the Introduction to *The Hamas Covenant*, the reference to Israel by Hasan al-Banna—both the state and people—shows them slated for abolishment. Immediately afterward, in the Preamble, Hamas identifies the Jews as the overall enemy. Not only are Arab Muslims to defeat Zionism and take back Palestine, but they are to kill the Jews, as is explicitly declared in Article 7. At this point, Jews slide from *dhimmi* status to dehumanization. This downgrading follows the process, which began in Czarist Russia and culminated in the “The Final Solution” of Nazi Germany. In the finale the Jews are to suffer a total loss of rights and the vast majority is to be annihilated.

The Hamas Covenant is at least as much an antisemitic document par excellence as it is an Islamic call to action. Although extremist Islamist regimes existed in the past, the venom spewed here against Jews shifts closer in line with the *Protocols* and Hitler's *Mein Kampf* than it does to other Islamist works from the past. Hamas takes a major step in favor of the Nazi option of extermination through its constant demand for Jihad against the Jews. Only a tiny number of completely submissive Jews will be allowed to survive. As a window into the Muslim Brotherhood worldwide, *The Hamas Covenant* exposes the shift from traditional Islamic repression and institutionalized antisemitism, as legislated through the Charter of Omar and *dhimma* stipulations, to the adaptation of a grand policy of near total Jewish extermination.

As for Christianity, the West, the Far East and everywhere else around the globe, humanity will either convert to Islam or be subject to its universal government and legal system upon the inevitable Jihadist victory. Secular states populated by Muslims are to be destroyed and replaced by Islamist entities. Hamas is one cog in the wheel, using the Israel/Palestinian front as their sector in the universal Jihad. Focusing on Israel and Palestine gives Hamas the veneer of a territorially-based regional nationalism, downplaying the organization's continual claim of fulfilling its role in world Islamic conquest.

The most dangerous aspect of *The Hamas Covenant* is that it is defined as the word of Allah, indisputable, never to be changed. The Hamas authors believe in a Divine decree to destroy Jews. The world is to face Jihad until there are no challenges anywhere to the absolutist Hamas Islamist doctrines or "truths."

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