

Shooting Palestinians Like Fish in a Barrel

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Global Research, September 30, 2005

[Another Day in The Empire](#) 30 September
2005

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [Crimes against Humanity](#)

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Best write this while I can, because the [Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2005](#) has passed in the House (thus eliminating once and for all the First Amendment), and I will not be allowed to criticize the criminal state of Israel (or for that matter America) much longer...

Now that Israel has “evacuated” Gaza, it appears set on a policy of bombing the place mercilessly. “Israeli aircraft unleashed a barrage of missiles early Wednesday and fired artillery into the Gaza Strip for the first time, pushing forward with an offensive despite a pledge by Islamic militants to halt their recent rocket attacks against Israel,” reports the [Associated Press](#). “Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz said the army would attack Palestinian militants relentlessly to force them to stop firing rockets at Israeli towns.”

It’s simply amazing how stupid “Islamic militants” are—shooting missiles willy-nilly at one the most powerful and ruthless military forces in the world with absolutely no chance of making any kind of progress toward a Palestinian state. It’s as if they are asking to have their wives, children, mothers and fathers butchered in order to thumb their noses at the Israelis. Now that the Israelis have cleared out of Gaza, the IDF can shoot at will, killing Palestinians like fish in a barrel.

“The fifth straight day of airstrikes came hours after Islamic Jihad militants on Tuesday declared a halt to their recent rocket attacks, and armed Palestinian groups pledged to honor a tattered cease-fire, seeking to end the Israeli offensive,” notes the Associated Press. “Tensions were further inflamed when Hamas militants released a video showing a bound and blindfolded Israeli businessman whom they kidnapped and later killed. The kidnapping appeared to signal a new tactic in the militants’ fight against Israel.”

Such arbitrary barbarism and cruelty—the pointless murder of the businessman, not the pre-dawn helicopter raids against a sleeping Jabaliya refugee camp in the north of Gaza, of course completely justified (no matter how many kids were blown to smithereens) because Hamas worked tirelessly making missiles in factories, or so we are told—is so stupid and counter-productive as to be suspicious.

It really seems like an exercise in futility to mention (for the umpteenth time) Israel’s support for Hamas “was a direct attempt to divide and dilute support for a strong, secular PLO by using a competing religious alternative,” as [Richard Sale](#) reported years ago (no doubt Mr. Sale will have to change his tune soon enough or lose his job—sacked for anti-Semitism—maybe become a blogger like the rest of us). “According to [Israel-based Institute for Counter Terrorism] papers, Hamas was legally registered in Israel in 1978 by Sheikh

Ahmed Yassin, the movement's spiritual leader, as an Islamic Association by the name Al-Mujamma al Islami, which widened its base of supporters and sympathizers by religious propaganda and social work.... One U.S. intelligence source who asked not to be named said that not only was Hamas being funded as a 'counterweight' to the PLO, Israeli aid had another purpose: 'To help identify and channel towards Israeli agents Hamas members who were dangerous terrorists,'" according to Sale.

Obviously, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin was of little use after a few years—the elderly wheelchair bound cleric was killed a while back by an Israeli missile (fired from an American-made Apache helicopter) as he returned from prayers at the local mosque. Naturally, the Ezzedin al-Qassam Brigades, Hamas' military wing, vowed revenge, thus perpetuating a cycle of mindless violence. If not for the Ezzedin al-Qassam Brigades and others, Israel would have a bit more difficulty killing Palestinians—not much, but some.

So violently crazed is Hamas, they apparently kill their own. "The Fatah faction of Palestinian leader Mahmud Abbas has blamed the resistance group Hamas for the deadly blast at a military parade in Gaza that killed at least 19 people and wounded 80 others," [al-Jazeera](#) reported last weekend. "The massive blast on Friday ripped through the Jabaliya refugee camp as throngs of people celebrated Israel's recent withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, just hours after Israeli troops shot dead three Palestinians in the West Bank... [A] jeep was ferrying men from the Islamist movement's armed wing to the open space earmarked for the festivities, when it exploded, sending mangled body parts of fighters, children and bystanders flying." In short, Hamas is nearly as effective at killing fellow Palestinians as are the Israelis.

And then there was that fake "al-Qaeda" terrorist cell in Gaza set up by Mossad. "There are certain elements who were instructed by the Mossad to form a cell under the name of Al Qaeda in the Gaza Strip in order to justify the assault and the military campaigns of the Israeli occupation army against Gaza," Palestinian Information Minister Yasser Abed Rabbo told [Reuters](#).

But then, of course, we should assume Yasser Abed Rabbo is a liar, as Ariel Sharon's office basically claimed soon after the "al-Qaeda" patsies were rounded up and paraded before the media—or the media that bothered to pay attention.

Now that it is considered a "hate crime" to criticize the Israeli government, the media will report even less about the murder of Palestinians. Of course, this is exactly what the Likudites in Israel want—to intimidate, harass, exile, and murder the Palestinians under a cover of darkness and secrecy, thus moving ever closer to their racist dream of a state swept clean of Arabs, as their Old Testament God of retribution (and genocide) saw fit.

It is now a crime to condemn the shooting of Palestinians as if they were fish in a barrel.

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