

- THE ABOLITION OF TITLES IN THE REPUBLIC OF LEBANON
- ORIGINAL AND ACTING MINISTERS
- FEDERALISM AND CONFEDERALISM IN LEBANON

# POLITICAL INHERITANCE

## ZU'AMA AND SECTS



**4 POLITICAL INHERITANCE** ABSENT ENTIRELY WITHIN THE SHIA'A COMMUNITY, DWINDLING WITHIN THE MARONITE AND SUNNI COMMUNITIES AND OMNIPRESENT WITHIN THE DRUZE

**22** THE ABOLITION OF TITLES IN THE REPUBLIC OF LEBANON  
NO *FAKHAMA*, NO *MA'ALI*, NO *BEIK* AND NO *SHEIKH*

**23** REVENUE STAMPS IN LEBANON

**25** ORIGINAL AND ACTING MINISTERS  
WHO TAKES CHARGE WHEN A MINISTER RESIGNS?

**26** FEDERALISM AND CONFEDERALISM IN LEBANON

**28** WORKING WOMEN IN LEBANON  
A MAJORITY IN EDUCATION AND NURSING

**29** EGYPT'S PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

**30** ANWAR EL-KHATIB (1910-1970)

**32** THE LEBANESE ASSOCIATION FOR ENERGY  
SAVING AND ENVIRONMENT

**34** POPULAR CULTURE

**35** DEBUNKING MYTH#99: DOES SHAVING MAKE  
HAIR GROW BACK FASTER AND THICKER?

**36** MUST-READ BOOKS: *THE BIOGRAPHY OF AMINE  
AND LEILA*

**37** MUST-READ CHILDREN'S BOOK: *NOURA WA ALAM  
AL-MEHAN*

**38** LEBANON FAMILIES: THE SHEBSHEBS

**39** DISCOVER LEBANON: QARHA

**40** DISCOVER THE WORLD: FALKLAND ISLANDS

**41** SEPTEMBER 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

**45** THIS MONTH IN HISTORY- LEBANON  
PRESIDENTIAL VACUUM AFTER EXPIRY OF LAHHOUD'S TERM

**47** THIS MONTH IN HISTORY- ARAB WORLD - MOROCCO  
MOROCCO'S GREEN MARCH

**48** TERRORIST GROUPS PRETENDING TO STAND  
FOR ISLAM (10)  
BOKO HARAM: TERRORISTS OR ISLAMISTS?



P: 4



P: 23

**49** REAL ESTATE PRICES - SEPTEMBER 2015

**50** DID YOU KNOW THAT?: TRAFFIC  
ACCIDENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA

**50** RAFIC HARIRI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
TRAFFIC - SEPTEMBER 2015

**51** LEBANON'S STATS



## EXHIBITION OF PALESTINE'S RECOVERED ANTIQUITIES

The UNESCO Palace hosted from the 2<sup>nd</sup> till the 5<sup>th</sup> of November the Exhibition of Palestine's Recovered Antiquities, an event organized by the Saadeh Cultural Foundation and the Social and Cultural Development Association (INMA). The exhibition displayed 39 Palestinian artifacts that the associations were able to recover from public auctions in the US. Speeches were delivered on this occasion by a number of archeologists and experts and a catalog featuring the antiquities was distributed to the attendees. Below is the catalog's introduction:



***“I know not whether my native land be a grazing ground for wild beasts or yet my home!”***

Anonymous poet of Ma'arra

Since the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, with the arrival of missionaries and archaeologists and later with Napoleon's conquest of Egypt and the antiquities of this region have been subject to plunder. With the looting and destruction of Iraq's National Museum in 2003, and more recently of the Mosul museum and the ruins of Nineveh, Palmyra, Maarrat al-Nu'man, Aleppo and many others, the negligence of Arab governments has compounded this abuse of our regional heritage. Despite numerous treaties and attempts to control the looting of antiquities and retrieve lost items, artifacts from Egypt and the Levant are still very much present in museums and auction houses abroad. From the British Museum, to the Louvre, Pergamon and the museums of Istanbul, statues, tombs, and other art objects displayed originate from the ancient cities of our region. Sadly however, these treasures are more likely to remain better preserved in those countries than in the countries that hosted their own civilization. Concerns for political aims, financial profit, or real estate development have overshadowed the importance of our cultural heritage.

Cognizant of this problem, The Saadah Cultural Foundation (SCF) and the Social and Cultural Development Association (INMA) would like to shed light on this matter before more of our heritage is uprooted from its historical context and exported to the world. This comes at a time when our culture is being plundered in Palestine, Syria and Iraq. To this end, we have acquired what has been described as “The Moshe Dayan Collection” on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup> of November, 2012 from two public auctions in the United States of America.

Israeli General Moshe Dayan had a vast collection of antiquities whose acquirement remains controversial, even within the Zionist state. Yet these artifacts were kept nestled and later even bought by the Israel Museum, noting that Dayan had gifted some of them to a number of friends including Paul and Helen Zuckerman and Irving Bernstein. These artifacts were later put up for auction by the heirs of those friends. It is reported that in addition to employing a number of Palestinian Bedouins to excavate, Dayan also ordered Israeli soldiers to participate in his expeditions. Ample documentation has shown that not only in Palestine, but also in the Sinai Peninsula, the Golan Heights and South Lebanon, the Israeli army took part in and facilitated the excavation and the smuggling of antiquities from those areas. Dayan not only felt entitled to give and receive Palestinian antiquities as gifts, but in total disrespect to their historical symbolism, he signed and dedicated them.

From the invasion of the Franj (Crusades) to the discourse on the clash of civilization, the policies of western governments have been guided by the so-called ‘white man burden’ as a pretext to conquer. Admittedly, we ourselves have not been kind in preserving our cultural heritage. However, it is always better late than never. The terracotta of the Levant, China, Egypt and South America shows that we are one on this earth despite all the bloody conflicts and wild beasts.

*Jawad N. Adra*

# POLITICAL INHERITANCE

ABSENT ENTIRELY WITHIN THE SHIA'A COMMUNITY, DWINDLING WITHIN THE MARONITE AND SUNNI COMMUNITIES AND OMNIPRESENT WITHIN THE DRUZE

Political power in Lebanon is bequeathed from parents to sons to grandsons. According to paragraph C of the preamble to the Lebanese Constitution, "Lebanon is a parliamentary democratic republic". In theory, this might be true. In practice though, Lebanon is closer to an eighteen-sect emirate governed by seven major za'amat or parties that differ in their spheres of influence and their power. Usually, the zou'ama pass power to their children and grandchildren through folkloric elections the results of which are often known beforehand. Even in those rare cases where the za'im fails in the elections, he retains the status of 'leader', until he gets it right in the next round. This article sheds light on the political families that have been ruling Lebanon through grandparents to sons and even grandsons.

## The Jumblatts (Druze)

The za'ama of the Jumblatt family dates back centuries and is one of Lebanon's oldest leaderships. Most often, the family was able to adapt to the transformations that Lebanon underwent through the ages. Sometimes, it even challenged to these transformations, paying the price through the assassinations that targeted many of its leaders as indicated later.

**Ali Rabah Jumblatt (died in 1775)**

**Qassem Ali Jumblatt (died in 1793)**

**Bashir Qassem Jumblatt (1775- 1825)**

He is one of those Druze leaders who succeeded in bringing the Jumblatt family to decision-making positions in Mount Lebanon under the rule of Emir Bashir Al-Chehabi, with whom the Druze had a strong alliance. This alliance soon dissolved and battles erupted between the two parties, resulting in the exile of Bashir Jumblatt to Akka, where he was executed at the request of Emir Bashir.

**Said Bashir Jumblatt (died in 1861)**

He was accused of plotting the bloody conflict between the Druze and the Maronites and was sentenced to life in prison. He married Badr Amineddine and had two children with her, Nassib and Najib. Nassib assumed the position of Qaimaqam of Shouf on May 25, 1884. Najib (died in 1893) had two children, Fouad and Ali. Ali abandoned politics leaving the za'ama to his brother.



Kamal Jumblatt



Walid Jumblatt



Taymour Jumblatt

**Fouad Najib Jumblatt (1885-1921)**

He was appointed Qaimaqam of Shouf in 1919. In 1921, he was shot dead, allegedly by mistake, by Shakib Wahhab, a rebel against the French, in Wadi Ainbal in Shouf. He married Sitt Nazira.

**Kamal Fouad Jumblatt (1917-1977)**

Kamal Jumblatt assumed several parliamentary and ministerial posts. He was elected to Parliament in 1943, 1947, 1951, 1953, 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972 and remained in office until his assassination on March 16, 1977. He handled ministerial responsibilities for the first time in 1943. The portfolios he assumed were: Minister of National Economy (1946), Minister of Public Works and Transport (1961) and Minister of the Interior (1969). Kamal Jumblatt founded the Progressive Socialist Party.

**Walid Kamal Jumblatt (born in 1949)**

He succeeded his father to political power and was appointed MP representing the Shouf Qada'a in 1991. In 1992, 1996, 2000, 2005 and 2009, he was elected to Parliament in the same district (Shouf), and he still holds a seat in Parliament. Walid Jumblatt assumed several ministerial portfolios including Minister of Public Works, Transport and Tourism in 1984 and Minister of the Displaced in 1992. In the summer of 2005, Walid Jumblatt entrusted his son Taymour with some political tasks and assigned him to welcome delegations in Moukhtara. Thus, the Jumblatts seem to be holding on to the family's political legacy and persist in their involvement in politics which dates back roughly 240 years.

**The Gemayyels (Maronite)****Pierre Amine Gemayyel (1905-1984)**

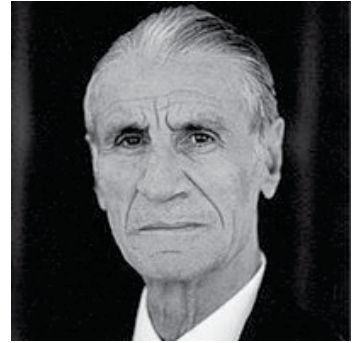
He established the Phalanges Party in 1936 and was elected to represent the Beirut 1 district in Parliament in the elections held in 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972. He remained a Member of Parliament until his death. Pierre Gemayyel handled several ministerial tasks including serving as Minister of Public Works and Transport and Minister of Education in 1958, Minister of Finance in 1960 and 1968 and Minister of the Interior in 1966.

**Bashir Pierre Gemayyel (1947-1982)**

He was elected President of the Lebanese Republic in 1982 but was soon assassinated on September 14 that year.

**Amine Gemayyel (1941- ...)**

He was elected to represent Matn in Parliament in 1970 as successor to his maternal uncle, MP and minister Maurice Gemayyel. In 1972, he was elected to fill the same seat. In 1982, he was elected President of the Lebanese Republic and he chaired the Phalanges Party until 2015 when his son, Sami, took charge.



Pierre Gemayyel



Bashir Gemayyel



Amine Gemayyel



Sami Gemayyel



Nadim Gemayyel

**Pierre Amine Gemayyel (1972- 2006)**

He was elected to represent Matn in Parliament in 2000 and 2005. He served as Minister of Industry in 2005 and was assassinated on November 21, 2006.

**Sami Amine Gemayyel (1980- ...)**

He was elected MP in Matn in the 2009 parliamentary elections and Head of the Phalanges Party in 2015.

**Solange Gemayyel (1949- ...)**

She is the wife of Bashir Gemayyel. She was elected representative of Beirut in Parliament in 2005 but abandoned her seat in the 2009 elections in favor of her son Nadim.

**Nadim Bashir Gemayyel (1982- ...)**

He was elected MP in the Beirut district in 2009.

Political power within the Gemayyel family has been handed down from the father to children and then grandchildren and the Gemayyels continue to practice this power by retaining their positions in Parliament and the government.

**The Frangiehs (Maronite)****Qabalan Frangieh (1872- 1941)**

He was one of Zgharta's prominent dignitaries. He confronted the Ottoman Sultanate, which sought to exile him to Istanbul, but retracted its decision after interventions from Emir Shakib Erslan. He was elected representative of the north in Parliament in 1929.

**Hamid Qabalan Frangieh (1907- 1981)**

He assumed several parliamentary and ministerial posts and was elected to Parliament in 1934, 1937, 1943, 1947, 1951 and 1957. He handled the portfolios of finance, national education and foreign affairs and emigrants.

**Suleiman Qabalan Frangieh (1910-1992)**

He served as President of the Lebanese Republic between 1970 and 1976. Before the presidency, he handled the Ministry of Post and Telephone (1960), the Ministry of Interior (1968) and the Ministry of Economy (1969). He was also elected MP in the parliamentary elections held in 1960, 1964 and 1968.

**Tony Suleiman Frangieh (1941-1978)**

He succeeded his father Suleiman Frangieh as Member of Parliament in 1970. He served as Minister of Telephone and was assassinated with his wife and daughter in June 1978 in the Ehden Massacre.



Suleiman Qabalan Frangieh



Tony Suleiman Frangieh



Suleiman Tony Frangieh

**Suleiman Tony Frangieh (1964- ...)**

He was appointed Member of Parliament in 1991 and was elected to the same position in the parliamentary elections of 1992, 1996, 2000 and 2009. He was appointed minister under several governments taking charge of different portfolios such as public health, agriculture, interior and municipalities and housing and cooperatives.

**Tony Suleiman Frangieh (1987- ...)**

He started engaging in politics in preparation for parliamentary office, for which he would run instead of his father who would withdraw his candidacy in favor of his son.

**Samir Hamid Frangieh (1945- ...)**

A politician and former MP (2005), son of the former minister and MP Hamid Frangieh.

**The Karamis (Sunni)****Abdul Hamid Rashid Karami (1893-1950):**

He was the son of Tripoli's Mufti Rashid Karami. He was elected MP representing Tripoli in 1943 and became Prime Minister two years later in 1945.

**Rashid Abdul Hamid Karami (1921-1987):**

He served as Prime Minister on ten occasions, the first of which was in 1955 when he was the youngest PM in Lebanon. He was assassinated in 1987 while still in office. He assumed several ministerial portfolios including foreign affairs, justice, finance, national economy, interior and national defense. He was elected a Tripoli MP in 1951, 1953, 1957, 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972.

