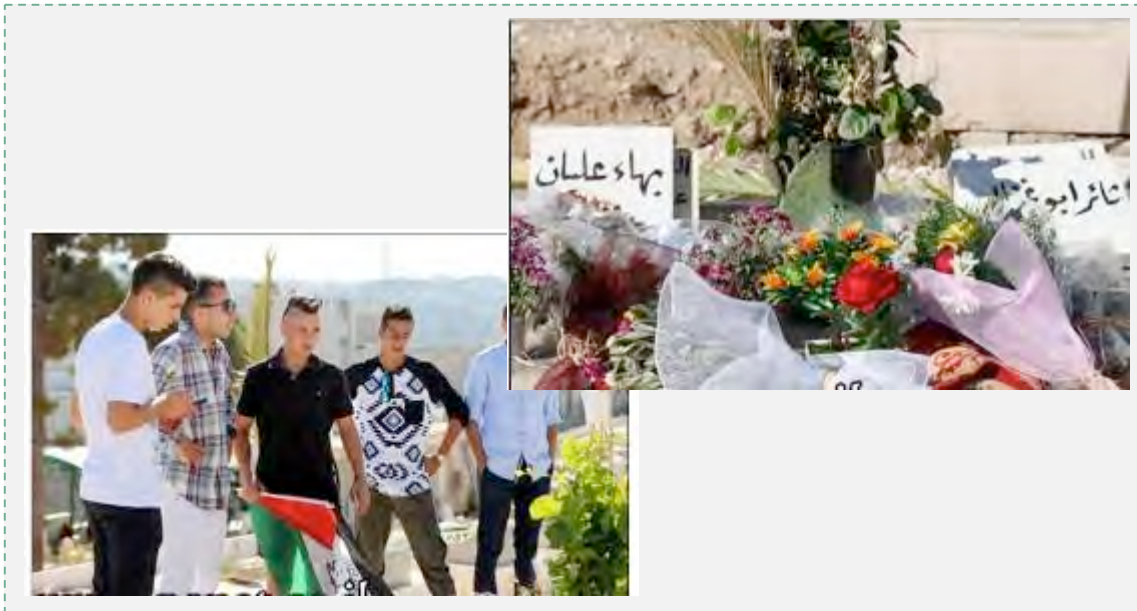




September 29, 2016

The phenomenon of kinship among Palestinians carrying out popular terrorist attacks



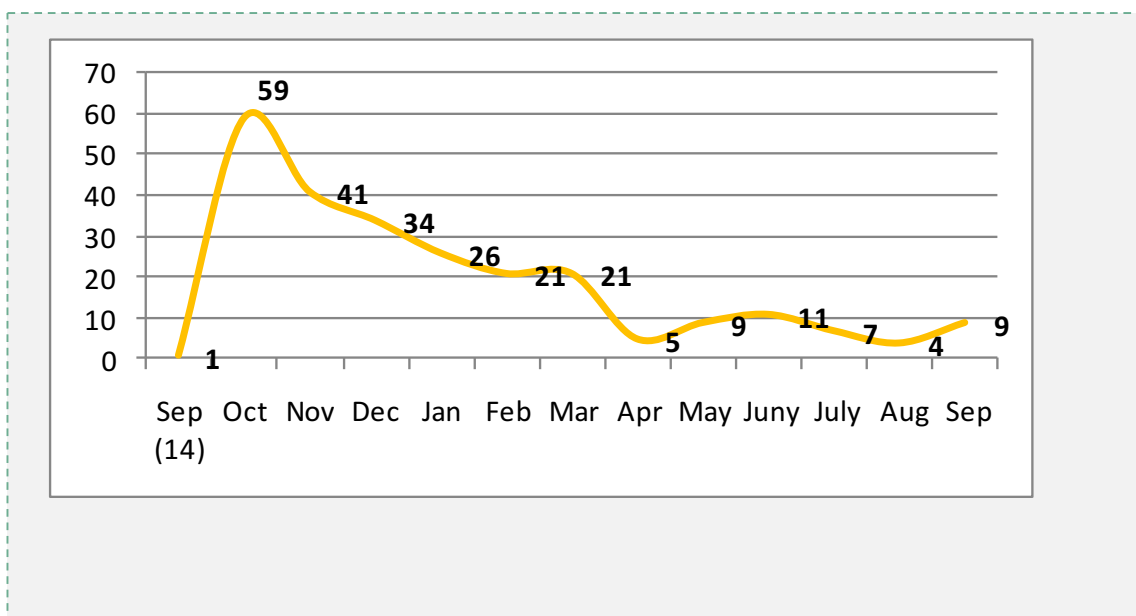
Left: Young Palestinians visit the graves of shaheeds in the Mujahideen Cemetery in east Jerusalem. Right: The graves of Bahaa' Alian and Ta'er Abu Ghazala, two terrorists who carried out attacks in the previous wave of Palestinian terrorism.¹ Flowers were placed on the graves at the beginning of the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha (Panet, September 12, 2016).

Overview

1. After five months of a decrease in the scope of terrorist attacks and a year after the outbreak of the previous wave of Palestinian popular terrorism, **another wave broke out**. During eight days, between September 16 and 23, 2016, **ten significant terrorist attacks were carried out. Eight of them were stabbing attacks**. Six Israelis were wounded. Eight of the terrorists were killed. At least two attacks were prevented when the Israeli security forces detained Palestinians who were carrying knives. An attack planned by a Palestinian girl from Abu Dis was prevented by the Palestinian Authority (PA) security forces. As in the previous wave, most of the attacks were carried out **in and around Hebron, Gush Etzion and east Jerusalem**.

