

# The Washington Times

## Netanyahu says Nasrallah's killing was essential for Israel to achieve its war goals

By Associated Press - Saturday, September 28, 2024

BEIRUT — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says assassinating Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah became an “essential condition” for Israel to achieve its war goals.

In his first public remarks since the killing, Netanyahu said Saturday that the killings of other top Hezbollah commanders was not enough and he decided Nasrallah also needed to be killed.

He blamed Nasrallah for being “the architect” of a plan to “annihilate” Israel.

Lebanon's Hezbollah group confirmed on Saturday that its leader and one of its founding members, Hassan Nasrallah, was killed in an Israeli airstrike in a southern suburb of Beirut.

[...]

**Orna Mizrahi, a senior researcher at the Tel Aviv-based think tank Institute for National Security Studies and former intelligence analyst for the Israeli military and prime minister's office,** noted that Nasrallah was sometimes a “voice of reason,” interested in engaging Israel in a war of attrition and holding the militant group back from using the full force of their formidable arsenal against Israel.

Nasrallah's death could prompt some less senior members of Hezbollah to unleash much stronger weapons than have been used in the nearly yearlong exchange of hostilities, Mizrahi said. The biggest question mark right now, though, is how Iran will respond.

She said Nasrallah's death could provide a window of opportunity - while the organization is significantly weakened - for Lebanon to dilute Hezbollah's influence, especially in the south, that threatens to drag Lebanon into a full-scale war with Israel.

...

*For full article:*

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2024/sep/28/netanyahu-says-nasrallahs-killing-was-essential-fo/>