1. **President Abbas***(spoke in Arabic)*:  
   **I come before the General Assembly today from Palestine to sound the alarm concerning the grave dangers of what is happening in Jerusalem, where extremist Israeli groups continue with their systematic and repeated incursions into the Al-Aqsa Mosque.**
2. **Those incursions are aimed at imposing a new reality and at temporarily dividing Haram Al-Sharif by allowing extremists — under the protection of Israeli occupying forces, Ministers and Knesset members — to enter the Mosque.**
3. **In so doing at specified times, they prevent the access of Muslim worshipers from freely exercising their religious rights.**
4. **The Israeli Government is pursuing that plan in direct violation of the status quo of 1967.**
5. **The occupying Power is thus committing a grave mistake because we will not accept such actions.**
6. **The Palestinian people refuses to accept the implementation of an illegal plan that is an affront to the sensitivities of Palestinians and Muslims throughout the world.**
7. **I call on the Israeli Government, before it is too late, to end the use of brutal force aimed at desecrating the Islamic and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem, and, in particular, to halt its actions directed against the Al-Aqsa Mosque, for such actions will transform the conflict from a political to a religious one and create an explosive situation in Jerusalem, as well as in the rest of the occupied Palestinian territory.**
8. It is my honour to come to speak on behalf of the State of Palestine in the General Assembly at its seventieth session, which coincides with the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, which has made the promotion and protection of international peace and security and the preservation of human rights its primary goals.
9. **The question of Palestine was one of the first just causes brought before the United Nations, dating from the time of its inception.**
10. **Yet, to date, regrettably, it remains unresolved.**
11. **The Organization and its Members remain unable to end the injustice inflicted upon our people or to assist it in exercising its right to self determination and freedom in its own independent and sovereign State.**
12. **I ask the Assembly to reconsider the history of the question of Palestine and the relevant United Nations resolutions in order to realize a self-evident truth.**
13. **A historic injustice was inflicted upon a people who had lived peacefully in their land and made genuine intellectual, cultural and humanitarian contributions to humankind and their homeland.**
14. **That people does not deserve to be deprived of its homeland, to die in exile, to be swallowed by the sea or to spend its life fleeing from one refugee camp to another.**
15. **Yet, regrettably, its just cause remains at a standstill after these many years.**
16. **Our people have placed their hopes in the countries of this Organization to help them to gain their freedom, independence and sovereignty, so that their wish and their right to their own State, which is the aspiration of all peoples of the Earth, can be achieved.**
17. **That entails a just solution for the Palestine refugee issue in accordance with resolution 194 (III) and the Arab Peace Initiative.**
18. **Is that too much to ask?**
19. **We are calling for justice, peace and what is right.**
20. **Palestine was partitioned into two States, and Israel was established 67 years ago.**
21. **But the second part of resolution 181 (II), of 29 November 1947, still awaits implementation.**
22. **Palestine, which is an observer State in the United Nations, deserves full recognition and full membership.**
23. **In the light of all the enormous sacrifices that we have made, our years of patience in exile and suffering, and our acceptance of peace in accordance with the two-State solution, which should be based on international law, the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet road map, it is unconscionable that the question of Palestine has remained unresolved for all these decades.**
24. **The continuation of the impasse is unacceptable, because it means yielding to the logic of the brute force that is being inflicted upon us by the Israeli Government.**
25. **That Government continues its illegal settlement expansion in the West Bank, especially in occupied East Jerusalem.**
26. **It continues its blockade of the Gaza Strip, deepening the immense suffering of our people there, in defiance of United Nations resolutions and the agreements signed by both sides under international auspices.**
27. **In that regard, we recall the words of the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in 1976, when he stated that Israel would become an apartheid State if it continued its occupation of Palestinian territory.**
28. **He described the Israeli settlements on Palestinian land as a cancer.**
29. **That is what Yitzhak Rabin said.**
30. **Why do they do that to us?**
31. **The persistence of the issue forces us to ask the following questions.**
32. **Do the votes of democratic countries against Palestine-related resolutions and the legitimate rights of our people serve peace and the interests of those who believe in the two-State solution?**
33. **Or do they serve and encourage extremists, thereby fanning their hatred and racism and making them believe that they are above the law,**
34. **to the point that they committed the crime of burning a Palestinian family in the town of Duma in the West Bank, a crime which claimed the lives of an infant, Ali Dawabsheh, his father and mother?**
35. **What is left of this family is an orphan child, Ahmed, a 4-year-old, who teeters between life and death in hospital as a result of his burns, while the killers remain free because they have not yet been arrested.**
36. **Where is justice?**
37. **Where is fairness?**
38. **Where is democracy?**
39. **Where is the democratic State that lays claim to democracy and the rule of law?**
40. **This was not the first crime of this type.**
41. **On previous occasions, they had burned alive and killed a Palestinian child, Mohammed Abu Khdeir, in Jerusalem, and another, Mohammed Al-Dura, in Gaza, and before them thousands had been killed in Gaza and the West Bank.**
