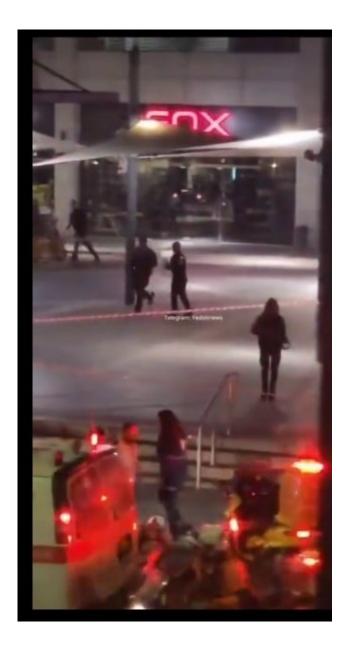
Three in 'serious condition' after being knifed in 'terror attack' at Israel shopping mall

THREE people have been left in a "serious condition" after being stabbed at a shopping mall in Israel.

The victims are believed to have been knifed near a mall in the town of Gan Yavne, central Israel, in a suspected terror attack.



The attacker had been "neutralised" on the spot by a municipal police force following the stabbings, according to local media.

The head of the local council called the attacker a "terrorist" . . . Israeli cops have set up roadblocks around the scene of the crime to help prevent any further attacks.

The force said in a statement: "Police forces were called to the Friendly Gan Yavne Shopping Mall following a report of a suspected attack. From an initial report, there are several victims with stab wounds at the scene."

The head of the Gan Yavne Council, Aharon Dror, also spoke of multiple people being injured on the scene. His statement read: "The terrorist was neutralised by our municipal police in Gan Yavne, an inspector and a policeman who arrived at the scene and handled the incident.

Israeli outlet <u>Mako</u> state the victims were three young men aged 17, 20 and 35.

A preliminary investigation of the attack reveals that the terrorist was a 19-year-old Palestinian worker from Doura, in the Hebron district, who worked in one of the nearby stores.

He allegedly ambushed the three people, stabbing two before wounding the third.

The Magen David Adom ambulance service said the victims were taken to Ashdod's Assuta Hospital.