



December 22, 2013

In late 2013, Hezbollah again intensified its military involvement in the Syrian civil war, suffering heavy losses¹



Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah roasting Lebanon with Syrian fire (Syrian Muslim Brotherhood website, November 23, 2013)

Intensification of Hezbollah's military involvement in Syria

1. In late 2013, Hezbollah had intensified its military involvement in the civil war in Syria, suffering heavy losses. **The main three sites of Hezbollah fighting were the eastern rural area of Damascus (Al-Ghouta al-Sharqiyya), the Al-Qalamoun mountain range, north of Damascus,** which runs along the Syrian-Lebanese border (the Homs – Damascus route), and the **grave of Al-Set Zaynab, south of Damascus.**

2. In these three sites, Hezbollah operates as **an auxiliary force, aiding the Syrian army** and the Syrian security forces, and not as a military unit with independent missions (as was the case in the Al-Qusayr campaign). This fighting was closely coordinated with the Syrian army: according to Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Rai (December 12, 2013), the Syrian army and Hezbollah maintain a **joint operations room** for managing the campaign. We estimate the number of Hezbollah operatives in the

¹ Further to our Information Bulletin from June 4, 2013: "[Hezbollah Involvement in the Syrian Civil War](#)" and our [Information Bulletin from August 3, 2013: "Hezbollah Operatives Killed in Syria."](#)

fighting at several thousand, an estimate similar to the scope of the Hezbollah force in the Al-Qusayr campaign (May 19 – June 5, 2013).

The goals of the campaign

3. The **military campaign** waged by the Syrian army, with the assistance of Hezbollah, has **several** military and political **goals**: **the first** – to establish the regime’s control in the rural eastern part of Damascus (Al-Ghouta al-Sharqiyya); **the second** – to take over the Al-Qalamoun mountain range north of Damascus and cut off the rebel organizations in the north from their forces in the Damascus region and near the Syrian-Lebanese border. All this was done in order to address the rebels’ recent successes (i.e., taking over the large arsenals in Mahin, south of Aleppo²) and to position the Syrian regime in a **better bargaining point prior to possible political moves** (“Geneva 2”). Senior figures in the joint operations room of the Syrian army and Hezbollah forces told a reporter from Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Rai that “the campaign to strengthen [the hold of the Syrian regime in] Damascus and isolate [the rebel forces] in northern Syria from the south is underway in full swing and there is a possibility that it will expand prior to the Geneva 2 Conference on January 22 [2014].”

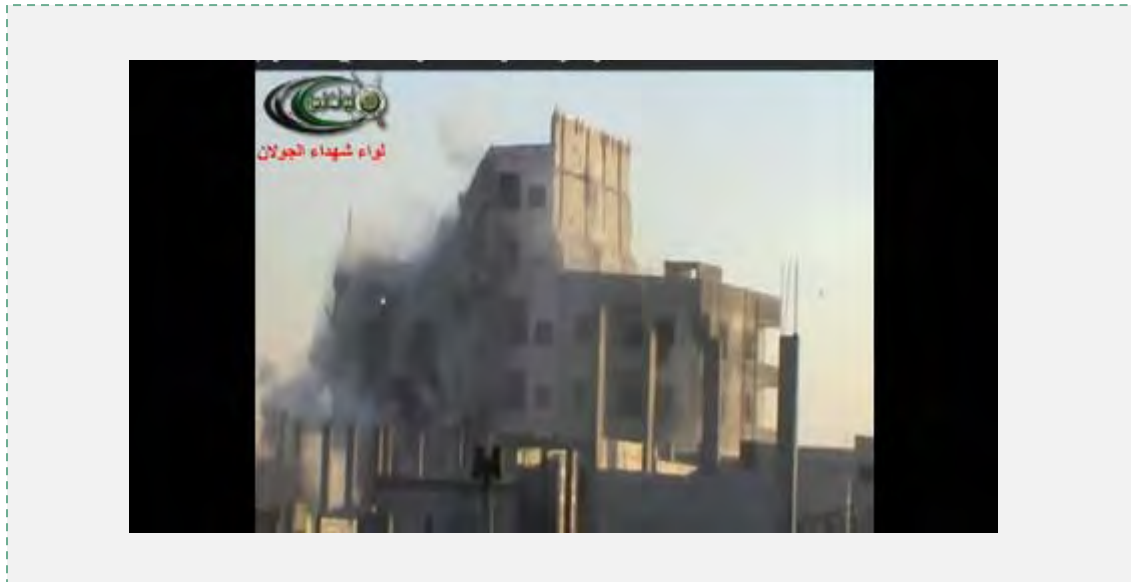


Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah sacrificing Lebanon for Assad: “At your command, Bashar” (Emad Hajjaj’s website)

4. Beyond the fundamental interest of Iran and Hezbollah to help promote the strategic goals of the Syrian regime, **Hezbollah has two interests of its own**, security and sectarian-religious. **From a security aspect**, Hezbollah seeks to gain control over the

² See our Information Bulletin from November 14, 2013: [“The Al-Nusra Front, Al-Qaeda’s branch in Syria, played a major role in the rebel takeover of a large Syrian army arsenal southeast of Homs.”](#)

area bordering on the Syrian-Lebanese border (the Al-Qalamoun mountain range), out of which organizations affiliated with Al-Qaeda and the global jihad launch terrorist attacks against Hezbollah in Lebanon.³ **From a sectarian-religious aspect**, Hezbollah is committed to continue defending the **grave of Al-Set Zaynab**, which is under constant attack by the rebels, who are aware of the site's religious significance (Hezbollah suffered a large part of its losses in the compound of the grave).



