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Israeli MP takes electric saw to school gate in Arab town (VIDEO)

Far-right lawmaker Zvi Suktot sparked chaos in Tuba-Zangariyye after being denied entry to the facility

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A visit by a far-right lawmaker to an Arab town in northern Israel has sparked controversy after local leaders accused him of staging a political provocation and sought to block the trip.

Knesset Education Committee chairman Zvi Suktot of the Religious Zionism party traveled to Tuba-Zangariyye last week under heavy police protection to



Zvi Suktot. © Getty Images / Anadolu / Contributor

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discuss what he described as *“crime and violence”* in the local education system.

The leaders of the predominantly Bedouin Arab town in the Galilee region, however, made clear he was not welcome, calling the trip a *“racist”* political stunt rather than an educational tour, and locked the gates of a local school ahead of his arrival. After being denied entry, Sukkot was filmed using an electric saw during a confrontation outside the school, and the footage quickly went viral.

“What we least expected was for a member of the Israeli Knesset and the chairman of Israel’s Education Committee to behave in such a way,” Tuba-Zangariyye council head Muayyad Haib told RT, describing the visit as *“extremely provocative”* and saying it left some children *“terrified.”*

Haib said residents opposed the visit because of Sukkot’s previous statements and actions toward the community, adding that the lawmaker proceeded with the trip despite the repeated objections of local officials.

Sukkot has defended his actions and vowed to push for cuts to state funding for schools, arguing that the State of Israel should not invest *“even one shekel”* in such an education system.

The incident has fueled a wider political row, with critics accusing Sukkot of seeking confrontation for political gain.

RT’s Charlotte Dubenskij takes a closer look at the events.

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