

The Famine That Never Was:

How Hamas managed to manufacture a blood libel against Israel

In a world increasingly driven by narratives rather than facts, truth often becomes the first casualty of war. Nowhere is this more tragically evident than in the grotesque misinformation campaign alleging a starvation in Gaza, caused deliberately by Israel as a tool of war – an accusation that has become a modern-day blood libel against the Jewish state.

The narrative of a “Famine in Gaza” has indeed evolved into a coordinated campaign — one amplified by Hamas and its Qatari backers, and uncritically echoed by major Western media and international organizations. While elements of humanitarian distress exist, as in any war zone, the campaign has deliberately exaggerated, manipulated, and weaponized these realities to reverse the roles of victim and aggressor. The goal: to demonize Israel, whitewash Hamas’s crimes, and distract from the real starvation deliberately inflicted by Hamas — not on Gaza’s civilians, but on Israeli hostages held in its dungeons for nearly two years.

An exposé by the German tabloid Bild published August 5th highlights how staged images, edited videos, and fabricated reports have been used to paint a false picture of widespread starvation caused by Israel. The truth, however, is diametrically opposite.

Another in-depth investigation recently released by Jewish Onliner platform traces the origins of this campaign to a well-coordinated, perfectly timed global media manipulation effort. The research exposes the “#GazalsStarving” campaign as a coordinated disinformation effort led by Arabic-speaking countries – particularly Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Yemen - to influence English-speaking public opinion against Israel. Although the campaign presents itself as a grassroots humanitarian outcry, the investigation shows it is amplified through state-linked entities, propaganda influencers (like an Iranian regime official and Hamas-tied individuals), and cross-platform linguistic strategies to maximize emotional resonance, especially in the West. Other research was published by the user @antisemitism (“Campaign Against Antisemitism”) proving that hashtags like “Famine_in_Gaza”, “HelpGaza” or “GazaHolocaust” are being massively used and promoted by bots’ farms to make these hashtags most trendy on X (Twitter in the past).

Since the start of the war, Israel has facilitated unprecedented amounts of humanitarian aid into Gaza – even while fighting a brutal conflict on seven fronts. Food, water, medical supplies, electricity and fuel have flowed into Gaza through multiple crossings. Israel has coordinated with international partners, including the U.S. and the World Food Program, to

ensure that humanitarian corridors remain open. Despite this, Hamas continues to seize, loot, and redistribute aid selectively, weaponizing hunger as a tool of control and propaganda and for its own benefit and personal gain, aimed at continuing to fill the already bulging bank accounts of its billionaire leaders.

This reality was laid bare in the emotional address by Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar to the United Nations Security Council on August 5. Minister Sa'ar did not mince words when describing how Hamas has starved Israeli hostages like Evyatar David and Rom Braslavski – now emaciated shadows of the young men abducted on October 7th – while Hamas terrorists eat meat, fish, and fresh vegetables and fruits. In one haunting image, the thick, well-fed arm of a Hamas guard appears next to the skeletal figure of Evyatar, who was forced to dig his own grave.

Yet astonishingly, this horror barely merited mention in the international press. The New York Times for instance, which has frequently amplified unverified Palestinian claims – it lately even published the image of a baby with preexisting health conditions as proof of “famine”, knowing that it will generate a tsunami of hate towards Israel, of which it has been forced to retract – now declined to put the terrifying images of the Israeli hostages on its front page. UN Secretary-General António Guterres, often vocal in condemning Israel, remained silent. This silence is not neutrality – it is complicity.

The truth is damning: Hamas starves Israeli hostages while pretending concern for Gaza's civilians. The Palestinian Authority pays salaries to terrorists. And much of the Western media continues to act as a willing channel for terrorist propaganda, while applying outrageous double standard: if it comes from Hamas they will automatically adopt, believe and publish; but if it is Israel they will ask for more and more proof.

We are witnessing an upside-down world. The aggressors are cast as victims. The kidnapped and raped are ignored, while the kidnappers and rapists are given platforms and sympathy. This moral inversion is not merely shameful – it is dangerous. It's not just that Hamas published a video of a skeletal hostage digging his own grave in a tunnel. It's that Hamas knows it can publish a video of a skeletal hostage digging his own grave in a tunnel, and many in the West will still think they are the good guys.

Countries with a history of regimes that controlled thought and expression are often the first to recognize campaigns designed to manipulate public consciousness. In the past, this was done through brute force – today, it is achieved through the subtle yet powerful reach of social media. It is no coincidence that the main drivers behind such influence campaigns are authoritarian and totalitarian regimes, which skillfully exploit the openness and vulnerabilities of democratic societies to shape global narratives to their advantage.

In today's world of viral lies and politicized outrage, truth must be defended with courage. And the truth is this: there is no deliberate starvation caused by Israel in Gaza. There is, however, a famine campaign. But there is definitely a deliberate starvation of the Israeli hostages in the hands of a genocidal terrorist regime.

Let us all remember that victims don't hold hostages. And that if Hamas surrendered and released the hostages the war would instantly come to an end.