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## **Swedish imam fined for calling Jews the 'offspring of apes and pigs'**

By Marcy Oster

Jewish Telegraphic Agency (3.09.2019) - <https://bit.ly/2kupZUC> - A Swedish imam was fined about \$305 for hate speech for calling Jews the "offspring of apes and pigs" during an anti-Israel demonstration two years ago.

Samir el Rifai of Helsingborg made the statement in Arabic in response to Israel limiting prayer at the Al-Aqsa mosque after two Israel Police officers were killed there.

"There is no prophet against whom those who are the progeny of monkeys and pigs have not made evil plans against. They did it to all prophets and to all nations, this has also affected our prophet, peace be upon him," el Rifai said at the July 2017 demonstration organized by the Swedish-Palestinian Centre, the Swedish newspaper Expressen reported.

His statements were reported to police by the Jewish Assembly in Helsingborg.

The imam told the Helsingborg District Court at his trial in May that his statements referred to the State of Israel and not all Jews — an argument the court did not accept as valid, saying that the word Jew is not the same as the State of Israel.

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## **Imam attacked Jews during speech – prosecuted**

***Helsingborgs imam, Samir El Rifai, attacked Jews and called them "offspring of the monkeys and pigs" during a speech at Gustav Adolf's square in Helsingborg.***

Tundratabloids.com (10.05.2019) - <http://bit.ly/2Hqp3cJ> - he incident was reported to the police, among others by the Jewish congregation in Helsingborg.

Now Samir El Rifai is being prosecuted for hate against an ethnic group.

Samir El Rifai was at the time of the speech working at a mosque in Helsingborg. He held the controversial speech on July 21 two years ago, in connection with a demonstration organized by the Swedish-Palestinian Center in protest against Israel limiting the possibility of entering the al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem.

During the speech, Samir El Rifai will make several anti-Semitic statements. He has said, among other things, that Jews are the apes and the offspring of the swine and that the Jews are not waiting to deceive, they have done so against several peoples, and also against Mohammed's people.

After the speech, three police reports were filed on incitement to the ethnic group. One of the notifications was made by the Jewish congregation in Helsingborg.

It is especially worrying when a religious leader expresses himself, Josefin Thorell, chairman of the Jewish congregation in northwestern Scania, has previously said to Kvällsposten.