Overview

Ashraf al-Qidra, spokesman for the ministry of health in the Gaza Strip, reported that during the escalation of May 4-6, 2019, **27 Palestinians were killed**. As usual, he did not give details about their identities and the list he issued contains terrorist operatives as well as civilians, with no distinction between them. An initial examination carried out by the ITIC revealed that during the IDF attacks, 23 Palestinians were killed whose names were included in the list issued by the ministry of health.\(^1\) Of the 23 fatalities, at least 17 (about 74\%) were terrorist operatives or members of the terrorist organizations.\(^2\) The terrorist operatives killed belonged to the military wings of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) (eight) and Hamas (two). Some were members of Fatah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). Six were apparently civilians who were near the targets and operatives when they were attacked.

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\(^1\) The list issued by the spokesman for the ministry of health’s list also included a pregnant woman and an infant who were killed when a rocket fired by the terrorist organizations misfired (see below), and an unborn baby still in its mother’s womb when she was killed. (The mother belonged to the Hamas security forces).

\(^2\) According to the IDF spokesman, targeted attacks killed an operative from Hamas' manufacturing unit. Another operative killed, named Ahmed Samour, belonged to a UAV unit. He was killed in the southern Gaza Strip. So far, their names are not on the list issued by the ministry of health in the Gaza Strip.
Notice issued by the Jerusalem Brigades, the PIJ's military-terrorist wing, with the pictures of the eight operatives who were killed. The Arabic reads, "Men of the victory." Most of terrorists who were killed in the IDF attacks belonged to the PIJ (Jerusalem Brigades website, May 5, 2019).

The following is a summary of the identities of the terrorist operatives or members of the terrorist organizations who were killed during the most recent round of escalation:

- Eight **PIJ** operatives
- Five **Fatah** operatives
- Two **Hamas** operatives: one an operative in the "Battalions of the defenders of al-Aqsa," headed by senior Hamas figure Fathi Hamad; the other a pregnant female officer in one of Hamas' security forces.
- One **PFLP** operative.

**Six of the Palestinians killed were apparently civilians** (among them a child and infant) who were near terrorist targets and operatives when they were attacked. The ITIC examination relates **exclusively to Palestinians killed by IDF attacks**. Ashraf al-Qidra, spokesperson for the ministry of health, included a pregnant woman and her child in the list of Palestinians killed in IDF attacks. The IDF spokesman reported that **the woman and her child were killed in the misfiring of a rocket launched from Gaza City by the terrorist organizations** (IDF spokesman, May 5, 2019).

The IDF spokesman reported that the attacks on terrorist targets were different from those in previous rounds of escalation with respect to scope, attack methods, complexity and precision. According to the IDF spokesman, this time terrorist infrastructures were extensively attacked. They included weapons caches and operations rooms **located inside operatives' residences** to provide them with greater protection from
IDF attacks. (IDF spokesman, May 6, 2019). Before the houses were attacked the IDF warned their occupants so they could leave, preventing many civilian casualties.

At the time, the ITIC carried out an extensive study about the Palestinian fatalities towards the end of Operation Protective Edge (July-August 2014). The findings of the study showed that about 49% were terrorist operatives and about 51% were uninvolved civilians. The ITIC also carried out a study after Operation Pillar of Defense (November 2012). It which showed that of 169 Palestinians killed, about 60% (101) were terrorist operatives and about 40% (68) were uninvolved civilians. The civilians were killed by IDF attacks on terrorist targets deliberately situated by the organizations inside the civilian population, used as human shields.

For a specific elaboration of the names of the Palestinian fatalities during the most recent round of escalation, see the Appendix.
Appendix

Examinations of the Palestinian fatalities during the latest round of escalation

PIJ terrorist operatives

- Mahmoud Subhi Issa, 26, killed in the central Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra’s Facebook page, May 5, 2019). The PIJ's military wing said he was an operative in the central Gaza Strip brigade of the Jerusalem Brigades, and was killed in an attack in the al-Bureij refugee camp on May 5, 2019 (Jerusalem Brigades website, May 5, 2019).

- Fawzi Abd al-Hamid Bawadi, 24, killed in the central Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra's Facebook page, May 5, 2019). The PIJ's military wing said he was an operative in the central Gaza Strip brigade of the Jerusalem Brigades, and was killed in an attack on the al-Bureij refugee camp on May 5, 2019 (Jerusalem Brigades website, May 5, 2019).
Muhammad Abd al-Nabi Armaneh, 30, from the al-Bureij refugee camp, killed in an attack east of al-Bureij (Ashraf al-Qidra's Facebook page, May 5, 2019). The PIJ's military wing said he was an operative in its ranks (Jerusalem Brigades website, May 5, 2019).

Mahmoud Samir Abu Armaneh, 27, from the al-Bureij refugee camp, killed in an attack in eastern al-Bureij (Ashraf al-Qidra's Facebook page, May 5, 2019). The PIJ's military wing said he was an operative in its ranks (Jerusalem Brigades website, May 5, 2019).

