

Dear Mr. \_\_\_\_\_,

In answering your questions, among those whose advice and expertise I have sought is a Christian who has lived some 30 years in the Middle East including Israel, Yemen and Egypt and Iraq who has considerable understanding through study of Arab culture and Islam.

**Question one:-** Regarding use of white phosphorus during the Lead cast Gaza war of 2008-2009, I must stress that it was 'said' Israel used that and no definite evidence has been given to prove it was used against civilians but the IDF admitted its use against military targets as **camouflage** in accordance with the UN Convention's legitimate use policy. The problem in the Gaza war was that Hamas mixed civilians, children among the military targets and so they were unfortunately affected, but they should not have been there and in any army that seeks to protect its citizens, rather than deliberately place them in harm's way, they would not have been burned.

The following is a quote from Wikipedia on White phosphorus. (WP).

*"In an 2005 interview with [RAI](#), Peter Kaiser, spokesman for the [Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons](#) (an organization overseeing the CWC and reporting directly to the UN General Assembly), questioned whether the weapon should fall under the convention's provisions:*

*No it's not forbidden by the CWC if it is used within the context of a military application which does not require or does not intend to use the toxic properties of white phosphorus. White phosphorus is normally used to produce smoke, to camouflage movement.*

*If that is the purpose for which the white phosphorus is used, then that is considered under the convention legitimate use.*

*If on the other hand the toxic properties of white phosphorus are specifically intended to be used as a weapon, that of course is prohibited, because the way the convention is structured or the way it is in fact applied, any chemicals used against humans or animals that cause harm or death through the toxic properties of the chemical are considered chemical weapons".<sup>[4]</sup>*

The following nations have used WP since and including WWI are:- USA in 2004 Iraq war; Saddam Hussein against the Kurds in Halluja -directly on the population; Afghanistan 2009 used by NATO troops; Korea and Vietnam by USA; Russia in Chechnya in 1994. (Wikipedia)

The use of WP is used as a smoke screen and gives off thick smoke cover disproportionate to its weight, and is used in grenades thrown into a situation to give cover for the soldiers...

**Question Two:**

In regard to your second question, KBRM is not in the "reporting" business, Our mission is to monitor the media, correct errors and supply missing truths.

While Israel neither confirms nor denies that it has developed nuclear weapons, KBRM believes that Israel has nuclear weapons. (See Letters of the Month at [www.kbrm.org.nz](http://www.kbrm.org.nz)). We are also aware that Israel has made it clear it will never use them offensively, but only in self-defence and only if absolutely necessary. However when you ask if we will report them, you misunderstand the purpose of KBRM. We are for balanced reporting, but we ourselves are not in the reporting business. We monitor the media, and when we see news about Israel that is unbalanced or biased or false, we try to correct that imbalance by supplying what we call "the missing truth".

Israel is a country of 7 million people (including its Arab population) surrounded by over 100 million hostile neighbours. Israel has no desire to destroy its neighbours. This is not true of Iran.

There are different disclosure requirements about nuclear weapons between Iran as a Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) signatory and Israel as a non-signatory to the NPT, and KBRM will report on nuclear weapons only to the extent of provable, publicly available facts about them.

### **Question Three:**

The Hamas Charter was written in 1988 and has yet to be finally updated. The possibility of a new Hamas Charter being issued was covered in the following Jerusalem Post article from 2006. <http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?age=1&cid=1139395429041&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull>

The following websites have English translations of the current 1988 Hamas charter:  
<http://www.thejerusalemfund.org/www.thejerusalemfund.org/carryover/documents/charter.html>  
[http://www.camera.org/index.asp?x\\_context=7&x\\_issue=20&x\\_article=1075](http://www.camera.org/index.asp?x_context=7&x_issue=20&x_article=1075)

The differences between the "modern Hamas" and the Hamas organisation of 1988 are discussed at length in a 2007 MPhil thesis by Chrystie Flournoy Swiney, "Ideological & Behavioral Metamorphoses: A New Charter for a New Hamas". Ms Swiney's thesis also includes a proposed draft charter for the "new" Hamas.

The Hezbollah Manifesto was originally issued in 1985 and was updated in 2009. You can read the new manifesto as presented by Hezbollah's Secretary General Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah at the following website: <http://sns.sy/sns/?path=news/read/7187>. A summary of the new manifesto, contrasted with the 1985 version is given here: [http://www.jamestown.org/single/?no\\_cache=1&tx\\_ttnews%5Btt\\_news%5D=35830](http://www.jamestown.org/single/?no_cache=1&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=35830)

Hezbollah has couched its beliefs in less religious and more political language in its new manifesto. If Ms Swiney's thesis is correct, Hamas will follow a similar path. However, although the rhetoric has been adapted to be more palatable to western tastes, it does not alter the underlying goal of both Hezbollah and Hamas - the creation of a unified Islamic Middle East, with the destruction of the Jewish state as an essential step in attaining that goal.

We are not aware that the Hamas charter, which calls for Israel's destruction, has been changed in any significant way philosophically even if its language may have been softened for Western consumption, as the next paragraph indicates.

