



Sameer Nour Al Deen “Mujahed”
5 February 1964—13 June 1982

Born in Badarow, Beirut, Sameer Nour Al Deen grew up in a family from the South of Lebanon. Sameer lived his life in a humble way, for his family had little money, but much faith. With the outbreak of civil war in 1975, young Sameer and his family were forced to move to Kfar Fila, a village in Akleem Attouffah.

When Sameer and his family returned to Beirut to live in Beer Al Abed, he began a new spiritual journey within Al Imam Ali Al Rida’s Mosque. There he spent many hours in study and prayer. In this important stage of Sameer’s life, he learned the meaning of religious struggle. With the 1978 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Sameer also learned the meaning of Zionist occupation. As his aversion to the occupiers grew, so did Sameer’s dedication to fighting this occupation through religious and social resistance.

As time passed, Sameer grew to be a friend for all the people in the district. He was a charismatic speaker who captivated those who listened to him. Although he was but a young man of 16 years, his great religious knowledge and devotion enabled him to begin teaching others at the mosque. The people sought to be close to this young man, Sameer.

During this time, there was conflict between the Amal Organisation and the Communist Party. Along with other men, Sameer studied methods of fighting. Despite his young age, he became the leader of his group and spoke with the others about faithfulness and about the role model of Imam Al Hussein. Sameer had a great love for the Family of the Prophet Mohammad and wanted to continue his religious studies. But in service of his faith, Sameer chose instead to serve his fellow man.

In June 1982, en route to Algiers to support the Algerians in conflict over their religious identity, Sameer and his friends learned of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Sameer returned from Al-Bekaa with the desire to confront the Israeli Army. He stopped by his home to see his mother and to speak with the men of his village. He asked the men to accompany him to the location of the Israeli tanks, the “Khalde Triangle.”

The men took their positions to block the Israeli troops' advancement toward Beirut. The Israelis soon discovered them and opened fire immediately. Sameer was killed, his fellow Resistance fighters injured. The ensuing clashes held back the surprised troops of the invading army.

Eighteen-year old Sameer confronted the Zionist invaders with the strength he had found in his faith in Allah and his admiration of Imam Hussein. Sameer's devotion and sacrifice for his faith and for his community established him as the First Martyr of the Islamic Resistance. In his final testament, Sameer spoke of his constant concern for others:

*"In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate,
To let my heart be at ease,
Forgive me, mom, mercy upon you, and pray for Allah to forgive me my deed.
Forgive me, dad, and my testament for you is to obey Allah.
My testament for mom and dad and for every mother and father is to forgive their sons
in their martyrdom."*