YouTube video of a military framework so-called the Golan Heights Martyrs Division, documenting an explosion at Hezbollah's headquarters near the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Farah News Online, October 28, 2013). In an interview with the Lebanese channel OTV (December 3, 2013), Hassan Nasrallah admitted that the building collapsed but claimed that no one was inside. Therefore, Nasrallah said that the allegation that Hezbollah suffered 25 casualties in the building is incorrect.

5. A Hezbollah "military source" explained to a reporter from the Lebanese newspaper Al-Joumhouria why the Al-Qalamoun mountain range is significant for both the Syrian regime and Hezbollah. He said that for **the Syrian regime**, the Al-Qalamoun mountains are **the only route to the north**, and capturing them will enable it to reach the city of Homs and from there the cities of **Tartous, Latakia, Banias and Hama**. He added that for **Hezbollah**, the Al-Qalamoun mountains are of **great importance from a security standpoint**, seeing as the organization has reliable information that **all of the car bombs are brought to Lebanon from the Al-Qalamoun mountains via the town of Arsal (in the north of the Beqaa Valley)**. The same "military source" mentioned the **town of Yabrud**, which is held by rebel forces, as the place from which car bombs are sent to Lebanon. He also noted that most of the rockets fired at towns in the Beqaa Valley that are affiliated with Hezbollah are fired from the Al-Qalamoun Mountains (Al-Joumhouria, December 16, 2013).

³ See our Information Bulletin from November 27, 2013: "[Mass-casualty double suicide bombing attack carried out at the Iranian embassy in Beirut.](#)"



A reporter from the Lebanese TV channel Al-Mayadeen, which is affiliated with Hezbollah, explains the importance of the campaign currently raging in the town of Yabrud. According to her, the route between Yabrud (Syria) and Aرسال (Lebanon) is an important route for smuggling weapons and infiltrating into Syria. There is also a dominant presence of operatives from both the Al-Nusra Front and the Islamic State in Iraq and al-Sham in the town. She claimed that the car bombs that exploded recently in Lebanon were assembled in a workshop in Yabrud (the Lebanese TV channel Al-Mayadeen, December 11, 2013).

Hezbollah casualties

6. During the last campaign (which has not yet ended), which included large Hezbollah forces, **the organization suffered heavy losses**: in November and the first half of December 2013, **47 Hezbollah operatives were killed**. Thus the total number of casualties, which **amounted to around 180** at the end of the Al-Qusayr campaign (early June 2013), now amounts to **around 300**. **Note**: To date, we have counted the names of **272 dead**. However, this is **the minimum** and we must take into account that not all the names of those killed were publicized, not all of them were sent for burial in Lebanon and not all of them are known to us. Accordingly, in our estimation, **their number may be higher and total around 300 (see Appendix A for details of the fatalities)**.⁴

7. **The 47 operatives who were killed** in November and the first half of December 2013 fought in **three combat zones**: the rural eastern area of Damascus (**13 dead**); the battles in Al-Qalamoun (**5 dead**), the battles in the area of the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (**24 dead**). As in the past, most of the fatalities (20) are from southern Lebanon and the rest (11) are from the Beqaa Valley, Beirut (1), and from Syrian territory (1).

⁴ The Lebanese newspaper Al-Mustaqbal (December 11, 2013) claimed that 292 Hezbollah operatives had been killed in Syria. This number corresponds with our own estimate. On the other hand, the All4Syria website (December 11, 2013) claimed that Hezbollah had lost about 1000 of its operatives in Syria. The same website published 450 names and pictures of Hezbollah operatives allegedly killed in Syria. The website said that it would publish more names and pictures. We estimate that this figure is exaggerated. The names and the pictures are now under our examination.

We believe Hezbollah may exaggerate the number of operatives killed at the grave of Al-Set Zaynab and, on the other hand, may understate the number of fatalities in the rural eastern area of Damascus and in Al-Qalamoun, with the aim of **legitimizing their deaths from a religious standpoint** in the eyes of the Lebanese Shiite community.



Coffins in the shape of candy, sent to Nasrallah from the town of An-Nabk, in the Al-Qalamoun mountains, where Hezbollah suffered losses (Syria Change website, December 5, 2013)

8. The fatalities included **two prominent Hezbollah commanders**:
- a. **Ali Iskandar (Ali al-Akbar)** – senior Hezbollah commander from Al-Bazourieh in southern Lebanon. He served as an operations officer and commander of Hezbollah forces in the rural eastern area of Damascus. He was killed on November 23, 2013, in the fighting in the rural eastern area of Damascus.
 - b. **Ali Hossein al-Bazi (Hajj Sajed)** – Hezbollah commander. He was a native of the village of Bint Jbeil, in southern Lebanon, but lived in Harat al-Saida (Sidon). He was formerly in charge of Hezbollah in Harat al-Saida. His job was training Hezbollah operatives. He was killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun on December 8, 2013.