¹ On October 13, 2015, **Bahaa' Alian** carried out a combined shooting and stabbing attack on a bus in the Armon Hanatziv neighborhood, Jerusalem, killing three Israelis. On October 8, 2015, **Ta'er Abu Ghazala** carried out a stabbing attack near the Kiriya in Tel Aviv wounding five Israelis. He was shot and killed by an IDF officer.

Significant Terrorist Attacks of the Past Year



2. Prominent among the Palestinians participating in the current wave of terrorist attacks have been **relatives and close friends of terrorists killed in the previous wave**, which began a year ago (the second half of September 2015). **At least five of the ten recent terrorist attacks were carried out by a friend or relative** (especially of the terrorists killed between September 2015 and March 2016). Beyond the basic national and religious motives, the young Palestinians carrying out the attacks in the current wave apparently identify with those killed in the previous wave and **want to exact revenge. About half of the attacks were carried out at the same locations and using the same modus operandi as in the previous wave.**

3. **The current wave of terrorist attacks began a short time after the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha and may have been influenced by it.** It is a common Muslim custom to visit graves, including graves, of shaheeds on important religious holidays (especially Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, which fell on September 12 this year, four days before the outbreak of the current wave of terrorism). As tensions with Israel mount, more Palestinians visit graves of shaheeds, as they did during the first and second intifadas. Generally speaking, relatives of the shaheeds visit their graves, but so do **people who identify with the shaheeds, and want to preserve their memories and turn them into role models.**

4. **The phenomenon of revenge attacks may be infectious and feed on itself, and a terrorist who carries out one attack may influence others who identify with and want to copy him (or her). Thus Palestinians may continue and intensify "revenge attacks,"** in view of the Jewish High Holidays, which fall in October this year, and during which the previous Palestinian terrorist campaign peaked.

Appendix A

Terrorists of the New Palestinian Terrorist Campaign (as of September 30, 2016)

Overview

1. So far, in the current terrorist campaign **Palestinians have carried out ten attacks, eight of them stabbing attacks, one vehicular attack and one instance of unarmed self-sacrifice.** At least two other attacks were prevented by the Israeli security forces, who detained Palestinians who were found carrying knives. An attack planned by a Palestinian girl from Abu Dis was prevented by the PA security forces. Six Israelis have been wounded in the current wave of Palestinian terrorism. Eight of the Palestinian terrorists were killed by Israeli security forces.

2. The current wave of terrorism is characterized by the following:

1) **Half of the attacks were carried out to "avenge" terrorists killed in the previous wave.** Some of them were carried out at the same places where the terrorists were killed and using the same modus operandi.

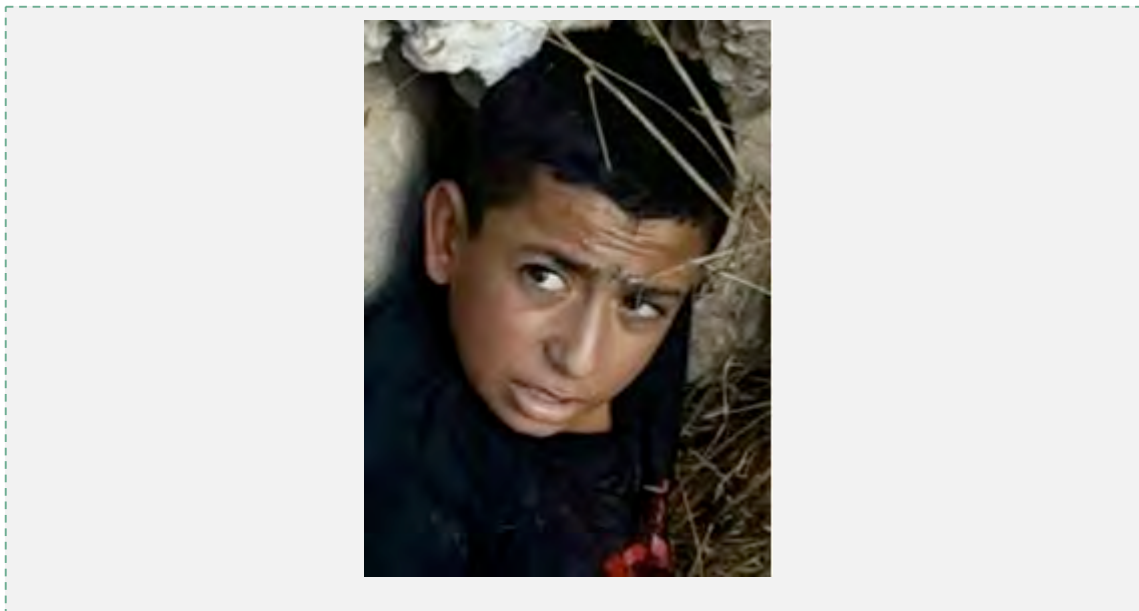
2) As in the previous wave, most of the attacks were carried out **in and around Hebron, Gush Etzion and east Jerusalem.** One was carried out at the Eliahu crossing in Samaria.

3) **Eight of the attacks were carried out by lone terrorists. Two** were carried out by **two terrorists. Two** of the ten terrorists were **women.**

4) **The terrorists were young** (even relative to the previous wave of terrorist attacks), aged **between 12 and 25.** Many were **teenagers.**

The Stabbing Attack at the Elias Junction

3. On **September 23, 2016**, a 15 year-old Palestinian boy brandished a knife at a bus stop at the Elias Junction at entrance to **Kiryat Arba.** The Israeli security force securing the location shot and critically wounded him. The Palestinian media reported he was **Osama Murad Mari' Zidat**, 15, from the town of Bani Na'im, north of Hebron (Facebook page of Bani Na'im and Ma'an, September 23, 2016).