42. **We still remember the Deir Yassin massacre of 1948 and all other crimes committed against our people.**
43. **All of these crimes have gone unpunished.**
44. **Until when will Israel remain above international law and without accountability?**
45. **Owing to time constraints, I shall not be able to discuss in detail how many Israeli violations have been committed against our people and how many repressive laws have been issued by successive Israeli Governments, the latest of which is the official governmental instructions given to fire live ammunition at and arrest and repress peaceful Palestinian demonstrators.**
46. **Why is this happening?**
47. **We do not respond to the hatred and brutality of the Israeli occupation with hatred and brutality.**
48. **Instead, we are working to spread the culture of peace and coexistence between our peoples and in our region.**
49. **We are eager to see the day when our people and all peoples in our region will enjoy peace, security, stability and prosperity.**
50. **This cannot be achieved with continued occupation, settlement, colonization, the wall, the burning of people, places of worship and homes, the killing of youth, children and infants, the burning of crops, and the arrest and detention of people without charge or trial.**
51. **How can a State claim that it is an oasis of democracy and that its courts and security apparatus function according to the law and yet also accept the existence of so-called price-tag gangs and other known terrorist organizations that terrorize and intimidate our people, confiscate their property and insult their holy sites?**
52. **All of this occurs under the watch of the Israeli army and police, who do not deter or punish the gangs, but rather provide them with protection.**
53. **Is it not time to end these injustices?**
54. **Is it not time to stop this suffering?**
55. **Is it not time for the racist annexation wall to be torn down?**
56. **Is it not time for the humiliating and degrading checkpoints and barriers set up by the Israeli occupying forces in our land to be removed?**
57. **Is it not time for the Israeli blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip to be lifted so that our people can move in freedom and dignity in their own homeland and beyond?**
58. **Is it not time to end the racist, terrorist, colonial settlement of our land, which is undermining the two-State solution?**
59. **Is it not time for the 6,000 Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli jails to see the light of freedom and live among their families and communities?**
60. **Is it not time for the longest occupation in history, which is suffocating our people, to come to an end?**
61. **These are the questions we ask the international community.**
62. Despite all the obstacles imposed by the occupation, since the establishment of the Palestinian National Authority and until this moment, we have worked tirelessly to build the foundations of our State, its infrastructure and sovereign national institutions.
63. We have made real progress on the ground, as has been affirmed by several international bodies, in particular the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.
64. With the support of our brothers and friends, we will continue our efforts and work together to strengthen our State, which is committed to upholding international standards, the rule of law and transparency as a democratic and modern State.
65. In this context, we highly value the efforts of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, under Norway’s chairmanship, and urge donor countries to continue to support a better life for our people and our efforts to develop our State institutions.
66. Our membership in international organizations and our accession to treaties and conventions are not directed against anyone;
67. rather, they are a measure aimed at safeguarding our rights, protecting our people, harmonizing the laws and regulations of our country with international standards, and strengthening its international legal status and identity.
68. Is this a mistake?
69. With respect to the internal Palestinian situation, we are determined to preserve the unity of our land and our people.
70. We will not accept temporary solutions or a fragmented State.
71. We will not allow this to happen, and we will not let those who are trying to make us do this prevail.
72. We will instead seek to form a Government of national unity that functions according to the program of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and we will proceed to hold presidential and legislative elections.
73. Palestine is a country of holiness and peace.
74. It is the birthplace of Christ, the messenger of love and peace, and the home of the Isra and Mi’raj, the ascension to heaven and night journey of Mohammed, peace be upon him, who was sent as a gift of mercy to the world.
75. Palestine is still looking for peace, and its people want to live in their homeland in safety, security, harmony, stability and good neighborliness with all peoples and countries of the region.
76. This is attested to by their cultural, humanitarian and spiritual contributions to humankind all along, from the start.
77. Just recently, on 17 May, two nuns from Palestine, Marie-Alphonsine Ghattas and Mariam Baouardy, were canonized as saints by His Holiness Pope Francis at the Vatican in the presence of tens of thousands of the faithful from around the globe.
78. On that occasion, the flag of Palestine was raised at the Vatican, whose recognition of the State of Palestine is documented in the agreement signed between the Holy See and the State of Palestine.
79. It is our hope that those that have not yet recognized us as a State will do so as soon as possible.
80. We look forward to seeing the independent State of Palestine take its rightful place among the community of nations.
81. We are confident that it will actively contribute to achieving the economic, cultural and humanitarian progress of civilization, with positive results for our people, the region and the entire world.
82. **Peace will be achieved by and through Palestine.**
83. Those who wish to seek and promote peace, I repeat, those who wish to seek and promote peace and to fight terrorism, should start by resolving the question of Palestine.