Left: Ali Hossein al-Bazi (Hajj Sajed), killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun (Panorama Middle East website, December 8, 2013); Right: Ali Iskandar (Ali al-Akbar), killed in battle in the rural eastern area of Damascus (Bint Jbeil website, November 23, 2013).

Hassan Nasrallah's speech: A response to criticism of Hezbollah



Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in an interview with the Lebanese channel OTV (Lebanese channel OTV, December 3, 2013)

9. In an interview granted to the Lebanese channel OTV (December 3, 2013), Hassan Nasrallah admitted that his organization was forced to expand its involvement in the fighting in Al-Ghouta al-Sharqiyya and Al-Ghouta al-Gharbiyya (the rural areas east and west of Damascus). He also noted that the organization works against the “armed groups” in the Al-Qalamoun region along the Syrian-Lebanese border. **As a direct**

result, Nasrallah admitted, Hezbollah had suffered a large number of fatalities. However, he denied Lebanese media reports stating that Hezbollah's losses amounted between several hundred and 1,000 (Note: In our assessment, this estimate reflects the number of Hezbollah fatalities since the beginning of its involvement in Syria).

10. Nasrallah rejected the claim that Hezbollah's involvement in Syria began following an Iranian decision. He stressed that Hezbollah's involvement in Syria was gradual, and that "It was our decision" and the Iranians were informed of the decision. (**Note:** In fact, Hezbollah's involvement in Syria is **part of Iran's overall strategy of preferring indirect involvement through proxies rather than direct involvement.**) Nasrallah noted that the top priority is **Damascus, Homs and the area along the Syrian-Lebanese border.** On the other hand, he said that there is no Hezbollah presence in the Daraa and Quneitra governorates, and in governorates in northern and eastern Syria (Deir al-Zor, Al- Raqqa, Al-Hasakah).

11. Nasrallah provided details of Hezbollah's involvement in two war zones so that Lebanese public opinion will legitimize the expansion of Hezbollah's involvement in Syria:

- a. **The grave of Al-Set Zaynab (south of Damascus):** Nasrallah noted that while most of the rural sections of Damascus have fallen in the hands of the rebels, the compound of the grave of Al-Set Zaynab remained isolated. He said that the "armed groups" (in this case, the term "armed groups" is used for jihadis) are striving to destroy the shrine and that this could have led to an inter-communal war. He said that Hezbollah's involvement during the civil war in Syria began with dispatching 40-50 operatives to the area of the shrine in order to assist the Syrian army and residents of the area in defending it. "This is how our story in Syria began" (Nasrallah does not specify how many of the organization's operatives are currently protecting the shrine, suffering heavy losses).
- b. **The Al-Qalamoun mountain range:** Nasrallah stressed that **most of the fighting is carried out by the Syrian army and "national defense forces," while Hezbollah's participation is, as he said, "extremely modest."** He went on to specify the security-related reasons underlying the organization's involvement in the fighting in this area: he claimed that the fall of the Al-Qalamoun area in the hands of the "armed groups" would mean "dozens and hundreds of car bombs in Lebanon." Therefore,

Hezbollah took “preemptive action” aimed to “**prevent the armed groups from taking control of the places opposite the border [the Syrian-Lebanese border].**” He added that most of the car bombs that exploded in Lebanon came from Yabrud and An-Nabk (north of Damascus) and passed through the area of the Lebanese town of Aرسال (northwest of Baalbek). He said, “**We are really defending inside Syria, but [actually] we are protecting Lebanon.**”



The cities of Yabrud and An-Nabk (Syria) and Aرسال (Lebanon) which, according to Hezbollah, are the places from where car bombs are sent from Syria to Lebanon (Google Earth)

12. **Hassan Nasrallah** (in response to criticism, in our opinion) **admitted that his organization had suffered many losses** but claimed that he is being transparent and is not attempting to conceal them: “When we have a shahid, we announce the shahid and make sure to bring his remains for burial in broad daylight. We are proud of our shahids.” Nasrallah denied Lebanese media reports claiming that the number of fatalities is 500 or 600 and could reach as high as 1,000.⁵ Moreover, he claimed that the number of fatalities was less than 250-300. However, **Nasrallah refused to specify the total number of Hezbollah fatalities**, merely saying that “if there is a shahid, we notify his family, and the body arrives, and we accompany him on his final journey.”

⁵ The All4Syria website claimed that Hezbollah had suffered 1,000 fatalities. Al-Jazeera TV also mentioned this figure, which is extremely exaggerated, according to our estimation. Hezbollah operative Qassem Qasir denied reports that the number of Hezbollah fatalities had reached around 1,000. He noted that Hezbollah had never published the number of fatalities, not even in the Second Lebanon War (Al-Jazeera TV, December 15, 2013).

