

## Iran Is Destroying Lebanon, Not Protecting It

### THE LIE

Iran is “protecting” Lebanon from Israel by conditioning any deal with the U.S. on an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

### THE TRUTH

Israeli forces are in Lebanon fighting Hezbollah, Iran’s terror proxy that threatens Lebanon’s Christian-led government. Lebanon’s own leaders have condemned Iran for using their country as a “bargaining chip” with the U.S.

### BACKGROUND

- The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) entered Lebanon in March 2026 in response to repeated Hezbollah attacks on Israeli towns and communities along the northern border.
- On June 11, 2026, Tucker Carlson praised Iran for being the only country protecting Lebanon from Israel because Iran demands Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory as a condition of any U.S. deal. ([Tucker Carlson](#))
- Tucker also claimed Iran is trying to stop an Israeli massacre of Christians in Lebanon.

### TRUTH EXPLAINED

- Within hours of Hamas's October 7 massacre of 1,200 Israeli civilians, Hezbollah opened a second front — unprovoked — launching rockets into Israeli towns in the north, at Iran’s behest. It has not stopped since. Israel's forces entered Lebanon in response, targeting the same Iranian proxy that Lebanon's own Christian-led government has been trying to disarm and remove from its territory. ([Jerusalem Post](#)), ([Providence](#))
- The Lebanese government is currently in peace negotiations with Israel. The two governments are not enemies; they share a common adversary, Hezbollah. ([Jerusalem Post](#))
- Lebanese President Joseph Aoun, a Maronite Christian, explicitly accused Iran of using Lebanon as a "bargaining chip" in U.S. negotiations, saying Lebanese civilians pay the price for Iranian interests. Prime Minister Nawaf Salam echoed this, publicly urging Iran to stop treating southern Lebanon as a geopolitical pawn. ([Reuters](#)), ([Washington Jewish Week](#))
- In 2005, Hezbollah assassinated Prime Minister Rafic Hariri — the man who ended Lebanon's civil war — with a suicide truck bomb, and has repeatedly targeted Lebanese officials who challenge its authority or push for disarmament. This is not a movement protecting Lebanon, but a terror group that kills Lebanese leaders to keep the country under Iranian control. ([UN News](#))
- Lebanon has filed formal complaints with the United Nations over Iranian interference and pushed for Hezbollah to be disarmed and placed under state authority. ([Fox News](#))
- Hezbollah is an Iranian military asset operating on Lebanese soil whose loyalty runs to Tehran, not Beirut. Hezbollah's own 1985 founding manifesto calls for imposing Sharia law in Lebanon, which would *abolish* the constitutional arrangement that guarantees a Christian as Lebanon's president. ([Providence](#))
- Every major conflict Lebanon has suffered — 2006, 2024, 2026 — was triggered by Hezbollah attacking Israel on Iran's behalf, displacing hundreds of thousands of Lebanese and gutting the economy in wars that served Iranian interests, not Lebanese ones. ([Grokopedia](#))
- Tucker's claim that Israel targets Christians is maliciously false. In March 2026, Hezbollah seized the Christian village of Qawzah and converted it into a rocket and missile base; in a nearby village they established operations *beneath a church*; in El-Khiam, Israeli forces found a military tunnel running *directly under a church*. After October 7, 2023, Hezbollah positioned rocket launchers inside a Christian village near the Israeli border. ([Jerusalem Post](#)), ([Times of Israel](#)), ([CBN](#))
- The strategy is deliberate: embed weapons in Christian villages, fire at Israeli civilians, then call Israel's response a massacre of Christians. Hezbollah wins either way, and Western commentators like Tucker Carlson make it work by repeating exactly the conclusion Iran wants them to reach.

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### QUOTES

"[Iran is] using Lebanon as a bargaining chip in their negotiation with the United States. It's unacceptable." – Lebanese President Joseph Aoun

"Spare our south, and cease treating it and its people as mere bargaining chips to improve your negotiation terms. We are a nation that refuses to become a mailbox for others' messages or an open arena for their wars. Lebanon is no one's pawn on a table, and the south is no one's reserve front." – Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam to Iran

### TAKEAWAY

Tucker Carlson isn't defending Lebanon. Lebanon's own leaders have made clear, on the record, that Iran is the problem, that Hezbollah is a foreign militia destroying their country, and that they want it disarmed and removed. Tucker is defending Iran, because at this point he has no choice. He has built his entire brand around opposing Israel, and that obsession has a logical endpoint: eventually you find yourself carrying water for the Islamic Republic, the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism, because they happen to be fighting the nation you've decided to hate.