84. That is the beginning and the end of it.
85. I take the opportunity to express, on behalf of my people, our thanks to all those who, on 10 September, voted in favor of resolution 69/320.
86. Its adoption has enabled us to raise the Palestinian flag at United Nations Headquarters.
87. **The day is not far off when, God willing, we will raise the Palestinian flag in East Jerusalem, the capital of the State of Palestine.**
88. I wish also to pay tribute to various recent decisions in European parliaments.
89. **Some of these have clearly condemned Israel’s settlement activities and affirmed the right of the Palestinian people to sovereignty and independence in their own State, side by side with the State of Israel — which we recognize even though Israel does not recognize our existence — and some have established a committee on relations with Palestine.**
90. A number of European countries have also affirmed their recognition of the State of Palestine, thereby endorsing our natural right to independence.
91. In that regard, we wish to thank the Kingdom of Sweden for having the courage of its convictions and recognizing the State of Palestine.
92. **All who say they support the two-State solution must recognize both States, not just one.**
93. **If one supports the two-State solution, how can one not recognize the other State?**
94. **Today I call on those countries that have not yet recognized the State of Palestine to do so.**
95. **We are fully confident that they will do so out of conviction that our people and cause are deserving of justice.**
96. **From this rostrum at United Nations Headquarters and against the backdrop of the religious holidays, I extend a sincere call on the people of Israel for peace based on justice, security and stability for all.**
97. **I also call on the Security Council and the General Assembly to shoulder their responsibilities before it is too late.**
98. **I sincerely hope that they will fulfil their responsibilities before it is too late.**
99. **All those present are well aware that Israel has undermined the efforts of the Administration of President Barack Obama, and mostly recently the efforts undertaken by Secretary of State Kerry, to reach a peace agreement by means of negotiation.**
100. **The polices and practices of the Israeli Government and the stances adopted by its Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers lead to a clear conclusion, namely, that they are doing their utmost to sabotage the two-State solution that we have been seeking based on resolutions of international legitimacy.**
101. **There can be no other explanation.**
102. **We welcome the international and European efforts, including the French initiative calling for the formation of an international support group on achieving peace.**
103. **The Arab States, at their recent summit, confirmed their support for a Security Council resolution to reaffirm the key parameters for a peaceful two-State solution, based on the pre-1967 borders, with a time frame for ending the occupation.**
104. **As it is pointless to waste time negotiating just for the sake of it,**
105. **what we require now is to mobilize international efforts and establish a framework to oversee an end to the occupation, in line with the resolutions of international legitimacy.**
106. **Until that is done, I appeal to the United Nations, and particularly the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly, to provide international protection for the Palestinian people in accordance with international humanitarian law.**
107. **We need protection — we need international protection.**
108. **We cannot maintain the status quo.**
109. **We are being assailed on all sides.**
110. **Acts of aggression are being committed against us on all sides.**
111. **We have no protector.**
112. **Our last resort is the United Nations.**
113. **We are therefore appealing to the Assembly, we are begging the Assembly, to provide us with international protection.**
114. **We have tried to bring pressure to bear on Israel to implement the signed agreements and to negotiate in conformity with the two-State solution through direct contact with the Israeli Government.**
115. **Yes, we do maintain direct contact with the Israeli Government, as well as indirect contact through the United States of America, the Russian Federation, the European Union and the United Nations, the Quartet members and other parties.**
116. **However, the Israeli Government persists in undermining the two-State solution and in entrenching two regimes on the ground: the current apartheid regime imposed on the State of Palestine and against the Palestinian people, on the one hand, and another regime of extensive privileges and protection for Israeli settlers, on the other hand.**
117. **Our occupied Palestinian territory reflects two systems: the apartheid system and the other system that extends extensive privileges to the Israeli settlers.**
118. **How is that possible?**
119. **In what way is it admissible?**
120. **That is the question that we pose to the United Nations.**
121. **The transitional Oslo accords and annexes and the subsequent accords signed with Israel stipulated that the agreements should be implemented within a time frame of five years, which ended in 1999.**
122. **What was the outcome to be?**
123. **It was to be full independence for the State of Palestine and the end of the Israeli occupation.**
124. **But Israel stopped withdrawing its forces from the areas classified as “B” and “C”, which represent more than 60 per cent of the West Bank territory, including East Jerusalem.**
125. **Instead, Israel intensified its settlement activities everywhere, in breach of all of the signed accords, some of which were signed by the current Israeli Prime Minister.**
126. **In 2009, in his speech in Cairo, President Obama called for the cessation of the settlement activities.**
127. **What was the response on the part of Israel?**
128. **The Government increased its settlement activities by at least 20 per cent in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, thus violating its obligation not to undertake any illegal or unilateral action that could be considered permanent.**
129. **Moreover, the occupying Power has repeatedly encroached on the area classified as “A”, which is supposed to be under full Palestinian security jurisdiction and in which we have established the institutions of the Palestinian State.**
130. **Let me repeat that, yes, Israel has also violated that area.**
