

The Role of Qatar in Promoting Jihad through the Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas

Qatar is not a neutral mediator but rather a state that provided Hamas with political sanctuary, financial lifelines, ideological reinforcement, and global reach.

By Jonathan D. Halevi



Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani. (Official Photo/The Amiri Diwan)

- In a previous article,¹ it was revealed based on documents seized by the IDF in Gaza that the Hamas leadership viewed Qatar as a close and preferred ally over Egypt, thanks to the Qatari support of Hamas to advance its objectives.
- Qatar's financial support continued even when the Hamas leadership repeatedly and publicly announced its preparations, in coordination with the Shiite front—Iran and its proxies in the Middle East—for the "Promise of the Hereafter Battle" to eliminate the State of Israel and to reshape the map of the Middle East, ultimately leading to the establishment of an Islamic State on the ruins of the pro-Western Arab states.
- New documents reveal that the Hamas leadership devised from Qatar the attack plan to eliminate the State of Israel, which was eventually executed on October 7, 2023, as well as the intention to establish a wide-ranging terror infrastructure in several European countries that was poised to carry out a series of terrorist attacks.
- Qatar has supported and continues to support organizations that bring together senior Muslim religious leaders. These leaders hold significant spiritual authority in the Sunni Islamic world and openly advocate for jihad as a means of spreading Islam. They also call for the

elimination of the State of Israel and endorse acts of violence, including genocide, against the Jewish people in the Land of Israel.

- Furthermore, aid funds transferred from Qatar to charity associations and UNRWA in the Gaza Strip were diverted in part to support Hamas's military wing, the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades.

Qatar Denies Providing Financial Support for Hamas's Terrorist Infrastructure

On October 7, 2025, Tucker Carlson, an American commentator who openly supports Qatar, interviewed the Prime Minister of Qatar, Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, for the second time that year. During the interview, Carlson asked him a question regarding Qatar's relationship with Hamas, similar to one he had asked in their previous discussion. The Prime Minister provided a response that echoed his earlier answer.²

Al Thani reiterated that the American administration requested Qatar to host the Hamas office in Doha and to establish communication channels with Hamas to promote peace. He dismissed allegations regarding the transfer of money to Hamas, asserting that the Israeli government supervised the aid entering Gaza.

Carlson recently mocked U.S. lawmakers who accused Qatar of financing terrorism, specifically calling out Senator Ted Cruz. In response, the Qatari Prime Minister criticized “politicians who try to exploit this issue for short-term political gains to support their narratives.” On January 20, 2024, Benjamin Weinthal reported that documents obtained by Fox News Digital indicate that Qatar hired a former CIA agent's company to discredit Cruz, and other lawmakers who oppose Hamas and its parent organization, the Muslim Brotherhood.³

Here are excerpts from the interview:⁴

Carlson:

Thank you, Sheikh Mohammed for doing this. Have you been reading your, the coverage on American social media of this?

Al Thani:

Well, actually I've been going through some of them this morning. I saw like a lot of contradicting messages.

Carlson:

Pretty intense, I'd say. This country [Qatar] is being denounced [mocking tone] as a terror state, terror financing. Very high volume, lots of attacks, including from politicians, sitting US senators, Ted Cruz, for example. And the main criticism seems to revolve around Hamas. And the idea is that your country and you specifically are supporters of Hamas, you are terror financiers. And I'd like to just get right to the truth of that. So my understanding is Hamas is here in Doha because the United States and Israel asked you to host Hamas. Is that true? And if not, what is the truth about Hamas in Doha?

Al Thani:

Thank you. Thank you, Tucker. First of all, like the starting of the relationship with Hamas and the communication was started back more than 10 years, 13 years ago at the request of United States. Even beyond that, like it was 19 years ago when they [Hamas] first participated in the election. And then when they [Hamas] moved their office back in 2012 here, it was used only for the communication and to facilitate like ceasefire, facilitating aids to Gaza. Now, unfortunately, Qatar has been attacked for having them here. But when you look at what's happening within the region, this region, when you look at its conflict, it has the parties of the conflict. Sometimes they are state actors, sometimes they are non-state actors. If you have no one speaking to those non-state actors, how we are going to resolve or to reach to a solution at the end of the day. And now we have seen that this communication has led to ceasefire, has led to the release of the hostages, has led to elevating the suffering of the people over there. And unfortunately, you know, there are like politicians who are trying to use this for the score like short-term political gains to fuel their narratives in order to like, you know, using Qatar to blame another country for what's happening over there or for their wrong policies. All our aid and all our support in financing that went and what they claim that it went to Hamas, went to Gaza, went to the people and was under very transparent process that United States is fully aware about. Israel is the one who's facilitating and it's not one government. It was across [Israeli] governments, [Benjamin] Netanyahu, [Naftali] Bennett. We have dealt with all the agencies. [Yair] Lapid was a prime minister at a certain point of time, Mossad, Shin Bet [also known as the Shabak or ISA, Israel Security Agency], the Minister of Foreign Affairs, all of the defense. All of them, they were involved in these aids and the delivery of those aids. So today, when they are claiming that this financing of, this is the financing of Qatar to Hamas, it has no basis. It's just, you know, a way to spread this information about a country that doesn't do anything for them, but it's doing things that are, against their policies. If you just go to Qatar Records with an, in its engagement with the United States for the last 20 years or 30 years, Qatar has never went to United States and, you know, encouraging them to bomb this country or to support this group or to that group. We've been always in our dialogues with the United States about how we de-escalate the region, how we bring peace to the region. And this peace cannot happen without an engagement with everyone in the region.

The Hamas Leadership in Qatar Outlines the Operational Plan for the Elimination Of Israel

On September 25, 2016, Hamas leader Khaled Mashal participated in a conference held by the Al Jazeera Research Center in the city of Doha in Qatar, titled "The Changes in Islamic Movements."⁵

In his speech at the conference, Mashal stated that the Hamas movement benefited from the changes in Islamic movements in 2012. According to Mashal, Hamas received support from Turkey, Egypt, and Qatar, which helped it manage its military campaign against Israel, and it continues to commit to the path of "resistance," which refers to armed struggle.

On September 29, 2016, Mashal and his deputy, Ismail Haniyeh, attended an event in Doha commemorating the 86th Saudi National Day. Haniyeh had been in Qatar since September 17, having arrived there after completing a pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia.⁶

In September 2016, the presence of Hamas leadership in Qatar served a significant purpose. A top-secret document, dated December 21, 2016, and authored by Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman, was sent to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. This document revealed that

from September 25 to 27, 2016, the executive committee of the Hamas movement engaged in a series of discussions in Qatar.⁷

According to the classified document, in the meetings of the executive committee participated "senior leaders of the movement, both from the representatives of the 'exterior' (led by Mashal), and also from the senior political leadership in Gaza (in the discussion participated, in addition to Haniyeh, also Ruhi Mushtaha - holder of the economy portfolio and secretary of the political bureau in the Strip; Nizar Awadallah - head of the finance office; Nasser Malouh - head of the works department and responsible for the military portfolio in the 'exterior' [leadership outside Palestine]."

The Israeli defense minister highlighted in the classified document sent to Netanyahu that during these meetings, the movement's "Liberation Strategy" was outlined, aiming to destroy the State of Israel and achieve the "liberation of all the territory of Palestine by the year 2022."

The Israeli defense minister noted in this document that "Qatar is the only actor that has access to, and influence over, both the political and military leadership of Hamas."

Qatar's support for the Gaza Strip, the Hamas regime in Gaza, and the advancement of Hamas's objectives took place during the years when Hamas leaders were focused on developing the organization's military wing. They established a large-scale local weapons manufacturing industry, built an extensive network of over 600 kilometers of military tunnels, devised a plan for a large-scale military attack against Israel, formed an army of thousands of fighters, and engaged intensively in military training and preparations for executing the attack, which was ultimately carried out on October 7, 2023.

The leadership of Hamas put forth a plan for a military attack aimed at destroying the State of Israel as early as 2014. This plan was termed the "The Promise of the Hereafter Battle."⁸ In the same year, the "The Promise of the Hereafter Institute" was established in Gaza to provide a clear vision for those responsible for liberating Palestine.⁹

Lieberman described Hamas's offensive plan in a classified document presented to Netanyahu in December 2016. The plan includes the following elements:

"Hamas intends to move the next conflict to Israeli territory, while pouring significant and well-trained forces (Nuhba forces, for example) into Israeli territory, while drying up an Israeli settlement (and perhaps even several settlements) in the Gaza enclave, and taking hostages, which, in addition to physically harming the people themselves, will lead to severe damage to the consciousness and morale of Israeli citizens."

