

A Social Media Analysis of the Hate Network Surrounding Lokman Slim's Assassination

A report by
Pr. Nasri Messarra
September 2021



THE SAMIR KASSIR FOUNDATION

Author

Dr. Nasri Messarra is an associate professor at Saint-Joseph University of Beirut (Lebanon). He teaches digital marketing strategies and social networks analysis. He heads the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and directs the University's Information and Communication master's program. He also works as senior expert and consultant on policy, election and security sector reform projects for local and international organizations, including the European Union, the United Nations Development Program and Siren Associates among others.



THE SAMIR KASSIR FOUNDATION

The Samir Kassir Foundation is a Lebanese non-profit organization officially established in Beirut under registry number 30/A.D. On February 1, 2006. It is named after Samir Kassir, a Lebanese journalist assassinated in Beirut on June 2, 2005. It aims to spread democratic culture in Lebanon and the Arab world, encourage new talents in journalism, and build the movement for a cultural, democratic, and secular renewal. These are the conditions required to lift the Arab populations out of their "state of malaise," as described in Samir Kassir's book *Being Arab*. The Foundation strives to defend freedom of media and culture through its SKeyes Center for Media and Cultural Freedom, which, since its establishment in 2008, has become the largest center monitoring violations against journalists and artists in the Arab Levant, as well as a reference for research on journalism and for training media professionals and enhancing their skills.

Table of Contents

Introduction and Background	3
Lokman Slim's Timeline	4
Historical Twitter Data about Lokman Slim	6
The Hate Network	10
Influencers within the Hate Network	16
A Cross-Journalist Hate Network?	27
Conclusion	29

Introduction and Background

Lokman Mohsen Slim was a Lebanese publisher, an independent social and political activist, and a commentator with many appearances on international television. Slim was known for his acerbic criticism of Hezbollah, despite being from the Shia community, and living in an area with a strong Hezbollah military presence.

Lokman Slim was born on July 17, 1962, and assassinated on February 3, 2021, in South Lebanon.

The following is a study of 187,540 tweets, retweets and mentions, tweeted between January 4, 2021 (one month before Slim's assassination) and March 4, 2021 (one month after the assassination), in addition to other smaller data sets collected and used to reinforce our analysis and findings.

The datasets were processed and analyzed using the following programs:

- Microsoft Excel
- NodeXL
- Microsoft Access
- Orange
- Microsoft Power BI

Lokman Slim's Timeline

Lokman Slim (@LokmanSlim) was not very popular on Twitter compared to other leading activists in Lebanon. At the time of the collection of data, he only had 2,894 followers while following 1,879 accounts.

As a comparative table, the following list shows some of the prominent civil sociopolitical influencers in Lebanon:

Karl Sharro	@KarlreMarks	190K followers
Gino Raidy	@GinoRaidy	27.7K followers
Imad Bazzi	@TrellaLB	90.3K followers
Joumana Haddad	@JHaddadOfficial	43.1K followers
Diana Moukalled	@dianamoukalled	99.6K followers
Luna Safwan	@LunaSafwan	24.9K followers
Dima Sadek	@DimaSadek	723.9K followers

Lokman Slim's account was created in April 2013. He tweeted 2,362 times over the course of his account's existence, averaging a tweet a day. It was typical for him to tweet once a day, though there were days when he did not tweet at all. These numbers can be confirmed by browsing Slim's Twitter timeline. His last post is dated February 1, 2021, three days before his assassination.

2,387 interactions were collected from Lokman Slim's timeline using the Twitter Application Programming Interface (API), a software intermediary that allows two applications to talk to each other as a second dataset. The API was limiting in that some tweets were missing from the collection. The missing tweets accounted for less than 18% of the lot extracted.

Type	Count
Mentions	62
Mentions in Retweets	1
Replies to	38
Retweets	5
Tweets	2,281
Total	2,387

From the collected tweets, it is deduced that Lokman Slim mentioned the Lebanese Army's Twitter account, @LebarmyOfficial, seven times, mainly in reference to the right of citizens to protest peacefully without being harmed.

He also replied more than seven times to the traffic police (التحكيم المروري), @tmclebanon, to ask about traffic conditions in different regions in Lebanon. Slim's Twitter interactions also included @syria_true, a site denouncing Salafism, while promoting a secular Syria; and former MP Fares Souaid, @faressouaid, who is a vocal opponent of Hezbollah.

Slim criticized the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, @usembassybeirut, on September 12, 2020 at 18:21:06 Beirut time, for “helping an army that doesn’t care about its citizens’ right to demonstrate.”

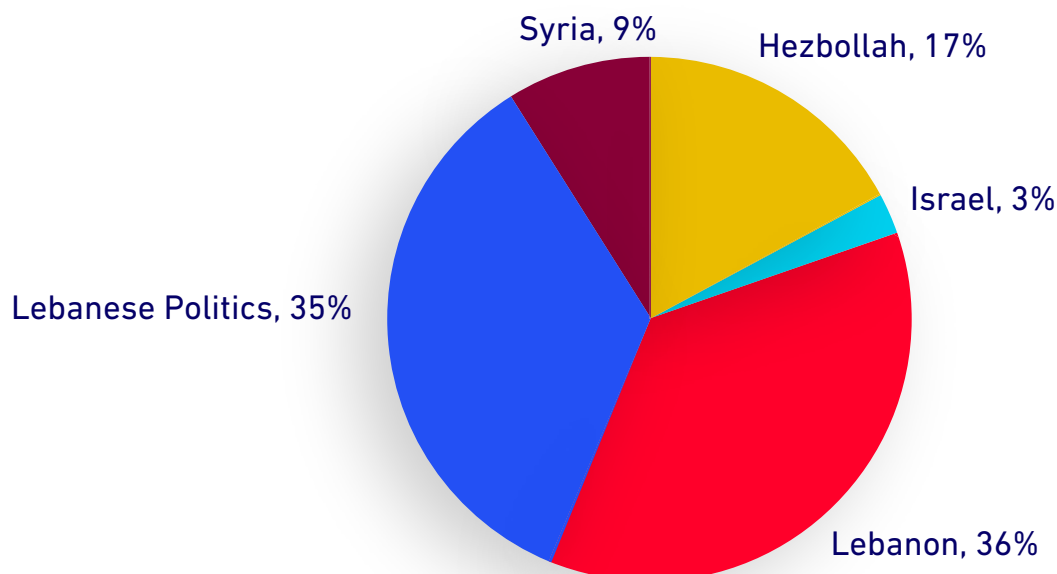
Analysis of Lokman Slim’s interactions deduces that he did not have frequent or recurrent interactions with one particular account. Even his retweets were limited to only four accounts: Hayya Bina, @hayyahayyabina, an NGO he co founded; Inga Schei, @ingaschei, program director at Hayya Bina; Makram Rabah, @makramrabah, a university professor and political activist; and Matt Levitt, @mattlevitt, a Washington Institute for Near East Policy scholar.

The following are categories of the terms most frequently used after analyzing Lokman Slim’s body of tweets:

- Hezbollah/Iran-related: حزب الله ، السيد، ايران
- Israel-related
- Government, Lebanese politicians: فرنجية، حسان دياب، ميشال عون
- Syria
- Lebanon: لبنان، طرابلس، الجيش...

