



LABOUR FRIENDS OF ISRAEL

STATEMENT ON INCITEMENT FOR DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT OF PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY COMPLIANCE WITH PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

1. Naming schools

More than 20 Palestinian Authority schools in the West Bank and Gaza are named after terrorists, with a further three named after Nazi collaborators. It should be stressed that all school names, even those in Gaza, are determined by the Palestinian Authority Ministry of Education:

“The [PA] Ministry of Education and Higher Education emphasized that naming state schools is under the authority of the Minister alone.” [WAFA (official PA news agency), Aug. 25, 2015]

Three schools are named after **Dalal Mughrabi**. She led the most lethal terrorist attack in Israel's history, known as the Coastal Road massacre, in 1978, when she and other Fatah terrorists hijacked a bus on Israel's Coastal Highway, killing 38 civilians, 13 of them children, and wounding over 70.

- The **Dalal Mughrabi** High School for Girls – Gaza
- The **Dalal Mughrabi** High School for Girls – Al-Shuyoukh, Hebron
- The **Dalal Mughrabi** Elementary School for Girls – near Hebron

There are two schools named after **Shadia Abu Ghazaleh**. One of the first Palestinian female terrorists, she was a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine terrorist group. She was involved in many attacks against Israel and was killed in 1968 while preparing a bomb for an attack in Tel Aviv that accidentally detonated.

- The **Shadia Abu Ghazaleh** School for Girls - Gaza
- The **Shadia Abu Ghazalah** High School for Boys – Jabaliya

Three schools are named after **Abu Jihad**. Abu Jihad (Khalil Al-Wazir) headed the PLO's military wing and also planned many deadly Fatah terrorist attacks. These attacks, which killed a total of 125 Israelis, included the Coastal Road massacre.

- The **Khalil Al-Wazir [Abu Jihad]** Elementary School for Girls – Hebron
- The **Abu Jihad** High School for Boys – Arabe, Jenin
- The **Abu Jihad** High School for Boys – Hebron

There are three schools named after **Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad)**. Salah Khalaf was one of the founders of Fatah and head of the Black September terrorist group. Among the attacks it was



responsible for was the murder of 11 Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics in September 1972.

- The **Salah Khalaf** Elementary School – Gaza
- The **Salah Khalaf** Junior High School – Gaza
- The **Salah Khalaf** Elementary School for boys - Al-Yamoun

One school is named after **Abu Ali Iyad**. Abu Ali Iyad was appointed head of Fatah military operations in 1966 and was responsible for numerous terrorist attacks on Israeli civilians, including attacks in the Israeli towns of Beit Yosef, Margaliot, Manara and Kfar Giladi.

- The **Abu Ali Iyad** High School for Girls – Qalqilya

There are two schools named after **Abu Ali Mustafa**. Abu Ali Mustafa was the Secretary General of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), a designated terrorist organisation which under his leadership carried out 10 different car-bombings and multiple shootings against Israeli civilians as part of the Second Intifada.

- The **Abu Ali Mustafa** Elementary School for Boys - Jenin
- The **Abu Ali Mustafa** Elementary School for Girls – Jenin

Two schools are named after **Mustafa Hafez**. Mustafa Hafez was an officer in the Egyptian army who organised terrorist squads which were sent across the border to attack Israeli civilians in the 1950s.

- The **Mustafa Hafez** Elementary School for Boys – Khan Younis
- The **Mustafa Hafez** School – Gaza

One school is named after **Izzat Abu Al-Rubb**. Izzat Abu Al-Rubb was a Fatah military leader who participated in a number of terrorist attacks against Israel.

- The Martyr **Izzat Abu Al-Rubb** High School – Jenin

A number of Palestinian Authority schools also celebrate Hamas and its terrorism:

One school is named after **Ahmed Yassin**, the founder of Hamas. Aside from the fact that Hamas' covenant expresses the notorious anti-Semitic conspiracy theories of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion and Yassin encouraged the kidnapping and murder of Israeli soldiers, he was also the principal instigator of the suicide bombing and terrorist campaign that claimed the lives of hundreds of Israeli civilians during the Second Intifada.

- The Martyr **Ahmed Yassin** School for Boys – Jenin



One school is named after **Nash'at Abu Jabara**. Nash'at Abu Jabara was a member of Hamas and built the suicide belts used by bombers involved in numerous terrorists attacks against Israeli civilians.

- The Martyr **Nash'at Abu Jabara** High School for Girls – Tulkarem

There are two schools named after **Izz A-Din Al-Qassam**. Sheikh Izz A-Din Al-Qassam was an influential Islamic preacher who led a terrorist group which targeted Jews and the British during the Mandate in Palestine in the 1930s. Hamas' military wing, which has killed hundreds in suicide bombings, is named after him – the Izz A-Din Al-Qassam Brigades, as are the Qassam rockets used by the organisation in attacks on Israel.