"Hamas intends to shift the next conflict into Israeli territory, deploying significant and well-trained forces, such as the Nukhba [elite] forces. They plan to target Israeli settlements—potentially several within the Gaza enclave—while also taking hostages. [This strategy aims] not only to physically harm individuals but also to severely impact the consciousness and morale of Israeli citizens."¹⁰

On April 19, 2017, Netanyahu presented the military attack plan formulated by Hamas, stating:

The operational plan that it [Hamas] prepared was a combined, multi-pronged attack. The first phase involved an air assault, meaning a missile attack on Israeli cities with thousands of missiles. Simultaneously, there would be an attack by sea using naval commando raiding

forces and also an aerial component employing paragliders. On land, under the land, they aim to infiltrate through numerous tunnels they had constructed, some of which had already crossed into our territory. They had trained special forces with the intention of deploying up to the size of a battalion through these tunnels to kidnap and kill individuals in settlements and outposts... I defined the threat posed by these tunnels as a strategic one because I believed that a surprise attack, as planned by Hamas, would involve them penetrating into settlements, seizing and occupying them for the first time since 1948. I thought there was a significant threat in this regard.¹¹

Genocide: The Foundation of the Plan to Destroy the State of Israel

Hamas leaders have frequently portrayed the “The Promise of the Hereafter Battle” as a step towards the complete destruction of Israel. On September 30, 2021, the “Promise of the Hereafter” conference was held in Gaza, organized under the auspices of Yahya Sinwar, the Hamas leader in the Gaza Strip, along with senior Hamas officials and representatives from other organizations. This conference marked a significant milestone in the ideological preparation for the liberation of Palestine. Participants discussed plans for the future governance of the State of Palestine in various sectors, following its “liberation” from Israel, which they believe will no longer exist. At the conclusion of the conference, attendees published a list of “action ideas for the liberation of Palestine” after the anticipated disappearance of Israel.¹²

Canaan Abid, the chairman of the Promise of the Hereafter Conference, stated at the conference's opening that the objective of the "Promise of the Hereafter Battle" is to remove Israel from existence, liberate Palestine, and establish an Islamic state. In his speech, Abid also outlined strategies for redistributing the lands, facilities, and properties currently held by Jews to Palestinian occupiers.¹³

Palestinian MP Atef Adwan, a prominent advocate for the military destruction of the State of Israel as part of the "Promise of the Hereafter Battle," has cited historical justification for the removal of Jews from all of Palestine referencing the complete expulsion of the Jewish community from the Arabian Peninsula during the time of the Prophet Muhammad.¹⁴

A few months before the "Promise of the Hereafter" conference was held in Gaza, Adwan estimated that 1 to 2 million Jews would leave Palestine before the military campaign escalated. He suggested that once airports were attacked and ground forces advanced into Israeli territory, Arab and Islamic countries, along with friendly nations, should assist in evacuating the remaining Jewish population from Palestine using large civilian ships.

Qatar's Support for Jihadist Clerics

Qatar has collaborated with the International Union of Muslim Scholars (IUMS - الاتحاد العالمي لعلماء المسلمين), which was established in Doha in 2004 by Sheikh Yusuf Qaradawi. This organization is affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood movement and promotes a staunch commitment to jihad for the liberation of Palestine.

On May 10-11, 2006, the International Union of Muslim Scholars hosted representatives from Palestinian terrorist organizations in Qatar. This event was led by Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Popular Front General Command, along with senior leaders from various Islamic movements around the world.¹⁵

At the end of the conference, the participants issued a joint statement, in which they defined the financial jihad in support of the Palestinian people in their struggle against Israel as a religious duty, justified the Palestinian people's jihad to liberate "historical" Palestine from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea—meaning the destruction of Israel, and asserted that that no one has the right to prohibit jihad as a means of action to liberate Palestine or to damage the reputation of the mujahideen.

On October 11, 2023, the International Union of Muslim Scholars, based in Doha, Qatar, issued a statement, alongside other Islamic organizations. They declared that the Muslim community must support the "heroic mujahideen" who executed the attack on October 7, 2023, and who have since been engaged in a military campaign against Israel.¹⁶

The statement called on "the entire Islamic nation—its leaders, governments, and peoples—to support the Palestinian people and the heroic resistance fighters in their struggle against the occupation. It emphasized the need to defend Al-Aqsa Mosque, Al-Quds (Jerusalem), and the Palestinian cause."

Additionally, it urged that support for the "resistance heroes" be provided through all legitimate means, including material, moral, political, and media channels. A prayer was offered to Allah for their victory and the eventual liberation of Palestine.

On October 12, 2023, the International Union of Muslim Scholars released an official statement. They clarified that the opening of the Al-Aqsa Flood Battle was meant to protect the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Consequently, they emphasized that Muslims have a duty to actively participate in the defense of the Gaza Strip.¹⁷

On April 9, 2025, the Islamic Legal Advisory Board of the International Union of Muslim Scholars issued a statement declaring that Muslims and Islamic countries are obligated to wage jihad against what they refer to as the "Zionist entity." The committee emphasized the importance of providing the Mujahideen with the necessary military equipment and intelligence information to carry out this endeavor.¹⁸

There have been strong connections over the years between the leadership of the Qatari regime and the International Union of Muslim Scholars. On January 4, 2009, the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, met with a delegation from the International Union of Muslim Scholars, led by Sheikh Yusuf al-Qaradawi, to discuss the conflict in the Gaza Strip.¹⁹

On November 1, 2010, Sheikh Yusuf al-Qaradawi, President of the International Union of Muslim Scholars (IUMS), inaugurated the permanent headquarters of the organization in Doha. This establishment was made possible with the support of the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani. Qaradawi expressed gratitude to Qatar for providing the land for the IUMS headquarters and for supporting its various activities.²⁰ In this context, an editorial in the Qatari newspaper Al-Raya highlighted the strong support of the Emir of Qatar for IUMS, of which Qaradawi is the president.²¹

In 2011, the International Union of Muslim Scholars collaborated with Qatari Charity to implement a project aimed at aiding drought victims in Somalia.²²

On May 15, 2012, the Qatari Crown Prince, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, allocated a plot of land designated for an Islamic endowment supporting the International Union of Muslim Scholars' "Revival of the Nation" project.²³

On February 14, 2022, the Emir of Qatar met with Dr. Ahmed Al-Raisouni, President of the International Union of Muslim Scholars, to discuss areas of cooperation between Qatar and IUMS.²⁴

On January 26, 2023, Qatar Charity launched the second phase of an economic empowerment project aimed at assisting underprivileged families in Somalia, with the presence of Sheikh Ali Al-Qara Daghi, President of the International Union of Muslim Scholars.²⁵

On May 22, 2025, the Al-Tawasul News Agency reported on a meeting between the Minister of Islamic Affairs of Mauritania and Sheikh Ali Al-Qara Daghi, the President of the International Union of Muslim Scholars. Sheikh Al-Qara Daghi was accompanied by a delegation from the Qatar Charity, which was led by Sheikh Hamad bin Nasser, the Qatari Minister of State and grandson of Qatar's founder.²⁶

The report further stated that "the International Union of Muslim Scholars comprises religious scholars and theologians from the global organization of the Muslim Brotherhood." During the meeting, the parties discussed "strengthening ties between the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and the International Union of Muslim Scholars, as well as the implementation of an agreement related to projects executed by Qatar Charity in Mauritania."²⁷

The Palestine Scholars Association (PSA - هيئة علماء فلسطين), which is affiliated with Hamas, operates in cooperation with the International Union of Muslim Scholars. Nawaf Takrouri, the president of the Palestine Scholars Association, is one of the leading figures in Hamas²⁸ and also serves on the Board of Trustees of the International Union of Muslim Scholars.²⁹

On October 1, 2022,³⁰ the Palestine Scholars Association, based in Turkey, issued an official statement announcing that its president, Nawaf Takhruri, had ordered the establishment of a branch in Qatar. This decision came after consultations with senior officials, including those located in Qatar. Dr. Alaa Hosni was appointed to lead the preparatory committee for this new branch.³¹ It was reported on January 11, 2024, that the branch in Qatar had become operational, and the Palestine Scholars Association actively participated in the general assembly of the International Union of Muslim Scholars.³²

On November 13, 2023, the Palestine Scholars Association issued a statement in support of Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and other Palestinian organizations engaged in conflict against Israel. In reference to the military actions being carried out by the "resistance" in the Gaza Strip, the statement said:³³

"This is a holy jihad, the pinnacle of Islam. The courageous resistance is ours, and we are a part of it; we support those who stand by us and oppose those who do not. Anyone who supports Jews and Christians against Palestinians and Muslims is aligned with them."

The Palestine Scholars Association has stated that the land of Palestine is an Islamic sanctuary until the Day of Judgment. They claim that any usurper of Palestinian land, who occupies it and is associated with the military entity, is considered a fighter rather than a peaceful citizen, regardless of their gender or description.

The wording of this statement implies a justification for committing violence against Jews and other minorities, as any non-Muslim residing in Palestine is labeled a "fighter" for being a "usurper of Palestinian land." According to Islamic law, it is permissible to kill fighters as part of jihad.

Among the Islamic institutions and Muslim scholars who signed the statement is Nawaf Takhruri. On October 7, 2023, shortly after the "Al-Aqsa Flood" attack began, he issued a statement urging Muslims to carry out mass killings of Jews in Palestine and beyond as part of the campaign to liberate Palestine. Below are Takhruri's remarks:³⁴

This is truly the battle of Al-Aqsa. Long live the men of Al-Qassam and all the mujahideen who have declared their war against this enemy in support of Al-Aqsa and in defense of our defenseless people in Jerusalem and the West Bank. Long live the men of resistance and jihad, and we say: it is obligatory upon all Muslims everywhere - in the West Bank, Jerusalem, and our land occupied in 48 - to come out with all their capabilities and to use whatever weapons they have in their hands to disturb the sleep of this enemy and tear it apart with all means and everything possible. Use, our people in 48, the weapons you have in your hands, which the usurping entity wanted to create to sow discord among you - use them now to kill the usurping aggressors and repel their aggression on our vast and complete land. And you, people of the West Bank, your turn has come and your mission has been doubled - come on, go out young men! Whoever has any hunting weapon, no matter what it is, aim it toward the usurpers. And you, people of Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria - wherever you can, bypass every defeatist and reach the borders to confront this enemy with all capabilities. And you, sons of our nation everywhere - whoever has any of those usurping aggressors who roam in many of our countries under the title of normalization - do not leave any of them unharmed, and practice supporting your mujahideen brothers so that this enemy knows that its battle is not where it determines but where it exists and where it attacks, and that the mujahideen in Gaza, even if they opened the door of battle, are part of it and the nation is with them with all its capabilities.

