

WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

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UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL – 12th Session (14 September – 2 October 2009)
Statement by Representative David G. LITTMAN – Wednesday (a.m.), 30 September

UN Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict – Report (item 7)

Thank you, Mr President.

It is remarkable that in the 452 pages of the Mission's Gaza Report [A/HRC/12/48], and that of the High Commissioner [A/HRC/12/37], there is not a single mention of the root cause of the Gaza tragedy – the 1988 Hamas Charter: a Charter that calls for Jews to be killed and Israel to be eliminated; a Charter which, like Hitler, quotes a crude forgery, *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*, inspiring a terrorist regime to systematically teach a culture of hate & death to Gaza children and adults in schools, the press and by TV.

Iran provides military and economic support for Hamas in line with its Charter's aims – and with President Ahmadinejad's repeated calls for Israel to be wiped off the map, in contravention of Article 2/4 of the UN Charter. Last week, he reiterated his negation of the Shoah and then shamed the UN General Assembly.¹

In his 1924 preface to *Mein Kampf*, Hitler explained: "A doctrine can only keep its uniformity if it has been fixed in writing forever". Few took Hitler seriously, preferring to sleep through the 1930s. The Hamas Charter fits this Nazi-like pattern and its preface quotes Muslim Brotherhood founder, Hassan al-Banna: "Israel will exist and continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it."

The Charter, which we have been denouncing here since the 1989 Commission, goes further to include all Jews & Judaism: "Israel, Judaism and Jews challenge Islam and the Muslim people. 'Let the cowards never sleep.'" [Article 28]. Article 7 quotes a 'saying' [*hadith*] widely preached in sermons by clerics, calling on Muslims to fight and kill Jews²; Article 8 is the slogan of Hamas, from the Muslim Brotherhood, inspiring 'Jihadist Martyrdom Bombers' worldwide. Fuller details are to be found in our written statement.^{3/4}

We solemnly call on the High Commissioner, the Gaza Fact Finding Mission and this Human Rights Council to act now by unequivocally condemning the Genocidal Hamas Charter: a defamation of religion, a blueprint for murder and a 'direct and public incitement to commit genocide' – punishable under articles 3 and 4 of the 1948 Genocide Convention. To remain silent now would speak volumes. We also call on the newly elected Director-General of UNESCO to insist on the replacement of this well-documented culture of hate and death in schools and TV by UN human rights education in reality – not simple as "relayed to the Mission". [§1898]

Thank you, Mr. President.

(1) "Holocaust is a false claim, a fairy tale, used as a pretext for crimes against humanity."

(2) "HAMAS aspires to implement Allah's promise, whatever time it may take. The Prophet, prayer and peace be upon him, said: 'The Hour [Day of Judgment] will not come until Muslims will fight the Jews and kill them; until the Jews hide behind rocks and trees, which will cry: O Muslim! O Abdallah [slave of Allah], there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him. This will not apply to the Gharqad tree, which is a Jewish tree.'"

(3) "Allah is its target, the Prophet is its model, the Koran its Constitution; Jihad is its path, and death for the sake of Allah is the loftiest of its wishes." (Article 8). This 'saying' – from the 1928 Charter of the Muslim Brotherhood, of which Hamas is a wing, according to its article 2 – is recorded from al-Bukhari and Muslim, both considered by serious Islamic scholars as highly reliable sources for the *hadith* of the Prophet Muhammad.]

(4) After his release from an Israeli prison in October 1997, Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, founder and spiritual head of Hamas, declared that Israel must "disappear from the map." He added: "We have an aim and an enemy, and we shall continue our Jihad against the enemy; a nation without a Jihad is a nation without a purpose."

* Attached is our detailed written statement E/CN.4/2003/NGO/226: The 1988 Genocidal Charter of HAMAS: an evil legacy for 'Jihadist- Martyrdom' bombers. See also our texts: A/HRC/S-1/NGO/4 (2006); A/HRC/S-9/NGO/3 (2009)