131. **At the same time, Israel refuses to review the economic agreements that control the ability of the Palestinian economy to develop and become independent.**
132. **It is determined to impose dominance on the Palestinian economy, similar to its military and security dominance, and it rejects the right of the Palestinian people to development and to the exploitation of their natural resources.**
133. **In so doing, Israel has undermined the foundations on which the political and security agreements are based.**
134. **Those agreements have also been eroded by the measures taken by successive Israeli Governments, measures that have negated the transitional phase leading to the independence of our State.**
135. **All these gross violations of the agreements have made the situation intolerable.**
136. **Given that background, we declare that as long as Israel refuses to commit to the agreements it signed with us, thereby ensuring that we are a pro forma authority without real powers, and as long as Israel refuses to cease its settlement activities and to release the fourth group of Palestinian prisoners in accordance with our agreements,**
137. **Israel leaves us no choice but to assert that we will not remain the only ones committed to the implementation of those agreements, while Israel continuously violates them.**
138. **We therefore declare that we cannot continue to be bound by those agreements and that Israel must fully assume all its responsibilities as an occupying Power, because the status quo cannot continue and the decisions of the Palestinian Central Council last March are specific and binding.**
139. **As long as Israel does not commit to the signed agreements and instead undermines them all, we, for our part, renounce our commitment to those agreements, and Israel must bear full responsibility for the situation.**
140. **This is a decision taken by the Palestinian Parliament, and I affirm it right here and now.**
141. **Our patience has run out.**
142. **It seems that Israel is deaf to the truth.**
143. **Israel will have to resume its role as an occupying Power and bear its responsibilities accordingly.**
144. **The State of Palestine, based on the 4 June 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital, is a State under occupation.**
145. **Yes, we are under occupation, just as many countries were during the Second World War.**
146. **It should be noted that our State is recognized by 137 States, which is four times the number of States that recognized Israel at its foundation, and the right of our people to self-determination, freedom and independence is recognized globally as being inalienable and indisputable.**
147. **I further recall resolution 67/19 of 2012, which accorded to Palestine observer State status and reaffirmed that the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization would be the interim Government of the State of Palestine and that the Palestine National Council would be the Palestinian Parliament of the State of Palestine.**
148. **Given all that, why does Israel not recognize the State of Palestine?**
149. **I must reiterate that the current situation is unsustainable.**
150. **We shall start implementing the declaration I have just announced by legal means.**
151. **We shall not resort to violence; we shall use peaceful and legal means to implement it.**
152. **Either the Palestine National Authority will be a transitional power and move the Palestinian people from occupation to independence, or Israel must fully bear its responsibilities as the occupying Power.**
153. At the same time and based on our commitment to the principles of international law, the State of Palestine will continue to accede to international conventions and to join organizations — all international organizations.
154. That is our right and is fully in line with our status under international law.
155. **Palestine will move forward in the defense of its people under occupation through all available legal and peaceful means, including as a High Contracting Party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and a State party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.**
156. **Yes, Palestine is a State party to the International Criminal Court.**
157. **Those who fear international law and international courts should stop committing crimes.**
158. **We do not like having to seek justice from the International Criminal Court, but aggression forces us to do so.**
159. **We will seek support from all international organizations, including the International Criminal Court.**
160. **All that notwithstanding, my hand remains outstretched for the just peace that will guarantee my people’s rights, freedom and human dignity.**
161. **I say to our neighbours, the sons and daughters of the Israeli people, that peace is in their interest and in our interest and in the interest of their future generations and our future generations.**
162. **Maintaining a narrow viewpoint is unhelpful and destructive.**
163. **Focusing only on oneself is unhelpful and destructive.**
164. **It is my sincere hope that those neighbours will consider the dangerous reality on the ground and look to the future and accept for the Palestinian people what they accept for themselves.**
165. **Then, they will find that the achievement of peace will be possible, and they will enjoy security, safety, peace and stability.**
166. **These values are the aspirations that we also seek to realize for our Palestinian people.**

**Mr. Netanyahu** (Israel)

1. I bring greetings from Jerusalem, the city in which the Jewish people’s hopes and prayers for peace for all of humanity have echoed throughout the ages.
2. Thirty-one years ago, as Israel’s Ambassador to the United Nations, I stood at this rostrum for the first time.
3. I spoke that day against a draft resolution sponsored by Iran to expel Israel from the United Nations.
4. Then, as now, the United Nations was obsessively hostile towards Israel, the one true democracy in the Middle East.
5. Then, as now, some sought to deny the one and only Jewish State a place among nations.
6. I ended that first speech by saying, “Gentlemen, check your fanaticism at the door”.
7. More than three decades later, as the Prime Minister of Israel, I am again privileged to speak from this rostrum.
8. And for me, that privilege has always come with a moral responsibility to speak the truth.
9. So after three days of listening to world leaders praise the nuclear deal with Iran, I begin my speech today by saying, “Ladies and gentlemen, check your enthusiasm at the door”.