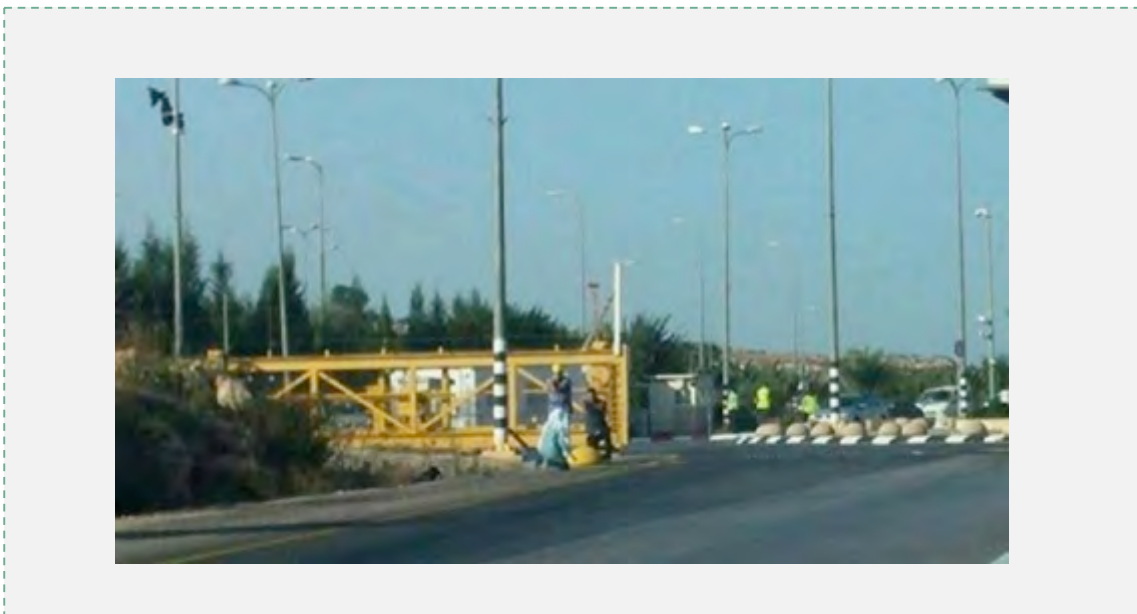
Osama Murad Mari' Zidat, from Bani Na'im (Facebook page of Bani Na'im, September 23, 2016)

"Self-Sacrifice" Event at the Eliahu Crossing (near Alfei Menashe)

4. On **September 21, 2016**, a 12-year-old Palestinian girl holding a bag went to the crossing reserved for cars near **Alfei Menashe (the Eliahu crossing)**. The security guards ordered her to halt. When she did not obey the warning, they shot and wounded her in the leg. **During the initial interrogation she said, "I came to die."** She was **Baraa' Awissi**, related to a Palestinian woman who carried out a **stabbing attack at the same location. She was unarmed and was released.**



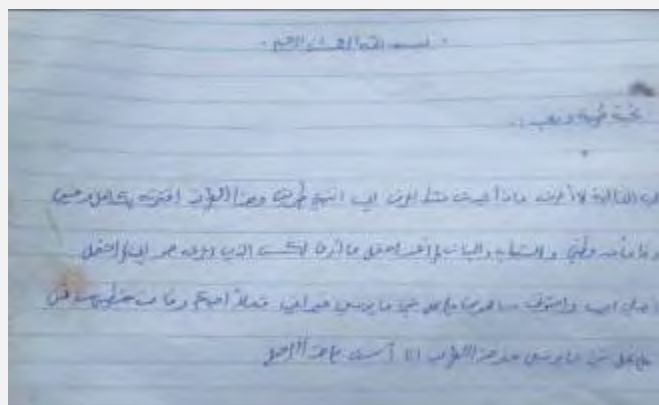
Left: Risha Awissi, killed while carrying out a stabbing attack at the Eliahu crossing (Amin blog, November 10, 2015). Right: Baraa' Awissi, related to Risha Awissi, who "came to die" at the Eliahu crossing (YouTube, September 26, 2016).



The Eliahu crossing in Samaria (Arabs48 website, September 21, 2016).

5. **Risha Muhammad Awissi**, 23, from Qalqilya, was killed **at the Eliahu crossing on November 9, 2015**. She walked to the crossing, and despite calls from the security guards to halt, she continued towards them. Even after they fired warning shots into the air she did not stop, but took a knife out of her handbag. The guards shot and killed her (Facebook page of QudsN, November 9, 2015).

6. **A suicide note was found in her handbag**. It read, ""I don't know what will happen at the end [of the road]. I am doing this with a clear mind, in defense of the homeland, the boys and girls. I cannot bear what I see and I cannot suffer any longer. My parents, father, mother, sisters, forgive me for what I am doing. I love you. Especially my fiancé. I am sorry for what will happen to me on this path and that this is the way I am ending [my life] (Israeli ministry of defense, information and spokesperson's office, November 9, 2015).



The suicide note by Risha Awissi (Facebook page of Qalqilya al-Hadath, November 9, 2015).