**Omar Abdul Hamid Karami (1935- 2015):**

He succeeded his brother Rashid Karami and was appointed MP in 1991. He was elected to Parliament again in 1992, 1996 and 2000. He held the office of Prime Minister twice, first in 1990 and then in 2004. He was also appointed Minister of Education and Fine Arts in 1989.

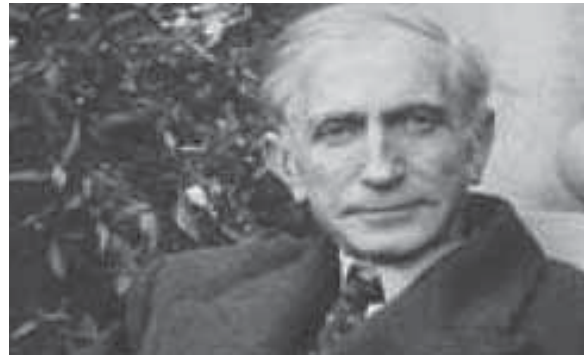
**Faisal Omar Karami (1971-...):**

He engaged in politics alongside his father Omar Karami and assumed the Ministry of Youth and Sports in 2011. Faisal succeeded his father following his death.

**Ahmad Mostafa Karami (1944-...):**

He was elected a Tripoli MP, first in 1996 and then in 2009 and was appointed Minister of State in 2011.

The role of the Karamis has been dwindling since the rise of Rafik Hariri and other leaders in Tripoli such as Najib Mikati and Mohammad Safadi.



Abdul Hamid Karami



Rashid Abdul Hamid Karami



Omar Abdul Hamid Karami



Faisal Omar Karami

## The Zeins (Shia'a)

Hussein Ismail Zein (1870-1953): He was appointed member of the administrative committee formed by the French High Commissioner in 1920 and was also appointed member of the Senate in 1926. He never ran for office afterwards and left the stage for his brother Youssef.

### Youssef Ismail Zein (1879-1962):

Youssef Zein is considered the forefather of the Zein family's political za'ama as he was elected MP in Nabatieh in 1922, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1937, 1947, 1953, 1957 and 1960 before his death in 1962.

### Abdul Latif Youssef Zein (1932-...):

He succeeded his father in the by-elections held in 1962 when he ran against his brother Ezzat. Abdul Latif Zein has been in Parliament since that time and won in the rounds held in 1964, 1968, 1972, 1992, 1996, 2000, 2005 and 2009. He was appointed Minister of Agriculture twice in 1969.

### Abdul Karim Youssef Zein (1927- 1998):

He was elected MP in the district of Zahrani in 1964. He and his brother Abdul Latif held seats in the same Parliament that year.

### Abdul Majid Youssef Zein (1925-2002):

He was elected MP representing the Beirut 2 district in 1968 when he and his brother Abdul Latif held seats in the same Parliament. He ran in the 1972 elections and lost to his rival Mohammad Youssef Baydoun by 47 votes.

The presence of the Zein family on the political stage is represented today by MP Abdul Latif Zein, which reflects an evident decline in the za'ama of his family, compared to the za'ama of Youssef Zein.

## The Skaffs (Greek Catholic)

### Elias Nassif Tohmeh Skaff (1881-1942):

He was a big landlord in Beqa'a and was elected MP representing Zahle in 1925, 1927, 1929, 1934 and 1937.

### Joseph Elias Tohmeh Skaff (1922-1991):

He followed his father's political career and his first foray into politics was in 1947 when he was elected MP representing the south rather than Zahle (where Henry Feraoun ran). He stood as parliamentary candidate in Beqa'a and was elected in the rounds of 1953, 1957,

1960, 1964 and 1972. He assumed ministerial office, particularly in the ministries of agriculture and national defense. He handled the former four times and the latter three and was also in charge of the ministry of water and electrical resources three times.

### Elias Joseph Skaff (1998- 2015):

He stepped into his father's shoes and was elected Zahle MP in 1992, 1996, 2000 and 2005. He was also appointed Minister of Industry in 2003 and Minister of Agriculture in 2004 and 2008. He died in early October 2015 and his wife Myriam Tawq is to succeed him until his son Joseph reaches a suitable age to engage in politics. The political role of the Skaffs has declined in past years, particularly after the Zahle-born Elias Hrawi became president of the republic between 1989 and 1998.

## The Salams (Sunni)

### Salim Ali Salam (1868-1938):

His father, Ali Abdul Jalil Salam, was one of Beirut's prominent merchants and had nothing to do with politics. Salim took over his father's job but chose to also engage in politics. In 1908, he was appointed head of the municipality of Beirut before his election as member of the Ottoman Chamber of Deputies in 1914. In 1936, Salim Ali Salam called for the Conference of the Coast to demand unity between Lebanon and Syria.

### Saeb Salim Salam (1905-2000):

He began his political engagement in the lifetime of his father then succeeded him after his death. In 1943, he was elected MP in the Beirut district for the first time. He was re-elected in 1951, 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972. He held the office of Prime Minister six times and was also in charge of the ministries of the interior and national defense.

### Tammam Saeb Salam (1945- ...):

He accompanied his father in his political activity and was elected MP in Beirut in the elections held in 1996 and 2009. Tammam Salam was appointed Minister of culture in 2008 and has been serving as Prime Minister since February 2014.

### Malek Salim Salam (1917-2000):

He is the brother of late PM Saeb Salam. He was appointed Minister of Water and Electrical Resources in 1974 and also headed the Council for Development and Reconstruction.



Saeb Salam



Majid Arslan



Tammam Salam



Talal Majid Arslan

Although Tammam Salam is currently heading Lebanon's government, the position of the Salam family in the political arena somehow dwindled during the Lebanese Civil War and after it, particularly after the involvement of Rafik Hariri in politics.

### The Arslans (Druze)

**Majid Arslan:** He practiced politics and served as Qaimaqam of Shouf. After his death, the za'ama was passed to his sons Toufic and Fouad.

#### **Fouad Majid Arslan (1874-1930):**

He was elected MP in Mount Lebanon in the elections held in 1922 and 1925 but was then cast aside in favor of his brother Toufic.

#### **Toufic Majid Arslan (1870- 1931):**

He was appointed Qaimaqam of Shouf in 1905 and was ousted in 1908. He returned to the same position in 1912 and in 1918 handled the Directorate General of General Security. In 1920, he was appointed a member of the administrative committee in succession to Sheikh Mostafa Imad. In 1929, he ran against his brother Fouad and beat him.

#### **Majid Toufic Arslan (1911- 1983):**

Succeeding his father, Emir Majid started his political activity at a young age and was elected MP in Mount Lebanon in 1931. He was re-elected in 1934, 1937, 1943, 1947, 1951, 1953, 1957, 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972 and died in office. Beside parliamentary activity, Majid Arslan assumed ministerial posts a dozen of times, the first of which was in 1937 when he was Minister of Agriculture. He headed the Ministry of Defense 22 times over a period of ten years and was also in charge of the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Post and Telephone.

#### **Talal Majid Arslan (1963- ...):**

He was appointed MP representing the Qada'a of Aley in 1991 and was elected to the same post in the same Qada'a in the elections held in 1992, 1996 and 2000. He failed in the 2005 elections only to be re-elected in 2009. He was appointed Minister of Tourism in 1990, Minister for Emigrants in 1996, of the Displaced in 2004, of Youth and sports in 2008 and Minister of State in 2011, a post from which he resigned.

Although Emir Majid Arslan was able to establish a powerful Druze leadership in Aley to counterbalance the leadership of Kamal Jumblatt in Shouf, the political influence wielded by the Arslans was later eclipsed by the growing role of Walid Jumblatt.

### The Eddés (Maronite)

#### Emile Ibrahim Eddé (1884-1949):

Emile's father, Ibrahim, was a translator at the French Consulate in Damascus. Later, Emile himself worked as a lawyer for the French Consulate in Beirut between 1912 and 1914. He stepped into politics from early on and was appointed member of the administrative committee in 1920. He was elected MP in Beirut in 1922 after which he was appointed member of the Senate in 1926. In 1929 and 1934, he was re-elected to office. He made it to Parliament once again in 1943. He served as both Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health in 1929. In 1936, the Higher French Commissioner appointed him President of the Republic and he remained in his post until 1941. Emile Ibrahim Eddé is the founder of the Lebanese National Bloc Party.

#### Raymond Emile Eddé (1913- 2000):

He was elected MP for the first time in 1953 in the Qada'a of Jbeil (Byblos) and was re-elected in the elections held in 1957, 1960, 1968 and 1972. He lost the parliamentary race in 1964 but made up for it by winning the by-elections in 1965. He left notable marks on several laws and pieces of legislation, foremost of which is the Bank Secrecy Act in 1956. He held different ministerial posts including Minister of the Interior, Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Post and Telephone in 1958 and Minister of Public Works and of Water and Electrical Resources in 1968. He was nominated several times as presidential candidate and was single.

#### Pierre Emile Eddé (1921-1977):

He was elected MP in the district of Baabda in 1951 and 1953 and in the district of Beirut 1 in 1957. He held several ministerial posts including at the Ministry of National Education in 1953 and the Ministry of Finance in 1953, 1957, 1958 and 1968.

#### Carlos Pierre Eddé (1950-...):

He succeeded his uncle Raymond to the presidency of the Lebanese National Bloc Party whose role has been diminishing. He has not held any official positions so far and failed in the parliamentary elections he contested in 2005, which further minimized the political role of the family.



Raymond Eddé



Pierre Eddé

### The Chamouns (Maronite)

#### Camille Nemr Chamoun (1900-1987):

He was one of the most significant presidents of the republic of Lebanon (1952-1958) and a powerful political personality. His election as MP in the Shouf district in 1934 signaled the beginning of his political career. He was re-elected to Parliament in 1937, 1943, 1947, 1951, 1960, 1968 and 1972. He was Minister of Finance in 1938, 1946 and 1984 and was entrusted with the ministries of the interior, public health, telephone and water and electrical resources. Camille Chamoun founded the National Liberal Party.

#### Dany Camille Chamoun (1934-1990):

He headed the National Liberal Party but held no official political posts. He and his family were assassinated in 1990. Dany Chamoun had close ties with General Michel Aoun.

#### Dory Camille Chamoun (1931- ...):

He returned to politics after the assassination of his brother and chaired the National Liberal Party. He was elected head of the municipality of Deir El-Qamar in 1998 and MP in the Shouf district in 2009.

#### Tracy Dany Chamoun (1962-...):

Daughter of Dany Chamoun. She founded the Liberal Democrats Party and is seeking to follow in her father's footsteps. Tracy is on bad terms with her uncle Dory Chamoun.

#### Youssef Nemr Chamoun (1890-1974):

Brother of late President Camille Chamoun. He was appointed minister in May 1932.



Camille Chamoun



Kamel Ahmad Assaad

The role and presence of the Chamouns have declined starkly and the family is barely influential when compared to the previous political reputation once built by Camille Chamoun.

### **The Al-Assaad (Shia'a)**

#### **Abdul Latif Khalil Al-Assaad (1886-1936):**

He was elected to Parliament in 1925, 1927 and 1929. He is the son of Khalil Assaad, the Mutasarref of the South Brigade, and the brother of Kamel Al-Assaad (1870-1924), member of the Ottoman Chamber of Deputies.

#### **Ahmad Abdul Latif Al-Assaad (1902-1961):**

He was elected MP in the south in 1937, 1943, 1947 and 1953 and in Bint Jbeil's district in 1953 and 1960. He handled the ministerial portfolios of health and telephone in 1938, of agriculture and telephone in 1941, of public works and health in 1945 and of public works in 1948 and 1949. He was elected Speaker of the House in 1951 then re-elected to the same office in 1952 and 1953.

#### **Kamel Ahmad Assaad (1932-2010):**

He was elected MP in the Marjeyoun district in 1953 and 1957 and successor of his father in 1961 before his re-election in 1964, 1968 and 1972. He was appointed Minister of National Education in 1962 and Minister of Water and Electrical Resources in 1966. He was elected Speaker of the House in 1964 after a competition against his uncle by marriage, Sabri Hamadeh. He was elected again to the same post in 1970 and remained in office until 1984.

#### **Ahmad Kamel Al-Assaad (1963-...):**

He founded the Lebanese Belonging Party and stood in parliamentary elections in the Marjeyoun-Hasbaya district but did not win.



Dany Camille Chamoun



Dory Camille Chamoun

A mere comparison between the za'ama of Abdul Latif Al-Assaad and that of Ahmad Kamel Al-Assaad today attests to the political atrophy of the Al-Assaad family.

### The Mouawwads (Maronite)

#### René Anis Mouawwad (1925-1989):

He was elected President of the Lebanese Republic after the Taif Agreement and was assassinated on November 22, seventeen days after his election. He started his political career in 1951 and was elected MP representing Zgharta in 1957. He was re-elected to Parliament in 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972. He was Minister of Labor and Social Affairs in 1969 and later Minister of Public Works and Transport. In 1980, he was appointed Minister of National Education and Fine Arts.

#### Nayla Mouawwad (1940-...):

Nayla Mouawwad succeeded her husband René and was appointed MP in 1991. She was later elected to Parliament in the rounds held in 1992, 1996, 2000 and 2005. She was also appointed Minister of Social Affairs in 2005.

#### Michel René Mouawwad (1972-...):

He took over political activity after his mother and failed in the 2009 parliamentary elections. He founded the Independence Movement.

### The Hamadehs (Shia'a)

#### Sabri Saadoun Hamadeh (1905-1976):

He was registered as being older than he really was (1899) and was thus able to enter Parliament before he was 20. He was elected a Beqa'a MP in 1925 and was able to earn parliamentary seats in all the twelve successive electoral rounds before 1972. In 1943, he was elected Speaker of the House and was re-elected to the same post over 21 rounds. He held several ministerial portfolios including at the ministries of public works and agriculture in 1938, the ministry of the interior in 1946 and the ministry of public works again in 1972.

#### Majed Sabri Hamadeh (1945- 1994):

He was appointed Minister of National Education and Fine Arts in 1974 and was considered to be the successor to his father but his early decease prevented him from fulfilling this mission, not to mention that the circumstances that prevailed in Lebanon helped reduce the political role of this family.



