

Bedouin Heroes of October 7: Yussef Alziadna & the Alqrinawi Family

STORIES OF BRAVERY



Yussef Alziadna, a Bedouin Israeli resident of Rahat, is a mini-bus driver. On October 7, he rescued 30 people, all Jewish Israelis, from the Nova Festival, dodging bullets and veering off-road to bring them to safety.

“I stared death in the face, But I knew I couldn’t give up on my missions. I will go and rescue them. I had an option to go back. A weaker man may have done a U-turn at that junction. But I said no way, I will throw myself at death if it means I can save lives. People is all that we have. We are all we have. Each other. We have to take care of each other.” “As a human, we’re all people, we’re one nation. I never saw the difference between a Jew or an Arab or a Christian. We’re all human no matter what.”

https://x.com/Isaac_Herzog/status/1717529458054230070?s=20

On October 7, four cousins -Dahesh, Ismail, Hamed, and Rafi - Alkrenawi - from the Bedouin city of Rahat drove to save one family member on Kibbutz Beerri, but ultimately saved dozens of Israeli lives in the area.

“Our conscience wouldn’t allow us to leave them there, under fire. Before we went to evacuate our cousin, we helped many other people who were at the party... we evacuated at least 30-40 people who were at the party”
(Ismail Alqrinawi)

“To contribute and help is a duty. We’re a single nation. We have to live in peace”
(Hisham Alkarnawi)

“Write this down. This is very important for people to know: What happened there is not the Muslim religion. The Quran, our religion, our tradition, asks from us to help people, whether they are Jews or Arabs. This is not our religion that asks them to do this.”
(Dahesh Alkarnawi)



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In February, 12 prizes were awarded at a tribute was held in Jerusalem to honor Bedouin heroes in Jerusalem.

MK Avi Dichter in his speech said: “No one in Israel even knows how many Israelis are alive today thanks to you. I bet you don’t even know, because you rescued people without keeping score. You didn’t count. You didn’t ask for ID. You didn’t ask if they were Bedouin or Jewish, foreign or Israeli, man or woman, soldier or civilian ... you just went into that hell to pull people out. And after you got out the first time and knew exactly what you were returning to ... but you returned anyway.”

Activity Idea:

Design an award to be given to a Bedouin hero. Your award must include:

- 1) relevant quote or verse
- 2) name of chosen recipient
- 3) description of their acts of heroism
- 4) who you think the certificate should be signed by and
- 5) an emblem that you think symbolizes heroism

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This certificate is awarded to _____
for _____
presented by _____