Stabbing Attack at the Entrance of Bani Na'im

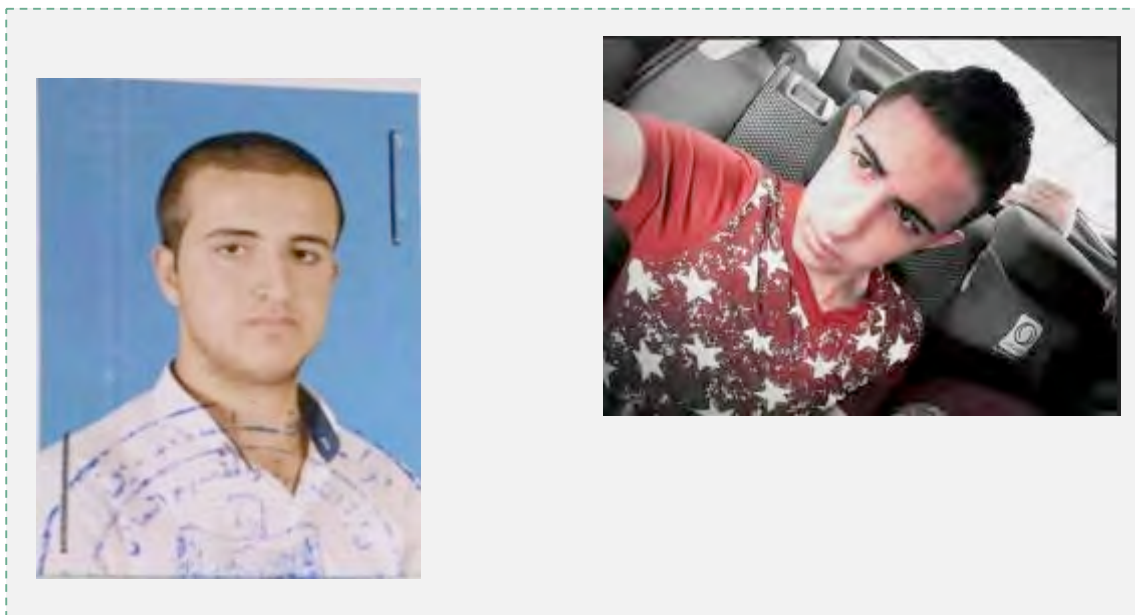
7. On September 20, 2016, a Palestinian attempted to stab IDF soldiers at the roadblock at the entrance to the village of Bani Na'im (near Hebron). The Palestinian arrived on foot and took out a knife. The soldiers manning the roadblock shot and killed him. The Palestinian was **Issa Tarayrah**, 15, Bani Na'im.



Issa Tarayrah, perpetrator of the stabbing attack at the entrance to Bani Na'im
(Facebook page of News of Bani Na'im, September 20, 2016)

8. **Issa Tarayrah** was related to **Muhammad Nasr Mahmoud Tarayrah**, 19, from the village of Bani Na'im in South Mt. Hebron, **who murdered Hallel Ariel in her sleep in Kiryat Arba (on June 30, 2016)**. He was shot and killed by the Kiryat Arba rapid

response squad. According to his Facebook page he was influenced by the deaths of **Majd al-Khudour**, from Bani Na'im, who carried out a vehicular attack on June 24, 2016 at the entrance of Kiryat Arba; and of his cousin, **Yusef Walid Tarayrah**, who was killed on March 14, 2016, while carrying out a terrorist attack at the entrance to Kiryat Arba. Five days before Muhammad Tarayrah carried out the attack he posted a notice to his Facebook page reading, "**Death is a right, and I demand my right.**"



Left: Yusef Walid Tarayrah, cousin of Muhammad Nasr Mahmoud Tarayrah, who carried out a stabbing attack at the entrance to Kiryat Arba a few months before Muhammad (Amin blog, March 15, 2016). Right: Muhammad Nasr Mahmoud Tarayrah, who murdered Hallel Ariel in her sleep in Kiryat Arba (Quds News, July 5, 2016).

Stabbing Attack near the Cave of the Patriarchs

9. On **September 19, 2016** two Palestinians from Hebron attempted to carry out a stabbing attack **near the Cave of the Patriarchs** in Hebron. The two approached Border Police soldiers, drew knives and tried to stab them. The soldiers opened fire, killing one terrorist and critically wounding the other.

10. The terrorists were **Muhannad Jamil al-Rajabi**, 21, from Hebron, and **Amir Jamal al-Rajabi**, 18, a high school student from Hebron; **they were cousins**. Hamas issued a death notice for them but apparently they were not Hamas operatives. Another cousin is **Muhammad Kayid al-Rajabi**, who carried out a stabbing attack at an IDF post in Hebron on September 16 2016.



Left: A poster of the three cousins who carried out the attacks on September 16 and 19, 2016. Left to right, Muhannad al-Rajabi, Muhammad al-Rajabi, Amir al-Rajabi (Twitter account of QudsN, September 19, 2016). Right: The knives the two terrorists used in attempted stabbing attack near the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron (Facebook page of QudsN, September 19, 2016).

