## No choice but to confront 'fake regime' of Israel: Iran Tehran decries assassination of Hezbollah cmdr. as 'gross violation' of truce deal

#### **International Desk**

Iran's top security official on Sunday extended condolences over the assassination of a senior Hezbollah commander by Israel, saying that there is no choice but to confront the "fake regime."

"[Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu continues his adventurism to the point that everyone realizes there is no option left but to confront this fake regime," Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Ali Larijani said in a post on X.

His comments came after Israeli regime killed Hezbollah's top military commander Haytham Ali Tabatabai in an air strike on Lebanon's capital, Beirut.

Tabatabai was among at least five people who were killed in the attack on an apartment block in Dahiyeh in southern Beirut. Lebanon's Ministry of Public Health said the Israeli attack also wounded 28 people.

Tabatabai is the most senior Hezbollah commander to be killed by Israel since the start of a November 2024 ceasefire aimed at ending over a year of hostilities between the two sides.

Tabatabai was born in 1968 in Beirut to a Lebanese mother and an Iranian father. He grew up in southern Lebanon and reportedly joined Hezbollah in the 1980s.

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun called on the international community to intervene firmly to stop the Israeli attacks on the country. In a statement earlier on Sunday, Aoun said Lebanon "reiterates its call to the international community to assume its responsibility and intervene firmly and seriously to stop the attacks on Lebanon and its people."

Iran's Foreign Ministry also condemned the assassination of the Hezbollah commander, calling it a "gross violation" of the November 2024 ceasefire agreement and a "brutal attack" on Lebanon's sovereignty.

The ministry emphasized the necessity of holding criminal Israeli leaders accountable for "terrorist acts" and war crimes.

The ministry also criticized the United States for its support of Israel, suggesting that this backing has caused the repeated violations of the ceasefire by the Zionist re-

The Israeli attack on the southern suburbs of the Lebanese capital is the latest blatant violation of the ceasefire Israel signed with Hezbollah in November 2024, which was intended to end hostilities that had escalated into full-scale war. An Israeli strike on the Ain al-Hilweh camp near Sidon in southern

least 14 people. According to Lebanese authorities, Israeli attacks have killed approximately 4,000 people and displaced more than 1.2 million residents across the country since October

Lebanon late Tuesday killed at



Mourners carry the coffin of Hezbollah military chief Haytham Ali Tabatabai during a funeral in the southern suburbs of Beirut,

### Iran announces full containment of fire in UNESCO-listed forests

Head of Iran's Crisis Management Headquarters Hossein Sajedinia announced on Monday that a widespread fire in the country's northern forests has been fully contained after nine days of efforts by rescue teams and the support of local res-

However, Sajedinia, said that operations are underway to look for hidden fires. Rescue teams will remain in the area until the official announcement of the full containment

the neighboring country dispatched



two water-bombing aircraft and a helicopter to extinguish fire.

The fire in UNESCO World Heritage-listed Hyrcanian forests, which was allegedly started by hunters in the rocky area of Elit village in northern Mazandaran Province in early November and was initially quelled, reignited on November 15. The Hyrcanian forests stretch for about 1,000 kilometers along the Iranian coast of the Caspian Sea and into neighboring Azerbaijan.

UNESCO recognized the forests as a World Heritage Site in 2019, deeming them unique for both their age - between 25 and 50 million years old - and their varied biodiversity, as home to more than 3,200 species of plants.

UNESCO says on its website the Hyrcanian forests contain "a large number of rare and endemic tree species" and are home to "many relic and endangered plant species.

### **National Desk**

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Sajedinia also thanked Turkey after

### Larijani hails Pakistan's stance during Israeli war ahead of visit

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Ali Larijani said he was set to depart for the "friendly and brotherly country" of Pakistan on Monday, praising the eastern neighbor for supporting Tehran during Israeli aggression in June.