Reactions in Lebanon to Hezbollah's involvement in Syria

13. **Strong criticism of Hezbollah's involvement in the fighting in Syria continues in the Lebanese media and the Lebanese scene.** This criticism, on the part of Hezbollah's opponents, was expressed in various editorials, cartoons against Hezbollah's participation in the fighting in Syria, and remarks made by Lebanese officials who belong to the anti-Hezbollah camp. For example, former Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri claimed that Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah is involving Lebanon in the Syrian crematorium and added that it's a pity for Lebanese blood to be spilled this way. These remarks were made in response to an interview with Hassan Nasrallah, in which he said that "he himself is prepared to go fight in Syria" (Sky News in Arabic, October 18, 2013). Former Lebanese Prime Minister Fouad Siniora claimed that Hezbollah is killing the youth of Lebanon and Syria, and that its media is misleading the Lebanese public (Al-Hayat, published in London, September 14, 2013).

Appendix A

Hezbollah Operatives Killed in the Fighting in Syria⁶

No.	Name and information	Date of death	Site and circumstances of death	Origin and place of funeral	Source of information
1.	Khalil Ibrahim Diya (Jihad)	8/12/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Bafliya, southern Lebanon. Buried on December 9, 2013.	Yasour website, December 9, 2013.
2.	Hossein Kamel Madlaj (Jawad Abbas)	8/12/13	Killed in the rural area of Damascus (Al-Ghouta)	Zeita, Syria. Buried on December 9, 2013 in the Syrian town of Al-Sakmania.	South Lebanon and ABNA websites, InAGist Twitter account in Syria, December 9 and 10, 2013.
3.	Ali al-Hadi Nun (Abu Saleh)	8/12/13	Killed in the rural area of Damascus	Buried on December 9, 2013, in Al-Ghubeyri.	South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, InAGist Twitter account Syria, December 9 and 10, 2013.
4.	Ali Sami Raad	8/12/13	Killed in the rural area of Damascus	Baalbek, Beqaa Valley. Buried on December 9, 2013, in Al-Ghubeyri.	South Lebanon website, InAGist Twitter account in Syria, December 9, 2013.
5.	Ali Hossein al-Bazi (Hajj Sajed) Hezbollah commander. Was in charge of Hezbollah activity in Harat Saida. His duty was training Hezbollah operatives.	8/12/13	Killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun	Bint Jbeil. Resident of Harat Saida, southern Lebanon. Buried on December 9, 2013.	Panorama Middle East website, South Lebanon and Bint Jbeil websites, December 8 and 9, 2013.
6.	Ali Hossein Saleh (Sheikh Hadi)	7/12/13	Killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun	Al-Abbasiyah, southern Lebanon.	South Lebanon website, FTV channel, December

⁶ The table of fatalities is a continuation of the table in the previous document, which was updated on July 30, 2013. Seventy-one fatalities have been added to the previous number of fatalities (201), **which means that the number of Hezbollah fatalities in Syria identified by us is now 272** (updated on December 15, 2013). Lebanese media websites (mainly Shiite websites and Hezbollah websites) and Syrian media websites affiliated with the opposition were used as sources of information about Hezbollah fatalities in Syria.

	Hezbollah commander			Buried on December 8, 2013, in Al-Ghubeiri.	7 and 8, 2013.
7.	Qassem Muhammad Ghamloush (Fallah)	6/12/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Chaqra, southern Lebanon. Buried on December 8, 2013, in Al-Ghubeiri.	Bint Jbeil, South Lebanon and Radio Sawt al-Farah websites, December 6 and 7, 2013.
8.	Muhammad Al-Bani (Abu Ali)		Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab		YouTube video, December 3, 2013.
9.	Alaa Zahwa		Killed in the rural area of Damascus		Hezbollah issued an official statement mourning the deaths of those killed in battle in Al-Ghouta (Jebchit website, December 4, 2013).
10.	Jawad Darwish				
11.	Ahmad al-Bani				
12.	Hassan al-Nakhas				
13.	Hossein Alaa al-Din				
14.	Ali Darwish				
15.	Mohsen al-Khiyat				
16.	Muhammad Ahmad Haidar (Dhu al-Fiqar)	2/12/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Ayta ash-Shaab, southern Lebanon. Buried on December 3, 2013.	South Lebanon and Bint Jbeil websites, December 2 and 3, 2013.
17.	Muhammad Miqdad (Abu Amir)	29/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Maqta, Beqaa Valley. Buried in the "Garden of the Martyrs" in south Beirut on December 1, 2013.	Al-Janoubia website, December 1, 2013.
18.	Adnan Mahmoud al-Badawi (Abu Amir) Of Sunni descent. Chose to defend the grave of Al-Set Zaynab		Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Beirut. Buried in the "Garden of the Martyrs" in south Beirut on November 30, 2013.	Al-Ahed and South Lebanon websites, November 30 and December 1, 2013.
19.	Ali Rida Fouad al-Hajj Hassan Nephew of Lebanese Agriculture Minister and member of	28/11/13	Killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun	Housh al-Nabi, Beqaa Valley.	South Lebanon website, Lebanese channel LBC, November 28, 2013.