10. The deal does not make peace more likely.
11. By fueling Iran’s aggressions with billions of dollars in sanctions relief, it makes war more likely.
12. Just look at what Iran has done in the past six months alone, since the framework agreement was announced in Lausanne.
13. Iran boosted its supply of devastating weapons to Syria.
14. Iran sent more soldiers of its Revolutionary Guard into Syria.
15. Iran sent thousands of Afghani and Pakistani Shiite fighters to Syria.
16. Iran did all that to prop up Al-Assad’s brutal regime.
17. Iran also shipped tons of weapons and ammunition to the Houthi rebels in Yemen, including another shipment just two days ago.
18. Iran threatened to topple Jordan.
19. Iran’s proxy, Hizbullah, smuggled into Lebanon SA-22 missiles to down our planes and Yakhont cruise missiles to sink our ships.
20. Iran supplied Hizbullah with precision-guided surface-to-surface missiles and attack drones so it can accurately hit any target in Israel.
21. Iran aided Hamas and Islamic Jihad in building armed drones in Gaza.
22. Iran also made clear its plans to open two new terror fronts against Israel, promising to arm Palestinians in the West Bank and sending its Revolutionary Guard generals to the Golan Heights, from which its operatives recently fired rockets on northern Israel.
23. Israel will continue to respond forcefully to any attacks against it from Syria.
24. Israel will continue to act to prevent the transfer of strategic weapons to Hizbullah from and through Syrian territory.
25. Every few weeks, Iran and Hizbullah set up new terrorist cells in cities throughout the world.
26. Three such cells were recently uncovered in Kuwait, Jordan and Cyprus.
27. In May, security forces in Cyprus raided a Hizbullah agent’s apartment in the city of Larnaca.
28. There they found five tons of ammonium nitrate — roughly the same amount of ammonium nitrate used to blow up the Federal Building in Oklahoma City. And that was just in one apartment, in one city, in one country.
29. But Iran is setting up dozens of terrorist cells like that around the world.
30. They are setting up those terror cells in this hemisphere as well.
31. I repeat, Iran has been doing all of this — everything that I have just described — just within the past six months, when it was trying to convince the world to remove the sanctions.
32. Just imagine what Iran will do after those sanctions are lifted.
33. Unleashed and unmuzzled, Iran will go on the prowl, devouring more and more prey.
34. In the wake of the nuclear deal, Iran is spending billions of dollars on weapons and satellites.
35. Does anyone here think that Iran is doing that to advance peace?
36. Does anyone here think that hundreds of billions of dollars in sanctions relief and fat contracts will turn that rapacious tiger into a kitten?
37. People who think so should think again.
38. In 2013, President Rouhani began his so-called charm offensive here at the United Nations.
39. Two years later, Iran is executing more political prisoners, escalating its regional aggression and rapidly expanding its global terror net.
40. They say that actions speak louder than words, but, in Iran’s case, their words speak as loudly as their actions.
41. Just listen to the Deputy Commander of Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Qods Force.
42. In February, he said that “the Islamic Revolution is not limited by geographic borders”.
43. He boasted that Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Yemen are among the countries being “conquered by the Islamic Republic of Iran”.
44. He said “conquered”.
45. For those here who believe that the deal in Vienna will bring about a change in Iran’s policy, listen to what Iran’s Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, said five days after the nuclear deal was reached:"Our policies towards the arrogant Government of the United States will not change”.
46. The United States, he vowed, will continue to be Iran’s enemy.
47. While giving the mullahs more money is likely to fuel more repression inside Iran, it will definitely fuel more aggression outside Iran.
48. As the leader of a country defending itself every day against Iran’s growing aggression, I wish that I could take comfort in the claim that this deal blocks Iran’s path to nuclear weapons, but I cannot, because it does not.
49. This deal does place several constraints on Iran’s nuclear programme, and rightly so, because the international community recognizes that Iran is particularly dangerous.
50. But, here is the catch.
51. Under this deal, if Iran does not change its behaviour — in fact, even if it becomes more dangerous in the years to come — the most important constraints will still be automatically lifted by year 10 and by year 15.
52. That would place a militant Islamic terror regime weeks away from having the fissile material for an entire arsenal of nuclear bombs.
53. That just does not make any sense.
54. I have said that if Iran wants to be treated like a normal country, let it act like a normal country.
55. This deal will treat Iran like a normal country even if it remains a dark theocracy that conquers its neighbours, sponsors terrorism worldwide and chants, “Death to Israel, death to America!”.
