I credit most of the words of my introduction to Christopher Holton of the Center for Security Policy. I have taken a long article of his and reworked it to fit today’s presentation.

If you listen to some political pundits these days, on both sides of the aisle, you might get the mistaken impression that terrorism against the West only began with the creation of Israel, and only exists because of the West’s support for Israel. This claim routinely appears on college campuses by students parroting Middle East Studies professors. It’s an attractive viewpoint because it implies that if only the U.S. and European countries adopt an anti-Israel position that the terrorism would end.

The problem with this line of thinking is that it is false. It ignores 1400 years of Islamic doctrine of Jihad, warfare against non-believers, in order to establish an Islamic state, ruled by Islamic law, known as Sharia. This is a common goal, shared by Al Qaeda, HAMAS, Hezbollah, Boko Haram, Al Shabaab, ISIS, and others, and it transcends any localized disagreements over borders and the cacophony of politics.

The doctrine behind global jihad is over a thousand years old.

The obligation to wage Jihad to establish Sharia motivated the Umayyad Caliphate to conquer Spain and attack the Franks at the Battle of Tours in 732. Still today Al Qaeda claims they will restore Islamic rule to Spain. It motivated the Ottomans to attack Vienna in 1529 and 1683. It motivated the Barbary states to seize American merchant shipping and enslave their crew, provoking the Barbary wars in 1801 and 1815. The obligation to wage Jihad was used to justify the Armenian genocide in 1915.

None of these attacks had anything to do with Israel. All of them were about waging Jihad.

This is not to say that the Jewish people haven’t faced particular vitriol from jihadists across the ages. Islamic doctrines of antisemitism are as ancient and established as that of jihad, and long predate the modern state of Israel. Even if Israel evaporated tomorrow the overriding goal of establishing rule by sharia would not change, as long as there are those who take the obligation to impose sharia by force of arms seriously.

Jihadists target America not because it backs Israel but because America represents the biggest obstacle to achieving their global goal. That is why Iran refers to the US as the Great Satan and Israel as the Little Satan.

It is a false comfort to believe that jihad is the fault of America’s policies, because it gives us the mistaken belief that we are fully in control of our own fate and can end attacks against us just by making some policy changes.

The truth is Jihadists are not motivated only by our actions, but rather by their own doctrine. That means jihadists can only be temporarily deterred and must be defeated every time they rear their head.  The quicker our politicians—both Democrat and Republican—gain a full understanding of this, the better.

On February 9, 2024 a Friday sermon by Australian Imam Sheikh Abdul Salam Zoud at a mosque in Sydney was streamed live on Facebook. In his sermon Zoud praised Jihad and Hamas. He said that the Prophet Muhammad and the Righteous Caliphs did not conquer the world by peaceful means, negotiations, concessions, or understandings, rather they conquered it by Jihad for the sake of Allah. Zoud went on to say that the goal of Jihad is not to kill people, but to spread Islam. He said that Jihad is the “only solution” when it comes to the infidels and that Palestine will only be restored by Jihad.

If you believe that these same words or at the very least words expressing the same thought have not been spoken in mosques in the United States you are kidding yourself.

On Oct. 10th , three days after the horror in Israel, at a quickly organized pro-Hamas rally, Imam Imran Salha of Dearborn’s Islamic Center of Detroit told the crowd that Israel’s past actions have put “fire in our hearts that will burn that state”—Israel— “until its demise.” In May 2023, Mr. Salha had urged his congregation to say “amen” in agreement with his prayer that Allah “eradicate from existence” the “sick, disgusting Zionist regime.”.

At another rally, held Oct. 14 in front of the Henry Ford Centennial Library in Dearborn, Michigan, Imam Usama Abdulghani also didn’t hide his support for Hamas’s terrorist actions. The American-born, Iranian-educated Islamic scholar called Oct. 7 “one of the days of God” and a “miracle come true.” He described the attackers as “honorable.” He said they were “lions” defending “the entire nation of Muhammad the messenger.”

How did we get to this point? Part of the problem is our government’s position of “appeasement” and “political correctness.” Another contributing factor is the tendency for the American people to ignore or disregard uncomfortable facts – even when they are staring them in the face. The belief that “it could never happen here,” having been beaten into submission for a short time after 9/11, is well and thriving once again, to our great detriment.

Let’s look at some brutal facts. These are not opinions, these are facts that we ignore at our peril.

We will start with some definitions that many of you might know, but I want to get everyone here on the same page to start.

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Now that we have defined some critical words that you will hear today, let’s look a probably the most important piece of documentation that we have telling us exactly how the Islamists intend to bring about Dar al-Islam in the United States.

In 2004 when conducting a search warrant on the home of a suspected terrorist, the FBI found a treasure trove (80 banker’s boxes worth) of documents belonging to the Muslim Brotherhood. The most important of these is the Explanatory Memorandum: General Strategic Goal for the Group in North America. It was written in 1991 by a member of the Board of Directors of the MB and is an explanation of the group’s strategic plan for the United States. You can get a copy very inexpensively from Amazon and I encourage you to do so. For today we will focus on probably the most important words in the document.

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I would like to call your attention to the hundreds of pro-Hamas rallies that are taking place in the U.S. The protests call loudly for the elimination of Israel and its people. “From the river to the sea” is their rallying cry. Many of the protestors are young and from colleges. We can be sure that the MB is stirring that youthful pot and whipping them into a frenzy. Remember that the second sub-group established by the MB is the Muslim Students Association. There are 600 MSA chapters in the U.S. and two of them are right here in Montana at UofM and Montana State.

I hope that I have made you aware of the stealthy campaign – the Jihad – that is being waged against us by connecting the dots between the strategy implemented by the Islamists and the actual engagements in this war that are taking place across our country today. Before I open up for questions, I would like to read to you some words from Andrew McCarthy. You probably know him as a Fox News contributor and you may remember when, as an Assistant US Attorney in NY, he led the terrorism prosecution again the perpetrators of the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center.

These words are from a speech he gave at Hillsdale College in 2016. I have a few copies of the speech here that those of you who are interested are welcome to take.