

3 Hurt as Supporters of Mustaqbal, al-Taqwa Clash in Tariq al-Jedideh

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An armed clash erupted on Tuesday between al-Mustaqbal Movement and al-Taqwa Islamic Social Association in the al-Tamlis Alleyway in Beirut's Tariq al-Jedideh, state-run National News Agency reported.

"A personal dispute erupted into an exchange of gunfire between supporters of al-Mustaqbal Movement and al-Taqwa Association in al-Tamlis Alleway, leaving two people wounded," NNA said.

Later on Tuesday, the Army Command issued a statement saying "a dispute over personal reasons between citizens in the Abu Shaker Square in Tariq al-Jedideh erupted into a fistfight and an exchange of gunfire with light assault weapons, leaving three people wounded."

"Subsequently, the army units that are deployed in the area intervened and cordoned off the scene of the incident and raided the houses of the shooters who fled to unknown destinations," the statement added.

"Normalcy has been restored and army units continue to hunt the perpetrators in order to arrest them and refer them to the relevant judicial authorities," the statement noted.

Al-Jadeed television said two wounded men were transported to the nearby Makassed Hospital.

Al-Tagwa leader Abed Alawiyyeh is close to prominent, Tripoli-based Salafist cleric Dai al-Islam al-Shahhal.

In the wake of the attack on Sunni clerics Sheikh Mazen Hariri and Sheikh Maher Fakhran in Khandaq al-Ghamiq on March 17, around 30 members of the association took to the streets and started chanting "The people want the declaration of jihad."