	Hezbollah, Hossein al-Hajj Hassan.				
20.	Wissam Sharaf al-Din (Al-Seyyed Nasrallah) Hezbollah commander	28/11/13	Killed in the rural area of Damascus	Rashkanania, southern Lebanon. Buried on December 1, 2013.	Bint Jbeil website, November 28, 2013.
21.	Hossein Raghda (Alaa)	28/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab		South Lebanon website, November 28, 2013.
22.	Fouad Ali Hassan	26/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab		South Lebanon website, November 26, 2013.
23.	Jaafar Raad Commander of Hezbollah forces in Al-Qalamoun	26/11/13	Killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun	Bednayel, Beqaa Valley.	South Lebanon website, InAGist Twitter account in Syria, November 26, 2013.
24.	Mohsen Kamal al-Fan	26/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Al-Khreibeh, Beqaa Valley.	South Lebanon website, November 26, 2013.
25.	Salah al-Din Yusuf Ali Suicide bomber. Blew himself up with an explosive belt near a school in the village of Deir Salman, where operatives of the Islamic State in Iraq and al-Sham, the Al-Nusra Front, and the Army of Islam had barricaded themselves.	25/11/13	Killed in the rural area of Damascus	Chehabie, southern Lebanon.	South Lebanon website, November 25, 2013.
26.	Dhu al-Fiqar Hassan Izz al-Din (Ali)	24/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Tyre, southern Lebanon.	Alwadi and South Lebanon websites, November 24 and 25, 2013.
27.	Ali Izz al-Din Hazim	24/11/13	Killed in the rural eastern area of Damascus with Al-Nusra Front operatives. The	Sidon, southern Lebanon.	South Lebanon website, November 25, 2013.

			Syrian media reported that the Al-Nusra Front beheaded him.		
28.	Haidar Ali Kalout	24/11/13	Killed in an unknown location in Syria	Nabatieh, southern Lebanon.	inewsarabia and South Lebanon websites, November 24 and 25, 2013.
29.	Ali Iskandar (Ali al-Akbar) Senior Hezbollah commander. Served as operations officer and commander of Hezbollah forces in the rural area of Damascus.	23/11/13	Killed in the rural area of Damascus	Al-Bazourieh, southern Lebanon.	South Lebanon and Bint Jbeil websites, Al-Aan channel in Dubai, Al-Watan in Saudi Arabia, November 23, 24, 25 and 27, 2013.
30.	Hossein Muhammad al-Hajj Ali	20/11/13	Killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun	Tyre, southern Lebanon. Buried on November, 20 2013, according to his will, at the gravesite of Al-Set Zaynab.	South Lebanon website, November 20, 2013.
31.	Muhammad Ali Jamal Khorasani (Basel)	18/11/13	Killed in Syria (in the rural areas of Damascus or in Al-Qalamoun)		Bawabat Saida website, November 28, 2013.
32.	Hassan Yahya Mashadiyah (Karar)	17/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab		Al-Set Zaynab Facebook page, November 17, 2013.
33.	Akram Sadeq Hourani (Sadeq)	16/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Ain Baal, southern Lebanon. Buried on November 18, 2013.	Bint Jbeil website, November 18, 2013.
34.	Hassan Muhammad Naameh (Baqer) Senior	16/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Mahrouneh, southern Lebanon. Buried on November 21,	South Lebanon website, Al-Manar, November 21, 2013.

	Hezbollah commander.			2013.	
35.	Hassan Muhammad Mar'i (Hajj Rabi') Hezbollah commander. Was imprisoned in Saudi Arabia for three months.	16/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Jebchit, southern Lebanon. Buried on November 18, 2013.	South Lebanon website, November 18, 2013.
36.	Ali Shabib Mahmoud (Abu Turab al-Ruwaisi) Hezbollah operations office		Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Lubaya, Beqaa Valley. Buried on November 16, 2013 in the "Garden of the Martyrs" in Beirut.	South Lebanon website, November 16, 2013.
37.	Hassan Ahmad Balaghi (Abu Sadeq)	13/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Maaraka, southern Lebanon. Buried on November 14, 2013.	South Lebanon and Yasour websites, November 13 and 14, 2013.
38.	Elias Ahmed Haidar	11/11/13	Killed in an unknown location in Syria	Majdaloun, Beqaa Valley.	Al-Joumhouria, November 11, 2013.
39.	Hassan Khadr Mustafa	11/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Majdaloun, Beqaa Valley.	South Lebanon website, November 11, 2013.
40.	Ali al-Sheikh Rida Hejazi	9/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Habboush, southern Lebanon. Buried on November 10, 2013.	Bint Jbeil website, November 10, 2013.
41.	Musa Ahmed Saqr	9/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Al-Hermel, Beqaa Valley. Buried on November 10, 2013.	South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, November 9 and 10, 2013.
42.	Jaafar Hossein Hashem Hezbollah commander		Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Ain El Tineh, Beqaa Valley. Buried on November 9, 2013	YouTube video, November 9, 2013.

