

‘Bloodthirsty’ Arab mobs wreak havoc across Israel, but experts believe they are a minority

Meir Elran at the Institute for National Security Studies says social and economic progress in the Arab community means Israeli Arabs are now “less conservative, more academic and even more well-to-do, despite the huge economic gaps between Jews and Arabs.”

By [Israel Kasnett](#)

(May 12, 2021 / JNS) The Israel Police instituted a blanket curfew on the central Israeli town of Lod on Wednesday night after Arab rioters destroyed cars, businesses and synagogues the day before. Arabs continued to riot into the evening in other towns with large Arab populations, including Akko, Jaffa, Bat Yam, Haifa and Tiberias.

[...]

Meir Elran, a senior research fellow at the **Institute for National Security Studies**, told JNS Arab society in Israel has been “undergoing major transformative changes over the last 20 years.”

“A lot has changed in a dramatic manner,” he said, including a “new forward integration of Arabs into Israel in terms of social and economic transformation, and in the last two years, political transformation” as well.

Such integration into Israeli society has improved “significantly,” according to Elran.

However, Elran said that the events over the last few days are “a game-changer in the trajectory of the last two years.”

“We are right now at a crossroads between being able to enable the process to continue ‘Israelization’ at the expense of ‘Palestinization’ of the Arab community in Israel,” he said.

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