The League of Palestinian Scholars (رابطة علماء فلسطين) serves as a religious authority for the Hamas movement. Its leaders are senior Hamas activists, and the organization is closely linked to the International Union of Muslim Scholars. This connection is evident through joint initiatives and direct contact between the two organizations. For instance, in 2020, Marwan Abu Ras, a senior figure in Hamas, served as the head of the League of Palestinian Scholars while also leading the Gaza branch of the International Union of Muslim Scholars.³⁵

On June 27, 2025, the League of Palestinian Scholars alongside the Palestine Scholars Association, clerics who are members of the International Union of Muslim Scholars, and hundreds of clerics from around the Muslim world signed the "Charter of the Islamic Nation's Religious Scholars regarding the Al-Aqsa Flood and Its Implications." The following are excerpts translated by the MEMRI Institute from this charter, which was intended to provide legal legitimacy and support for Hamas's conduct, and to establish legal legitimacy for the October 7, 2023, attack carried out by Hamas ("the Al-Aqsa Flood").³⁶

Palestine is Islamic Land "From the River to the Sea"; Israel Is Illegitimate, Jihad Against It is a Duty

The first chapter of the charter, titled "The Islamic Position on the Occupation of Palestine and on the Zionist Entity," stipulates that all of Israel's territory is Islamic land, and therefore that Israel is illegitimate and the Muslims are obligated to fight it until it is eliminated. The chapter also states that

the resolutions recognizing Israel issued by the UN and other international bodies are null and void, and that peace and normalization agreements signed with it by several Arab states are likewise invalid because they imply recognition of Israel's existence. Moreover, the charter labels as a "traitor" anyone who is willing to concede any portion of this land as part of an agreement.

The charter says: "Palestine is Islamic from the river to the sea, from Ras Naqoura [in the north] to Umm Al-Rashrash [in the south], including Jerusalem and its environs; this has been the case since the Prophet Muhammad made his Night Journey [to Jerusalem] and descended from it to heaven, [and will remain the case] until Allah inherits the earth and everything in it.

"Islam is the identity of Jerusalem and Palestine, and Jerusalem is part of the Muslims' identity and is at the heart of the Islamic lands. Therefore, when an infidel takes control of [Palestine] and occupies it or any part of it, the Quran, the Sunna and ijma' [the consensus of Islamic scholars] obligate waging jihad against him. Nobody, no matter what his identity, is entitled to relinquish any part of Palestine's territory or abandon even an inch of it. Anyone who does so is a traitor; that is the consensus of the Muslim scholars. Jihad is incumbent upon the people of Palestine in particular and upon the Muslims in general, especially the clerics and the rulers, so as to liberate the [Muslims'] land, the [destination of] their Prophet's Night Journey [i.e., Jerusalem], and their prisoners..."

The charter proclaims that the Palestinian refugees' right of return is permanent and irrevocable: "The return of the people of Palestine to their land and the land of their fathers and forefathers, from which they were displaced, is a right and a duty that cannot be revoked on the grounds of the time that has elapsed and cannot be waived or [exchanged for] compensation, under any circumstances... The Zionist entity [Israel] is illegitimate from a shari'a perspective and lacks any legal basis. Resistance against it is a duty anchored in divine law, as well as in international laws and rules. The gangs of usurping Jews have no right to Palestine or to any part of it."

The charter states further that the normalization agreements signed with Israel by several Arab countries "do not invalidate the duty of waging jihad and resistance against it. [Such an agreement] is a baseless contract lacking any religious impact that does not in any way obligate the [Muslim] nation or the peoples of those countries..."

The Al-Aqsa Flood Was a Duty Carried Out on Behalf of Islam; Those Who Carried It Out Deserve Our Support

The charter's second chapter, titled "Principles of Shari'a Discourse regarding the Al-Aqsa Flood," discusses the legitimacy of Hamas' October 7, 2023 terror attack and its implications, seeking to rebuff the criticism voiced against Hamas in the Islamic world after this attack. The chapter first outlines the criteria for a valid religious ruling: it must be grounded in the Islamic sources, namely the Quran, the Prophet's Sunna and the consensus of religious scholars; it must not reflect the aspirations of the rulers, and its benefits must outweigh its costs, based on a calculation that considers both religious principles and pragmatic ones. Based on these principles, the charter states that "those who wage jihad for the sake of Allah – chief of them the jihad fighters in Jerusalem and its environs – are the best of the believers, who carry out this duty on behalf of the [Muslim] nation, and [therefore] they deserve loyalty, assistance and praise. [We must] advertise their virtues and achievements and reject the suspicions raised [against them] by ignorant or biased people. Raising doubts regarding the jihad of the jihad fighters and spreading them in the media and among the public is an act of impaired people who abandon [others in time of need] and avoid fulfilling their duties."

The charter stresses: "No cleric or preacher may prevent people from coming to the aid of the jihad fighters, [nor is permitted to] harm them or draw attention, in public and in times of war, to errors they made in matters of jurisprudence. The [correct] approach is to dispense advice in a friendly matter, in the suitable circumstances."

The Al-Aqsa Flood Was Defensive Jihad That Does Not Require the Approval of a Ruler; The Victims of the War Will Be Rewarded by Allah

The third chapter, titled "The Al-Aqsa Flood in the Scales of the Shari'a," addresses the claim that the October 7 attack was unjustified in light of the heavy price paid by the people of Gaza. The chapter begins by stating that the attack was defensive jihad, which does not require the approval of a ruler or for the attackers to be equal in strength to the enemy. It says: "The Al-Aqsa Flood was a link in the continuous chain of defensive jihad against the occupying Zionists and against the British, the Americans and others who have enabled them to [consolidate their presence in Palestine] for over a century... This is defensive jihad, [and embarking on it] does not require the approval of a ruler, a father or a husband, or [a state of] parity with the enemy in terms of manpower or gear. It was an organized collective action based on the decisions of the jihad fighters' leadership, and the condition [for its validity] was that all possible preparations had been made..."

The charter goes on to state: "The heavy price paid by the people of Gaza in the Al-Aqsa Flood war is no cause for regret or for a mental breakdown. On the contrary, it is a sign of righteous faith and great sacrifice. They sacrificed their lives and their property for the sake of Allah and fulfilled their sincere pledge of loyalty to Almighty God. Their reward is from Allah, Who honors those who give everything [they have] and grants bounty to those who give of themselves..."

The charter enjoins all Muslims, both rulers and subjects, to assist the jihad fighters in Gaza "with their lives, their wealth, their minds and their tongues, and not to make this assistance conditional upon being consulted..." The charter also holds the Muslim rulers responsible for withholding help from the jihad fighters and the people of Gaza, because the rulers "possess considerable military gear that fills their warehouses, purchased with vast sums of money belonging to the Muslims. They are [therefore] responsible before Allah for every drop of blood spilled and for all property and homes destroyed..."

Taking Up Arms is a Duty; Calling on the Resistance to Disarm is Treason Against Allah

Titled "Expulsion, Disarmament of the Resistance, and Starvation," the fourth chapter of the charter comes out against the calls to disarm Hamas and to expel the people of Gaza. The chapter proclaims it a "religious duty" to "obtain and prepare strength in all its forms in order to prevent aggression by the infidels against the Muslim lands, defend the [Muslims'] holy places, land, lives and property, and prevent their expulsion." It adds that "the shari'a prohibits every Muslim, both rulers and subjects, from demanding the disarmament of the resistance... [On the contrary], the resistance must be armed and provided with every means of power." The charter states that any demand of this sort constitutes "treason against Allah, His Prophet and the believers; a conspiracy against the Palestinian cause; abandonment of the Muslim holy sites, and a fulfillment of the goals of the enemies of the faith." Moreover, "the resistance forces must not heed the demand to disarm, for that would lead to great corruption, allow the enemy to achieve his aim for free, and [constitute an act of] willful self-destruction..."

The Islamic Nation Must Support the Palestinian Jihad and Raise All Its Sons to Wage Jihad

Having set out the religious justification for the October 7 terror attack, the charter outlines the Muslims' obligations towards those who carried it out, addressing different sectors: clerics, rulers, capitalists, academics, legal experts, media figures and the nation at large.

Clerics must "encourage the people to wage jihad and prepare for it, clarify how the shari'a regards the war against the Zionists and their allies, and inform the people about the laws of jihad and of assisting jihad..." The charter exhorts them to condemn fellow clerics "who lie, as well as faithful clerics who err or misunderstand some aspects of the Al-Aqsa Flood," and urges them to "mobilize all sectors of the nation and all of its resources to support the jihad fighters and aid the Palestinian cause in every way..."

The rulers must support the "Palestinian jihad fighters" in every way, both directly, with "the manpower, weapons and funds at their disposal," and indirectly, through international organizations. They must sever all relations and contacts with the "criminal Zionist enemy," for such contacts "lack religious validity" – otherwise they will be punished by Allah. The rulers must also allow the people "to support their brethren, the jihad fighters, and those around them," and "make it possible to train the [younger] generation for jihad, recruit young people to wage jihad for the sake of Allah, and liberate the Islamic holy sites." They are also warned against "tying the hands of the faithful clerics and preachers and preventing them from performing their duty of educating people to jihad..."

Capitalists must give of their wealth to the jihad fighters and provide them with all the weapons they need, while bearing in mind that this does not come at the expense of zakat.

Media figures must devote their efforts and use their influence in the media and social media to advocate for the jihad fighters in Gaza and Palestine. They must praise and exalt the jihad fighters' actions in order to foster Muslim support for them and fight "the false Zionist narrative about the Al-Aqsa Flood war."

Academics and legal experts must boycott any academic, cultural or media activity that "advocates normalization with the Zionist enemy, encourages it or involves Zionist participation." They must also encourage student movements that support the Palestinian cause and the Al-Aqsa war; conduct studies on the Al-Aqsa war and all its aspects, ramifications and regional and international implications, in ways that serves the plan of liberating Palestine from the filth of the occupiers"; file lawsuits against companies and bodies that "collaborate with the Zionist entity or support it"; clarify the legal non-validity of normalization agreements with the "Zionist entity" and file lawsuits against these agreements, and take part in legal action against Israel in the international courts, such as the International Criminal Court in the Hague or the International Court of Justice.

The entire nation must "raise its children on the principle of jihad and sacrifice, and teach them the history of the Palestinian cause and the stories of jihad and of the jihad fighters..."

