

Nasrallah to Keep Promises to Families of Detainees

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by Majdur Travail

In a speech at Iftar dinner, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah affirmed the Hizbollah organization will keep both its public and secret promises to the families of detainees.

Sheikh Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, Secretary General of Hizbollah, affirmed at an Iftar ceremonial dinner sponsored by *the Islamic Resistance Support Association* in Lebanon, Nov. 13, 2003, that the Hizbollah organization will keep its promises to the families of the detainees in Israeli prisons and expressed his commitment to “Grand National interests” and rejected the sectarian idea. Nasrallah first related that the Hizbollah organization operates from the position of obedience to God affirming that this “ethical commitment compels it not to abandon its country and people, leaving them loose for each greedy person or looting invader... The resistance at this point becomes an action of love and affection. It loves its people and protects them using its best men, who endanger their lives, facing death, for the rest to live a life in dignity, pride and honor.”

Sheikh Nasrallah furthermore stressed armed resistance as the basic principle of this ethical defense. “Thus, we neither abandon the arena nor leave behind our weapon or make a mistake when aiming. We must exert our effort and multiply it in the arena of the resistance, for the resistance to increase in strength and preparedness, and to become more capable in carrying out its honoring combative duty,” Nasrallah said.

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Sheikh Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah,
Secretary General, Hizbollah,
Iftar, 13 Nov. 03

Sheikh Nasrallah then elaborated on the national commitment and subjected sectarian interests to the national scheme. “Its national commitment does not mean it is a party, tribal, sectarian or regional scheme,” Nasrallah said. He also maintained that while the national interest is paramount, support offered by Lebanese allies like Syria and Iran “must be met with thanks and gratitude by all Lebanese, and must not be met with skepticism and accusation.”

Nasrallah furthermore assured the Lebanese people that while the Islamic resistance has been cautious of integration with the Lebanese state; it has only done so as a means of protecting the resistance. Hizbollah has sought to maintain the resistance in a way that “would not narrow the resistance margin in Lebanon allowing the state to exploit it due to some of its particularities.”

Nasrallah affirmed, nevertheless, Hezbollah's commitment to furthering the integration process, "which we regard as the only way to confront the future challenges... Some people are unable to realize that the horizon of the resistance and its spirit, mind and heart occupy a rank that is higher than all calculations concerning business, gains, roles and positions... this resistance is powerful, triumphant, prestigious, and the enemy calculates each step or move against it. It is also respected by everyone who has a sense of humanity and responsibility," Nasrallah said.

Since Lebanon is still partially under occupation and is "still within the circle of threat and is being targeted along with its land, sky, fortunes, waters, security, stability and sovereignty due to the Israeli greed and hostility;" the need for the resistance is established without any other pretext.

"The resistance now and in the future, as in the past, is a force of liberation and defense, next to the state, army and people. It will always carry out its duty to protect its country, people and families from being defiled.

"If we as Lebanese maintain our elements of force that led to liberation, we will maintain our country against any aggression, we will cut the hand that tries to harm it and we will end the greed of the greedy people who have aspirations for our land, waters and fortunes.

"If we maintain these elements of force, some might accuse us of terrorism, but they will respect us and regard us when making every account, and will know that there are boundaries they cannot violate." Nasrallah said.

With respect to the detainees, Nasrallah remarked, "The enemy is reneging on conditions on which it constantly agreed and is extending the humanitarian ordeal of many families only because it does not want to grant us a meaningful victory or because

it wants to lessen the significance of this meaningful victory."

Nasrallah noted the personal sacrifices on the part of the detainees and affirmed Hezbollah's long term commitment to the families of the detainees.

"I would like to add and repeat my confirmation that we have offered public and secret commitments to the families of the prisoners and detainees. We are keeping our promises and commitments. We have the determination, ability, and persistence to fulfill this humanitarian and noble objective. The families of the detainees are consolidating and enduring with us, and this is one of the points of our strength," he said

Sheikh Nasrallah furthermore affirmed the unity of cause between Hezbollah and the Lahoud government in pursuing a just and correct outcome of the negotiations for the release of the Lebanese detainees held in Israeli jails. He concluded his speech with an anecdote on the martyrdom of Imam Ali [radi allahu anhu].

"The martyrdom was Ali's eagerness, love and comfort. This is how we learned about the martyrdom, which raised us to create an aided victory for our nation and to reach through it the highest grades, which are loved by God, his messenger and every believer. Therefore, nothing will scare or defeat us, aided by God," Nasrallah said.

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