

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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**Name:** Palestinian Islamic Jihad

**Type of Organization:**

- Non-state actor
- terrorist
- violent

**Ideologies and Affiliations:**

- Iranian-sponsored
- Islamist
- jihadist
- Palestinian
- Salafist
- Sunni
- takfiri

**Place of Origin:**

Egypt

**Year of Origin:**

1979

**Founder(s):**

Fathi Shaqaqi and Abd al-Aziz Awda

**Places of Operation:**

Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, Lebanon, Syria

**Overview**

*Also Known As:*

- Abu Ghunaym Squad of the Hizballah Bayt Al-Maqdis<sup>1</sup>
- al-Awdah Brigades<sup>2</sup>
- al-Quds Brigades<sup>3</sup>
- al-Quds Squads<sup>4</sup>
- Harakat al-Jihad al-Islami al-Filastini<sup>5</sup>
- Harakat al-Jihad al-Islami fi Filistin<sup>6</sup>
- Islamic Holy War<sup>7</sup>
- Islamic Jihad<sup>8</sup>
- Islamic Jihad-Palestine Faction<sup>9</sup>
- Islamic Jihad in Palestine<sup>10</sup>
- Islamic Jihad of Palestine<sup>11</sup>
- Islamic Jihad Palestine<sup>12</sup>
- Palestine Islamic Jihad<sup>13</sup>
- Palestine Islamic Jihad-Shallah Faction<sup>14</sup>
- Palestine Islamic Jihad-Shaqaqi Faction<sup>15</sup>
- PIJ-Shallah Faction<sup>16</sup>
- PIJ-Shaqaqi Faction<sup>17</sup>
- Saraya al-Quds<sup>18</sup>

*Executive Summary:*

Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) is a Palestinian Islamist terrorist group sponsored by Iran and Syria. Founded in 1979 as an offshoot of the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood, PIJ is the second-largest terrorist group in Gaza today (after Hamas). The U.S. State Department claims that PIJ has fewer than 1,000 members, though in 2011 the group claimed to have at least 8,000 battle-ready fighters in Gaza.

PIJ is dedicated to eradicating Israel and establishing an autonomous Islamic Palestinian state in the lands currently comprising Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza. PIJ believes that the land of Palestine is consecrated for Islam, that Israel usurped Palestine, and, therefore, that Israel is an affront to God and Islam and that Palestine's re-conquest is a holy task.

## ***Palestinian Islamic Jihad***

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Accordingly, PIJ refuses to negotiate with Israel, rejects a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and carries out numerous terror attacks against Israeli targets and interests. Unlike Hamas, PIJ does not participate in the political process or provide social services.

PIJ's primary sponsor is Iran, which has provided the group with millions of dollars in direct funding, as well as training and weapons. PIJ has partnered with Iranian- and Syrian-sponsored Hezbollah in carrying out joint operations.

Based in Gaza until 1987, PIJ's leadership was then exiled to Lebanon, where it reportedly began cooperating with Hezbollah and began receiving training from Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.<sup>19</sup> PIJ's leadership relocated to Syria in 1989, but left a small group in Lebanon that launched joint attacks with Hezbollah in the 1990s.<sup>20</sup> Syria has also provided military aid and sanctuary to PIJ, allowing the terrorist group's leadership to occupy a Syrian Army base from 1989 until 2012.<sup>21</sup>

According to the U.S. State Department, PIJ's senior leadership continues to reside in Syria and some other leaders live in Lebanon, though most PIJ members live in Gaza.<sup>22</sup> International Arabic-language newspaper *Asharq Al-Awsat* reported in 2012 that PIJ's Syria-based leadership had relocated to Iran but continued to enjoy positive ties with their Syrian patrons. However, a PIJ official denied that report, claiming "relations between [PIJ] and the Syrian government are excellent, unlike Hamas,"<sup>23</sup> whose leadership left Syria after refusing to support the Assad regime during the Syrian civil war. Official representatives of the group are also stationed elsewhere in the Middle East,<sup>24</sup> including Iran.<sup>25</sup>

### ***Doctrine:***

PIJ seeks to create a state based on sharia (Islamic law) in all the land between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River—including Israel, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. Like Hamas, PIJ portrays the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as a religious clash, not merely a territorial dispute. PIJ believes that the land of Palestine is consecrated for Islam and that, therefore, Israel usurped Palestine. Consequently, Israel's very existence is an affront to God and Islam, and destroying Israel and reconquering Palestine are religious obligations.

In PIJ's ideology, an Islamic state of Palestine can be established only through jihad (holy war) and the destruction of Israel. According to the "Manifesto of the Islamic Jihad in Palestine," a document discovered by federal authorities investigating a Florida man with suspected PIJ ties, the group rejects "any peaceful solution to the Palestinian cause" and affirms "the Jihad solution and the martyrdom style as the only choice for liberation."<sup>26</sup> Accordingly, PIJ completely rejects negotiations with Israel or a two-state solution.

PIJ's founders, Fathi Shaqaqi and Abd al-Aziz Awda, drew initial inspiration from the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood. However, both men left the Brotherhood in the late 1970s, feeling the group had become too moderate and did not focus enough on the plight of the Palestinians.<sup>27</sup> Inspired by Ayatollah Khomeini's Islamic Revolution in Iran, Shaqaqi and Awda founded PIJ on the principles Khomeini advocated, with the goal of creating an Islamic state within the land that constituted the Palestine mandate prior to Israel's creation in 1948.<sup>28</sup>

PIJ is dedicated singularly to violent jihad. While Hamas has engaged in indirect talks with Israel (including on prisoner exchanges and ceasefires), PIJ refuses to negotiate with Israel (though the group has participated in pan-Palestinian ceasefires negotiated by Egypt). Also unlike Hamas, PIJ generally does not provide social services.<sup>29</sup> However, in 2013, when Iran and Hamas were estranged due to Hamas's abandonment of the Iranian-allied Assad regime in Syria's civil war, Iran tasked PIJ with distributing \$2 million in Iranian food aid in Gaza from the Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation, a Beirut-based Iranian charity. *The New York Times* interpreted the move as an attempt to extend Iran's influence in Gaza while undermining Hamas and strengthening the rival PIJ.<sup>30</sup>

### ***Organizational Structure:***

Ramadan Shallah served as PIJ's secretary-general from 1995 until 2018. That September, PIJ's leadership council elected

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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Ziad al-Nakhalah to be the new secretary-general.<sup>31</sup> PIJ is governed by a leadership council. PIJ elected nine new members to the council in September 2018 in the group's first international elections since 1980. The political council is made up of 15 members, nine of whom are elected by balloted voting. The secretary-general appoints two members, and the remaining four are approved by the council. The council represents PIJ members in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Israeli prisons, and abroad. Elections are reportedly to be held every four years.<sup>32</sup>

PIJ's leadership has operated from Syria since 1989, when they relocated from Lebanon after Israel expelled them a year earlier. In 2012, rumors circulated that the group's leadership had relocated to Iran, but a PIJ official denied that.<sup>33</sup> According to the U.S. State Department, PIJ operates primarily in the Gaza Strip but its leaders also live in Lebanon and elsewhere in the Middle East.<sup>34</sup>

The al-Quds Brigades, PIJ's armed wing, carries out violent attacks against Israel. The Brigades has regional staff commands. Each member within a command oversees a cell within that command's region. The PIJ leadership issues orders and staff commanders carry out PIJ operations and coordinate cells.<sup>35</sup> The U.S. State Department claims that PIJ has fewer than 1,000 members,<sup>36</sup> though the group claimed in 2011 to have at least 8,000 battle-ready fighters in Gaza.<sup>37</sup>

### *Financing:*

Iran is PIJ's primary source of financial support, according to the U.S. State Department.<sup>38</sup> A 1998 lawsuit against Iran in U.S. federal court revealed that the Islamic Republic allocated \$2 million in its annual budget to PIJ.<sup>39</sup> That number has since skyrocketed—in late 2013, PIJ sources revealed that the terror group received about \$3 million per month from Iran.<sup>40</sup> During the 2012 war between Israel and Hamas, PIJ fired rockets into Israeli territory and hung banners across Gaza streets with the phrase, "Thank you, Iran."<sup>41</sup> A February 2014 report by Ali Nourizadeh, director of the Center for Iranian Studies in London, stated that Iran provides PIJ with \$100 to \$150 million annually.<sup>42</sup>

In mid-2015, a senior PIJ leader said the group was suffering from its worst financial crisis in history. One PIJ leader attributed the crisis to Egypt's closure of the smuggling tunnels beneath the Gaza-Egypt border. The same source also said Iran had cut back its funding to the group.<sup>43</sup> Iran reportedly cut funding because PIJ refused to issue a statement supporting Iran in its conflict against Saudi Arabia in Yemen.<sup>44</sup> Iran had reportedly cut PIJ's funding by 90 percent as of January 2016. The loss in funding allegedly forced PIJ to slash salaries of its employees. According to media reports, Iran still considered PIJ a "friend" but one the country is unable to continue to support financially. PIJ's leaders insisted the group still had good relations with Iran.<sup>45</sup>

In May 2016, the Iranian government reportedly restored its relations with PIJ with an annual allocation of \$70 million. The allocation followed visit to Tehran by a PIJ delegation the previous month.<sup>46</sup> As of August 2018, Iran reportedly transferred \$30 million annually to PIJ and \$70 million to Hamas.<sup>47</sup> In February 2019, PIJ spokesman Abu Hamza told Iran's Al-Alam TV that "since the day of its establishment, the Islamic Republic [of Iran] has been supporting the Palestinian fighters financially, militarily, in raining, and in all aspects."<sup>48</sup>

A U.S. lawsuit filed in June 2020 alleged Qatar provided funding to Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) through three Qatari financial institutions, the Qatar Charity, Masraf Al Rayan, and Qatar National Bank. The Qatar Charity is a member of the U.S.-sanctioned Union of Good charity network. All three institutions have links to members of the Qatari royal family. The plaintiffs are friends and family members of 10 victims who died in terror attacks in Israel carried out by Hamas and PIJ. The lawsuit accuses Qatar of coopting "several institutions that it dominates and controls to funnel coveted U.S. dollars (the chosen currency of Middle East terrorist networks) to Hamas and PIJ under the false guise of charitable donations."<sup>49</sup>

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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### *Recruitment and Training:*

#### *Recruitment*

Fathi Shaqaqi founded PIJ after being jailed for his involvement in the Palestine Liberation Force.<sup>50</sup> Original PIJ recruits included ex-prisoners Shaqaqi met in jail, upon their return to the Gaza Strip.<sup>51</sup> Shaqaqi was also able to recruit in the early 1980s through early PIJ member Abdul Aziz Awda, a popular preacher and professor of Islamic law. Awda attracted many to the PIJ cause through his sermons at one of Gaza's largest mosques.<sup>52</sup>

Since PIJ's goal has always been to execute strategic military operations against Israel, the group has focused on targeted recruiting rather than simply gaining a large membership. For example, PIJ recruited students to demonstrate at Bir Zeit University in the early 1980s. An April 1987 incident resulted in Israeli forces opening fire on demonstrators, resulting in the death of one student.<sup>53</sup>

PIJ's leadership began recruiting suicide bombers in the early 1990s and originally did not permit women to serve in that role. However, PIJ officially began recruiting female suicide bombers in 2003, justifying women bombers as defending their honor against Israeli invaders. PIJ's first female suicide bomber, a 19-year-old student named Hiba Daraghmeh, attacked a shopping mall, killing three.<sup>54</sup> The next such bomber, Hanadi Jaradat, a 29-year-old lawyer, blew herself up in a restaurant in October 2003, killing 21.<sup>55</sup> Selection and persuasion methods for women suicide bombers are similar to those employed for men. Recruiters of female suicide bombers "take advantage of the candidates' innocence, enthusiasm, personal distress, and thirst for revenge," according to U.S. Army civilian professional Debra Zedalis.<sup>56</sup>

In 2015, PIJ reportedly recruited 200 men between the ages of 19 and 22. According to a 2018 estimate by the U.S. State Department, PIJ has almost 1,000 members.<sup>57</sup>

#### *Training*

Like other violent Islamist groups, PIJ uses training methods and tactics such as exercises in suicide operations and battlefield tactics against Israeli soldiers. PIJ has boasted of opening its ranks to children as young as six years old. PIJ "summer camps" draw as many as 10,000 participants per session.<sup>58</sup> The camps' activities include wielding AK-47s, planting land mines, and mock operations to kidnap Israeli soldiers.<sup>59</sup> PIJ spokesman Daoud Shihab describes such training of children as a way to ensure "a generation strong [in] resistance."<sup>60</sup>

These "Generation of Faith" camps are not restricted to combat training, however. Recruits are "educated intellectually, militarily, and politically."<sup>61</sup> Ahmad al-Moudalal, a PIJ leader who helps to train children fighters, explained, "We are resistance movements. It is therefore normal for us to want to attract young people, instill the culture of resistance in their minds and prepare them to bear arms against the Israeli enemy."<sup>62</sup>

According to the U.S. State Department, members recruited in 2015 were subjected to training programs between 36 days and six months.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>2</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>3</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>4</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>5</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014,

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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<http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>6</sup> "Palestinian Islamic Jihad | Australian National Security," Australian Government, accessed July 7, <http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Listedterroristorganisations/Pages/PalestinianIslamicJihad.aspx> [2].

<sup>7</sup> "Palestinian Islamic Jihad | Australian National Security," Australian Government, accessed July 7, <http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Listedterroristorganisations/Pages/PalestinianIslamicJihad.aspx> [2]; "Judgment for Terrorism is \$248 Million," *New York Times*, March 12, 1998, <http://www.nytimes.com/1998/03/12/nyregion/judgment-for-terrorism-is-248-million.html> [3].

<sup>8</sup> "Palestinian Islamic Jihad | Australian National Security," Australian Government, accessed July 7, <http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Listedterroristorganisations/Pages/PalestinianIslamicJihad.aspx> [2]; Ruth Fletcher, "Terror Deals a Blow to Mideast Peace," *San Francisco Examiner*, April 10, 1995, <http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Terror-deals-a-blow-to-Mideast-peace-3148607.php> [4].