René Mouawwad



Sabri Hamadeh

#### Rashid Sabri Hamadeh (1949-...):

He ran for Parliament in the Baalbeck-Hermel district but did not win.

#### Layla Solh Hamadeh:

She is the wife of Majed Sabri Hamadeh and was appointed Minister of Industry in 2004.

The political influence once wielded by the Hamadeh family is long gone. Although Sabri Hamadeh used to facilitate people's arrival in Parliament, the arrival of his own sons is today an almost impossible dream.

### The Ousseirans (Shia'a)

#### Adel Abdullah Ousseiran (1905-1998):

He was elected MP for the South in 1943, 1947, 1953, 1957, 1960, 1968 and 1972. His parliamentary work culminated in his election as Speaker of the House in 1953. He remained in this position until 1959. He

was also appointed Minister several times and handled several portfolios including the national economy (1943), the interior (1969), justice (1969 and 1971) and national defense and agriculture (1984).

**Ali Adel Ousseiran (1947- ...):**

He was elected MP representing the Zahrani district in the elections of 1992, 1996, 2000, 2005 and 2009. He was appointed Minister of State in 1992.

**The Souaids (Maronite)**

**Antoine Fares Souaid (1925-1965):**

His job as a physician and his proximity to President Fouad Chehab propelled him to engage in politics. He ran for Parliament in the Qada'a of Jbeil in 1960 but did not win. He stood for elections again in 1964 and won by 213 votes against his rival Raymond Eddé, but died around a year later.

**Nouhad Souaid (1933-...):**

Following the death of her husband Nouhad Souaid took over and stood for the by-elections held in 1965 but was defeated by Raymond Eddé. She ran again in 1968 and was also unlucky. She won a seat in the 1996 elections.

**Fares Antoine Souaid (1958-...):**

He was elected MP in the 2000 elections but has been unable to win again since then.

**The Khourys (Maronite)**

**Shahid Youssef Khoury (1909-1966):**

He was elected MP for the Qada'a of Jbeil in 1947 and then again in 1964

**Najib Youssef Khoury (1911-1976):**

He was elected as successor to his brother in the by-elections of 1966 and was re-elected in 1968.

**Nathem Shahid Khoury (1946-...):**

He was elected MP representing Kessrouan in the 2000 elections and was Minister of the Environment in 2011 as he was close to the then President Michel Suleiman.

**Walid Najib Khoury (1955-...):**

He was elected MP in the Jbeil district in the elections held in 2005 and 2009.

**The Abdou Fadels (Greek Orthodox)**

**Mounir Habib Abou Fadel (1912-1987):**

He was elected MP for Mount Lebanon in 1957 and was re-elected to Parliament in the district of the Aley Qada'a in the elections of 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972. He was elected Deputy Speaker of the House 15 times between 1958 and 1986.

**Marwan Mounir Abou Fadel (1958-...):**

He was elected MP in the Qad'aa of Aley and is the vice president of the Lebanese Democratic Party which is headed by Emir Talal Arslan.

**The Al-Ashkars (Maronite)**

**Assad Boulos Al-Ashkar (1910-1986):**

He began his political career by joining the Syrian Social Nationalist Party in 1936. He was elected MP in the Matn district in 1957 and chaired the SSNP.

**Ghassan Assad Al-Ashkar (1937-...):**

Like his father, he joined the SSNP and was elected MP in Matn in the elections of 1992, 1996 and 2002 but failed to make it through in the following elections.

**The Lahhouds (Maronite)**

**Emile Jerjes Lahhoud (1899-1954):**

He was elected MP in the Baabda-Matn district in the elections of 1943, 1947, 1951 and 1953. He headed the Ministry of Finance in 1945, 1945 and 1952 and the Ministries of National Education and Social Affairs in 1951.

**Jamil Jerjes Lahhoud (1901-1983):**

He was elected MP representing the Matn Qada'a in 1960 and 1964. In 1966, he was appointed Minister of Social Affairs and was nominated by Kamal Jumblatt for the presidency of the Republic in 1970. He is the father of former President Emile Lahhoud.

**Fouad Nassib Lahhoud (1912-1987):**

He was elected MP in the Matn Qada'a in 1972 and is the nephew of Emile and Jamil Lahhoud.

**Salim Nassib Lahhoud (1910- 1971):**

He succeeded his uncle as a Matn MP in 1954 and was re-elected to Parliament in 1957, 1964 and 1968. He held several ministerial posts including Minister of National Education in 1955, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants in 1955 and 1956 and Minister of Public Works and Transport in 1956 and 1957.



Salim Lahhoud



Emile Lahhoud



Nassib Lahhoud

#### **Nassib Salim Lahhoud (1944-2012):**

He was appointed Ambassador of Lebanon to the US in 1990 and MP in the Matn Qada'a in 1991. He was elected to Parliament in 1992, 1996 and 2000 and was appointed Minister of State in 2008.

#### **Emile Jamil Lahhoud (1936-...):**

Lebanese Army Commander between 1989 and 1998 and President of the Republic of Lebanon between 1998 and 2007.

#### **Emile Emile Lahhoud (1975-...):**

He was elected MP representing Matn in 2000.

#### **The Al-Bons (Maronite)**

##### **Fouad Nematallah Ghanem Al-Bon (1920-1989):**

He was elected to represent Kessrouan in Parliament in the 1960 elections and was an advocate of President Fouad Chehab.

##### **Mansour Fouad Ghanem Al-Bon (1953-...):**

He was elected to represent Kessrouan in Parliament in the elections of 1992, 1996 and 2000 but failed to win in the following elections.

#### **The Boueiz' (Maronite)**

Nouhad Fares Boueiz (1908-1990): He was elected MP in Kessrouan in the elections held in 1957, 1960, 1964 and 1968.

##### **Fares Nouhad Boueiz (1955-...):**

He was appointed a Kessrouan MP in 1991 and was elected to represent the same district in 1992, 1996 and 2000. He headed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants five times from 1990 to 1998 under the presidential term of his father in law, Elias Hrawi. He served as Minister of Environment in 2003.

#### **The Tuenis (Greek Orthodox)**

##### **Gebran Andraous Tueni (1890-1947):**

He founded the An-Nahar newspaper in 1933 and was appointed a Beirut MP in 1937. He was appointed Minister of Education in 1930 and then shifted to diplomacy and was appointed Ambassador of Lebanon to Argentina and Chile in 1946.

##### **Ghassan Gebran Tueni (1926-2012):**

He was elected MP in Shouf and Aley in 1951 before his election in the Beirut district in 1953. He returned to deputyship in 2006 as successor to his father Gebran. He was appointed Lebanon's Ambassador to the UN and held several ministerial portfolios including serving as Minister of National Education and Fine Arts in 1970, and Minister of Labor, social Affairs, Tourism, Industry and Oil in 1975.

##### **Gebran Ghassan Tueni (1957-2005):**

He was assassinated soon after his election as Beirut MP in 2005.

##### **Nayla Gebran Tueni:**

She succeeded her father and grandfather as MP in Beirut 1.



Ghassan Tuani



Maarouf Saad



Gebran Tuani



Ossama Saad



Nayla Tuani

## The Saads (Sunni)

### Maarouf Mostafa Saad (1910-1975):

After his retirement from police service, he was elected MP in Saida in the elections of 1957, 1960, 1964 and 1968. He was also elected Head of the Municipality of Saida in 1963. Maarouf Saad founded the Popular Nasserite Organization in 1970 and his assassination in February 1975 was the spark signaling the Civil War.

### Mostafa Maarouf Saad (1951-2002):

He was elected a Saida MP in 1992 then again in 1996 and 2000.

### Ossama Maarouf Saad (1954- ...):

He succeeded his brother Mostafa as MP in 2002 and was later elected in the 2005 elections. He lost the 2009 elections.

## The El-Khourys (Maronite)

### Bechara Khalil El-Khoury (1890-1964):

His father Khalil el-Khoury held a high-ranking position in the Mount Lebanon Mutasarrifiah. He was appointed member of the Senate in 1926 and later Member of Parliament in 1929, 1934 and 1937. In 1943, he was elected to Parliament. He held several ministerial posts and was appointed Prime Minister three times in 1927, 1928 and 1929. His political career was crowned with his election as President of the Lebanese Republic in 1943. He thus became the first post-independence president and remained in office until 1952.

### Salim Khalil El-Khoury (1894-1989):

He was known as the Sultan Salim given his powerful role and interference in all matters under the rule of his brother Bechara. He was elected MP in 1947 and 1951. Sami Khalil El-Khoury (1896-1975): He was appointed Minister of Justice in 1932 and 1934.



Bechara El-Khoury

**Khalil Bechara El-Koury (1923-2000):**

He was elected MP in the Aley Qada'a during the elections of 1960, 1964 and 1968. He was appointed Minister of Labor and Social Affairs in 1969 and headed the Constitutional Party in 1965.

**Michel Bechara El-Khoury (1926- ...):**

He was elected Minister of National Defense, Tourism and Guidance and Information in 1965; Minister of Tourism and Public Planning in 1966 and was governor of the Banque du Liban twice in 1978 and 1991.

**The Zoueins (Maronite)****George Zoueïn Zoueïn (1872-1953):**

He was elected member of the administrative council of the Mount Lebanon Mutasarrifiah and was elected a Mount Lebanon MP in 1925, 1943, 1947 and 1951.

**Maurice Jreij Zoueïn (1898-1985):**

He was elected MP representing Kessrouan in 1953, 1957, 1964 and 1972. He was appointed Minister of Education in 1954 and of Social Affairs and Telephone in 1959. In 1964, he served as minister of Information and Tourism.

**Gilbert Maurice Zoueïn (1939-...):**

He was elected MP in Kessrouan in the elections of 2005 and 2009.

**The Ghosns (Greek Orthodox)****Nicolas Mikhael Ghosn (1883-1955):**

He was elected member of the administrative council of the Mount Lebanon Mutasarrifiah, representing Koura in 1913. The French mandate appointed him member of the administrative council in 1920 before his re-election in the parliamentary elections of 1925, 1929, 1934 and 1937. He was appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Post, Telephone, Commerce and Industry in 1945.

**Fouad Nicolas Ghosn (1911-1984):**

He was elected MP representing Koura for the first time in 1953 and was re-elected to the same post in 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972. He was elected Deputy Speaker of the House in 1963 and 1972 and held a number of ministerial posts including Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice in 1955 and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense in 1973.

**Nicolas Fouad Ghosn (1940-...):**

He was elected MP in Koura in the elections of 1996, 2005 and 2009. The electoral competition was mostly between Nicolas and his cousin Fayeze Ghosn.

**Fayeze Michel Ghosn (1950-...):**

He was elected MP in Koura in 1992, 1996 and 2000. He failed in the elections in 2005 and 2009 and was appointed Minister of National Defense in 2011.

**The Sarrafs (Greek Orthodox)****Ibrahim Yaacoub Sarraf (1890-1952):**

He was appointed Head of the Municipality of Meniara in 1908 and a member of the administrative council of Greater Lebanon in 1920.

**Yaacoub Ibrahim Sarraf (1906-1988):**

He was elected MP representing the Qada'a of Akkar in the parliamentary elections of 1943, 1951, 1960, 1964 and 1968. He was appointed Minister of Public Health in 1964.

**Riadh Ibrahim Sarraf (1927-2002):**

He was elected MP representing Akkar in the elections held in 1992 and 1996.



Nicolas Ghosn



Fayez Ghosn



Yaacoub Sarraf

#### **Yaacoub Riadh Sarraf (1962-...):**

He was appointed Governor of Beirut in 1999 and Minister of the Environment in 2005.

#### **The Fadels (Greek Orthodox)**

##### **Maurice Habib Fadel (1928-2009):**

He was elected MP representing Tripoli in the 1972 elections and was re-elected to office in 1996, 2000 and 2005.

##### **Robert Maurice Fadel (1970-...):**

He succeeded his father as MP representing Tripoli in the 2009 elections.

#### **The Pharaons (Greek Catholic)**

##### **Pierre Michel Pharaon (1925-1999):**

He was elected to the Greek Catholic seat in Jezzine in the parliamentary elections of 1968 and was appointed Minister of the environment in 1995.

##### **Michel Pierre Pharaon (1959-...):**

He was elected representative of the Beirut 1 District in Parliament in the elections held in 1996, 2000, 2005 and 2009 and was appointed Minister of State in 2000, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs in 2005 and 2009 and Minister of Tourism in 2014.

#### **The El-Kheirs (Sunni)**

##### **Kathem Salem El-Kheir (1942-...):**

He was elected MP representing the Mennieh-Dennieh Qada'a in 1972 and was re-elected to Parliament in 1992, 1996 and 2000.

##### **Saleh Kathem El-Kheir (1983-...):**

He was elected MP representing the Mennieh-Dennieh Qada'a in the by-elections held in 2010.

#### **The Doueihis (Maronite)**

##### **Semaan Khalil Doueihis (1921-1988):**

He was a monk and was elected MP representing Zgharta in 1964, 1968 and 1972.

##### **Estefan Boutros Doueihis (1953-...):**

Estefan, nephew of Semaan Doueihis, was appointed MP representing Zgharta in 1995 and was elected to the same post in 1992 and 1996. He was re-elected in the 2009 elections and was appointed Minister of Social Affairs in 1995.

#### **The Fatfats (Sunni)**

##### **Mohammad Khodr Fatfat (1918-1987):**

He was elected MP representing the Mennieh-Dennieh Qada'a in parliamentary elections held between 1960 and 1968.

##### **Ahmad Mohammad Fatfat (1952-...):**

He was elected MP representing the north district in the elections of 1996, 2000, 2005 and 2009. He was appointed Minister of Youth and Sports in 2005 and served as acting Minister of the Interior and Municipalities in 2006.

### **The De Freijs (Latin- Christian minorities)**

#### **Moussa Jean De Freij (1910-1987):**

He was elected MP representing Beirut in the elections of 1947 and 1951.

#### **Nabil Moussa De Freij (1955-...):**

He was elected MP representing Beirut in the elections of 2000, 2005 and 2009. In 2014, he was appointed Minister of State for Administrative Affairs.