Stabbing Attack at Herod's Gate, Old City of Jerusalem

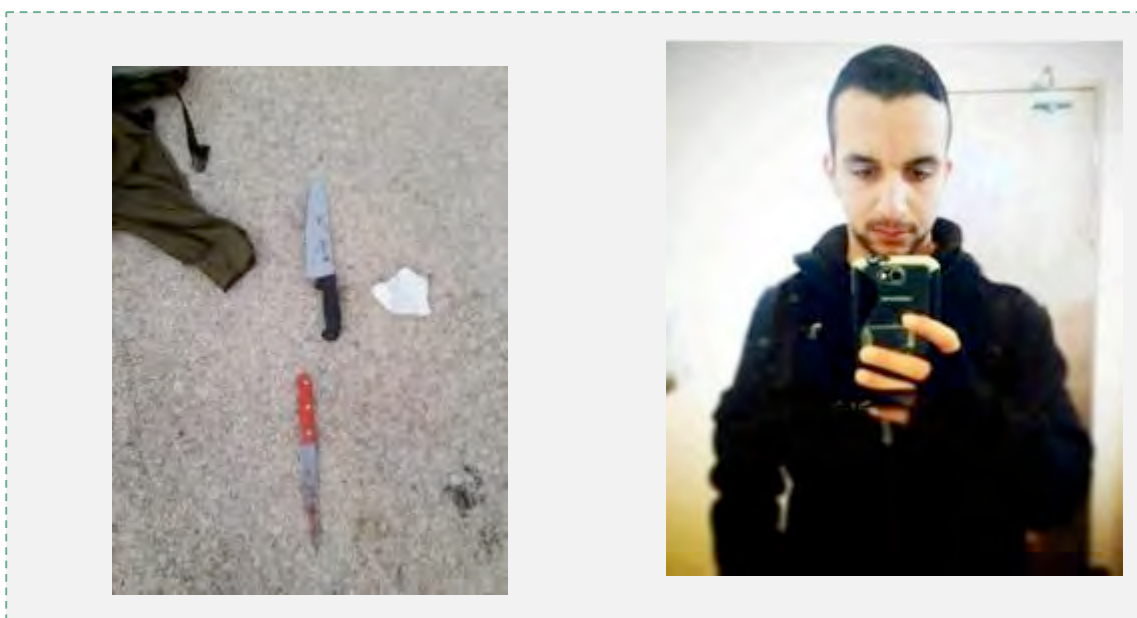
11. On the morning of **September 19 2016**, a Palestinian terrorist carried out a stabbing attack at Herod's Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem, seriously wounding two policemen. He was shot and wounded by one of the policemen. According to the initial investigation, the terrorist had been following the two policemen (Facebook page of Red Alert and Ynet, September 19, 2016). According to the Palestinian media, he was **Ayman Hassan al-Kurd**, 20, from east Jerusalem.



Ayman Hassan al-Kurd, who carried out the stabbing attack at Herod's Gate (Facebook page of QudsN, September 19, 2016).

Stabbing Attack in the Community of Efrat, Gush Etzion

12. On the night of **September 18, 2016** a Palestinian was detected by a night guard in the community of **Efrat in Gush Etzion**. In the early morning hours the terrorist jumped from behind a bush and stabbed an IDF officer. An IDF force at the scene shot and critically injured the terrorist **He had two knives in his possession. He was Bahaa' al-Din Muhammad Awda**, 20, from the village of **Artas, south of Bethlehem**. He had had worked at a restaurant in Bethlehem (Facebook page of Quds.net, September 18, 2016). According to relatives, his father had returned from pilgrimage to Mecca and he wanted to do something to make him happy (Ynet, September 19, 2016).



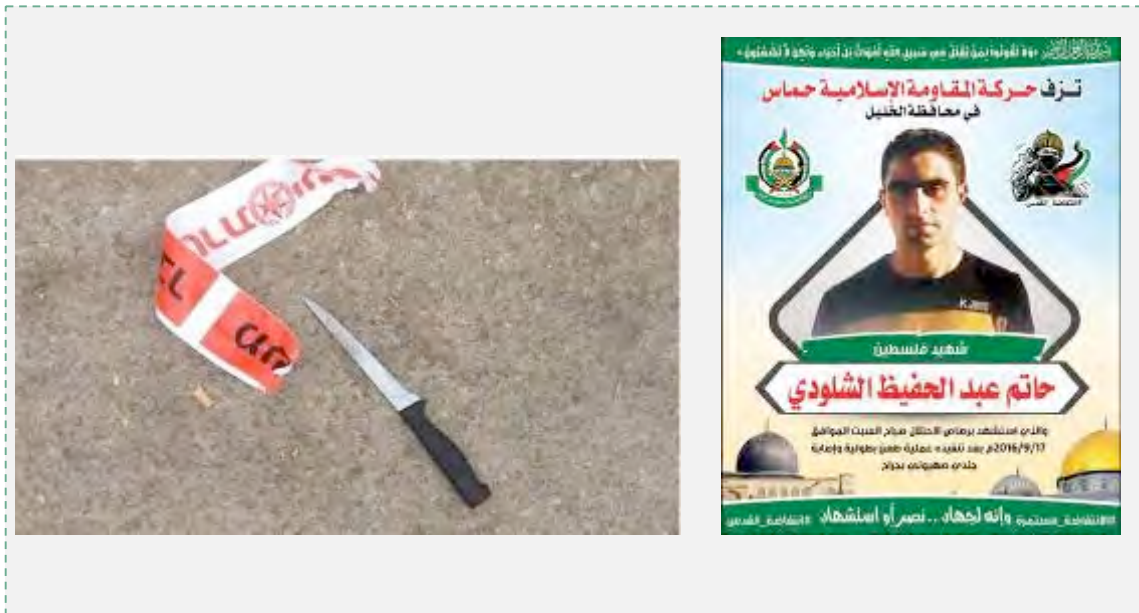
Left: Knives found in the possession of Bahaa' Awda. Right: Bahaa' al-Din Muhammad Awda (Facebook page of QudsN, September 19, 2016).