<sup>9</sup> "Palestinian Islamic Jihad | Australian National Security," Australian Government, accessed July 7, <http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Listedterroristorganisations/Pages/PalestinianIslamicJihad.aspx> [2].

<sup>10</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>11</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>12</sup> "Palestinian Islamic Jihad | Australian National Security," Australian Government, accessed July 7, <http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Listedterroristorganisations/Pages/PalestinianIslamicJihad.aspx> [2].

<sup>13</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>14</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>15</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>16</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>17</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>18</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>19</sup> Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].

<sup>20</sup> Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].

<sup>21</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>22</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

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<sup>24</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

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<sup>26</sup> "Statement of the Attorney General Indictments," U.S. Department of Justice, February 20, 2003, <http://www.justice.gov/archive/ag/speeches/2003/02202003pressconference.htm> [9].

<sup>27</sup> Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].

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## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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*Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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<http://www.thetower.org/following-amas-lead-palestinian-islamic-jihad-opens-camps-to-train-child-soldiers/> [31].

<sup>61</sup> Hazem Balousha, "Islamic Jihad, Hamas Hold Military Training Camps for Children," *Al-Monitor*, June 21, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/06/gaza-summer-camps-children-islamic-jihad.html#> [32].

<sup>62</sup> Hazem Balousha, "Islamic Jihad, Hamas Hold Military Training Camps for Children," *Al-Monitor*, June 21, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/06/gaza-summer-camps-children-islamic-jihad.html#> [32].

<sup>63</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2017," U.S. Department of State, September 2018, 322, <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/283100.pdf> [15].

*Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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**Key Leaders**



**Ziad al-Nakhalah**  
Secretary-General



**Mohammad al-Hindi**  
Deputy Secretary-General



**Ramadan Shallah**  
Secretary General



**Fathi Shaqaqi**  
Co-founder, former secretary-general  
(deceased)



**Abd al-Aziz Awda**  
Co-founder



## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

### History:

- January 3, 2020 - January 5, 2020:** On January 3, PIJ releases a statement mourning the death of Qasem Soleimani, the commander of Iran's Quds Force killed in a U.S. airstrike earlier that day. Nakhalah calls Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif on January 5 to express his condolences, calling Soleimani "a model for all Muslims and free people in the world regarding how to confront America and the Zionist entity." Source: Adam Rasgon, " Hamas, Islamic Jihad heads give condolences to Iran's FM on Soleimani's death," Times of Israel, January 5, 2020, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-islamic-jihad-heads-give-condolences-to-irans-fm-on-soleimanis-death/> [33].
- November 12, 2019:** An Israeli airstrike kills Baha Abu al-Ata, a member of the Al-Quds Brigades' military council in Gaza and commander of the northern part of the strip. Abu al-Ata is suspected of overseeing PIJ's recent rocket attacks on Israel, in opposition to requests for calm from Egypt and Gaza's ruling Hamas government. At approximately the same time as the strike targeting Abu al-Ata, an alleged Israeli strike on the home of a PIJ leader in Damascus, Syria, kills two and wounds 10. PIJ declares it is going to war and launches 350 rockets at Israeli population centers over the next 24 hours. Israel responds with airstrikes targeting rocket positions along the Gaza border. At least 23 Palestinians are killed, including PIJ field commander Khaled Moawad Faraj. Israel reports injuries but no fatalities. The PIJ-Hamas joint command issues a statement that it will not allow Israel to return to a policy of targeted assassinations. Nakhalah reportedly arrives in Egypt on November 13 for ceasefire talks. Sources: Adam Rasgon and Jacob Magid, "Islamic Jihad declares 'We're going to war,' after IDF kills its strongman," Times of Israel, November 12, 2019, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/islamic-jihad-declares-were-going-to-war-after-idf-kills-its-strongman/> [34]; Anna Ahronheim, "IDF hits anti-tank missile team; Gaza dead at 23, mostly terrorists," *Jerusalem Post*, November 13, 2019, <https://www.jpost.com/Middle-East/Massive-barrage-towards-southern-and-central-Israel-shatters-quiet-607709> [35]; Maayan Lubell and Nidal al-Mughrabi, "Gaza death toll reaches 23 in second day of escalation," Reuters, November 13, 2019, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-israel-palestinians-violence/gaza-death-toll-reaches-23-in-second-day-of-escalation-idUSKBN1XN0FR> [36]; "Israel kills top Palestinian Islamic Jihad militant in Gaza," BBC News, November 12, 2019, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-50386164> [37]; "Islamic Jihad chief said to arrive in Cairo amid reported ceasefire efforts," Times of Israel, November 13, 2019, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/islamic-jihad-chief-said-to-arrive-in-cairo-amid-reported-ceasefire-efforts/> [38].
- November 12, 2018 - November 14, 2018:** PIJ and Hamas fire more than 450 rockets into Israel, killing one and wounding dozens. After Israel responds with airstrikes in Gaza, the groups agree to a ceasefire on November 13. PIJ claims victory after Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman resigns on November 14 in protest of the ceasefire. Sources: Oren Liebermann, "Biggest Israel-Gaza firefight since 2014 ends in ceasefire," CNN, November 13, 2018, <https://www.cnn.com/2018/11/13/middleeast/israel-gaza-tesnions-escalate-intl/index.html> [39]; Judah Ari Gross and Raoul Woolliff, "Hamas claims Liberman's resignation as a 'victory for Gaza,'" Times of Israel, November 14, 2018, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-claims-libermans-resignation-as-a-victory-for-gaza/> [40].
- October 27, 2018:** Egypt brokers a ceasefire between PIJ and Israel under which PIJ agrees to stop firing rockets at Israel. Two days later, PIJ promises revenge against Israel after the Israeli military kills three Palestinian teenagers allegedly planting explosives near the Gaza-Israel border. Sources: "Islamic Jihad group announces Gaza ceasefire with Israel," Al Jazeera, October 27, 2018, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/islamic-jihad-group-announces-gaza-ceasefire-israel-181027134405582.html> [41]; Raf Sanchez, "Islamic Jihad vows revenge after three Palestinian teenagers killed by Israeli airstrike in Gaza," *Telegraph* (London), October 29, 2018, <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/10/29/islamic-jihad-vows-revenge-three-palestinian-teenagers-killed/> [42].
- September 27, 2018:** PIJ elects Ziad al-Nakhalah as its secretary-general, replacing Shallah. Shallah had been hospitalized earlier in the year and reportedly fell into a coma, though PIJ denied the reports. Nakhalah appoints Mohammad al-Hindi deputy secretary-general, the position previously held by Nakhalah. PIJ also elects nine new members to its leadership council for the first time since 1980. The group reportedly plans to hold elections every four years. Shallah dies on June 7, 2020. Sources: "Iran-backed Palestinian Islamic Jihad names new leader," Associated Press, September 28, 2018, <https://apnews.com/d14e7e6a4a68481980b6db8052853f03> [12]; "Palestine's Islamic Jihad denies leader was in coma in Lebanon," Middle East Monitor, April 10, 2018, <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20180410-palestines-islamic-jihad-denies-leader-was-in-coma-in-lebanon/> [43]; "Palestinian Islamic Jihad chooses new leader, remains close to Iran," Times of Israel, September 28, 2018, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinian-islamic-jihad-chooses-new-leader-remains-close-to-iran/> [44]; Ahmad Abu Amer, "Has Iran's influence increased in Palestinian arena?" Al-Monitor, October 16, 2018, <https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2018/10/palestinian-islamic-jihad-elections-iran-influence.html> [13]; Shlomi Eldar, "Islamic Jihad, the new lord of Gaza?" Al-Monitor, February 5, 2019, <https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2019/02/israel-egypt-gaza-strip-palestinians-hamas-islamic-jihad.html> [45]; "Former Palestinian Islamic Jihad leader Ramadan Shalah dies at 62," Times of Israel, June 6, 2020, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/former-palestinian-islamic-jihad-leader-shalah-dies-at-62/> [46].
- May 29, 2018:** Hamas and PIJ fire at least 28 mortars at communities in southern Israel. The Israeli military responds by bombing Gaza facilities belonging to Hamas and PIJ. There are no casualties reported on either side. It is reportedly the largest confrontation between Hamas and Israel since the 2014 war. Sources: Bethann McKernan, "Gaza militants pelt Israel with rockets in biggest attack in years," *Independent* (London), May 29, 2018, <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/gaza-rocket-attack-israel-hamas-palestinians-protest-idf-a8373556.html> [47]; "Live Updates: Why Israel Agreed to Hamas' Request to End Fighting," *Haaretz* (Jerusalem), May 31, 2018, <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/why-israel-agreed-gaza-cease-fire-with-hamas-1.6131634> [48].
- October 30, 2017:** Israel destroys an underground tunnel beneath its border with Gaza, killing 10 PIJ militants and two Hamas militants. PIJ calls the militants "heroes" in a media statement. Source: Agence France-Presse and Times of Israel, "Islamic Jihad declared tunnel missing dead; toll rises to 12," Times of Israel, November 3, 2017, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/islamic-jihad-declares-tunnel-missing-dead-toll-rises-to-12/> [49].
- May 2017:** After Hamas releases a new governing document that signals its acceptance of a temporary Palestinian state along the 1967 borders, PIJ releases a statement rejecting any Palestinian state within the 1967 borders. PIJ reiterates its commitment to the full pre-1948 borders that would signal the elimination of Israel. Source: Agence France-Presse, "Islamic Jihad rejects Palestine state within 1967 borders," Public Radio International, May 6, 2017, <https://www.pri.org/stories/2017-05-06/islamic-jihad-rejects-palestine-state-within-1967-borders> [50].
- May 2016:** The Iranian government reportedly restores its relations with PIJ with an annual allocation of \$70 million.

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

The allocation follows visit to Tehran by a PIJ delegation the previous month. Qasem Soleimani, head of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards' Quds Force, reportedly appoints Khaled Mansour commander of PIJ's Quds Brigades in Gaza. Source: "Iran resumes funding for Palestinian Islamic Jihad: report," i24 News, May 25, 2016, <https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/middle-east/114490-160525-iran-resumes-funding-for-palestinian-islamic-jihad-group-report> [24].

- **February 2016:** Israel arrests Gazan computer engineer Majd Awida for allegedly hacking IDF drones in order for PIJ to use them to survey Gaza.  
PIJ reportedly recruited Awida in 2011 and Awida developed the hack in 2012. Awida also allegedly developed software to allow PIJ to track flights at BenGurion International Airport and see passenger lists. Source: "Gazan engineer allegedly also created software to spy on flights at Ben Gurion airport for Islamic Jihad," i24 News, March 23, 2016, <http://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy-defense/107160-160323-islamic-jihad-operative-hacked-into-israeli-drones-says-indictment>.
- **October 29, 2015:** As a wave of stabbing attacks against Israelis enters its second month, PIJ calls on the PA to reject negotiations with Israel.  
PIJ also calls on Palestinian factions to review their policies and move away from political opportunism. Source: Adnan Abu Amer, "How Palestinian divisions affect the intifada," Al-Monitor, November 3, 2015, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2015/11/palestinian-intifada-disputes-objectives.html>.
- **August 19, 2015:** PIJ member Mohammed Allan is hospitalized after a 65-day hunger strike in an Israeli prison.  
The Israeli Supreme Court rules he is not a threat in his current state and suspends his arrest warrant. Allan's health reportedly improves. He is released on November 4. Sources: "Islamic Jihad shot rockets at Israel's north on Iran's behalf, IDF says," Times of Israel, August 20, 2015, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/four-rockets-land-in-northern-israel-no-injuries-reported/>; Ali Sawafta, "Palestinian detainee ends 65-day hunger strike," Reuters, August 19, 2015, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/08/19/us-israel-palestinians-hungerstriker-idUSKCN0Q01K520150819>; Agence France-Presse, "Israel frees former hunger strike Palestinian: prison services," Yahoo News, November 4, 2015, <http://news.yahoo.com/israel-set-free-hunger-strike-palestinian-prison-000226951.html>.
- **July 12, 2015:** Israel releases PIJ leader Khader Anan from prison after reaching a deal to end his 55-day hunger strike.  
Authorities arrested Anan in July 2014 for the 10th time. He began his hunger strike on May 4. Israeli authorities reached a deal to release him in late June. Source: Nidal al-Mughrabi and Ori Lewis, "Israel frees Palestinian hunger striker from jail," Reuters, July 12, 2015, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/07/12/us-israel-palestinians-idUSKCN0PM05O20150712>.
- **February 2015:** Former Florida university professor Sami Al-Arian is deported from the United States on charges that he gave money and other material support to the PIJ.  
Source: Letitia Stein, "Former Florida professor deported from U.S. over Palestinian terrorist ties," Reuters, February 6, 2015, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/02/06/us-usa-security-al-arian-idUSKBN0LA2KA20150206> [51].
- **December 2, 2014:** Arab Bank—accused of financing terrorism by providing services to PIJ and other terrorist groups—asks a U.S. federal appeals court to block thousands of terror-finance claims.  
Source: Nate Raymond, "Arab Bank asks U.S. court to block thousands of terror-finance claims," Reuters, December 2, 2014, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/12/02/usa-arab-bk-appeal-idUSL2N0TM1LR20141202> [52].
- **November 18, 2014:** Two Palestinian terrorists attack a Jerusalem synagogue during prayers, killing four rabbis and one Druze policeman.  
PIJ applauds the attack, stating, "[T]he operation in Jerusalem was a natural reaction to the crimes committed by the Israeli Occupation Forces and Zionist settlers." Source: "Two Palestinian storm Jerusalem synagogue, kill four Israelis," *Al Akhbar English* (Beirut), November 18, 2014, <http://english.al-akhbar.com/node/22524> [53].
- **October 29, 2014:** Moataz Hejazi shoots and critically wounds prominent right-wing Israeli activist Yehuda Glick in Jerusalem, Israel.  
After the shooting, police track Hejazi to his home and he dies in a shootout. The following day, PIJ publishes an obituary for Hijazi on its website, saying that he had been a member of the organization. Sources: Daniel K. Eisenbud, "Police and Shin Bet kill suspect in shooting of right-wing activist Yehuda Glick," *Jerusalem Post*, October 30, 2014, <http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Report-Suspect-in-right-wing-activist-Yehuda-Glicks-shooting-killed-by-police-380238> [54]; "Nir Hasson, "Israeli police kill Palestinian suspect in Jerusalem assassination attempt," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), October 30, 2014, <http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/.premium-1.623528> [55].
- **September 4, 2014:** After the 2014 Israel-Gaza war ends, Al Jazeera broadcasts a video of PIJ's tunnel systems.  
In the video, a PIJ militant declares that the group is preparing for its next war with Israel and that the tunnels will be used to launch attacks and fire mortars on Israel. Sources: "Video shows Islamic Jihad's new Gaza tunnels," i24 News, September 9, 2014, <http://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy-defense/43188-140909-video-shows-islamic-jihad-s-new-gaza-tunnels> [56]; "#4478-Palestinian Islamic Jihad Digs New Tunnels in Gaza," Middle East Media Research Institute, September 4, 2014, <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/4478.htm> [57].
- **August 27, 2014:** Appearing on Iran's state-run network Press TV, PIJ representative Nasser Abu Sharif praises Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei's support of PIJ and states, "As the Zionist settlers were forced to emigrate from the settlements around the Gaza Strip, we will certainly witness the return of all the Zionists to their original places of residence outside Palestine in not-too-distant future."  
Source: "Islamic Jihad lauds Leader's backing for resistance," Press TV, August 27, 2014, <http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2014/08/27/376781/islamic-jihad-hails-leader-backing/> [58].
- **August 20, 2014:** According to Iran's state-run network Press TV, PIJ has fired 3,000 rockets at Israel during the 2014 Israel-Gaza war.  
Source: "Islamic Jihad fired 3,000 rockets on Israeli cities," Press TV, August 30, 2014, <http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2014/08/30/377060/gaza-fires-3000-rockets-into-israel/> [59].
- **August 8, 2014:** After a three-day ceasefire between Israel and Hamas expires, PIJ fires three Grad rockets at Ashkelon and promises to continue firing until Israel accedes to all of Hamas's demands.

