

# Assassinations and sabotage in Iran

Iran has threatened to give a “calculated and decisive” response to the killing of its top nuclear scientist, as the country’s clerical and military rulers pile blame on the Islamic Republic’s longtime enemy, Israel

■ **2009-10:** U.S.-Israeli ***Stuxnet*** virus attack sabotages centrifuges at Natanz uranium enrichment site

■ **2010-12:** Four Iranian nuclear scientists assassinated – ***Masoud Alimohammadi, Majid Shahriari, Darioush Rezaeinejad*** and ***Mostafa Ahmadi Roshan***. Iran accuses Israel of killings

■ **2015:** Iran nuclear deal with six major world powers

■ **2018:** U.S. President ***Donald Trump*** quits Iran nuclear deal

■ **Jan 2020:** U.S. drone strike near Baghdad airport in Iraq kills Iran’s most powerful military commander, general ***Qassem Soleimani***

■ **Jul:** Fire at Natanz plant blamed on cyber sabotage

■ **Aug:** Al Qaeda’s deputy leader ***Abu Muhammad al-Masri*** – accused of directing 1998 bombings of two U.S. embassies in East Africa – assassinated in Tehran by Israeli operatives acting at behest of U.S.

■ **Nov 27:** Prominent Iranian scientist ***Mohsen Fakhrizadeh*** (right) assassinated by gunmen in Tehran. Western officials believe Fakhrizadeh played pivotal role in suspected Iranian work looking into feasibility of building nuclear weapon



Above left:  
*Qassem Soleimani.*  
Right: *Abu Muhammad al-Masri*