

Arab child saves 5 Israelis in death

By URI DAN

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JERUSALEM — A 9-year-old Palestinian boy who died in a traffic accident helped save the lives of five Israelis with transplants of his organs.

The family of Amin Salhuth decided to offer his heart, lungs, kidneys and liver because it was his fate to help anyone, regardless of their faith.

"For us, there is no difference between Jews and Arabs," said Amin's uncle, Jamil Salhuth.

"We are sure of the destiny of our son. It was written that he would die and that others would be healthy because of his body parts."

Amin suffered critical injuries more than a week ago in a car accident in his east Jerusalem village of Jabel Mukaber.

He was rushed to Hadassah Medical Center,



Ata Awisatt

AMIN SALHUTH
Organs donated.

but on Wednesday doctors told relatives that the boy was clinically brain dead.

"We told the doctors that if there are patients who might be helped by his body parts, we agreed to it as an act of humanity," Jamil Salhuth said. "We said

we'd like to see people getting healthy despite the sadness about our boy."

Amin didn't die in vain because his parts were successfully transplanted into five patients facing death:

His heart was given to a 6-year-old boy at Shiba Hospital in the center of Israel.

■ His lungs were given to a 29-year-old man at Beilinson Hospital near Tel Aviv — a rare operation because it involved transplanting organs from a child into an adult.

■ His kidneys were transplanted into an 11-year-old and a 13-year-old boy at Schneider Children's Medical Center, where a 15-year-old boy received Amin's liver.