



18th October 2023

To: **GLADSTONE INSTITUTES**

Prof. **Deepak Srivastava, MD** – President, Gladstone Institutes

**RE: Your Message to the Gladstone Community Titled:
The Recent Events in the Middle East (October 9th).**

Dear Prof. Srivastava

We, at '[BaShaar](https://bashaar.org.il) – Academic Community for Israeli Society'* , received and read both your messages concerning the recent events in the Middle East. We were appalled to find that you did not deem it necessary to condemn the heinous atrocities committed by Hamas in Israel and referred generally to 'violence and loss of lives in the Middle East'. There was not a single word expressing compassion for the victims of the brutal massacre carried out by Hamas terrorists.

What has happened on October 7th is not another clash between Israel and Hamas. Hamas terrorists butchered and slaughtered more than 1000 civilians: old people, men, women, pregnant women, elderly, children and babies. Parents were tortured in front of their children, babies and children were tortured and their bodies mutilated. They were shot, beheaded, burned alive, fetus cut brutally of his 9th month pregnant mother, women raped and then murdered, families burned and corpses then triumphantly displayed to cheering ecstatic crowds – all in the inhuman ISIS tradition. Further, more than 200 Israelis were taken hostage, amongst them elderly sick people, men, women, children and babies and Hamas is cynically using them together with Gaza civilians as human shields.

This is **PURE EVIL** and **one cannot and should not stay within the realm of "politically correctness" vis-a-vis these atrocities.**

What Hamas has done is similar to the atrocities committed by the Nazis against the Jews during the Holocaust. **Therefore, we find the absence of any condemnation, as well as the symmetry you present between both sides morally wrong.**

By failing to explicitly denounce these atrocities, you are effectively sending a message to villains worldwide that they can continue their inhumane acts with impunity, as the world silently accepts it.

There is a profound and moral difference between Israel's efforts to avoid harming civilians and Hamas's deliberate strategy of targeting and inflicting terrible suffering upon as many civilians as possible. Supporting Palestinian rights is fundamentally the opposite of supporting the brutality of Hamas.

We urge you to re-think, rectify, take a morally clear stand and explicitly condemn Hamas' atrocities.

Hoping for Better days,

Dr. Vered Ariel Nahari
CEO, BaShaar

"[BaShaar](https://bashaar.org.il) – Academic Community for Israeli Society" is a registered non-profit and non-governmental organization, established in 1999 by academic leaders. BaShaar lists over 2,000 senior faculty members from all institutions of higher education in Israel, including former presidents and rectors, Nobel Laureates, laureates of the Israel Prize and other prestige awards.