

Norway's Muslims' efforts to protect the Oslo Synagogue Accords with Adnan Oktar's views of co-existence of Muslims and Jews



Young Muslims to Protect Oslo Synagogue as Jews Pray in Norway

A 17-year-old has rallied hundreds of young Muslims in Oslo to protect Jews as they pray in synagogue this Saturday.

By: Hana Levi Julian

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The Oslo Synagogue, built in 1920. The congregation was established earlier, in 1892.

Photo Credit: Grzegorz Wysocki / Wikimedia Commons

A 17-year-old Muslim teen has rallied hundreds of young Muslims in Oslo who say they plan to protect Jews as they pray on Sabbath in synagogue this Saturday. The group says they'll form a "peace ring" around the Jewish house of worship in the Norwegian capital.

Hajrad Arshad told state broadcaster *NRK* she initially called for 30 volunteers. Instead, at least 630 have risen to the challenge. She and her six co-organizers are part of a Facebook discussion forum called URETT AVSLØRES, "Injustice Revealed."

Kohn said the synagogue agreed to the initiative as long as more than 30 young Muslims showed up – because otherwise, “it may seem counterproductive. “But if you fill Bergstien (the street on which the synagogue is located),” he added, “it will be very good.”

Arshad told *Vårt Land* the group had decided on the project both as “fellow human beings and Muslims in Norway, to show that Muslims distance themselves from the anti-Semitism which Jews encounter daily.”

In a statement on the group’s Facebook, they write that “Islam is to rise above hate and never sink at the same level as the haters. [We as] Muslims wish to show that we take deep exception to all forms of hatred of Jews and that we are there to support them. This is why we shall be forming a human ring around the synagogue.”

Contrary to the poison spewed from countless televised and live sermons by radical Islamist imams in mosques around the world daily, not all forms of Islam are malignant, nor do all Islamic scholars or clerics preach hatred.

Turkish Islamic scholar Adnan Oktar warned Muslims to protect Jews and their synagogues as far back as 2008. “The world ‘Israel’ is the name of Prophet Ya’qub (Jacob), peace be upon him, who is praised in the Qu’ran and remembered with great respect by Muslims,” Oktar writes. “The Magen David (Star of David), a symbol associated with King David is a holy symbol for us too. According to Qu’ran 22:40, Muslims must protect synagogues because they are places of worship. So why should members of the two religions not live together in peace?”

Oktar also warns Jews must “act in accordance with the moral valued and character of the King Messiah as revealed in the Torah... Judaic sources describe how the King Messiah will be a just person who protects the weak, honest, loving and peaceful... and make the world a place where everyone lives together as brothers in peace and security.” His writings on Muslim co-existence with Jews and other topics are **translated into Norwegian in a special section of his website**. For his advocacy, Oktar has been vilified by numerous radical Muslim extremists and more than a few skeptical Jews as well.

The largest independent weekly Jewish newspaper based in the United States, The Jewish Press, published an article titled “Young Muslims to Protect Oslo Synagogue as Jews Pray in Norway” by the journalist and Middle East news analyst Hana Levi Julian on February 18, 2015.

In this article, Hana Levi Julian writes about the Peace Ring formed by the Muslim and Jewish community of Norway to protect the Oslo Synagogue after the anti-semitic attacks against various Jewish centers and residences across Europe.

In this article Hana Levi conveys Mr. Adnan Oktar’s views stating that Muslims and Jews must co-exist. According to the Qur'an, the places of worship of Christians and Jews must be protected. Here is an excerpt from the article:

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