

Study Guide: "The Cult of the Suicide Bomber" (2005)
Presented by Robert Baer, Ex-CIA Agent
Part One

1. What does Robert Baer learn from his visit to Tehran University during noon prayers on a Friday?
2. What are the underlying causes of the religious revolution that led Ayatollah Khomeini to overthrow the Shah of Iran?
3. What was the role of Imam Hussein at the Battle of Karbala in the year 680 Christian era? What is his continuing significance to the Shiites?
4. What role did Hossein Fahmideh play in the war of Iran against Iraq in 1980? What is the significance of the Shrine to Ayatollah Khomeini?
5. How did radical Islam try to drive the United States, part of an international peacekeeping force, out of Lebanon in the 1980s? According to General Selim Kallas of the Lebanese Army, who was responsible?
6. In July of 1982, how did the Iranian Revolutionary Guards infiltrate Lebanon and even take over the barracks of the Lebanese Army in Balbec?
7. What was the significance of the attack mounted by eighteen-year-old Ahmad Qassir on November 11, 1982?
8. How did Haitham Subhi Dabbuq, a 20 year old engineer of the Islamic Resistance, achieve fame on August 19, 1989?
9. According to Tawfiq Muhanna of the SSNP what are the motivations of Syrian suicide bombers? How many are female?
10. How did 26-year-old Norma Abi Hassan achieve fame on July 17, 1986? What factors in her family background may have contributed to her state of mind?
11. As a result of an 18-year campaign with some 30 suicide attacks resulting in the deaths of some 350 Israeli soldiers, when did Israel decide to withdraw from Lebanon?
12. What was the significance of the attack on October 23, 1983, on the United States Marine Corps barracks in Lebanon?