



- Two gas facilities in Saudi Arabia (locations unspecified)
- Aramco gas facility

One day before the video was published, Nadhim al-Saeedi, the head of Nujaba's Executive Council, made similar threats on television, warning that the "Iraqi resistance will strike energy centers if Iranian oil facilities are bombed" (Figure 2).



Figure 2: Nadhim al-Saeedi's interview, October 12, 2024.



Figure 3: Abu Ali al-Askari's short post about the energy war, October 3, 2024.

**Kataib Hezbollah**

The first Iraqi militia to escalate the "energy war" rhetoric was **Kataib Hezbollah** (<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/profile-kataib-hezbollah>) (KH). On October 3, KH security chief Abu Ali al-Askari posted a short Telegram message stating, "If the energy war starts, the world will lose 12 million barrels of oil per day. As Kataib Hezbollah previously stated, either everyone will be blessed with prosperity, or everyone will be deprived" (Figure 3).

This threat was followed by a statement from KH secretary-general Abu Hussein al-Hamidawi that included highly charged language against some Arab governments: "All kinds of evil, barbarism, and criminality have been embodied on the enemy front, exceeding all limits of human imagination, with the direct and effective participation of evil America and its affiliated Western countries, and with the support of the Sisi regime, the malicious Jordanian regime, the Saudi entity

with its Wahhabi institutions, and the Emirati regime. The actions of these people will be engraved in the memory of the nation, which will produce a volcano of anger and revenge that they cannot stop" (Figure 4).

Subsequently, Askari issued another statement reiterating his threats about an energy war and attacking Arab governments: "In principle, we will not start an energy war, but if it does start, the world will lose 12 million barrels of oil per day, and this is what we will take care of, with God's help. As for what the Yemeni brothers will do in Bab al-Mandab, and the Iranian brothers in the Strait of Hormuz, God knows best." He added, "This war distinguished the evil from the good and clearly revealed who are the soldiers of Satan and who are the soldiers of the Most Merciful. We have named the evil regimes as defined by the Secretary-General in his last statement: the Sisi regime, the Jordanian regime, the Saudi entity with its Wahhabi institutions, and the Emirati regime" (Figure 5).



Figure 5: Abu Ali al-Askari's statement, October 10, 2024.

**Analysis**

KH has mounted strikes on Gulf targets before using its **Awliyat al-Waad al-Haq**

(<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/profile-alwiyat-al-waad-al-haq>) group, which **threatened attacks on U.S. bases in the Gulf** (<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/kataib-hezbollahs->

**facade-group-threatens-gulf-states-once-again**) as recently as October 24, 2023. Attacks have been launched against Gulf energy infrastructure from and through Iraq, for instance against Saudi targets in **May** (<https://www.wsj.com/articles/u-s-saudi-pipeline-attacks-originated-from-iraq-11561741133>) and **September 2019** (<https://www.reuters.com/article/world/exclusive-us-probe-of-saudi-oil-attack-shows-it-came-from-north-report-idUSKBN1YN29E/>).

Nujaba and KH are likely making the current threats on behalf of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC-QF). Using Iraqi militias is a way of showing the United States and other powers that an Israeli strike on Iran's oil infrastructure could have destabilizing effects, without Iran itself needing to violate the Chinese-brokered nonaggression pact it made with Saudi Arabia last year. In reality, firing drones and cruise missiles from Iraq could cause serious damage to one or two Arab oil sites—though far less than a determined attack from Iran, and at the risk of embarrassing the already weak-looking Iraqi government. ❖

Kaf - كاف

(/sites/defa  
 10/4%2C%  
 إن نَحْنُ اللهُ قَرِيبٌ  
 الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلوة والسلام على رسوله الأمين وعلى آله الطاهرين  
 وصحبه المنتجبين والشهداء والمجاهدين.  
 لقد انقضى العام الأول من اللزال التاريخي لجبهة الحق كله مقابل جبهة الشر  
 كله. فسجل بين جناباته من إنجازات المحور ما لا عين رأت ولا أذن سمعت به قبل  
 عملية 7 أكتوبر المجيدة، إذ قاتل جند محمد (صلى الله عليه وآله) بوغي وبصيرة  
 وثبات قل نظيره، وتقف الكلمات عاجزة عن وصفه.

ونقول لليهود والصهاينة: لا مكان لكم على هذه الأرض، فقد اقترب الخراب  
 الأخير، وستنشد الرجال إلى الأقصى المبارك بعونه تعالى، (ذَلِكَ وَعَدُّ غَيْرُ  
 قَدْرًا) (فإذا جاء وعد الأجرة ليسوتوا وجوهكم وليدخلوا المسجد كما دخلوه أول مرة  
 وليتبروا ما علوا تديرا)

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**RECOMMENDED**



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October 22, 2024, starting at 12:00 noon EDT (1600 GMT)

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Oct 16, 2024

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