

# Hezbollah and Lebanon After Nasrallah

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*Many expected Hezbollah to dissolve into disarray after its leader, **Hassan Nasrallah**, was assassinated on September 27 by Israeli airstrikes, but Hezbollah fights on in Lebanon and has increased its attacks on Israel since Nasrallah's death. Nasrallah's death motivated the armed fighters to avenge the death of their charismatic leader who began his leadership in 1992.*

Israel announced on October 27, that [five of the IDF were killed](#) in Lebanon fighting Hezbollah, bringing to 37 the death toll for soldiers fighting there since the start of ground operations in Southern Lebanon on September 30.

According to the BBC, [eight IDF were killed fighting Hezbollah](#) inside Lebanon on October 3, marking Israel's first losses in Lebanon.

According to [Hezbollah sources](#), the number of IDF killed is 90, with 750 injured. The equipment losses are 38 Merkava tanks, 4 wheel loaders, 1 hummer, 1 armored vehicle, 1 troop transport, 3 drones, 3 Hermes 450, and 1 Hermes 900. These equipment losses are the result of hand-to-hand combat and do not include Hezbollah attacks on Israeli military bases.

According to the Lebanese Health Ministry, at least [2,672 people have been killed and 12,468 injured in Lebanon](#). Political analysts have thought there will be no ceasefire in either Gaza or Lebanon until after the US election next week. With the Oval Office flying on autopilot, Netanyahu has a fully charged green light to pursue his military goals at the expense of the US taxpayer.

Image [source](#)



US Special Envoy, **Amos Hochstein**, has been on a shuttle diplomacy mission to secure a ceasefire in Lebanon. He is trying to sell a [US-Israeli deal that will strip Hezbollah of](#)

[weapons](#), and put the Lebanese Army in southern Lebanon, while Hezbollah withdraws its forces north of the Litani River.

Hochstein is in Tel Aviv today, and [officials in Beirut are awaiting](#) his next visit.

The current and ongoing conflict is referred to as the Third Lebanon War, following Israeli invasions in 1982 and 2006 that proved to be failures for Israel militarily. The 1982 Israeli invasion, the Hezbollah resistance group, as a response to the brutal Israeli occupation of the south of Lebanon lasted from 1982 to 2000. It was the resistance that was successful in driving out the Israeli occupation army, but a small area on the border, Shebaa Farms, remains occupied by Israel.

Hezbollah has vowed to stop all attacks on Israel if a ceasefire is agreed on in Gaza, where 40,000 Palestinians have been killed, with at least half identified as women and children. The suffering in Lebanon is connected to the suffering in Gaza.

From the outset of violence beginning on October 7, 2023, the US and the international community have been urging a ceasefire in Gaza to release the hostages, and to end the genocide in Gaza. Israeli **Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu** opposed a ceasefire because he had not yet realized a military goal. He intends to complete the ethnic cleansing of Gaza by removing all Palestinians remaining from Gaza, and to eliminate all Hamas leaders, fighters, and weapons. Israeli families of the hostages have demanded their government make a deal to release the hostages, but Netanyahu will not bend. He is willing to have his citizens pay the price in blood for his plan to annex Gaza. To Netanyahu, and his co-conspirators, **Bezalel Smotrich** and **Itamar Ben Gvir**, the end justifies the means. Netanyahu and his supporters, like the US government, will argue the death and destruction in Gaza and Lebanon is justified to bring security to the Israeli people. But, security experts will say there can be no security in Israel without the security of the Palestinian people.

Without a home and human rights, the Palestinian people, and their supporters, will continue to fight for freedom and self-determination regardless of how high the walls are. Experts in Lebanon point out that Israel and the US have miscalculated the effect of the paggers and walkie-talkie explosions on September 17 and 18. The enemies of Hezbollah were sure this would be the Lebanese resistance group's downfall.

The collective 'West' has not understood the ideology of resistance to the Israeli occupation of Palestine. The ideology of resistance doesn't belong to a certain group, religion, or country. It is across the Middle East, spanning Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Gaza, and the Occupied West Bank.

Iran and Turkey are also pro-Palestinian and support the resistance, though they are not part of the Arab world. Lebanon is about 43% Christian and 57% Muslim. The support for the resistance is found across religious groups. The detractors of Hezbollah feel Lebanon should not link itself to the cause of resistance, and should decouple its political agenda from supporting the people in Gaza and the Occupied West Bank. Those who oppose Hezbollah may support the cause of resistance but oppose the costs brought to bear by the Lebanese people.

The members of the UN who have voted against Israel and the US represent the majority of countries, and peoples of the globe. Israel and the US are an isolated partnership on the global diplomatic stage. Hezbollah is a Lebanese Shia Islamist political party and resistance

group. Its military wing is the Jihad Council, and its political wing is the Loyalty to the Resistance Bloc party in the Lebanese Parliament.

Before October 7, 2023, its armed strength was assessed to be equivalent to that of a medium-sized army. There is only one solution to dismantling Hezbollah, Hamas, or any other Pro-Palestinian resistance group.

The UN resolution, which is decades old and gathering dust, is the two-state solution with Israel respecting the 1967 borders with Palestine, and handing back the Golan Heights to Syria, and the Shebaa Farms to Lebanon. The call for resistance will be over globally if the two-state solution is realized.

When the occupation of Palestine is ended, and Israelis and Palestinians can live side by side with equal rights, then both communities will be secure, peaceful, and prosperous. Until that day, the Israeli people will never be secure, because their neighbors are not secure.

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