The three organizations that unite senior clerics associated with the Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas have demonstrated their loyalty to Qatar during its challenging period amid the crisis in relations with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. On June 10, 2017, prominent clerics from the International Union of Muslim Scholars, the Palestine Scholars Association and the League of Palestinian Scholars signed a statement condemning the blockade imposed by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates on Qatar, declaring the action to be forbidden according to Islamic principles.³⁷

Hamas Leadership in Qatar: Involvement in Terrorism in Europe

On November 19, 2025, the Israeli Institute for Intelligence and Special Operations, known as the Mossad, revealed information about the involvement of Hamas leadership based in Qatar in the creation of a terrorist network across Europe. The details of this operation are outlined below:³⁸

“In a special operation by the Austrian State Security and Intelligence Directorate (DSN) in Vienna last September, a weapons hideout containing handguns and explosive devices was uncovered and confiscated. The investigation of those involved revealed that the items hidden in the cache belonged to Hamas operative Muhammad Na'im, the son of senior Hamas Political Bureau member abroad, Basem Na'im, who is close to Khalil al-Hayya, the Hamas leader in the Gaza Strip. The involvement of the organization's leadership from Qatar in promoting terrorist activities is not being exposed for the first time, even though the movement's senior officials have repeatedly denied it publicly, as part of their effort to protect the image of the Hamas organization in the eyes of international public opinion.

“As part of the investigation that exposed Muhammad Na'im's responsibility for building the terrorist infrastructure in Vienna, additional information emerged regarding a meeting held in Qatar between him and his father, Basem Na'im, a senior Hamas leader, last September. The meeting between the two at that time indicates a possible involvement of the Hamas leadership in promoting terrorism in Europe, with authorization for the movement's operatives to advance terrorism with authority and sanction. The sweeping denials by the movement's leadership on this matter can only attest to the leadership's loss of control over its rogue operatives.”

Qatari support for a Palestinian charity that assisted the Al-Qassam Brigades

On November 20, 2025, a spokesman for the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) released documents in Arabic that were reportedly obtained from Hamas. These documents outline how the organization directed funds from the charity Qawafel Al-Khair to finance the activities of its military wing, the Al-Qassam Brigades.

Hamas Document No. 1³⁹

The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas)
Amer Project and Ibad Al-Rahman Area [منطقة مشروع عامر وعباد الرحمن]

Dear brothers at Qawafel Al-Khair Association,
Peace be upon you and Allah's mercy and blessings.
May Allah protect you,

Subject: Request for Financial Assistance (200)

After greeting you with the remembrance of Allah, we send our best regards and sincere wishes, praying that this letter reaches you in good health. With reference to the aforementioned subject,

We kindly request your assistance for Mr. Moamen Yasser Abdul Raouf Kaskin [مؤمن ياسر عبد الرؤوف كسكين], ID number 405431503, mobile number 0597446730, to help him start his small project and support his means of livelihood.

The above-mentioned individual is unemployed, going through difficult financial circumstances, and needs help.

Please assist him, and may Allah reward you.

Attachment:

The brother's letter.

Your brothers,
The Administrative Committee
Amer and Ibad Al-Rahman Project

Hamam Document No. 2⁴⁰

Top Secret

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Special Report M.A.A

Monthly report for 04/2023, Issued on 20/05/2023

Report of the Home Front Division

First: Administrative Aspect

- Number of meetings: (0)

- No monthly meeting was held during the month due to the circumstances of blessed Ramadan and successive security incidents. Nevertheless, a number of individual follow-ups and periodic visits to all components were carried out.

2. Power Activities

- Force Commander:

- Visited colleagues in the Operations Branch - Organization and Combat Doctrine Department to discuss some amendments to the branch's organizational structures.

- Organized two visits for brother Abu Jamal Mushtaha [أبو جمال مشتھی], head of the financial department in the movement, to follow up on the disbursement of financial compensation to brothers whose houses were demolished in the Sword of Jerusalem 2021 battle and were not compensated by the Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

- Followed up on disbursement of Sword of Jerusalem 2021 battle compensations to 14 fighters, totaling \$545,970.

- Participated in several activities specific to the branch departments during Ramadan (such as iftars, live-in meetings).

- Organized the annual Ramadan iftar for all fighters working in the branch, attended by the commander brother Abu Ahmad Zakaria Abu Mu'amar [أبو أحمد زكريا أبو معمر].

- Conducted a survey of endowment lands belonging to the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs occupied by the military apparatus.
- Issued a report regarding the most prominent governmental activities and work during the period from 07/03 to 23/03 for all military apparatus forces.
- Approved the executive plan for the components of the Home Front Division for the year 2023.
- Received 430 communications, completed 428, and 2 are under follow-up; issued 341 communications, completed 338, and 3 are under follow-up.
- Disbursed \$120,000 from the apparatus leadership to release a plot of land for the military manufacturing division to a citizen from the Abu Aweimer [أبو عويمر] family.
- Disbursed \$52,000 from the apparatus leadership to the family of martyr Suhail Abu Nahl [سهيل أبو نحل].
- Total works in the sand and transportation activities within the construction and heavy equipment section and the economic services section of the department were as follows:
 - Excavator work: 163.5 hours
 - Dump truck: 28 trips
 - Loader: 17.5 hours
 - Truck transport: 23 trips
 - Clay transport: 77 trips
 - Fill transport: 20 trips
 - Sand transport: 37 trips
 - Gravel: 35 trips

Top Secret

- Completion of follow-ups with eight brothers in the Government Work Follow-up Committee and the Cabinet regarding resolving several unresolved issues for the military apparatus and its personnel with government institutions (land for Badr [بدر] - manufacturing, confirmation of the martyrdom of brother Abu Hosni Arafa [أبو حسني عرفة], assignment of brother Ibrahim Salah [إبراهيم صلاح], resumption of the salary for brother Hani Al-Dali [هاني الدالي], settlement of land status for a member from manufacturing, medical retirement certification for brother Abdul Raouf Muhanna [عبد الرؤوف مهنا], and the solid waste transfer station in the Central region).
- Preparation of three proposals to benefit from relief services offered by the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs, and from training courses in crisis and disaster management at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, following a study of the report of governmental activities and work. Also, preparation of a concept to benefit from the university degree clearance project for graduates and coordination with the Department for Follow-up of Mobilization Efforts.

Central Departments:

1. Relief and Supply Services Department

- Held and conducted several meetings and work visits with coordination entities, including: Qawafel al-Khair Association, leaders of home front units among the forces, and the [Ministry of] Social Development.

- Secured \$15,000 from Qawafel al-Khair Association for finishing the headquarters of 'Abeer Al-Wa'i' [عبير الوعي fragrance of awareness], which belongs to the Colleges and Institutes Authority.

- Provided 7,640 individual iftar meals via the [military] apparatus leader and central finance [department], and distributed 4,515 iftar meals across all components of the military apparatus according to regulations.

- Procured 342 kilograms of fresh veal from the finance department and Qawafel al-Khair Association.

- Delivered 1,545 food parcels from the finance department and generous donors; distributed 2,061 food parcels throughout the month to all military apparatus components as per regulations; also secured 950 bundles of bread for distribution among combat brigades.

- Allocated 170 purchase vouchers for Eid clothing for the military apparatus (at 100 and 110 shekels each), and distributed 30 more vouchers at 110 shekels for Eid clothing for the general public.

- Provided needs for the Home Front Command, including: a first aid kit, medical mattress, 70 kilograms of veal, two coat hangers, various work tools (axes, iron cutters, pliers, hammers, etc.) totaling 32 pieces.

Distribution of supplies to the military apparatus as follows: 100 school desks, 1 director's desk, 6 wooden columns, 4 iron electric poles, 5 wooden coat racks, 15 sets of assembled chairs.

Distribution of supplies to the military apparatus as follows: 6 foam mattresses for the Factions Coordination Department, 4 wooden electric poles for the Communications Department, 63 boxes of pasta for the Operations Division - Preparation and Training Department.

Completed the inventory, maintenance, reorganization, and arrangement tasks for Warehouse No. 4.

A Report from Qawafel Al-Khair, Dated May 2, 2018⁴¹

Date: May 2, 2018

Qatari Ambassador Abu Ismail Al-Emadi [أبو اسماعيل العمادي] visits a family home.

A delegation from the Qawafel Al-Khair Association, headed by Chairman of the Board Ahmed Abdel-Aal [أحمد عبدالعال] and Vice Chairman Salim Al-Shurafa [سليم الشرفا], welcomed Ambassador Al-Emadi at the home of the Sheikh [الشيخ] family following its inauguration. The visit aimed to showcase the completed project for the family, a two-story building of 110 square meters each, with columns already laid for a third floor.

Al-Emadi emphasized that Qatar, its Emir, government, and people, will not abandon or leave Gaza alone, regardless of the circumstances. He praised the professionalism and quality of the work, noting that the Qawafel Al-Khair Association executed and supervised the entire construction project.

Al-Emadi advised the family's youth to strive and work hard in life after this significant achievement.

Hajja Umm Jaber [أم جابر] and Hajj Abu Jaber [أبو جابر] thanked Ambassador Al-Emadi for his generosity and concern for the family. They also expressed their gratitude to the Emir of Qatar, Tamim, and the noble Qatari people, wishing them continued blessings and security.

#Palestine #Gaza

#Qawafel_Al_Khair

A Report from Qawafel Al-Khair, Dated June 15, 2019⁴²

Qatar Through the Eyes of Gaza Residents

Gaza – Al-Sharq

As it does every season, the Qawafel Al Khair Association carries out various charitable projects for the poor and needy in the Gaza Strip, supported by donations from generous individuals and philanthropists in the State of Qatar.

The need for charitable projects increases during the holy month of Ramadan, as poor families are in dire need of necessities for a decent life—especially given the ongoing blockade and successive wars that have worsened the suffering of the people.

