

## Threats to Jewish Population Around the World

Dr. Michael Barak October 2023

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# SPECIAL REPORT Threats to Jewish Populations Around the World

#### Dr. Michael Barak

#### **Summary**

This analysis focuses on the increased threats and calls for violence against Jewish and Israeli targets globally, particularly in the context of the campaign in Gaza and subsequent actions by Hamas and other jihadist groups. Islamic State (IS) and Al-Qaeda have both issued calls for attacks not only in Israel but also against Jews worldwide and nations allied with Israel. IS's messaging, through its official publications, emphasizes a broader conflict beyond the Israeli-Palestinian issue, urging attacks on Jewish neighborhoods, embassies, and economic interests globally. They also advocate for direct attacks against Israel and its allies' military installations. Al-Qaeda, similarly, supports Hamas and urges a wider jihad against Jewish, Christian, and Israeli targets, calling for support from Muslim communities in neighboring regions. The analysis also notes the involvement of Hezbollah, aligned with the Iranian resistance axis, threatening increased action against Israel in support of Hamas, indicating a broader regional involvement and a potential escalation of the conflict beyond Palestinian territories.

Keywords: Hamas; Jew Communities; Israel; Swords of Iron; IS; Al-Qaeda

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#### **Background**

On the background of the campaign in Gaza and Hamas' October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, murderous attack on cities and villages in southern Israel, global jihadi activists disseminate belligerent messages against Israel that call Muslims to perpetrate terror attacks against Jewish and Israeli targets around the world. IS and Al-Qaeda even call to hit Israeli allies' targets whether in the west or Arab countries who have normalized their relationship with Israel.

#### IS

On October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, IS posted an editorial on their official weekly magazine titled "operative steps to fighting the Jews". In the article, IS points to the "Zionist-Crusader" alliance manifested in an unprecedented support of the US in Israel in light of the threat to Israel in light of the campaign in Gaza.

Per IS, every time the Jewish Palestinian conflict erupts, the discourse deals with steps that must be taken against Israel without presenting a complete vision that will enable realizing the celestial promise to eradicate the Jewish state. Per IS, if the campaign in Palestine will be limited to fighting under the flag of the Iranian axis, or national alliances then the campaign will be limited only to Palestine "without connection to fighting the Jews outside it". Per IS, one shouldn't be satisfied with fighting the Jews only in Palestine, but one must kill the Jews everywhere. Per the writer, all along human history, the Jews managed to partner with external powers to serve their purposes. For example, the partnered with the UK to form the Jewish state, formed a Jewish lobby among the Republicans and Democrats in the US, took power over important junctions in economy, commerce, and communications in the west. IS added that the Jews managed to also trick Arab regimes and normalize the relationship with them to deflect possible threats on Jewish interests or the Jewish state.

In light of the above IS clarified that the practical way to contend with the "Jewish mini state" before eradicating it is to hit all its allies. Therefore, Muslims should hit Jews all over the world, especially in Jewish neighborhoods in Europe and the US that play a major role in the Jewish economy and provides leverage over decision makers in the west, "there is a need to hit Jewish and crusader embassies everywhere".

IS also called Muslims to breach Israel's borders and border protection as well as hit more distant defense line such as the US military installations in the Gulf that protect Israel. Further, it called upon Muslim youth to wear suicide vests once IDF enters Gaza and blow themselves on the Jews on the battleground. At the end of the editorial IS highlighted that the way to topple Israeli is by breaching its border fences as well as what was written in the article and at the end of the day the Jews will experience a true holocaust...¹



Al Naba's Headline

<sup>1</sup> Al Naba, vol. 413, October 20th, 2023, P.3

In addition to the above editorial IS posted an infographic under the title "practical ways to assist Muslims in Palestine" and summarized the ways to help fight the Jews:

- 1. <u>Military aid</u> to include hitting Jewish neighborhoods in Europe, US and elsewhere, torching and destructing Jewish and Christian embassies, hitting synagogues all over the world, hitting Jewish nightclubs and killing the customers and hurting Jewish economic interests around the world.
- 2. <u>Assistance with Propaganda</u> that will clarify that the fight against the Jews is a religious war, not restricted to Palestine and its end goal is to kill Jews everywhere because the Jews mentioned in the Quran are no different than current day Jews.
- 3. Prayers that are an integral part of every Muslim.

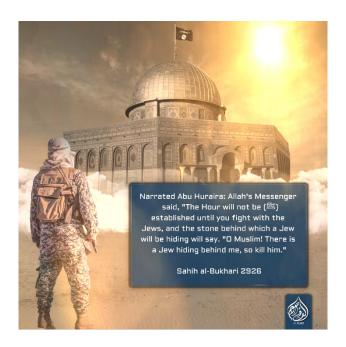
A quote from IS' former spokesperson Abu Hamza al-Quraishi was added to the above where he called Muslims to join IS and fight the Jews².



