

## Cadence, tone, inflection and topics: What characterized Nasrallah's speeches?

Hassan Nasrallah's speeches were characterized by their structured nature and emotional delivery, as he carefully detailed agenda points and repeated key ideas; His presentations often included slow, calm speech punctuated by moments of raised voice for emphasis, evoking strong reactions from his audience

## Lior Ben Ari / Oct. 5, 2024

The recently-slain Hassan Nasrallah was known for his speeches, which Israel closely monitored. These speeches, sometimes fiery, ended with his elimination, concluding years of lengthy broadcasts since the Second Lebanon War. These speeches were shown on giant screens to his supporters, who reacted as directed by their leader from his bunker.

[...]

"Nasrallah taught us to take his speeches seriously, and we followed him blindly. It became a ritual. Nasrallah speaks, and everyone rushes to read, interpret, and explain," said **Orna Mizrahi, former deputy head of the National Security Council and a senior researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies**. "Nasrallah created a certain clarity for us. You could read the speeches, understand what he wanted, the directions, and the strategy. Now we need to learn anew where to find the signs of the organization's strategy if there is one at all."

Mizrahi said that in her view, the appearances of Nasrallah that will be remembered are mainly the "Spider Web" speech in May 2000, after the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon, and the 2006 interview after the Second Lebanon War, where he said that if he had known what the abduction of Ehud Goldwasser and Eldad Regev would lead to, Hezbollah would not have carried it out.

Nasrallah, as Mizrahi described, didn't just deliver speeches—he also occasionally gave interviews to channels associated with his terror organization. In July 2022, marking 40 years of Hezbollah, he was interviewed by the Al-Mayadeen channel and spoke about the "end of Israel," envisioning a future where people would be seen with suitcases heading to airports, ports, and border crossings with Egypt and Jordan. Nasrallah claimed then that Israel is an "entity with no future" and asserted that it wouldn't take 40 years for this to happen.

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