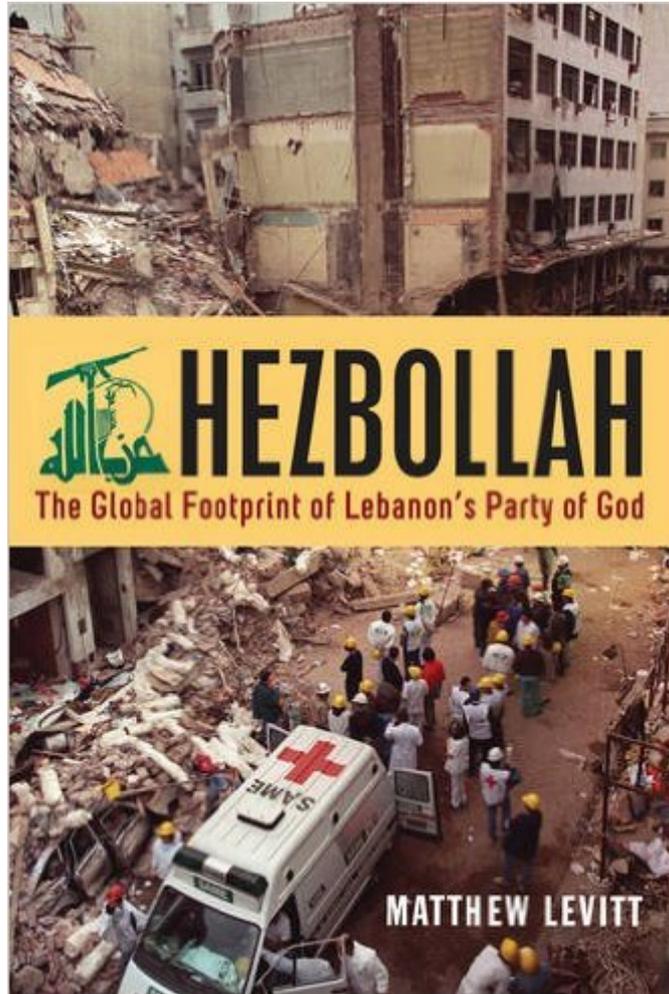


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Hezbollah: The Global Footprint Of Lebanon's Party Of God



Synopsis

Hezbollah: The Global Footprint of Lebanon's Party of God is the first thorough examination of Hezbollah's covert activities beyond Lebanon's borders, including its financial and logistical support networks and its criminal and terrorist operations worldwide. Hezbollah is Lebanon's "Party of God" is a multifaceted organization: It is a powerful political party in Lebanon, a Shia Islam religious and social movement, Lebanon's largest militia, a close ally of Iran, and a terrorist organization. Drawing on a wide range of sources, including recently declassified government documents, court records, and personal interviews with intelligence and law enforcement officials around the world, Matthew Levitt examines Hezbollah's beginnings, its first violent forays in Lebanon, and then its terrorist activities and criminal enterprises abroad in Europe, the Middle East, South America, Southeast Asia, Africa, and finally in North America. Levitt also describes Hezbollah's unit dedicated to supporting Palestinian militant groups and Hezbollah's involvement in training and supporting insurgents who fought US troops in post-Saddam Iraq. The book concludes with a look at Hezbollah's integral, ongoing role in Iran's shadow war with Israel and the West, including plots targeting civilians around the world. Levitt shows convincingly that Hezbollah's willingness to use violence at home and abroad, its global reach, and its proxy-patron relationship with the Iranian regime should be of serious concern. Hezbollah is an important book for scholars, policymakers, students, and the general public interested in international security, terrorism, international criminal organizations, and Middle East studies.

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Customer Reviews

This is an excellent overview and historical record of Hezbollah, all of its various sub-groups, how it functions, how it raises funding, with what other groups or countries it collaborates, how it operates to bring about terrorist operations, and especially, Iran's incredible history, current interactions, funding, collaborations, and deep involvement with Hezbollah's various arms and its terrorist acts, mostly against Israel, Israelis or other Jews, around the world. Being written by someone who has worked in counter-espionage for a long time, and who has known Hezbollah's various terrorist activities from the outside, the book quite accurately summarizes all or most of the various, terrorist acts perpetrated by Hezbollah and its associates, especially Iran, mostly against Israel, Israelis, America, and Saudi Arabia, in particular. The book is perhaps the best discussion anywhere, in a single text, about Hezbollah, and as such, succeeds very well in describing how it has come to where it is today on the world stage. Unfortunately, the book does not attempt to explain or propose who the world might better deal with getting rid of Hezbollah, or at least negating its various, terrorist activities around the world. It does not (I am not quite finished with reading the book) yet discuss just how the world at large could collaborate in a more productive and successful manner to stop all or most of Hezbollah's future, terrorist acts. That is perhaps its biggest disappointment but perhaps the author just does not want to give anything away that might help Hezbollah continue along its rapacious attempts to kill more and more Israelis and Jews, as well as Americans of all faiths, anywhere in the world?

By Michael B. Kraft
Matthew Levitt's new book: "Hezbollah, The Global Footprint of Lebanon's Party of God" is a real eye opener, both for readers with a general interest in the Middle East as well as those with some knowledge of this major player. In addition to sending snipers and other gunmen to help Assad's government battle the rebels, Hezbollah has been involved in major attacks against American embassies and engaged in numerous terrorist activities in far flung areas of the world. It has worked often with Iran, its sponsor. Indeed, although "Hezbollah: The Footprint of Lebanon's Party of God" lives up to its title, it also provides a great deal of detail about Iran's terrorist warfare against the United States. The well-researched book is organized in chapters describing Hezbollah's activities in various regions of the world, ranging from the Middle East (including Iraq) to Africa, Latin America and the Far East as well as the United States, Canada, and elsewhere. It describes not only the group's terrorist operations, successful and foiled, but also the world wide criminal and financial activities of this group that calls itself a resistance organization against Israel. With many small brush strokes, describing in often minute detail and including many names of Hezbollah

relatively little known operatives, Dr. Levitt paints a huge canvas, illuminating Hezbollah's wide ranging terrorist and criminal activities. Although the book could have benefited from some diagrams, it is fast paced. Dr. Levitt and his researchers draw from court cases, declassified intelligence documents, interviews, and a variety of sources ranging from New Zealand and Africa to the usual ones in the United States and various close allies such as Canada. Dr.

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