In comparing the top 100 words, the most recurrent categories in order of importance are: Lebanon, Lebanese politics, Hezbollah and Iran, Syria, and Israel.

Category	Frequency	Rank
Hezbollah	0.092543860	3
Israel	0.014035088	5
Lebanon	0.196929825	1
Politics	0.188157895	2
Syria	0.048245614	4

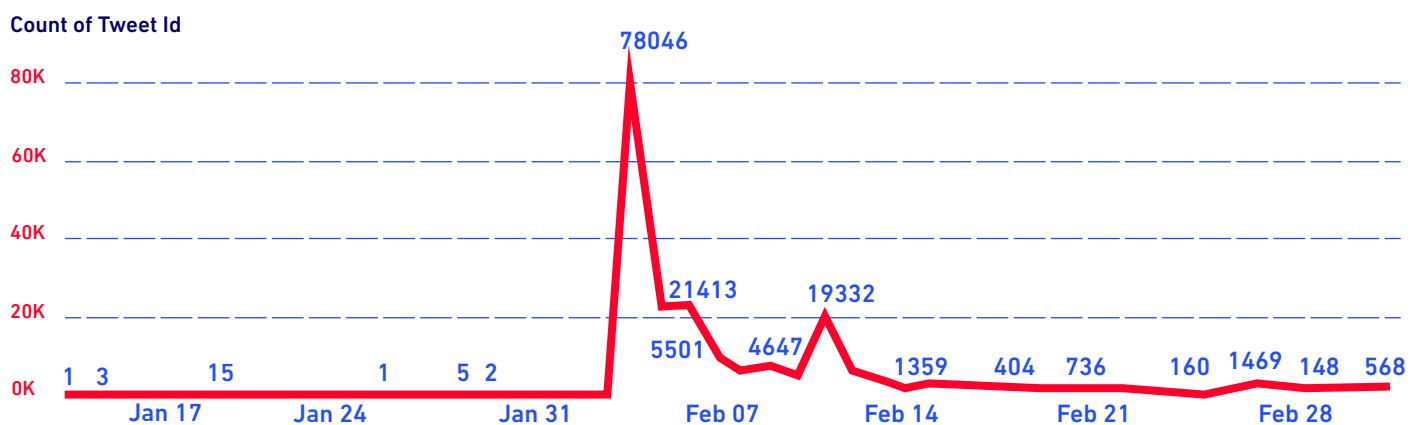


Historical Twitter Data about Lokman Slim

The 187,540 interactions of Twitter historical data used in this section were purchased from TrackMyHashtag as a full set of tweets for this period. However, during our investigation, some replies and comments were missing from the lot. Because companies like TrackMyHashtag usually rely on Twitter's API and services to collect data, it seems that some of the data may have been lost in the collection process. However, it is believed this data set is large and representative enough to allow a thorough analysis of the interactions that took place on the Twitter platform.

The collection contains 187,540 tweets, retweets and mentions, tweeted between January 4, 2021, and March 4, 2021, (one month prior to Lokman Slim's assassination to one month after), all using one or more of the following keyword combinations: "لقمان سليم", @LokmanSlim and #لقمان_سليم.

Slim's following was not substantial in comparison to other Lebanese activists. The data collected the month leading up to his assassination accounted for only 91 interactions. 187,449 interactions occurred the month following his assassination, 78,046 of which happened the day of the assassination.

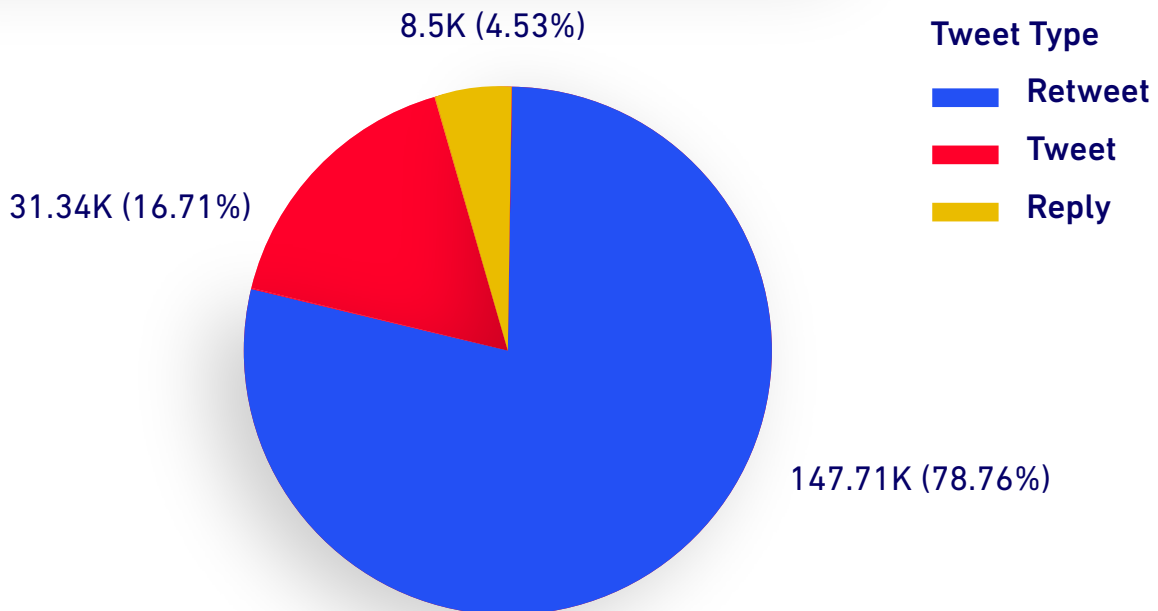
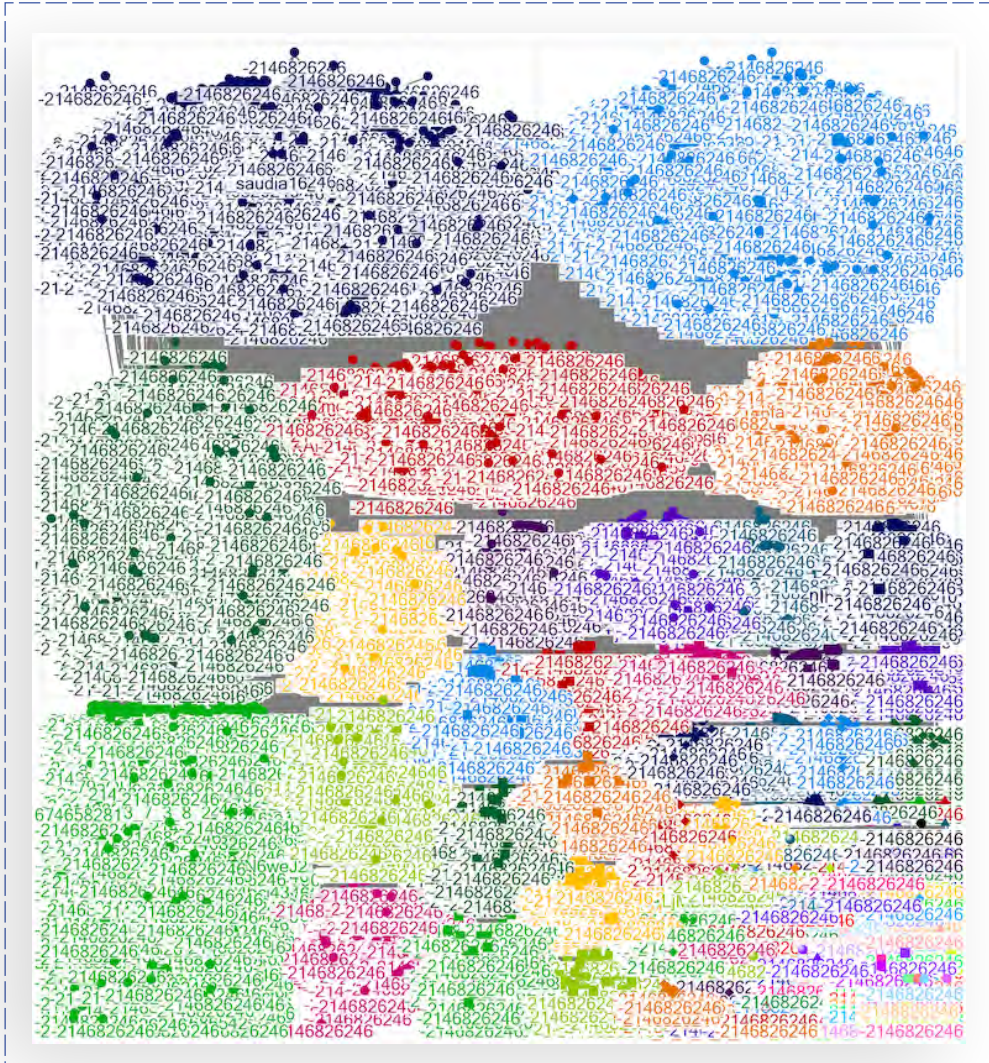