### **The Daouds (Druze)**

#### **Nassib Salim Daoud (1880-1952):**

He was elected MP representing Beqa'a in the elections of 1937 and 1943.

#### **Salim Nassib Daoud (1919-1987):**

He was elected MP representing Beqa'a in the elections of 1951, 1957, 1968 and 1972.

#### **Faisal Salim Daoud (1949-...):**

He was appointed MP representing the Rashaya-Western Beqa'a district in 1991 and was re-elected in 1992, 1996 and 2005.

### **The Harbs (Maronite)**

#### **Jean Boutros Harb (1903-1971):**

He headed the Municipality of Batroun and was elected MP in the elections held in 1953, 1957, 1960 and 1964.

#### **Boutros Joseph Khoury Harb (1944-...):**

Boutros, the nephew of MP Jean Harb, was elected a Batroun MP in 1972. He boycotted the elections of 1992 but was re-elected in the elections of 1996, 2000, 2005 and 2009. He held several ministerial positions including as Minister of Education and Public Works in 1979, Minister of Education in 1990, Minister of Labor in 2009 and Minister of Telecommunications in 2014.

### **The Zouaiters (Shia'a)**

#### **Mohammad Da'as Zouaiter (1925-1990):**

He was elected in 1956 MP in the People's Council of Syria. Later in 1968, he was elected to represent the Qada'as of Baalbeck and Hermel.

#### **Ghazi Mohamad Zouaiter (1949-...):**

He was elected Governor of Nabatieh in 1990 and remained in office until 1996. He was elected representative of Baalbeck-Hermel in Parliament in



Boutros Harb

1996, 2000, 2005 and 2009. In 1998, he was appointed Minister of National Defense, then Minister of Social affairs in 2004 and Minister of Public Works and Transport in 2014.

### **The Al-Qadiris (Sunni)**

#### **Nathem Abdul Qader Al-Qadiri (1914-1989):**

He was elected MP representing Western Beqa'a-Rashaya in the elections held in 1951, 1953, 1957, 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972. He was appointed Minister of Social Affairs in 1989 and was assassinated in September 1989.

#### **Ziad Nathem Al-Qadiri (1979-...):**

He was elected MP representing Western Beqa'a-Rashaya in the 2009 elections.

### **The Saadehs (Maronite)**

#### **George Hanna Saadeh (1930-1998):**

He joined the ranks of the Phalanges Party from an early age and was elected Head of the Party in 1986. He was elected MP representing Batroun in 1968 and 1972 and handled several ministerial portfolios including public planning in 1972, public works in 1974 and post and telecoms in 1989, 1990 and 1992.

#### **Samer George Saadeh (1975-...):**

He was elected to fill the Maronite seat in Tripoli in the 2009 elections. He is a member of the Phalanges Party and has handled several functions within the party.

### **The Al-Rassi (Greek Orthodox)**

#### **Abdullah Jamil Al-Rassi (1929-1994):**

He was elected MP representing Akkar in the 1972 elections and was re-elected in 1992. He handled several ministerial portfolios including the Interior Ministry in 1984 and the Ministry of Public Health in 1989. He married the daughter of President Suleiman Frangieh.

#### **Karim Abdullah Al-Rassi (1967-...):**

He was elected MP representing Akkar in 1994. He was re-elected to office in 2000 after the death of his father.

### **The Salhabs (Maronite)**

#### **Emile Toufic Salhab (1912-1983):**

He joined the National Bloc Party and was elected to preside over it. He was also elected MP representing Matn in 1968.

#### **Salim Emile Salhab (1945-...):**

He followed in his father's footsteps by joining the National Bloc Party but he later left it and joined General Michel Aoun. He was elected MP representing Matn in the elections of 2005 and 2009.

### **The Al-Saads (Maronite)**

#### **Habib Ghandour Al-Saad (1866-1942):**

He was in charge of several administrative and political tasks before his appointment as Head of the Administrative Council of the Mutasarrifiyah by Mutasarrif Ohannes Pasha . In 1920, he was appointed member of the administrative committee and was elected MP several times. In 1934, he was appointed President of the Lebanese Republic.

#### **Najib Ghandour Al-Saad (1870-1930):**

He was elected member of the representative council in 1925.

#### **Amin Fouad Al-Saad (1896-1985):**

He was the nephew of Habib and Najib Al-Saad (son of Fouad). He joined the judiciary and was elected MP in 1943. In 1941, he was appointed Minister of Public Works.

#### **Raji Fouad Al-Saad:**

He was also the nephew of Habib and Najib. He ran for parliament in 1947 but did not win.

#### **Fouad Raji Al-Saad (1941-...):**

He was appointed MP representing Shouf in 1991. In 1992, 2000, 2005 and 2009, he was elected representative of Aley in Parliament. He was appointed State Minister of Administrative Development in 2000.

### **The Moukhaibers (Greek Orthodox)**

#### **Albert Salim Moukhaiber (1912-2002):**

He was elected MP representing Northern Matn in the elections held in 1957, 1960, 1964 and 1970. In 2000, he was elected once again. He was appointed minister several times and held the positions of Minister of Public Health in 1958 and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Housing and Cooperatives in 1972. He also served as Deputy Speaker of the House more than once.

#### **Ghassan Emile Moukhaiber (1958-...):**

He succeeded his uncle in the by-elections of 2002 pursuant to a decision issued by the Constitutional Council following a dispute between two candidates, Mirna and her uncle Gabriel El-Murr, over the election results. He was re-elected in 2005 and 2009.

### **The Houbeishs (Maronite)**

#### **Fawzi Iskandar Houbeish (1937-...):**

He held several administrative posts and served as Head of the Central Inspection Committee between 1991 and 1996. He was elected MP for Akkar in 1996 and was Minister of Culture and Higher Education the same year.

#### **Hadi Fawzi Houbeish (1974-...):**

He was elected MP representing Akkar in 2005 and 2009.

### **The Al-Jisrs (Sunni)**

#### **Mohammad Hussein Al-Jisr (1881-1934):**

He was elected member of the Ottoman Chamber of Deputies between 1912 and 1915 and member of the Senate in 1926. After the Senate was dissolved, he was elected Speaker of the House and almost made it to the Presidency of the Republic. Mohammad Al-Jisr was a cleric and sheikh.

#### **Nadim Hussein Al-Jisr (1894-1980):**

He was elected MP representing Tripoli in 1957. Like his brother and his father Hussein, Nadim was also a cleric.

**Adnan Mohammad Al-Jisr (1913-2000):**

He was elected MP representing Tripoli in 1947. He was elected Head of North Lebanon Bar Association in 1963.

**Samir Adnan Al-Jisr (1944-...):**

He was elected MP representing Tripoli in the elections held in 2005 and 2009. He was appointed Minister of Justice in 2000 and Minister of Education and Higher Education in 2003.

**The Karams (Maronite)****Youssef Salim Karam (1910- 1972):**

He was elected MP in the by-elections held in the north in 1944 after the seat of Wahib Geagea had fallen vacant. He was re-elected in 1947, 1951 and 1960.

**Salim Youssef Karam (1946-...):**

He stood unsuccessfully in the elections of 2000 and 2005. He won in 2009 and was appointed Minister of State in 2011.

**The Ferzlis (Greek Orthodox)****Adib Melhem Ferzli (1909-1993):**

He was elected MP representing Beqa'a in the elections held in 1943, 1947, 1953, 1957 and 1964.

**Elie Najib Ferzli (1949-...):**

He was appointed MP in 1991 and won seats by election in 1992, 1996 and 2000. He was elected Deputy Speaker of the House and was appointed Minister of Information in 2004. Elie is the nephew of former MP Adib Ferzli.

**The El-Khatibs (Sunni)****Anwar Ahmad El-Khatib (1910-1970):**

From the judiciary, he moved to politics and joined with Kamal Jumblatt in founding the PSP. He was elected MP in the Shouf District in 1951 and was re-elected in 1957, 1964 and 1968. He held several ministerial portfolios including serving as Minister of Water and Electrical Resources in 1968 and 1969.

**Zaher Anwar El-Khatib (1940-...):**

He succeeded his father as MP in 1970 and was re-elected in 1972, 1992 and 1996. He was unsuccessful in later elections and was appointed State Minister for Administrative Reform in 1990.

**The Al-Khazens (Maronite)****Rashid Saleh Al-Khazen (1935-2000):**

He joined the National Liberal Party and was elected MP representing Kessrouan in 1992 and then in 1996.

**Haykal Saleh Al-Khazen:**

Head of the Municipality of Jounieh. He died in 1998.

**Farid Haykal Al-Khazen (1970-...):**

He was elected MP representing Kessrouan in 2000 and was appointed Minister of tourism in 2004.

**Farid Elias Al-Khazen (1960-...):**

He was elected MP representing Kessrouan in 2005 and 2009.

**The Aouns (Maronite)****Aziz El-Khoury Aoun (1895-1989):**

He was elected MP representing the Shouf district in the elections held in 1960, 1964, 1968 and 1972.

**Samir Aziz Aoun (1931-2010):**

He was elected MP representing the Shouf district in the 1992 elections.

**Elie Michel Aoun (1939-...):**

He was elected MP representing the Shouf district in the elections held in 2000, 2005 and 2009.

**Vanishing families**

Whereas the families mentioned above have continued to practice in politics, passing down their legacy from one generation to the next, with some maintaining the influence wielded by their forefathers and others assuming a declining role on the political stage, there are families that have disappeared entirely owing either to the absence of heirs or their lack of interest in politics or simply because the circumstances have drastically changed preventing their heirs from being politically active. The families that have vanished from the Lebanese political landscape are:

- The Solhs in Beirut
- The Daouqs in Beirut
- The Yafis in Beirut
- The Oueinis in Beirut
- The Baidouns in Beirut and the South

- The Abou Jaoudehs in Matn
- The Abou Khaters in Zahle
- The Abi Al-Lamaas in Matn
- The Boustanis in Shouf
- The Bayhams in Beirut
- The Tabets in Beirut
- The Fadls in Nabatieh
- The Shahines in Nabatieh
- The Talhouqs in Aley
- The Qazouns in Zahle
- The Taqlas in Shouf and Beirut
- The Haidars in Beqa'a
- The Issa Khourys in Bsharri
- The Salems in Jezzine
- The Hrawis in Zahle
- The Nouaims in Baabda
- The Azars in Jezzine
- The Abdullahs in Khiam
- The Arabs in Tyre
- The Alamuddines in Tripoli and the North
- The Fadels in the North
- The Fakhers in Akkar
- The Kanaans in Jezzine
- The Mghabghabs in Shouf
- The Mouqaddams in Tripoli

The rise of Hezbollah and the Amal Movement has brought to halt the political inheritance within the Shia'a community and the traditional Shia'a families have grown incapable of playing any influential role except to the extent allowed by the two parties.

However, political bequests continue within the Druze community through the Arslan and Jubmlatt families with an advancing position for the latter.

Among the Sunnis, most Sunni families have been overshadowed by the rise of Rafik Hariri and the remaining families, particularly the Salams and the Karamis, play only a modest role.

Save for the Frangiehs and the Gemayyels, major Christian families have faded away with the emergence of General Michel Aoun and Samir Geagea.



Political inheritance has stirred ample controversy in Lebanon. While some challenge this tradition and deem it contradictory to the principles of democracy which stipulate the rotation of power and equal chances for everyone to govern and assume decision-making roles, others, knowing that tribalism is too entrenched in the Lebanese society to pull out, see no harm in political inheritance as long as the successor has sufficient maturity and competence to take charge and let his practices and positions dictate whether the political legacy of his forebears would live on or fade away.

Today, the decision within the Shia'a community is ultimately in the hands of the Amal Movement and Hezbollah; the same applies for Aoun and Geagea within the Maronite circles and Hariri in the Sunni ranks. Are these relatively new leaderships going to follow in the footsteps of Lebanon's political families and bequeath power to their descendants? Will the future stage bear similarities to its predecessors in terms of seeing the same names, figures and families dominate the political stage in Lebanon? Finally, assuming that we were able to break free from the political inheritance mentality, are we ever going to let go of our dependence on external and foreign forces?

# THE ABOLITION OF TITLES IN THE REPUBLIC OF LEBANON

## NO FAKHAMA, NO MA'ALI, NO BEIK AND NO SHEIKH

**“His Excellency the President”, “Mister Speaker of the House”, “the Most Honorable Prime Minister”, “His Highness the Emir”, “the Honorable Minister”, “Mr. Secretary General”, “Sheikh” and “Beik” are honorary titles that were used in correspondence within the Lebanese State for decades. Although they were cancelled in 1997, the titles were soon resurrected in the political sphere and the media. Today, attempts are under way to abolish these titles once again to ensure equality among all Lebanese.**

### Abolition of Titles in 1997

In 1997, the then President of the Republic Elias Hrawi brought up the issue of annulling the titles inherited from the Ottoman era, saying “Duty requires us to find a new language that differs from the language of veneration, which many countries have already cancelled ahead of us.” The President hoped that at the end the Cabinet would abolish all titles and stick to a mere “Mr.” when addressing officials. Pursuant to Decision no. 36 dated October 16, 1997, the Cabinet agreed to annul the titles and to use instead “Mr.” in its communications with and among officials. It also urged the legislative power to follow suit and take a similar decision.

The government adhered by the new rule but the legislative branch did not. The next year, after the expiration of President Hrawi’s term, the government reverted to the use of titles pursuant to oral instructions without any decision by the Cabinet.

### Current Attempt

In 2013, MP Mohammad Qabbani presented a draft law before Parliament aiming to abolish titles from the Lebanese discourse and formal gatherings and to use instead the terms “Mr. President”, “Mr. Minister” or “Mr. Deputy” and “Ms.” for both married and unmarried women. Abolished titles were to be used only in diplomatic correspondence with the countries where the use of the said titles was still part of their traditions, norms or laws.

One of the compelling reasons cited for this proposition was that it represented a step towards modernity and equality among citizens.

The proposition was submitted to the Ministry of Justice’s Committee of Legislation and Consultations headed by Judge Marie Denise M’oushi and the following was reported:

**“The Lebanese legislation did not establish any legal provisions that grant official figures titles associated with the positions they hold but the use of these titles for so long has created a need for a law that would cancel this prevalent norm”**

Titles have been inherited from previous eras such as the Ottoman era and the French mandate.