56. Does anyone seriously believe that flooding a radical theocracy with weapons and cash will curb its appetite for aggression?
57. Does anyone here really believe that a theocratic Iran with sharper claws and sharper fangs will be more likely to change its stripes?
58. There is a general rule that I have learned — and that that those here must have learned it in their lifetime — which is that when bad behaviour is rewarded, it only gets worse.
59. I have long said that the greatest danger that the world faces is the coupling of militant Islam with nuclear weapons.
60. I am gravely concerned that the nuclear deal with Iran will prove to be the marriage certificate of that unholy union.
61. I know that some well-intentioned people sincerely believe that this deal is the best way to block Iran’s path to the bomb.
62. However, one of history’s most important, yet least learned lessons, is that the best intentions do not prevent the worst outcomes.
63. The vast majority of Israelis believe that this nuclear deal with Iran is a very bad deal.
64. What makes matters even worse is that we see the world celebrating this bad deal, rushing to embrace and do business with a regime that is openly committed to our destruction.
65. Last week, Major General Salehi, the Commander of Iran’s Army, proclaimed “We will annihilate Israel, for sure. We are glad that we are in the forefront of executing the Supreme Leader’s order to destroy Israel.”
66. As for the Supreme Leader himself, a few days after the nuclear deal was announced, he released his latest book.
67. It is a 400-page screed detailing his plan to destroy the State of Israel.
68. Last month, Khamenei once again made his genocidal intentions clear.
69. Before Iran’s top clerical body, the Assembly of Experts, he spoke about Israel, which is home to over 6 million Jews.
70. He pledged that “there will be no Israel in 25 years”.
71. Seventy years after the murder of 6 million Jews,
72. Iran’s rulers promise to destroy my country, murder my people, and the response from this body, the response from nearly every one of the Governments represented here, has been absolutely nothing — utter silence, deafening silence.
73. Perhaps members of the Assembly can now understand why Israel is not joining in the general celebration of the deal.
74. If Iran’s rulers were working to destroy other members’ countries, perhaps they would be less enthusiastic about the deal.
75. If Iran’s terror proxies were firing thousands of rockets at other members’ cities, perhaps they would be more measured in their praise.
76. And if the deal were unleashing a nuclear arms race in their neighbourhoods, perhaps they would be more reluctant to celebrate.
77. But no one should think that Iran is a danger only to Israel.
78. Besides Iran’s aggression in the Middle East and its terror campaign around the world, Iran is also building intercontinental ballistic missiles whose sole purpose is to carry nuclear warheads.
79. Now this fact needs to be remembered: Iran already has missiles that can reach Israel.
80. So those intercontinental ballistic missiles that Iran is building are not meant for us.
81. They are meant for others — for Europe, for America, for raining down mass destruction anytime, anywhere.
82. It is not easy to oppose something that is embraced by the greatest Powers in the world.
83. Believe me, it would be far easier to remain silent.
84. But throughout our history, the Jewish people have learned the heavy price of silence.
85. And as the Prime Minister of the Jewish State, as someone who knows that history, I refuse to be silent.
86. I will say it again.
87. The days when the Jewish people remained passive in the face of genocidal enemies — those days are over.
88. Not being passive means speaking up about those dangers.
89. We have spoken up,
90. we are speaking up,
91. and we will continue to do so.
92. Not being passive also means defending ourselves against those dangers.
93. We have.
94. We are
95. And we will.
96. Israel will not allow Iran to break in, to sneak in or to walk into the nuclear-weapons club.
97. I know that preventing Iran from developing nuclear weapons remains the official policy of the international community.
98. But no one should question Israel’s determination to defend itself against those who seek our destruction.
99. For in every generation, there have been those who sought to destroy our people.
100. In antiquity, we faced destruction from the ancient empires of Babylon and Rome.
101. In the Middle Ages, we faced inquisitions and expulsions.
102. And in modern times, we faced pogroms and the Holocaust.
103. Yet the Jewish people persevered.
104. And now another regime has arisen, swearing to destroy Israel.
105. That regime would be wise to consider this fact: I stand here today representing Israel, a country that is 67 years young but is the nation State of a people nearly 4,000 years old.
106. The empires of Babylon and Rome are not represented in this Hall of nations, nor is the 1,000-year Reich.
107. Those seemingly invincible empires are long gone.
108. But Israel lives.
109. The people of Israel live.
110. The rebirth of Israel is a testament to the indomitable spirit of my people.
111. For a hundred generations, the Jewish people dreamed of returning to the land of Israel.
112. Even in our darkest hours — and we had so many — even in our darkest hours, we never gave up hope of rebuilding our eternal capital, Jerusalem.
113. The establishment of Israel made it possible to realize that dream.
114. It has enabled us to live as a free people in our ancestral homeland.
115. It has enabled us to embrace Jews who have come from the four corners of the Earth to find refuge from persecution.
116. They have come from war-torn Europe, from Yemen, Iraq, and Morocco, from Ethiopia and the Soviet Union, from a hundred other lands.