Abdallah Abd al-Rahim al-Mahoun, 22, from western Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip. Killed in an attack on his father's house in the northern Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra's Facebook page, May 5, 2019). Three civilians were killed along with him. The PIJ's military wing said Abdallah al-Madhoun, from western Beit Lahia, was an operative in its ranks (Jerusalem Brigades website, May 5, 2019).
Abdallah Abd al-Rahim al-Madhoun  
(Jerusalem Brigades website, May 5, 2019).

▶ Iyad Abdallah al-Shrihi, 34, from the al-Maghazi refugee camp, killed in an attack in the central Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra's Facebook page, May 5, 2019). The PIJ’s military wing said he was an operative in the central Gaza Strip brigade (Jerusalem Brigades website, May 5, 2019).

Iyad Abdallah al-Shrihi  
(Jerusalem Brigades website, May 5, 2019).


Hamas operatives

Hamed Ahmed Abd al-Khoudary, 34, killed in a targeted attack on his vehicle in the center of Gaza City. The IDF spokesman reported that al-Khoudary was an important money-changer in the Gaza Strip and responsible for transferring currency from Iran to the terrorist organizations. He owned two currency exchange companies which had been designated as terrorist organizations by Israel in June 2018. Using his own companies and with the support of money changers abroad. He transferred large amounts of money to the military wings of Hamas and the PIJ, and to other terrorist organizations in the Gaza Strip (IDF spokesman, May 5, 2019).

Hamas' military wing issued a mourning notice for him, saying he had been a commander in its ranks (Radio Sawt al-Aqsa Twitter account, May 5, 2019). The Palestinian media
reported he had been a commander of a platoon in Hamas’ military-terrorist wing, the Izz al-Din Qassam Brigades (al-Hadath, May 5, 2019).

Al-Khoudary’s vehicle after the IDF attack (Palinfo Twitter account, May 5, 2019).

Right: Hamed al-Khoudary in his office in Gaza City (Facebook page of the al-Tufah neighborhood in Gaza City, May 6, 2019). Left: Hamed al-Khoudary armed and in uniform (Gaza Press Twitter account, May 6, 2019).

The funeral held of Hamed al-Khoudary in the al-Tufah neighborhood in Gaza City. His body is wrapped in a Hamas flag (QudsN Twitter account, May 6, 2019).

- **Imad Muhammad Nasir**, 22, from Beit Hanoun (Twitter account of journalist Hassan Aslih, May 4, 2019). Killed in an IDF attack in the northern Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra’s Facebook page, May 5, 2019). The **Hamas-affiliated** “Battalions of the defenders of al-Aqsa” (under the
leadership of senior Hamas figure Fathi Hamad) issued a mourning notice for him, saying Imad Muhammad Nasir was an operative in its artillery unit and killed while launching mortar shells at Israeli territory ("Battalions" Facebook page, May 4, 2019).

Imad Muhammad Nasir, from the "Battalions of the defenders of al-Aqsa" ("Battalions" Facebook page, May 4, 2019).

- **Iman Abdallah Asraf**, 30, killed in the northern Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra's Facebook page, May 5, 2019). The attack that killed her was carried out by the IDF on the fourth and fifth stories of tower number 12 in the Sheikh Zaeid neighborhood in the northern Gaza Strip (Watan Agency, May 5, 2019). Social network users reported that the ministry of the interior in the Gaza Strip announced the death of Captain Iman Abdallah Asraf, killed along with her husband and daughter in an attack on her home in the Sheikh Zaeid Towers (Ihab al-Nahal's Facebook page, May 5, 2019; Maher Hijazi's Facebook page, May 5, 2019). Her body was wrapped in the Hamas flag for burial (Palinfo Twitter account, May 6, 2019).

**Fatah members**

- **Musa Hussein Muammar**, 24, from Rafah, killed in an attack in Rafah (Ashraf al-Qidra's Facebook page, May 6, 2019). The Fatah branch in Rafah issued a mourning notice for him, saying he had been killed with two other Fatah operatives in an attack on the Zurub Tower in the center of Rafah (Facebook page of the Fatah branch in Rafah, May 5 and 6, 2019).
Mourning notice issued by the Fatah branch in Rafah for "the shaheed, the hero" Musa Hussein Muammar (Facebook page of the Fatah branch in Rafah, May 6, 2019).

Ali Ahmed Abd al-Jawad, 51, from Rafah. Killed in an attack in the center of Rafah (Ashraf al-Qidra's Facebook page, May 5, 2019). Taught English in the "Beersheba" high school in Rafah (Gaza Strip ministry of education website, May 5, 2019). The Fatah branch in Rafah issued a mourning notice for him, saying he was killed with two other Fatah operatives in an attack on the Zurub Tower in central Rafah (Facebook page of the Fatah branch in Rafah, May 5 and 6, 2019).