The 187,540 Tweets are divided as follows:

- 31,338 tweets
- 147,706 retweets
- 8,496 replies (comments with mentions)

The graph of all interactions shows community clusters, a characteristic of social and emotional debates. Each group backs at least one issue. The discussion is not entirely polarized, there are no obstinate positions (with/against, black/white). These community clusters represent a debate with varying perspectives, multiple ideas and subjects. Some call for action from French President Emmanuel Macron and the United Nations (with the hashtag #saveLebanon), some accuse President Michel Aoun and his advisor, former Minister Salim Jreissati, of not taking action. Some accounts reacted to a program about Lokman Slim on Al-Hurra TV hosted by Loyal Al-Ekthiar, @layal_alekhtiar. There were

accusations that Hezbollah is to blame for the assassination, and debates on the Lebanese Sheikh who apologized for reading Al-Fatihah on Lokman Slim's grave. Some accounts accuse pro-Hezbollah journalists of their constant fixation on Israel, sharing the slogan: "the accusations of collaboration are the culture of the cowards" (تهمة العمالة والتخوين ثقافة الجبناء). These perspectives and the existence of community clusters prove that the reactions on Twitter to Slim's assassination were complex, varied and nuanced.



As it is delivered as raw data from Twitter, the data itself needs to be processed in order to get the complete number of interactions. For instance, a reply or a tweet may integrate several mentions which are not returned as separate interactions in Twitter's API.

Using a set of formulas, the data was extracted and summarized in order to create a complete social network where mentions are individually represented as edges in the network.

Overall, metrics show a total of 191,260 interactions, involving 48,404 Twitter accounts. The average geodesic distance of the network is 4.415852, reaching a maximum of 16, meaning that tweets, in average, have hopped 4 times, reaching (through retweets and replies) more than 4 people, with a maximum of 16 people for one or more tweets. Those figures show that many tweets went viral.

The graph density is very low (0.000104234975385698) which can be explained by the fact that users talking about Lokman Slim after his assassination were, in majority, people from different countries and different circles, with no prior relationship in real life or even on Twitter. This has also been witnessed at Lokman Slim's funeral with support, sympathy and accusations, coming from different groups in society or from international organizations and governments worldwide, without, necessarily, direct links among them.

Based on the sample, 47,124 people were involved in the discussion (an average of 3.98 interactions per person).

The top influencers of the discussion for the full period are shown in the table below. They are sorted by their "in degree" metric, which represents the sum of positive interactions, i.e. being retweeted or mentioned.

User	Profile	Tweets with reference to Lokman Slim	In Degree
alhelalsurg	https://twitter.com/alhelalsurg	alhelalsurg tweets with mention to LS	1896
Columbuos	https://twitter.com/Columbuos	Columbuos tweets with mention to LS	1878
amhfarraj	https://twitter.com/amhfarraj	amhfarraj tweets with mention to LS	1793
hadeelOueiss	https://twitter.com/hadeelOueiss	hadeelOueiss tweets with mention to LS	1569
AlHadath	https://twitter.com/AlHadath	AlHadath tweets with mention to LS	1465
NadimKoteich	https://twitter.com/NadimKoteich	NadimKoteich tweets with mention to LS	1406
makramrabah	https://twitter.com/makramrabah	makramrabah tweets with mention to LS	1396
AAbdulsaeid	https://twitter.com/AAbdulsaeid	AAbdulsaeid tweets with mention to LS	1349
Fahd_Alshelaimi	https://twitter.com/Fahd_Alshelaimi	Fahd_Alshelaimi tweets with mention to LS	1318
LokmanSlim	https://twitter.com/LokmanSlim	LokmanSlim tweets with mention to LS	1224
AlArabiya	https://twitter.com/AlArabiya	AlArabiya tweets with mention to LS	1214
bilarakib	https://twitter.com/bilarakib	bilarakib tweets with mention to LS	1074
monther72	https://twitter.com/monther72	monther72 tweets with mention to LS	982
HoseinMortada	https://twitter.com/HoseinMortada	HoseinMortada tweets with mention to LS	932
halgawi	https://twitter.com/halgawi	halgawi tweets with mention to LS	919
DimaSadek	https://twitter.com/DimaSadek	DimaSadek tweets with mention to LS	900
DeghaitherF	https://twitter.com/DeghaitherF	DeghaitherF tweets with mention to LS	898
elissakh	https://twitter.com/elissakh	elissakh tweets with mention to LS	805
Rashalisa	https://twitter.com/Rashalisa	Rashalisa tweets with mention to LS	785
MohamadAhwaze	https://twitter.com/MohamadAhwaze	MohamadAhwaze tweets with mention to LS	746
souheildiab	https://twitter.com/souheildiab	souheildiab tweets with mention to LS	744
yasminebltt	https://twitter.com/yasminebltt	yasminebltt tweets with mention to LS	714
NajahWakim	https://twitter.com/NajahWakim	NajahWakim tweets with mention to LS	700
miskalakhbar	https://twitter.com/miskalakhbar	miskalakhbar tweets with mention to LS	671
khalil_charbel	https://twitter.com/khalil_charbel	khalil_charbel tweets with mention to LS	658
gabylteif_MCD	https://twitter.com/gabylteif_MCD	gabylteif_MCD tweets with mention to LS	645
alhurraneews	https://twitter.com/alhurraneews	alhurraneews tweets with mention to LS	640
a_albander	https://twitter.com/a_albander	a_albander tweets with mention to LS	634
GhasanCharbel	https://twitter.com/GhasanCharbel	GhasanCharbel tweets with mention to LS	624
dianamoukalled	https://twitter.com/dianamoukalled	dianamoukalled tweets with mention to LS	610