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

Source: Ola Attalah, "Islamic Jihad Claims Rocket Barrage at Israel," *Daily Star* (Beirut), August 8, 2014, <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2014/Aug-08/266473-islamic-jihad-claims-rocket-barrage-at-israel.ashx#axzz3A3RYuBbz> [60].

- **August 5, 2014:**An Egyptian-negotiated 72-hour ceasefire takes hold. Israeli and Palestinian negotiators head to Cairo to discuss a longer truce. Representatives of Fatah, Hamas, and PIJ are part of the Palestinian delegation. Sources: "Israel-Hamas Cease-Fire Holding, Truce Talks to Open in Cairo," *Voice of America*, August 5, 2014, <http://www.voanews.com/content/israel-hamas-begin-72-hour-truce-gaza/1971724.htm> [61]; "Rory Jones, 'Israel, Hamas Agree to Gaza Policing Plan,'" *Wall Street Journal*, August 6, 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/israel-hamas-agree-to-gaza-policing-plan-1407372983> [62].
- **July 29, 2014:**Israeli air strikes kill Salah Abu Hassanein, PIJ's commander of its Military Media Division; PIJ regional commanders who controlled the northern and central sectors of the Gaza Strip; and Shaaban Dakhdoukh, PIJ commander of forces in Zeitoun. Source: Felice Friedson, "Israel says it has targeted and killed high-profile terrorists during Gaza fighting" *National Post* (Toronto), July 29, 2014, <http://news.nationalpost.com/2014/07/29/israel-says-it-has-targeted-and-killed-high-profile-terrorists-during-gaza-fighting/> [63].
- **July 28, 2014:**Seven Palestinian children die after a rocket strikes a playground in Gaza's al-Shati refugee camp while another rocket hits al-Shifa Hospital. Palestinians initially blamed Israel, but the strikes were the result of misfired rockets by PIJ. Source: Yifa Yaakov, "IDF: Terrorists' Rockets Hit Gaza Hospital, Refugee Camp," *Times of Israel*, July 28, 2014, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-terrorists-rockets-hit-gaza-hospital-refugee-camp/> [64].
- **July 22, 2014:**The European Union demands that Hamas, PIJ, and other Palestinian terror groups disarm, calling the groups' indiscriminate rocket fire on Israel "criminal and unjustifiable." Source: Marissa Newman, "EU Calls on Hamas, Islamic Jihad to Disarm," *Times of Israel*, July 22, 2014, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/eu-calls-on-hamas-islamic-jihad-to-disarm/> [65].
- **July 8, 2014:**Israel launches Operation Protective Edge, aimed at striking Hamas and ending rocket fire from Hamas and PIJ in Gaza. PIJ takes credit for firing 60 rockets and claims it has begun an operation called Stable Building. Some analysts argue PIJ has been strengthened by the latest conflict. Sources: "Operation Protective Edge: Israel bombs Gaza in retaliation for rockets," *Guardian* (London), July 8, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jul/08/operation-protective-edge-israel-bombs-gaza-in-retaliation-for-rockets> [66]; Spencer Ho and Yifa Yaakov, "Israel Hits Hamas, Islamic Jihad Leaders after Rockets Land North of Tel Aviv," *Times of Israel*, July 8, 2014, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-pounds-dozens-of-gaza-targets-in-major-counteroffensive/> [67].
- **June 2014:**U.S. federal authorities drop contempt charges against Sami Al-Arian. Source: Josh Gerstein, "Feds Drop Sami Al-Arian Prosecution," *Politico*, June 27, 2014, <http://www.politico.com/story/2014/06/sami-al-arian-prosecution-108404.html> [68].
- **April 2014:**Three local Hamas leaders attack a group of PIJ members in a Gaza mosque and throw them out. Source: Hani Ibrahim, "Hamas' Growing Rivalry with Islamic Jihad," *Al Akhbar English* (Beirut), April 16, 2014, <http://english.al-akhbar.com/content/hamas%E2%80%99-growing-rivalry-islamic-jihad> [69].
- **April 2014:**According to a poll by Watan Center for Studies and Research in the Gaza Strip, support for PIJ increased significantly (to 23.3 percent) while support for Hamas declined (to 13.5 percent), compared to the last poll in 2010. PIJ only registered 1 percent support in a 2010 poll. Source: "Rasha Abou Jalal, 'Islamic Jihad gains support in Gaza as Hamas declines,'" *Al-Monitor*, April 10, 2014, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/04/islamic-jihad-support-gaza-expense-hamas.html> [70].
- **March 2014:**PIJ fires a round of mortars from Gaza into Israel, prompting an Israeli strike that kills three PIJ commanders. In retaliation, PIJ launches at least 130 locally made rockets into Israel as part of a military operation called Breaking the Silence. The operation is reportedly in coordination with Hamas. Sources: JC Finley, "US & UN Condemn Islamic Jihad Rocket Attack on Israel," *United Press International*, March 12, 2014, [http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/World-News/2014/03/12/US-UN-condemn-Gaza-rocket-attacks-on-Israel/8791394656512/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2014/03/12/US-UN-condemn-Gaza-rocket-attacks-on-Israel/8791394656512/) [71]; "Rasha Abou Jalal, 'Islamic Jihad gains support in Gaza as Hamas declines,'" *Al-Monitor*, April 10, 2014, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/04/islamic-jihad-support-gaza-expense-hamas.html> [70]; Hani Ibrahim, "Hamas' Growing Rivalry with Islamic Jihad," *Al Akhbar English* (Beirut), April 16, 2014, <http://english.al-akhbar.com/content/hamas%E2%80%99-growing-rivalry-islamic-jihad> [69].
- **February 5, 2014:**PIJ leader Ramadan Shallah leads a delegation from the group to Tehran for a meeting with Iranian officials. Source: Asmaa al-Ghoul, "Hamas Isolated as Iran Boosts Ties with Islamic Jihad, Fatah," *Al-Monitor*, February 12, 2014, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/02/islamic-jihad-fatah-hamas-iran-palestinians.html> [72].
- **December 22, 2013:**An Israeli police sapper is injured when a bomb he was trying to defuse on a Bat Yam bus explodes. Four PIJ members are arrested a month later for coordinating the attack. Sources: "Disaster Averted as Bomb Explodes on Bus after Passengers Evacuated," *Times of Israel*, December 22, 2013, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/i-injured-in-explosion-on-bat-yam-bus/> [73]; "Bat Yam Bus Bombers Caught, Were Planning Larger Blast in Tel Aviv," *Times of Israel*, January 2, 2014, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/four-islamic-jihad-members-arrested-over-bat-yam-bus-bombing/> [74].
- **September 2013:**PIJ and Hamas announce plans to create a joint command in Gaza. Source: Elhanan Miller, "Islamic Jihad Ends Three-Day Schism with Hamas," *Times of Israel*, June 26, 2013, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/islamic-jihad-ends-three-day-schism-with-hamas/> [75].
- **June 24, 2013:**Six rockets fired from Gaza explode in southern Israel. No casualties are reported. Israeli intelligence believes PIJ fired the rockets as an act of defiance against the Hamas authorities in Gaza. Source: "Six Rockets Fired from Gaza Explode in Southern Israel," *Times of Israel*, June 24, 2013, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/three-rockets-fired-from-gaza-explode-in-south/> [76].

## ***Palestinian Islamic Jihad***

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- **June 23, 2013:**PIJ announces it is breaking contact with Hamas because of Jundiya's death. PJI resumes contact with Hamas three days later. Sources: "Islamic Jihad Chief Dies after Clash with Hamas Police," Agence France-Presse, June 23, 2013, <http://archive.today/U8pqD> [77]; Elhanan Miller, "Islamic Jihad Ends Three-Day Schism with Hamas," *Times of Israel*, June 26, 2013, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/islamic-jihad-ends-three-day-schism-with-hamas/> [75].
- **June 22, 2013:**Hamas police forces shoot Raed Jundiya, a commander in PIJ's al-Quds Brigade and the chief of PIJ's rocket unit. Source: "Islamic Jihad Chief Dies after Clash with Hamas Police," Agence France-Presse, June 23, 2013, <http://archive.today/U8pqD> [77].
- **February 2013:**For the first time, PIJ encourages its members to register for Palestinian elections, raising speculation that PIJ is working more closely with the PLO. Source: Asmaa Al-Ghoul, "Exclusive: Islamic Jihad Rethinks Role in Palestinian Politics," *Al-Monitor*, May 9, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/05/islamic-jihad-palestine-political-civil-involvement.html> [78].
- **November 2012:**PIJ claims it stole and published the private information, including cell phone numbers, of more than 100 Israeli soldiers. Source: Daniel Siryoti, "Islamic Jihad Says It Leaked IDF Soldiers' Personal Information," *Israel Hayom*, November 27, 2012, [http://www.israelhayom.com/site/newsletter\\_article.php?id=6541](http://www.israelhayom.com/site/newsletter_article.php?id=6541) [79].
- **November 2012:**PIJ takes credit for a rocket fired from Gaza at Tel Aviv. The rocket explodes in an open field, causing no casualties. Source: "Gaza Terrorists Fire Two Rockets at Tel Aviv," *Jerusalem Post*, November 16, 2014, <http://www.jpost.com/Defense/Gaza-terrorists-fire-two-rockets-at-Tel-Aviv> [80].
- **November 2012:**Hamas and PIJ are credited for bombing a Tel Aviv bus that wounds at least 30 people. Source: Gil Cohen, "Israel Arrests Hamas, Islamic Jihad Cell behind Tel Aviv Bus Bomb," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), November 22, 2012, <http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/israel-arrests-hamas-islamic-jihad-cell-behind-tel-aviv-bus-bomb-1.479958> [81].
- **July 2012:**International Arabic-language newspaper *Asharq Al-Awsat* reports that PIJ's Syria-based leadership had relocated to Iran but continues to enjoy positive ties with their Syrian patrons. However, a PIJ official denies that report, claiming "relations between [PIJ] and the Syrian government are excellent, unlike Hamas," whose leadership left Syria after refusing to support the Assad regime during the Syrian civil war. Source: "Islamic Jihad Leadership Relocates to Iran," *Asharq Al-Awsat* (London), July 22, 2012, <http://www.aawsat.net/2012/07/article55241265> [6].
- **March 2012:**PIJ fires almost 200 missiles into Israel from Gaza. Source: Asmaa al-Ghoul, "Islamic Jihad Movement Maintains Popularity in Gaza," *Al-Monitor*, May 7, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulseen/originals/2013/05/islamic-jihad-movement-gaza-palestine.html> [82].
- **October 29, 2011:**PIJ fires a number of rockets into southern Israel, killing one civilian and wounding two. Source: "Palestinian Islamic Jihad | Australian National Security," Australian Government, accessed July 7, 2014, <http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Listedterroristorganisations/Pages/PalestinianIslamicJihad.aspx> [2].
- **August 20, 2011:**PIJ fires a volley of rockets into southern Israel, killing one civilian and wounding seven. Source: "Palestinian Islamic Jihad | Australian National Security," Australian Government, accessed July 7, 2014, <http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Listedterroristorganisations/Pages/PalestinianIslamicJihad.aspx> [2].
- **January 8, 2011:**PIJ fires two mortars into southern Israel, killing two Thai nationals. Source: "Palestinian Islamic Jihad | Australian National Security," Australian Government, accessed July 7, 2014, <http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Listedterroristorganisations/Pages/PalestinianIslamicJihad.aspx> [2].
- **December 2008:**Two weeks before Israel's Operation Cast Lead, the Israel Defense Forces kills Jihad Nawahda, a senior member of PIJ's military wing. In response, PIJ fires a barrage of rockets at Israel. Source: Shlomi Eldar, "Hamas Trapped between Israel, Islamic Jihad," *Al-Monitor*, March 14, 2014, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulseen/originals/2014/03/israel-hamas-gaza-iran-islamic-jihad-rival-rockets.html> [83].
- **June 2008:**PIJ claims responsibility for firing a Grad rocket that hit a shopping mall in Ashkelon, Israel. Israeli authorities accuse Iran of providing PIJ with Grad rockets. Source: "15 Wounded as Grad Rocket Strikes Ashkelon Shopping Mall," *Jerusalem Post*, March 14, 2008, <http://www.jpost.com/Israel/15-wounded-as-Grad-rocket-strikes-Ashkelon-shopping-mall> [84].
- **June 2008:**Before Sami al-Arian is to be deported, a U.S. grand jury in Virginia indicts him on two counts of criminal contempt for refusing to testify in a case involving local Muslim groups and their ties to terrorism. Source: Josh Gerstein, "Feds Drop Sami Al-Arian Prosecution," *Politico*, June 27, 2014, <http://www.politico.com/story/2014/06/sami-al-arian-prosecution-108404.html> [68].
- **April 2008:**PIJ fires 216 rockets and mortar shells at various Israeli towns. Source: "Country Reports on Terrorism 2008: Chapter 6. Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2009, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/ris/crt/2008/122449.htm> [85].
- **March 2008:**PIJ and Hamas jointly claim responsibility for an explosion that killed two IDF soldiers patrolling the security fence in the central Gaza Strip. Source: "Country Reports on Terrorism 2008: Chapter 6. Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2009, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/ris/crt/2008/122449.htm> [85].
- **January 2007:**A suicide attack at an Eilat bakery kills three. PIJ and the Fatah-affiliated Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade claim responsibility. Source: Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].
- **April 17, 2006:**PIJ and the Fatah-affiliated Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade claim responsibility for a suicide bombing that

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

killed 11 people at a sandwich stand near Tel Aviv's old central bus station.

