

CSA Doha Attack Primer

Hamas-Qatar Connection

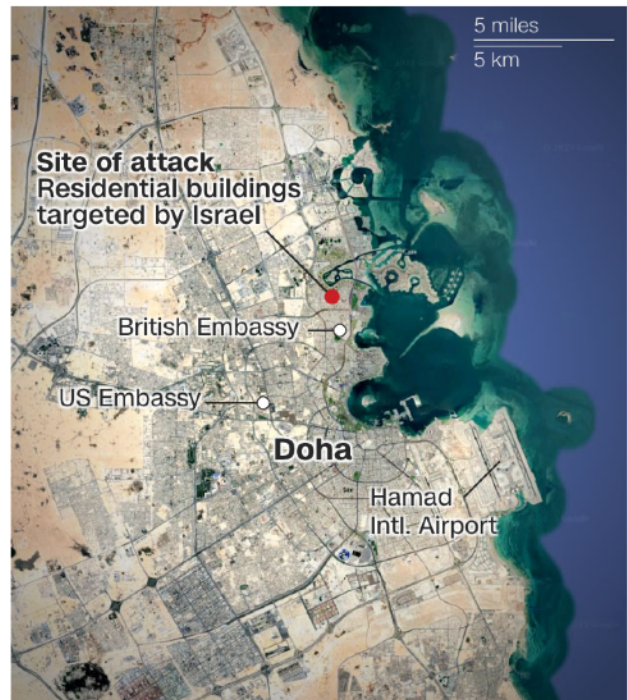
- Qatar supports branches of the Muslim Brotherhood across the Middle East
- Hamas is a branch of the Muslim Brotherhood and seeks the creation of an Islamic Palestinian state.
- **Qatar is Hamas' largest financial backer.**
- **After years of operating out of Jordan and then Syria, the political leadership of Hamas moved to Qatar in 2012 following the outbreak of the Syrian civil war.**
- **Qatar paid Hamas in Gaza hundreds of millions of dollars annually since 2014 often under the guise of aid. Millions of dollars from Qatar paid the salaries of employees of the Hamas government - including the Hamas civil police and "executive force", its militant wing known as the Al-Qassam Brigades and other members of the Popular Resistance Committee (PRC).**
- Approximately 1,000 Hamas members and their families live in villas and apartments in Doha.



The Hamas leadership, headed by Haniyeh and al-Arouri, celebrates the results of the attack on October 7, 2023, with a prayer in Doha, Qatar.
(Hamas' Telegram channel, October 7, 2023)

Israel's Strike on September 9, 2025

- **Following Hamas' declaration that they were responsible for a terror attack at a Jerusalem bus stop in Ramot on September 8th, 2025, which resulted in six killed and scores injured, the IDF and Shin Bet conducted a joint strike in Doha, the capital of Qatar.** It was a wholly Israeli operation.
- According to the IDF, this precise strike targeted a meeting of the senior leadership of Hamas in the upscale residential area of West Bay Lagoon, which is outside of downtown.
- The strike, which was planned over the course of months, was accelerated by not just the shooting in Jerusalem but Israel's acceptance of President Trump's ceasefire and hostage release proposal.
- **The meeting was believed to include all of the terror group's top leadership outside Gaza, including the leader of Hamas's Gaza units, Khalil al-Hayya; Zaher Jabarin, who leads Hamas in the West Bank; Muhammad Darwish, the head of Hamas's Shura Council; Nizar Awadallah, and Khaled Mashaal, the head of Hamas abroad.**
- The Israeli strike in Doha involved more than 10 fighter jets which fired more than 10 munitions, and required mid-air refueling for the long-range strike. They all struck a single target in the Qatari capital
- Hamas confirmed that the son of Khalil al-Hayya, Hamas's chief negotiator; his office manager; and three other people affiliated with Hamas were killed in the strike. A Qatari security official also died in the strike. The full results of the attack are yet to be determined.



Source: [CNN](#)

About the Council for a Secure America

The cornerstones of American national security are: a strong military, a vibrant economy, enduring alliances, and American ingenuity. The Council for Secure America was founded on the premise that American energy independence, in all of its forms, is the underpinning for U.S. security. For decades, American foreign policy was forced to make concessions to foreign nations who fueled its economy. In 2019, thanks to the innovation of American energy producers, the United States achieved energy independence. This accomplishment made America the leading energy producer in the world, fortifying its national security and buttressing geo-political stability in the Middle East.

Amongst America's many allies, the US-Israel partnership is a strategic, long-lasting and ongoing bilateral alliance. Energy independence has only strengthened it. CSA educates key audiences on the importance of domestic energy production and technologies to American and Israeli mutual national security interests. Moreover, American energy statecraft has reshuffled the geopolitical landscape and sowed the seeds of peace in the Middle East, enabling old adversaries to become allies. In 2020, the United States brokered the Abraham Accords— promoting unprecedented normalization and multilateral ties between its closest ally, Israel, and Arab States including the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, Sudan, and the Kingdom of Morocco. CSA champions the ideals of the Abraham Accords and their critical impact on geopolitical security and global trade. CSA is advancing these partnerships and is committed to bringing multi-faceted awareness to complex and evolving challenges.