43.	Hossein Ali Aloush (Abu Haidar) Hezbollah commander	8/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Deir al-Zahrani, southern Lebanon. Buried on November 10, 2013.	South Lebanon website, Al-Nahar, Bint Jbeil website, November 8 and 10, 2013.
44.	Muhammad Ahmed Saif al-Din (Sajed)	5/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Tahwitah al-Ghadir – Choueifat. Buried in Choueifat on November 6, 2013.	South Lebanon website, November 6, 2013.
45.	Abbas Muhammad Idris Hezbollah commander	5/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab		Abbas Muhammad Idris's Facebook page, South Lebanon website, November 5 and 28, 2013.
46.	Muhammad Mahdi Hossein Qansou (Abu Zahraa)	4/11/13	Killed in Damascus	Kfar Roumanne, southern Lebanon. Buried in Beirut (Al-Ghubeyri) on November 5, 2013.	South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, November 4 and 5, 2013.
47.	Kamal Ali Hadraj (Jaafar) Hezbollah commander	3/11/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Al-Ghasania, southern Lebanon.	South Lebanon website, November 3, 2013.
48.	Ali Hossein Nasser (Siraj)	31/10/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	El-Kharayeb, southern Lebanon. Buried on November 1, 2013.	South Lebanon and Al-Zrariya websites, October 31 and November 1, 2013.
49.	Hajj Ali Naama al-Zein (Dhu al-Fiqar) Hezbollah commander	5/10/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Deir Kifa, southern Lebanon. Buried on November 6, 2013.	South Lebanon and Al-Janoubia websites, October 5 and 6, 2013.
50.	Muhammad Mahdi Haidar (Abu Hadi)	3/10/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Buried in Al-Ghubeyri on October 3, 2013.	Hunain forum, Muhammad Mahdi Haidar's Facebook page, October 3 and 18, 2013.
51.	Imad Ghazi Ghazaleh (Ayman)		Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Adloun, southern Lebanon.	Jebchit municipal website, Iranian news agency ABNA

				Buried on September 27, 2013.	website, September 27, 2013.
52.	Hossein Issam Shibli (Hajj Haidar) Hezbollah commander. Son of the mayor of Kounine		Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Kounine, southern Lebanon. Buried on September 22, 2013.	Youkal and ABNA websites, September 21 and 23, 2013.
53.	Zuheir Shawqi Salameh (Dhu al-Fiqar) His funeral was attended by senior Hezbollah officials, including Ahmad Safi al-Din, a commander in southern Lebanon.	17/9/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Blaida, southern Lebanon. Buried on September 18, 2013.	South Lebanon website, Bint Jbeil website, September 18, 2013.
54.	Yussuf Hilmi Halawi (Jihad)	17/9/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Qaqaiyat al-Jisr, southern Lebanon. Buried on September 18, 2013.	Jebchit municipal website, South Lebanon website, September 18 and 20, 2013.
55.	Ali Madlaj	17/9/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Baalbek, Beqaa Valley. Buried on September 18, 2013.	South Lebanon website, September 17, 2013.
56.	Hossein Ghaleb Matar	16/9/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Ain Qana, southern Lebanon. Buried on September 17, 2013.	South Lebanon website, September 17, 2013.
57.	Hassan Saleh Mustafa	16/9/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Beit Lif, southern Lebanon. Buried on September 16, 2013.	South Lebanon website, September 16, 2013.
58.	Ali Naif Tles (Haidar)	16/9/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Brital, Beqaa Valley. Buried on September 19, 2013.	South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, September 16 and 19, 2013.

59.	Asaad Ahmed al-Bazal (Hajj Taher)	15/9/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Al-Bazalia, Beqaa Valley. Buried on September 16, 2013.	Facebook page of the casualties of the holy struggle, Youkal and Al-Ahed websites, September 15, 16 and 17, 2013.
60.	Ali Hossein Khalil (Abu Hossein)	12/9/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	El-Mansouri, southern Lebanon. Buried on September 13, 2013.	South Lebanon and Youkal websites, September 13 and 14, 2013.
61.	Ali Jihad Wahabi	30/8/13	"Killed while engaged in carrying out his duty of jihad" (place not specified)	Brital, Beqaa Valley. Buried on August 31, 2013.	South Lebanon and Jebchit websites, August 30 and September 1, 2013.
62.	Hussam Muhammad Ali (Abu Ali al-Hurr)	25/8/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Yohmor, Beqaa Valley. Buried on August 25, 2013.	South Lebanon website, Facebook page of the casualties of the holy struggle, August 25 and 28, 2013.
63.	Ahmad Hamoud (Dhu al-Fiqar)	24/8/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Beit Lif, southern Lebanon. Buried on August 25, 2013.	South Lebanon website, August 24, 2013.
64.	Mustafa Muhammad Hamadi (Raed Nassar)	23/8/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab. According to another website, killed in the rural area of Damascus in an exchange of fire with Islamist groups.	Deir Kifa, southern Lebanon. Buried on August 23, 2013.	South Lebanon and observeme websites, August 23, 2013.
65.	Rifaat Muhammad Jaafar (Fadl)	19/8/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Beqaa Valley. Buried on August 19, 2013.	South Lebanon website, August 19, 2013.
66.	Hassan Muhammad Ali Shakr	17/8/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Bednayel, Beqaa Valley. Buried on August 19, 2013.	Facebook page in the name of commander Hossein Sheikh Issa Malak, south