Stabbing Attacks in Tel Romeida, Hebron

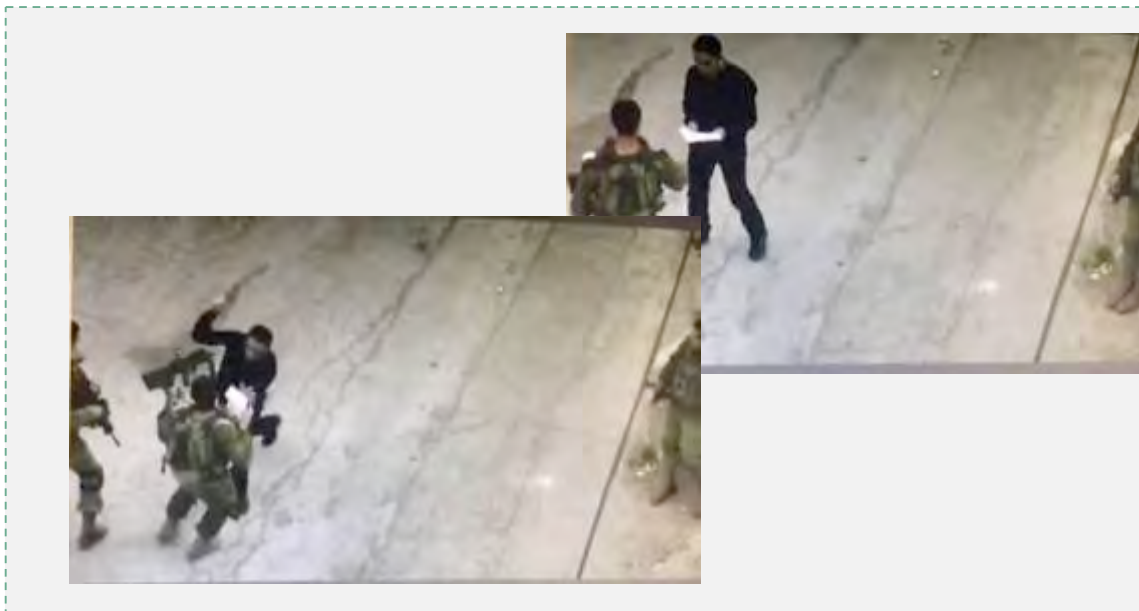
13. On the morning of **September 17, 2016**, a Palestinian went to an IDF checkpoint in the Tel Romeida neighborhood of Hebron. The Palestinian was asked by the soldiers to produce his ID card. Instead he gave the soldier a piece of paper, apparently wanting to distract him. The Palestinian then drew a knife and attacked the soldier. IDF soldiers shot and killed him (Facebook page of Red Alert, September 17, 2016).

14. The Palestinian media reported he was **Hatem Abd al-Hafiz Abd al-Rahim al-Shaloudi**, 25, of Hebron. He was employed by a factory in Hebron and was on his way to work (PNN, September 17, 2016). Hamas issued a death notice for him but

apparently he was not a Hamas operative (Facebook page of Hamas in Hebron, September 17, 2016).



Left: The knife used to stab the IDF soldier. Right: Death notice issued by Hamas for Hatem al-Shaloudi (Facebook page of Hamas in Hebron, September 17, 2016).



The attack captured on a security camera in Hebron. Left: The terrorist attacks the soldier with a knife. Right: The terrorist produces a piece of paper to distract the IDF soldier (YouTube, September 17, 2016).

Stabbing Attack at Tel Romeida in Hebron

15. On the afternoon of **September 16, 2016**, a Palestinian terrorist armed with a knife arrived at an IDF post in the Tel Romeida neighborhood in Hebron and stabbed an IDF soldier, inflicting minor wounds. The soldier and another soldier shot and killed him. He was **Muhammad Kayid Talaji al-Rajabi**, 16, a high school student from

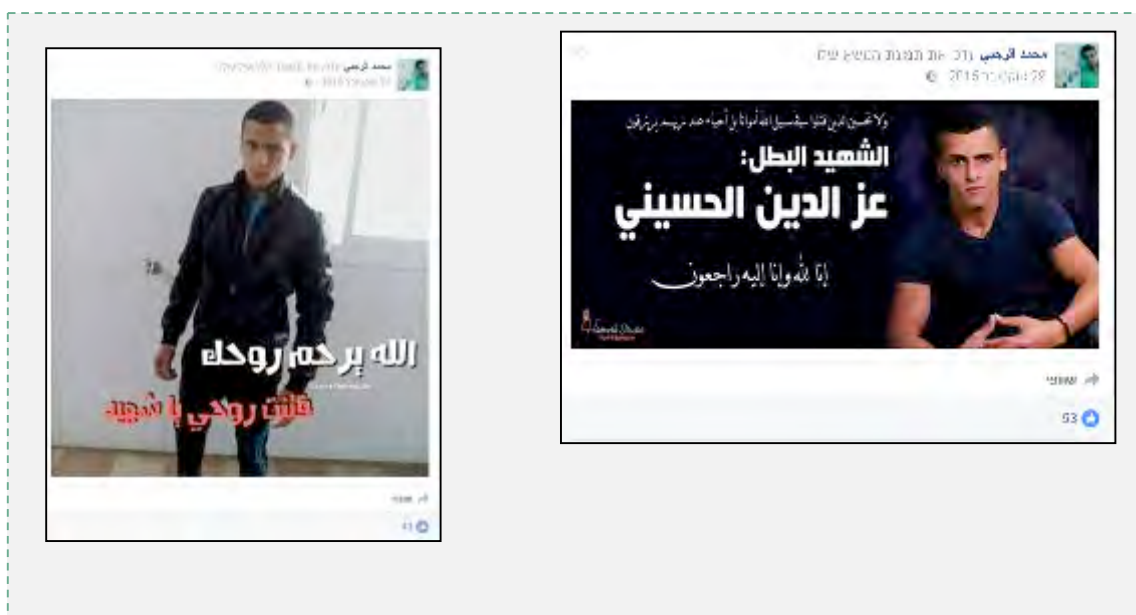
Hebron. His parents claimed he was a social activist and helped the needy. He also prayed frequently and gave sermons on national and religious events. His parents also claimed he was highly influential among his listeners and classmates. Hamas issued a death notice for him but apparently he was not a Hamas operative.