117. And today, as a rising tide of anti-Semitism once again sweeps across Europe and elsewhere, many Jews come to Israel to join us in building the Jewish future.
118. So here is my message to the rulers of Iran.
119. Their plan to destroy Israel will fail.
120. Israel will not permit any force on Earth to threaten its future.
121. And here is my message to all the countries represented here.
122. Whatever resolutions they may adopt in this building, whatever decisions they may take in their capitals, Israel will do whatever it must do to defend our State and to defend our people.
123. As the deal with Iran moves ahead, I hope it will be enforced — how can I put this? — with a little more rigour than was shown with the six Security Council resolutions that Iran has systematically violated and which now have been effectively discarded.
124. I would call for ensuring that the inspectors actually inspect, that the snapback sanctions actually snap back, and that Iran’s violations not be swept under the Persian rug.
125. There is one thing I can assure the Assembly of today that Israel will be watching closely.
126. What the international community now needs to do is clear: first, it must make Iran comply with all its nuclear obligations, and hold Iran’s feet to the fire.
127. Secondly, Iran’s regional aggression must be put in check by supporting and strengthening those fighting Iran’s aggression, beginning with Israel.
128. Thirdly, use sanctions and all the tools available to tear down Iran’s global terror network.
129. Israel is working closely with our Arab peace partners to address our common security challenges from Iran and also the security challenges from the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and from others.
130. We are also working with other States in the Middle East, as well as with countries in Africa, in Asia and beyond.
131. Many in our region know that both Iran and ISIL are our common enemies.
132. And when one’s enemies fight each other, one does not strengthen either one.
133. One weakens both.
134. Common dangers are clearly bringing Israel and its Arab neighbours closer.
135. As we work together to thwart the dangers that I have mentioned, I hope that we will build lasting partnerships for security, for prosperity and for peace.
136. But in Israel, we never forget one thing.
137. We never forget that Israel’s most important partner has always been, and will always be, the United States of America.
138. The alliance between Israel and the United States is unshakeable.
139. President Obama and I agree on the need to keep arms out of the hands of Iran’s terror proxies.
140. We agree on the need to stop Iran from destabilizing countries throughout the Middle East.
141. Israel deeply appreciates President Obama’s willingness to bolster our security and to help Israel maintain its qualitative military edge in order to confront the enormous challenges we face.
142. Israel is grateful that this sentiment is widely shared by the American people and its representatives in Congress — both by those who supported the deal and by those who opposed it.
143. President Obama and I have both said that our differences over the nuclear deal are a disagreement within the family.
144. But we have no disagreement about the need to work together to secure our common future.
145. And what a great future it could be.
146. Israel is uniquely poised to take advantage of the promise of the twenty-first century.
147. Israel is a world leader in science and technology, in cybertechnology, software, water, agriculture, medicine, biotechnology and so many other fields that are being revolutionized by Israeli ingenuity and Israeli innovation. Israel is the innovation nation.
148. Israeli know-how is everywhere.
149. It is in our computers’ microprocessors and flash drives.
150. It is in our smart phones, when we send instant messages and navigate our cars.
151. It is on our farms, when we drip-irrigate our crops and keep our grains and produce fresh.
152. It is in our universities, when we study Nobel Prize-winning discoveries in chemistry and economics.
153. It is in our medicine cabinets, when we use drugs to treat Parkinson’s disease and multiple sclerosis.
154. It is even on our plates, when we eat delicious cherry tomatoes.
155. They were also perfected in Israel, in case someone did not know.
156. We are so proud in Israel of the long strides that our country has been able to take in a short time.
157. We are so proud that our small country is making such a huge contribution to the entire world.
158. Yet the dreams of our people, enshrined for eternity by the great prophets of the Bible, will be fully realized only when there is peace.
159. As the Middle East descends into chaos, Israel’s peace agreements with Egypt and Jordan are two cornerstones of stability.
160. **Israel remains committed to achieving peace with the Palestinians as well.**
161. Israelis know the price of war.
162. I know the price of war.
163. I was nearly killed in battle.
164. I lost many friends.
165. I lost my beloved brother Yoni.
166. Those who know the price of war can best appreciate what the blessings of peace would mean — for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren.
