

# The Invasion of Gaza: Part of a Broader Israeli Military-Intelligence Agenda

## [“Justified Vengeance” and the Invasion of Gaza: Palestine Is Portrayed as “The Aggressor”](#)

### *The Invasion of Gaza: Part of a Broader Israeli Military-Intelligence Agenda*

by [Michel Chossudovsky](#)

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### *Author's Introduction*

*There is a complex history behind Israel's October 2023 plan to “Wipe Gaza off the Map.”*

*It's genocide, an absolute slaughter:*

*“We are going to attack Gaza City very broadly soon,” Israel's chief military spokesman, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, said in a nationally broadcast address, without giving a timetable for the attack.”*

*It's a criminal undertaking based on Israel's doctrine of “Justified Vengeance” which was first formulated in 2001.*

*(See below: my January 2009 article published at the very outset of Israel's 2008-2009 invasion of Gaza under “Operation Cast Led”)*

*The “Justified Vengeance” doctrine propounds in no uncertain terms that (despite its limited military*

capabilities) **Palestine rather than Israel is “the aggressor”** and that Israel has the right to defend itself.

It is now established that the Hamas October 7, 2023 attack was a **false flag operation** carried out by a “faction” within Hamas, in liaison with Mossad and U.S. intelligence”:

“U.S. intelligence say they weren’t aware of an impending Hamas attack.

Did Netanyahu and his vast military and intelligence apparatus (Mossad et al) have foreknowledge of the Hamas attack which has resulted in countless deaths of Israelis and Palestinians.

Was a carefully formulated Israeli plan to wage **an all out war against Palestinians** envisaged **prior** to the launching by Hamas of “Operation Al-Aqsa Storm”?

This was not a failure of Israeli Intelligence, as conveyed by the media. Quite the opposite”

## **The History of False Flags: “The Green Light to Terror” (1997), The “Bloodshed as a Justification” to Wage War**

The late Prof. Tanya Reinhart confirms the formulation in 1997 of a False Flag Agenda entitled “**The Green Light to Terror**” which consisted in promoting (engineering) suicide attacks against Israeli civilians, citing “**the Bloodshed as a Justification**” to wage war on Palestine:

“...This is the “green light to terror” theme which the Military Intelligence (Ama”n) has been promoting since 1997, when its anti-Oslo line was consolidated. **This theme was since repeated again and again by military circles, and eventually became the mantra of Israeli propaganda...**

The ‘Foreign Report’ (Jane’s information) of July 12, 2001

*disclosed that the Israeli army (under Sharon's government) has updated its plans for an "all-out assault to smash the Palestinian authority"*

*The blueprint, titled "The Destruction of the Palestinian Authority and Disarmament of All Armed Forces", was presented to the Israeli government by chief of staff Shaul Mofaz, on July 8 [2001].*

*The assault would be launched, at the government's discretion, after a big suicide bomb attack in Israel, causing widespread deaths and injuries, citing the bloodshed as justification." ([Tanya Reinhart](#), December 22, 2001)*

## **Ariel Sharon: "A 1948 Style Solution"**

According to the Prof. Tanya Reinhart:

*"Mass expulsion could occur at some later stage of the ground invasion [2002- ], were the Israelis to open up Gaza's borders to allow for an exodus of population ... Expulsion was referred to by Ariel Sharon as the "a 1948 style solution". For Sharon "it is only necessary to find another state for the Palestinians". - 'Jordan is Palestine' – was the phrase that Sharon coined." ([Tanya Reinhart](#), op cit)*

## **The " Hamas-Mossad Partnership"**

What is now unfolding in Gaza is part of a longstanding intelligence agenda, which has been on the drawing board of successive Israeli governments for more than twenty years. Founded in 1987 with the support of Israel, "The Hamas-Mossad partnership" is confirmed by Netanyahu:

*"Anyone who wants to thwart the establishment of a Palestinian state has to support bolstering Hamas and transferring money to Hamas. ... This is part of our strategy – to isolate the Palestinians in Gaza from the Palestinians in the West Bank." (March 2019 Statement quoted by [Haaretz](#),*

