



PALESTINIAN RELIGIOUS TERRORISM:

A Profile of Hamas and Islamic Jihad

By Yonah Alexander

For the third volume of terrorist group profiles we have selected two Palestinian religious-based movements. The first, Hamas (Harakat al-Mugawama al-Islamiya), formed in 1993, is the main radical Islamic terrorist group dedicated to the destruction of the State of Israel. The second group, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, is smaller in size but is equally committed to eliminating Israel through political violence.

The aim of this book, like the earlier volumes on *al-Qaida* and the *ETA*, is not to glorify terrorist movements. Rather it is designed to provide an easily accessible reference for academics, policy makers, reporters, and other interested individuals on two of the most notorious Palestinian terrorist groups. This volume exposes much of Hamas and Islamic Jihad mystiques and thereby places them in perspective as two of the many challenges facing the international community in the 21st century.

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