The Lebanese legislation did not establish any legal provisions that grant official figures titles associated with the positions they hold but the use of these titles for so long has created a need for a law that would cancel this prevalent norm.

The committee approved the Bill after deleting one sentence. However, today, after two years, the Bill still has not been duly ratified by virtue of decisions or decrees by the government or the legislature. ●

# REVENUE STAMPS IN LEBANON

The stamps affixed to official documents and administrative formalities are a primary source of revenue for the Lebanese state. However, the printing, distribution and sale of these stamps are vulnerable to corruption, fraud, price manipulation and sometimes counterfeiting.

## Imposing revenue stamps

Legislative decree no. 67 was issued on August 5, 1967, stipulating that stamp duties be levied on:

1. Instruments, whatever their nature and the nationality or address of the signatories thereupon.

These instruments include:

- Agreements and contracts
- Covenants and guarantees
- Acknowledgments and waivers
- Receipts
- Bequest documents
- Title deeds
- Securities (shares and bonds)
- Commercial papers
- Transportation tickets
- Different bills

2. Written materials that do not constitute an instrument

The law has defined two types of stamp duties:

- **Proportional:** All instruments and written materials, which mention, expressly or covertly, a specific sum of money, are subject to a proportional stamp duty of 0.3 % that may be increased or decreased as provided by law.
- **Lump sum:** lump sum stamp duties are determined based on the types of instruments and written materials.

## Issuance of revenue stamps

The quantities, categories, forms, technical specifications and date of circulation of revenue stamps are all



determined by a decision issued by the Minister of Finance upon the proposition of the head of indirect tax service and after approval of the head of revenue department. The stamps may be replaced by a special payment. Stamp duties above LBP 200 thousand shall be settled in cash.

## Sale of revenue stamps

Revenue stamps are sold by certified vendors who benefit from 5% of the stamp value. This share is to be deducted for them in advance upon their receiving the stamps.



## Corruption

The corruptive practices marring the revenue stamps' market are numerous and are exercised in stages and at different levels:

- Contracting the printing process: the Ministry of Finance often awards the contracts to print revenue stamps on a consensual basis under the pretext that the quantities are on the verge of running out. The most recent contract stipulated the printing of 780 million stamps at LBP 10 billion, a move that stirred media controversy and led the Minister of Finance to order a re-examination of the contract.
- Selling revenue stamps to certified vendors who have a political and sectarian agenda.
- Some public servants buy revenue stamps only to re-sell them directly to citizens at higher prices than the official ones, taking advantage of the citizens' need to complete their administrative transactions rapidly without wasting time to looking for nearby shops selling stamps.
- A number of officials empower the owners of those kiosks located near public offices to sell stamps at higher prices than the official ones.
- In some cases, revenue stamps are forged and sold to the public. Organized counterfeiting gangs are often linked to a number of public servants, the most infamous of which was the network

associated with Raafat Suleiman during the past few decades.

## Revenues from stamp duties

According to the 2015 draft budget law, the stamp duty revenues were estimated at roughly LBP 723 billion distributed as follows:

- Financial stamp duty: LBP 533 billion
- Emiri stamp duty: LBP 183.6 billion
- Penalties: LBP 6.4 billion ●



# ORIGINAL AND ACTING MINISTERS

## WHO TAKES CHARGE WHEN A MINISTER RESIGNS?

The possibility of resignation of a number of ministers in protest of the present political situation and the failure to respond to their political demands has been under discussion since the outbreak of Lebanon's political crisis, which had been dragging well before the formation of Tammam Salam's government. Amidst the ongoing presidential vacuum and thus the impossibility of appointing a successor to the minister in case of his resignation, questions have arisen regarding the proposed alternatives. Would the ministerial position remain vacant or would the Prime Minister appoint a replacement from among the serving ministers or other figures outside the Cabinet? Could he, the Prime Minister, possibly assume the position himself?

### Designation of acting ministers

The Lebanese Constitution and laws in force took into account this matter and the established norm has been to issue the decree forming the Cabinet first, then a few days or weeks later, issue another decree mandating acting ministers to take charge in the cases of travel, illness or resignation of the originally appointed ministers.

Decree no. 11214 dated February 15, 2014 stipulated the formation of the current government. Around two months later, on April 9, 2014, Decree no. 11260 came out designating acting ministers as illustrated in Table 1 below.

Ministers according to the portfolios they have assumed either originally or in an acting capacity		
Ministry	Original Minister	Acting Minister
Ministry of National Defense	Samir Moqbel	Ghazi Zoueier
Ministry of the Interior and Municipalities	Nouhad Mashnouq	Samir Moqbel
Ministry of Telecommunications	Boutros Harb	Ali Hassan Khalil
Ministry of Social Affairs	Rashid Derbas	Boutros Harb
Ministry of Agriculture	Akram Chehayyeb	Mohammad Fneish
Ministry of Public Works and Transport	Ghazi Zoueier	Wael Abou Faour
Ministry of Tourism	Michel Feraoun	Elias Abou Saab
Ministry of Industry	Hussein Haj Hassan	Michel Feraoun
Ministry of Finance	Ali Hassan Khalil	Alain Hakim
Ministry of Public Health	Wael Abou Faour	Gebran Bassil
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants	Gebran Bassil	Akram Chehayyeb
Ministry of Economy and Trade	Alain Hakim	Hussein Haj Hassan
Ministry of Labor	Sejaan Qazzi	Nouhad Mashnouq

Ministers according to the portfolios they have assumed either originally or in an acting capacity		
Ministry	Original Minister	Acting Minister
Ministry of Justice	Ashraf Rifi	Alice Shabtini
Ministry of Information	Ramzi Jreij	Sejaan Qazzi
Ministry of State for Administrative Reform	Nabil De Freij	Rony Oreiji
Ministry of Energy and Water	Arthur Nazarian	Nabil De Freij
Ministry of Culture	Rony Oreiji	Ramzi Jreij
Ministry of State for Parliament Affairs	Mohammad Fneish	Rashid Derbas
Ministry of Environment	Mohammad Mashnouq	Arthur Nazarian
Ministry of the Displaced	Alice Shabtini	Abdul Muttaleb Hennawi
Ministry of Youth and Sports	Abdul Muttaleb Hennawi	Ashraf Rifi
Ministry of Education and Higher Education	Elias Abou Saab	Mohammad Mashnouq

The following observations can be made: In the Cabinet formation decree, Samir Moqbel (Greek Orthodox) was appointed deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense. However, the name of the acting deputy Prime Minister was missing in the decree on the designation of acting ministers.

The original and acting ministers of the same portfolio belong to different sectarian communities. For example, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs passes from a Maronite to a Druze, the Ministry of Telecommunications from a Maronite to a Shia'a and that of National Defense from a Greek Orthodox to a Shia'a.

The portfolio assumed by the minister in an acting capacity is sometimes less important than the his original portfolio, on occasions more important and even in some cases equal in importance. ●●

# FEDERALISM AND CONFEDERALISM IN LEBANON

**Against the backdrop of the current political impasse in Lebanon, MP General Michel Aoun proposed federalism as a solution for the problems blighting the country. Soon afterwards Aoun seemed to have relinquished his proposition especially after his allies voiced opposition to the idea and branded it as an unintended “slip of tongue”. Be that as it may, the idea of federalism is not strange to the Lebanese to begin with. In 1977, the Lebanese Front advocated this principle in the retreat it held in the monastery of Sayyidat el-Beer on January 23 in the presence of former presidents of the republic Camille Chamoun and Suleiman Frangieh, MP Pierre Gemayyel, president of the Maronite Order of Monks Father Chabel Qassis and a number of researchers, political pundits and Christian monks.**

What do federalism and confederalism mean?

## Confederalism

The term federalism is derived from the Latin root *foedus*, which means “formal agreement or covenant.” The term confederalism is derived from the same root, which is why political writers seem frequently to confuse the two terms and are often guilty of using them interchangeably.

Hall defines the confederation as a “system consisting of a league of independent states, which consent to forgo permanently a part of their liberty of action for certain specific objects and do not come together under a common government.”

A clearer definition by Oppenheim holds that the confederation is “a league consisting of a number of full sovereign states linked together for the maintenance of their external and internal independence by a recognized international treaty into a union with organs of its own, which are vested with a certain power over the member ‘states’, but not over the citizens of these states”.

Hence, the confederation is a league established among a number of states enjoying full sovereignty in order to serve certain purposes such as economic, security or media coordination. Security coordination among the members of a confederation signifies the acquisition of power and security for these states both internally and externally and is one of the prime reasons why these states enter into treaty to form such a league.

The creation of a confederation entails the establishment

of a central organization or a federal government containing delegates representing the governments of the constituent states. When voting on any bill in this body, the delegates vote as “states” and according to instructions from their respective governments.

The instrument of creation of such a league, which defines the powers of the central organization, is the agreement or treaty signed by the member states of the league.

The establishment of a confederation of two or more states does not internationally mean the formation of a new state because the member states retain, as previously mentioned, their full independence and sovereignty and do not dissolve into the new entity. By virtue of this league, each member state maintains its name, national activity and special regulations and is only linked to the other states by a central organization that undertakes coordination among the member states in the economic, security and scientific domains without dissolving into a new state that carries a new name.

The confederation is a non-permanent league from which each state reserves the right to withdraw if its interests so require. Such withdrawal would not be seen as a dissident but rather as a legitimate action.

The organ of common power within such a confederation would deal with the governments of the member states but this power would not exist among the people of the said states.

Hereby, we come to the realization that the confederation

is a league of independent states not a league of peoples. Accordingly, such a league would have no citizens or subjects for whom to provide direct guidance.

Confederations no longer exist in the international ruling systems of today. Switzerland, which is said to be a confederation, gave up its confederal system when it adopted its Federal Constitution in 1848, which was later amended by the 1874 Constitution. Although the Swiss have retained the terms “confederation” and “cantons” (meaning “states”), these terms are merely symbolic of long-gone Swiss traditions. The confederation that lasted between 1815 and 1848 was transformed into a federation, namely, an actual league. The once sovereign and independent cantons were transformed under the federation into mere political units, similar to governorates or municipalities, falling under the power of the central federal government.

## Federation

Federation brings into existence, pursuant to a treaty, agreement or constitution agreed upon by the component states and peoples, a framework that organizes the relationship between the independent states and the new national, federal or central governing unit. The component states agree on laying down the constitution regulating the new federation, which becomes, from a legal perspective, a law relying on the consent of the people.

Unlike the confederation, the federation signifies the creation of a new state to which the member states hand over their previous sovereignty. These states agree to become local parts of the new state and these parts or administrative units assume different names such as ‘states’ in the American experience, ‘cantons’ in the Swiss experience and ‘provinces’ in Canada.

Hereby, we realize that the federal regime means the disappearance of the member states after they forfeit their sovereignty. Their citizens, once liberated from the previous allegiance, create a federal state on the basis of national unity.

### Applying the federal system in Lebanon

A number of political researchers and pundits believe that federalism could be the solution for Lebanon’s problems and crises because it is the result of reconciliation between unity and diversity, relying on two pillars: self-governance and sharing. It is seen as a

sustainable solution for the dilemma of coexistence in the heterogeneous communities that consist of diverse ethnic, sectarian, cultural or linguistic groups. Engaging the sects in the governance of their own interests and life matters within the framework of a federal regime would reduce to the maximum extent possible the conflicts that might arise among them, threatening civil peace. The structure of a federal state would seem compatible to that of multi-sectarian communities.

## Requirements of a federal system

**The geographical condition**, which would require the centralization of each sect in a specific geographic area, a requirement partly applicable in Lebanon.

**The psychological condition**, which would require all sects to be psychologically ready for constructive and transparent cooperation among themselves in order to minimize the mutual mistrust. The majority of Lebanese, across all sects, lack this requirement.

**The economic condition**, which would necessitate the presence of common interests among sects. This requirement is fulfilled in Lebanon.

**The political condition**, which would require all sects to forego their external connections and obligations; this is a requirement also lacking in Lebanon.

Since its formation in 1920, Lebanon has been exposed to several political crises fostered by its geographical location and sectarian structure. These crises have often led to wars and perpetual tensions and have thus paved way for different formulas proposing different solutions. The propositions vary and have included: cancelling political sectarianism, secularizing the state and the community, adopting expanded decentralization or adopting a federal rule. Each solution has been applauded by some and challenged by others, which has complicated the possibility of settling for one as it would be regarded the triumph of one party over the other.

This article was prepared based on:

The International Conflict and the Federal Solution in Lebanon by Yehia Ahmad Kaaki- Beirut 1978.

The Federation and the diverse Communities of Lebanon by Dr. Issam Suleiman, Head of the Constitutional Council- Dar El-Malayeen- 1991. ●

# WORKING WOMEN IN LEBANON

## A MAJORITY IN EDUCATION AND NURSING

As years go by, the number of working women increases in certain sectors and maintains stable levels in others. In 1970, females accounted for 13% of the total labor force in Lebanon, a percentage that has risen today to roughly 25%. This percentage varies depending on the occupation, especially that women make a majority in the education and nursing sectors and a minority in industry.

### Females in nursing

Male and female nurses total 10,500 in Lebanon. The sector is dominated by women who constitute 81% of the total labor force against 19% for men. The percentage of women is likely to increase in the coming years.

### Females in education

The education sector employed 96,905 people in the scholarly year 2013-2014, of which 75,018 or 77.4% were women, including both teachers and staff. This percentage goes slightly down to 75% in public education while its increases to 78.6% and 89.1% in private education and free private education respectively.

### Females in banking

At the end of 2014, the banking sector labor force rose to 23,850 people, up from 15,442 in 2002. Females totaled 11,087 accounting for 46.5% of the labor force, up from 42.7% in 2002 when females totaled 6,593. If the same growth trends are to continue, females are likely to become a majority in future years. Equality in numbers is expected to materialize in 2023.

### Females in industry

Estimates indicate that workers in the industrial sector do not exceed 160, of which hardly 14% are women, up from 12% in 1998.

