

Sunday, 9 June 2013

Anti-Hezbollah protester killed near Iranian embassy in Beirut



A young man was killed on Sunday outside the Iranian embassy in Lebanon after a scuffle between supporters and opponents of Hezbollah, reported Al Arabiya.

Naharnet, a Lebanese news website, claimed that at least 11 people were injured in the ruckus in Beirut.

According to Lebanese media, demonstrators were holding a sit-in near the embassy in protest of Hezbollah's involvement in war-torn Syria.

Lebanese news channel, LBCI, said all those wounded in the clashes were affiliated with the Lebanese Option Party. The TV channel said the group is led by the March 14 Shiite politician Ahmed Asaad.

The state-run National News Agency added that the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) cordoned off the area to restore calm.

It was not clear who killed the man. However, Reuters reported that pro-Assad Lebanese gunmen were in the vicinity at the time of the killing.

Lebanon always had a clear position of disassociation from the Syrian conflict but matters have changed since the conflict spilled over the borders, the Lebanese Foreign Minister Adnan Mansour said earlier this month.

“These extremist groups in Syria have sought to hit the nerve of the historical heritage between Syrian citizens and Lebanese people in mixed areas in the city of Qusayr and countryside villages adjacent to Lebanon,” he added.

“We have repeatedly said that the fire of the Syrian war will extend its flames to all of us hence, today

“Let us all go to Geneva and let the conference be our exit and Syria's exit,” Mansour concluded.