					Lebanon website, August 17 and 19, 2013.
67.	Hussam Ali Nimr (Amin) Hezbollah commander	16/8/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Kafr Sir, southern Lebanon. Buried on August 17, 2013.	South Lebanon and Al-Siasa websites, August 16 and 18, 2013.
68.	Hasan Ali Idris	15/8/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Zeita village, located in Syrian territory (a town on the Syrian-Lebanese border, part of the Al-Qusayr region, and located in the western part of the Homs Governorate). Buried on August 17, 2013.	South Lebanon and Jebchit websites, August 15 and 17, 2013.
69.	Mahdi Muhammad Hossein Yaghi		Killed in battle in Homs	Baalbek, Beqaa Valley. Buried on August 3, 2013.	Al-Mustaqbal, Jebchit and Islamic Resistance in Lebanon websites, August 2 and 3, 2013.
70.	Dhu al-Fiqar Murtada Marda		Killed in Homs	Al-Shawaghir, north Beqaa Valley. Buried on August 3, 2013.	Al-Mustaqbal, Al-Ahed website, August 2 and 3, 2013.
71.	Shehab Muhammad al-Rash'ini	1/8/13	Killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab	Al-Hermel, Beqaa Valley. Buried on August 2, 2013.	South Lebanon website, August 1 and 2, 2013.

Appendix B

Hezbollah Casualties in Syria and their Funerals⁷

The funeral of Khalil Ibrahim Diya (Jihad) in Bafliya, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Yasour website, December 9, 2013)



The funeral of Hossein Kamel Madlaj (Jawad Abbas) in the Syrian town of Al-Sakmania, killed in the rural area of Damascus (ABNA website, December 10, 2013)

⁷ This appendix includes 57 photographs of Hezbollah operatives and funerals, out of 71 casualties specified in Appendix A.



The funeral of Ali al-Hadi Nun (Abu Saleh), killed in the rural area of Damascus (South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, December 9 and 10, 2013)



The funeral of Ali Sami Raad, killed in the rural area of Damascus (South Lebanon website, December 9, 2013)



The funeral of Ali Hossein al-Bazi (Hajj Sajed), killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun (Panorama Middle East and Bint Jbeil websites, December 8 and 9, 2013)



The funeral of Ali Hossein Saleh (Sheikh Hadi) of Al-Abbasiyah, killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun (South Lebanon website, December 7, 2013)



The funeral of Qassem Muhammad Ghamloush (Fallah) of Chaqra, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Radio Sawt al-Farah website, December 7, 2013)



Muhammad al-Bani (Abu Ali), killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (YouTube video, December 3, 2013)



The funeral of Muhammad Ahmad Haidar (Dhu al-Fiqar) of Ayta ash-Shaab, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Radio Sawt Al-Farah websites, December 2 and 4, 2013)



Muhammad Miqdad (Abu Amir) of Maqta, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, November 29, 2013)



The funeral of Adnan Mahmoud al-Badawi (Abu Amir) of Beirut, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, November 30 and December 1, 2013)



The funeral of Ali Rida Fouad al-Hajj Hassan in Bednayeil, killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun (South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, November 28 and 29, 2013)



The funeral of Wissam Sharaf al-Din (Al-Seyyed Nasrallah) of Rashkanania, killed in the rural area of Damascus (Bint Jbeil and Mofakirat al-Islam websites, November 28 and December 1, 2013)



Hossein Raghda (Alaa), killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, November 28, 2013)



Mohsen Kamal al-Fan, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, November 26, 2013)



Salah al-Din Yusuf Ali of Chehabie, carried out a suicide bombing attack near a school in the village of Deir Salman (South Lebanon website, November 25, 2013)



Dhu al-Fiqar Hassan Izz al-Din (Ali) of Tyre, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Alwadi website, November 24, 2013)



Ali Izz al-Din Hazim of Sidon, killed in the rural area of Damascus (South Lebanon website, November 25, 2013)



Ali Iskandar (Ali al-Akbar) of Al-Bazourieh, killed in the rural area of Damascus (Bint Jbeil and Radio Sawt al-Farah websites, November 23 and 25, 2013)



Hossein Muhammad al-Hajj Ali of Tyre, killed in battle in Al-Qalamoun (South Lebanon website, November 20, 2013)



Hassan Yahya Mashadiyah (Karar), killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Al-Set Zaynab Facebook page, November 17, 2013)



The funeral of Akram Sadeq Hourani (Sadeq) of Ain Baal, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Bint Jbeil website, November 18, 2013)



Hassan Muhammad Naameh (Baqer) of Mahrouneh, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, November 16, 2013)



The funeral of Hassan Muhammad Mar'i (Hajj Rabi') of Jebchit, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Jebchit municipal websites, November 18, 2013)



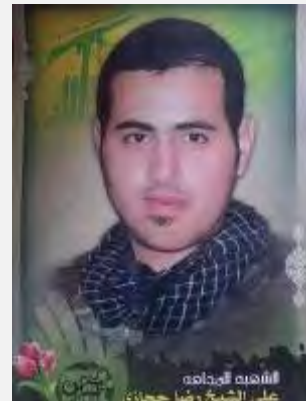
The funeral of Ali Shabib Mahmoud (Abu Turab al-Ruwaisi) in Beirut, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, November 16, 2013)



The funeral of Hassan Ahmad Balaghi (Abu Sadeq) in Maaraka, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Yasour websites, November 13 and 14, 2013)