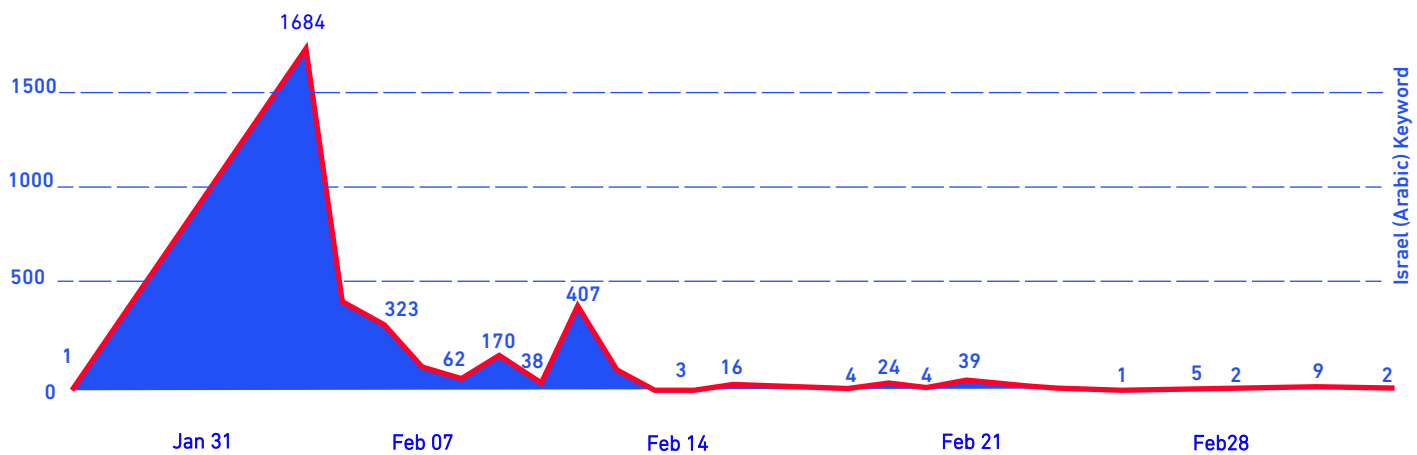
The Hate Network

There are potentially invaluable results that could be extracted from the data collected, however, this study will focus on the “hate network” surrounding Lokman Slim.

The hate network focused mainly on accusing Lokman Slim of collaboration with Israel. This accusation is considered a high treason crime in Lebanon, punishable by imprisonment or sometimes death. For a public figure like Lokman Slim, living in an area mostly under the control of Hezbollah, it resulted in various aggressions and threats over the last years.

Tweets containing the “Israel ” اسرائيل keyword were filtered from the data. There were 3,496 tweets with this keyword, generated by 2,579 distinct users.

Israel (Arabic) Keyword by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



The mentioning of Israel peaks at 1,684 on the day of the assassination.

The 3,496 tweets were manually categorized between proponents and detractors, which resulted in a “hate network” of 1,164 users.

More importantly, the first accusations started before February 4, 2021. The highest number of accusations occurred the day of the assassination, but more significant is the fact that accusations increased in the days preceding the assassination.

For instance, the following [tweet](#) from December 10, 2019, accused Lokman Slim and other Lebanese politicians and activists of being collaborators with Israel who sought normalization of relations. The tweet was retweeted several times on February 4, 2021.



This user who seemed to be part of a “troll network” retweeted the former post on January 29, 2021 less than a week before the assassination:

malak_313m3 | markkjanj72

malak_313m3 | markkianj7 | Show | No | 1 Retweet | 1/29/21 22:31 | 13552823 | https://twitter.com/malak_313m3/status/1355282353288073217

This account is part of a list of three accounts with similar usernames and descriptions:



Minutes after the assassination announcement, the son of Hezbollah Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah, Jawad Nasrallah, wrote: “the loss of some people is in fact a win and a grace that wasn’t expected #no_regrets.” The tweet was removed, therefore it was not part of our dataset. This tweet made the headlines of several media outlets, like Annahar and LBCI.



The shape of the hate network shows a large, connected group with a lot of star-shaped subnetworks implying that key influencers are handling the main messages, which, in turn, are retweeted by many followers.

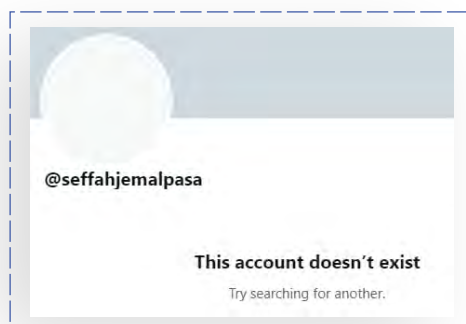
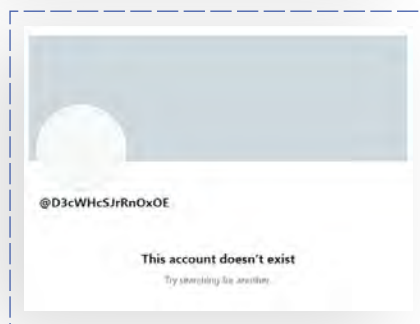
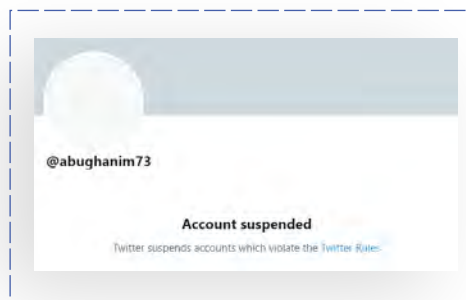
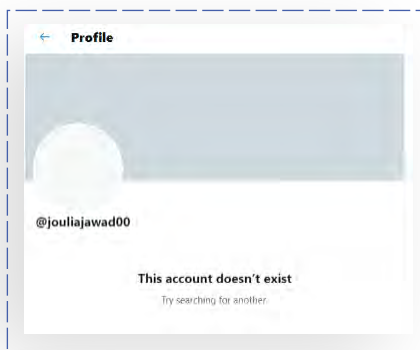


The top 10 influencers within Slim's hate network are:

