

## **What the killing of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah could mean for Israel and wars on its borders**

Hassan Nasrallah's death in Israeli airstrike could upend strategic situation in Middle East

Chris Brown CBC News · Posted: Sep 28, 2024 | Last Updated: September 30

Hezbollah has confirmed its leader for three decades, Hassan Nasrallah, was killed in an Israeli airstrike in Lebanon on Friday and vows to continue the battle against Israel.

The killing of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah is undoubtedly the highest-profile assassination carried out by Israel.

Far less equivocal is how the death of Israel's arch-foe will change the dynamics of the country's numerous confrontations with adversaries on its borders that the charismatic leader of the Lebanon-based Shia militant group either commanded or lent his support to.

"This is not the first political leader assassinated in the Middle East, and this has never stopped anything or fixed anything at all," said Dimitri Diliiani, a Palestinian activist from East Jerusalem and a spokesperson for the Fatah Reformist Democratic Faction.

An Israeli observer framed it differently, but nonetheless, echoed a similar note of caution.

"It's a major blow," said **Yoram Schweitzer, a former Israeli lieutenant-colonel and intelligence officer who's now with the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)**, an Israeli think-tank.

"But I don't want to underestimate the capability of Hezbollah to try to recover because it has large depots of ammunition and [the organization] is still not destroyed."

[...]

Schweitzer, a senior research fellow at **INSS**, said killing Nasrallah could lessen the chance of Israeli soldiers crossing the border.

"If Israel ... is effective and continues with these kinds of successes and hitting these targets, it may reduce the need for a ground manoeuvre, definitely not a deep one," he told CBC News in an interview.

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