Source: "TIMELINE: Recent Bomb and Shooting Attacks against Israelis," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), November 21, 2012, <http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/timeline-recent-bomb-and-shooting-attacks-against-israelis-1.479592> [86].

- **April 2006:**A U.S. federal judge sentences alleged senior PIJ leader and former University of South Florida professor Sami Al-Arian, who had pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to aid PIJ, to an additional 19 months in prison before he is to be deported from the U.S.  
Source: Jennifer Steinhauer, "19 Months More in Prison For Professor in Terror Case," *New York Times*, May 2, 2006, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/02/us/02islamic.html> [87].
- **March 6, 2006:**Khaled Dahdouh, commander of PIJ's al-Quds Brigades and developer of a new generation of rockets, is killed by a car bomb.  
PIJ vows revenge against Israel. Source: "Blast Kills Islamic Jihad Leader in Gaza," *New York Times*, March 1, 2006, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/01/world/africa/01iht-web.0301mideast.html> [88].
- **February 28, 2006:**Sami Al-Arian, alleged PIJ senior leader and former professor at the University of South Florida, pleads guilty in a U.S. district court to one count of conspiracy to contribute services to or for the benefit of PIJ. A federal jury acquitted Al-Arian in December 2005 of eight of the 17 charges against him. The jury deadlocked on the remaining nine counts. Source: Jennifer Steinhauer, "19 Months More in Prison For Professor in Terror Case," *New York Times*, May 2, 2006, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/02/us/02islamic.html> [87].
- **December 2005:**After a six-month trial, a U.S. federal jury acquits Sami Al-Arian, alleged PIJ senior leader and former professor at the University of South Florida, of eight of the 17 charges against him.  
The jury fails to reach a verdict on the remaining nine charges. The charges included racketeering, immigration fraud, conspiracy to kill and maim persons abroad, providing material support to PIJ, perjury, extortion, and obstruction of justice. Source: Jennifer Steinhauer, "19 Months More in Prison For Professor in Terror Case," *New York Times*, May 2, 2006, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/02/us/02islamic.html> [87].
- **October 26, 2005:**A bombing at a market in Hadera, Israel kills five people.  
PIJ claims responsibility. Source: Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].
- **October 5, 2003:**Israel bombs a PIJ training base in Syria in retaliation for the previous day's Haifa bombing.  
Source: "Israel Attacks Alleged Islamic Jihad Base in Syria," Fox News, October 5, 2003, <http://www.foxnews.com/story/2003/10/05/israel-attacks-alleged-islamic-jihad-base-in-syria> [89].
- **October 4, 2003:**A PIJ suicide bomber blows himself up at Maxim restaurant in Haifa, killing 21 and injuring 60.  
Source: "Suicide bombing of Maxim restaurant in Haifa October 4, 2003," Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, January 21, 2004, <https://mfa.gov.il/MFA/MFA-Archive/2004/Pages/Suicide%20bombing%20of%20Maxim%20restaurant%20in%20Haifa%20-%204-O.aspx?ViewMode=Print> [90].
- **August 14, 2003:**Israeli forces kill local PIJ commander Muhammad Sidir, who was responsible for the deaths of more than 20 people during an arrest raid-turned-deadly in Hebron.  
PIJ vows revenge. Source: James Bennet, "Israelis Kill a Leader of Islamic Jihad, Which Vows Revenge," *New York Times*, August 15, 2003, <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/08/15/world/israelis-kill-a-leader-of-islamic-jihad-which-vows-revenge.html> [91].
- **February 19, 2003:**A U.S. federal grand jury indicts eight members of PIJ, including University of South Florida professor Sami Al-Arian, on charges of racketeering, immigration fraud, conspiracy to kill and maim persons abroad, providing material support to PIJ, perjury, extortion, and obstruction of justice.  
Al-Arian is also accused of being the North American leader of PIJ and secretary of its governing Shura Council. In addition to Al-Arian, the grand jury indicted Temple Terrace, Florida resident Sameeh Hammoudeh, a West Bank-born USF instructor and administrator at the Islamic Academy of Florida; Spring Hill, Florida resident Hatim Naji Fariz, a manager at a medical clinic; and West Bank native and Tinley Park, Illinois resident and small business owner Ghassan Zayed Ballut. Also charged, but not arrested at the time because they lived abroad, were PIJ leader and former USF instructor Ramadan Abdullah Shallah; the alleged United Kingdom leader of PIJ, Bashir Musa Mohammed Nafi; Beirut resident Mohammed Tasir Hassan Al-Khatib, alleged to be PIJ's treasurer; and Abd Al Aziz Awda, imam of the Al Qassam Mosque in Gaza Strip, one of PIJ's founders and "spiritual leader(s)." Sources: "Members of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Arrested, Charged With Racketeering and Conspiracy to Provide Support to Terrorists," U.S. Department of Justice, February 20, 2003, [http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2003/February/03\\_crm\\_099.htm](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2003/February/03_crm_099.htm) [92]; "Florida Professor Charged With Operating Global Terror Organization," Fox News, February 20, 2003, <http://www.foxnews.com/story/2003/02/20/florida-professor-charged-with-operating-global-terror-organization> [93].
- **June 5, 2002:**A PIJ suicide attack at Israel's Megiddo Junction kills 18 and injures 50.  
Source: "Car Bomb Kills 17 on Bus in Israel," CNN.com, June 5, 2002, <http://www.cnn.com/2002/WORLD/meast/06/05/mideast.bomb/index.html> [94].
- **November 29, 2001:**A suicide bomber blows himself up on board a bus on a main highway in northern Israel, killing three passengers.  
PIJ and Fatah claim responsibility. Source: "Suicide and Other Bombing Attacks in Israel Since the Declaration of Principles (Sept. 1993)," Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, accessed March 10, 2015, <http://www.mfa.gov.il> [95].
- **November 24, 2001:**The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Services arrests Mazen Al Najjar in Tampa, Florida after a federal judge orders his deportation based on visa violations in the 1980s.  
According to authorities, Al Najjar had ties to terrorist organizations and held leadership positions in the Tampa-based Islamic Concern Project (ICP) and the World and Islam Studies Enterprise, which the Justice Department said were fronts for Palestinian terror groups such as PIJ and Hamas. The ICP is also responsible for petitioning for known terrorists to obtain U.S. entry visas, according to authorities. Source: "Department of Justice Statement Regarding the Arrest of Mazen Al Najjar," U.S. Department of Justice, November 24, 2001, [http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2001/November/01\\_ins\\_606.htm](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2001/November/01_ins_606.htm) [96].

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

- **March 27, 2001:** A car bomb explodes in the Talpote industrial/commercial zone in Jerusalem, wounding three people. PIJ claims responsibility.  
Sources: "3 Injured in Jerusalem Car Bomb," CNN.com, March 27, 2001, <http://edition.cnn.com/2001/WORLD/meast/03/27/mideast.02/> [97]; J.K. Dineen, Express Wire, Services, "Fury in Israel: Jerusalem Seethes as 2 Blasts Follow Infant's Killing," *New York Daily News*, March 27, 2001, <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/fury-israel-jerusalem-seethes-2-blasts-follow-infant-killing-article-1.916685> [98]; "Incident Summary for GTDID: 200103270008," Global Terrorism Database, accessed March 10, 2015, <http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtidid=200103270008> [99].
- **November 2, 2000:** Two people are killed in a car bomb explosion near the Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem. PIJ claims responsibility.  
Source: "Recent Attacks Thrust Islamic Jihad Back into the Headlines," CNN.com, November 2, 2000, <http://www.cgi.cnn.com/2000/WORLD/meast/11/02/islamic.jihad/index.html> [100].
- **October 26, 2000:** PIJ claims responsibility for a suicide bombing in the Kisufim settlement, which wounds one soldier. The attack marked the fifth anniversary of PIJ leader Fathi Shaqaqi's death and was the first suicide bombing of the second intifada. Source: Anthony H. Cordesman, *The Israeli-Palestinian War: Escalating to Nowhere* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2005), 211.
- **November 6, 1998:** Two PIJ suicide bombers blow themselves up in the crowded Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem, wounding about 20 people.  
Sources: Deborah Sontag, "24 in Jerusalem Injured by Blast from Car Bomb," *New York Times*, November 7, 1998, <http://www.nytimes.com/1998/11/07/world/24-in-jerusalem-injured-by-blast-from-car-bomb.html> [101]; Anthony H. Cordesman, *The Israeli-Palestinian War: Escalating to Nowhere* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2005), 27.
- **March 11, 1998:** Stephen Flatow, whose daughter, Alisa, was killed in a 1995 PIJ bus bombing in Gaza, wins a \$247 million settlement in U.S. federal court against the Iranian government for funding the attack.  
Source: Richard Sisk, "Terror Victim's Dad Wins \$247M Lawsuit Vs. Iran," *New York Daily News*, March 12, 1998, <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/terror-victim-dad-wins-247m-lawsuit-iran-article-1.789077> [18].
- **October 8, 1997:** PIJ is designated a Foreign Terrorist Organization by the U.S.  
Source: "Country Reports on Terrorism 2008: Chapter 6. Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2009, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2008/122449.htm> [85].
- **May 1997:** The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service detains Mazen al-Najjar, a University of South Florida professor.  
According to the authorities, al-Najjar held leadership positions in the Tampa-based Islamic Concern Project and the World and Islam Studies Enterprise, which were alleged fronts for Palestinian terror groups such as PIJ and Hamas. Sources: Dana Canedy, "A Nation Challenges: The Detainee: Professor to Be Deported After Secret Evidence Case," *New York Times*, November 27, 2001, <http://www.nytimes.com/2001/11/27/us/nation-challenged-detainee-professor-be-deported-after-secret-evidence-case.html> [102]; "Department of Justice Statement Regarding the Arrest of Mazen Al Najjar," U.S. Department of Justice, November 24, 2001, [http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2001/November/01\\_1ns\\_606.htm](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2001/November/01_1ns_606.htm) [96].
- **March 4, 1996:** A PIJ suicide bomber kills 13 and injures 75 at a Tel Aviv shopping mall.  
Source: Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].
- **October 1995:** PIJ Secretary-General and co-founder Fathi Shaqaqi is gunned down in Malta on October 26. PIJ accuses Israel of executing him. Ramadan Shallah assumes the leadership of PIJ later that month. Shallah taught courses on the Middle East at the University of South Florida from 1990 to 1995. Sources: Susan Aschoff, "Jihad Leader Emerged from Shadows of USF," *St. Petersburg Times*, February 21, 2003, [http://www.sptimes.com/2003/02/21/TampaBay/Jihad\\_leader\\_emerged\\_shtml](http://www.sptimes.com/2003/02/21/TampaBay/Jihad_leader_emerged_shtml) [11]; [1] Mary Curtius, "Leader of Islamic Jihad Reported Killed in Malta," *Chicago Sun-Times*, October 29, 1995, <http://www.highbeam.com/doc/1P2-4307208.html> [103].
- **April 9, 1995:** A PIJ suicide bomber blows up his vehicle next to an Israeli bus in the Gaza Strip, killing seven Israeli soldiers and 20-year-old American college student Alisa Flatow.  
Source: David Stout, "American Slain In Gaza Is Mourned," *New York Times*, April 13, 1995, <http://www.nytimes.com/1995/04/13/world/american-slain-in-gaza-is-mourned.html> [104]; James Dao, "Judgment for Terrorism is \$248 Million," *New York Times*, March 12, 1998, <http://www.nytimes.com/1998/03/12/nyregion/judgment-for-terrorism-is-248-million.html> [3].
- **January 22, 1995:** Two consecutive bombs explode at the Beit Lid junction near Netanya, Israel, killing 18 Israeli soldiers and one civilian.  
PIJ claims responsibility. Source: Clyde Haberman, "Suicide Bombs Kill 19 in Israel; Shadow Cast over Peace Talks," *New York Times*, January 23, 1995, <http://www.nytimes.com/1995/01/23/world/suicide-bombs-kill-19-in-israel-shadow-cast-over-peace-talks.html> [105].
- **1995:** U.S. law enforcement begins investigating Sami al-Arian, a Palestinian professor of computer engineering at the University of South Florida.  
Al-Arian is suspected of raising \$650,000 in the 1980s and 1990s for PIJ through a Florida-based Islamic charity he created. Source: Judith Miller, "A Professor's Activism Leads Investigators to Look Into Possible Terrorism Links," *New York Times*, July 23, 2002, <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/23/national/23PROF.html> [106].
- **November 11, 1994:** A Palestinian riding a bicycle detonates explosives strapped to his body at an Israeli army checkpoint at Netzarim junction in the Gaza Strip, killing three Israeli soldiers and wounding six Israeli soldiers and six Palestinians.  
PIJ claims responsibility, stating the attack was in retaliation for a November 2 car bomb that killed PIJ leader Hani Abed. Source: Mary Curtius, "Suicide Bomber Kills 3 Israeli Soldiers in Gaza," *Los Angeles Times*, November 12, 1994, [http://articles.latimes.com/1994-11-12/news/mn-61608\\_1\\_israelis-gaza-soldiers](http://articles.latimes.com/1994-11-12/news/mn-61608_1_israelis-gaza-soldiers) [107].
- **September 4, 1994:** A PIJ drive-by shooting in Gaza kills one and injures several others.