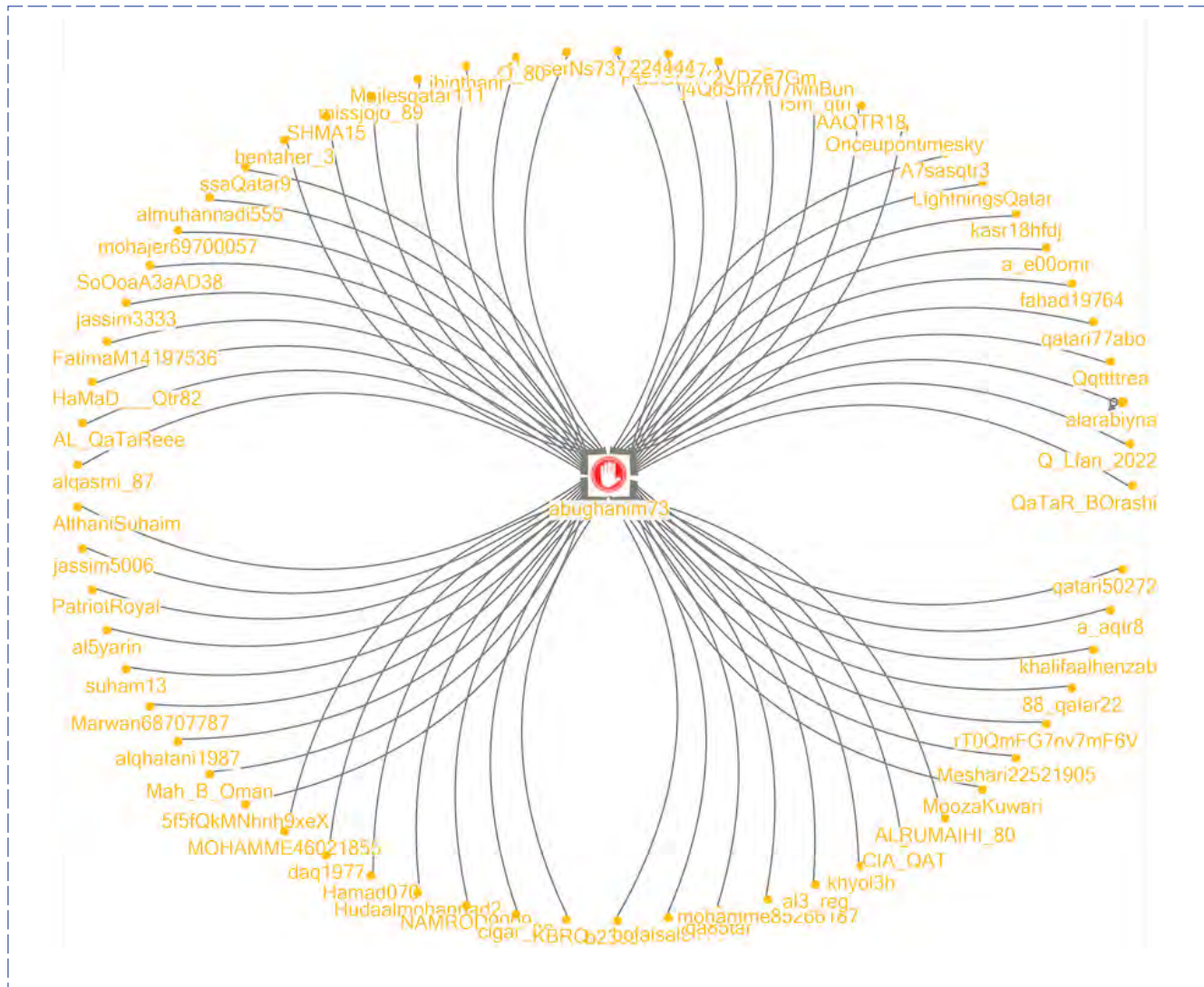
Username	Retweets or Mentions
HoseinMortada	324
chamseldeen	220
fady_jouni	154
aliimortada	147
almostshar202	126
nasserkandil	90
kassem_shahine	71
abughanim73	66
bo_7sen_mirza00	58
kassem_21	54

Notably, some accounts in the hate network seem either fake or created for political gain. The following are factors which raise suspicion in the investigation of Twitter activity following Slim's assassination:

1- The number of accounts that were suspended prior to our investigation. While precise count cannot be derived, several accounts which were no longer accessible were encountered. Some of those included: MisterX_LB, hanihajj69, seffahjemalpasa and abughanim73, one of the most retweeted accounts denouncing Slim's activism.



In the network graph below, abughanim73 sits at the center of a star, tweeting and being retweeted, as well as mentioned by 66 users. This account no longer exists.



2- Complex usernames that look computer generated, like Lc5k1aYS56TrcAU, 9eQ6u8Q75ic4leR and G8xnsMLIz5CA8mJ. Some of these accounts are prolific, for example Lc5k1aYS56TrcAU has published more than 10,600 tweets in less than two years of existence:

3- Peculiar account pseudonyms like MisterX_LB (suspended for violating Twitter rules at the time of this report) raise suspicion in dissecting the hate network. Anonymous accounts with aliases of political leaders or assassinated figures represent part of the tweeting party celebrating Slim's assassination. For example, one account involved had the username @seffahjemalpasa (the butcher/slaughterer Jamal Bacha). Many accounts associated with the hate network were disbanded at the time of this report. Below is one account, @aliseulment, which uses a political leader as a profile picture. @Aliseulment also describe themselves as an "imaginary spearhead," lending to suspicious anonymity.



Bnt_Lwatan (daughter of the homeland) is another account which operates under anonymity. The account is connected to another: @lebanon_90, but this provides no information in identifying a person behind the tweeting.



4- Some users in the hate network have multiple accounts with variations on a name like the above mentioned @ malak_313m, @ malak_313m2 and malak_313m3. These accounts rarely have a photo of a person or a description.

— Group 1 is led by Hosein Mortada, a Lebanese journalist with more than 445,900 followers. Hosein Mortada's following post will be retained:



This post accuses @5gf_mj (an account that was non-existent at the time of this report) of being aware of assassination plans, “which shows that it was part of a plan prepared in a campaign and synchronized against Hezbollah.” This tweet was retweeted 148 times.

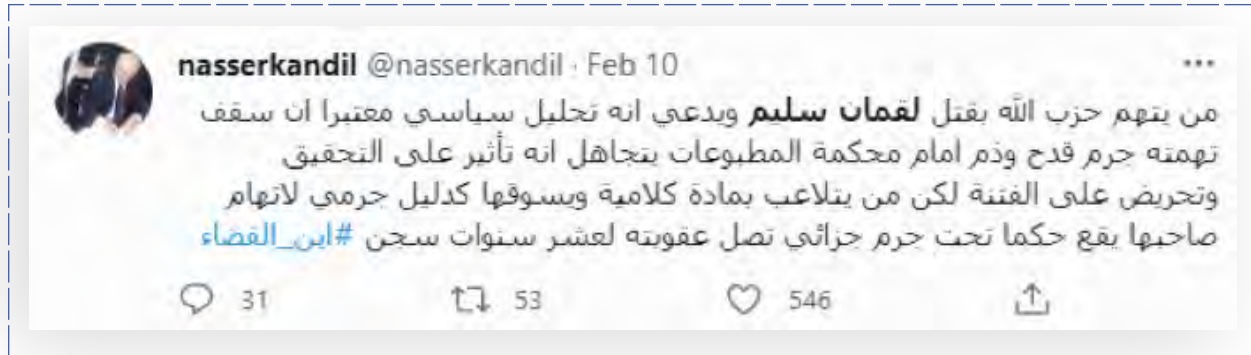
Most importantly, the following Tweet accuses Lokman Slim of calling on Israel to fight Hezbollah, however Slim only discusses a military “siege,” with no mention of Israel. The video can be found here: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1358036542716018692>



This post was retweeted 191 times.

