**Bomber went to West Bank for a better life**

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Saeed Hotari, 22, one of nine children from a poor Palestinian family living in Jordan, is believed to be the man who killed himself and 19 Israeli teenagers in a Tel Aviv disco on Friday. This has not yet been confirmed officially.

"I am very happy and proud of what my son did and I hope all the men of Palestine and Jordan would do the same," Hassan Hotari said yesterday, with tears in his eyes.

At the entrance of a narrow street leading to hi home in Zarqa, a predominantly Palestinian city 17 miles north-east of the capital, Amman, signs directed people to the home of "martyr Saeed Hotari".

Plainclothes security officers outside the house prevented reporters entering. But scores of mourners were seen visiting the two-storey building.

Saeed's oldest brother, Hussein, declined to say much when asked if his brother had political affiliations with Muslim militant groups such as Hamas.

"I don't know. He was very religious since he was young; he prayed and fasted. All I can say is God have mercy on his soul," he said.

Hassan Hotari said he had little information about his son, because he has been away for two years. An electrician, he left Jordan two years ago to look for a better job, and lived with his brother in the West Bank town of Qalqilya, he said.

"If he was affiliated with anybody, it could have been a secret and he would not have told anybody ... me, or his mother and friends."

He lashed out at Israel, saying its hardline policies were prompting many young Arab men to become militant.

"We wanted peace, but they have been playing around. Israel has left us no choice, except this [militant] path," he said.

His neighbour Issam Isteteh described Saeed as "a good man who used to spend time in praying in the mosque, but he is not the kind who would think of harming anyone else."

He said he was a good friend of Fadi Amer, a Palestinian who blew himself up near Qalqilya on March 28, killing two Israelis. He declined to say where his information came from. AP