



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
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# Israel, Hamas and Hezbollah

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## Why in news?

Following the recent drone attack on the Golan heights on Israel-Lebanon border which killed at least 12, Israel conducts a rocket strike on Beirut, which it said killed the **Hezbollah commander (Fouad Shukur)** who was allegedly behind earlier strike, and at the same day **Hamas political chief (Ismail Haniyeh)** was killed in Iran capital Tehran.

Earlier on July 20 Israel conducted a massive air strike in **Hodeidah**, the **Red Sea** port city in Yemen, controlled by **Houthi militia** in response to a drone attack by Houthis on Tel Aviv.

All these three incidents connect Iran as a common factor for the three groups.

The incident raises fears of a broader conflagration in the region.

## About Hezbollah:

Hezbollah is a Shia Islamist political party and militant group based in Lebanon.

It emerged in the 1980s as a response to the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon.

It is also designated as a terrorist organisation by several countries, including the United States and Israel.

## Blue Line

The **border between Israel and Lebanon**, known as the "**Blue Line**," was set by the **United Nations in 2000** after Israel withdrew its military from southern Lebanon.

It's **not an official international border** but a **demarcation line**.

Originally, it was the boundary established by Britain and France in the 1920s, between Lebanon, Syria and Palestine.

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**Hamas:**

?Hamas is a Palestinian political armed group that was founded in **1987**. It's a militant group that emerged as a **resistance movement against Israeli occupation**.

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? Hamas was created in 1987 as an **offshoot of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood** seeking to fulfill its agenda through violent jihad.

? It gained popularity as a resistance movement against Israeli occupation and **Fatah**.

? The United States has **designated Hamas a terror organization since 1997**. Many other countries, including Israel and most of Europe, see it the same way.

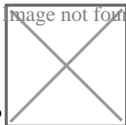
### **About Golan Heights:**

? It is a rocky plateau in south-western Syria, about 60km (40 miles) south-west of Damascus (the capital of Syria).

? It's considered occupied territory under international law and UN Security Council resolutions.

? It covers an area of 1,000sqkm.

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?  It is bounded by the Jordan River and the Sea of Galilee on the west, Mount Hermon on the north, the seasonal Wadi Al-Ruqqad River on the east, and the Yarmuk River on the south

? Israel seized the Golan Heights **from Syria** in the closing stages of the 1967 Six-Day War.