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Akko Riots



Assessing damage in Akko Photo: AFP

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Akko Riots rebound, man injured by stones

After hours of relative calm, Jewish youths begin to crowd in eastern neighborhood of city, prompting stone-throwing from many Arab residents; Police detain four Jewish protestors, raid home from which stones were flung

Ahiya Raved

On a third successive night of rioting in Akko, Arabs threw stones at dozens of Jewish youths who formed a crowd in one of the city's eastern neighborhoods. A man who was walking his dog sustained a mild head injury from a stone flung at him.



Arabs throw stones in Akko (Photo: Ahiya Raved)

Police detained four Jewish protestors and began to disperse the remaining crowd with the help of stun grenades, tear gas, and water hoses. Officers also raided a home from which stones had been flung, detaining the family within. At around 10 pm police reported the incident under control.

Northern District Police stated that altogether 30 people have been arrested in relation to the riots since they first began on Yom Kippur Eve.

The incident commenced at around 9 pm, when dozens of Jewish youths began to crowd two of the neighborhood's main streets. Police barricaded the eastern entrance to the city, and deployed large SWAT and Border Guard forces armed with anti-protest equipment to the area. Three residents of the city were detained earlier Friday.

Kadima chairman Tzipi Livni censured the Yom Kippur riots in Akko asserting, during a meeting with city mayor Shimon Lankry, that citizens cannot be allowed to take the law into their own hands.

"All Israeli citizens should respect the holy day of Yom Kippur when they are outside their home," she said Friday.

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