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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Source: "Statement of the Attorney General, Indictments," U.S. Department of Justice, February 20, 2003, <http://www.justice.gov/archive/ag/speeches/2003/02202003pressconference.htm> [9].

- **April 6, 1994:**PIJ militants explode a car bomb next to a public bus in Afula, Israel, killing nine and injuring 50. Source: "Statement of the Attorney General, Indictments," U.S. Department of Justice, February 20, 2003, <http://www.justice.gov/archive/ag/speeches/2003/02202003pressconference.htm> [9].
- **December 1993:**A PIJ shooting kills Israeli army reservist David Mashrati aboard a bus. Source: Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].
- **September 1991:**Egyptian authorities arrest a group of PIJ trying to enter the country "with the intention of committing terrorist acts," according to the U.S. Department of State. Source: "Patterns of Global Terrorism: 1990: Middle East Overview," Federation of American Scientists, April 30, 1991, [http://fas.org/irp/threat/terror\\_91/mideast.html](http://fas.org/irp/threat/terror_91/mideast.html) [108].
- **February 1990:**PIJ terrorists attack an Israeli tour bus in Egypt, killing 11 people, including nine Israelis, and injuring 17. Source: "Patterns of Global Terrorism: 1990: Middle East Overview," Federation of American Scientists, April 30, 1991, [http://fas.org/irp/threat/terror\\_90/mideast.html](http://fas.org/irp/threat/terror_90/mideast.html) [108].
- **1989:**PIJ's leadership relocates to Syria but leaves a small group in Lebanon, where it launches joint attacks with Hezbollah throughout the 1990s. Source: Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].
- **1987:**Israel exiles PIJ from Gaza to Lebanon, where the group reportedly begins cooperating with Hezbollah and receiving training from Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. Source: Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].
- **August 1987:**The commander of Israel's military police is shot to death by PIJ in the Gaza Strip. Source: Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].
- **1981:**Egypt expels PIJ to Gaza after discovering the group has close ties with radical students responsible for the assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. Source: Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].
- **1979:**Fathi Shaqaqi, still a student in Egypt, authors the book *Khomeini: The Islamic Solution and the Alternative*, describing Shaqaqi's admiration of Iran's Islamic Revolution. Egyptian police arrest Shaqaqi for praising the revolution. Source: Asmaa al-Ghoul, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Iran Supplies All Weapons in Gaza," *Al-Monitor*, May 14, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulseen/originals/2013/05/gaza-islamic-jihad-and-iranian-arms.html> [109].
- **1979:**PIJ emerges as a breakaway group from the Muslim Brotherhood.

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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### **Violent history:**

A key component of PIJ's doctrine is the belief in violent jihad in order to liberate Palestine. PIJ has been responsible for numerous suicide attacks and hundreds of rockets against Israeli civilian centers, resulting in the deaths of dozens of Israeli civilians and soldiers. While PIJ has signed on to wider Palestinian ceasefires with Israel, it is highly unlikely the group will ever renounce terrorism, which has become an integral part of PIJ's *raison d'être*. PIJ believes its goal of creating an Islamic Palestine can be achieved only through the destruction of Israel, and so jihad has become a central tenant of PIJ's ideology. In pursuit of its jihadist ideology, PIJ has launched numerous bombing attacks against Israeli civilian targets.

- **August 1987:** The commander of Israel's military police is shot to death by PIJ in the Gaza Strip.<sup>64</sup>
- **February 1990:** PIJ terrorists attack an Israeli tour bus in Egypt, killing 11 people, including nine Israelis, and injuring 17.<sup>65</sup>
- **December 1993:** A PIJ shooting kills Israeli army reservist David Mashrati aboard a bus.<sup>66</sup>
- **April 6, 1994:** PIJ militants explode a car bomb next to a public bus in Afula, Israel, killing nine and injuring 50.<sup>67</sup>
- **September 4, 1994:** A PIJ drive-by shooting in Gaza kills one and injures several others.<sup>68</sup>
- **November 11, 1994:** A Palestinian riding a bicycle detonates explosives strapped to his body at an Israeli army checkpoint at Netzarim junction in the Gaza Strip, killing three Israeli soldiers and wounding six Israeli soldiers and six Palestinians. PIJ claims responsibility, stating the attack was in retaliation for a November 2 car bomb that killed PIJ leader Hani Abed.<sup>69</sup>
- **January 22, 1995:** Two consecutive bombs explode at the Beit Lid junction near Netanya, Israel, killing 18 Israeli soldiers and one civilian. PIJ claims responsibility.<sup>70</sup>
- **April 9, 1995:** A PIJ suicide bomber blows up his vehicle next to an Israeli bus in the Gaza Strip, killing seven Israeli soldiers and 20-year-old American college student Alisa Flatow.<sup>71</sup>
- **March 4, 1996:** A PIJ suicide bomber kills 13 and injures 75 at a Tel Aviv shopping mall.<sup>72</sup>
- **November 6, 1998:** Two PIJ suicide bombers blow themselves up in the crowded Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem, wounding about 20 people.<sup>73</sup>
- **October 26, 2000:** PIJ claims responsibility for a suicide bombing in the Kisufim settlement, which wounds one soldier.<sup>74</sup> The attack marked the fifth anniversary of PIJ leader Fathi Shaqaqi's death and was the first suicide bombing of the second intifada.
- **November 2, 2000:** Two people are killed in a car bomb explosion near the Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem. PIJ claims responsibility.<sup>75</sup>
- **March 27, 2001:** A car bomb explodes in the Talpiot industrial/commercial zone in Jerusalem, wounding three people. PIJ claims responsibility.<sup>76</sup>
- **November 29, 2001:** A suicide bomber blows himself up on board a bus on a main highway in northern Israel, killing three passengers. PIJ and Fatah claim responsibility.<sup>77</sup>
- **June 5, 2002:** A PIJ suicide attack at Israel's Megiddo Junction kills 18 and injures 50.<sup>78</sup>
- **October 4, 2003:** A PIJ suicide bomber blows himself up at Maxim restaurant in Haifa, killing 22 and injuring 60.<sup>79</sup>
- **October 26, 2005:** A bombing at a market in Hadera, Israel kills five people. PIJ claims responsibility.<sup>80</sup>
- **April 17, 2006:** PIJ and the Fatah-affiliated Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade claim responsibility for a suicide bombing that killed 11 people at a sandwich stand near Tel Aviv's old central bus station.<sup>81</sup>



## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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- **January 2007:** A suicide attack at an Eilat bakery kills three. PIJ and the Fatah-affiliated Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade claim responsibility.<sup>82</sup>
- **March 2008:** PIJ and Hamas jointly claim responsibility for an explosion that killed two IDF soldiers patrolling the security fence in the central Gaza Strip.<sup>83</sup>
- **April 2008:** PIJ fires 216 rockets and mortar shells at various Israeli towns.<sup>84</sup>
- **June 2008:** PIJ claims responsibility for firing a Grad rocket that hit a shopping mall in Ashkelon, Israel, wounding 15. Israeli authorities accuse Iran of providing PIJ with Grad rockets.<sup>85</sup>
- **January 8, 2011:** PIJ fires two mortars into southern Israel, killing two Thai nationals.<sup>86</sup>
- **August 20, 2011:** PIJ fires a volley of rockets into southern Israel, killing one civilian and wounding seven.<sup>87</sup>
- **October 29, 2011:** PIJ fires a number of rockets into southern Israel, killing one civilian and wounding two.<sup>88</sup>
- **March 2012:** PIJ fires almost 200 missiles into Israel from Gaza.<sup>89</sup>
- **November 2012:** Hamas and PIJ are credited for bombing a Tel Aviv bus that wounds at least 30 people.<sup>90</sup>
- **November 2012:** PIJ takes credit for a rocket fired from Gaza at Tel Aviv. The rocket explodes in an open field, causing no casualties.<sup>91</sup>
- **June 24, 2013:** Six rockets fired from Gaza explode in southern Israel. No casualties are reported. Israeli intelligence believes PIJ fired the rockets as an act of defiance against the Hamas authorities in Gaza.<sup>92</sup>
- **December 22, 2013:** An Israeli police sapper is injured when a bomb he was trying to defuse on a Bat Yam bus explodes.<sup>93</sup> Four PIJ members are arrested a month later for coordinating the attack.<sup>94</sup>
- **March 2014:** PIJ fires a round of mortars from Gaza into Israel, prompting an Israeli strike that kills three PIJ commanders. In retaliation, PIJ launches at least 130 locally made rockets into Israel as part of a military operation called Breaking the Silence.<sup>95</sup> The operation is reportedly in coordination with Hamas.<sup>96</sup>
- **July 8, 2014:** Israel launches Operation Protective Edge, aimed at striking Hamas and ending rocket fire from Hamas and PIJ in Gaza.<sup>97</sup> PIJ takes credit for firing 60 rockets in recent days and claims it has begun an operation called Stable Building.<sup>98</sup> Some analysts argue PIJ has been strengthened by the latest conflict.
- **July 28, 2014:** Seven Palestinian children die after a rocket strikes a playground in Gaza's al-Shati refugee camp, while another rocket hits al-Shifa Hospital. Palestinians initially blamed Israel, but the strikes were the result of misfired rockets by PIJ.<sup>99</sup>
- **August 5, 2014:** An Egyptian-negotiated 72-hour ceasefire takes hold. Israeli and Palestinian negotiators head to Cairo to discuss a longer truce. Representatives of Fatah, Hamas, and PIJ are part of the Palestinian delegation.<sup>100</sup>
- **August 8, 2014:** After a three-day ceasefire between Israel and Hamas expires, PIJ fires three Grad rockets at Ashkelon and promises to continue firing until Israel accedes to all of Hamas's demands.<sup>101</sup>
- **August 20, 2014:** According to Iran's state-run network Press TV, PIJ has fired 3,000 rockets at Israel during the 2014 Israel-Gaza war.<sup>102</sup>
- **September 4, 2014:** After the 2014 Israel-Gaza war ends, Al Jazeera broadcasts a video of PIJ's tunnel systems. In the video, a PIJ militant declares that the group is preparing for its next war with Israel and that the tunnels will be used to launch attacks and fire mortars on Israel.<sup>103</sup>
- **October 29, 2014:** Moataz Hejazi shoots and critically wounds prominent right-wing Israeli activist Yehuda Glick in Jerusalem, Israel. After the shooting, police track Hejazi to his home and he dies in a shootout.<sup>104</sup> The following day, PIJ publishes an obituary for Hijazi on its website, saying that he had been a member of the organization.<sup>105</sup>

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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- **August 20, 2015:** Four rockets land inside Israel from the Syrian side of the Golan Heights, causing no injuries. Israel accuses PIJ of firing the rockets with Iranian support. PIJ denies the charge.<sup>106</sup>
- **October 3, 2015:** PIJ claims responsibility after 19-year-old Mohannad Halabi stabs two Israeli men to death in Jerusalem's Old City. Police shot him dead. Israeli authorities demolished Halabi's house on January 9, 2016. A Palestinian campaign to rebuild the house raised \$60,000 and lauded Halabi as the "initiator of the Jerusalem intifada."<sup>107</sup>
- **December 1, 2015:** Palestinian Authority police arrest a six-member PIJ cell transporting grenades, firearms, and other explosives in the West Bank. The cell reportedly planned to use the weaponry to attack the IDF.<sup>108</sup>
- **October 30, 2017:** Israel destroys a tunnel beneath the Gaza-Israel border, killing 14 militants, including the head of PIJ's armed wing in central Gaza. PIJ promises revenge. PIJ admits that the tunnel was meant for "kidnapping soldiers in order to free prisoners [from Israeli prisons]."<sup>109</sup>
- **November 30, 2017:** PIJ fires 12 mortar shells from northern Gaza at an Israeli army post northeast of Gaza, causing minimal damage and no casualties.<sup>110</sup>
- **December 12, 2017:** Two PIJ operatives are killed "while carrying out a jihadist mission," according to a PIJ statement. Palestinian media reports initially blame an Israeli drone strike, which the Israeli military denies.<sup>111</sup>
- **December 29, 2017:** PIJ fires three mortar shells into southern Israel. Two of the mortars are intercepted while the third strikes the Israeli community of Sha'ar Hanegev, causing minor damage to a building. The IDF assesses that the mortars used in the attack and in the November 30, 2017, barrage were Iranian made.<sup>112</sup>
- **May 28, 2018:** PIJ fires 28 mortars at Israel from Gaza. The Israeli military intercepts most of the rockets but one lands outside of a kindergarten causing damage but no injuries.<sup>113</sup>
- **October 26-27, 2018:** PIJ fires dozens of rockets into Israel. Israel responds by bombing multiple targets in Gaza. There are no casualties reported on either side.<sup>114</sup>
- **November 12-14, 2018:** PIJ and Hamas fire more than 450 rockets into Israel, killing one and wounding dozens. After Israel responds with airstrikes in Gaza, the groups agree to a ceasefire on November 13. PIJ claims victory after Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman resigns on November 14 in protest of the ceasefire.<sup>115</sup>
- **May 3-5, 2019:** On May 3, PIJ snipers wound two Israeli soldiers along the Gaza border during weekly protests. Israeli forces retaliate with a strike on a Hamas post near the border, killing two. PIJ and Hamas launch almost 700 rockets into Israel over the course of three days, killing at least four Israeli civilians and wounding dozens more. Most of the rockets are intercepted or fall in open areas, but at least 50 rockets reportedly hit Israeli population centers. Israel retaliates with airstrikes on more than 350 targets in Gaza. The airstrikes kill at least 29, including fighters from Hamas and PIJ, as well as civilians, according to Hamas, though Israeli military officials say some Palestinian civilians were actually killed by misfired Hamas rockets. It is reportedly the most violent conflict between the two sides since the 2014 war. PIJ threatens to launch a full-scale war with Israel. On May 5, Israel restarts its tactic of targeted assassinations after a five-year lull and kills Hamed Ahmed al-Khodary, a senior Hamas finance official accused of funneling Iranian money to PIJ and Hamas. Egypt negotiates a new ceasefire that goes into effect that night. Hamas claims that though this round of violence is over, the conflict will continue.<sup>116</sup>
- **November 2019:** PIJ declares it is going to war and launches more than 350 rockets into Israel beginning on November 12 after Israel assassinates Baha Abu al-Ata, PIJ's military commander in northern Gaza. Israel responds with airstrikes targeting rocket positions along the Gaza border. At least 23 Palestinians are killed, including PIJ field commander Khaled Moawad Faraj. Israel reports injuries but no fatalities. The PIJ-Hamas joint command issues a statement that it will not allow Israel to return to a policy of targeted assassinations. Nakhalah reportedly arrives in Egypt on November 13 for ceasefire talks.<sup>117</sup>
- **February 2020:** On February 19, a PIJ sniper team fires on a group of Israeli soldiers and police officers along the Gaza-Israel border. There are no casualties. The IDF returns fire and "identified a hit," though the Palestinians report no casualties. On February 23, Israeli forces kill a PIJ member attempting to plant explosives along the Gaza-Israel border fence. PIJ launches more than 21 rockets into Israel from Gaza in retaliation. In response to the rocket fire, Israeli forces strike multiple PIJ targets in Syria, killing at least two PIJ members. On February 24, PIJ continues to launch dozens of rockets toward Israel's southern communities in response. Israel's defense systems intercept most of

