

# HAMAS



## WHAT IS HAMAS?

Founded in 1987 as an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood, Hamas is an Iranian-backed terrorist organization that seeks the destruction of Israel and has killed Americans. Below are ten facts to note about Hamas.

### 1. HAMAS IS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

- The United States, along with Israel, Canada, Japan and the European Union has declared Hamas a foreign terrorist organization.

### 2. HAMAS HAS KILLED AMERICANS

- Hamas is responsible for the deaths of more than two dozen Americans, including five students.

### 3. HAMAS IS ANTI-ISRAEL AND ANTI-SEMITIC

- The Hamas charter, published in 1988, details the guiding principles of the Islamist terrorist group. Laced with anti-Semitism, the document calls for the destruction of the State of Israel through jihad, or holy war.
- "Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it," the charter states.
- "Our struggle against the Jews is very great and very serious. It needs all sincere efforts. ... [Hamas] is but one squadron that should be supported by more and more squadrons from this vast Arab and Islamic world, until the enemy is vanquished and Allah's victory is realised."

### 4. HAMAS TARGETS INNOCENT CIVILIANS

- Hamas has killed more than 500 civilians in suicide bombings and other attacks inside Israel.
- Since 2001, Hamas has fired more than 17,000 rockets into Israel.
- Hamas has orchestrated more than 100 suicide bombings and shooting attacks.

### 5. HAMAS REJECTS THE QUARTET'S CORE PRINCIPLES

- The United States, European Union, Russia and the United Nations have agreed that the Palestinians must: recognize Israel, renounce violence, and accept previous Israeli-Palestinian agreements. Hamas has rejected all three of these principles.

### 6. HAMAS HAS A LARGE WEAPONS ARSENAL

- The terror group has thousands of rockets, including some that can strike Tel Aviv.
- More than 6 million Israelis live within Hamas' rocket range.



Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah party reached an agreement on April 23 to form a Palestinian unity government with the terrorist organization Hamas.

### 7. HAMAS IS BACKED BY IRAN

- The Islamic Republic of Iran provides financial and military support to Hamas.
- In March 2014, an Iranian ship was seized by Israel carrying rockets, anti-ship missiles and more than 400,000 bullets. These munitions were reportedly destined for Hamas in Gaza.

### 8. HAMAS IMPOSES STRICT ISLAMIC LAW

- Hamas has abolished freedoms that Gazans previously enjoyed. It has restricted content in movies, music and television, and has imposed draconian punishments against perceived offenders in accordance with its interpretation of Islamic law.

### 9. HAMAS CELEBRATES TERRORISTS

- Hamas hosts parades and mass rallies to honor terrorists who have killed Americans and Israelis. The group celebrated the 9/11 attacks and mourned Bin Laden's death.

### 10. HAMAS TEACHES ITS CHILDREN TERROR AND HATE

- More than 100,000 children in Gaza attend Hamas summer camps, where many participate in semi-military training that includes use of live ammunition and simulated kidnappings of IDF soldiers.
- Hamas uses cartoons and other television shows to teach children to murder and kill Jews.