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## **Hezbollah's interests are in Lebanon, it just protects Shiite shrines in Syria - Lavrov**

Moscow, May 17, Interfax - Moscow believes that the *Hezbollah* movement does not pursue any goals outside Lebanon, Russia Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said.

"As to *Hezbollah*, everyone knows well that this is not an 'imported product' but a result of the development of Lebanese political life and the manifestation of the Lebanese Shia," Lavrov said in an interview with the Lebanon's *al-Mayadeen* TV channel.

"As far as I understand they do not have any goal that would go beyond the Lebanese territory," he said.

"Now *Hezbollah* openly states that they sent their combat units to Syria with the sole, as they stress, goal that is to protect Shiite shrines," Lavrov noted.

It is a common knowledge that religious shrines in Syria are vandalized, he said. In particular, it was reported recently that an Orthodox temple and the image of a saint worshiped by both Orthodox and Muslim believers in it were destroyed, he noted.

"So people involved in this must be stopped and excluded from any political processes dedicated to Syria's future," he said.