

Lebanon Elections: Hezbollah and Allies Gain a Parliamentary Majority

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

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Lebanese parliamentary elections didn't turn out the way Washington and Israel wanted.

The May 6 general election was the first in nine years. Results were as follows:

Hezbollah and its allies won a 67-seat majority of parliament's 128 seats – equally divided between Muslims and Christians.

The right-wing Christian Lebanese Forces was the biggest winner in Sunday elections, nearly doubling its number of parliamentary seats from 8 to 15.

Hezbollah has 13. Its allies made significant gains, including the Shiite Amal Movement and **President Michel Aoun's Christian Free Patriotic Movement.**

The Hezbollah-linked broadsheet Al-Akbhar headlined "The Slap," featuring a dour-looking **Prime Minister Saad Hariri**. Iran's Tasnim news agency headlined "Lebanese election result puts an end to Hariri's monopoly among Sunnis."

His Future Movement alliance lost a third of its seats, yet remains the largest parliamentary Sunni bloc. He'll likely remain prime minister, considerably weakened post-election.

For the first time, a proportionally representative system was in place, replacing the winner-take-all one, permitting more independent candidates to participate. Turnout was low at 49%.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman **Bahram Qasemi** issued a statement, saying

"Lebanon is an independent country...Iran respects (the) vote of the Lebanese people...We are ready to work with...the government elected by the majority."

Islamophobe Israeli minister **Naftali Bennett** tweeted:

“Hezbollah = Lebanon...Israel will not differentiate between the sovereign State of Lebanon and Hezbollah, and will view Lebanon as responsible for any action from within its territory.”

Hezbollah leader **Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah** called parliamentary results a “political and moral victory” for the resistance.

In a televised address, he said the electoral “mission is accomplished,” giving Hezbollah and its allies power to veto legislation they consider unacceptable.

A unity cabinet is likely to be formed, including Hezbollah. It’s falsely designated a terrorist organization by the State Department, at the behest of Israel, its tail too often wagging the US dog on regional issues.

Under Lebanon’s confessional system, the president must be a Maronite Christian, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim, and the parliament speaker a Shia Muslim.

Western favorite Hariri will likely remain prime minister, but the balance of power now favors Hezbollah and its allies.

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My newest book as editor and contributor is titled “Flashpoint in Ukraine: How the US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III.”

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