



In the Path of Hizbullah (Modern Intellectual and Political History in the Middle East)

By A. Nizar Hamzeh

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Of the many Islamist groups that have emerged within the Muslim world over the last two decades, perhaps none has had so great an impact on Middle Eastern and International affairs as Hizbullah, the Party of God. This group of mainly Lebanese Shi'ite Muslims gained both infamy and fame by its resort to militancy mixed with political pragmatism in the pursuit of its goals. The oscillation between these two extremes has left most scholars and policymakers perplexed. This book serves as a pathway for understanding not only Hizbullah but also for other Islamist groups and their challenges to contemporary politics. A. Nizar Hamzeh examines the Hizbullah of Lebanon through a structural analysis using original and archival sources. Based on a constructed theoretical framework from a number of theories on crisis conditions, leadership, political parties and guerrilla warfare, In the Path of Hizbullah stands alone in its qualitative and quantitative treatment of one of the most complex contemporary Islamist organizations and provides a view of the party's future.

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This is the first comprehensive study of Hizbullah that addresses the historical dynamics of its emergence, its ideology, leadership... -- *R. H. Dekmejian, author of Islam in Revolution: Fundamentalism in the Arab World*

About the Author

A. Nizar Hamzeh is associate professor of political science at American University of Beirut. He has written numerous articles on Islamic movements and is the coauthor of 1998 Lebanese Municipal Elections (in Arabic).

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