

Hatem Bazian

Senior Lecturer at UC Berkeley, Founder of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP)

Hatem Bazian has held leadership positions in groups with ties to terrorist organizations; founded a student group dedicated to the destruction of the Jewish state; seeks to harm both the Israeli and Palestinian-Arab economies; and spreads anti-Semitic biases.

Bazian has been involved in groups connected to U.S.-designated terrorist organizations.

- While studying at UC-Berkeley, Bazian headed the Muslim Student Association (MSA), a student group originally founded and funded at Berkeley by the Muslim Brotherhood.¹
 - The Muslim Brotherhood has provided the basis for all modern-day Sunni Islamic terrorist organizations such as Hamas, Al Qaeda, and Islamic Jihad. According to Richard Clarke, a former national coordinator for security under Presidents Clinton and Bush, “all of these organizations are descendants of the membership and ideology of the Muslim Brothers.”ⁱⁱ
- Bazian spoke at a KindHearts fundraising event entitled ‘Palestinians in Agony!’ in June 2004.¹
 - In 2006, KindHearts’ assets were frozen by the U.S. Department of Treasury for allegedly transmitting money to terrorist organizations. According to the Treasury, KindHearts was trying to replace the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, **the main fundraising division of Hamas.**ⁱⁱ

Bazian co-founded Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP),⁴ an organization that spreads lies about Israel and harasses Jewish students on campuses.

- SJP demonizes and delegitimizes Israel by calling it an ‘apartheid state’ and comparing Israelis to Nazis.ⁱⁱⁱ
 - It does this despite the fact that Freedom House ranks Israel as the *only* completely free country in the Middle East.^{iv}
 - SJP ignores actual human rights abuses in the region and instead targets only the Jewish state.
- SJP calls for the destruction of the only Jewish state and an end to Jewish self-determination.
 - The group advocates for all descendants of Palestinian-Arab refugees to gain Israeli citizenship, a policy that would dissolve the Jewish majority in Israel and demographically eliminate the Jewish state.^v
 - “From the River to the Sea, Palestine will be Free!” is a common phrase chanted by SJP students around the country. This phrase, referring to the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea, directly suggests the destruction of the Jewish state as a whole, a clear definition of anti-Semitism according to the US State Department.^{vi}
 - Hamas, a U.S.-designated terror group, held a rally in Gaza City in 2012 in which leader Khaled Meshaal also used this phrase.^{vii}
- Some SJP tactics include falsifying Israel’s actions by using mock ‘apartheid walls,’ checkpoints, and eviction notices and orchestrating disruptive walkouts of Jewish-planned events.
 - These gambits intend to and succeed in intimidating Jewish students on campus,⁶ as SJP students who organize these gambits often verbally harass Jewish students.

Bazian’s SJP holds fundraisers for convicted terrorists.

- Numerous SJP chapters in the Chicago area assembled together in 2015 to hold a fundraising event for convicted terrorist Rasmia Odeh,^{viii} who was a member of the U.S.-designated terrorist group called the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.^{ix}

- Odeh spent 10 years in Israeli prison for two 1969 bombings against civilians, one of which killed two college students.
- Odeh came to the U.S. in 1995 and lied about her terror-filled past. In March of 2015, a US court sentenced her to 18 months in prison.¹²

Bazian supports policies that hurt both Israelis and Palestinian-Arabs, such as the BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) movement.

- The BDS movement harms Palestinian-Arabs working in Israel by boycotting companies that employ them. **If BDS succeeds, roughly 100,000 Palestinian-Arabs will lose their jobs.**^x
 - One example of BDS “succeeding” is with SodaStream, the Israeli company that moved its factory from Judea and Samaria (the “West Bank”) to the south of Israel. This BDS “victory” stripped hundreds of Palestinian-Arabs of their jobs.⁸
- In 2012, Palestinian-Arab exports to Israel comprised of 81 percent of total Palestinian-Arab exports. This means that if BDS succeeds, more than 80 percent of the Palestinian-Arab economy would collapse. The Palestinian-Arab economy needs Israel, but **BDS supporters want to destroy economic cooperation between the two sides.**⁸
- Mahmoud Abbas, the leader of the Palestinian Authority, said in a 2013 interview that he does not support the boycott of Israel.^{xi}

Bazian spreads dangerous anti-Semitic messages on campuses.

- While at SFSU in the 1990s, Bazian accused his student newspaper of being **full of “Jewish spies.”**^{xii}
- Bazian blocked the approval of a Jewish student to the Student Judicial Council at SFSU in the 1990s using the reasoning that the student supported the Jewish State and was therefore racist.²
- Bazian conducted a national speaking tour in 2011 titled “Never Again to Anyone,” which compared Israel’s actions to the Holocaust.^{xiii}
 - According to the U.S. State Department, comparing Israel’s actions to those of the Nazis in the Holocaust is anti-Semitic,^{xiv} as it spreads lies about the only Jewish state and insults the real victims of genocide.

ⁱ *Muslim Students Association*. The Investigative Project on Terrorism.

ⁱⁱ *KindHearts for Charitable Humanitarian Development*. The Investigative Project on Terrorism.

ⁱⁱⁱ *Profile: Students for Justice in Palestine*. Anti-Defamation League.

^{iv} Freedom House: Middle East and North Africa, Countries and Topics.

^v *A One-State Solution: Advocating Israel’s Destruction*. Honest Reporting. October 23, 2007.

^{vi} *Defining Anti-Semitism*. The US Department of State.

^{vii} *Tens of Thousands Celebrate Hamas ‘Victory’ Rally as Exiled Leader Returns*. Abeer Ayyoub and Harriet Sherwood. December 8, 2012.

^{viii} *Chicago Students host fundraiser for Rasmea Odeh*. SJP Chicago. January 28, 2015.

^{ix} *Rasmea Odeh, Chicago woman convicted of 1969 terrorist bombings, sentenced to 18 months for lying during immigration*. Gus Burns. MLive. March 14, 2015.

^x *EU Survey: Palestinians working for Israelis are paid double those working for Palestinians in the West Bank and triple those in the Gaza Strip*. Itamar Marcus and Nan Jacques Zilberdik. Palestinian Media Watch. February 26, 2015.

^{xi} *A Slap in the Face for Anti-Israel BDS Movement*. Khaled Abu Toameh. Gatestone Institute. December 17, 2013.

^{xii} *Hatem Bazian*. Camera on Campus.

^{xiii} *The Misuse of ‘Never Again.’* Cinnamon Stillwell and Rima Greene. Frontpage Magazine. Mar. 24, 2011.

^{xiv} *Defining anti-Semitism*. US Department of State. June 8, 2010.