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

the rockets but there are reports of damage to homes and minor injuries. Israel launches airstrikes on PIJ rocket positions in Gaza. PIJ pledges to fire on Tel Aviv.<sup>118</sup>

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*Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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**Designations:**

**Designations by the U.S. Government:**



October 8, 1997: Secretary of State designates Palestine Islamic Jihad - Shaqaqi Faction as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.<sup>119</sup>

**Designations by Foreign Governments and Organizations:**



Australia—listed PIJ as a terrorist organization on December 21, 2001.<sup>120</sup>



Canada—listed Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) as a terrorist entity on November 27, 2002.<sup>121</sup>



EU—listed Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) as groups and entities involved in terrorist acts on December 27, 2001.<sup>122</sup>



New Zealand—listed Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) as a terrorist entity on October 11, 2010.<sup>123</sup>



United Kingdom—listed Palestinian Islamic Jihad - Shaqaqi (PIJ) as an organization believed to be concerned in terrorism in March 2001.<sup>124</sup>

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*Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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*Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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**Associations:**

**Ties to Extremist Entities designated by the U.S. or foreign governments:**



## Palestinian Islamic Jihad



Iran and the [Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps \(IRGC\)](#) [135]

PIJ's founders modeled the group's Islamist objectives under the influence of Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution. Iran is PIJ's primary source of financial support, according to the U.S. State Department.<sup>125</sup> A 1998 lawsuit against Iran in U.S. federal court revealed that the Islamic Republic allocated \$2 million in its annual budget to PIJ.<sup>126</sup> That number has since skyrocketed—in late 2013, PIJ sources revealed that the terror group received about \$3 million per month from Iran.<sup>127</sup> A February 2014 report by Ali Nourizadeh, director of the Center for Iranian Studies in London, stated that Iran provides PIJ with \$100 to \$150 million annually.<sup>128</sup>

According to PIJ spokesman Daoud Shihab, “all of the weapons in Gaza are provided by Iran,” and “everyone knows that Iran is financing” PIJ.<sup>129</sup> In February 2014, a group of PIJ leaders, including Ramadan Shallah, made what Shihab called a “routine visit” to Tehran, which “still supports resistance factions.”<sup>130</sup>

PIJ also receives aid through Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC).<sup>131</sup> The IRGC is Iran's primary instrument for spreading the Islamic Revolution abroad and has acted as a conduit between the Iranian regime and PIJ. The IRGC provides PIJ with weapons, training, and funding. It reportedly began sending support after the PIJ was exiled to Lebanon in 1987.<sup>132</sup>

Since the beginning of the 2011 Syrian civil war, Iran has reportedly increased its support of PIJ at the expense of Hamas. Unlike Hamas, Iran supports Syria's Assad regime and PIJ has noticeably maintained its base in Damascus, Syria (although PIJ otherwise appears to be neutral).<sup>133</sup> In 2013, Iran sent \$2 million worth of food aid to Gaza during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, entrusting members of PIJ with distribution. This aid bore stamps with the Palestinian flag alongside the PIJ logo and the Iranian flag.<sup>134</sup>

International Arabic-language newspaper *Asharq Al-Awsat* reported in 2012 that PIJ's Syria-based leadership had relocated to Iran but continued to enjoy positive ties with their Syrian patrons. However, a PIJ official denied that report, claiming “relations between [PIJ] and the Syrian government are excellent, unlike Hamas,”<sup>135</sup> whose leadership left Syria after refusing to support the Assad regime during the Syrian civil war. Official representatives of the group are also stationed elsewhere in the Middle East,<sup>136</sup> including Iran.<sup>137</sup>

After a year of decreased funding, the IRGC reportedly restored its relations with PIJ in May 2016 with an annual allocation of \$70 million. The allocation followed a visit to Tehran by a PIJ delegation the previous month. As part of the agreement, Qasem Soleimani, head of the IRGC's Quds Force, reportedly appointed Khaled Mansour commander of PIJ's Quds Brigades in Gaza.<sup>138</sup>



[Hamas](#) [136]

PIJ and Hamas collaborate militarily in order to fight Israel. During the first and second Palestinian intifadas, Hamas and PIJ claimed joint responsibility for a handful of attacks, including an April 9, 1995 suicide bombing that killed seven Israeli soldiers and an American.<sup>139</sup> The groups continued coordinated attacks after the end of the second intifada and after Hamas seized control of the Gaza Strip in 2007. In November 2012, for example, PIJ and Hamas jointly bombed a Tel Aviv bus, wounding 29 people.<sup>140</sup>

After Hamas's falling out with Iran in 2012, relations between Hamas and PIJ also degraded. Fighters from the two organizations clashed amid accusations that Hamas was targeting PIJ. In September 2013, however, the two terror groups announced plans to form a new joint command to create a better political atmosphere in Gaza.<sup>141</sup>

In March 2014, PIJ fired a round of mortars into Israel, prompting an Israeli strike that killed three PIJ commanders. In retaliation, PIJ launched at least 130 locally made rockets into Israel as part of a military operation called Breaking the Silence, reportedly in coordination with Hamas.<sup>142</sup> PIJ and Hamas also jointly launched rockets at Israel during Israel's summer 2014 conflict with Hamas.<sup>143</sup> PIJ and Hamas have since continued to coordinate politically and militarily.<sup>144</sup> The two groups announced in December 2019 they would join forces against Israel in the next round of conflict with the Jewish state.<sup>145</sup>

***Palestinian Islamic Jihad***



Hezbollah [137]

In 1987, PIJ was exiled from Gaza to Lebanon. There, the group reportedly began cooperating with Hezbollah and began training under Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.<sup>146</sup>

In July 2014, masked members of PIJ were filmed thanking Hezbollah, particularly its Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah, for Hezbollah’s “stance and support, be it with financial, military or moral support.”<sup>147</sup>



Al Qsa Martyrs’

Brigade

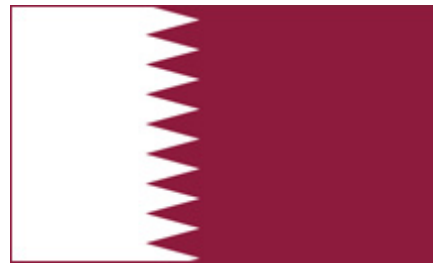
PIJ and the Al Qsa Martyrs’ Brigade, the armed faction of Fatah, have carried out a handful of joint terror attacks against Israeli civilians. Examples include an April 2006 suicide bombing at a Tel Aviv sandwich stand that killed 11 people<sup>148</sup> and a January 2007 suicide attack on an Eilat bakery that killed three.<sup>149</sup>

**Ties to other entities:**



Syria

PIJ has been based in Damascus since 1989. An anonymous PIJ source told London’s *Asharq Al-Awsat* in July 2012 that the PIJ leadership fled Syria for Iran,<sup>150</sup> though PIJ officially denied that it had abandoned its base in Syria.<sup>151</sup> Despite Iranian support for PIJ and Syria, PIJ has otherwise appeared to remain neutral in the Syrian civil war.<sup>152</sup> According to PIJ spokesperson Daoud Shihab, “Palestine is greater than all axes, and we do not accept to be part of the [Syria] conflict.”<sup>153</sup> PIJ has, however, threatened to respond if Israel involves itself in the Syrian civil war.<sup>154</sup>



Qatar

A U.S. lawsuit filed in June 2020 alleged Qatar provided funding to PIJ and Hamas through three Qatari financial institutions, the Qatar Charity, Masraf Al Rayan, and Qatar National Bank. The Qatar Charity is a member of the U.S.-sanctioned Union of Good charity network. All three institutions have links to members of the Qatari royal family. The plaintiffs are friends and family members of 10 U.S. citizens who died in terror attacks in Israel carried out by PIJ and Hamas. The lawsuit alleges Qatar Charity allegedly worked with Masraf Al Rayan bank and Qatar National Bank to forward Hamas and PIJ millions of dollars. It further accuses the Qatari government of coopting “several institutions that it dominates and controls to funnel coveted U.S. dollars (the chosen currency of Middle East terrorist networks) to Hamas and PIJ under the false guise of charitable donations.”<sup>155</sup>

<sup>125</sup> Holly Fletcher, “Palestinian Islamic Jihad,” Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].

<sup>126</sup> Richard Sisk, “Terror Victim’s Dad Wins \$247M Lawsuit Vs. Iran,” *New York Daily News*, March 12, 1998, <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/terror-victim-dad-wins-247m-lawsuit-iran-article-1.789077> [18].

<sup>127</sup> Hazem Balousha, “Islamic Jihad May Respond If Israel Enters Syria War,” *Al-Monitor*, September 2, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/09/islamic-jihad-syria-us-strike.html> [19].

<sup>128</sup> Joshua Levitt, “Expert: Hamas Received \$2 Billion from Iran; Islamic Jihad Gets \$150 Million Annually,” *Algemeiner*, February 11, 2014, <http://www.algemeiner.com/2014/02/11/expert-hamas-received-2-billion-from-iran-islamic-jihad-gets-150-million-annually/> [20].

<sup>129</sup> Asmaa al-Ghoul, “Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Iran Supplies All Weapons in Gaza,” *Al-Monitor*, May 14, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/05/gaza-islamic-jihad-and-iranian-arms.html> [138].

<sup>130</sup> Asmaa al-Ghoul, “Hamas Isolated as Iran Boosts Ties with Islamic Jihad, Fatah,” *Al-Monitor*, February 12, 2014,

## ***Palestinian Islamic Jihad***

<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/02/islamic-jihad-fatah-hamas-iran-palestinians.html> [72].

<sup>131</sup> Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].

<sup>132</sup> Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].

<sup>133</sup> Fares Akram, "In Gaza, Iran Finds an Ally More Agreeable Than Hamas," *New York Times*, July 31, 2013, <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/01/world/middleeast/in-gaza-iran-finds-a-closer-ally-than-hamas.html> [10]; Asmaa al-Ghoul, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Iran Supplies All Weapons in Gaza," *Al-Monitor*, May 14, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/05/gaza-islamic-jihad-and-iranian-arms.html> [109].

<sup>134</sup> Fares Akram, "In Gaza, Iran Finds an Ally More Agreeable Than Hamas," *New York Times*, July 31, 2013, <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/01/world/middleeast/in-gaza-iran-finds-a-closer-ally-than-hamas.html> [10].

<sup>135</sup> "Islamic Jihad Leadership Relocates to Iran," *Asharq Al-Awsat* (London), July 22, 2012, <http://www.aawsat.net/2012/07/article55241265> [6].

<sup>136</sup> "Country Reports on Terrorism 2013: Chapter 6. Foreign Terrorist Organizations," U.S. Department of State, April 30, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224829.htm> [1].

<sup>137</sup> Asmaa al-Ghoul, " Hamas Isolated as Iran Boosts Ties with Islamic Jihad, Fatah," *Al-Monitor*, February 12, 2014, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/02/islamic-jihad-fatah-hamas-iran-palestinians.html> [72]; "Islamic Jihad: Israeli Attacks on Gaza Backfired," Tasnim News Agency, July 15, 2014, <http://www.tasnimnews.com/english/Home/Single/4320791> [8].

<sup>138</sup> "Iran resumes funding for Palestinian Islamic Jihad: report," i24 News, May 25, 2016, <https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/middle-east/114490-160525-iran-resumes-funding-for-palestinian-islamic-jihad-group-report> [24].

<sup>139</sup> "Major Bomb Attacks Since 1993 Peace Accord," Fox News, December 2, 2001, <http://www.foxnews.com/story/2001/12/02/major-bomb-attacks-since-13-peace-accord/> [139].

<sup>140</sup> Gil Cohen, "Israel Arrests Hamas, Islamic Jihad Cell behind Tel Aviv Bus Bomb," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), November 22, 2012, <http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/israel-arrests-hamas-islamic-jihad-cell-behind-tel-aviv-bus-bomb-1.479958> [81].

<sup>141</sup> Elhanan Miller, "Hamas and Islamic Jihad to Form Joint Command," *Times of Israel*, September 17, 2013, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-and-islamic-jihad-to-form-joint-command/> [140].

<sup>142</sup> Hani Ibrahim, "Hamas' Growing Rivalry with Islamic Jihad," *Al Akhbar English* (Beirut), April 16, 2014, <http://english.al-akhbar.com/content/hamas%E2%80%99-growing-rivalry-islamic-jihad> [69].

<sup>143</sup> "Hamas, Jihad claim joint attacks on Israeli cities," Ma'an News Agency, July 15, 2014, <http://www.maannews.com/eng/ViewDetails.aspx?id=713412> [141].

