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Hamas' Ismail Haniyeh: One Year Later, No Signs of Moderation

After nearly a full year in office, Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh has shown no signs of moderating his long track record of supporting terrorism and violence against the Jewish state. Today, he continues to reject Israel's right to exist, calling for violent jihad and advocating that all of historic Palestine be governed by Islamic law. He has also maintained a close relationship with Iran, which advocates the destruction of the United States and Israel and is actively pursuing nuclear weapons. Haniyeh and Hamas must meet internationally backed demands to recognize Israel and end terrorism before they can be considered legitimate partners for peace.

Haniyeh Refuses to Recognize Israel's Right to Exist:

- "Hamas will never recognise the legitimacy of the occupation [i.e., the State of Israel]."—*Reuters, January 15, 2007*
- "Resistance is the only solution and the Palestinian government will never recognize Israel."—*Agence France-Press, December 10, 2006*
- "[Our refusal to recognize Israel] is a fixed stance and will not change. It has to do with our beliefs. We are not allowed, neither the government nor the Palestinian nation, to give up the country of Palestine. This is an Islamic country and no one is allowed to give it up. Now, it does not matter how much pressure is put on us, we are not allowed to give up our religious and Islamic principles and values. These are our political programs. These are the goals of the Palestinian nation."—*Islamic Republic of Iran News Network Television (IRINN), December 9, 2006*
- "The world arrogance [U.S.] and Zionists ... want us to recognize the usurpation of the Palestinian lands and stop jihad and resistance and accept the agreements reached with the Zionist enemies in the past... I'm insisting from this podium that these issues won't materialize. We will never recognize the usurper Zionist government and will continue our jihad-like movement until the liberation of Jerusalem."—*The Associated Press, December 8, 2006*

Haniyeh Advocates Violence and Rejects Peace:

- "We joined this movement to be martyrs and not to be ministers."—*Al-Jazeera TV, BBC Translation, December 15, 2006*
- "The generation currently standing up to the Zionists, which shaped up the first and second Intifadas, included young individuals with lofty aspirations. This generation will liberate Palestine."—*Islamic Republic News Agency, December 10, 2006*

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- “We are proud of providing the resistance with the political cover it needs.”—*www.palestine-info.info*, December 5, 2006
- “The intifada will continue until Palestinian rights are realized and holy Jerusalem is liberated.”—*YNet*, December 2, 2006

Hamas Maintains Close Ties With Iran:

- “The brave stance of Iran's president is a transparent support of Palestinian cause in international level and will bring honor and glory for all Muslims and encouragement to the Palestinian fighters.”—*Islamic Republic News Agency*, December 10, 2006
- “...my meeting with [Iranian President] Mr. [Mahmoud] Ahmadinejad was very powerful and it was very deep. We are brothers in faith. I sensed this very much at my meeting with Mr. Ahmadinejad. This is why you have a very valuable place in the hearts of Palestinians.”—*Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran Network 2*, December 9, 2006
- “They [Israelis] assume the Palestinian nation is alone. This is an illusion. ... We have a strategic depth in the Islamic Republic of Iran. This country [Iran] is our powerful, dynamic and stable depth.”—*The Associated Press*, December 8, 2006

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