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Iran promises revenge after assassination of Soleimani – 6th January, 2020

Level 4

Iran's president promised to avenge the assassination of Qassem Soleimani. Using strong words, the president said: "The Americans do not realise what grave error they have committed. Revenge for Soleimani's blood will be secured, and the filthy hands of America will be cut off forever from this region." Iran's religious leader was similarly defiant. He said: "Severe retaliation awaits murderers with blood on their hands." Mr Soleimani's death will increase tensions.

Qassem Soleimani, 62, was the second most powerful person in Iran. He was the top military leader and was behind Iran's spreading regional influence. Some media call him the "rock star general". The U.S. president ordered the assassination after the killing of an American in the U.S. embassy in Baghdad. He said the assassination was to stop war in the region. He called Soleimani a terrorist who was responsible for thousands of deaths. "World War III" is now a top hashtag on social media.

Level 5

Iran's president has promised to get revenge for the assassination of general Qassem Soleimani. In a strongly-worded statement, President Rouhani said: "The Americans do not realise what grave error they have committed. Revenge for his blood will be secured, and the filthy hands of America will be cut off forever from this region." Iran's religious leader Ayatollah Khamenei mirrored these comments. He said: "Severe retaliation awaits murderers who have the blood of Mr Soleimani on their hands." He said Soleimani's death would increase hostilities towards the USA.

Qassem Soleimani, 62, was the second most powerful figure in Iran. He was the country's top military leader and the architect of its spreading influence in the Middle East. Some media called him the "rock star general". U.S. President Donald Trump ordered his assassination after the death of an American in attacks on the U.S. embassy in Baghdad. He said the assassination was to prevent war in the region. He said Soleimani was a terrorist responsible for thousands of deaths. The world is now waiting to see how Iran retaliates. "World War III" is now a top hashtag on social media.

Level 6

Iran's President Rouhani has promised it will get revenge for the assassination of Iranian general Qassem Soleimani on Friday. In a strongly-worded statement, President Rouhani said: "The Americans do not realise what grave error they have committed. Revenge for his blood will be secured, and the filthy hands of America will be cut off forever from this region." Iran's religious leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei offered similarly vengeful comments. He said: "Severe retaliation awaits murderers who have the blood of Mr Soleimani and that of other martyrs on their wicked hands." He said Soleimani's death would intensify Iran's hostility towards the United States and Israel.

Qassem Soleimani, 62, was regarded as the second most powerful figure in Iran. He was Iran's pre-eminent military leader and was viewed as the architect of Iran's spreading influence in the Middle East. Such was his popularity with many Iranians, he was dubbed the "rock star general". U.S. President Donald Trump said he ordered the assassination of Soleimani after the death of an American in attacks on the U.S. embassy in Baghdad. Mr Trump said the assassination was to prevent war in the region. He called Mr Soleimani a terrorist responsible for thousands of deaths. The world is now on tenterhooks to see how Iran retaliates. "World War III" was the top-trending hashtag on social media on Saturday.