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Israeli commander: Hezbollah more ready than ever for any war

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An Israeli commander has admitted that involvement of Lebanon's Hezbollah in the fight against Takfiris in Syria has increased the defensive capabilities of the resistance movement for any future aggression by the Israeli regime.

"Hezbollah's involvement in the war in Syria has not disrupted its preparedness for a war with Israel - the opposite is true," said Colonel Yaron Formosa, a chief artillery officer of the Israeli regime, in an interview with Ynetnews on Wednesday.

He added that Hezbollah is closely monitoring the Israeli army's activities along the border.

"We saw them marking the positions of our artillery guns so they can target them in a war," Formosa said.

He added that Hezbollah fighters have become proficient in the use of advanced weapons due to the fighting against the militants in Syria.

"Hezbollah has tens of thousands of rockets that are aimed at Israel, and we will not be able to operate against them only with artillery fire or the air force."

The Tel Aviv regime launched two wars on Lebanon in 2000 and 2006. About 1,200 Lebanese, most of them civilians, were killed in the 33-Day War of 2006.

On both occasions, however, Hezbollah fighters defeated the Israeli forces and Tel Aviv was forced to retreat without achieving any of its objectives.

In August 2012, Hezbollah Secretary General Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah said that the resistance movement has both the capability and the courage to defend Lebanon and that the movement's missiles are ready to strike back certain targets inside Israel in self-defense if Tel Aviv launches an attack on Lebanon.

"If we are forced to use them to protect our people and our country, we will not hesitate to do so... and that will turn the lives of hundreds of thousands of Zionists into a living hell," Nasrallah said, adding that Hezbollah has fixed its targets.

He also said that a possible future war would be extremely costly for Israel and incomparable with its 2006 war on Lebanon.