### Females in the judiciary

The number of female judges increased over the past few years to 160, making up about 28% of the sector, up from 25% in 2003. ●



# EGYPT'S PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

## 448 SEATS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND 120 SEATS FOR LISTS

**Egyptian voters headed to the polls on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2015 to elect their MPs in the first stage of parliamentary elections. Polling stations are to reopen for the second stage on November 22 and 23.**

### Number of voters

Registered eligible voters total 55 million in Egypt, of whom 48.4% are women and 51.6% are men. 18 is the legal voting age.

### Number of MPs

Parliament consists of 568 seats - 448 elected on an individual basis and 120 elected through closed party lists.

### Electoral districts

Egypt is divided into 205 districts with provision for the 448 seats under the individual-seat system and into 4 districts for the assigned 120 seats under the party-list system.

It has been agreed to hold the elections in two stages: The first stage covers 14 governorates including roughly 27.4 million voters and 103 individual districts with 226 seats. Foremost among those districts is the Giza governorate which has 16 individual districts with 37 seats and around 4.6 million voters.

The second stage covers 13 governorates including roughly 27.5 million voters and 102 individual districts with 222 seats. The largest governorate is Cairo which has 24 individual districts with 49 seats and around 6.8 million voters.

The four districts adopting the party-list system are: Central and South Delta District: this includes six governorates - Cairo, Qalyubia, Dakahlia, Monufia,

Gharbia and Kafr el-Sheikh - and is assigned 45 seats. Elections in this district will occur in the second phase.

Western, Central and southern Upper Egypt District: this includes eleven governorates - Aswan, Red Sea, Luxor, Qena, Sohag, New Valley, Assiut, Beni Sweif, Faiyoun, Giza and Minya - and is assigned 45 seats. Elections in this district took place in the first phase.

Delta Region District: this includes seven governorates - Sharqia, Damietta, Port Said, Ismailia, Suez, North Sinai and south Sinai - and is assigned 15 seats. Elections in the Delta District are to be held in the second phase.

Western Delta Region District: this includes three governorates - Alexandria, Bouheira and Matrouh - and is assigned 15 seats. Its elections were held in the first stage.

### Electoral System

Egypt adopts a plurality system whereby the candidate who obtains the absolute majority - half plus one of the votes - wins. If no candidate receives an absolute majority, there is a runoff between the top two candidates. In the party-list system, the list with the absolute majority of votes wins and if no party wins, there is a runoff. ●

# ANWAR EL-KHATIB (1910-1970)

## A SORELY MISSED JURIST

**At the forefront of Lebanon's jurists and constitutional and political pundits is the former minister and MP Anwar El-Khatib.**

### Birth

Anwar El-Khatib was born in Chehim, a town in the Qada'a of Shouf, in 1910. He was the son of MP Ahmad El-Khatib who was elected in 1937.

### Education

Anwar El-Khatib received his early education in Chehim before moving to Beirut where he pursued secondary education and obtained his baccalaureate from the Patriarchate School in 1928. He enrolled afterwards as a law student at the Université Saint Joseph and graduated in 1940.

### Career

Anwar El-Khatib began his career as a journalist at the newspaper *al-Ahd al-Jadid (The New Era)*. He was appointed a judicial assistant while still a student at the Law Faculty. Later in 1943, he joined the judicial corps and was appointed an investigator in Tripoli. He had several judicial positions, the last of which was President of the Court of Cassation in Beqa'a in 1950. He resigned from his post one year later in order to focus on the practice of law after becoming involved in politics.

### Partisan activism

In 1950, Anwar El-Khatib joined with Kamal Jumblatt and a number of intellectuals and jurists such as Edmond Nouaim, the President of the Bar Association Fouad Rizk, René Nammour and Maurice Sakr, in founding the Progressive Socialist Party and was elected its deputy president.

### Deputyship

His engagement in the Progressive Socialist Party and close relationship with Kamal Jumblatt propelled him



Anwar El-Khatib

into running for Parliament. He won the Sunni seat in the Shouf district under the Jumblatt-Erslan-Chamoun list in the 1951 parliamentary elections. El-Khatib obtained 11,693 votes out of 24,004 against 11,488 for Hussein El-Jisr, his nearest rival under the list backed by Bechara El-Khoury, i.e. a margin of 105 votes only. The electoral battle was ferocious and marked by tight results among both winners and losers. The former list won in its entirety, except for Aziz Aoun (Maronite) who was defeated by the head of the rival list MP Salim Khoury.

Although he was defeated at the 1953 elections, Anwar El-Khatib won once again in 1957. In 1960, he lost by 264 votes against his rival and fellow countryman Qabalan Qabalan. Qabalan died on March 17, 1963, two days after the death of Emile Boustany, which necessitated the holding of by-elections in the Shouf area to fill the seat that had fallen vacant. The elections resulted in the uncontested victory of Myrna Boustani, daughter of Emile, while Anwar El-Khatib defeated his rival Ahmad Berjawi by 12,239 votes to 5338.

In the 1964 elections, El-Khatib ran once again under Jumblatt's list and defeated his rival from Chamoun's list, Ahmad Hajjar, by 19,073 votes to 18,314.

In 1968, the electoral battle was at its peak between Kamal Jumblatt and Camille Chamoun who formed two rival lists to run for elections. Anwar El-Khatib won one of the two Sunni seats under Jumblatt's list garnering 22,914 votes while his colleague Mohammad Berjawi lost after obtaining 21,859 votes. From the rival list, Issam El-Hajjar won by 23,253 votes; his colleague Hassan Qaaqour amassed 22,294 votes, i.e. 620 votes less than El-Khatib who did not live long enough to complete his term of office. El-Khatib died on November 14, 1970 and by-elections were held on December 10, 1970 resulting in the victory of his son, Zaher El-Khatib, who defeated his Chamoun-backed rival, Hassam Qaaqour, by 22,075 votes to 18,148.

## Ministry

Anwar El-Khatib's arrival to Parliament enabled him to enter the ministry as well, backed by Kamal Jumblatt. He was one of the few Sunni personalities in Shouf to assume ministerial positions. On February 8, 1968, he was appointed Minister of Water and Electrical Resources during the presidential era of Charles Helo, under the government headed by Abdullah Yafi. He remained in this position until the government's resignation on October 12, 1968. He held the same ministry as well as the Ministry of Agriculture in the next government formed by Yafi, which only survived eight days. Under Rashid Karami's government, he assumed the same portfolio and remained in office from November 25, 1969 until the resignation of the government on October 13, 1970.

## Works

Anwar El-Khatib left his mark in both Parliament and several ministries and contributed to several regulations and legislations. He was well known for the speeches he gave in Parliament which revolved around rightful political and social demands.

During his life time, Anwar El-Khatib wrote a huge collection of legal and juristic works, which have become a point of reference in several subjects, including:

- Marriage under the Islamic sharia'a and the Lebanese laws
- Parliamentary fundamentals in Lebanon and the rest of Arab countries
- The socialist propensity in Islam
- Lebanon's constitution
- General principles under the law
- State and the political systems

**“Anwar El-Khatib left his mark in both Parliament and several ministries and contributed to several regulations and legislations. He was well known for the speeches he gave in Parliament which revolved around rightful political and social demands”**

Anwar El-Khatib has been quoted as saying:

“Lebanon needs a revolution to liberate the country from several yokes gnawing at its very existence.

“Independence is a decent attempt to spread social justice and prevent the violence caused by social inequalities.”

## Family

He married his relative Hekmat El-Khatib and had six children with her.

## Death

He died on November 14, 1970 at the age of 60. 🕊

# THE LEBANESE ASSOCIATION FOR ENERGY SAVING AND ENVIRONMENT

## AN ACTIVE ADVOCATE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICIES

The philosophy of energy saving and environment protection is admittedly lacking in Lebanon. The people's lack of awareness about their surroundings and the planet they are going to leave to future generations has propelled the launch of several initiatives aimed at educating the community on the importance of the conservation of resources and the incorrigible hazards of reckless environmental practices set against the background of the growing problem of climate change and changing population dynamics.



### Establishment

The Lebanese Association for Energy Saving and Environment, known by its French acronym ALMEE, was established in 1992 to raise awareness on the importance of using renewable energy and reducing the use of other energy sources such as fossil and nuclear energies, flagging up the harmful implications for both mankind and the environment.

The Association believes that the proper management of energy and the progress towards renewable energy goals can contribute in large

measure to the social and economic growth of the country. The diversification of energy sources - solar, wind, biomass, hydraulic, wood, etc - and the advances in renewable energy technologies are sure to increase both energy efficiency and the possibility of attaining better energy services at affordable prices, which would improve education and healthcare in several rural areas and provide more job opportunities in the industrial sector - distribution, operation and maintenance - thus ensuring new income sources.



### A glimpse into ALMEE projects

ALMEE has joined with local, regional and international partners – from both the public and the private sectors - to promote better management of energy and more sustainable environmental practices. In cooperation with the Lebanese University and ADEME - Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maitrise de l'Energie - in GRASS - Green Recovery and Sustainable Solutions - a new approach to promote green building construction in Lebanon has been proposed. GRASS is a rating system for both commercial and residential buildings aimed to mitigate the negative impacts of buildings on the environment including CO2 emissions, heat island effect, intensive energy consumptions and so on.

ALMEE has mapped possible sites of microalgae production in Lebanon to gauge whether it is possible to produce oil, and consequently energy, from microalgae. A study conducted in collaboration with AUB and the EU revealed that the 22 species that were identified from several Lebanese coastal areas have the potential to serve as biodiesel, antibiotics, nutritional supplements and even promote organic agriculture.

Knowing that solar energy in the region is abundant yet not sufficiently exploited, the association has also moved to promote solar potential by engaging in SOLATERM, an EU-funded project devoted for the application of large solar thermal systems for water and space heating as well as cooling. It has also

been part of the SOLAR BUILD project which is geared towards the integration of solar technologies into buildings in Mediterranean communities. In fact, the association efforts in raising awareness on solar resources date back to 1994.

ALMEE has also been active in sensitizing the general public about the importance of thermal insulation for buildings, which allows consumers as well as the government to significantly reduce energy costs and bills. In addition, ALMEE has also been involved in issues surrounding the depletion of ozone since 1992.

In collaboration with the Makhzoumi Foundation and other consortium partners, ALMEE has engaged in the “Lebanese Youth as Messengers for Sustainability” project, which fosters a culture of sustainability among Lebanese children, youth and their families and local communities, in order to enhance a sustainable development in the country and sustainable relationships in the Mediterranean region.

ALMEE delivers a number of lectures in schools, universities and even municipalities and is keen on putting the research and studies it conducts with international organizations at the disposal of the Lebanese ministries of energy and environment, to enable them to draft and implement sustainable energy-saving and eco-friendly plans and policies. ●

## ANGUISH AND WORRY

..I paid Milady the rent and also the money I had borrowed. I also offered to pay for the food but she refused my offer categorically. I thought to myself that I had better buy a return ticket. I headed to a travel agency and booked a third-class seat aboard the Italian Esperia vessel, which was sailing from Venice. I also bought a train ticket from Tübingen to Venice. I felt both relieved and happy. At the end of the scholarly year, I bid my teacher and Milady goodbye and off I went to Venice with God's blessing.

The trip from south Germany to Venice was charming. Esperia anchored in Beirut after sunset. I tipped a luggage porter two marks to carry my bag to the Bourj Square. There, I stood thinking to myself: "should I spend the night here or go to my village? I have around fifteen marks in my pocket. Nah, little man, you'd better go up in the night". The moon was full and slumber had abandoned my eyelids.

A taxi driver from Bhamdoun caught sight of me. He advanced in my direction and asked "To Bhamdoun?" "No. To Ras El-Matn," I answered. "I will give you a ride from Bhamdoun. Hold on until I find other passengers." We agreed I would pay him six Lebanese liras.

It was close to midnight when I rang at the door. "Who is it?" said my mother. "Anis!" "Are you back, apple of my eye? You should have told us to meet you at the airport."

One of the lovely Lebanese customs is that the returning expatriate should stay two to three days at home receiving family and friends, who come in for greetings and felicitations. I defected from this custom though. I rose up in the early morning and headed to the village square where I saw most of my relatives and friends. Afterwards, I visited both my paternal and maternal aunts and uncles before dropping by to see a number of those Druze Sheikhs who were good friends of my father. I kept on shuttling from one house to another until it was lunchtime. My father was puzzled at this odd initiative. "Usually, it is people who visit to pay salutations, not the other way round," noted my mother. ●

To be continued ...



## DOES SHAVING MAKE HAIR GROW BACK FASTER AND THICKER?

---

### Myth:

People have always believed that avoiding shaving can protect one's hair and myths have thus been circulated against the use of a blade or an electric razor. Many products have been made for shaving and hair protection. Are they all useful and worth buying? As a matter of fact, hair grows neither thicker nor faster after shaving. This myth was created a long time ago due to lack of observation and superficial judgment.

### Fact:

Shaving does not have any impact on the thickness of your hair, how fast it grows back or its color. When a razor slices away the tip of the hair, it may appear that the remaining hair has grown sharper and darker than it was before the cut. In fact, no change whatsoever has been made and the hair shaved down is the one you will get back. In case of waxing though, excessive waxing to remove hair may tear a hair from its roots causing damage and resulting in reduced growth rates.

Sometimes, coincidence comes in play to vindicate this myth. For instance, when a teenager shaves his facial hair, the hair might grow back thicker and faster, which leads people to assume that the act of shaving is the reason for hair growth. What they fail to understand is that the time of shaving coincides with a period of active hormonal fluctuations, which, according to Amy McMichael, chair of the department of Dermatology at Wake Forest Baptist Health, are responsible for increasing his adult facial hair.

The hair is a dead part of the body, while follicles are the living parts that regenerate the growth of the hair. By cutting hair off your body, you are taking away the dead parts which are useless anyway. So as long as the follicle is present and active the hair will keep the same color and grows at the same rate.