*October 9, 2023, emphasis added)*

## **“Support” and “Money” for Hamas**

**“Transferring Money to Hamas”** on behalf of Netanyahu is confirmed by a Times of Israel October 8, 2023 Report:

*“Hamas was treated as a partner to the detriment of the Palestinian Authority to prevent Abbas from moving towards creating a Palestinian State. Hamas was promoted from a terrorist group to an organization with which Israel conducted negotiations through Egypt, **and which was allowed to receive suitcases containing millions of dollars from Qatar through the Gaza crossings.**” (emphasis added)*

**Benjamin Netanyahu’s** position defined several years prior to the October 7, 2023 **“State of Readiness For War”** consists in the **total appropriation** of Palestine Lands as well as **the outright exclusion** of the Palestinian people from their homeland:

*“These are the basic lines of the national government headed by me: **The Jewish people have an exclusive and unquestionable right to all areas of the Land of Israel.** The government will promote and develop settlement in all parts of the Land of Israel – in the Galilee, the Negev, the Golan, Judea and Samaria.” (January 2023)*

## **The Role of Mossad**

The doctrine of **“Justified Vengeance”** initiated in 2001, is the cornerstone of Israel’s intelligence narrative. It provides a justification to carry out acts of genocide, with the support of the International community, first in Gaza, then in the West Bank.

*“With an annual budget of about \$3billion and 7,000 staff, **Mossad is the second-largest espionage agency in the***

## [Western world after the CIA.](#)

These official figures are meaningless, intelligence agencies do not reveal the sources of their funding or the size of their staff (which are in excess of the figures quoted above).

**Mossad** (Foreign Intelligence) together with **Shin Bet** (Domestic National Security) and **Aman** (Military Intelligence) is the main actor in the conduct of “false flag operations”. It’s covert capabilities are extensive. It has over the years infiltrated both Hamas and the Palestinian National Authority, It also exerts –in liaison with US intelligence– control over Al Qaeda operatives, ISIS and Daesh throughout the Middle East.

Mossad’s mandate is to create “divisions” within the Palestinian Resistance Movement, while **sustaining fear and routine terrorist false flag events** against innocent Israeli civilians, which sustains the legitimacy of the “Justified Vengeance” narrative.

## **Chronology**

Let us briefly review the history, the various stages following the:

**Failure of Oslo I and II (1993-95) and The Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin (1995)**

### **2001. “Operation Justified Vengeance”**

Presented in July 2001 to the Israeli government of Ariel Sharon by IDF chief of staff **Shaul Mofaz**, under the title:

*“The Destruction of the Palestinian Authority and Disarmament of All Armed Forces”.*

See the Analysis of Tanya Reinhart and the Jane Report quoted above and in the article below).

“Operation Justified Vengeance” was also referred to as the **“Dagan Plan”**, named after the late **General Meir Dagan**, who headed Mossad, Israel’s foreign intelligence agency from 2002-2011.

The longer term objective of **“Operation Justified Vengeance” (2001)** was and remains the expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland.

## **2002. Decision to Build the Infamous Apartheid Wall by Sharon Government**

## **2004. The Assassination of Yasser Arafat**

It was ordered by the Israeli Cabinet in 2003. It was approved by the US which vetoed a United Nations Security Resolution condemning the 2003 Israeli Cabinet decision. It was undertaken by Mossad. (See details in article below)

## **2005. The Removal, Under Orders of PM Ariel Sharon of All Jewish Settlements in Gaza.**

Proposed in 2003 by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, **implemented in August 2005** and completed in September 2005.

A Jewish population of over 7,000 was relocated. This relocation was required to transform the Gaza Strip into **“An Open Air Prison”**

## **2006. The Hamas Election Victory in January 2006.**

Without Arafat, the Israeli military-intelligence architects knew that Fatah under **Mahmoud Abbas** would loose the elections.

## **2008-2009. “Operation Cast Lead”**

In 2008 the **“Bloodshed Justification”** was an essential component of the military-intelligence agenda, which was first formulated in the 2001 “Operation Justified Vengeance”:

***“The Destruction of the Palestinian Authority and Disarmament of All Armed Forces”***

The killing of Palestinian civilians was justified on “humanitarian grounds.” as formulated in the “Operation Justified Vengeance Report”.