167. **I am prepared to immediately resume direct peace negotiations with the Palestinian Authority without any preconditions whatsoever.**
168. **Unfortunately, President Abbas said yesterday that he is not prepared to do that.**
169. **I hope he changes his mind, because I remain committed to a vision of two States for two peoples, in which a demilitarized Palestinian State recognizes the Jewish State.**
170. **As members know, the peace process began over two decades ago.**
171. **Yet despite the best efforts of six Israeli prime ministers — Rabin, Peres, Barak, Sharon, Olmert and myself — the Palestinians have consistently refused to end the conflict and to make a final peace with Israel. U**
172. **Unfortunately, we heard that rejectionism again only yesterday from President Abbas.**
173. **How can Israel make peace with a Palestinian partner who refuses to even sit at the negotiating table?**
174. **Israel expects the Palestinian Authority to abide by its commitments.**
175. **The Palestinians should not walk away from peace.**
176. **I would like to tell President Abbas that I know it is not easy.**
177. **I know it is hard.**
178. **But we owe it to our peoples to try, to continue to try.**
179. **If we actually sit down together, if we actually negotiate and stop negotiating about the negotiation, and if we actually sit down to try to resolve the conflict between us, recognizing each other and not using a Palestinian State as a stepping stone for yet another Islamist dictatorship in the Middle East but as something that will live at peace next to the Jewish State, we can do remarkable things for our peoples.**
180. **The United Nations can help advance peace by supporting direct, unconditional negotiations between the parties.**
181. **The United Nations will certainly not help advance peace by trying to impose solutions or by encouraging Palestinian rejectionism, And the United Nations should do one more thing.**
182. The United Nations should finally rid itself of its obsessive bashing of Israel**.**
183. Here is just one absurd example of that obsession.
184. In the four years of horrific violence in Syria, more than a quarter of a million people have lost their lives.
185. **That is more than 10 times the number of Israelis and Palestinians combined who have lost their lives in a century of conflict between us.**
186. Yet last year, the Assembly adopted 20 resolutions against Israel and only one resolution about the savage slaughter in Syria.
187. Talk about injustice.
188. Talk about disproportionality.
189. Count them: 20. And one against Syria.
190. Well, frankly I am not surprised.
191. To borrow a line from Yogi Berra, the late, great baseball player and part-time philosopher, when it comes to the annual bashing of Israel at the United Nations, it is déjà vu all over again.
192. Enough is enough.
193. Today, 31 years after I stood here for the first time, I am still asking when the United Nations will finally check its anti-Israel fanaticism at the door, when the United Nations will finally stop slandering Israel as a threat to peace and when it will actually start helping Israel advance peace.
194. **The same question should be posed to Palestinian leaders.**
195. **When will they start working with Israel to advance peace and reconciliation, stop libelling Israel and stop inciting hatred and violence?**
196. **Here is a good place for President Abbas to begin.**
197. **He should stop spreading lies about Israel’s alleged intentions on the Temple Mount.**
198. **Israel is fully committed to maintaining the status quo there.**
199. **What President Abbas should be speaking out against are the actions of the militant Islamists who are smuggling explosives into the Al-Aqsa Mosque and who are trying to prevent Jews and Christians from visiting the holy sites.**
200. **That is the real threat to those sacred sites.**
201. A thousand years before the birth of Christianity, more than 1,500 years before the birth of Islam, King David made Jerusalem our capital, and King Solomon built the Temple on that Mount.
202. **Yet Israel will always respect the sacred shrines of all religions.**
203. In a region plagued by violence and by unimaginable intolerance, in which Islamic fanatics are destroying the ancient treasures of civilization, Israel stands out as a towering beacon of enlightenment and tolerance.
204. Far from endangering the holy sites, Israel ensures their safety.
205. **Because, unlike the Powers that ruled Jerusalem in the past, Israel respects the holy sites and the freedom of worship of Jews, Muslims, Christians — everyone.**
206. **And that will never change.**
207. Because Israel will always stay true to its values.
208. Those values are on display each and every day.
209. They are on display when Israel’s feisty parliament vigorously debates every issue under the sun;
210. when Israel’s Chief Justice sits in her chair at our fiercely independent Supreme Court;
211. when our Christian community continues to grow and thrive from year to year, whereas Christian communities elsewhere in the Middle East are decimated;
212. when a brilliant young Israeli Muslim student gives her valedictorian address at one of our finest universities; and when Israeli doctors and nurses — doctors and nurses from the Israeli military — treat thousands of wounded from the killing fields of Syria and thousands more in the wake of natural disasters from Haiti to Nepal.
213. That is the true face of Israel.
214. Those are the values of Israel.
215. In the Middle East, those values are under savage assault by militant Islamists, who are forcing millions of terrified people to flee to distant shores.
216. Just 10 miles from ISIS and a few hundred yards from Iran’s murderous proxies, Israel stands in the breach, proudly and courageously defending freedom and progress.
217. Israel is civilization’s front line in the battle against barbarism.
218. So here is a novel idea for the United Nations.
219. Instead of continuing the shameful routine of bashing Israel, the international community should stand with Israel.
220. The international community should stand with Israel as we work to check the fanaticism at its doors.
221. It should stand with Israel as we prevent that fanaticism from even reaching its doors.
222. The international community should stand with Israel because Israel is not just defending itself.
223. More than ever, Israel is defending the world!