

Arab-Israelis have no appetite for another wave of violence - analysis

Experts believe that this spring does not have to be a repeat of the dramatic events of last year between Israel and its Arab citizens, and Hamas

By Ksenia Svetlova / The Media Line / April 14, 2022

Soon after the first terror attack last month in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba that launched the current wave of violence, Sheikh Muhammad Abu al-Qiyan, maternal uncle of the terrorist – also named Muhammad Abu al-Qiyan and a resident of the Bedouin village of Hura, made an appearance on Israel's Channel 12.

[...]

At a conference earlier this month of the [Institute for National Security Studies](#) at [Tel Aviv University](#), Mansour Abbas, the leader of the United Arab List-Ra'am party, the first Arab party to become a member of a ruling government coalition in Israel in the last three decades, said, "The whole of Arab society has come out against the latest wave of terrorist attacks – even people who are in opposition to me. It does not detract from the severity that Israeli Arab citizens carried out the attacks that opened this wave. It is inconceivable for someone to come and decide that he is taking the lives of innocent people – this must be a basic value rule that has nothing to do with anything else. Secondly, there is a citizenship contract between us of living together – such acts violate the contract."

Abbas' words also correlate with a recent survey conducted by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's [aChord Center](#), which specializes in the social psychology of intergroup relations. According to this survey, 98% of Arab citizens of Israel oppose acts of violence against Jews. Some 93% of Arab citizens think that the perpetrators do not represent Arab society.

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