<sup>144</sup> Yaniv Kubovich, "Analysis Iran's Fighting Force in Gaza, Calling and Firing the Shots: This Is Islamic Jihad in Palestine," *Haaretz*, June 17, 2018, <https://www.haaretz.com/middle-east-news/iran/.premium-what-is-islamic-jihad-in-palestine-iran-s-fighting-force-in-gaza-calling-and-firing-the-shots-1.6158730> [142]; "Hamas meets with Islamic Jihad's leadership, concludes with unified stances," *Hamas*, November 2, 2018, <http://hamas.ps/en/post/1660/hamas-meets-with-islamic-jihad%E2%80%99s-leadership-concludes-with-unified-stances> [143].

<sup>145</sup> Khaled Abu Toameh, "Hamas, Islamic Jihad agree to stand together in future fight with Israel," *Jerusalem Post*, December 20, 2019, <https://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Hamas-PJ-agree-to-stand-together-in-future-confrontation-with-Israel-611458> [144].

<sup>146</sup> Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].

<sup>147</sup> "Palestinian Islamic Jihad Thanks Iran and Hezbollah," *Iran English Radio*, July 14, 2014, <http://english.irib.ir/galleries/item/191912> [145].

<sup>148</sup> "TIMELINE: Recent Bomb and Shooting Attacks against Israelis," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), November 21, 2012, <http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/timeline-recent-bomb-and-shooting-attacks-against-israelis-1.479592> [86].

<sup>149</sup> Holly Fletcher, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad," Council on Foreign Relations, April 10, 2008, <http://www.cfr.org/israel/palestinian-islamic-jihad/p15984> [5].

<sup>150</sup> "Islamic Jihad Leadership Relocates to Iran," *Asharq Al-Awsat* (London), July 22, 2012, <http://www.aawsat.net/2012/07/article55241265> [6].

<sup>151</sup> "Islamic Jihad Leadership Relocates to Iran," *Asharq Al-Awsat* (London), July 22, 2012, <http://www.aawsat.net/2012/07/article55241265> [6].

<sup>152</sup> Asmaa al-Ghoul, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Iran Supplies All Weapons in Gaza," *Al-Monitor*, May 14, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/05/gaza-islamic-jihad-and-iranian-arms.html> [109].

<sup>153</sup> Asmaa al-Ghoul, "Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Iran Supplies All Weapons in Gaza," *Al-Monitor*, May 14, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/05/gaza-islamic-jihad-and-iranian-arms.html> [109].

<sup>154</sup> Hazem Balousha, "Islamic Jihad May Respond If Israel Enters Syria War," *Al-Monitor*, September 2, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/09/islamic-jihad-syria-us-strike.html> [19].

<sup>155</sup> Ray Hanania, "Lawsuit names Qatar's royal family in killings of 10 Americans in Israel," *Arab News*, June 11, 2020, <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1688051/middle-east> [27]; Adam Kredo, "Lawsuit Alleges Qatar Secretly Financed Terror Attacks that Killed Americans," *Washington Free Beacon*, June 10, 2020, <https://freebeacon.com/national-security/lawsuit-alleges-qatar-secretly-financed-terror-attacks-that-killed-americans/> [28].

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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### **Media Coverage:**

#### *Media coverage/analysis of group*

Media coverage of PIJ is much less subjective than with other groups. While pundits may find themselves sometimes split over Hamas and Hezbollah, which provide social services in addition to their terrorist activities, PIJ provides no such services and is solely dedicated to Israel's destruction. Further, unlike Hamas and Hezbollah, PIJ is not entangled in any government and therefore there is no need to distinguish between its armed faction and any political leadership, although there are indications that the group might be looking to develop a political role.<sup>156</sup> Though Western media largely still refers to PIJ as a militant and not a terrorist organization, PIJ's single-mindedness has made it easier for the media to classify and condemn its activities.

Still, while pundits widely condemn PIJ's tactics, there are some, even in Western media, who equate morally PIJ's terrorism and Israel's responses to terrorism. According to this line of thinking, as abhorrent as PIJ's actions are, they are the actions of desperate people living under brutal occupation. One example of this justification is a 2002 *New York Times* op-ed by Muhammad Muslih, a professor of political science at Long Island University. Muslih penned the op-ed after overhearing a young Arab-American boy tell his father he wanted to become a suicide bomber and martyr in Palestine. Muslih expressed his dismay at hearing the boy's words but went on to justify Palestinian terrorism as a response to the Israeli occupation.<sup>157</sup> He cited a PIJ leader who told Muslih the Palestinians "don't have tanks or Apaches or F-16s, but we have the determination to be martyrs."<sup>158</sup> Muslih differentiated between Palestinian terrorism and that of Osama bin Laden, stating, "There are no bin Ladens in the Palestinian territories," and declaring that "Palestinian violence is a reaction to the violence of occupation."<sup>159</sup> And rather than clearly condemn Palestinian terrorism and call for dialogue, Muslih demanded acquiescence to PIJ's goals: "The United States should get Israel to withdraw to its borders of June 4, 1967. Then the violence will stop."<sup>160</sup>

PIJ regularly made headlines during the early 2000s, when a University of South Florida professor, Sami al-Arian, was indicted for aiding the terrorist group. Despite the record of PIJ's terrorist activities, some Western media reports glossed over PIJ's record when reporting on the professor, failing to put PIJ and the charges into context. A 2006 *Guardian* article, for example, reports on al-Arian's sentencing and lists the charges against the professor as well as the U.S. attorney general's belief that al-Arian is involved in PIJ's deadly activities, but the writer provides no background on PIJ itself.<sup>161</sup> By contrast, a 2006 *New York Times* article on al-Arian's sentencing extensively cites the federal judge's contempt for PIJ's activities, describing what exactly al-Arian was charged with supporting.<sup>162</sup> In a 2003 article on the attempted U.S. extradition of a British national accused of aiding PIJ in connection with al-Arian, the British *Telegraph* lists PIJ's recent terrorist activities and their death toll, while citing PIJ's goal "to create 'terror, instability and panic.'" Other aims include the destruction of the state of Israel and the rejection of any form of peaceful co-existence.<sup>163</sup> Further, another 2006 *New York Times* article on the assassination of a PIJ leader credits the group for carrying out multiple recent suicide bombings against Israel.<sup>164</sup>

PIJ's singular devotion to violent jihad and destroying Israel makes it difficult for any pundit to write positively on the organization, but sympathies for the Palestinian cause still shade some coverage of PIJ, hiding the group's terrorist activities behind a veil of nationalism.

<sup>156</sup> Asmaa al-Ghoul, "Exclusive: Islamic Jihad Rethinks Role in Palestinian Politics," *Al Monitor*, May 9, 2013, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/05/islamic-jihad-palestine-political-civil-involvement.html> [78].

<sup>157</sup> Muhammad Muslih, "'They Took Our Land, so Why Shouldn't I Kill Them?'" *New York Times*, April 26, 2002, [http://www.nytimes.com/2002/04/26/opinion/26iht-edmus\\_ed3\\_.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/04/26/opinion/26iht-edmus_ed3_.html) [146].

<sup>158</sup> Muhammad Muslih, "'They Took Our Land, so Why Shouldn't I Kill Them?'" *New York Times*, April 26, 2002, [http://www.nytimes.com/2002/04/26/opinion/26iht-edmus\\_ed3\\_.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/04/26/opinion/26iht-edmus_ed3_.html) [146].

<sup>159</sup> Muhammad Muslih, "'They Took Our Land, so Why Shouldn't I Kill Them?'" *New York Times*, April 26, 2002, [http://www.nytimes.com/2002/04/26/opinion/26iht-edmus\\_ed3\\_.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/04/26/opinion/26iht-edmus_ed3_.html) [146].

<sup>160</sup> Muhammad Muslih, "'They Took Our Land, so Why Shouldn't I Kill Them?'" *New York Times*, April 26, 2002, [http://www.nytimes.com/2002/04/26/opinion/26iht-edmus\\_ed3\\_.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/04/26/opinion/26iht-edmus_ed3_.html) [146].

*Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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<sup>161</sup> Suzanne Goldenberg, "Palestinian Professor Sentenced for Terrorism in US," *Guardian* (London), May 1, 2006, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2006/may/02/usa.internationaleducationnews> [147].

<sup>162</sup> Jennifer Steinhauer, "Palestinian to Be Imprisoned Before Deportation," *New York Times*, May 1, 2006, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/01/us/01cnd-islamic.html> [148].

<sup>163</sup> David Bamber and Alasdair Palmer, "US Furious as Britain Ignores Extradition Plea," *Telegraph*, February 23, 2003, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/1422853/US-furious-as-Britain-ignores-extradition-plea.html> [149].

<sup>164</sup> "Blast Kills Islamic Jihad Leader in Gaza," *New York Times*, March 1, 2006, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/01/world/africa/01iht-web.0301mideast.html> [88].

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***Palestinian Islamic Jihad***

**Rhetoric:**



[150]

[PIJ statement, February 23, 2020 \[150\]](#)

“We are placing our hands on the trigger and we will avenge the blood of the martyrs by firing on Tel Aviv.”<sup>165</sup>



[151]

[Ziad al-Nakhalah, PIJ secretary-general, January 5, 2020 \[151\]](#)

The death of Quds Force commander Qasem Soleimani is a “huge loss but at the same time he will be a model for all Muslims and free people in the world regarding how to confront America and the Zionist entity.”<sup>166</sup>



[152]

[PIJ statement, November 12, 2017 \[152\]](#)

“It is our right to respond to any aggression, including the right to respond to the crime of attacking the tunnel east of Dir al-Balah, where 12 Mujahideen from Al-Qassam and Saraya al-Quds fell. To clarify the matter, our children and our people are also dear to us, as are our leaders, and the terrorism and the threats of the enemy do not frighten us. The settler is a murderer and a criminal and must understand that his hands are stained with the blood of our children and will not stop killing until he is cut off or he leaves our land.”<sup>167</sup>



[153]

[PIJ statement, November 14, 2018 \[153\]](#)

“Behold the political slaughter dealt to leaders of the occupation who aren’t capable of dealing with Gaza.”<sup>168</sup>



[154]

[Abu Imad al-Rifai, PIJ representative in Lebanon, January 19, 2015 \[154\]](#)

“When the Syrians see that there is a war between Israel and the (Syrian) regime, a large part of the opposition will stand alongside the regime, and fight the Israeli enemy... We are part of the resistance, and we will be at the middle of the fighting with the Israeli enemy if it breaks out. Within 72 hours, half of the Galilee will have fallen into the hands of the resistance, because the Israeli army’s ability to stand ground has been corroded.”<sup>169</sup>



[155]

[PIJ statement on a terrorist attack in which four rabbis were murdered in a synagogue, November 18, 2014 \[155\]](#)

“The operation in Jerusalem was a natural reaction to the crimes committed by the Israeli Occupation Forces and Zionist settlers.”<sup>170</sup>



[156]

[Anonymous PIJ militant, September 9, 2014 \[156\]](#)

“We are now inside one of the tunnels of the Al-Quds Brigades [the military arm of PIJ], on which work began the minute the war on Gaza ended and the ceasefire was declared... We will not be hindered by the threats of the enemy or by the ban on importing cement and other building materials...These tunnels will also have other uses, which we will not disclose. [These tunnels will be used for] launching anti-tank weapons, especially the Kornet missile... Allah willing, we are awaiting instructions to go out and take on the

## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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targets of the enemy.”<sup>171</sup>



[157]

[\*Nasser Abu Sharif, PIJ representative, August 27, 2014 \[157\]\*](#)

“As the Zionist settlers were forced to emigrate from the settlements around the Gaza Strip, we will certainly witness the return of all the Zionists to their original places of residence outside Palestine in not-too-distant future.”<sup>172</sup>



[158]

[\*Khader Habib, senior PIJ leader, August 2014 \[158\]\*](#)

“The issue of arms is connected to the existence of the occupation. This right is guaranteed by the laws of heaven and earth... When the Israeli occupation felt it had failed to face the resistance, it put all of its power in destroying homes and infrastructure in order to break the will of the fighters. Our nation will continue fighting until achieving all the goals set by the resistance.”<sup>173</sup>



[159]

[\*Daoud Shihab, PIJ spokesman, July 2014 \[159\]\*](#)

“Israel is targeting the Palestinians... I would just like to remind you of the ruling by the Israeli rabbis, who have instructed the soldiers to knead the [dough for] the bread that the Jews eat with the blood of Arab and Palestinian children.”<sup>174</sup>



[160]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, May 2014 \[160\]\*](#)

“In the past two decades, Iran has had an outstanding stance on Palestine, Israel and the resistance.”<sup>175</sup>



[161]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, May 2014 \[161\]\*](#)

“This is what Israel and its allies want, for all of its enemies from all parties in Syria and the region to fight [each other]. What could be better [for them]?”<sup>176</sup>



[162]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, May 2014 \[162\]\*](#)

“In the past two decades, Iran has had an outstanding stance on Palestine, Israel and the resistance. Some question Iran’s intentions and motives regarding its support to the resistance. Our job is not to examine intentions; we are concerned with actions... We appreciate Iran’s outstanding position on the Palestinian cause, but there are other sensitive files and issues in the region that have made others say that Iran constitutes a threat to them. They even see Iran as a new enemy in the region, instead of Israel. In our opinion, this is a dangerous slippery slope. We believe that the goal, or one of the main goals, of the hostile forces in the ummah [Islamic nation] — in light of the brutal wars taking place between components of the ummah and between our societies—is for the sectarian conflict, or the Sunni-Shiite conflict, to replace the Israeli-Arab conflict.”<sup>177</sup>

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, March 2014 \[163\]\*](#)

“Our performance from one war to another is getting better. If in 2012 we hit Tel Aviv, I think the enemy can imagine what can be beyond Tel Aviv... Our resistance will continue

*Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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[163]

as far as there is Israel, as far as there is occupation, the daily aggression against our people. Let me make it clear: Our arms are only for Palestine. Our arms aren't for rent. We will continue until we see the Dome of the Rock, Jaffa and Haifa."<sup>178</sup>



