

## On Easter, Passover Nephew of Israeli Minister Killed Visiting Holy Site

- Group had gone to pray at Jewish holy site
- IDF, Palestinian officers liaise in investigation
- Barak says shooting was 'unjustified'



Jerusalem, April 24 – The nephew of Israeli cabinet member Limor Livnat was killed on Sunday and four others were wounded in a clash with Palestinian forces near the West Bank holy site of Joseph's Tomb.

Ben-Yosef Livnat, nephew of Culture and Sport Minister Limor Livnat, was in one of three cars that reportedly tried to crash through a Palestinian roadblock near the city of Nablus to make an unauthorized visit to the site. He was 25 and the father of four.

The shooting was condemned as "unjustified" by Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak. He said the fact that the Israelis did not have permission to be in the area of Joseph's tomb did not warrant their shooting.

"An Israeli civilian was killed and four others injured after entering Joseph's Tomb in Nablus un-permitted," read a statement from the Israel Defense Forces.

"Palestinian officials have notified [Israeli] officials that the civilians were shot by a Palestinian policeman who, after identifying suspicious movements, fired at their direction," the statement continued.

The two sides agreed to meet to investigate to matter.

"A coordination error does not justify this type of incident and the shooting of innocent people," Barak said in a statement.

The incident took place in a zone deemed Area A - in which Palestinians "[assume the powers and responsibilities for internal security and public order.](#)"

However, many Jews see the West Bank as an integral part of biblical Israel, referring to it as Judea and Samaria.

There have been numerous attacks against Israeli civilians in the West Bank in recent months. Most horrific was the killing of five members of the [Fogel family](#) in March.