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**ISRAEL WAITS ...**

WEST ASIA TRACKER

## Y A H Y A S I N W A R

Yahya Sinwar has been appointed as the new leader of Hamas's Political Bureau, marking a significant shift in the group's leadership. Sinwar, known for his pragmatic approach, has established strong ties with the Egyptian government and Mohammed Dahlan, which could lead to increased cooperation between local civil currents in Gaza. His leadership is seen as beneficial for Arab governments, particularly Egypt, which views him as a stabilizing force compared to his predecessor, Khaled Mashal.

Sinwar's tenure is expected to facilitate better relations with Egypt, and his previous efforts to disengage Hamas from the Muslim Brotherhood are noted. His relationships with various Palestinian factions, including released PLO leaders like Marwan Barghouti, suggest potential for de-escalation and normalization within the region.

In Hamas's current structure, key figures include:

- Yahya Sinwar: Leader of Hamas in Gaza and the new head of the Political Bureau.
- Khalil al-Hayya: Deputy head of Hamas's regional Politburo in Gaza and primary negotiator.
- Abu Marzouk: Influential in shaping public opinion through Qatar.

## ABBAS INTERVIEW WITH SPUTNIK

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas recently spoke with Sputnik about several critical issues:

- Government Formation: Negotiations for a national unity government in Palestine will resume after the Gaza war, contingent on Hamas's acceptance of reconciliation terms.
- General Elections: Abbas emphasized that elections cannot occur until Palestinians in East Jerusalem can participate, citing Israeli restrictions as the reason for the delay.
- Financial Disputes: The Palestinian Authority plans to seek international court intervention if Israel does not return withheld tax revenues, as stipulated by the Paris Agreements of 1994.

Abbas also condemned the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh, attributing it to efforts to prolong the Gaza conflict and hinder peace negotiations. He affirmed that Gaza should be governed by the Palestinian Authority and reiterated support for a political solution based on international resolutions.

# HEZBOLLAH'S THREAT TO NORTH ISRAEL

Northern Israel hosts a diverse range of industries:

## 1. Technology and High-Tech:

- Haifa: A key tech hub with institutions like the Technion.
- Nazareth: Emerging tech sector with several startups.

## 2. Agriculture:

- Galilee Region: Known for fruit, vegetable farming, and dairy production.

## 3. Manufacturing:

- Kiryat Shmona: Hosts plastic and electronics manufacturers.
- Afula: An industrial city with various manufacturing plants.

## 4. Tourism:

- Tiberias: Significant for its tourism industry.

## 5. Defense and Security:

- Haifa: Important for defense technology and naval industries.

## 6. Biotechnology:

- Be'er Sheva: Noted for its developing biotech sector, supported by Ben-Gurion University.



## TACTICAL UPDATES

Following the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh, Israel informed US officials of its involvement. The killing has surprised and outraged White House officials, complicating ceasefire efforts in Gaza. Hamas has vowed retaliation, attributing the attack to Israel and the US.

There are reports of ammunition shortages in Israel, which may impact its response to potential Iranian and Hezbollah attacks.

Arab countries are frustrated by recent Israeli actions and Tehran's threats, which might affect their support in the region.

Additionally, US officials are concerned about possible coordinated attacks involving Iran, Hezbollah, Yemeni, and Iraqi militants.





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