The Islamic principle of Al Tagiyah is used widely by the Arab world to prevaricate when challenged by non Muslims (it is a Koranic principle that allows Muslims to say whatever will make them more accepted in situations where their belief is questioned).

## Hamas Principles

The principles of Hamas are stated in their Covenant or Charter. Following are highlights.

"Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it." (The Martyr, Imam Hassan al-Banna, of blessed memory).

"The Islamic Resistance Movement believes that the land of Palestine is an Islamic Waqf consecrated for future Muslim generations until Judgment Day. It, or any part of it, should not be squandered: it, or any part of it, should not be given up. "

"There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals and international conferences are all a waste of time and vain endeavors."

"After Palestine, the Zionists aspire to expand from the Nile to the Euphrates. When they will have digested the region they overtook, they will aspire to further expansion, and so on. Their plan is embodied in the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion", and their present conduct is the best proof of what we are saying."

The charter is a rather classical [Islamist](#) document, applied to the local issues. It declares that [Jihad](#) (in the sense of armed battle) is the only solution. It cites the [Protocols of the Elders of Zion](#), a ludicrous anti-Semitic forgery.

The "Zionists" and the freemasons and others are blamed for what Hamas and radical Islamists see as the major calamities of the world, especially the French Revolution.

One of the most ominous aspects of the Charter however, is this [Hadith](#):

*Moreover, if the links have been distant from each other and if obstacles, placed by those who are the lackeys of Zionism in the way of the fighters obstructed the continuation of the struggle, the Islamic Resistance Movement aspires to the realisation of Allah's promise, no matter how long that should take. The Prophet, Allah bless him and grant him salvation, has said:*

*"The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight the Jews (killing the Jews), when the Jew will hide behind stones and trees. The stones and trees will say O Muslims, O Abdulla, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him. Only the Gharkad tree, would not do that because it is one of the trees of the Jews." (related by al-Bukhari and Muslim).*

The implication is clear: Allah promised that the Jews will be murdered, and the Hamas "aspires to the realisation of Allah's promise, no matter how long that should take."

## **Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood**

Some observers deny the relation between the Hamas and the [Muslim Brotherhood](#). However, the Charter states:

The Islamic Resistance Movement is one of the wings of Muslim Brotherhood in Palestine. Muslim Brotherhood Movement is a universal organization which constitutes the largest Islamic movement in modern times. It is characterised by its deep understanding, accurate comprehension and its complete embrace of all Islamic concepts of all aspects of life, culture, creed, politics, economics, education, society, justice and judgment, the spreading of Islam, education, art, information, science of the occult and conversion to Islam.

Moreover, the Charter quotes [Hassan Al-Banna](#), a Nazi sympathizer who founded the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt. There is no doubt that the Hamas views itself as a part of the Muslim Brotherhood and an ideological heir of al Banna. The Muslim Brotherhood spawned a number of radical [Islamist](#) movements including [Al-Qaeda](#).

## **Current Hamas Positions**

Some analysts insist that the Hamas is becoming more pragmatic in its ideology following assumption of a political role. The evidence for this view is conflicting, and it is beclouded by the practice of dissemblance that was copied from [Al-Banna](#) and [Sayyed Qutb](#). Recent statements by leaders include the following:

- [Imam](#) Yousif al-Zahar of Hamas said in his sermon at the *Katib Wilayat* mosque in Gaza that "*Jews are a people who cannot be trusted. They have been traitors to all agreements. Go back to history. Their fate is their vanishing.*" [Ref IHT 1 April 08](#)
- Sheik Yunus al-Astal, a Hamas legislator and imam, in a column in the weekly newspaper *Al Risalah* in 2008 discussed a Koranic verse suggesting that "*suffering by fire is the Jews' destiny in this world and the next.*" Astal concluded "*Therefore we are sure that the Holocaust is still to come upon the Jews.*" [Ref IHT 1 April 08](#)
- "*We will not rest until we destroy the Zionist entity*" stated Hamas leader Fathi Hammad in Gaza on Friday January 2nd 2009 - [ref -- BBC 2 January 09](#)
- In a sermon aired on Hamas' Al-Aqsa television, cleric Yunis Al Astal stated, "*Today, Rome is the capital of the Catholics, or the Crusader capital, which has*

*declared its hostility to Islam, and has planted the brothers of apes and pigs in Palestine in order to prevent the reawakening of Islam.*

*"I believe that our children, or our grandchildren, will inherit our jihad and our sacrifices, and, Allah willing, the commanders of the conquest will come from among them"*

He maintained that Rome would become, ""an advanced post for the Islamic conquests, which will spread though Europe in its entirety, and then will turn to the two Americas, even Eastern Europe." [Ref- Fox 14 Apr. 2008](#)

Other statements are more moderate in tone, but Hamas has repeatedly refused international community demands to recognize the right of Israel to exist, abrogate its charter and abide by the previous commitments of the [Palestinian Authority](#)

I hope these comments are useful.

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_, KBRM contact