3 Jews Are Attacked in a Paris Suburb

By <u>CRAIG S. SMITH</u> March 7, 2006 New York Times

PARIS, March 6 — Three attacks against Jews over the weekend have added to anxiety that anti-Semitism is growing among a new generation of French citizens in the country's immigrant-heavy, working-class neighborhoods.

The police said two young men, 17 and 18, were attacked late Friday by black and Arab youths in the northern Paris suburb of Sarcelles, home to a large number of Jewish families. The attackers broke the nose of one victim, a rabbi's son, and stole the cellphone of the other.

On Saturday, a 28-year-old Jewish man was beaten in the same suburb by youths who made anti-Semitic remarks. He suffered a dislocated shoulder. Four people are being questioned in the Saturday attack, the police said.

"Anti-Semitism is rising in our country," Dominique Strauss-Kahn, a legislator representing Sarcelles, said after a meeting in which Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy spoke with the victims of the attacks.

<u>France</u> is still absorbing the torture and killing last month of Ilan Halimi, a 23-year-old Jewish man.

His death has focused attention on a virulent anti-Semitism that has grown since the start of the Palestinians' second intifada against Israel. Many of the youths in the country's working-class neighborhoods are from Muslim families and have taken the Palestinian conflict onto the streets at home.

The police have increased patrols around synagogues in the suburbs north of Paris.

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