# Lebanese Village Destroyed by Cross-Border Conflict Amid Escalating Tensions in the Region



Milad Eid, a resident of Alma al-Shaab in southern Lebanon, recently experienced the destruction of his village due to cross-border fighting between Israeli forces and Hezbollah, a militia group supported by Iran. Since October last year, the village, located just over a kilometre from the Israeli border, has been subjected to ongoing conflict, forcing about 800 residents to flee, leaving only around 100 behind.

The tensions have further escalated following a deadly ambush on Saturday, June 15, in Rafah, southern Gaza, where eight Israeli soldiers were killed. The soldiers, part of a combat engineering unit, were in an armoured carrier that detonated due to an explosion, causing extensive casualties.

In response to the ambush, Israeli officials, including Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich and National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, have called for continued military operations in Gaza. Smotrich emphasized the need for "the complete destruction of the enemy," referring to Hamas, while Ben-Gvir supported ongoing efforts to defeat the group and secure the return of Israeli abductees.

The conflict has intensified with Israeli strikes hitting several areas in Gaza, resulting in at least 19 Palestinian deaths. Despite numerous ceasefire attempts and international mediation efforts, the violence shows no sign of abating.