–Michel Chossudovsky, May 15, 2021, October 23, 2023

Below is my article published in early January 2009, at the height of the **2008-2009 Operation Cast Lead**

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## **The Invasion of Gaza: Part of a Broader Israeli Military-Intelligence Agenda**

by Michel Chossudovsky, January 2009

### **“Operation Cast Lead”**

*The aerial bombings and the ongoing ground invasion of Gaza by Israeli ground forces must be analysed in a historical context. Operation “Cast Lead” [2008] is a carefully planned undertaking, which is part of a broader military-intelligence agenda first formulated by the government of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in 2001:*

*“Sources in the defense establishment said Defense Minister Ehud Barak instructed the Israel Defense Forces to prepare for the operation over six months ago, even as Israel was beginning to negotiate a ceasefire agreement with Hamas.”(Barak Ravid, [Operation “Cast Lead”: Israeli Air Force strike followed months of planning](#), Haaretz, December 27, 2008)*

It was Israel which broke the truce on the day of the US presidential elections, November 4:

*“Israel used this distraction to break the ceasefire between itself and Hamas by bombing the Gaza strip. Israel claimed this violation of the ceasefire was to prevent Hamas from*

*digging tunnels into Israeli territory.*

*The very next day, Israel launched a terrorizing siege of Gaza, cutting off food, fuel, medical supplies and other necessities in an attempt to “subdue” the Palestinians while at the same time engaging in armed incursions.*

*In response, Hamas and others in Gaza again resorted to firing crude, homemade, and mainly inaccurate rockets into Israel. During the past seven years, these rockets have been responsible for the deaths of 17 Israelis. Over the same time span, Israeli Blitzkrieg assaults have killed thousands of Palestinians, drawing worldwide protest but falling on deaf ears at the UN.” (Shamus Cooke, The Massacre in Palestine and the Threat of a Wider War, Global Research, December 2008)*

## **Planned Humanitarian Disaster**

On December 8, [2008] US Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte was in Tel Aviv for discussions with his Israeli counterparts including the director of Mossad, Meir Dagan.

“Operation Cast Lead” was initiated two days day after Christmas. It was coupled with a carefully designed international Public Relations campaign under the auspices of Israel’s Foreign Ministry.

Hamas’ military targets are not the main objective. Operation “Cast Lead” is intended, quite deliberately, to trigger civilian casualties.

What we are dealing with is a “planned humanitarian disaster” in Gaza in a densly populated urban area. (See map below)





The longer term objective of this plan, as formulated by Israeli policy makers, is the expulsion of Palestinians from Palestinian lands:

*"Terrorize the civilian population, assuring maximal destruction of property and cultural resources... The daily life of the Palestinians must be rendered unbearable: They should be locked up in cities and towns, prevented from*

*exercising normal economic life, cut off from workplaces, schools and hospitals, This will encourage emigration and weaken the resistance to future expulsions” Ur Shlonsky, quoted by Ghali Hassan, [Gaza: The World’s Largest Prison](#), Global Research, 2005)*

## **“Operation Justified Vengeance”**

A turning point has been reached. Operation “Cast Lead” is part of the broader military-intelligence operation initiated at the outset of the Ariel Sharon government in 2001. It was under Sharon’s “Operation Justified Vengeance” that F-16 fighter planes were initially used to bomb Palestinian cities.

“Operation Justified Vengeance” was presented in July 2001 to the Israeli government of Ariel Sharon by IDF chief of staff Shaul Mofaz, under the title “The Destruction of the Palestinian Authority and Disarmament of All Armed Forces”.

*“A contingency plan, codenamed Operation Justified Vengeance, was drawn up last June [2001] to reoccupy all of the West Bank and possibly the Gaza Strip at a likely cost of “hundreds” of Israeli casualties.” (Washington Times, 19 March 2002).*

According to Jane’s ‘Foreign Report’ (July 12, 2001) the Israeli army under Sharon had updated its plans for an “all-out assault to smash the Palestinian authority, force out leader Yasser Arafat and kill or detain its army”.