With the start of Ramadan, the Qawafel Al Khair Association began implementing several projects to help the poor and needy in the Gaza Strip, thanks to the generous and popular support from the people of Qatar. Among these projects are:

- The "Umrah Visits" Project, which involves nighttime visits to the homes of the poor to discreetly deliver zakat and alms from donors to those who deserve them.
- The "Vegetable Baskets" Project, through which hundreds of baskets are distributed to poor families at the beginning of the holy month to ease their hardship.
- The "Goodness Meat" Project, which includes both white meat (such as chicken) and red meat (such as lamb and calves).
- Additional projects, including water distribution, monthly sponsorships, home repairs, and reconstruction.

Given the large number of poor people in the Gaza Strip, Mansour Rayan [منصور ريان], the association's Director of Projects, urged donors and philanthropists to continue offering more contributions and charity for the people of Gaza, who suffer deeply due to the blockade, closures, and limited income opportunities.

He said: "Qatar, in the eyes of the people of Gaza, represents goodness and generosity. It is the name that, when mentioned, brings with it beautiful words. Today, many needy families hope that the

philanthropists of Qatar will stand with them during this holy month and beyond, to help ease their ongoing suffering.

He added: “Qatar — its Emir, government, and people — have generous hands that continue to support and assist the Palestinian people, whether through vital development projects or continuous relief programs. Therefore, we always look forward to this support, which helps alleviate the burden on citizens exhausted by the tightening blockade.”

Thank you, Qatar.

Muhammad Ahmad [محمود أحمد], a 45-year-old citizen and one of the beneficiaries of Qatari aid, expressed his gratitude to the Qatari people, saying:

“These aids were like a balm for us, the people of Gaza. Everyone knows how hard life has become under the blockade, but Qatar has always been a pioneer in goodness — not only in the humanitarian and relief fields, but in all areas. More than 100,000 poor Palestinian families have benefited from the financial aid provided by Qatar.

He added that Qatar’s assistance is not limited to official support; the noble Qatari people themselves are also constant partners in easing the burden of the Palestinian citizen who has suffered from wars. That’s why the people of Gaza always turn toward Qatar — the land of goodness, the beating heart, the country that feels for Gaza and continually stands by it. We wish all the best for our brothers in the land of goodness, Qatar.”

A Report from Qawafel Al-Khair, Dated September 7, 2019⁴³

Palestinians in the Gaza Strip expressed their happiness following Qatar’s unveiling of the official logo for the 2022 FIFA World Cup, which will be hosted in Qatar.

A charitable youth group drew the “World Cup 2022” logo in the sands of Gaza’s seashore, symbolizing their wishes for success to their sister nation Qatar during this major event.

This wasn’t the first display of support; previously, Gazans sent a message of solidarity to Qatar’s Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani by carving his iconic image (“Tamim Al Majd”) into the beach sands in 2017.

Ahmad Abd Al-Aal [أحمد عبد العال], the originator of the sand art idea and chairman of the Qawafel Al-Khair Association, emphasized that the people of Gaza hold great affection and gratitude for Qatar due to the charitable projects it has implemented across the strip.

“We wanted to give back to Qatar, even in a symbolic way, so we came up with the sand drawing idea—to send a message to our brethren there through the media, telling them we stand with them and wish them well in hosting the 2022 World Cup,” Abd Al-Aal explained.

Mansour Rayan [منصور ريان], who helped execute the sand art and is head of projects at the charity, added: “Qatar’s generosity in Gaza is felt through many public projects benefiting the community, especially by supporting needy families. Qatar has never hesitated to stand behind the vulnerable, so we felt it necessary to show our solidarity and well wishes.”

He noted that the sand drawing was a creative way to convey a message from Gaza, which celebrates with the Qatari people as the World Cup logo is revealed—marking the first such event to take place in an Arab country. “Our idea was welcomed and loved in the media and across social networks. We will always celebrate with our Qatari brothers,” he concluded.

A report from Qawafel Al-Khair, dated June 15, 2021⁴⁴

On Tuesday, June 15, 2021, the Qawafel Al-Khair Association inaugurated the Hessa Al-Attiyah [حصه العطية] Cemetery in northern Gaza, to honor deceased Muslims by burying them according to Islamic law.

The opening of the cemetery was attended by Mansour Rayyan [منصور ريان], Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Qawafel Al-Khair Association, and Ali Al-Maghrabi [علي المغربي], the association's Director General, along with a high-level delegation from the Ministry of Religious Endowments and Affairs in Gaza, headed by Dr. Morsi Salman [مرسي سلمان], Director of the Northern Endowments Directorate, Mufti Dr. Abdul-Bari Khalla [عبد الباري خلة], Dr. Munther Al-Ghamari [منذر الغماري], and the mayors of Beit Lahia, Beit Hanoun, and Umm Al-Nasr. Abu Imad Shehadeh [أبو عماد شحادة], a leader in Hamas, also participated.

[**Note:** Abu Imad Shehadeh served as the Head of the administrative body of Hamas in the northern Gaza Strip.⁴⁵ He was killed on June 14, 2024.⁴⁶]

Mansour Rayyan said: May Allah reward the honorable sister Maryam Al-Attiyah “Umm Hamad” [مريم العطية "أم حمد"] from the State of Qatar who donated to establish this cemetery, and we ask Allah Almighty that this work be a continuous charity for her and her mother.

In detailing the project, Rayyan pointed out that the Qawafel Al-Khair Association worked on establishing the cemetery on an area of 10 dunams, which can accommodate 3,000 graves. The project also included building a wall on 4 sides to surround and secure the cemetery at different heights between 4 meters and 2 meters.

The walls were plastered on both sides, iron guards were installed, a room, kitchen and bathroom were built for the cemetery guard, palm, cypress and snobbery trees were planted between the internal cemetery corridors, and a number of graves were dug and prepared.

Rayyan thanked Maryam Al-Attiyah for her generosity and for giving away her money to create a lasting charity for herself and her mother in this world that will benefit her in the hereafter. He also expressed his deep gratitude to the loyal people of Qatar who love Palestine, the land that Allah has blessed in His Holy Book.

Ryan spoke about the great charitable role that the State of Qatar plays in the Gaza Strip through its various and diverse projects that benefit all segments of society, as well as its role in supporting projects to restore and build homes for the poor in the Strip.

[...]

A Report from Qawafel Al-Khair, Dated October 22, 2021⁴⁷

On Friday, October 22, 2021, the Qawafel Al-Khair Association inaugurated the Al-Taqwa Mosque in the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood of Gaza City, after its complete reconstruction, finishing, and

decoration, thanks to a donation from the prominent Qatari philanthropist, Ali bin Hussein bin Ali Al-Sada [علي بن حسين بن علي السادة].

A grand Islamic ceremony was held, attended by a large crowd, to mark the mosque's opening, following Friday prayers. Among those present were Ismail Haniyeh [إسماعيل هنية], head of the Hamas political bureau, along with other dignitaries, community leaders, and residents of the neighborhood.

Ali Al-Maghrabi [علي المغربي], director of the Qawafel Al-Khair Association, said during the inauguration: "Praise be to Allah for the smallest and greatest of blessings, praise be to Allah for the simplest and most magnificent of favors. Praise be to Allah always and forever for granting us success in completing the reconstruction of the Al-Taqwa Mosque [مسجد التقوى] and fulfilling this trust to the fullest extent, so that we may see these radiant faces, shining with faith and performing what Allah loves and is pleased with."

He explained that Al-Taqwa Mosque was built in 1985 and destroyed by Israeli warplanes on January 7, 2009. Residents of the neighborhood rebuilt it using nylon awnings on February 8, 2009.

On December 22, 2012, the first phase of the mosque's reconstruction began, using concrete and structural elements, thanks to a donation from Qatari benefactor Ali bin Hussein bin Ali Al-Sada [علي بن حسين بن علي السادة].

Then, on March 20, 2021, the Qawafel Al-Khair Association, through a specialized committee, began finishing and equipping the mosque, which covers an area of 1600 square meters. The project was completed after six months of work, and the mosque opened today to receive worshippers, accommodating more than 2500 people.

He emphasized that the houses of Allah are our victory and steadfastness, our patience and perseverance, our struggle [Jihad], our paths to Allah's pleasure, our steps and ways to the Gardens of Bliss. They are a part of the Hereafter. "Blessed are those who ascribe themselves to what Allah Almighty has ascribed to Himself, and peace be upon the one who was the best example of generosity and benevolence, the esteemed Qatari benefactor, Ali bin Hussein bin Ali Al-Sada [علي بن حسين بن علي السادة]."

For his part, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Association, Mansour Rayyan [منصور ريان], said: "In these blessed moments, we can only offer our heartfelt prayers to those who contributed to the construction and restoration of this mosque. To them, we extend our deepest gratitude, appreciation, recognition, love, and loyalty."

He added, "Congratulations to those who brought joy, smiles, and happiness to the faces of the worshippers at this mosque," praying to God Almighty to accept this work completely, without any shortcomings, and to make it a continuous and uninterrupted endeavor.

In a recorded address during the opening ceremony, Ali bin Hussein bin Ali Al-Sadah, known as Abu Badr [أبو بدر], said: "By the grace of Allah Almighty, we chose to build Al-Taqwa Mosque in the land of Gaza, the land of dignity, steadfastness, and defiance, and the pride of the nation for its resilience in the face of repeated brutal aggression. This is a small contribution to our brothers stationed on the front lines, so that they may maintain it as Allah Almighty has commanded."

He continued, "My advice to the worshippers of Al-Taqwa Mosque in Gaza is to preserve it and maintain its role in uniting the community and strengthening solidarity. May Allah guide us all to what He loves and is pleased with."

He affirmed that the construction of Al-Taqwa Mosque was intended to strengthen the bonds between our countries, following in the footsteps of our Emir. "We have been supporting Gaza since the end of the last century," he added.

