

DEFEND ISRAEL IN THE HAGUE!

May 23, 2018

Dear Shurat HaDin Supporters:

Last week the Hamas leadership in Gaza sent thousands of its members, along with thousands more paid civilians to the Israeli border to riot as the terrorists attempted to break through the security fence and infiltrate into Israel. The tragic result was the death of 60 Palestinians, most of whom have been identified as Hamas' members. The goal of the rioters were to attack innocent civilians in their homes and to attempt to kidnap Israelis as bargaining chips. The Islamic terrorists also incited youngsters to launch cross border arson attacks against Israeli farmers using flaming kites. Their twisted strategy centers on causing civilian casualties and generating condemnations of Israel.

The PLO's failed leadership in Ramallah, in a bid to stay relevant, sent its "Foreign Minister" Riyad al-Malki, yesterday to the Hague to meet with the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) The PLO is demanding that the ICC investigate Israeli officials and the IDF for war crimes. See here:

https://www.icc-cpi.int/itemsDocuments/2018-05-22_ref-palestine.pdf

At the same time, the anti-Semitic United Nations Human Rights Commission has begun its own biased investigation of the Gaza rioting, which will inevitably result in a similar call for Israelis to be prosecuted for war crimes.

While Israel is not a member of the ICC, having never signed the Rome Treaty and rightfully maintains that the Court has no jurisdiction over it, this dangerous development has created real peril for all Israeli officials and IDF soldiers. Israel's strategy is to just ignore the ICC and refuse to cooperate in any investigations linked to what Jerusalem deems to be an international *kangaroo court*.

Shurat HaDin as a human rights organization, however, has a vital role to play. While only formal member states of the ICC can make referrals, NGOs have a special status and are permitted to submit communications to the ICC prosecutors alleging war crimes. The Palestinians' membership in the ICC is, accordingly, a 2 sided sword - they can accuse others of war crimes BUT they can also be accused and investigated for war crimes themselves!

And what the Palestinians in Gaza have perpetrated last week are clearly war crimes: attacking the Israeli border, attempting to murder, maim and kidnap civilians, sending children to the fence to fight, carrying out arson attacks against farmers, refusing to wear uniforms or insignia and launching weapons from within civilian crowds are all violations of international law.

Shurat HaDin is responding to these war crimes by filing a communication with the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, demanding that she investigate the Hamas leadership.

You can help demand Hamas be finally brought to justice!

Please join the Shurat HaDin communication and demand that Hamas' leadership be prosecuted for war crimes in the Hague. Sign up here:

<https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/demand-hamas-to-be-prosecuted-for-war-crimes-in>