



CNN's Octavia Nasr is leaving the network over a tweet in which she praised a late Hezbollah leader. Nasr, CNN's Senior Editor of Middle East affairs, mourned the passing of Hezbollah leader Sayyed Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, calling Fadlallah "One of Hezbollah's giants I respect a lot."

In an internal memo, CNN executive Parisa Khosravi discusses Nasr's abrupt exit:

From Parisa Khosravi - SVP CNN International Newsgathering: I had a conversation with Octavia this morning and I want to share with you that we have decided that she will be leaving the company.

As you know, her tweet over the weekend created a wide reaction. As she has stated in her blog on CNN.com, she fully accepts that she should not have made such a simplistic comment without any context whatsoever.

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TVNL Comment: Fadlallah was respected and revered in Lebanon for many reasons. He gave many lectures, engaged in intense scholarship, wrote dozens of books, founded several Islamic religious schools, established a public library, a women's cultural center, and a medical clinic.

Accused of being the 'spiritual mentor' of Hezbollah, Fadlallah was the target of several assassination attempts, including the CIA's planting of a 440-pound car bomb in Beirut that killed 80 other people instead.

**But no one is allowed to praise the work of anyone opposed to the policies of Israel.□
Helen Thomas redux.**