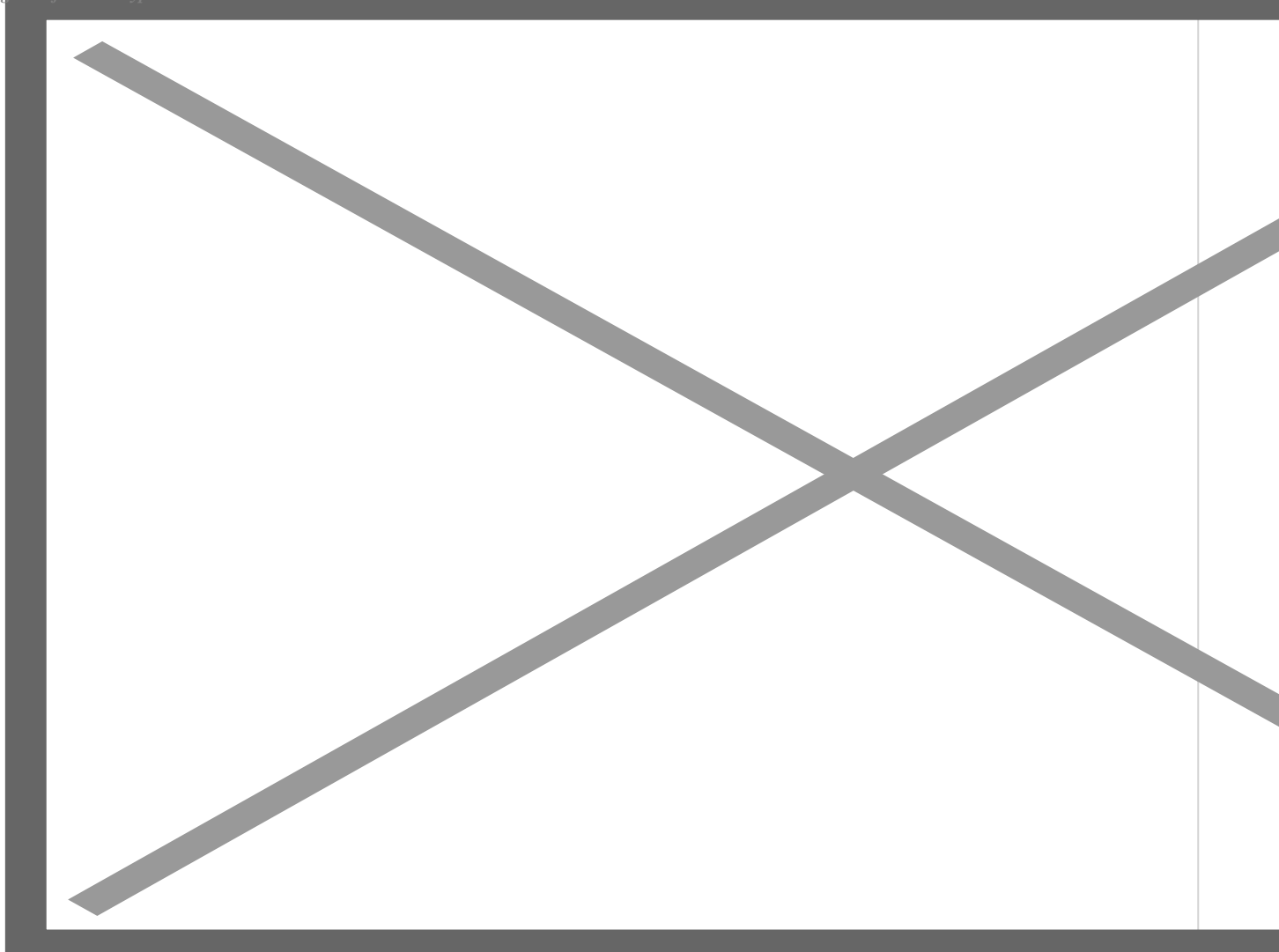


Iraqis rally in support of Gaza and Lebanon, as the resistance reaffirms strong backing for Hezbollah

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Tehran, September 29 (RHC)-- Iraqis rally across the country in support of the Gaza Strip and Lebanon, which are subject to ongoing deadly Israeli aggression, with Iraqi resistance reiterating strong support for the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah. The demonstrations took place across eight provinces on Saturday.

The participants chanted pro-Palestinian and pro-Lebanese as well as anti-Israeli and anti-American slogans and waved the flags belonging to Iraqi resistance groups.

The rallies came amid the Israeli regime's genocidal war on Gaza and deadly escalation against Lebanon, which have respectively claimed the lives of at least 41,534 Palestinians and nearly 1,000 Lebanese. Women and children comprise the majority of the victims.

Abu Ala al-Walai, secretary general of the Sayyed Al-Shuhada Brigades, a component of Iraq's Islamic Resistance, which is a coalition of anti-terror groups, addressed the protest in the Iraqi capital Baghdad.

He reiterated the contents of a letter that he had addressed to Hezbollah's Secretary-General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah earlier in September.

"If you lose a thousand martyrs, we will provide you with one hundred thousand heroes," Walai noted.

He acknowledged that resistance groups across the region had come under "the most brutal barbaric attack waged by the Zionist gangs, supported and covered by the evil and terrorist America."

The official vowed, however, that "no matter how much the Zionist-American enemy tries to divide the unity of the fields, we will remain committed to its principle, which has dismantled the deterrence doctrine of the usurping entity."

Iraqi resistance groups have staged numerous operations against the occupied Palestinian territories since the onset of the Israeli aggression against Gaza and Lebanon.

Walai said that during the operations, the groups had just deployed five percent of their capabilities -- warning that more was yet to come. The official also warned that in the event of a full-scale Israeli war on Lebanon, all Israeli and American interests throughout the region would turn into "legitimate" targets for the Iraqi groups.

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