

Elad terror attack: Manhunt continues, main suspects' identities released

From the [Jerusalem Post](#)

Israeli security forces are continuing a large manhunt after two Palestinians killed three Israeli civilians in the city of Elad.

Police identified the two suspects 19 year-old Assad al-Rafai and 20-year-old Tzabahi Abu Shakir, both from the Jenin area in the West Bank. Security services released their pictures and have asked for the public's help in locating them, indicating that the two might still be in Israeli territory.

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Suspects in the Elad ax terrorist attack, 20-year-old Tzabahi Abu Shakir (Left) and 19 year-old Assad al-Rafai (Right).
(photo credit: ISRAEL POLICE)

The three victims in the deadly attack were identified as 40-year-old Yonatan Habakuk, 40-year-old Boaz Gol, and 35 year-old Oren Ben Yiftach. Together they left behind 16 children.

Seven other people were injured in the attack, one in critical condition and another in serious condition. Beilinson hospital said that a man in his 20s was still in life-threatening condition with head wounds. Another person was moderately wounded, a fourth was lightly wounded and the rest were lightly injured or suffering from shock.

According to eyewitness reports, the attack took place in several locations in Elad, with the two Palestinian suspects armed with axes and knives. The two men struck civilians on the city's main street Ibn Gvirol and at the Elad Amphitheater Park where many families were spending the evening celebrating the end of Independence Day.

Defense Minister Benny Gantz met with IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Aviv Kohavi and decided to extend the closure that was imposed on the West Bank and Gaza Strip for Memorial and Independence Day until Sunday. It was also decided to reinforce troops in the West Bank even further. The IDF has reinforced troops in the West Bank by 12 battalions for a total of 25 battalions in order to bring the current wave of violence to an end without further attacks.