Nasser Kandil, a former pro-Hezbollah Member of Parliament and editor in chief of Al-Bina' newspaper, is also considered an influencer in the hate network. He was retweeted and mentioned 70 times on issues regarding the assassination. He is ranked as the sixth most influential account within the hate network denouncing Slim's activism.

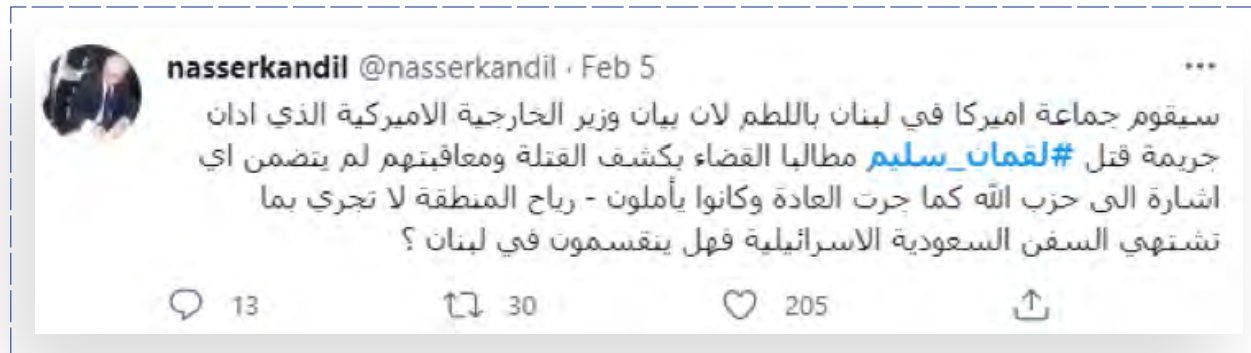
Kandil avoids blunt aggression but focuses on rejecting Hezbollah's involvement. His most retweeted tweet on Lokman Slim (53 times) noted that accusing Hezbollah without proof is an attempt to disrupt the judicial investigation.



He also accused the “killers of Lokman Slim” of trying to influence American and French policy on Lebanon.



In another tweet, he attacks the “pro-America gang in Lebanon,” declaring that they will be devastated by the absence of Hezbollah in the U.S. Secretary of State statement regarding the assassination of Lokman Slim.



— In Group 2, and in the second position as the top influencer with 217 mentions and retweets, comes Abdallah Chamseldeen (@chamseldeen). He only discussed Slim twice, based on our Twitter search.

Abdallah Chamseldeen is a journalist, and chief editor at Al Mayadeen TV.



The top tweet of Abdallah Chamseldeen states: "many of those who are suggesting that 'the resistance' is responsible for Lokman Slim's murder do not know that he has lived in the heart of Beirut's southern suburb for many years, and that his research center "UMAM" has been located in Haret Hreik since 2004, and that no one has ever harassed him despite his positions which are opposed to the resistance against Israel... Look for those who benefit from his death."

While Lokman Slim, indeed, lived in an area controlled by Hezbollah, he was certainly threatened prior to the assassination. In December, 2019, people gathered around his house and accused him of being a collaborator. They left posters on his building walls, with explicit calls for his assassination: "Glory for the silencer". Other printed messages included: "Hezbollah, the dignity of a nation," "Keep walking and wait for your turn," "Lokman Slim the traitor and collaborator," "All sacred have fallen, no peace with collaborators," etc.



The second tweet, 22 days later, suggested that those who wanted to "avenge the blood" of Lokman Slim have stopped exploiting his death after their failed attempts. He also asks, "where is Lokman Slim's phone?"

— The lead influencer in Group 3 is Ali Mortada, another journalist from Al Mayadeen.



Ali Mortada || علي مرتضى
31.6K Tweets



Ali Mortada || علي مرتضى
@aliimortada

reporter, War correspondent, editor and host @AlMayadeenNews

Lebanon-beirut Born January 1, 1988 Joined November 2011

1,857 Following 236.9K Followers

While other journalists and influencers in the hate network avoided direct accusations, Ali Mortada was aggressive in his approach. For instance, his most retweeted tweet, published the day of the assassination, suggested that, “Lokman Slim did not criticize everyone, as he has shown his appreciation of a video of a Moroccan person playing the Israeli national anthem, posted by Avichay Adraee (@AvichayAdraee), the spokesman of the Israeli occupation army.”



Ali Mortada || علي مرتضى @aliimortada · Feb 4

للامانة لم ينتقد القنيل #لعمان_سليم الجميع حيث يظهر هنا اعجابه بفيديو تشره افبخاي ادرعى المتحدث باسم جيش الاحتلال الاسرائيلي لعرف شخص من المغرب للنشيد الاسرائيلي

37 49 1,318

06/01/2021 افبخاي ادرعى

صديق من #المغرب أكرمنا بعزف النشيد الإسرائيلي "الأمل" على طريقته. صناعة السلام هي نتاج حضارة

34 61 360



The tweet can be found at this address:

<https://twitter.com/aliimortada/status/1357375431826096131>

The screenshot posted by Mortada does not actually show that Slim retweeted the video of the Israeli national anthem. At the time of this report, Avichay Adraee's original post was not retweeted by Lokman Slim.

(<https://twitter.com/AvichayAdraee/status/1346894268560977925>).

Mortada was cynical about the general attention garnered by Slim's assassination while people were simultaneously celebrating the deaths of pro-Assad MP and former Deputy Prime Minister, Michel Murr; Syrian Foreign Minister, Waleed el Mouallem; and Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps commander, Qassem Soleimani.

In one of his first tweets, he "thanks God" for not hearing about Lokman Slim before his assassination.



Mortada's hate network expanded as he became more confrontational, attracting reactions in the form of retweets.

— It is harder to find information on “Hussein Mirza,” the principal influencer of **Group 4**. He joined Twitter in January 2020, has 8,207 followers and has tweeted more than 34,400 times. His account description is a quote from slain Hezbollah military leader, Imad Mughniyah, “What fights in us is the soul.”



His most retweeted tweet on Lokman Slim is, “when you finish your cigarette, you throw it and step on it with your shoe. This is what the Israeli did with Lokman Slim.”



— Fadi Jouni (@fady_jouni) and Kassem Hadraj (@almostshar202), are pillars of **Group 5**.



Fadi Jouni presents himself as a Twitter user active in the resistance (i.e., Hezbollah) axis: Yemen, Iraq, Syria, Palestine, Iran and Lebanon.

In Jouni's most retweeted tweet about Lokman Slim, he quotes former Minister Wiam Wahab, a pro-Hezbollah druze political leader, stating that those who accuse Hezbollah are "donkeys."



Jouni also accuses Lokman Slim of being a useless collaborator, citing a Wikileaks document revealing that he was an informer for the American Embassy.

Jouni also defends Hezbollah in saying that they "did not retaliate against the hundreds of traitors and collaborators with Israel, who were discarded like dogs after Israel's withdrawal in 2000."



