**Police: Palestinian shot in self-defense**

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Police said Thursday that a man, apparently a settler, who shot and killed a 19-year old Palestinian Thursday in the West Bank, had been attacked by a group of Arabs and was acting in self defense.

The man has not yet been identified and police are not sure of his whereabouts.

A police investigation has concluded that the shooter, who was armed with a gun, was walking alone on a path near the village of Iraq Burin when he was attacked.

The man tried to ward off his assailants, but one of them approached him with a stone, police said. He fired a single shot and fled the scene. The victim has been identified as Udai Maher Qadous.

Ynet has learned that the police are relying on testimony given by one of the Arab youths, as well as footage from an IDF security camera at the scene.

The Samaria Settlers' Committee responded by stating, "Today it was once again proven that Arab blood libels against Jews are automatically adopted by leftist organizations that incite against settlers. After it was proved that this was self-defense, we expect everyone to apologize."

Samaria Regional Council head Gershon Mesika said, "I am glad police exposed today the truth behind the Arab plot. Unfortunately these plots are usually made public in a manner that harms and libels the Jewish population."

Yitzhar spokesman Avraham Binyamin responded to the report as well. "The police announcement proves once again that the Arabs have blood on their hands. The hands of the extreme leftist organizations are filthy as well, for touting Arab blood libels," he said.

Palestinian sources presented a different version, however. They claim settlers from Yitzhar came to the village and began assaulting people. At some stage they opened fire and killed a resident, sources say.

Head of Iraq Burin's local council, Abd al-Rahim Kadus, told Ynet his version. "Udai Qadous went with his cousin to the fields near the village. The fields are located underneath the settlement of Har Bracha, and at some stage shots were fired at them from the settlement. The shots wounded him in the chest. Then the settlers came down, beat them, and fled," he said.