He continued, "I recall the visit of my father and his wife, Sheikha Moza [الشيخة موزه], to Gaza during difficult times, demonstrating to the world our commitment to supporting the Strip, as well as our unwavering support for the Palestinian cause."

He thanked everyone who contributed to the construction, furnishing, and equipping of Al-Taqwa Mosque in Gaza, asking Allah Almighty to reward them for their good deeds.

In his speech during the opening ceremony, Hamas Political Bureau Chief Ismail Haniyeh extended his greetings to Al-Taqwa Mosque, its worshippers, and the generous donor, Ali bin Hussein bin Ali Al-Sada [علي بن حسين بن علي السادة], for this great achievement.

Haniyeh said: Praise be to Allah, by whose grace good deeds are accomplished. From a loving heart and a soul in love with Gaza, the land of pride, and with the Al-Taqwa Mosque and its visitors, and with our people in the Al-Mujahideen neighborhood [حي المجاهدين], the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood, we send you our fragrant greetings, great longing, congratulations, and blessings on this great and faithful occasion, the opening of the Al-Taqwa Mosque, which coincides with the anniversary of the birth of the Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and grant him peace. Two occasions embrace on the land of Gaza, the land of pride, and their fragrance spreads until it reaches all parts of blessed Palestine and all the good people of the nation.

He continued, "This mosque tells the story of faith and struggle [jihad], the story of sacrifice and jihad, the story of pride and dignity for our people and for our mujahideen sons stationed in its courtyards and in all the courtyards of this homeland."

He added, "It is fitting that we congratulate ourselves and all our brothers who have patiently awaited this moment and this blessed day, on which they bestow this goodness and witness this great inauguration of this mosque in its new form, with its design, its name, its meaning, and its structure."

The head of Hamas's political bureau expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the esteemed Haj Ali bin Hussein bin Ali Al-Sada [علي بن حسين بن علي السادة], a generous benefactor from Qatar and a pillar of the Muslim Ummah, for his donation towards the construction and finishing of Al-Taqwa Mosque. He also thanked the Qawafil Al-Khair Association, which oversaw the project.

Furthermore, he thanked everyone who contributed to overcoming obstacles and reaching this blessed moment. He prayed to Allah Almighty, Lord of the Glorious Throne, to bless the mosques and the men of the Ummah who generously share what Allah has bestowed upon them with their families and brothers in Palestine.

A Report from Qawafil Al-Khair, Dated July 5, 2022⁴⁸

In an atmosphere of faith filled with joy and closeness to Allah Almighty, the Qawafil Al-Khair Association inaugurated the Fatima Bint Muhammad Mosque [مسجد فاطمة بنت محمد] in Jabalia Camp in

July 2022, under the auspices of the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs in the Gaza Strip, and with a generous donation from the virtuous sister, the generous donor, “Sheikha Al-Fadil” [شيخة الفاضل] from Qatar.

The mosque was opened at the beginning of July, on 1/7/2022, and with the first Friday prayer in it after construction and finishing, the worshippers flocked, glorifying and praising Allah Almighty for the blessing He had bestowed upon them, with a beautiful and magnificent mosque that provides them with means of comfort, tranquility and peace in worship and prostration.

[...]

A Report from Qawafel Al-Khair, Dated November 21, 2025⁴⁹

The Qawafel Al Khair Association carried out a project today, Thursday, December 31, 2020, to slaughter and distribute a “sheep” to poor and needy families in Gaza.

The association’s director, Ali Al-Maghrabi [علي المغربي], stated that this charitable work was carried out as a gesture of mercy and in honor of a Qatari benefactor who has many positive contributions in the land of Palestine.

Al-Maghrabi noted that the “meat of goodness” was distributed to 30 poor families in Gaza, asking that God grant the full reward for this sacrifice to the donor without reduction.

The Palestinian Authority Has Issued a Warning to Qatar About Providing Support to Hamas

In September 2019, approximately a year after Qatar started sending cash aid to the Gaza Strip, the Palestinian Authority announced that coordinating the transfer of these Qatari funds with the Social Development Ministry in Gaza—run by Hamas—essentially meant negotiating with Hamas.

On September 24, 2019, Qatar’s Foreign Ministry issued the following announcement:⁵⁰

Ambassador Mohammed Al-Emadi, the head of the Qatari Committee for the Reconstruction of Gaza, announced that the committee would begin distributing cash assistance to low-income families in the Gaza Strip on Thursday, September 26, 2019.

Ambassador Al-Emadi explained that the distribution would take place through post office branches located in various districts of the Gaza Strip, reaching 50,000 low-income families, with each family receiving \$100.

He noted that the distribution would follow the same process used in previous rounds, with families selected based on agreed criteria and conditions, in collaboration with the Social Development Ministry in Gaza.

The distribution process is expected to last several days, utilizing an alphabetical scheduling system for beneficiaries to prevent crowding at the post offices.

On September 25, 2019, the Palestinian Authority’s Ministry of Social Development in Ramallah issued the following announcement:⁵¹

Response to Statements made by Mohammed Al-Emadi

The Ministry of Social Development emphasizes that any reference to a “Ministry of Social Development in Gaza” reinforces the internal division and does not represent the legitimate ministry; instead, it represents Hamas.

This statement responds to Ambassador Al-Emadi’s comments regarding the distribution of cash assistance to poor families in the Gaza Strip, which is being coordinated with the Ministry of Social Development affiliated with Hamas.

The Ministry also stressed that engaging with the so-called Ministry of Social Development in Gaza constitutes cooperation and collaboration with Hamas.

Furthermore, the Ministry expressed its astonishment that certain Arab states use the name “Ministry of Social Development” to disguise their support for and direct contact with Hamas.

Since the last Palestinian parliamentary elections in 2006, Hamas has ruled the Gaza Strip. Initially, this was through an elected government, but following a military coup in 2007, it transitioned to governing through an independent administration.

Even when Hamas agreed to relinquish control of the government as part of reconciliation talks with the Palestinian Authority, it continued to exert influence over Palestinian government ministries in the Gaza Strip through an oversight and monitoring body it established, which appointed officials on its behalf.

Over the past two decades, Hamas has directly and indirectly controlled local governance in the Gaza Strip, using this control to advance its political, economic, and military objectives.

Khaled Mashal, Hamas’s leader in the external arena, acknowledged in a press interview that the organization benefited from seizing power in the Gaza Strip, as this allowed it to exploit national resources to build and develop the military infrastructure of Hamas’s military wing, the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades.⁵²

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh confirmed this in a speech delivered on December 12, 2022, marking 35 years since the organization's establishment. Here is an excerpt from Haniyeh’s remarks:⁵³

The movement [Hamas] combined resistance [armed struggle] with the political dimension; this political aspect did not come at the expense of its [military] program and the path of resistance. Even when the movement decided to take part in the elections, won them, and formed a government, while also sitting at the heart of the legislative council, it preserved this resistance [its military force] and granted it all the official legitimacy it required. Thanks to Hamas’s involvement in governmental and official activity, this resistance (the military force) continued to grow, strengthen, and intensify until it reached the establishment of an army, the al-Qassam Brigades, in the Gaza Strip. This formidable army, led by Chief of Staff, the mujahid brother Mohammed Deif, defends our people, our land, our rights, and our holy places, and it also created the ‘Sword of Jerusalem’ [offensive military capability], which it deployed against the enemy [during the May 2021 round of fighting].

Qatari Aid to UNRWA and its Affiliation with Hamas

Over the years, Qatar has transferred a cumulative total of approximately \$200 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), which operates under the significant influence of the Hamas regime in the Gaza Strip. The breakdown of this funding is as follows:

- \$20 million for the years 2025-2026⁵⁴
- \$20 million in 2024⁵⁵
- \$18 million in 2023⁵⁶
- \$8 million in 2022⁵⁷
- \$10 million in 2021⁵⁸
- \$4.6 million in 2019⁵⁹
- \$50 million in 2018⁶⁰

UNRWA's Involvement in Terror in the Gaza Strip Since the October 7 Attack

UN Watch, which has monitored UNRWA for years, states⁶¹ that while the agency presents itself as a humanitarian organization, it actually operates as a political tool for the Palestinians. They view UNRWA as a means to assert their "right" to return to sovereign Israeli territory until they achieve what they refer to as the "right of return."

According to a report by UN Watch, UNRWA schools teach that the goal is a violent invasion of Israel and the mass killing of Jews, which is exactly what Hamas executed on October 7th. On this fundamental issue, UNRWA and Hamas are completely aligned.

Approximately ten months after October 7, 2023, UNRWA acknowledged for the first time the potential involvement of some of its employees in the terrorist attacks executed by Palestinian groups against Jewish communities in the Gaza Strip, specifically those orchestrated by the Islamic Resistance Movement – Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Al-Mujahideen Battalions, and Martyrs of Al-Aqsa Battalions, among others.

In a statement released on August 5, 2024, Philippe Lazzarini, who has served as UNRWA Commissioner-General since 2020, indicated that an internal investigation carried out by UNRWA, prompted by information received, uncovered details concerning "nine cases [of UNRWA field staff], the evidence – if authenticated and corroborated – could indicate that the UNRWA staff members may have been involved in the attacks of 7 October."⁶²

Based on these findings, Lazzarini wrote: "I have decided that in the case of these remaining nine staff members, they cannot work for UNRWA. All contracts of these staff members will be terminated in the interest of the Agency."

The statement, although phrased with caution, suggests a potential connection between UNRWA employees and the attack on October 7, which stands in contrast to UNRWA's established denial policy. An article authored by Lazzarini, released merely five weeks prior to the formal acknowledgment, bore the title: "UNRWA: Stop Israel's Violent Campaign Against Us."⁶³

In this article, Lazzarini criticized Israel for what he termed "outrageous attacks" on United Nations personnel, facilities, and UNRWA operations. He reported that 197 UN staff members lost their lives in Gaza, with nearly 190 UN facilities either damaged or completely destroyed. Additionally, he noted that UNRWA schools were obliterated, and at least 520 Palestinians were killed while seeking

refuge in these schools and facilities. Furthermore, he stated that Israeli security forces arrested UN staff, who were reportedly subjected to torture and mistreatment in detention centers.