- The Martyr **Izz Al-Din Al-Qassam** High School for Boys – Yaa'bad
- The Martyr **Izz Al-Din [Al-Qassam]** Elementary School – Jenin

Schools have also been named after Nazi collaborators:

One school is named after **Amin Al-Husseini**. Amin Al-Husseini was the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem at the time of the British Mandate. During the Second World War he moved to Berlin and was a Nazi collaborator. Al-Husseini was on Yugoslavia's list of wanted war criminals, and was responsible for a Muslim SS division that murdered thousands of Serbs and Croats. When the Nazis offered to free some Jewish children Al-Husseini fought against their release and 5,000 of them were sent to the gas chambers.

- The **Amin Al-Husseini Elementary School** – El-Bireh

There are also two schools named after **Hassan Salameh**. A supporter of Al-Husseini, **Hassan Salameh** was trained as a paratrooper by the Germans during the Second World War and a member of a special SS commando unit which was parachuted into Mandatory Palestine in 1944 with the aim of organising attacks on Jewish targets.

- The **Hassan Salameh** Elementary School – Gaza
- The **Hassan Salameh** Junior High School for Girls – Gaza

Naming schools after terrorists is not the only way that the PA glorifies terrorism. The Artas High School for Girls near Bethlehem, for instance, put a picture of 17-year-old female suicide bomber, who murdered two civilians in a supermarket in 2002, right over the entrance to the school. The picture of Ayyat Al-Akhras caption carries the caption: "The Heroic Martyr."



2. Youth camps, sports tournaments and reading chains

It is not just schools that the PA choose to name after terrorists.

The PLO Supreme Council for Youth and Sports has, for instance, recently announced that it is naming a youth camp in Jericho – **“The Brothers of Dalal camp for youth”** – after Dalal Mughrabi. The District Governor of Ramallah Laila Ghannam, a Palestinian Authority official, praised the initiative for “remembering the pure-hearted Martyrs”:

“Dr. Ghannam... welcomed [the delegation's] efforts to hold a camp named after Martyr Dalal Mughrabi. She praised the creative initiative and its goals, and particularly everything connected to remembering the pure-hearted Martyrs... She also ordered all of the parties involved to do all that is necessary so that the solidarity rally will take place in a fashion worthy of Martyr Mughrabi, her comrades (i.e. the other terrorists participating in the 1978 Coastal Road massacre), and all of Palestine's Martyrs.”

[Facebook page of the PLO Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Feb. 27, 2017 and official PA daily Al-Hayat Al-Jadida, Feb. 28, 2017]

Sport tournaments, too, are named after terrorists. Last March, a PA school hosted a basketball game for high school girls named **“The Dalal Mughrabi Cup”** in honor of the terrorist. The game was held at the Al-Awael School for Girls under the auspices of the head of the PA Ministry's Directorate of Education for Ramallah-El-Bireh, Bassam Erekat. [Al-Quds, March 23, 2016]

The PA also chooses to honour perpetrators of terrorist attacks carried out during the ‘Knife Intifada’ which began in September 2015. In November 2015, the Dar Al-Maarefa Boys' School in El-Bireh hosted a football tournament named **“The Ahmad Manasrah Football Tournament”**. The previous month Ahmad Manasrah, aged 13, with a 15-year-old accomplice, stabbed and critically wounded two people aged 25 and 13. Manasrah was wounded and later tended to in an Israeli hospital. According to the PA official daily, “many schools from the Ramallah and El-Bireh district participated” in the football tournament. [Al-Hayat Al-Jadida, Nov. 23, 2015]

The PA Ministry of Education also staged an event planting olive trees, placing signs next to them with the names of those who died carrying out terrorist attacks in what it termed “the ongoing popular uprising”. The ministry event was to “honor” the terrorists' “sacrifices”:

“This event is meant to illustrate the devotion of the ministry and its staff to honoring the Martyrs, among them school students, and to strengthen the sense of belonging to the land ... [and] in order to highlight the permanent presence of the Martyrs and to honor their sacrifices.”

[PNN, independent Palestinian news agency, Oct. 13, 2015]

Universities and schools also organised **reading chains in honor of Baha Alyan and Bilal Ghanem** who murdered three people on a Jerusalem bus in October 2015. In February 2016, Hebron University honoured Baha Alyan by organising a “human chain of readers” on campus,



since the terrorist himself had once organised such a chain around Jerusalem. In the following months, similar events were staged at Al-Quds University, Birzeit University, An-Najah University, Mughtaribi El-Bireh Elementary School and Shari'ah School for Boys in Qalqiliya.

Over 2,500 students participated in the chain of readers at Al-Quds University, with students wearing t-shirts with a picture of the murderer. [Wattan (independent Palestinian news agency), Feb. 13, 2016]. At Birzeit University, Alyan's father walked along the chain of readers and blessed the 500 participants, saying: "We are a people that loves life, which does not like to stab, but is forced to do so in order to live." [Al-Hayat Al-Jadida, Feb. 21, 2016]

At the An-Najah University event, a PA official, the Nablus District Governor, Akram Al-Rajoub honored Alyan in his speech: "It is as if his [Baha Alyan's] soul is soaring above our heads and saying to us: 'We are a generation that must have a national culture that will [help] us distinguish between right and wrong, a culture that will create a generation that leads rather than one that is being led.'"

