

# MP: Israel seeks to expand scope of war in region, world



By Sadeq Dehqan  
Staff Writer

## INTERVIEW

An Iranian parliamentarian said that Israel's efforts to escape the impasse in Gaza have led it to pursue a broader conflict in the region and beyond.

"Israel is currently seeking to expand the scope of the war in the region and the world in order to extricate itself from the quagmire it has become entangled in in Gaza," said the Deputy Chairman of the Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee.

In an interview with Iran Daily, Abbas Moqtadaei said that the regime wants to drag the US and Western countries directly into the war.



Smoke rises following Israeli bombardment in southern Lebanon on Oct. 2, 2024.  
● BAZ RATNER/AP



Abbas Moqtadaei  
● mjpa.ir

"The leaders of the Zionist regime have come to the conclusion that if the conflict is limited to specific and limited areas, only Israel will be involved in the war, and other countries supporting this regime, including the US and Western countries, will ultimately act as supporters and backers."

He continued: "However, the Zionists are now seeking to use the US and the West beyond mere support, increasing the number of countries involved in the war, so that they can distance themselves from the harm of the conflict." Moqtadaei stated that with this approach, "they have attacked Lebanon and other areas beyond Lebanon, such as Yemen, and intend to use the military force of their supporters under various pretexts."

He added that this plan is "a strategic mistake, as the military force in the regions they are attacking is now

strong, and the countries in the region have gained significant military power, sharing it and strengthening each other, and each undertaking part of the mission."

"Contrary to the Zionist regime's current belief that it has found a new way out of its impasse, the reality is that they are stuck in the quagmire of ineffectiveness and failure, and there is no way out," he said.

Referring to the assassination of the Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah and other resistance front commanders in recent days, Moqtadaei said, "The Zionist regime is not acting out of power and effectiveness, but out of weakness and desperation."

He explained, referring to the impact of motivation and ideals on the fate of the war, "The reality is that the war between the Zionists and parts of the resistance axis, such as Lebanon, is not

just a border, geographical, or material war, and its outcome is not solely tied to military capabilities."

He added, "Although the Israelis have entered the war relying on their military power, which has been strengthened by the US and Western countries, the opposing side is taking steps based on religious and ideological principles. The fact that many of us have heard in Islamic messages and slogans that 'blood is victorious over the sword' is an objective reality that both historical records and the internal reality of the Islamic world confirm."

He said, "The mistake the Israelis make is that they are seeking success and victory with military tools and weapons, while the martyrdom-seeking spirit on the other side will disrupt all the criteria and foundations of war, rendering the occupying regime of Al-Quds unsuccessful in its predictions."

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## Israel's enmity leads to challenges, its friendship to devastation



By Syed Ali Hassan  
Iran Daily's correspondent in Pakistan

## OPINION

The assassination of Hassan Nasrallah, leader of the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah, has made the already volatile Middle East even more dangerous with the prospect of a direct military conflict. Acting Hezbollah chief Sheikh Naim Qassem stated in a televised speech on Monday, "We are waiting for Israeli soldiers to enter our territories so that Hezbollah's fighters can confront them on the battlefield." Hezbollah's security sources seem unconcerned about the prospect of an Israeli ground invasion, saying they have been preparing for this moment for years and are continuously making preparations.

Though Israeli soldiers haven't suffered significant losses in guerrilla warfare with Hamas in Gaza or Hezbollah's attacks in Israel's northern occupied territories, casualties in ground warfare are inevitable. Jews fear death, as mentioned in the Quran (Surah Al-Jumu'ah), so Israel will not rely heavily on ground warfare and will likely retreat from it soon, despite having superior intelligence and air dominance. Hezbollah and other non-state armed groups are trained more for guerrilla warfare than traditional warfare, enabling them to surprise the enemy. In recent history, conventional armies have not succeeded in fighting guerrilla warfare; Vietnam is an old example, and Afghanistan is a modern one. The US and NATO forces witnessed failure and humiliation in Afghanistan's guerrilla war. During Israel's ground operations in Gaza, Israeli soldiers were killed, but the fighters in Gaza had no open supply routes for weapons. They used their limited resources care-



Hezbollah supporters hold portraits of the resistance movement's late leader, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, in Sidon, Lebanon on September 28, 2024.  
● ALI HANKIR/REUTERS