

# Akko, Israel Arab~Jewish relationship healing

<http://sulha.com/>

October 16-17, 2008





### **Impressions of a listening circle organizer:**

I found Akko a city where people really live together.

They are proud to say that it's the most integrated city for Jews and Arabs.

Many say it was some youth who were stupid to begin a fight which started the whole mess.

The people all have a real wish to keep living together in peace.

The socio-economic situation in the city is not so good.

Many are having difficulties making a living, and it's increasing the tension while people blame each other for the situation.

I guess Arabs have fewer options for work and development, but many I talk to believe this can be changed and above all want to live together in peace.

In the listening circles we did in Akko, people really could express their pain.

It was amazing how others were really listening.

I was inviting Jews and Arabs from the street to come, and many just came in to the circles and participated.

Also, many people came from outside of Akko to share their hope for peace and to show they care.

All the circles we had were very deep and honest.

We all felt we were really doing something important for Akko and the peace, so everybody was listening deeply and really talking from their hearts.

I believe Akko has an amazing potential to be a model for many cities and places for people to live in peace.