

# How Israel tried to pin blame for Bondi Beach shooting on Iran

## PERSPECTIVE

A deadly shooting at a Jewish festival near Sydney's Bondi Beach on December 14 is being blamed by some Israeli officials on Iran, despite no evidence connecting the suspects to Tehran.

A father and son of Indian origin have been named as chief suspects in the attack, with authorities looking at possible ideological motivations, with paraphernalia from Daesh group, also known as the Islamic State (IS), allegedly found at the site.

Despite this, Israel has alleged an Iranian role in the attack, which left 15 people dead, even though Tehran and IS are sworn enemies. Plus, the former is inspired by Shia Muslim theology and the latter from the Salafi Jihadist school of Sunni Islam.

Israeli officials have told some local media outlets that they believe "Iranian-backed foreign terror cells" could be behind the attack, including Hezbollah, Hamas, and Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba.

"It was extremely well organised by a coordinated group, and from way ahead of time, and the amount of ammunition and long-range weapons all point to this," one security source told The Telegraph.

Israeli media have also promoted the idea of Iranian involvement in the attacks, with analysts presenting several scenarios and

possible Israeli responses if this proved true, but presenting little or no evidence to support their theories.

Another source told FOX News that Israeli intelligence gave "concrete warnings" to Australian authorities months ago about potential state-sponsored attacks on Australia's Jewish communities, with Iran named as a suspect.

Canberra also expelled Iran's ambassador in August, alleging that the country was involved in two anti-semitic arson attacks in Australia last year, but Tehran strongly denies the claims.

Despite this, Australian authorities appear to be investigating possible links to the Sunni extremist group IS, with no indication of an Iranian role in the attack.

Two flags associated with IS were found at the massacre site and linked to the two suspects - 50-year-old Sajid Akram, who was shot dead by police, and his 24-year-old son Naveed Akram, who is in hospital under police guard.

Naveed came to the attention of Australian intelligence in 2019 following his connection to two men jailed for foiled IS attacks. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese last week confirmed that the Bondi Beach massacre suspect was previously monitored for six months by intelligence before agents concluded he was not a threat.



Police inspect the horrific scene of a mass shooting at Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia, on December 15, 2025.  
DAVID GRAY/AFP

Naveed was reportedly close to alleged extremists in Australia, such as Isaac El Matari, a self-declared "IS emir".

His father, Sajid, was originally from India, but had spent most of his time in Australia since entering on a tourism visa in 1998, authorities have said. He had a license for a number of rifles, which were used for hunting, according to reports.

Both Sajid and his son visited the Philippines in November for around three weeks, and police in both countries are investigating possible links to this trip and the attacks, with IS being active there. There is no indication yet linking the Bondi Beach attack to an organised terror operation, and police are still investigating the case to see possible motives and connections behind the killings.

Regardless of any political motivations behind the attacks, Australia is now rushing through gun laws to restrict access to firearms, while a Muslim Syrian, Ahmed Al-Ahmed, has been hailed for saving many lives after he bravely confronted one of the gunmen.

The article first appeared on The New Arab.



The Indian gunmen draped a Daesh (Islamic State) flag over their car before starting their bloody attack at Bondi Beach, Sydney, Australia, on December 14, 2025.  
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Father-son gunmen, Sajid and Naveed Akram, commit the Bondi Beach massacre on December 14, 2025.  
SCREENGAB

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## Gaza genocide: Australian Jews, massacre at the beach



By Jeremy Salt  
Expert on Mideast history

### OPINION

In the backwash of the Sydney massacre, numerous questions arise, puzzling and otherwise. One, which readers of PC may be able to solve for this writer, is who shot Ahmad al-Ahmad?

Ahmad was the man who tackled one of the gunmen, wrestled him to the ground, and disarmed him. He pointed the gun at the gunman but didn't fire, resting it against a tree as the gunman stumbled off.

In the context of this confrontation, the BBC said that he was shot "multiple times". Al Ja-

zeera reported that he was shot "during the incident". Social media reports had him being shot by "another gunman" (not the other gunman). Yeshiva World quoted his relatives as saying, "he suffered two gunshot wounds in his arm during the confrontation ... his injuries were sustained by stopping the attacker."

However, the most interesting remarks were made by his former immigration lawyer, Sam Issa, after visiting Ahmad in the hospital. "He's having multiple surgeries," he said. "It's a serious injury, far more serious than has been reported. Doctors have yet to remove a bullet from the back of Mr. Ahmad's shoulder." Issa described Ahmad's wounds as "weird ... given the fact that

he was facing the shooter, how could he get a bullet in the back of his shoulder? It's strange."

Whether fired from the back or penetrating from the front, we don't know, but from the video, no shots were fired during the struggle. At no stage was the gun pointed at Ahmad. He pushed it down, and it stayed down all the time. Mobile phone videos lingered on Ahmad well after the struggle, but there is no video of Ahmad being shot then, several times, according to reports.

The surviving gunman and his father are of Indian Muslim ethnic background. The father came to Australia from Hyderabad 27 years ago and has returned only on a few occasions. The black flag seen stretched

inside the windscreen of their car is widely used by takfiri Muslims, and is not necessarily evidence of attachment to the Daesh, also known as the Islamic State (IS). The two men had visited the Philippines, leading to speculation that they were in contact with IS, but there is no evidence of this yet.

The presumption is that the motive for the massacre was Israel's onslaught on Gaza. There is another interesting aspect in view of the Indian connection. The Sydney festival was organized by the Chabad Lubavitch sect, whose Mumbai centre was attacked by militant Pakistanis in November 2008. Six people were killed, including three rabbis. The attack was general,

but the Chabad house and synagogue, frequently visited by Israeli backpackers, were singled out as a target.

Fifteen people were killed in Sydney, including one child. One gunman, the father, was killed by police. The son was wounded and is now under police guard in the hospital. He has refused to be interviewed by the police, so his motives are not known. This was a murderous attack on a vulnerable community far from the Middle East, but Israel is a self-proclaimed Jewish entity, and while some Jews have separated themselves from Israel and Zionism because of the genocide, others still support it. Israel has sought to implicate all Jews in its activities from the

very beginning. The symbol of a religion flies from the pennants of the tanks destroying Gaza and the West Bank. It is a decal on the wings of aircraft firing missiles into high-rise office and apartment blocks in Gaza.

It is drawn on the walls of the devastated and defiled homes in Gaza and the West Bank by triumphant soldiers, along with the same kind of abuse of Arabs now being scrawled on the walls of Sydney against Jews.

Netanyahu advocates and justifies mass murder on the basis of the ancient Jewish past, as depicted in the Bible. West Bank settlers speak as Jews first when violating international law. As Jews responsible only to God and the promise of Abraham,