"Today, I am traveling to Pakistan, our friendly and brotherly country in the region", Larijani wrote in a post on his

"Iranians do not forget that during the 12-day war by the Zionist regime and the United States against Iran, the Pakistani nation stood by the Iranian nation," he added.

On June 13, Israel launched an unprovoked war against Iran, killing dozens of high-ranking military commanders and nuclear scientists as well as hundreds of civilians.

More than a week later, the US also entered the war by bombing three Iranian nuclear sites in a grave violation of the United Nations Charter, international law, and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

On June 24, Iran, through its retaliatory strikes against both Israel and the US, imposed a halt to the assault.

Larijani underscored that Iran and Pakistan are "two important and influential countries" in ensuring regional stability, adding that Tehran attaches great importance to maintaining fraternal relations among regional states. In October, during a meeting with Pakistan's Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi in Tehran, Larijani underlined the geopolitical importance of both countries in regional equations.

He also emphasized the need to deepen cooperation in security, defense, political, and especially economic fields.

### FM spox: IAEA's anti-Iran resolution 'stain of disgrace' on sponsors



The Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman condemned a recent resolution passed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) regarding the country's peaceful nuclear program as a "stain of disgrace" on the document's sponsors.

Esmaeil Baqaei made the remarks two days after the IAEA's Board of Governors adopted by a narrow margin the anti-Iran resolution proposed by France, the UK, Germany, and the United States, Press TV reported.

He said there was no goodwill behind the resolution, which merely makes Iran's nuclear issue more complicated, rather than helping to resolve it.

"In my view, the content of the resolution is a stain of disgrace upon those who drafted and promoted it," he added.

The resolution, he emphasized, "not only violates the regulations of the United Nations Security Council and the previous practices of the IAEA, but also fails to make even the slightest reference to the root cause of the problem — namely, the crimes committed by the Israeli regime and the US in their attacks on Iran's peaceful nuclear facilities."

Bagaei further noted that the resolution constitutes blatant interference in the IAEA's work and will further undermine the agency's independence.

The IAEA's resolution urged Tehran to "without delay" report on its enriched uranium stockpile and facilities damaged in the Israeli-US June aggression, while failing to mention Iran's longstanding cooperation with the IAEA.

Iran's Foreign Ministry said the "illegal and unjustified" document reflects the US bullying and the duplicitous behavior of the three European states.

The Islamic Republic also announced the termination of the deal signed in Egypt's Cairo in September to resume cooperation with the UN's nuclear watchdog.

The ties had been suspended after the unprovoked US-Israeli aggression against Iran on June 13-24 that killed at least 1,064 people in Iran, most of them

### IMO an opportunity to solidify Iran's role in int'l maritime decision-making: Official

### **International Desk**

Iran's Managing Director of the Ports and Maritime Organization Saeed Rasouli said on Monday that the 34th Assembly of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London is an opportunity to solidify Iran's role in decision-making in this field. The IMO assembly will meet for its 34th regular session from November 24 to December 3 to elect the members of the IMO Council.

Saeed Rasouli in an interview with IRNA pointed to the importance of Iran's presence at the assembly, saving that the meeting is one of the most significant events of global maritime governance.

"This assembly, which will be held over two weeks at IMO headquarters in Lon-



don, brings together senior maritime officials from member states to discuss and decide on the future of the maritime transport industry, policies, regulations, and the challenges facing this sector," Rasouli said.

"For us, as a country with a long history and extensive capacities in maritime and port affairs, active participation in this assembly is important, because it is an opportunity to present the positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the highest level, to solidify our constructive role in global decision-making, and to take steps toward enhancing the maritime standing of our country," added.

Rasouli said that the election of IMO Council members for the next two years and determining the IMO budget are the key issues on the session's agenda.

He said that Iran will participate in the meeting with "an active and constructive approach" to represent Iran's extensive capacities in the maritime area, its central role in international corridors, and to emphasize Iran's readiness for a stronger presence in global decision-making in order to safeguard the country's national interests and maritime rights.

