ARI SHAVIT

ISRAEL AT WAR IV

Less than three weeks after the barbaric attack on 20 kibbutzim, two towns and an outdoor music festival in southwestern Israel, an ugly campaign has been mounted around the world to justify the crimes-against humanity committed by Hamas on October 7, 2023. Despite the fact that children were taken hostage, women were raped and entire families were burned alive, there are still those who support this murderous terrorist organization. In the face of the upswell of vicious propaganda against Israel, here are some incontrovertible truths about the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the tortuous relationship between the Jewish-democratic state and the Gaza Strip.

- On November 29, 1947 the United Nations voted to partition the Promised land into two states: Jewish and Arab. Israelis accepted this compromise, the Palestinians rejected it – and launched a war.
- In the summer of 2000, at the Camp David Summit, President Bill Clinton proposed that Israel withdraw from 92% of the West Bank and the whole of the Gaza Strip, so that an independent Palestinian state could be founded in these two regions. The Israeli government agreed. The Palestinians declined.
- In the summer of 2005, Israel withdrew from the Gaza Strip, dismantling settlements and returning to the 1967 borders. As a result, for the first time in history, Palestinians had an autonomous region of their own, free from successive Turkish, British, Jordanian, Egyptian and Israeli rule. But rather than turning this liberated land into an independent, thriving and peace-seeking state they chose another way. Soon after the withdrawal was completed, Palestinians began to launch mortars and rockets into sovereign Israel.



- During the withdrawal, Israel handed the Palestinians the cutting-edge agricultural greenhouses it had built in the north of the Strip, in the hope that these would aid in the development of a modern economy in Gaza. Palestinian mobs burned the greenhouses to the ground.
- In 2007, the fascist-Islamist Hamas organization took control of Gaza in a brutal military putsch, during which dozens of moderate Palestinians were brutally executed.
- The Hamas Charter is a blatantly anti-Semitic document, that calls for the annihilation of the State of Israel. Hamas believes that the Holocaust never happened, and that in the future, the entire world will be ruled by Islam.
- Hamas tyrannizes the shrinking Christian population of the Gaza Strip, and believes that Christianity is a traitorous religion. At the same time, Hamas persecutes homosexuals, and in certain cases has sentenced them to death.

Edition #4 By Ari Shavit

THE UGLY TRUTH ABOUT HAMAS

- Hamas believes in a patriarchal rule. It denies the legitimacy of gender-equality, and does not accord women basic rights.
- Hamas regularly uses civilians as human shields. It houses its central command posts underneath hospitals, thus intentionally endangering the lives of both patients and medical staff.
- Hamas has used the billions of dollars in foreign aid sent to Gaza in the last few years not to improve the lives of the Strip's residents, but to build one of the world's most deadly terror machines. Water pipes have been converted into rocket launchers. Homebuilding had been replaced by the digging of a labyrinth of terror

tunnels. While the Gazan population yearns for even a slight improvement in its abysmal standard of living, Hamas leaders have invested vast funds in weaponry designed to sow death and destruction.

The bottom line is clear: not only the citizens of Israel, but also the residents of the Gaza Strip deserve to be freed from Hamas' reign of terror. True: this anti-Semitic organization is imperiling the very existence of the State of Israel. But this misogynistic, homophobic and anti-Christian organization – which defies basic principles of Islam – is also threatening the most cherished values of liberal democracy and the free world. The fight against Hamas is the quintessential fight of liberty against tyranny and life against death.

