

These Are the Top Iranian Generals and Scientists Killed by Israel

Maj. Gen. Mohammad Bagheri, the chief of staff of Iran's armed forces, was among the dead, according to Iranian state media. Officials said a top nuclear negotiator was also killed.

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Ali Khamenei
Supreme leader

At the top of the
chain of command

MILITARY GENERALS

Mohammad Bagheri

The commander in chief of Iran's military. Second highest commander after Supreme Leader

KILLED



Replaced by
Abdolrahim Mousavi



Hossein Salami

Commander in chief of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, Iran's primary military force

KILLED



Replaced by
Mohammad Pakpour



Gholamali Rashid

Deputy commander in chief of the armed forces

KILLED



Amir Ali Hajizadeh

Leader of the airspace unit of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps

KILLED



OTHER OFFICIALS



Ali Shamkhani

Senior former navy commander, was overseeing the nuclear talks with the United States

KILLED

NUCLEAR SCIENTISTS



Fereydoun Abbasi

Former head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran

KILLED



Mohammad Mehdi Tehranji

Physicist and president of the Islamic Azad University in Tehran

KILLED

By Samuel Granados



By **Francesca Regalado and Euan Ward**

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Israeli strikes on Friday morning dealt a major blow to Iran's military chain of command by killing at least three of its top generals, along with a senior politician and at least two nuclear scientists, according to Iranian state media and officials.

The Israeli military confirmed the deaths of the three Iranian commanders. Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, moved swiftly to replace the military leaders in an apparent bid to project stability and prevent a power vacuum. At least one other top general was killed, according to the Israeli military, a claim that Iran did not immediately comment on.

Here is what we know about those killed:

Military Generals

- **Maj. Gen. Mohammad Bagheri**, chief of staff of the armed forces and the second-highest commander after Ayatollah Khamenei. He was replaced by Maj. Gen. Abdolrahim Mousavi, according to Iranian state news agency IRNA.

- **Gen. Hossein Salami**, commander in chief of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, Iran's primary military force. He was replaced by Gen. Mohammad Pakpour, IRNA reported.
- **Gen. Gholamali Rashid**, deputy commander in chief of the armed forces.
- **Gen. Amir Ali Hajizadeh**, the head of the airspace unit of the Revolutionary Guards.

Politicians

- **Ali Shamkhani**, one of Iran's most influential politicians and a close confidant of Ayatollah Khamenei, was killed, according to three senior officials and Iranian media reports. He had been overseeing nuclear talks with the United States as part of a committee named by the supreme leader to direct the negotiations.

Nuclear Scientists

- **Fereydoun Abbasi**, the former head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran.
- **Mohammad Mehdi Tehranji**, a theoretical physicist and president of the Islamic Azad University in Tehran.

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