Biblical "Coincidences"? – Enemies of Israel Names in Hebrew (2/21/12)

(Source: *Coincidences in the Bible and in Biblical Hebrew* by Haim Shore, Chapter 19 "Non-Hebrew Names of Self-Proclaimed Foes of the People of Israel", pages 247-253.)

The names of enemies of Israel have very negative meanings when translated into Hebrew.

1. NAZI, referring to the Nazi party of Hitler

In the Hebrew language, the root of "Nazi" means CURSE.

(Note: The Hebrew root is spelled Nun Aleph Zayin and pronounced "natzi".)

2. HAMAS, referring to the Palestinian terrorist organization dedicated to the destruction of Israel

The Hebrew meaning of Hamas (CHAMAS in Hebrew and Aramaic) is:
unjustly seizing somebody else's property (plundering, extortion, property seized unjustly)

(Note: The Hebrew root is spelled Het/Chet, Mem, Samech)

And what does Hamas want to do? Unjustly desire to seize the land God gave to Israel.

The first occurrence of CHAMAS in the Bible has to do with Noah's Flood:

ArtScroll Tanach Series translation of Genesis 6:11-13 –

Now the earth had become corrupt before God; and the earth had become filled with ROBBERY [CHAMAS]. And God saw the earth and behold it was corrupted, for all flesh had corrupted its way upon the earth. God said to Noah, 'The end of all flesh has come before Me,

for the earth is filled with ROBBERY [CHAMAS] through them; and behold, I am about to destroy them from the earth.'

CHAMAS is translated by Rashi and most Jewish translators as "ROBBERY", thus confirming the meaning of this word to refer to unjustly seizing the property of others.

Biblical usage of this word includes immoral acts associated with unjust seizure of others' property, such as murder. Our English versions translate CHAMAS as "VIOLENCE", exactly fitting the terrorist organization Hamas, which uses violent means to achieve its goals.

3. ARAFAT, the now deceased terrorist leader of the PLO (Palestinian Liberation Organization)

The Hebrew root of the name Arafat has only extremely unfavorable meanings in Hebrew.

(Note: The Hebrew root is spelled Aleph, Resh, Peh.)

4. PHILISTINES, ancient enemies of Israel who lived in the area of what is Gaza today

The Hebrew root of the name Philistine means "invade", "invasion", "entering land which is not yours".

(Note: The Hebrew root is spelled Peh, Lamed, Shin.)

5. PHARAOH, king of Egypt during Biblical times

The Hebrew root of the name Pharaoh has multiple meanings, often implying violence against the Jews.

(Note: The Hebrew root is spelled Peh, Resh, Aleph.)