Al Naba infographic

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, P. 12

Alongside the official IS publications, its supporters also disseminate anti-Israeli propaganda, highlighting the duty to fight the Jews and Israel until the liberation of Palestine and al-Aqsa. For example, al-Fuad media outlet posted a series of banners on the subject.



Al-Fuad banner

#### Al-Qaeda

The Gaza campaign earned the attention of Abu Mustafa Hamed, AKA Abu Walid al-Masri, a former al-Qaeda member living in Iran who is also Sheikh Saif al-Adel, the new al-Qaeda leader's father-in-law.

At the beginning of his words, al-Masri repeated a conspiracy theory per which Israel intends to blow al-Aqsa mosque and cause the Palestinians in Jerusalem and the west bank to leave their homes the same as they caused the people of Gaza to leave and move to Egypt. Per al-Masri, this way the Jews will realize their dream of the "entire land of Israel" and eradicating the Palestinian issue.

In light of the above, al-Masri highlights that if the Palestinians lose their lands Hamas will have no choice but to make sure the Jews lose Palestine, by firing 5,000 missiles on the Dimona nuclear reactor. The destruction of the reactor will force the Jews to leave their lands for fear of radiation and diseases. Per him, in case Hezbollah will open a second front against Israel, then it would be well served by destroying the Israeli water systems on Lebanese territories or close to them and in the Jordan river.

Per al-Masri, the main goal of the resistance is to remove the Israeli siege over Gaza but of Israel will manage to drive the people of Gaza to the Sinai Peninsula then the resistance should base its capabilities in the Sinai, view it as a strategic home front and see Egypt as a territory that will provide food, medicine, and weapons<sup>3</sup>.

Al-Sahhab, al-Qaeda's leadership official horn, posted on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, a statement that supports Hamas on its war with Israel and al-Qaeda's commitment to stand by Hamas. As a result, al-Qaeda calls Muslims all over the world to join the jihadi effort against Israel and provide weapons, finance, propaganda and more.

Moreover, al-Qaeda called Muslims to take part in a comprehensive war against Christan, Jewish and Israeli targets. They highlight the role of the Muslims in the neighboring countries in the success of this campaign. Al-Qaeda call Bedouin tribes in the Sinai to arrive at the Gaza border, break the Egyptian siege and support Palestinian fighters with monetary support, food, and weapons. They call the Jordanian tribes to stand beside their Palestinian brothers and partake in a jihad to liberate al-Aqsa. Al-Qaeda also encourages Muslims in Syria to initiate a conflict in the Golan Heights and the Muslims in Lebanon to arm themselves and fight. They believe that expanding the battleground will bring up the day of victory and the liberation of the blessed al-Aqsa.

Al-Qaeda further highlights that the last Hamas operation in the south of Israel effectively cancelled the peace agreements with Israel and they call Muslims in the Emirates, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrein to launch attacks against the Zionists. They stress that the terror attack in Alexandria is to be revered and emulated and push Muslims to hit the Jews and their allies all over the world.

Additionally, al-Qaeda cite a ruling by the Mufti of Murian, Sheikh Muhammad al-Hasan al-Walid al-Dado, that held that every Muslim has a duty to liberate al-Aqsa support its defenders and allow Muslims everywhere on earth to join Hamas' campaign against Israel. They call upon jihadi fighter on all fronts to assist the Palestinians against Israel.

In summary, al-Qaeda stresses the belief that the same way the Muslims beat the US in Afghanistan and the crusaders in Mali they can do it in Palestine<sup>4</sup>.

#### Hezbollah

Hezbollah and Hamas are part of the Iranian resistance axis. In light of the above Hamas voices belligerent statements against Israel that if Israel commences a ground attack in Gaza Hezbollah will increase its involvement to prevent Israel from severely hurting Hamas. Senior Hezbollah leaders threaten that to intensify their response against Israel in case IDF will commence a ground attack in Gaza. On October 21st, 2023, in a memorial service to Hezbollah's fallen fighters, Sheikh Naim Qassem sent a message to Israel: "do

<sup>3</sup> October 12th, 2023

<sup>4</sup> RocketChat, Oct 17, 2023.

you expect to isolate the Palestinian resistance without causing the resistance in the region to be active? Know that the resistance is not anymore a party or a group, the resistance is comprised of whole peoples in our region [...] the compass is Palestine, especially Jerusalem [...] if need be we will be present on the battleground and join the confrontation to prevent an Israeli victory [...] we in Hezbollah closely watch and involved in the confrontation within the framework of our vision to serve the resistance's victory, the future of this nation and the liberation of Palestine"<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> Oct 22, 2023. https://twitter.com/shnaimkassem/status/1715757701072888090