Lazzarini submitted the article for publication on the Walla website; however, Ariel Shmidberg, the deputy editor-in-chief and head of the news desk at Walla, declined his request. Shmidberg provided an explanation for the website's decision in an article entitled: "The audacity of UNRWA's CEO - and why his article won't be published on Walla."⁶⁴

Shmidberg stated:

We will not endorse a one-sided and overtly biased article, consisting of 655 words in Hebrew, that fails to denounce the horrific massacre perpetrated by Hamas on October 7. We refuse to publish a profoundly hypocritical piece that elaborates on the UNRWA employees who suffered injuries or fatalities during the conflict while neglecting to mention that officials from this organization crossed the border on October 7, alongside their violent terrorist counterparts who brutally murdered innocent Israelis, including children, the elderly, women, and men. A vague assertion about the need for further investigation is wholly inadequate. We have no intention of disseminating a provocative article that discusses the damage to UNRWA facilities without even hinting at the exploitation of these facilities by Hamas over the years, which continues to this day. There is no reference, for instance, to Hamas' largest server farm, situated beneath a UNRWA building, nor is there any acknowledgment of UNRWA structures that have served as operational headquarters for terrorists targeting IDF forces in their search for our abducted citizens.

We will not publish an article that addresses UNRWA schools without recognizing that these institutions effectively function as Hamas headquarters, where incitement against Israel occurs, leading students to become recruits for murderous terrorist organizations." Israel's Operation "Swords of Iron" in the Gaza Strip following the terrorist attack on October 7, 2023, led by the Islamic resistance movement Hamas and Islamic Jihad, revealed the involvement of UNRWA employees in terrorism, the use of its facilities by Palestinian terrorist organizations and the damage to UNRWA facilities.

The following is a detailed account of the information provided by the IDF regarding this matter.

On August 7, 2024, it was reported that in the preceding week, Hamas had fired rockets from launchers situated in close proximity to aid and food distribution centers operated by international organizations, including UNRWA.⁶⁵

On July 25, 2024, Hamas fired multiple rockets from the humanitarian zone located in Khan Yunis, targeting the al-Qarara school operated by UNRWA.⁶⁶

July 20, 2024 - IDF forces searched the UNRWA headquarters in Gaza, where armed Hamas operatives were barricaded, and found weapons, guns, equipment of the Hamas naval commando unit, military vests and intelligence equipment.⁶⁷

On July 16, 2024, utilizing intelligence reports, the Israel Defense Forces conducted an operation against terrorists who were active within a UNRWA school in Nuseirat and were orchestrating attacks against IDF personnel from that location.⁶⁸

On July 12, 2024, Israeli Defense Forces identified a tunnel and significant Hamas intelligence apparatus located beneath the UNRWA headquarters in Gaza. A cache of drones, rockets, machine

guns, mortars, explosive devices, and hand grenades was discovered within a facility utilized by Hamas and Islamic Jihad in proximity to the UNRWA headquarters in Gaza.⁶⁹

On July 6, 2024, utilizing intelligence reports, the Israeli Air Force conducted strikes against terrorists who were utilizing the facilities of UNRWA's al-Ja'oni school in central Gaza. This location was identified as a refuge and operational base for orchestrating assaults against IDF forces.⁷⁰

On July 4, 2024, the Israeli Air Force conducted operations against terrorists utilizing UNRWA schools in Gaza City, specifically the Al-Qahira school located in Al-Furqan and the Musa school situated in the Darj Tufah neighborhood. It is important to note that these two schools run by the local government and are not affiliated with UNRWA. Hamas exploited these facilities as concealment sites and launch points for assaults on IDF forces.⁷¹

On June 30, 2024, Israeli Defense Forces discovered numerous weapons, hand grenades, and intelligence documents within a UNRWA school situated in Shejaiya. The school had been utilized by Hamas as a concealment site and storage facility.⁷²

On June 7, 2024, the Israeli Air Force conducted an operation against terrorists who were utilizing a container located within a UNRWA school in Camp Shatti.⁷³

On June 6, 2024, an IDF operation targeting terrorists at a UNRWA school in Nusirat resulted in the deaths of at least 17 operatives affiliated with Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Among those killed was Ahmed Shahada Muhammad Abu Mahmar, a member of the anti-aircraft unit of the Al-Qassam Brigades (Hamas), who had participated in the October 7 attack. Other casualties included Maher Mahmoud Abdel-Fattah Fadel, also from the Al-Qassam Brigades (Hamas), Jamil Suleiman Makadama, an operative in the elite unit of the Al-Qassam Brigades, and Shaheen Mahmoud Abu Al-Sharif, associated with the Al-Quds Brigades (Islamic Jihad). Additionally, Said Muhammad Ahmed Issa, identified as a terrorist, Majd Atef Muhammad Darwish, who served in the air unit of the Al-Qassam Brigades, Mazen Hassan Aqab Abu Zahar, another operative of the Al-Qassam Brigades, and Mu'atsim Mofid Muhammad Shakra, also affiliated with the Al-Qassam Brigades, were among those killed.^{74 75}

On May 30, 2024, an anti-tank missile was fired from the premises of a UNRWA school. Upon conducting a search of the school, IDF forces discovered a significant cache of weapons.⁷⁶

On May 14, 2024, an IDF drone captured footage of militants moving about and firing from an UNRWA facility in East Rafah, with UNRWA vehicles observed in proximity to the scene.⁷⁷

On May 5, 2024, the Israeli Air Force conducted an airstrike on the al-Qassam Brigades' headquarters, affiliated with Hamas, located within the UNRWA compound in central Gaza. This facility served as a strategic base for orchestrating assaults against the IDF.⁷⁸

On March 5, 2024, the IDF spokesperson announced that over 450 UNRWA employees were affiliated with terrorist organizations operating in the Gaza Strip.⁷⁹ Among these individuals were those involved in the attack on October 7, including Mahmoud Hussein Ahmed al-Qaq, a UNRWA elementary school teacher and member of the Al-Quds Brigades (Islamic Jihad); Yusuf Zidan Suleiman Al-Khajari, a primary school teacher at UNRWA and operative in the Al-Qassam Brigades (Hamas); Rasan Nabil Muhammad Shahada Al-Jabri, a medical center official and activist in the Al-Furqan Brigade of the Al-Qassam Brigades; and Bakr Mahmoud Abdullah Darwish, a consultant at a UNRWA school and operative in the Al-Qassam Brigades.⁸⁰ Additionally, the IDF disclosed a

recorded conversation involving Yusuf al-Khawajara, a UNRWA teacher, in which he boasted about his participation in the kidnapping of Israeli women, whom he referred to as "sabaya," a term denoting women captives taken for sexual purposes during wartime.⁸¹

On February 10, 2024, the IDF discovered a tunnel in proximity to a UNRWA school, which connected to another tunnel situated beneath the UNRWA headquarters in Gaza. This tunnel was reportedly used to supply electricity to a passage utilized by the al-Qassam Brigades. A significant cache of weaponry was uncovered within the tunnel, including firearms, ammunition, hand grenades, and explosive devices.⁸²

Amir Bohbot, a military reporter for the "Walla" website, disclosed further information regarding a recent operation:⁸³

"On Saturday, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and the Shin Bet uncovered a significant asset belonging to Hamas when they discovered a tunnel shaft leading to the central headquarters of UNRWA in the Gaza Strip. The operatives located the shaft adjacent to a school operated by a Palestinian aid agency. This shaft provided access to an underground tunnel equipped with intelligence apparatus, which served as a crucial strategic area for Hamas. Subsequent investigations revealed that the tunnel extends beneath UNRWA's main building in Gaza.

"The operatives identified an electrical infrastructure within the tunnel that was linked to the UNRWA headquarters, suggesting a direct connection between Hamas and the United Nations organization, which had its resources exploited to support the construction of these terrorist tunnels. The tunnel was constructed to a depth of 18 meters and stretched 700 meters in length, featuring multiple side entrances. A diverse array of intelligence equipment was recovered during the operation. The intelligence gained from this discovery will facilitate further operations against additional Hamas targets.

"The IDF spokesperson stated that the destruction of this tunnel significantly undermines Hamas's intelligence capabilities. In light of these findings and based on initial intelligence from the Shin Bet, the operatives conducted a raid on UNRWA's central headquarters, which houses the offices of various humanitarian and international organizations. Numerous weapons were discovered within the offices, including firearms, ammunition, hand grenades, and explosives. Additionally, intelligence equipment and documents were found in the offices of UNRWA officials, indicating that Hamas operatives had also utilized these offices."

On January 6, 2024, the IDF confiscated military vests belonging to the elite unit of the al-Qassam Brigades (Hamas), which had been concealed within UNRWA bags at a clinic located in Gaza.⁸⁴

On December 25, 2023, a school in Gaza, associated with the activities of the al-Qassam Brigades (Hamas), was discovered to contain numerous explosive devices concealed within UNRWA bags, along with Kalashnikov assault rifles and 15 explosive belts.⁸⁵

On December 11, 2023, the IDF discovered a significant cache of weapons, including firearms, hand grenades, and ammunition, within a mosque in Jabaliya. Notably, some of these items were found concealed in bags belonging to UNRWA.⁸⁶

On December 9, 2023, members of the al-Qassam Brigades discharged firearms at IDF personnel from within a UNRWA school located in Beit Hanoun.⁸⁷

On November 8, 2023, the IDF discovered a tunnel shaft in proximity to a UNRWA school located in Gaza.⁸⁸

Dr. Michael Milshtein, who leads the Palestinian Studies Forum at the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies, remarked on March 19, 2024, that Hamas engages with certain clans or presents itself covertly as law enforcement personnel in civilian attire or as members of the civil defense organization. He pointed out that Hamas has emphasized recent instances of relatively organized food distribution, conducted under the auspices of the civil defense in Gaza, specifically at the UNRWA headquarters, as proof that stability is being restored.^{89 90}

The *Wall Street Journal* disclosed on January 29, 2024, information from an Israeli intelligence report that outlined the participation of UNRWA employees in the October 7 attack, as well as their connections to Hamas and Islamic Jihad.⁹¹

The report indicates that 12 employees of UNRWA were implicated in the October 7 incident, with seven of them serving as teachers in UNRWA schools. Furthermore, approximately 10 percent of the total UNRWA workforce in the Gaza Strip, which amounts to around 1,200 individuals, is linked to Islamic terrorist organizations. Almost half of these employees have immediate family members who are operatives for Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

The newspaper emphasized that the intelligence assessment provided to the United States is founded on classified data, which includes the surveillance of mobile phone communications, investigations of Hamas operatives apprehended by Israel, and documents that were confiscated.

