

Hamas governing structure

Israeli officials have vowed to crush Hamas, the Islamist militant group that controls the Gaza Strip and spearheaded the deadliest Palestinian attack in Israel's 75-year history

HAMAS: Founded by spiritual leader **Sheikh Ahmed Yassin** after first intifada in 1987. Assumes sole control of Gaza in 2007



POLITBURO

15 member body headed by **Ismail Haniyeh** (above), sets general policy from abroad

SHURA COUNCIL

Consultative body, elects Politburo. Members' identity remains secret

DELEGATIONS ABROAD

GAZA AFFAIRS

WEST BANK AFFAIRS

PALESTINIAN DIASPORA AFFAIRS

IMPRISONED MEMBERS' AFFAIRS



Yahya Sinwar

Former head of group's military wing



Saleh al-Arouri

Heads Hamas's Lebanon branch



Khaled Meshaal

Hamas chief from 2004 to 2017 and based in Qatar



Salameh Katawi

SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEM

AL-QASSAM BRIGADES

INDEPENDENT OPERATING CELLS



Marwan Issa



Mohammed Deif

Deif: Israel's most wanted and architect of Hamas's attack on Israel

HAMAS GOVERNMENT

Implements policy



Issam al-Da'alis

MINISTRIES

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

SECURITY FORCES

Pictures: Newscom, Getty Images, Counter Extremism Project

Source: Council on Foreign Relations

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