16. According to one of al-Rajabi's friends, **he was saddened by the death of Izz al-Din al-Husseini Abu Shkhaydam**, 17, from Hebron, a close friend. Abu Shkhaydam was killed carrying out a stabbing attack with another Palestinian at the Gush Etzion Junction on October 27, 2015. Muhammad al-Rajabi posted two notices about him on his Facebook page. He was also in contact with the father of **Malek Talal Muhammad al-Sharif**, 25, from **Hebron**, who tried to carry out a stabbing attack at the **Gush Etzion Junction** on November 5, 2015, and was killed. The two were related.

17. On September 14, 2016, two days before the attack, Muhammad al-Rajabi **posted a picture of himself on his Facebook page standing next to death notices issued for terrorists, some of them from the previous wave of Palestinian terrorism**. He wrote, "**They shook the world...and they held only a stone in their hand... and like candles they spread light and came like a message...and took revenge...and exploded...and died the death of martyrs.**" On September 15, 2016, **Talal al-Sharif Abu Tareq** responded (he was apparently a relative of Muhammad al-Rajabi and father of Malek al-Sharif, who was killed on November 5, 2015 while attempting a stabbing attack at the Gush Etzion junction). Abu Tareq congratulated Muhammad al-Rajabi. On September 16, 2016, after the attack in which Muhammad al-Rajabi was killed, Talal posted a notice begging for mercy for Muhammad and congratulating him on the attack (Muhammad al-Rajabi's Facebook page, September 17, 2016).



Left: The correspondence between Talal al-Sharif and Muhammad al-Rajabi. Right: A post on al-Rajabi’s Facebook page (closed after his death) on September 11, 2016, showing him next to death notices for shaheeds (some from the recent wave). Bottom: Talal Al-Sharif congratulated Muhammad for carrying out the attack after his death (Facebook page of Talal al-Rajabi, September 17, 2016).



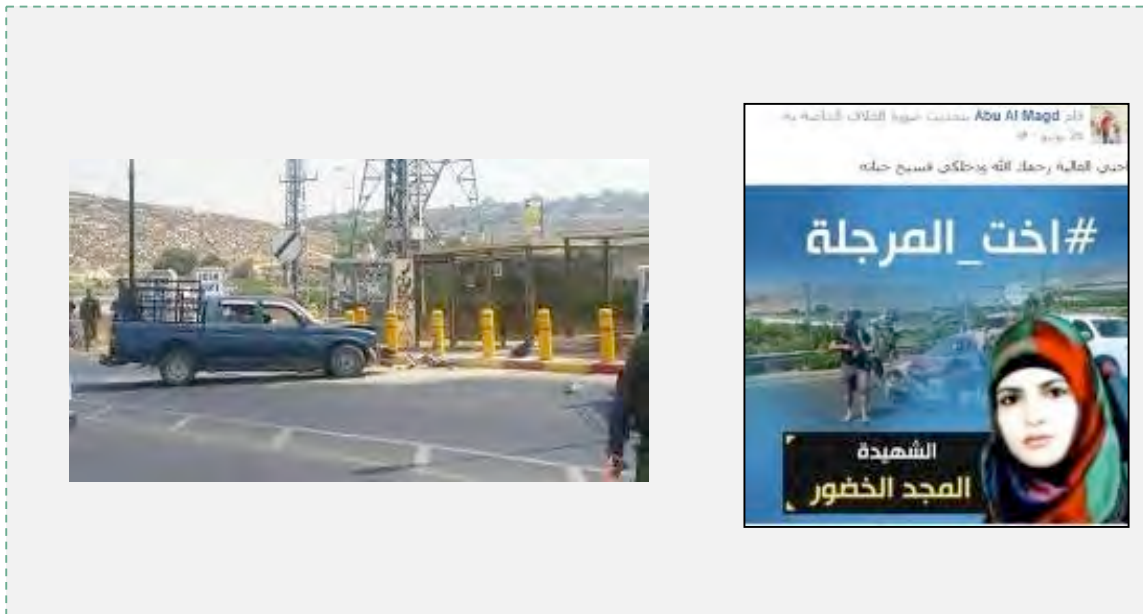
Notices posted by Muhammad al-Rajabi to commemorate Izz al-Din al-Husseini Abu Shkhaydam (Facebook page of Abu Shkhaydam, October 27 and 29, 2015).

Vehicular Attack at the Elias Junction at the Entrance of Kiryat Arba

18. On the afternoon of **September 16, 2016** a vehicle driven by a Palestinian man with a woman passenger drove at high speed toward the Elias bus stop at the entrance to Kiryat Arba. Three Israeli youths were there at the time. An IDF force at the site responded with fire, killing the driver and wounding the Palestinian woman sitting beside him. Two of the youths incurred minor injuries. The Palestinian media reported

that the two Palestinians were **Firas Musa al-Khudour** and **Raghad Abdallah al-Khudour**, relatives from Bani Na'im. The two left living wills.

19. Raghad Abdallah al-Khudour's sister was terrorist **Majd Abdullah al-Khudour**, 18, married and mother of one daughter, who **carried out a vehicular attack at the same location on June 24, 2016 and was killed by an IDF force**. Relatives said that the lives of the two changed following her death, and Firas became more religious (Nablus TV, September 17, 2016). The Facebook page of Bani Na'im posted praise for the terrorist. The al-Khudour family also posted a formal death notice, boasting they were proud of the attack carried out by one of their members (Facebook page of Bani Na'im News, June 24, 2016). Hamas issued a death notice for Firas al-Khudour but apparently he was not a Hamas operative



Left: The vehicle used for the vehicular attack (Facebook page of Hamas in Hebron, September 16, 2016). Right: The Facebook page of Raghad al-Khudour, who participated in the vehicular attack, with a post from June 26, 2016, two days after her sister was killed. She glorifies her and calls her a "heroine" (Facebook page of Bani Na'im News, June 24, 2016).