On October 7, 2023, an UNRWA employee abducted the remains of soldier Yonatan Samarno and placed them into a UNRWA vehicle while returning to the Gaza Strip.⁹²

Notable Instances of Terrorist Operatives Held High-Ranking Roles and Served as Instructors Within UNRWA Institutions

Fathi Sharif was the head of UNRWA Teachers' Union in Lebanon while also acting as Hamas's leader in Lebanon. He was eliminated in September 2024 by an IDF airstrike. After his death, Hamas eulogized Fathi Sharif, acknowledging that he was their leader in Lebanon.

The IDF reported that Sharif was responsible for coordinating Hamas activities in Lebanon with Hezbollah and was tasked with strengthening the organization's presence in Lebanon by recruiting operatives and procuring weapons. Sharif played a key role in building Hamas' power in Lebanon and worked to promote the organization's political and military interests in the region.⁹³

UN Watch documented a few of al-Sharif's countless public Facebook posts, and pictures of him from Hamas accounts, making his ties to Hamas clear. In his posts, al-Sharif celebrates the October 7th massacre, shares pictures of himself organizing political rallies for his UNRWA students, celebrates the killing of Israelis, states that resistance "by all means" is a "right," glorifies various terrorists, and encourages teachers to disseminate maps that erase Israel. In turn, these posts promoting terrorism and the elimination of Israel were liked and shared by numerous other UNRWA employees. However, UNRWA has failed to fire any of these employees who violate the agency's rules on "neutrality."⁹⁴

Sohail al-Hindi is a member of the political bureau of the Hamas movement, which plays a crucial role in formulating the terrorist attack strategies of the al-Qassam Brigades. He has held the position

of chairman of the UNRWA workers' union in the Gaza Strip for many years and has also served as the head of the UNRWA teachers' sector. Al-Hindi has been open about his affiliations with Hamas and has actively engaged in political activities as its representative. His influence extended to UNRWA's educational framework, particularly through his role as a supervisor at the summer camp for UNRWA students.

In July 2001, al-Hindi participated in a ceremony at a school located in the Jabaliya refugee camp alongside Hamas leader Ahmed Yassin. During his address to distinguished students, he lauded the suicide bombers who emerged from the Palestinian education system, asserting that "the path to Palestine is paved with the blood of martyrs. The student martyrs create history with their (exploding) body parts."

Since at least 2004, the senior leadership of UNRWA was aware that Sohail al-Hindi, who led the teachers' sector, was a prominent Hamas operative advocating for jihad against Israel, including suicide attacks. Chris Gunness, the chief spokesman for UNRWA, acknowledged the allegations against al-Hindi in an article published on the Ynet website on January 27, 2009,⁹⁵ which referenced prior reports detailing Hamas's activities within UNRWA schools and confirmed al-Hindi's employment with the organization. Gunness characterized these allegations as recycled claims that had been presented to UNRWA in previous years.⁹⁶ Despite this, Sohail al-Hindi remained employed by UNRWA, which opted to overlook the media scrutiny regarding his status as a senior Hamas operative.⁹⁷ ⁹⁸ The pressure on UNRWA intensified following al-Hindi's election to the political bureau of Hamas, ultimately leading the organization to announce his dismissal in March 2017.⁹⁹

Amir al-Mis-hal, who succeeded al-Hindi, is recognized as a critic of the peace process. On May 16, 2008, Mishael, then serving as the head of the services sector at UNRWA, made a statement during a Nakba Day event, asserting, "What was taken by force will not be returned except by force and not by peace and decisions [of politicians]. We have the right and duty to protect it [Palestine]. Our strength lies in our unity."¹⁰⁰ Four years later, on May 15, 2012, al-Mis-hal was instrumental in an event that honored Palestinian prisoners and commemorated Nakba Day."¹⁰¹

Jawad Abu Shamala was a member of the political bureau of the Hamas movement, where he played a significant role in formulating the terrorist strategies of the al-Qassam Brigades. He also held the position of head of Hamas' economic department. Prior to his involvement with Hamas, Abu Shamala worked as a teacher at a UNRWA school in the Gaza Strip. He lost his life during an IDF strike on October 10, 2023.¹⁰²

Issa Abd al-Hadi al-Batran was born in 1973 in the al-Boreij refugee camp located in Gaza. His educational journey included attending primary and middle school under UNRWA, followed by Khaled bin al-Walid High School, the Gaza Training Center (UNRWA), and Al-Quds Open University.¹⁰³ For years, Batran served as a teacher at UNRWA schools in the central district of the Gaza Strip, even though the heads of UNRWA were aware of him being a senior operative in the Al-Qassam Brigades and that he was several times the target of the IDF's assassination attempts.¹⁰⁴ He was ultimately dismissed from UNRWA in 2009 following a severe injury sustained during a work-related incident while involved with the Al-Qassam Brigades, and he was subsequently killed in an IDF strike in July 2010.

Awad al-Qiq held the positions of teacher, educator, and administrator within UNRWA schools in Rafah, concurrently serving as the leader of the weapon production unit for Islamic Jihad. He was killed on April 30, 2008, during an airstrike targeting a weapons production facility in Rafah.

Al-Qiq served as a senior operative responsible for the development and production of rockets for Islamic Jihad, as well as the preparation of explosive devices and warfare strategies. He played a crucial role in training successive generations of "engineers" utilizing the expertise he had acquired. In the summer of 2006, al-Qiq traveled to China, where he expressed interest in light aircraft, potentially with the intention of acquiring and manufacturing them for conducting attacks against Israel.

Al-Qiq's involvement in terrorism came to light in September 2007, following an assassination attempt on his life by Israel. Despite this incident, he persisted in his roles as a teacher, educator, and administrator within UNRWA's schools, actively participating in the education of children and adolescents during summer camps. The reasons behind UNRWA's decision to retain him in his teaching and educational roles after his activities were revealed remain unclear.¹⁰⁵

Said Siyam was a close associate of Hamas leader Khaled Mashal and subsequently held the position of Minister of the Interior within the Hamas government, overseeing the military operations in the Gaza Strip. He dedicated 23 years to serving as an additional teacher and educator in UNRWA schools. Until 2003, Siyam represented Hamas on the coordination committee of national and Islamic forces, which managed activities during the al-Aqsa intifada. Despite his prominent role as a senior activist in Hamas, UNRWA did not take action to expel him from its organization. Siyam lost his life in an IDF strike in January 2009.¹⁰⁶

Zuhair Al-Kaisi held the position of senior commander within the Islamic terrorist organization known as "The Popular Resistance Committees." Concurrently, he worked for several years as a mathematics teacher in UNRWA schools while also being affiliated with a terrorist group (Rafik al-Salami factions). He lost his life during an IDF operation in March 2012.¹⁰⁷

Numerous operatives from the al-Qassam Brigades and the al-Quds Brigades have completed their education at UNRWA schools and colleges located in the Gaza Strip.

¹ <https://jcfa.org/how-qatars-policy-endangers-u-s-interests-in-the-middle-east/>

² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pk9ytyoABv0>

³ <https://nypost.com/2024/01/20/news/qatar-allegedly-hired-ex-cia-agent-to-discredit-sen-ted-cruz-other-lawmakers-opposed-to-hamas-muslim-brotherhood/>

⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pk9ytyoABv0>

⁵ <https://www.aljazeera.net/news/2016/9/25/مشعل-أخطأ-الإسلاميون-بالرهان-على>

⁶ <https://www.aa.com.tr/ar/654740-العربية-مشعل-وهنية-يشار-كان-باحتيال-السعودية-بالدوحة>

⁷ <https://tinyurl.com/yf8jpfh3>

⁸ <https://tinyurl.com/374724dy>

⁹ <https://www.memri.org.il/cgi-webaxy/item?5482>

¹⁰ <https://tinyurl.com/yf8jpfh3>

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¹³ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VxnsKg1PKyw>

¹⁴ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YM7_GzGzdQU

¹⁵ <https://www.islamweb.net/ar/article/132172/البيان-الختامي-لملتقى-علماء-المسلمين-لنصرة-شعب-فلسطين>

¹⁶ <https://iumsonline.org/ar/ContentDetails.aspx?ID=31016>

¹⁷ <https://iums.me/31108>

¹⁸ <https://iums.me/38808>

¹⁹ <https://www.raya.com/2009/01/04/سمو-الأمير-يستقبل-وفد-علماء-المسلمين>

²⁰ <https://www.raya.com/2010/11/01/افتتاح-المقر-الدائم-ل-علماء-المسلمين>

²¹ <https://www.raya.com/2010/11/01/رأي-الرؤية-مواقف-جولة-وإيمان>

²² <https://www.raya.com/2011/09/23/اتحاد-علماء-المسلمين-يدعم-مبادرة-جمعة>

²³ <https://www.raya.com/2012/05/15/ولي-العهد-يحضر-حفلة-العشاء-الخيرى-لنه>

²⁴ <https://www.raya.com/2022/02/14/2صاحب-السمو-يستقبل-رئيس-الاتحاد-العالم>

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