

# Fatah Charter: The “Constitution” of the Ruling Party of the Palestinian Authority

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Fatah is the political party of Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmoud Abbas, who runs a complete dictatorship in the PA. While many in the international community believe Fatah is “moderate,” its charter proves otherwise. The following are examples from the Fatah charter that outline the group’s **promotion of hatred and violence**:

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**Fatah’s charter does not recognize Israel’s right to exist. It also denounces any notions of peace.**

- Article 7: “The Zionist Movement is racial, colonial and aggressive in ideology, goals, organization and method.”
  - In reality, however, the Zionist movement is the movement for Jewish civil rights and self-determination.<sup>1</sup>
- Article 22: “Opposing any political solution offered as an alternative to demolishing the Zionist occupation in Palestine...”
  - Fatah and its leader, PA President Abbas, have said numerous times that “Palestine” refers to *all* of Israel.<sup>2</sup>
- Article 25: “Convincing concerned countries in the world to prevent Jewish immigration to Palestine as a method of solving the problem.”
  - This is one of many examples of Fatah expressing its intent to rid Israel of Jews. Fatah leaders believe that the existence of Jews in Israel is the core problem.

**Fatah’s main goal is establishing a Palestinian-Arab state throughout the entire land of Israel.** This dismisses any notion of acceptance of a Jewish state, rather it promotes the eradication of Israel.

- Article 5: “Liberating Palestine is a national obligation which necessitates the materialistic and human support of the Arab Nation.”
- **Article 9: “Liberating Palestine and protecting its holy places is an Arab, religious and human obligation.”**
  - The reference to Arab holy sites implies a ban on Jews visiting the Kotel and other religious sites under a Palestinian-controlled Jerusalem. In Israel, Muslims control the Temple Mount complex.

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<sup>1</sup> “Zionism: A Definition of Zionism” *Jewish Virtual Library*

<sup>2</sup> “PA Chairman Abbas: All of Israel is an ‘occupation’” *Palestinian Media Watch*, April 6, 2016

- **Article 12: “Complete liberation of Palestine, and eradication of Zionist economic, political, military and cultural existence.”**
- Every party member must take the following oath:
  - “By Allah, the almighty and by my honour and beliefs I swear to remain faithful to Palestine, and to **spare no effort to liberate it**; I swear not to disclose any of the Movement's (**FATEH**) secrets and affairs; this is a free oath, to which God bears witness.”

**Violence is a central theme in the charter, and it stresses the fact that violence is the only solution to the conflict.**

- **Article 17: “Armed public revolution is the inevitable method to liberating Palestine.”**
- Article 19: “Armed struggle is a strategy and not a tactic, and the Palestinian Arab People's armed revolution is a decisive factor in the liberation fight and in uprooting the Zionist existence, and this struggle will not cease unless the Zionist state is demolished and Palestine is completely liberated.”
  - These articles are the basis of terror incitement against Israel. They encourage violence and promote attacks against Jews as the only way to defeat Zionism.
- Article 20: “Achieving mutual understanding with all the national forces participating in the armed struggle to attain the national unity.”
  - This passage refers to the ‘Arab Nation’ also mentioned in Article 5, and advocates armed cooperation between Fatah and various neighboring Arab countries in killing the Jews in the land of Israel and wiping it off the map.

**Fatah demands complete ideological loyalty from all of its members.** Free discussion and questioning of Fatah’s policies are contradictory to members’ obligation to uphold and apply Fatah’s principles. This dictatorial standard of party loyalty suppresses the possibility that a future Palestinian-Arab state would be truly democratic.

- Article (38) The Movement's member has to undertake the following obligations:
  - a. Constant and unrelenting struggle to achieve the Movement's principles and goals,
  - **b. Complete commitment to and application of the Movement's political line and program.**

*[English translation provided by CAMERA (Center for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America)]*