## **“Bloodshed Justification”**

The “Bloodshed Justification” was an essential component of the military-intelligence agenda. The killing of Palestinian civilians was justified on “humanitarian grounds.” Israeli military operations were carefully timed to coincide with the suicide attacks:

*The assault would be launched, at the government’s*

*discretion, after a big suicide bomb attack in Israel, causing widespread deaths and injuries, citing the bloodshed as justification. (Tanya Reinhart, [Evil Unleashed, Israel's move to destroy the Palestinian Authority is a calculated plan, long in the making](#), Global Research, December 2001, emphasis added)*

## **The Dagan Plan**

“Operation Justified Vengeance” was also referred to as the “Dagan Plan”, named after General (ret.) Meir Dagan, who currently heads Mossad, Israel’s intelligence agency.

Reserve **General Meir Dagan** was Sharon’s national security adviser during the 2000 election campaign. The plan was apparently drawn up prior to Sharon’s election as Prime Minister in February 2001. “According to Alex Fishman writing in Yediot Aharonot, the Dagan Plan consisted in destroying the Palestinian authority and putting Yasser Arafat ‘out of the game’.” (Ellis Shulman, [“Operation Justified Vengeance”: a Secret Plan to Destroy the Palestinian Authority](#), March 2001):

*“As reported in the Foreign Report [Jane] and disclosed locally by Maariv, Israel’s invasion plan – reportedly dubbed Justified Vengeance – would be launched immediately following the next high-casualty suicide bombing, would last about a month and is expected to result in the death of hundreds of Israelis and thousands of Palestinians. (Ibid, emphasis added)*

The “Dagan Plan” envisaged the so-called **“cantonization” of Palestinian territories** whereby the West Bank and Gaza would be totally cut off from one other, with separate **“governments”** in each of the territories. Under this scenario, already envisaged in 2001, Israel would:

*“negotiate separately with Palestinian forces that are dominant in each territory-Palestinian forces responsible for*

*security, intelligence, and even for the Tanzim (Fatah).” The plan thus closely resembles the idea of “cantonization” of Palestinian territories, put forth by a number of ministers.” Sylvain Cypel, [The infamous ‘Dagan Plan’ Sharon’s plan for getting rid of Arafat](#), Le Monde, December 17, 2001)*

The Dagan Plan has established continuity in the military-intelligence agenda. In the wake of the 2000 elections, Meir Dagan was assigned a key role. “He became Sharon’s “go-between” in security issues with President’s Bush’s special envoys Zinni and Mitchell.” He was subsequently appointed Director of the Mossad by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in August 2002. In the post-Sharon period, he remained head of Mossad. He was reconfirmed in his position as Director of Israeli Intelligence by Prime Minister Ehud Olmert in June 2008.

Meir Dagan, in coordination with his US counterparts, has been in charge of various military-intelligence operations. It is worth noting that Meir Dagan as a young Colonel had worked closely with defense minister Ariel Sharon in the raids on Palestinian settlements in Beirut in 1982. The 2009 ground invasion of Gaza, in many regards, bear a canny resemblance to the 1982 military operation led by Sharon and Dagan.

## **Continuity: From Sharon to Olmert**

It is important to focus on a number of key events which have led up to the killings in Gaza under “Operation Cast Lead”:

### **1. The assassination in November 2004 of Yasser Arafat.**

This assassination had been on the drawing board since 1996 under “**Operation Fields of Thorns**”.

According to an October 2000 document

*“prepared by the security services, at the request of then Prime Minister Ehud Barak, stated that ‘Arafat, the person,*

*is a severe threat to the security of the state [of Israel] and the damage which will result from his disappearance is less than the damage caused by his existence'". (Tanya Reinhart, [Evil Unleashed, Israel's move to destroy the Palestinian Authority is a calculated plan, long in the making](#), Global Research, December 2001. Details of the document were published in Ma'ariv, July 6, 2001.).*

**Arafat's assassination was ordered in 2003 by the Israeli cabinet.** It was approved by the US which vetoed a United Nations Security Resolution condemning the 2003 Israeli Cabinet decision. Reacting to increased Palestinian attacks, in August 2003, Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz declared "all out war" on the militants whom he vowed "marked for death."