Kassem Hadraj, another influencer in the hate network, is a lawyer, media professional, and a consultant in international relations and diplomacy.



His top tweet regarding Lokman Slim criticizes a declaration from the Future Movement vice-president, former MP Mustapha Alloush. He uses wordplay to denounce Slim. For example, he adds a letter to the word strategic (استراتيجي becomes استضراتيحي) so that “fart” is included within the word. He also interchanges تحليل (analysis) with تحاميل (suppositories) as a way to insult Slim.



In his second post, he includes photos of Shia journalists and politicians known for their opposition to Hezbollah, declaring that no one from the party would be able to recognize more than 5 or 6 people in this group. In doing so, he suggests that Lokman Slim was not only unidentifiable to the party, but insignificant.

— @abughanim73 leads **Group 6**. At the time of this report, his account was suspended for violating Twitter’s rules, but his text was retrievable in the data collection. @abughanim73 wrote: “I am against Hezbollah but why wouldn’t it be the Mossad who killed Lokman Slim to throw the blame on Hezbollah?”

While the statement itself may not be considered hate speech, this account is found in the midst of a cluster, the center of negative rhetoric against Lokman Slim.

A google search of “abughanim73” revealed some violent content:



Tweets from the suspended @abughanim73 Twitter account are mentioned in several web pages online, alongside discussions of the assassination of Mahmoud al Werfalli (Lybian General) and the assassination of Jamal Khashoggi.

Though there is no confirmation that @abughanim73 was a perpetrator of hate themselves, they are a keystone in the **Group 6** hate network, a common denominator in anti-Slim sentiment on Twitter.

— Kassem Shahine (@kassem_shahine) leads **Group 7** in the categorization of the hate network. His description states: “a rightful word in the face of an unfair media.”



Kassem Shahine's posts state the following:

"More than 60 nationalities fought Hezbollah in Al Kussair and Israel can't rest because of Hezbollah, Hezbollah is managing the Covid crises in Saint George's hospital, we hear the international community, and Russia and the USA, talking about Hezbollah... I beg you to tell me who Lokman Slim is, so that Hezbollah wastes its time on him."

"Lokman Slim did not receive the honor of being killed by the resistance, his body will be cremated, not buried in the ground that was gratefully liberated by the blood and weapons of the resistance."

kassem shahine @kassem_shahine · Feb 4

أكثر من ٦٠ جنسية قاتلت [#حزب_الله](#) بالقصير
[#اسرائيل](#) واقفة على اجر ونص من فترة بسبب حزب الله
حزب الله عم يستقبل عشرات حالات [#كورونا](#) بمستشفى السان جورج وعبر
[#الهيئة_الصحية](#)
اليوم صرنا نسمع المجتمع الدولي عم يقول حزب الله وروسيا وأميركا
بشرفكن مين [#لقمان_سليم](#) حتى يضع حزب الله وقت في؟



الإعلام الحربي

24 80 341

kassem shahine @kassem_shahine · Feb 5

[#لقمان_سليم](#) لم ينل شرف القتل على يد [#المقاومة](#)
كما أن جسده سيحرق و لن يدفن بأرض تشرفت و حررت بدماء و بواعد و سلاح
[#المقاومة](#)
[#أفواء_جداً](#) ❤️

6 19 416

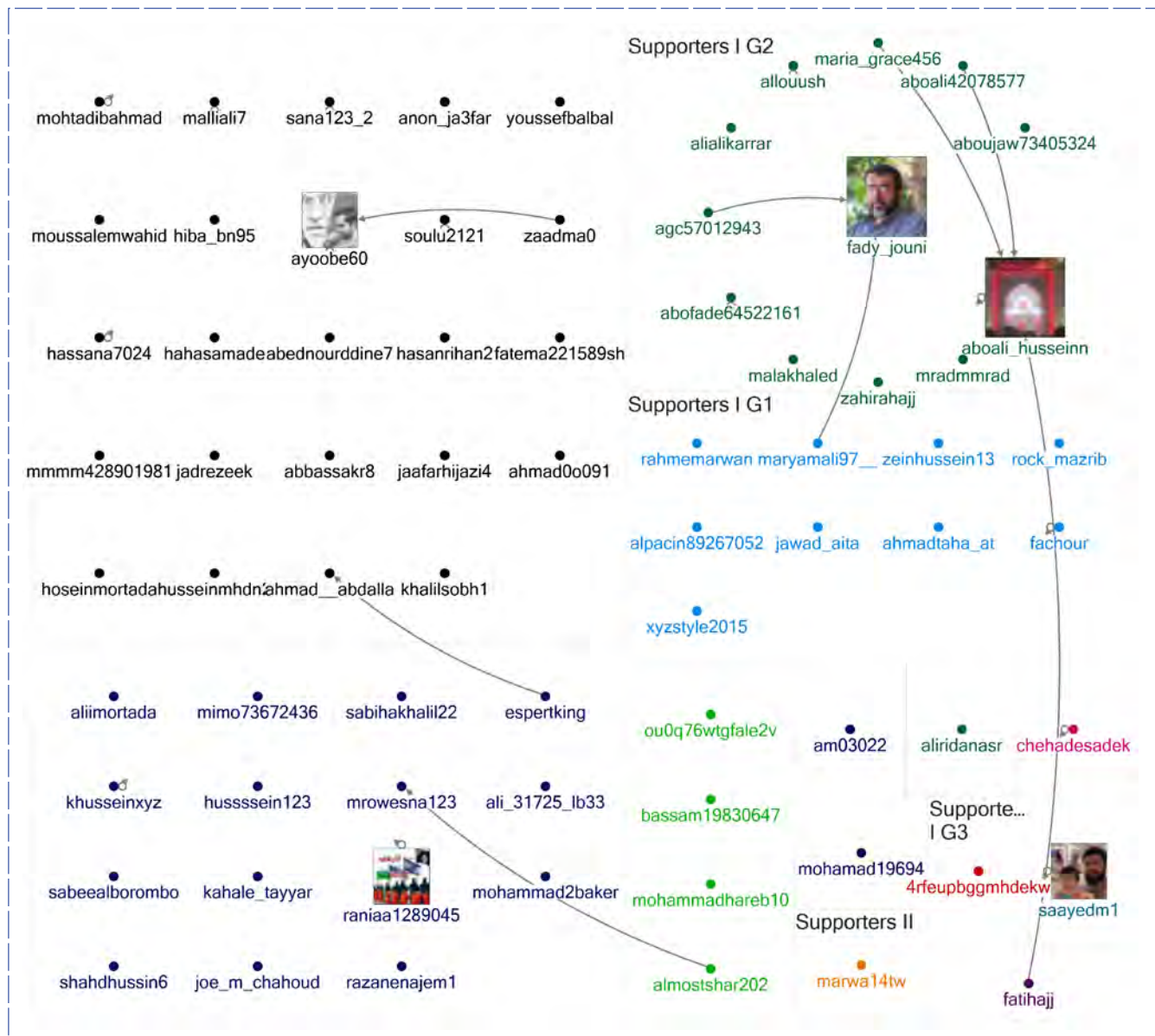
A Cross-Journalist Hate Network?

