

# MEMMO

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## Hamas Condemns America for Killing Bin Laden

**The Islamist terrorist group Hamas today condemned the United States for killing Osama bin Laden, saluting the terrorist mastermind as a “holy warrior” and expressing hope that God will have mercy upon him. “If the news is true, then we consider it a continuation of the American policy based on oppression and bloodshed against Arabs and Muslims,” Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh told reporters in Gaza. He added: “We condemn any killing of a holy warrior or of a Muslim and Arab person and we ask God to bestow his mercy upon him.”**

- The U.S.-designated terrorist group’s statement in support of bin Laden comes just days after it agreed to join a Palestinian unity government with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas’ Fatah party.
- Under the April 27 accord, Hamas has not been required to accept the Quartet conditions of recognizing Israel’s right to exist, rejecting violence and endorsing previous Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements in order to participate in the transitional government and elections.
- The Hamas charter, published in 1988, details the guiding principles of the group. The charter is laced with anti-Semitism and racism, rejects peaceful efforts to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and calls for the destruction of the State of Israel through jihad, or holy war. Hamas considers all of Israel to be occupied territory.
- Designated by the United States as a terrorist organization in 1997, Hamas has killed more than 500 innocent civilians, including two dozen Americans. Hamas and other Iranian-backed terrorist groups in Gaza have increased their mortar and rocket attacks against Israeli civilians, firing more than nearly 300 at Israeli population centers, including the major cities of Beersheba and Ashdod, since the beginning of the year.
- In the days that immediately followed September 11, 2001, Hamas leaders issued statements praising the attack. “Allah has answered our prayers,” Hamas minister Dr. Atallah Abu Al-Subh wrote in an open letter titled “To America,” which appeared on September 13, 2001, in the Hamas mouthpiece *Al-Risala*.



**Ismail Haniyeh’s Hamas terrorist group has killed two dozen Americans.**