

Who's who on Israel's hit list

Following the assassinations of Hamas founders **Sheikh Ahmed Yassin** and **Abdel-Aziz Rantisi**, Israeli security forces are now turning their sights on **Hizbollah**. Israel claims the Lebanon-based group is responsible for planning and funding attacks on Israel by **Hamas** and **Islamic Jihad**



Mar 22: Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, 67. Wheelchair-bound, spiritual leader of Hamas assassinated in helicopter missile strike when leaving Gaza City mosque



Apr 17: Dr. Abdel-Aziz Rantisi, 54. Appointed head of Hamas in Gaza following death of Yassin. Killed by Israeli helicopter attack in Gaza City

1. **Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, 43.**

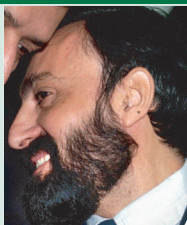
Hamas secretary-general in Beirut. Showed Arab world that violence could force concessions from Israel – such as withdrawal from Lebanon in 2000



Marked for death

2. **Imad Khalil al-Alami, 40s.**

Syria-based head of overseas operations for Hamas. Allegedly finances Islamic Jihad suicide bomb attacks against Israelis



3: Khaled Mashaal, 48. Chosen as overall head of Hamas following Yassin's death – now most powerful figure in group. Based in Damascus, Syria

4: Dr. Ramadan Abdullah Shalah, 40s. Syria-based head of Islamic Jihad. Accused of planning suicide attacks which have killed 485 people in past three years



5. **Dr. Mahmoud al-Zahar, 53.**

Picked by Mashaal to succeed Rantisi as Gaza chief. A trained surgeon, he served as Rantisi's deputy following Yassin's death



6. Mohammed Deif, 40s. Hamas Gaza military wing commander. Heir to pioneer bomb maker **Yihya Ayyash**, who was assassinated by Israel in 1996

