Israel’s Operation against Hamas

Defeating Terror
Promoting Peace
Moderates vs. Extremists
The Struggle for Regional Peace

Israel desires peace with those who seek peace, but must deter those who seek its destruction.
Israel's greatest hope is to live in peace and security with all its neighbors.

Signing the Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty.
Israel has proven its ability to make peace with those who desire peace. The moderates in the region agree on the need for a “two-state solution” to the Palestinian issue.
While Israel desires peace with those who seek peace, it must deter those who seek its destruction.

**Hamas:**

"Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it."

[The Hamas Covenant, Introduction]

"There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through *Jihad.*"

[The Hamas Covenant, Article 13]

**Hizbullah:**

"Palestine, from the [Mediterranean] sea to the [Jordan] river, is the property of Arabs and Palestinians and no one has the right to give up even a single grain of earth."

[Hizbullah leader Hassan Nasrallah, 26 Sept 2008]
Iran:

“The cancerous tumor called Israel must be uprooted from the region.”
[Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei, 15 December 2000]

"Khomeini ordered that Israel must be wiped off the map. This was a very wise statement."
[Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, 26 October 2005]

Bin Laden:

"It is a duty is to urge people to Jihad and to enlist the youth into Jihad brigades…Muslim nation, you are capable of defeating the Zionist entity"
[Osama bin Laden, 14 January 2009 audiotape]

The extremist, terrorist camp – Hamas, Hizbullah, Iran and their allies – cannot be allowed to triumph. This would be a disaster for Israel, the Palestinians and the entire world.
Self Defense

The Hamas deliberately targets Israeli cities. Israel has the right and the obligation to protect the lives of its citizens.
Precious seconds: The difference between life and death in southern Israel. 15 seconds is all the time many Israelis have to find cover from incoming Hamas missiles.
Hamas intentionally targets Israeli civilians - a grave war crime
8,000 rocket attacks over 8 years have left their toll: 75-95% of Sderot children exhibit symptoms of post-traumatic stress.

[Natal - the Israel Center for Victims of Terror and War.]
Humanitarian Aid

Israel is fighting the Hamas, not the citizens of Gaza.
Injured Palestinian boy receives medical treatment by Israeli and Palestinian medical personnel at Erez crossing, 31 Dec 2008

For Israel, the Palestinian people are neighbors, not enemies
Despite Hamas attacks on Israeli cities, massive humanitarian aid continues to flow into the Gaza Strip.
Many Israelis have been killed in order to transfer aid to the Palestinian people.
### Humanitarian Aid Flowing into Gaza from Israel

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<tr>
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<th>Truckloads of Aid</th>
<th>Tons of Aid</th>
<th>Liters of Fuel</th>
<th>Tons of Cooking Gas</th>
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<tr>
<td>16 June 2007–26 Dec 2008</td>
<td>Over 36,000</td>
<td>Over 915,000</td>
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<td>From the Hamas takeover</td>
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<td>Israeli Operation</td>
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<td>27 Dec 2008 –18 Jan 2009</td>
<td>1,498</td>
<td>36,991</td>
<td>1,726,351</td>
<td>(Jan 5-8) 236</td>
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<td>During the Israeli</td>
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Hamas is truly “bombing the hand that feeds them”
The Hostage Situation

Israel does its utmost to avoid harming civilians, yet the Hamas intentionally exploits the Gaza population as human shields.
Gaza is the world’s largest “hostage situation”. Under international law, whoever exploits civilians as human shields in armed conflict is solely responsible for the consequences of his actions.
A Hamas explosives lab in the ground floor of a residential building in Jabalya

A Hamas Kassam rocket manufacturing shop in the Darj neighborhood of Gaza

IDF video documenting how Hamas munitions, intentionally hidden in residential areas, cause extensive destruction to civilian homes.
Deliberate use of civilians as human shields against anticipated air-strikes

An armed Hamas terrorist violently grabs an innocent young boy off the street to use as a human shield in order to save his own life
"Hamas hides weapons in mosques and uses minarets to launch attacks... Hamas launches rockets from school yards and rigs schools with booby-traps... Hamas commanders set up shop in the basement of Gaza's largest hospital."

"Hamas views civilians not as a population to be avoided -- but as a population to be exploited." [UN Amb. Gabriella Shalev, 14/1/2009]
Israel has done its utmost to avoid civilian casualties in Gaza:
It aborted missions when civilians were spotted in target areas;
It scattered nearly a million leaflets warning civilians away from target areas;
It contacted 30,000 civilians by telephone to warn of attacks.

Israel voluntarily sacrificed the element of surprise to save civilian lives.
Its actions are almost unprecedented in the history of warfare.
The terrorists cannot be allowed to destroy the hope of peace in the region. When Hamas and the other extremists are contained, the moderates will prevail and there will be peace.