

Priests Trained to Enter Holy of Holies for First Time in Millennia

For the first time in 2,000 years, a group of Kohanim (men of the Jewish priestly caste) living close to Jerusalem's Old City are studying the relevant Jewish laws to be able to ascend the Temple Mount and enter the Holy of Holies, where God's presence is said to dwell.

This development was initiated by Israel's first responder organization ZAKA, based on a decision by the ZAKA Rabbinical Council following an event occurring during the three weeks of austerity leading up to the Ninth Day of Av: the July 14 Palestinian terror attack against Israeli police officers that left three dead including the terrorist. This event was the most powerful source of ritual impurity on the Temple Mount, the holiest site in Judaism.

Horrific as the attack was, one Temple activist said it may have served a divine purpose. "When the Jewish people are not moving ahead quickly enough, God does something to force it upon us," Yaakov Hayman, a prominent Temple Mount activist and expert, told *Breaking Israel News*. "When those Arabs did what they did, they created a new situation on the ground. We weren't preparing for it, so something happened that forced us to deal with it."

To read the rest of this article, visit [here](#). {eo}