*"In mid September, Israel's government passed a law to get rid of Arafat. Israel's cabinet for political security affairs declared it "a decision to remove Arafat as an obstacle to peace." Mofaz threatened; **"we will choose the right way and the right time to kill Arafat."** Palestinian Minister Saeb Erekat told CNN he thought Arafat was the next target. CNN asked Sharon spokesman Ra'anana Gissan if the vote meant expulsion of Arafat. Gissan clarified; "It doesn't mean that. The Cabinet has today resolved to remove this obstacle. The time, the method, the ways by which this will take place will be decided separately, and the security services will monitor the situation and make the recommendation about proper action." (See Trish Shuh, Road Map for a Decease Plan, [www.mehrnews.com](http://www.mehrnews.com) November 9 2005)*

The assassination of Arafat was part of the 2001 Dagan Plan.

In all likelihood, it was carried out by Israeli Intelligence. It was intended to destroy the Palestinian Authority, foment divisions within Fatah as well as between Fatah and Hamas. Mahmoud Abbas is a Palestinian quisling.

He was installed as leader of Fatah, with the approval of Israel and the US, which finance the Palestinian Authority's paramilitary and security forces.

## **2. The Removal, Under the Orders of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in 2005, of All Jewish Settlements in Gaza.**

A Jewish population of over 7,000 was relocated.

*"It is my intention [Sharon] to carry out an evacuation – sorry, a relocation – of settlements that cause us problems and of places that we will not hold onto anyway in a final settlement, like the Gaza settlements... I am working on the assumption that in the future there will be no Jews in Gaza," Sharon said." ([CBC, March 2004](#))*

The issue of the settlements in Gaza was presented as part of Washington's "road map to peace".

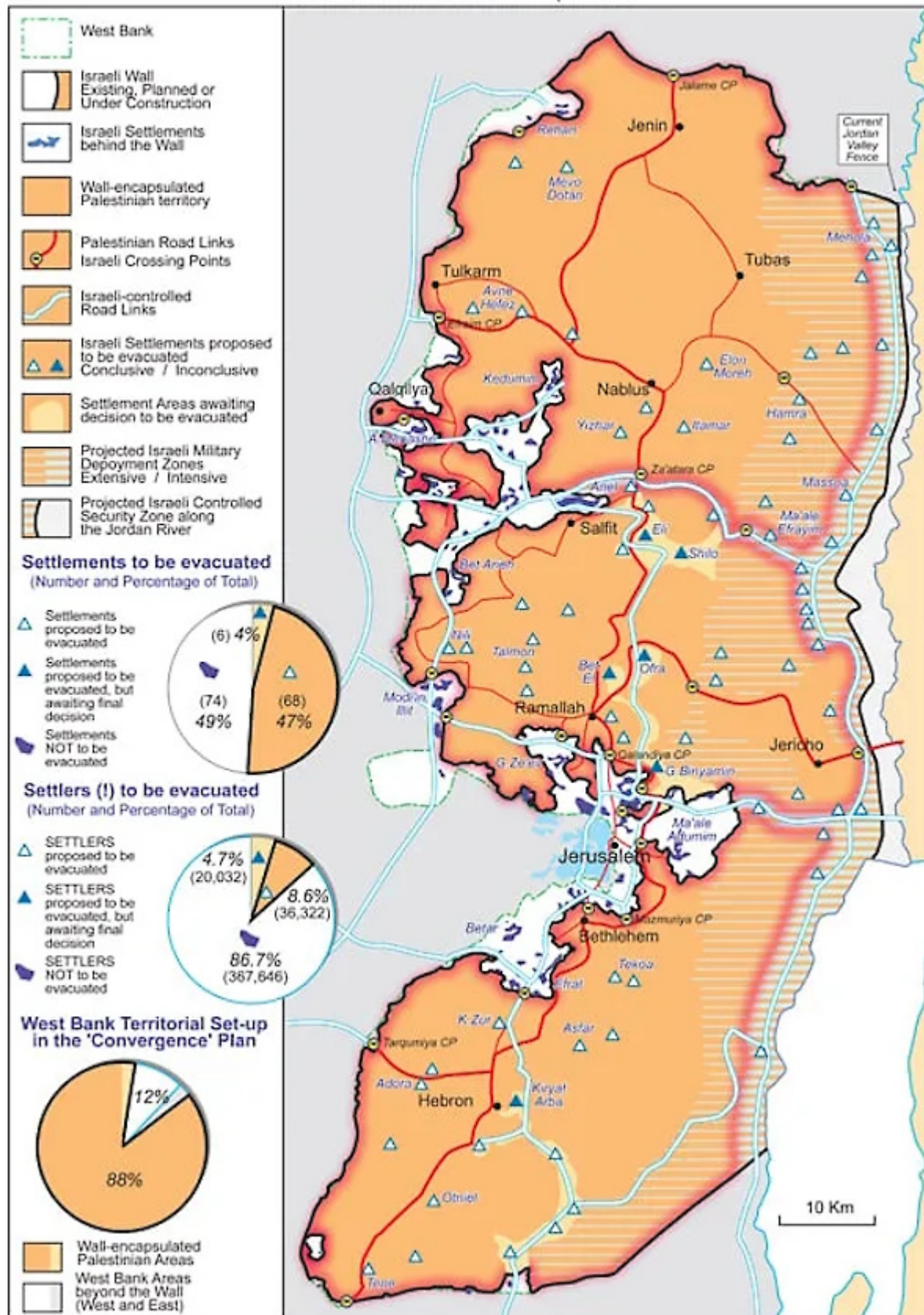
Celebrated by the Palestinians as a "victory", this measure was not directed against the Jewish settlers. Quite the opposite: **It was part of the overall covert operation, which consisted in transforming Gaza into a concentration camp.** As long as Jewish settlers were living inside Gaza, the objective of sustaining a large barricaded prison territory could not be achieved. The Implementation of "Operation Cast Lead" required "no Jews in Gaza".

