

《CCTV9英语新闻：各国领导悼念阿里尔·沙龙》

CCTV9英语新闻：各国领导悼念阿里尔·沙龙

World leaders to attend Sharon's memorial on Monday

The body of former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has been carried into the Israeli parliament, after Israelis spent the day paying their final respects to him in the square outside.

Sharon's coffin lay in state in Knesset Plaza, where hundreds of mourners, ranging from former army comrades to political allies and citizens, lined up to say farewell.

The former leader, who was one of Israel's most iconic and controversial figures, died on Saturday at the age of 85.

His body will be taken by military convoy for burial at his family ranch in the Negev Desert, where he will be laid to rest next to his wife Lily. A state memorial is planned for Monday at parliament followed by a funeral service.

US Vice President Joe Biden, former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Czech Prime Minister Jiri Rusnok, and German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier are expected to attend Monday's ceremonies.