

Casting Votes for Peace?

A Mother's Sacrifice – "Even if it Costs Me A Hundred Sons"

The recent Palestinian elections highlighted the rivalry between terrorist groups Hamas and Fatah. Hamas is portrayed as the more violent of the two, but that is inaccurate. Each is committed to the destruction of Israel by violent means. The difference between them is simply that Fatah members (Yassir Arafat and Mahmoud Abbas, for example) have been willing to talk with Israel to advance their goal. Fed up with the corruption permeating the government, voters rejected Fatah candidates and Hamas contenders made huge gains.

Umm Midal (Mariam Farahat) is one of the showcase Hamas candidates elected to the Palestinian Legislative Council. The mother of 10 sons, she is particularly proud of three of them, who died while engaged in terrorist activities.* Following are excerpts of a TV interview, broadcast in Arabic on December 21, 2005 (edited for brevity).

—Ed.

Interviewer: "Umm Nidal voluntarily sacrificed, her sons for the sake of resisting the occupiers...."

Umm Nidal: "Jihad [holy war] for the sake of Allah—it is a sacred duty—one of the duties of Islam, which cannot be abandoned. We would be sinners if we did. . . . I prepared all my sons for jihad for the sake of Allah. . . . Some people may consider this a tragedy, but by Allah, it is a blessing."

Interviewer: "Tell me about the operation that [your son] Muhammad carried out."

Umm Nidal: "Allah be praised, his operation was a large and successful one. . . . There were several rooms. He went from room to room and shot them. He continued for 22 minutes, during which he was in total control. . . . Allah be praised, there were many casualties."

Interviewer; "The fatalities of the occupying enemy are more important to you than your own loss...."

Umm Nidal: "Of course. I was hoping he would be martyred. . . . When I heard the outcome of the operation, ... I said 'Allahu Akbar' [Allah is great] and bowed in gratitude. ... I prepared boxes of halva [sesame-seed paste sweets] and chocolates, and handed them out to [Muhammad's] friends."

Interviewer: "Excuse me, Umm Nidal, but in the West. . . they don't understand how a Palestinian mother can rejoice at her son's funeral. . . . They say these Palestinian women obviously have no human feelings. ..."

Umm Nidal: They are completely detached from Islam and its concepts. ... Believe me, when it comes to my sons, I am one of the most compassionate mothers. But this is a sacred duty, which no emotion whatsoever can supersede. . . . One sacrifices what is precious, not what is of little value. My children are the most precious thing in my life. That is why I sacrificed them for a greater cause—for Allah. . . ."

Interviewer: "Recently, many operations have been carried out in restaurants and commercial centers ... When a bombing takes place in one of those places, the Palestinian cause is damaged worldwide."

Umm Nidal: "These are war necessities. How can we win otherwise? . . . We rely on Islamic religious law when we say there is no prohibition on killing these people."

Interviewer: "What does the word 'peace' mean to you?"

Umm Nidal: "Peace means the liberation of all of Palestine, from the River [Jordan] to the Mediterranean] Sea. When this is accomplished—if they want peace, we will be ready. They may live under the banner of the Islamic state. That is the future of Palestine that we are striving towards.... I am proud and honored to be a terrorist for the sake of Allah."

(Légende sous l'image) OUR OUTREACHES include publications, TV and radiobroadcasts, and speaking engagements in convention centers, houses of worship, schools and seminaries across the Americas, Eastern and Central Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Please contact us if you would like a meeting in your community too.

100,000 Jewish worshippers at the Temple Mount! In Jerusalem pray for God to stop land giveaways to terrorists.

Interviewer: "You have 10 sons."

Umm Nidal: "Yes, Allah be praised."

Interviewer "If another is killed..."

Umm Nidal : "There are many young men ..."

Interviewer "Will your heart be filled with unbearable sorrow?"

Umm Nidal : "No, no. Allah be praised. I am preparing myself. I will sacrifice them all. If my duty requires me to sacrifice them all, I will not refuse—even if it costs me a hundred sons.

Translated by Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI).

*Muhammad Farahat died while murdering five teenage Jewish students and wounding 24 others in a school in Atzmona. He attacked the unarmed students with grenades and automatic-weapon fire while they listened to a lecture;

Nidhal Farahat died while assembling an explosive-filled remote-piloted drone for a terror attack;

Rawad Farahat died while riding in a truck delivering Kassam rockets to launch sites. Still today, parents receive thousands of dollars in bonuses if a child dies while engaged in terrorism against Israel.