[Al-Fajr Al-Jadid TV (Independent Palestinian TV channel), March 21, 2016]

The following month, the PA Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Education began promoting the idea. The two ministries organised a reading chain for 10th grade students at the Shari'ah School for Boys in Qalqiliya. The invitation the school posted on Facebook bore the Palestinian Authority's logo and showed Baha Alyan's picture and the name of the event, commemorating the killer:

"Baha is the idea and the idea doesn't die"

[Facebook page of the Shari'ah School
for Boys in Qalqiliya, April 5, 2016]

A few weeks later, the PA Ministry of Education and the El-Bireh municipality organised a reading chain in honor of Alyan at the Mughtaribi El-Bireh Elementary School. Speaking at the event, a representative of PA Directorate of Education called the two terrorists "two young wonderful Martyrs (Shahids), who gave their lives as a gift to the homeland, as a gift so that you – the children the lion cubs (i.e., young boys), the flowers (i.e., young girls) – will enjoy freedom. They are praised and distinguished, and Paradise is their place." [Facebook page of the Mughtaribi El-Bireh Elementary School, April 24, 2016]

3. Impact

Palestinian children and young people are aware who their schools are named after, the message this is intended to convey and the lessons they are supposed to draw.

This is demonstrated by interviews with students at two schools named after terrorists which aired on Official PA TV in December 2013 and March 2014.



In the first instance, school girls at the Shadia Abu Ghazaleh High School for Girls in Gaza expressed their admiration for the female bomb maker and voiced their desire to emulate her:

PA TV host: "What do you know about Shadia Abu Ghazaleh, you study in a school named after her?"

Student 1: "I know she is a Martyr and that she had an important role. She fought. The school is named after her to commemorate her and memorialize her and encourage people to be like her."

Student 2: "Shadia Abu Ghazaleh is a model of the patriotic woman who stood with the men against Zion."

Student 3: "We're happy that our school is named after a very well-known Martyr, who played a role and who did something great in the homeland. Shadia Abu Ghazaleh was a prominent fighter. She was one of the Palestinian people's first fighters."

Student 4: "She was a model of the wonderful female Palestinian fighter. We follow her path in this school."

Student 5: "Truly, Shadia was a model for us and will remain a model for us and we'll follow her path."

[Official PA TV, Dec. 5 and 9, 2013]

In March 2014, official PA TV also visited the Dalal Mughrabi School and interviewed students. Once again, they expressed their admiration for, and wish to emulate, a terrorist:

Student 1: "Dalal Mughrabi is a great leader... This fighter may have died and her soul may have ascended to Heaven, but still our mothers give birth to thousands like Dalal, and she still walks among us. Dalal Mughrabi has given us a lot, and I personally am proud to attend the Dalal Mughrabi School, which bears this pioneering name."

Student 2: "My life's ambition is to reach the level that the Martyr fighter Dalal Mughrabi reached."

[Official PA TV, March 27, 2014]

A teacher in the Dalal Mughrabi School explained why it is important that children be in a school named after the terrorist:

"Dalal Mughrabi is a fighter who carried out Jihad and struggle from the beginning of her life. She was one of the brave female fighters who carried out Martyrdom-seeking operations (i.e.,



terror attacks). We in the Ministry of Education had the honor of naming our school after the Martyr Dalal Mughrabi, so that her eternal memory will last for a long time.”

[Official PA TV, March 27, 2014]

4. Children's TV

Children's TV programmes on Official PA TV reinforce these pernicious messages.

The children's programme, *The Best Home*, has, on at least three occasions, broadcast a young girl reciting a poem calling Jews “barbaric monkeys”, “the most evil among creations” and those “who murdered Allah's pious prophets”. Jews are said to be “throngs... brought up on spilling blood... impure... [and] filth”.

[Official PA TV, May 29, 2015, Sept. 12, 2014, and July 3, 2013]

This was not a one-off. Another poem recited on *The Best Home* referred to Jews as “Allah's enemies, the sons of pigs”, who defiled the Quran and Jerusalem, and “murdered children”, “cut off their limbs”, and “raped the women in the city squares”.

[Official PA TV, March 22, 2013]

The problem is also ongoing. In January 2017, *The Best Home* had young children recite poems encouraging violence. One poem called for murder of Israelis “as we slaughtered them in your streets, Beirut.” The poem also urged Palestinians to seek death, emphasising that if you are a member of Fatah, your “blood is food for the revolution”.

[Official PA TV, Jan. 6, 2017]

A girl and a boy recited another poem on the same children's programme, celebrating the escalation from violence of “rocks” to violence of automatic rifles:

“We want to speak openly, with no hesitation and with no fear

World, hear and see, my rock has turned into an AK-47 [assault rifle],

Your words are true, Yasser Arafat

O mountain, the wind will not move you.”

[Official PA TV, Jan. 20, 2017]

Additional information can be found at Palestinian Media Watch, www.palwatch.org