Hassan Khadr Mustafa of Majdaloun, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, November 11, 2013)



The funeral of Ali al-Sheikh Rida Hejazi of Habboush, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Bint Jbeil websites, November 9 and 10, 2013)



The funeral of Musa Ahmed Saqr in Al-Hermel, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, November 9 and 10, 2013)



The funeral of Jaafar Hossein Hashem of Ain El Tineh, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (YouTube video, November 9, 2013)



The funeral of Hossein Ali Aloush (Abu Haidar) in Deir al-Zahrani, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Bint Jbeil website, November 10, 2013)



Abbas Muhammad Idris, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Abbas Muhammad Idris's Facebook page, South Lebanon website, November 5 and 28, 2013)



The funeral of Muhammad Mahdi Hossein Qansou (Abu Zahraa) of Kfar Roumanne, killed in battle in the rural area of Damascus (South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, November 4 and 5, 2013)



The funeral of Ali Hossein Nasser (Siraj) in El-Kharayeb, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Al-Zrariya websites, October 31 and November 1, 2013)



The funeral of Hajj Ali Naama al-Zein (Dhu al-Fiqar) in Deir Kifa, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Radio Sawt al-Farah website and Iranian news agency ABNA website, October 5 and 7, 2013)



The funeral of Muhammad Mahdi Haidar (Abu Hadi) in Beirut, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Hunain forum, Muhammad Mahdi Haidar's Facebook page, October 3 and 18, 2013)



The funeral of Imad Ghazi Ghazaleh (Ayman) in Adloun, "killed while engaged in carrying out his duty of jihad in Syria" (Jebchit municipal website, September 27, 2013)



The funeral of Hossein Issam Shibli (Hajj Haidar) in Kounine (Youkal and ABNA websites, September 21 and 23, 2013)



The funeral of Zuheir Shawqi Salameh (Dhu al-Fiqar) in Blaida, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Bint Jbeil websites, September 18, 2013)



The funeral of Yussuf Hilmi Halawi (Jihad) in Qaqaiyat al-Jisr, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Sursawa website and Jebchit municipal website, September 18, 2013)



Ali Madlaj of Baalbek, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, September 17, 2013)



The funeral of Hossein Ghaleb Matar of Ain Qana, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Bint Jbeil websites, September 17 and 18, 2013)



Hassan Saleh Mustafa of Beit Lif, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, September 16, 2013)



The funeral of Ali Naif Tles (Haidar) of Brital, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, September 16 and 19, 2013)



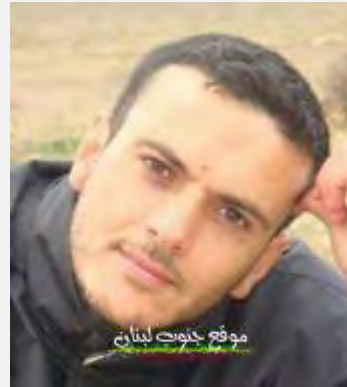
The funeral of Asaad Ahmed al-Bazal (Hajj Taher) in Al-Bazalia, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Youkal and Al-Ahed websites, September 16 and 17, 2013)



The funeral of Ali Hossein Khalil (Abu Hossein) in the village of El-Mansouri, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Al-Burj websites, September 13, 2013)



The funeral of Ali Jihad Wahabi in Brital, "killed while engaged in carrying out his duty of jihad" (South Lebanon and Al-Ahed websites, August 30 and September 1, 2013)



The funeral of Hussam Muhammad Ali (Abu Ali al-Hurr) in Yohmor, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, Facebook page of the casualties of the holy struggle, August 25 and 28, 2013)



Ahmad Hamoud (Dhu al-Fiqar), killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, August 24, 2013)



The funeral of Mustafa Mohammad Hamadi (Raed Nassar) of Deir Kifa, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab. According to another website, killed in the rural area of Damascus in an exchange of fire with Islamist groups (South Lebanon and ABNA websites, August 23 and 25, 2013)



Rifaat Muhammad Jaafar (Fadl), killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, August 19, 2013)



Hassan Mohammad Ali Shagr of Bednayeel, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Facebook page in the name of commander Hossein Sheikh Issa Malak, August 17, 2013)



The funeral of Hussam Ali Nimr (Amin) in Kafr Sir, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (Facebook page in the name of the Shahid Hussam Nimr of Kafr Sir, South Lebanon website, August 16 and 18, 2013)



The funeral of Hasan Ali Idris in the town of Zeita, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon and Jebchit municipal websites, August 15 and 17, 2013)



The funeral of Mahdi Muhammad Hossein Yaghi in Baalbek, killed in battle in Homs (Al-Mustaqbal and Islamic Resistance in Lebanon websites, August 2 and 3, 2013)



The funeral of Dhu al-Fiqar Murtada Marda in his hometown of Al-Shawaghir, killed in Homs (Al-Mustaqbal and Islamic Resistance in Lebanon websites, August 2 and 3, 2013)



Shehab Muhammad al-Rash'ini of Al-Hermel, killed defending the grave of Al-Set Zaynab (South Lebanon website, August 1, 2013)