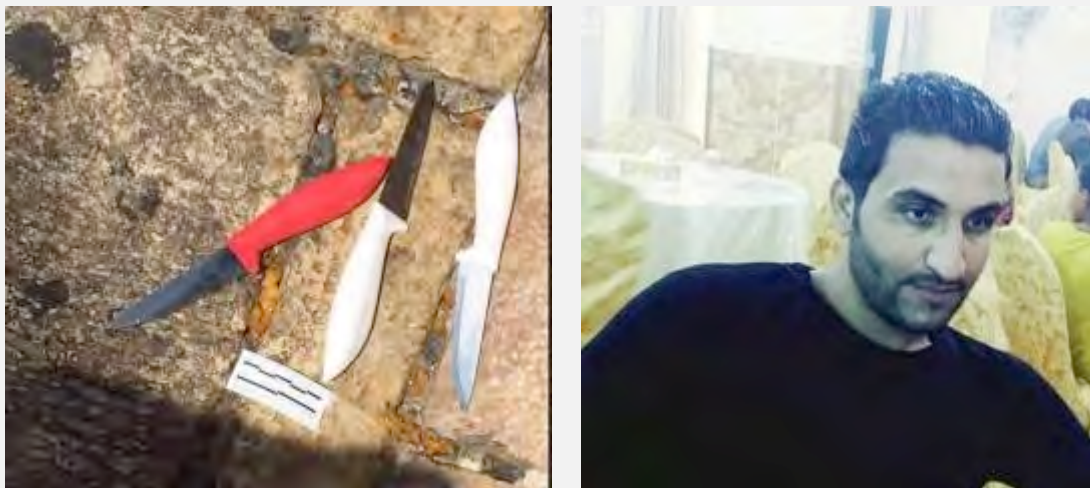


Hamas death notice issued for Firas al-Khudour
(Facebook page of Hamas in Hebron, September 16, 2016)

Stabbing Attack at the Nablus Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem

20. On the afternoon of **September 16, 2016** a Jordanian went to **the Nablus Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem brandishing two knives and shouting "Allahu akbar."** He ran towards the Border Policemen securing the location and attempted to stab them. The soldiers saw him and ordered him to halt. When he did not, they shot and killed him.

21. The Palestinian media reported that the terrorist was **Sayid al-Amro, 28, a Jordanian from Karak** who worked for the Jordanian Water Authority. He entered Judea and Samaria via the Allenby bridge on September 15, 2016 on a tourist visa. His relatives claimed his dream was to pray at Al-Aqsa Mosque and claimed he was not an extremist (Ma'an, September 17, 2016).



Left: The knives found in the possession of Sayid al-Amro (Facebook page of QudsN, September 16, 2016). Right: Sayid al-Amro (Ma'an, September 17, 2016).

22. The last post to Sayid al-Amro's Facebook page (which has since been closed) was on September 14, 2016. He posted a picture of the Temple Mount and wrote, "[I am] on my way to the temple, if Allah so wishes..." (Facebook page of Ahmed Jabber, September 20, 2016).



The last notice Sayid Hay'il al-Amro posted to his Facebook page.

Appendix B

Islamic and Palestinian Grave-Visiting Customs

1. According to a tradition considered reliable, the Prophet Muhammad instructed his followers to visit the graves of the dead to ask them for forgiveness. That was because for a certain period of time at the dawn of Islam visiting graves was forbidden, apparently out of concern over idol worship. According to the tradition, the visit would stand in his favor on Judgment Day. Islamic religious sages disagree about who should visit graves. According to the strict Wahhabi school of thought as practiced in Saudi Arabia, only men may visit graves, not women. The Palestinians, most of whom are Hanafi Sunni Muslims, do not prevent women and children from visiting cemeteries. However, most of the religious sages remind women to behave with reservation and not wail and mourn excessively.

2. Muslims in general and in Palestinian society in particular visit cemeteries, especially the graves of shaheeds, on Muslim holidays, particularly Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. Moreover, as tensions with Israel mount, the graves of shaheeds are visited more frequently, as during the first and second intifadas. Generally speaking, relatives visit the graves of shaheeds. Sometimes they are joined by Palestinians wishing to identify with the shaheeds, perpetuate their memories and turn them into role models. Some visit the graves as a religious duty and others to show respect. There are also those who regard the visit as a national duty, the result of a desire to support the family of the shaheed and show solidarity, to perpetuate the memory of the shaheed and **use the visits to put national values into practice**. Sometimes all the above motives are present. Senior representatives of the PA's institutions also visit the graves of shaheeds to show solidarity with them and their families (Mahmoud al-Sa'adi, Ramallah, al-Arabi al-Jadeed, September 12, 2016; the Palestinian Information Center, July 7, 2016).

3. Islamic religious sages disagree about which holidays are proper for visiting graves. Some say the morning of the first day of the holiday, while others say the last days or before the holiday. Dr. Maher al-Susi, a member of the Hamas-affiliated Palestinian Scholars' League in the Gaza Strip, claimed that the first days of the holidays are to be devoted to joy, not sorrow, and are therefore not days on which it is proper to visit the graves of relatives (Filastin al-Yawm, November 25, 2016). In various locations in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip it is customary to visit before the holidays and bring flowers to decorate them (Masyas Zaman, November 30, 2016). On the other hand,

there are Palestinian families which do not encourage visits to the graves of shaheeds on holidays, claiming it saddens them and opens old wounds instead of bringing joy (Mahmoud al-Sa'adi, Ramallah, al-Arabi al-Jadeed, September 12, 2016; the Palestinian Information Center, July 7, 2016).



Young Palestinians visit graves of terrorists in the al-Mujahideen cemetery in east Jerusalem (Panet, September 12, 2016).