In the following section, the list of influencers collected from Lokman Slim's hate network is compared to the Twitter accounts of Lebanese journalists with similar profiles and ideas. This report focuses on Dima Sadek, Luna Safwan and Diana Moukalled.

It is important to mention that common hate speech propagators are being compared only with those of Lokman Slim's account.

52,189 tweets and interactions (retweets, mentions) were collected on Dima Sadek's Twitter page distributed over a period of five months, generated by 11,923 people (including herself).

A search comparison between Dima Sadek's hate network and Lokman Slim's hate network demonstrates an overlap in users. Out of 1,561 users who participated in hateful tweeting against Sadek and Slim, their networks have 222 users in common.



Fadi Jouni is a major influencer in the network. Moreover, the collaboration with Israel accusations are also present in this case, as well as a campaign to suspend her account:



There were 5,354 tweets and interactions from 860 users within Diana Moukalled’s hate network for the same period, however there are only three users in common with Slim’s hate network.

alpacin89237052

mohammadhareb10

rahmemarwan

3,728 tweets and interactions from 1,297 users were collected to represent Luna Safwan’s hate network, but there was only one user in common with Slim’s hate network.

Maryamali97__

Conclusion

Lokman Slim's assassination spurred a complex network of Twitter users who celebrated his death and/or accused him of collaboration with Israel. Some of the accounts associated with his hate network have substantial influence online and in the media.

The clusters established after graphing the data collected often have one influential account at the center. It is concerning that many of these central influencers are journalists, some with high ranking positions at media outlets. Their accusations of Slim and their celebrations of his death range on a spectrum from subtle to aggressive.

There was not substantial overlap between the hate network of Lokman Slim and journalists with similar politics. It is hypothesized that this is because many perpetrators of hate were acting in defense of Hezbollah and in response to the onslaught of accusations made by Twitter users against Hezbollah, post-assassination. Also, further in-depth exploration of the data is required to reveal the extent to which other public figures have been subjected to online harassment.

In conclusion, while the pool contains both anonymous accounts and personal accounts, the greater damage was done by prominent public figures, wielding their platform to denounce Lokman Slim and celebrate his assassination, while accusing him of collaborating with Israel. An analysis of hateful tweets both pre- and post assassination establishes the existence of cluster networks, led by proponents of Hezbollah, painting a deliberate image of Lokman Slim as at best insignificant and, at worst, deserving of his 'fate' due to his alleged ties with Israel.

Annex 1 – Frequency of Words and Classification in Lokman Slim's Tweets

Frequency	Word	Category
0.622368421	صديقتي_الشريرة	
0.06447368421052632	لبنان	5
0.03903508771929824	اللبناني	5
0.03289473684210526	اللبنانيين	5
0.021491228070175436	سوريا	4
0.038157895	حزب_الله	1
0.01929824561403509	سعد_الحريري	3
0.017982456140350874	شبيب_الأمين	
0.015789473684210527	رئيس	3
0.013596491228070176	ميشال_عون	3
0.013157894736842106	إيران	1

Frequency	Word	Category
0.012719298245614036	وزير	3
0.012280701754385965	بيروت	5
0.012280701754385963	سعيد_الجن	
0.011842105263157895	الأمين	
0.009210526315789475	الحريري	3
0.008771929824561403	عون	3
0.008333333333333333	hezbollah	1
0.007894736842105263	الجيش	5
0.007894736842105263	الرئيس	3
0.007894736842105263	lebanon	5
0.007017543859649123	سعد	3
0.007017543859649122	السوري	4
0.006578947368421052	طرابلس	5
0.006578947368421053	إسرائيل	2
0.006578947368421053	الماروني	3
0.006578947368421052	المقاومة	1
0.0061403508771929825	العراق	
0.0061403508771929825	الأخبار	
0.006140350877192982	الفيديو	
0.006140350877192982	الليبان	5
0.005701754385964913	حسان_دياب	3
0.005263157894736842	مجلس	3
0.005263157894736842	نبيه	3
0.005263157894736842	بغداد	
0.005263157894736842	الليبانيون	5
0.004824561403508771	الوزراء	3
0.004824561403508771	nasrallah	1
0.0043859649122807015	صديق	
0.0043859649122807015	السيد	1
0.0043859649122807015	العال	
0.0043859649122807015	القدس	2

Frequency	Word	Category
0.0043859649122807015	بعيدا	3
0.0043859649122807015	تويتر	
0.0043859649122807015	كورونا	3
0.0043859649122807015	الإيراني	1
0.0043859649122807015	اللبنانية	5
0.0043859649122807015	صديقي_السعودي	
0.003947368421052632	bbc	
0.003947368421052632	بري	3
0.003947368421052632	syria	4
0.003947368421052632	arabic	
0.003947368421052631	الخارجي	
0.003947368421052632	الداخلي	
0.003947368421052632	الماضية	
0.003947368421052632	نصرالله	1
0.003947368421052632	lebanese	5
0.003947368421052632	سمير_جعجع	3
0.0035087719298245615	شام	4
0.003508771929824561	موت	
0.003508771929824561	دمشق	4
0.0035087719298245615	الفساد	3
0.0035087719298245615	الساعات	
0.0035087719298245615	العراقي	
0.0035087719298245615	سعيد_الج	
0.0035087719298245615	الجمهورية	3
0.0035087719298245615	رفيق_الحريري	3
0.0030701754385964912	طلب	4
0.0030701754385964912	الحر	3
0.0030701754385964912	دولة	3
0.0030701754385964912	الثورة	3
0.0030701754385964912	الدولة	3
0.0030701754385964912	السلاح	1

Frequency	Word	Category
0.0030701754385964912	الوزير	3
0.0030701754385964912	الوطني	3
0.0030701754385964912	فرنجية	3
0.0030701754385964912	استقالة	3
0.0030701754385964912	الجولان	4
0.0030701754385964912	الحكومة	3
0.0030701754385964912	السياسي	3
0.0030701754385964912	الوطنية	5
0.0030701754385964912	الفلسطيني	
0.0030701754385964912	الإسرائيلي	2
0.0030701754385964912	رشا_الأمير	
0.0030701754385964912	مرفاً_بيروت	3
0.0030701754385964912	الجيش_اللبناني	5
0.0030701754385964912	نيترات_الأمونيوم	1
0.002631578947368421	مطار	
0.002631578947368421	الأسد	4
0.002631578947368421	الأمن	3
0.002631578947368421	الموت	
0.002631578947368421	تحرير	
0.002631578947368421	العماد	3
0.002631578947368421	المنار	1

Classification:

- 1- Hezbollah
- 2- Israel
- 3- Government, Political parties, Politicians
- 4- Syria
- 5- Lebanon, Army



You are free to share, copy, distribute and transmit this work under the conditions that you attribute the work to the author and the Samir Kassir Foundation but without suggesting in any way that the author and the Samir Kassir Foundation endorse you or your use of the work. You may not use this work for commercial purposes.

©September 2021 - Samir Kassir Foundation

Riverside Bloc C, 6th floor,
Charles Helou Street, Sin el-Fil, Metn - Lebanon
+961 1 499 012 / +961 1 499 013

www.skeyesmedia.org