Mourning notice issued by the Fatah branch in Rafah for "the shaheed, the hero" Ali Ahmed Abd al-Jawad (Facebook page of the Fatah branch in Rafah, May 6, 2019).

Hani Hamdan Abu Sha'ar, 37, from Rafah. Wounded in an attack in the center of Rafah and later died (Ashraf al-Qidra’s Facebook page, May 5, 2019). Worked with his brother in a clothing store in the Zurub Tower in Rafah (Twitter account of Samira Abu Sha’ar, who
represents herself as a relative, May 5, 2019). The Fatah branch in Rafah issued a mourning notice for him, saying he was killed with two other Fatah operatives in an attack on the Zurub Tower in central Rafah (Facebook page of the Fatah branch in Rafah, May 5 and 6, 2019).

Mourning notice issued by the Fatah branch in Rafah for "the shaheed, the hero" Hani Hamdan Abu Sha'ar (Facebook page of the Fatah branch in Rafah, May 6, 2019).

- **Fadi Ragheb Badran**, 31, brother-in-law of Abdallah al-Madhoun (Facebook page of Mohammed al-Aloul, who represents himself the nephew of al-Rahim al-Madhoun, May 6, 2019; the al-Madhoun family’s Facebook page, May 6, 2019). Killed during an attack on the house of Abdallah Abd al-Rahim al-Madhoun in Beit Lahia, the father of a PIJ terrorist operative. According to the Fatah notice he had been imprisoned in Israel and was an activist of the Fatah branch in the northern Gaza Strip (Sadi Hilles Abu Musbah’s Facebook page, May 6, 2019).

Right: Fadi Ragheb Badran (Sadi Hilles Abu Musbah’s Facebook page, May 6, 2019). Left: The body of Fadi Badran wrapped for burial in a Fatah flab (Muneir Hassan’s Facebook page, May 6, 2019).

- **Khaled Abu Qleiq**, 25, killed on May 4, 2019, in an attack in the northern Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra’s Facebook page, May 4, 2019). According to various reports, killed by a missile when
he was riding his motorcycle near the American University in western Beit Lahia (Ultra Palestine, May 4, 2019). His name appeared in a post on the social media listing the names of Fatah operatives killed in the most recent round of escalation (Adel Jumah’s Facebook page, May 7, 2019).

Khaled Abu Qleiq
(Adel Jumah’s Facebook page, May 7, 2019).

Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) terrorist operative

Talal Atiya Muhammad Abu al-Jadyan, 46, killed in an attack on the Sheikh Zaeid Towers in the northern Gaza Strip (al-Quds, May 6, 2019). The PFLP issued a mourning notice for him, indicating he was member of the organization (PFLP website, May 6, 2019). He was detained in Israel during the first intifada. Worked as a security guard in al-Awda Hospital (affiliated with the PFLP) in the northern Gaza Strip (Facebook page of Muhammad Ahmed Madhi, who claimed he met Abu al-Jadyan when they were in prison together in Israel, May 6, 2019).
Mourning notice for PFLP member Talal Atiya Muhammad Abu al-Jadyan and his son, both killed in an IDF attack (PFLP information office Facebook page, May 6, 2019).

Civilians with no terrorist organization affiliation

- **Amani al-Madhoun**, 33, from Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip, was nine months pregnant (Ashraf al-Qidra’s Facebook page, May 6, 2019). Sister-in-law of Abd al-Rahim al-Madhoun, PIJ terrorist operative in the northern Gaza Strip. Lectured in the al-Aqsa Community College of al-Aqsa University in Gaza City Dr. Abd al-Hamid al-Farani’s Facebook page, May 5, 2019; Mustafa Abu Zur Twitter account, May 5, 2019).

Ahmed Ramadan Rajib al-Ghazali, 31, husband of Iman Abdallah Musa Asraf, who was an officer in the Hamas security forces. Killed in an attack in the northern Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra’s Facebook page, May 5, 2019). The attack that killed him was carried out by the IDF on the fourth and fifth stories of tower number 12 in the Sheikh Zaeid neighborhood in the northern Gaza Strip (Watan Agency, May 5, 2019). His body was wrapped for burial in a Hamas flag (Palinfo Twitter account, May 6, 2019).

Maria Ahmed Ramadan al-Ghazali, four months old, killed in an attack in the northern Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra’s Facebook page, May 5, 2019). Her mother was Iman Abdallah Musa Asraf (an officer in the Hamas security forces). The attack that killed her was carried out by the IDF on the fourth and fifth stories of tower number 12 in the Sheikh Zaeid neighborhood in the northern Gaza Strip (Watan Agency, May 5, 2019). Her body was wrapped for burial in a Hamas flag (Palinfo Twitter account, May 6, 2019).
Abd al-Rahman Talal Atiya Abu al-Jadyan, 12, killed in an attack in the northern Gaza Strip (Ashraf al-Qidra's Facebook page, May 5, 2019). Son of Talal Atiya Muhammad Abu al-Jadyan, PFLP member, who was also killed.