



Attachment

The spiritual leader of the Shas movement, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, expressed the wish last August that "all the nasty people who hate Israel, like Abu Mazen, vanish from our world".

He went on to say: "May God strike them down with the plague along with all the nasty Palestinians who persecute Israel." [ref BBC report <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-11127409>]

We have seen no evidence that the Israeli government, which includes four Shas members in cabinet, has made any effort to end incitement of this sort by one of the country's most influential spiritual figures. Shas schools educate approximately a quarter of a million children.

Another influential religious figure, Rabbi Dov Lior, head of the rabbis' committee in the West Bank, is under investigation for supporting the killing of gentiles. The outcome of this investigation will be a test of Israel's seriousness in ending incitement to hatred and violence. Rabbi Lior has described Baruch Goldstein, who killed 29 Muslims at prayer in Hebron in 1994, as a holy saint, according to the Israeli author Sefi Rachlevsky [ref <http://www.haaretz.com/print-edition/opinion/the-racist-entity-that-is-taking-over-israel-must-be-toppled-1.345929>]. Rabbi Dov Lior recently endorsed "the killing of innocent non-Jews during wartime." Rabbi Lior refuses to answer questions regarding his stance and 70 rabbis are currently supporting his actions.

Rabbi Yitzhak Shapira from Yitzhar settlement issued a ruling in November 2009 in which he justified the killing of 'Goys' i.e. non-Jews and their children. In a 230- pages book he writes that 'it is allowed to kill anyone who may pose a danger to the people of Israel including children'. The book remains available online. Rabbi Shapira's school at Yitzhar has received at least \$300,000 in Israeli government funding.

The Israeli government, which is critical of the naming of Palestinian streets, has provided funding for a park to commemorate Rahbaam Zeevi, who was a prominent member of the Zionist terrorist group 'Palmach' in the 1940s and led the forces that occupied Lod and Ramla in 1948, displacing thousands of Palestinians and carried out a massacre in which dozens of Palestinians were killed inside Dahmash mosque and burnt their corpses in the city cemetery. There are many streets named after him in Israel.