## **3. The Building of the Infamous Apartheid Wall**

This was decided upon at the beginning of the Sharon government in 2002. (See Map below)



**"The Occupation's 'Convergence Plan'  
Settlement Evacuation Plan - April 2006**





#### 4. The Hamas Election Victory in January 2006.

Without Arafat, the Israeli military-intelligence architects knew that Fatah under Mahmoud Abbas would lose the elections. This was part of the scenario, which had been envisaged and analyzed well in advance.

With Hamas in charge in Gaza, using the pretext that Hamas is a terrorist organization, Israel would carry out the process of “cantonization” as formulated under **the Dagan plan**. Fatah under Mahmoud Abbas would remain formally in charge of the West Bank. The duly elected Hamas government would be confined to the Gaza strip.

#### **Ground Attack, 2008-2009**

On January 3, [2009] Israeli tanks and infantry entered Gaza in an all out ground offensive:

*“The ground operation was preceded by several hours of heavy artillery fire after dark, igniting targets in flames that burst into the night sky. Machine gun fire rattled as bright tracer rounds flashed through the darkness and the crash of hundreds of shells sent up streaks of fire. (AP, January 3, 2009)*



Israeli sources have pointed to a lengthy drawn out military operation. It “won’t be easy and it won’t be short,” said Defense Minister Ehud Barak in a TV address.

Israel is not seeking to oblige Hamas “to cooperate”. What we are dealing with is the implementation of the “Dagan Plan” as initially formulated in 2001, which called for:

*“an invasion of Palestinian-controlled territory by some 30,000 Israeli soldiers, with the clearly defined mission of destroying the infrastructure of the Palestinian leadership and collecting weaponry currently possessed by the various Palestinian forces, and expelling or killing its military leadership. (Ellis Shulman, op cit, emphasis added)*

## **Nakba 2.0: Mass Expulsion and a Ground Invasion Contemplated**

The broader question is whether Israel in consultation with Washington is intent upon triggering a wider war.

*Mass expulsion could occur at some later stage of the ground invasion, were the Israelis to open up Gaza’s borders to allow for an exodus of population.*

*Expulsion was referred to by Ariel Sharon as the “a 1948 style solution”. For Sharon*

*“it is only necessary to find another state for the Palestinians. - ‘Jordan is Palestine’ – was the phrase that Sharon coined.” (Tanya Reinhart, op cit)*

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