In order to study the impact of frequent shaving on hair growth, a study was held in 1970 whereby five healthy people were asked to shave off one leg weekly for several months and leave the other leg alone. Expectedly, the results validated that shaving affects neither growth rate nor the thickness of the hair. A dermatologist based in New York City confirmed this study and added that women shave all the time, if it would have an effect on the hair growth rate, they would look like monkeys in days. Hair is not going to grow back robust and thick. Shaving does not cause any damage; however the interventions of many hormones could strongly affect the growth of hair and its reshaping. ●

---

### References:

- Morgan, Dina Fine. "Fact or fiction? If you shave ( or wax), your hair will come back thicker." Scientific American. Scientific American, August 26, 2014, July 7, 2015. Refer to webpage: <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/fact-or-fiction-if-you-shave-or-wax-your-hair-will-come-back-thicker/>
- Solomon, Amy. " Does shaving grow your hair back thicker?" Everyday health. Everyday health media, LLC, December 11, 2013, July 7, 2015. <http://www.everydayhealth.com/skin-and-beauty/does-shaving-make-hair-grow-back-thicker.aspx>
- Gibson, Lawrence E. "Is it true that shaving unwanted body hair makes it grow back thicker and darker?" Mayo clinic. Mayo foundation for medical education and research, November 11, 2014, July 7, 2015 <http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/adult-health/expert-answers/hair-removal/faq-20058427>

## THE BIOGRAPHY OF AMINE AND LEILA

*Amine and Leila* is the fruit of a joint research that chronicles the life of the late PM Amine El-Hafez and his wife, novelist Leila Ousseiran. The book sheds light on the landmarks that Amine and Leila experienced and the marks they left amidst a particular time - both in Lebanon and the broader Arab world, laden with challenges and crucial junctures. The first edition of the book was published by Riad Rayyes Books in June 2013 and proved to be more than a mere biography delving into the personal and professional profiles of the heroes; *The Biography of Amine and Leila* offered readers a gripping documentation of the transformations that shaped Lebanon and the region in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

From Palestine, where he was destined to live after his father had joined the Mufti Amin el-Husseini's campaign against Zionism and the British occupation, Amine El-Hafez returned to Lebanon in the wake of the 1936 Revolution and the intensification of Israeli strikes against Palestinians. In Lebanon, during a demonstration to deplore the arrest of Abdul Hamid Karami, Amine El-Hafez was an eye witness to the death of his friend by the French bullets. He reacted to the incident by quitting the Frères School which was affiliated with the French mandate and moved to Kouliyyat al-Tarbiya w al-Taalim where he completed secondary education. He left for Egypt afterwards where he studied commerce. He went to Switzerland for postgraduate education. He returned to Beirut in the early 1950s and gained ground in the spheres of culture and journalism. In 1960, he was elected MP in Tripoli, after which he became minister and then Prime Minister.

Leila was an only child. Her father had died of cancer. Soon after his decease, her mother sent her to a boarding school in Cairo where her uncles lived but she could not adapt and eventually returned to Lebanon where she obtained a BA degree in political sciences from the American University of Beirut. She freed herself from the shackles tying Arab women and used to have discussions with prominent writers and politicians. She engaged in partisanship and established a good standing in journalism and writing.



Amine and Leila met in Beirut's coffee shops in the fifties, against the backdrop of Arab turbulence. Their meetings and get-togethers would span for hours during which they discussed politics, literature and music. They fell in love and ended up getting married.

The book unveils the particulars of the designation of PM Amine El-Hafez as Prime Minister under the presidential term of Suleiman Frangieh and touches on all the changes and turns that hit Lebanon and the region, recalling the different historical junctures that defined them including the division of Palestine, Abdul Nasser's era, the Lebanese wars and the Cairo and May 16 Agreements. In a nostalgic reminiscence, the authors conjure up the golden age of Cairo, evoking the massive cultural, literary and political activity that invaded the Egyptian capital at that time. Equal attention is accorded to the heyday of Tripoli and images of the city's airs and graces, its neighborhoods and people are resurrected. ●

## ***NOURA WA ALAM AL-MEHAN***

Noura, the curious bee, is always on the go. From the class of her friend Maya, to the cart of the vendor of buns, to the store, to the gym, to the tailor's shop, Noura sets out on a tireless journey of discovery, through which she introduces young readers to twenty eight different professionals and how they go about their daily business.

*Noura Wa Alam al-Mehan* by Grace Abou Khaled helps children aged 6 to 8 learn about how people work, through the exciting adventures of a busy bee flying from one place to another throughout the day. The book was published by Yuki Press in 2009. It is illustrated by Nivine Matar and designed by Farah Meri. ●



# THE SHEBSHEBS

## THEIR NUMBERS ARE SMALL AND THEIR SECT PROTESTANT

The Shebshebs are a small family that can only be found in one town and they belong to the same sectarian community.

### Etymology

The name of the family could be derived from one of two possibilities:

1. The word *shabshab*, which refers to the *shabab* (youth) and vitality of the family members
2. The Egyptian word *shebsheb*, which means a light loose shoe or slipper without a back that may be worn and taken off easily and is usually worn indoors. It is likely that the family is of Coptic Egyptian origin and used to make *shebshebs*, thus the name Shebsheb.

### Numbers

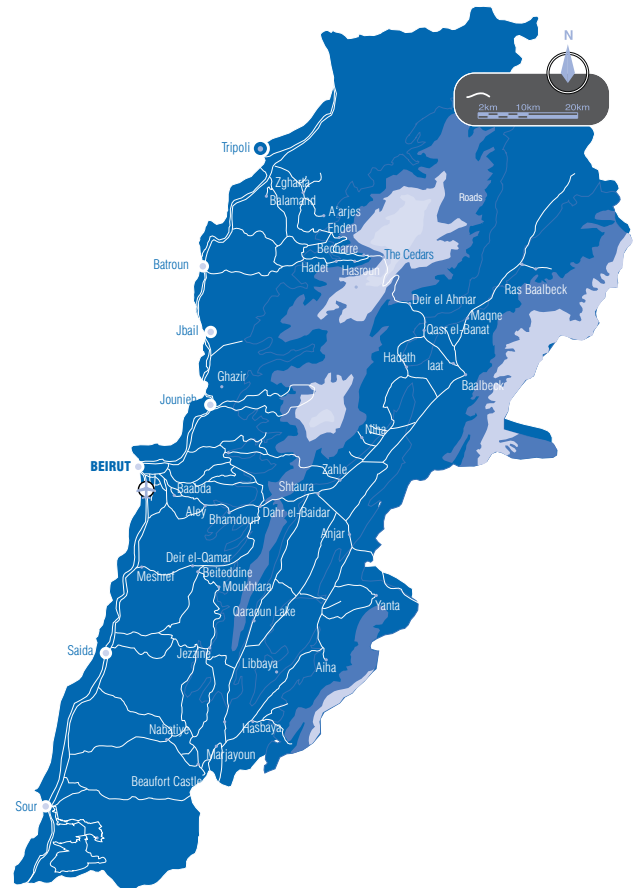
The family consists of only 30 members.

### Sectarian and regional distribution

The family members are strictly registered in Msaytbeh in Beirut and belong to the Protestant community. The examination of the voter registers in Beirut reveals that the Shebshebs are in fact one family descending from the forefather Rahhal Shebsheb who had three sons, Tohmeh, Melhem and Fayeze and one daughter, Nelly. This family is registered under the number 14, Protestant, Msaytbeh, Beirut.

Tohmeh who married Mtayl Bechara had himself three sons and one daughter:

- Raja, born in 1917, married to Aida and father of Fadi, b. 1957, and Sami, b. 1960
- Wadih, born in 1919
- Najib, born in 1923, married to Marie Nassif and father of Tohmeh, b. 1951, and Nadim, b. 1956.
- Wadiha, born in 1925
- Melhem had one son called Chafik, b. 1912, and one daughter called Noha, b. 1913.
- Fayeze wedded Lydia Hayek and had three children with her: Kamil, b. 1960, Samir, b. 1962, and Nabil, b. 1965. ●



# QARHA

## POOR TOWN IN AKKAR

### Etymology

In his book, *Names of Lebanese Towns and Villages*, author Anis Fraiha holds that the word 'qarha' is of Syrian origins and means 'baldness'. The word is often associated with people who are bald, and also, with the barren terrain. The town may have been given this name because part of its land was barren and unproductive.

### Location

The town of Qarha is located in the Qada'a of Akkar at an altitude of 500 meters above the sea level. It is 170 kilometers from Beirut and stretches across 550 hectares. It is bordered by the Syrian border line to the north and east, by Wadi Khaled to the west and by Hnaider and Knaisseh to the south. Qarha may be reached through the following route: Beirut- Tripoli- Halba- Wadi Khaled- Hnaider and finally Qarha. The town lies a few meters from the border with Syria and is 35 kilometers from Homs.

### Establishment

In 1958, tribal disputes arose in Hermel, leading the Oubaid tribe to migrate to Qarha and settle there, never to return to Beqa'a. The Oubaidis purchased land in the town from one of its landlords after the Alawi residents who had been working there, moved to Syria following quarrels with the residents in Wadi Khaled.

During the Lebanese Civil War, some of the Oubaidis left for Biaqout in Matn and some for the town of Ansar near Dawras in Baalbeck. The rest remained in Qarha.

### Population and houses

According to the town's personal status registers, Qarha's population is estimated at 2300, of which only 900 live in the town during summer and half of them in winter. The residents belong to the Shia'a Oubaid family while the Alawis live in Syria. The town has 100 houses and 10 shops.

### Voters

Registered voters totaled 802 in 2000 of whom 436 voters cast their votes. The number rose to 1151 in 2009 with 711 people exercising their voting rights. In 2015, there was roughly 1400 voters distributed equally between Alawis and Shia'a.

By family, 520 voters belong to the Shia'a Oubaid family and the rest are Alawis distributed as follows:

- Ali: 150
- Ahmad: 110
- Hallaq: 84
- Harfoush : 63
- Amin: 60
- Zeina: 42
- Mhawar: 36
- Al-Hassan: 35
- Issa: 28
- Suleiman: 25
- Chahhoud: 23
- Hamdan: 20
- Khallouf: 20
- Tibo: 13
- Al-Jerdi: 12
- Abdullah: 12
- Serhan: 12

### Local authorities

Local authority is vested in a mukhtar and an ikhtiyariyah body. The mukhtar resides in Syria most of the time.

### Educational Institutions

The town has one school, Qarha's Mixed Official School, which has 170 students and 18 teachers.

### Economic Life

Residents make a living from agriculture, raising livestock and trade between Lebanon and Syria. In 1972, an agricultural cooperative was established to boost agriculture, but is no longer functional. Qarha is one of the poorest towns in Lebanon.

### Health status

The town has a dispensary established in 1991 in cooperation between Jihad Al-Bina'a Foundation (Hezbollah) and the Ministry of Social Affairs. The dispensary helps provide part of the health services in the town.

### Problems

The town lacks the very basic public services. Its roads are dilapidated and its water scarce, forcing citizens to buy water in tanks. The school building is shabby and the mobile phone coverage is very poor. ●●

# FALKLAND ISLANDS

## DISPUTED TERRITORY LIVING OFF SHEEP FARMING

Sovereignty over the Falkland Islands has been the subject of a long-running dispute between Argentina and Great Britain. While the former's claim to the territory is based on its inheritance of the islands from Spain, Britain argues that it has continually and legally occupied the islands since 1833 and that the islanders have a right to self-governance under the British rule. The two countries waged a bloody war over the territory in 1982 ending with the defeat of Argentina. The dispute has been flaring on and off for years, with no solution in sight.

### Location and surface

The Falkland Islands is an archipelago in the South Atlantic Ocean, covering a total area of 12,200 square kilometers and resting 480 kilometers from Argentina's southern coast. It is made up of two major islands- East and West Falkland- separated by the Falkland Sound and 776 smaller islands and islets. The two islands boast several mountain ranges rising around 700 meters above the sea level.

### Population

According to the 2013 estimates, Falkland islanders total roughly 2,932, most of which descend from the Scottish and Welsh immigrants who settled in the islands in 1833. Some have French, Gibraltarian and Scandinavian roots. The British Nationality Act of 1983 entitles all Falkland Islanders to British citizenship.

### Religion

67.2% of Falklanders identify themselves as Christian following the Church of England. The rest either lack religious faith or belong to Christian minorities.

### Language

English is the national official language.

### Economy

Most economic profits in Falkland Islands are derived from fishing and sheep herding, through which soft and strong local wool is obtained and exported. There are over 500,000 sheep in the island. Interest in oil exploration has risen after the discovery of substantial



oil reserves in the area, the exploitation of which is likely to begin in 2017. Tourism has recently picked up momentum due to growing interest in the exploration of the Antarctica and the creation of direct air links with between the islands. Most tourists are attracted by wildlife as well as activities such as fishing and wreck diving.

### Political system

Falkland Islands operates as a self-governing overseas territory of the United Kingdom. Under the 2009 Constitution, the islands have full internal self-government; the UK is responsible for foreign affairs, retaining the power “to protect UK interests and to ensure the overall good governance of the territory. Queen Elizabeth is the Head of the State and assigns a governor to exercise executive authority on her behalf. ●

# SEPTEMBER 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

The ongoing protests over the garbage crisis and the continuity of national dialogue sessions were the major highlights of September 2015. Below is the daily digest of news.

## September 1

- A group of protestors break into the Ministry of Environment in downtown, Beirut, and stage a sit-in inside the building preventing the Minister from leaving the premises. The security forces interfere in the night and force the protestors out.

- Deputy Iranian Foreign Minister Hussein Amir Abdul Lahyan visits Lebanese officials.

- Speaker Nabih Berri's envoys start delivering invitations for the dialogue of September 9, which is going to address seven primary items: the presidency of the Republic, the resumption of Parliament's activity, the resumption of Cabinet's activity, the electoral law, the law on the recovery of citizenship, administrative decentralization and strengthening of the army and the security forces.

## September 2

- Postponement of the 28th session scheduled to elect a president of the Lebanese Republic until September 30 due to lack of quorum.

- Interior Minister Nouhad Mashnouq admits that the security forces did use excessive force on August 22 adding that there will not arise an Arab spring in Lebanon with the election of a president and a new electoral law. Mashnouq accuses an Arab country of standing behind the events in Lebanon.

## September 3

- "We support the right of the civil society to express its opinion," says US ambassador to Lebanon David Hale after his visit to PM Tammam Salam.

- A group of activists protest along Ain Mreisseh's corniche over the installation of parking meters and Beirut Governor Ziad Chbeib halts the installation of new ones.

