

Bush 'stabbed' on Hamas TV show

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GAZA: Brandishing "the sword of Islam", a Palestinian boy stabbed US President George Bush to death in a new puppet show for children aired by Hamas-owned television in the Gaza Strip.

"You are a criminal, Bush, a despicable man. You made me an orphan. You deprived me

of everything," said the hand-held puppet, representing a child and accusing the US president of killing his family in Iraq and in Gaza in collusion with Israel.

The programme was broadcast on Hamas's al-Aqsa television, which has used puppets and cartoon characters in the past to illustrate the Islamist movement's battle against Israel and opposition to US support for the Jewish state.

"I must take my revenge with the sword of Islam," the puppet-child said, stabbing the Bush puppet several times and ignoring pleas of "I repent, just don't kill me" — and an invitation to a toy-filled White House. "I killed him," the puppet said, accusing Bush of being "impure" and vowing the White House would be turned into a mosque.

Last year, al-Aqsa television aired a programme starring a Mickey Mouse clone, Farfur, who urged children to fight Israel in the name of Islam. Farfur was killed off, on-air, by an actor posing as an Israeli security agent.