



EMBASSY OF
ISRAEL
IN CANADA

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Exhibit at Ottawa City Hall Glorifies Terror

Ottawa, Canada – May 23, 2014: An exhibit at Ottawa's City Hall Karsh-Masson Art Gallery reflects a culture of hate and incitement that contradicts the values of Canada as a guardian of peace and champion against terror. Although the exhibit claims to present "portraits of lost artists, activists, writers and leaders," this deceitful description is cover for what is a "who's who" of international terrorists: suicide bombers, masterminds of massacres, terrorist operatives and the hijackers of planes, buses, and schools. Many of those glorified are individuals connected to organizations that appear on [Canada's official list of terrorist entities](#).

Ambassador Rafael Barak met yesterday with Mayor Jim Watson and they discussed the problematic nature of the exhibit especially because it does not portray "artists, activists, writers and leaders" as is presented in the pamphlet (see page 7, attached pdf), but known terrorists including the mastermind of the [Ma'alot school massacre](#) that took place exactly 40 years ago this month, which killed 22 children and 3 adults—in fact, the creator of the exhibit, Rehab Nazzal is a relative of Khalil Nazzal who was the mastermind of the massacre. "I met with Mayor Watson and was pleased to learn that this exhibit does not reflect his values or the City of Ottawa." At the same time, Ambassador Barak noted that this exhibit provides "Canadians with a window into what lies at the root of terrorism and the obstacles in Israel's quest for peace: the Palestinian glorification of terror, the incitement of violence and the refusal to accept the State of Israel." Furthermore, "it is disappointing to see a culture that glorifies known terrorists as leaders."

Below are the biographical sketches of just a handful of the suicide bombers, masterminds of massacres, terrorist operatives and hijackers glorified in the exhibit. In addition, attached you will find both the cover of the exhibit's pamphlet with notes identifying some of the terrorists and an excerpt from the pamphlet that describes these individuals as "artists, activists, writers and leaders."

Abu Iyad: The chief of Palestinian Black September, **who was responsible for the 1972 Munich Games Massacre** (killing 11 Olympic Israeli team members and 1 German police officer) and several other international terror attacks and hijacking.

Dalal Mughrabi: A PLO militant, who died in her own hijacking operation of a civilian bus in what is now known as the 1978 Coastal Bus Attack (killing 38 people including 13 children).

Abu Jihad: A cofounder of Fatah and the head of its military wing. He was responsible for establishing the paradigm of violence against any civilian targets as a means of struggle. He was the mastermind of the 1975 Tel Aviv Savoy Hotel attack (killing 8 civilians) and the 1978 Coastal Bus Attack (killing 38 civilians). In addition, he was implicated in attacks against Arab targets including the assassination of an Egyptian journalist, Yusuf Sibai, in 1978 in Cyprus, which was intended to send a message to Egypt for the signing of a peace treaty with Israel.

Naji Al Ali: A political cartoonist who was critical of both Israel and Arab regimes including the PLO. He was ultimately assassinated in 1987 in London by Palestinian operatives for unflattering cartoons about Yasser Arafat and his associates.

Shahida Abu Ghazaleh: A female operative who died in 1968 when a bomb she was preparing for an attack on Tel Aviv accidentally detonated.

Zuheir Mohsen: The leader of the Pro-Syrian government as-Sa'iqa faction of PLO and liaison with President Assad. His organization is said to have played a role in the Damour massacre in Lebanon's coastal town in 1976 that killed over 300 Lebanese Christians.

Khalid Nazzal: The Secretary of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and commander of its military branch who was responsible for the attacks on Ma'alot and Beit Shean in 1974 and Jerusalem in 1984.

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