[164]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, March 2014\*](#) [164]

"Our resistance will continue as far as there is Israel, as far as there is occupation, the daily aggression against our people. Let me make it clear: Our arms are only for Palestine. Our arms aren't for rent. We will continue until we see the Dome of the Rock, Jaffa and Haifa."<sup>179</sup>



[165]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, March 2014\*](#) [165]

"Our performance from one war to another is getting better. If in 2012 we hit Tel Aviv, I think the enemy can imagine what can be beyond Tel Aviv."<sup>180</sup>



[166]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, March 2014\*](#) [166]

"Unfortunately, the Palestinian Authority [PA], in response, is banning the resistance, though there's great potential, and our people are ready to rise up once again. Why are they committed to security coordination with Israel? What does security coordination mean? It means that the PA is working for Israel."<sup>181</sup>



[167]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, March 2014\*](#) [167]

"...those who chose the negotiation path gained nothing. We all lost because of them."<sup>182</sup>



[168]

[\*Daoud Shihab, PIJ spokesman, on a high-level PIJ visit with Iranian officials, February 2014\*](#) [168]

"The warm welcome that the delegation received expresses Iran's solidarity [with Islamic Jihad] and its rejection of US policy. It shows that [Tehran] still supports resistance factions. This was a large delegation, headed by Ramadan, and it included his deputy and a number of members of the movement's political bureau, in addition to Islamic Jihad's representative in Iran. The visit comes at a time when some believe that Tehran's policy toward resistance movements is changing. But Iran is reiterating its support for the Palestinian cause, regardless of the developments in its relationship with the West. The Palestinian cause is one of Iran's objectives."<sup>183</sup>



[169]

[\*PIJ statement, January 2014\*](#) [169]

"The blood of martyrs will not be in vain, but a curse that chases the occupier everywhere."<sup>184</sup>



## *Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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[170]

[\*Daoud Shihab, PIJ spokesman, May 2013\*](#) [170]

“All of the weapons in Gaza are provided by Iran, be they weapons intended for the  [Hamas](#) [171] movement or for the PIJ. Perhaps Hamas even has more Iranian weapons than us; and everyone knows that Iran is financing us... The PIJ is a resistance movement, and while there are many parties in the Arab and Muslim world offering support for the resistance, the largest share of this financial and military support is coming from Iran.”<sup>185</sup>



[172]

[\*Khader Habeeb, senior PIJ official, May 2013\*](#) [172]

“The equation has yet to change. The Oslo Accords are still the reference and we continue to refuse them, as we see them as a deviation from the correct Palestinian direction, which is to resist and liberate the entire land.”<sup>186</sup>



[173]

[\*Abu Ahmad, military spokesman of PIJ's Al-Quds Brigades in Gaza, January 2013\*](#) [173]

“Every offensive Israel wages on Gaza is usually harder than the previous. This is why we are focusing now to strengthen our infrastructure and to store more weapons... Our local rockets proved their high level of proficiency, especially in the latest round of the battle.”<sup>187</sup>



[174]

[\*Abu Ahmad, military spokesman of PIJ's Al-Quds Brigades in Gaza, January 2013\*](#) [174]

“Although we lost some of our sites and resources, the Palestinian resistance was able to hit back at Israel harshly, instantly and deep into Israel’s main cities, shaking their security and forcing them into a cease-fire... The most important thing we have learned was that the Israeli enemy needs to be shocked from the first day... You have to send a powerful message on the first day in any future military confrontation with Israel, and this is what we have done. We are in a state of gradual escalation, and Israel will take into consideration our military capability to use this tactic in any future conflict.”<sup>188</sup>



[175]

[\*Abu Ahmad, military spokesman of PIJ's Al-Quds Brigades in Gaza, January 2013\*](#) [175]

“We are not the only Palestinian armed group that receives an Iranian support, but we are the one that admits it the loudest. We feel it’s like an inevitable gratitude... I wonder why Iranian support for Palestinian armed groups is not acceptable as we are the victims, while the American support for Israel is acceptable despite Israel being the aggressor.”<sup>189</sup>



[176]

[\*Khader Habeeb, senior PIJ official, January 2013\*](#) [176]

“Iran has adopted the Palestinian resistance since its Islamic revolution. It has been a loyal backer. Consequently, Iranian assistance for the Syrian regime has nothing to do with our relations with Iran, even when our views are different... Iran was pleased with the victory the Palestinian resistance achieved. This is why it’s likely to increase its support for us, for what we have lost during the war and because we need to rebuild our infrastructure.”<sup>190</sup>

***Palestinian Islamic Jihad***

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[177]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, November 2012\*](#) [177]

“Do we accept the 1967 borders? No. We have to restore all of Palestine.”<sup>191</sup>



[178]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, November 2012\*](#) [178]

“Therefore, the only way before us is steadfastness and resistance in the West Bank, too. Resistance would drive Israel out of the West Bank, as it did in Gaza.”<sup>192</sup>



[179]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, November 2012\*](#) [179]

“Iran has been providing us with the support we needed to defend ourselves in the face of the Zionist occupation. Iran supported us militarily and financially and with all we need to remain steadfast on our land. We hope that all the Arab countries do the same.”<sup>193</sup>



[180]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, November 2012\*](#) [180]

“In Palestinian history, resistance was always a source of inspiration for our people to continue the struggle in order to get back our rights and homeland, Palestine.”<sup>194</sup>



[181]

[\*Khalid al-Batsh, PIJ senior official, July 2012\*](#) [181]

“The fruit was unripe, green, and bitter; the Oslo accords were bitter and we were made to swallow the bitterness. The result of this premature step was the Palestinian Authority... So what is our strategy today? We consider ourselves on a path to national liberation and therefore proclaim ourselves a movement of national and Islamic liberation from Israeli occupation. This requires us to adhere to the motto of resistance and continue with that option to reclaim the land... At all events, it must be made clear that this land is occupied and that resistance, jihad, and liberation are the only paths to restore our rights, while rejecting all compromise with Israel... They knew they were fighting Islamic Jihad, and that Islamic Jihad has nothing to lose, controls its own decisions, and does not count its casualties.... [So] trying to match Islamic Jihad in battle would entail great losses, particularly if Jihad extended the range of its missiles.”<sup>195</sup>



[182]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, November 2012\*](#) [182]

“Gaza is the human shield between Israeli aggression and Egypt.”<sup>196</sup>



[183]

[\*Daoud Shihab, PIJ spokesman, September 2011\*](#) [183]

“All Palestinian factions within the PLO have aimed at liberating Palestine, not establishing a state; a state comes after liberating Palestine.”<sup>197</sup>

***Palestinian Islamic Jihad***

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[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, on PIJ's anniversary, October 2010\*](#) [184]

"The motto of every honorable one should remain that Israel must be eliminated from life."<sup>198</sup>



[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, December 2009\*](#) [185]

"The United States is the best place in the world to live in. But, unfortunately, the gang in the White House sees everything through Israel's eyes, and the government manipulates the people's vision of what is going on outside the country."<sup>199</sup>



[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, December 2009\*](#) [186]

"But I will never, under any conditions, accept the existence of the state of Israel."<sup>200</sup>



[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, December 2009\*](#) [187]

"There is no possibility today of a two-state solution. That idea is dead."<sup>201</sup>



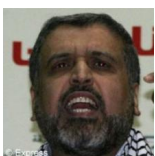
[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, December 2009\*](#) [188]

"The US and Israel heighten Iranophobia to gain the support of Arab regimes, which fear Iran."<sup>202</sup>



[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, October 2009\*](#) [189]

"We do not trust the so-called peace process."<sup>203</sup>



[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, October 2009\*](#) [190]

"We do not recognise Israel as a legitimate entity within this region and see it as an invading body that was cultivated in this area as a representative of Western interests and colonial powers."<sup>204</sup>



[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, October 2009\*](#) [191]

"I consider that the entire land of Palestine is ours and that the Israelis have no right to build so-called Israel as a Jewish state on that land... I do believe that Israel is an alien entity and they have no right to live as a legal part of this region."<sup>205</sup>

*Palestinian Islamic Jihad*

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[192]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, October 2009\*](#) [192]

"First of all, we do not believe in negotiations with Israel. We do not recognise Israel as a legitimate entity within this region and see it as an invading body that was cultivated in this area as a representative of Western interests and colonial powers. Israel is an occupier and they expelled the indigenous people of the land—the Palestinian population who are now living as refugees throughout the world... We do not trust the so-called peace process. From our point of view, nothing has been achieved since the Madrid conference and the Oslo Accords signed by Yasser Arafat, the late Palestinian president, in 1993."<sup>206</sup>



[193]

[\*Abu Dajana, al-Quds Brigade spokesman, March 2006\*](#) [193]

"The Zionists will swallow the same bitter drink that each Palestinian family has drunk from before."<sup>207</sup>



[194]

[\*PIJ statement in response to Israel's killing of two PIJ terrorists, September 2005\*](#) [194]

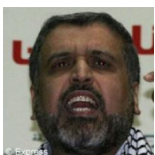
"After this crime, we reiterate that there will be no security for the residents of Sederot and Ashkelon."<sup>208</sup>



[195]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, November 2002\*](#) [195]

"The operation is a clear message to the Zionist enemy that it can enjoy no security while it continues to perpetrate massacres against the Palestinian people."<sup>209</sup>



[196]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, June 2002\*](#) [196]

"To those who tell us to stop the martyrdom operations we say: give us an alternative."<sup>210</sup>



[197]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, June 2002\*](#) [197]

"No one has the right to object to us giving away our souls and turning them into human bombs for a cause we consider more important and more sacred than our lives."<sup>211</sup>



[198]

[\*Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, June 2002\*](#) [198]

"If America is the one to divide the world into the 'camp of the good' and the 'camp of the evil,' and if it puts the Palestinian people and its Jihad fighters on the evil side, claiming that the martyrs are evil, then we say: 'Allah, make us all evil, [make us all] anger America and blow up in the heart of this cursed Zionist entity....'"<sup>212</sup>

[\*Unnamed PIJ leader, 2002\*](#) [199]

*Palestinian Islamic Jihad*



[199]

“The Zionist entity shows us nothing but naked and brutal power, which makes any kind of restraint on our part impossible. We don't have tanks or Apaches or F-16s, but we have the determination to be martyrs.”<sup>213</sup>



[200]

[Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, following a PIJ attack on an IDF outpost, October 2000 \[200\]](#)

“These actions are the beginning and there will be other attacks against settlers and the Israeli army.”<sup>214</sup>



[201]

[Ramadan Shallah, PIJ secretary-general, September 2000 \[201\]](#)

“We have nothing with which to repel killing and thuggery against us except the weapon of martyrdom. It is easy and costs us only our lives.”<sup>215</sup>



[202]

[Ramadan Shallah, PIJ leader, January 1997 \[202\]](#)

“We are going to retaliate with a language that the enemy can only understand. The danger of the suicide operations are coming.”<sup>216</sup>



[203]

[Ramadan Abdullah Shallah, January 1997 \[203\]](#)

“We are going to retaliate with a language that the enemy can only understand. The danger of the suicide operations are coming.”<sup>217</sup>



[204]

[PIJ website \[204\]](#)

“Liberating Palestine from the river to the sea, as this is the land of Muslims and Arabs. No inch of this land should be compromised and the existence of the Zionist entity is void and forbidden. According to sharia, it is forbidden to recognize any part of the Zionist entity. All settlement projects that recognize the Zionist existence in Palestine, or seek to compromise any national rights, are rejected and forbidden.”<sup>218</sup>

<sup>165</sup> Anna Ahronheim, “Palestinian Islamic Jihad bombards South after clash near Gaza border,” *Jerusalem Post*, February 24, 2020, <https://www.jpost.com/Breaking-News/IDF-fires-mortar-shells-at-terrorists-in-southern-Gaza-Strip-report-618454> [128].

<sup>166</sup> dam Rasgon, “ Hamas, Islamic Jihad heads give condolences to Iran’s FM on Soleimani’s death,” *Times of Israel*, January 5, 2020, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-islamic-jihad-heads-give-condolences-to-irans-fm-on-soleimanis-death/> [33].

<sup>167</sup> Avraham Gold, “IDF: We Will ‘Respond With Force’ to Threats From Palestinian Islamic Jihad,” *Jerusalem Post*, November 12, 2017, <https://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/IDF-We-will-respond-with-force-to-threats-from-Palestinian-Islamic-Jihad-514017> [205].

<sup>168</sup> Judah Ari Gross and Raoul Wootliff, “ Hamas claims Liberman’s resignation as a ‘victory for Gaza,’” *Times of Israel*, November 14, 2018, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-claims-libermans-resignation-as-a-victory-for-gaza/> [40].

<sup>169</sup> “#4739 - Palestinian Islamic Jihad Representative: In a Future War, Half the Galilee Will Fall within 72 Hours,” MEMRI TV, accessed March 2, 2015, <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/4739.htm> [206].

<sup>170</sup> “Two Palestinian storm Jerusalem synagogue, kill four Israelis,” *Al Akhbar English* (Beirut), November 18, 2014, <http://english.al-akhbar.com/node/22524> [53].

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- <sup>172</sup> "Islamic Jihad lauds Leader's backing for resistance," Press TV, August 27, 2014, <http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2014/08/27/376781/islamic-jihad-hails-leader-backing/> [58].
- <sup>173</sup> "Islamic Jihad: Halting War and Ending Gaza Siege Are Not Demands but Rights," *Middle East Monitor*, August 7, 2014, <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/news/middle-east/13310-islamic-jihad-halting-war-and-ending-gaza-siege-are-not-demands-but-rights> [207].
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- <sup>181</sup> Ali Hashem, "Islamic Jihad Leader: Negotiations Gain 'Nothing,'" *Al-Monitor*, March 14, 2014, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulseen/originals/2014/03/islamic-jihad-pa-israel-ramadan-abdullah-shalah.html> [212].
- <sup>182</sup> Ali Hashem, "Islamic Jihad Leader: Negotiations Gain 'Nothing,'" *Al-Monitor*, March 14, 2014, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulseen/originals/2014/03/islamic-jihad-pa-israel-ramadan-abdullah-shalah.html> [212].
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