- A number of youths stage a protest and go on a hunger strike near the Ministry of Environment, calling for the resignation of the Minister of Environment.

## September 4

- EU ambassadors emphasize after their meeting with PM Tammam Salam their support for the right to demonstrate, urging the election of a president and the approval of a new electoral law.

- The Free Patriotic Movement stage a demonstration at the Martyrs Square in Beirut's downtown and Minister Gebran Bassul reiterates in his speech the need to elect a powerful president, noting that the next protest will be at the Baabda Palace.

## September 5

- Head of the Lebanese Forces Samir Geagea announces during the Lebanese Forces martyrs' memorial that the Lebanese Forces will not participate in the dialogue called for

by Speaker Nabih Berri because it is going to be a waste of time. Geagea leaves afterwards for Qatar along with his wife and an LF delegation.

- The committee formed by PM Tammam Salam under the chairmanship of Agriculture Minister Akram Chehayyeb completes its report on garbage.

## September 6

- PM Tammam Salam commends the initiative of Speaker Nabih Berri in front of a delegation from Akkar, stating that the living conditions are difficult and there are people taking advantage of the popular dissatisfaction with the government to incite riots.

## September 7

- A sandstorm hits Lebanon and dust envelops the country leaving two people dead and sending over 600 others to hospital for breathing difficulties.

- French President François Holland announces his resolve to visit Lebanon in order to inspect the conditions of the Syrian refugees after his participation in the UN General Assembly's meetings at the end of September.

- Lebanese Forces Leader Samir Geagea discusses the status quo, particularly the issue of the abducted soldiers in Ersal, with the Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim.

## September 8

- The Future Movement Bloc issues a statement after its meeting considering that Hezbollah's level of corruption has exceeded all expectations.
- Opening of the Middle East Security and Defense Conference under the patronage of former PM Saad Hariri, who is represented by Interior Minister Nouhad Mashnouq.
- Ahmad El-Assir's defense lawyer requests more time to present his defense without setting a specific date for his presentation.
- Finance Minister Ali Hassan Khalil reveals that the municipalities' revenues for 2014 will be distributed before the end of September 2015.
- The Internal Security Forces dismantle a bomb on the road to Teenayel in Beqa'a.

## September 9

- The dialogue table convenes its first session in Parliament in the presence of all invitees (16 blocs) with the exception of the Lebanese Forces. The presidency of the Republic and the electoral law dominate discussion and Speaker Nabig Berri adjourns the session until September 16.
- The civil society rallies at the Martyrs Square, calling for a solution for the garbage crisis and the resignation of Environment Minister Mohammad Mashnouq. Protesters throw eggs at the convoys of some dialogue attendees.
- The Cabinet approves Minister of Agriculture Akram Chehayeb's waste management plan, which calls for the temporary one-week reopening of the Naameh landfill, the creation of two new sanitary landfills in the Bekaa and Akkar, as well as the extension of Sukleen's contract by 18 months.

- A Hezbollah delegation headed by Ibrahim Amin Sayyed visits Patriarch al-Rai in Bkerké and announces that it supports the nomination of General Michel Aoun for President.
- The Lebanese Forces Leader Samir Geagea announces that the current dialogue aims to divert attention from the presidency of the Republic and that Parliament has no right to legislate presently.

## September 10

- Protests staged in Naameh and Akkar against Minister Akram Chehayeb's waste management plan.
- Sympathizers, including Grand Mufti Abdul Latif Deryan, extend their condolences at the Druze Community House over the death of Sheikh Wahid Balous in Syria. In his speech, MP Walid Jumblatt reaffirms the need to arrange the dispute with Hezbollah and Emir Talal Erslan.
- The Ministry of Energy and Water and the Ministry of Finance trade hostile statements over the failure to settle the monies owed to the Danish company tasked with improving the Zouk and Jiyeh power plants, which subjected the State to financial penalties.
- Beirut's investigative judge George Rizk sentences Tareq Yatim, the murderer of George Rif, to death and Lina Haidar to two years in prison.
- Saudi ambassador to Lebanon Ali Awad Assiri reiterates Saudi Arabia's commitment to arm the Lebanese Army pursuant to the contracts signed with France.
- Head of the Phalanges Party MP Sami Gemayyel meets King Abdullah in Jordan.
- Employees at the Batroun Governmental Hospital protest over the termination of contract between the hospital and the National Social Security Fund.

## September 11

- Maronite Patriarch Mar Bechara Boutros al-Rai pays a pastoral visit to the Qada'a of Aley, stating that the election of a president is the portal to all solutions.
- Antoine Lahad, the former commander of the so-called South Lebanon Army, dies in Paris at the age of 88.
- Prime Minister Tammam Salam chairs a delegation heading for New York on September 24 to participate in the UN General Assembly session.

## September 12

- A group of men assault the airport customs chief over seizure of smuggled goods at Beirut airport, and Hisham Sabaa later holds a conference denouncing the incident in which his son is involved.
- The Lebanese Forces holds a ceremony in Ashrafieh commemorating the assassination of Bashir Gemayyel.

## September 13

- MP Walid Jumblatt holds a ceremony at the Mukhtara palace in honor of the departing US Ambassador to Lebanon, David Hale, at the end of his term of office in Lebanon. "We are in need of someone who leads us to a new Doha agreement," says Jumblatt during the ceremony.

## September 14

- British Prime Minister David Cameron pays a quick visit to Lebanon to check the Syrian refugee camps in Beqa'a. Cameron moves afterwards to Beirut to meet with PM Tammam Salam and Army Commander General Jean Qahwaji, stressing his country's support for Lebanon and its army.

- Minister of Youth and Sports Abdul Mouttaleb Hennawi visits Hezbollah's deputy secretary general Naim Qassem, a move interpreted as a rapprochement initiative by former President Michel Suleiman towards Hezbollah.
- Around 200 protesters gather near Beirut's international airport to warn the government over allowing the body of the head of Israel's former proxy militia in south Lebanon to be buried in his homeland in Kfarkatra.
- Dar El-Fatwa declares Thursday, September 24, the first day of Eid El-Adha.

### September 15

- Sheikh Ahmad El-Assir appears before the military court for trial. The judges adjourn the trial until October 20 at the request of El-Assir's lawyers who also request to refer him to a medical team. Before the session was adjourned, El-Assir was permitted to see his parents.
- Brazilian foreign minister Mauro Vieira arrives in Lebanon and meets with Speaker Nabih Berri, PM Tammam Salam and his Lebanese counterpart Gebran Bassil.
- The Lebanese Army intelligence arrests Ibrahim El-Atrash, one of those involved in the abduction of Lebanese soldiers and other terrorist acts.
- The Higher Islamic Shia'a Council declares Thursday, September 24, the first day of Eid El-Adha.
- The civil movement activists protest in front of the Ministry of Finance's revenue directorate demanding to stop the pay of inactive MPs.
- Head of the Phalanges Party MP Sami Gemayyel announces the establishment of the Lebanese Corruption Observatory.

### September 16

- The dialogue table convenes in Parliament to discuss the presidential elections in the absence of MP Michel Aoun and schedules the next session for Tuesday 23. The final communiqué reaffirms the government's decisions regarding garbage.
- Financial General Prosecutor Judge Ali Ibrahim informs EDL's Director General Kamal Hayek that power would be cut off to the homes and companies of those politicians dodging electricity bills. Hayek has handed Ibrahim a list of the amounts owed from evasion, which are worth LBP 1.2 billion.
- Civil movement activists stage a demonstration in Beirut's downtown marred by skirmishes with the security forces and clashes among protesters themselves after one of them cursed at Speaker Nabih Berri.

### September 17

- The eleven protesters who had gone on hunger strike to push for the resignation of Environment Minister Mohammad Mashnouq end their strike.
- The Loyalty to Resistance Bloc accuses the Future Bloc of casting his corruption on others.
- Minister of National Defense Samir Moqbel announces after meeting Bishop Awdeh that he disapproves of the military promotions.

### September 18

- The Special Tribunal for Lebanon acquits Al-Jadeed television of all charges but declares Karma Khayat, Al-Jadeed's deputy director, guilty of not abiding by the tribunal's calls to stop the publication of certain material. The STL sets the date for the sentence on September 28.
- Interior Minister Nouhad Mashnouq and Agriculture Minister Akram Chehayyeb meet with

the heads of municipalities and associations of Akkar to discuss the garbage issue.

- A number of head of municipalities in Aley and Al-Shahhar Al-Gharbi support the reopening of the Naameh landfill for seven days and the Naameh Landfill Closure campaign protests and insists on keeping it closed.
- Former PM Najib Mikati announces the establishment of Nour Al-Fayhaa, a company that will provide round the clock power to Tripoli.
- Interior Minister Nouhad Mashnouq requests a decree to withdraw the approval of notification of establishment given to the Foundation for Ahmadi Muslims following the objections voiced by Grand Mufti Sheikh Abdul Latif Deryan.

### September 19

- PM Tammam Salam announces after meeting Speaker Nabih Berri in Ain Tineh that Cabinet sessions will be held after he returns from New York.
- PM Tammam Salam chairs a delegation heading for Dubai to extend condolences to Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashed Al-Maktoum over the death of his son Sheikh Rashed.
- Unknown assailants open fire at dawn at Al-Jadeed television building in Beirut.
- During a round of meetings held in Eqlim El-Kharroub, MP Walid Jumblatt upholds Aoun's demand to promote Brigadier General Shamel Roukoz, noting that the election of a consensual candidate for presidency is highly unlikely. Jumblatt receives at his residence Iran's Ambassador to Lebanon Mohammad Fateh Ali.
- Patriarch al-Rai visits the areas of Sahel El-Shouf and Jezzine, including the town of Jeba'a where he meets delegations from Amal and Hezbollah.

## September 20

- MP General Michel Aoun hands over the presidency of the Free Patriotic Movement to Minister Gebran Bassil who calls for a rally on October 11 heading for the Presidential Palace, in commemoration of the October 13 Massacre.
- Minister of the Displaced Alice Shabtini slams General Michel Aoun in an interview with al-Liwaa, wondering why those who fight the Americans in Iraq are jailed while those who fight the Syrian people are rewarded.
- The security forces thwart the attempt of civil movement activists to reach into Parliament during their protest in Beirut's downtown.

## September 21

- Speaker Nabih Berri files charges against protestor Salah Nouredine for slander and defamation after the latter had carried a banner bearing photos of Berri, Hariri and Jumblatt and accusing them of corruption.
  - Interior Minister Nouhad Mashnouq files charges against journalist Mohammad Zbib for slander and defamation after the latter released a photo of a cheque issued by Banque Al-Madina to the benefit of Mashnouq.
  - Morning rains herald the beginning of the winter season.
- A number of artists and politicians arrive at the Financial Prosecutor's office to settle outstanding electricity bills.

## September 22

- The dialogue table convenes for the third time at the Nejme Square and the final communiqué schedules the next sessions for October 6, 7 and 8. The dialogue participants meet to discuss military appointments.

- Army Commander General Jean Qahwaji reaffirms the army's resolve to fight terrorism in a speech before the ambassadors of states supporting the Lebanese Army.

## September 23

- US Ambassador to Lebanon announces that his government does not participate in the protests staged currently in Beirut but supports the freedom of expression.

## September 24

- The civil movement organizes the Abou Rakhoussa bazaar for the second time in Riadh Solh Square. PM Tammam Salam heads for New York.
- Lebanese regions celebrate Eid El-Adha and Grand Mufti Sheikh Abdul Latif Deryan holds prayers in Mohammad El-Amin's Mosque in the presence of the Prime Minister. In his speech, Mufti Deryan calls for support for the government. In his turn, Mufti Qabalan urges adherence to dialogue.

## September 25

- In an interview with Al-Manar TV, Hezbollah's Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah voices support for a proportionality based electoral law, reaffirming Hezbollah's commitment to Aoun's candidacy without timeframes. Nasrallah adds that the demands raised by the civil movement are legitimate.
- Justice Minister Ashraf Rifi voices his objection to extending the terms of officers during his speech at the opening of Tripoli's festivals.
- PM Tammam Salam arrives in New York and meets King Abdullah of Jordan, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Population,

Refugees, and Migration and the King Philip IV of Spain.

- Former PM Saad Hariri bashes Nasrallah's speech, particularly his statements on Saudi Arabia.

## September 27

- Speaker Nabih Berri says the dialogue table is able to go a long way if the participants have good intentions.

## September 28

- PM Tammam Salam meets French President and his Turkish and Iraqi counterparts in New York.
- Families of the kidnapped soldiers resume their protests.
- The STL orders Karma Khayat to pay a 10, 000 euro fine.

## September 29

- Saudi ambassador to Lebanon Ali Awad Assiri says the campaign against Saudi Arabia is indicative of political bankruptcy.
- Minister of National Defense Samir Moqbel will not accept any compromise at the expense of the army.
- General Michel Aoun brandishes the possibility of boycotting dialogue sessions.
- The "We Want Accountability" campaign protests near EDL building.

## September 30

- In his speech before the UN General Assembly, PM Tammam Salam calls for a political solution in Syria and says the use of Lebanon as a stage for the proxy conflicts of others will destroy its status as a haven of moderation and coexistence.
- The 29<sup>th</sup> session to elect a president adjourned until October 21. ●

# THIS MONTH IN HISTORY- LEBANON

## PRESIDENTIAL VACUUM AFTER EXPIRY OF LAHHOUD'S TERM

**The current presidential vacuum that has been dragging on since the expiry of President Michel Suleiman's term on May 25, 2014 is not the first in the history of the Lebanese Republic and may not be the last given the nature and structure of Lebanon's political system.**



On September 23, 1988, upon the expiry of President Amine Gemayyel's term without a successor coming to office, a decree was issued stipulating the formation of a government headed by the then army Commander General Michel Aoun until new presidential elections could be held. The elections did not take place until November 5, 1989 when René Mouawad was eventually elected after the signing of the Taef Accord.

The presidential vacuum was revisited on November 24, 2007 upon the expiry of the term of the then president Emile Lahhoud.

### Election of Lahhoud and extension of his term

The Lebanese Army Commander General Emile Lahhoud was elected President of the Lebanese Republic in 1998 following a constitutional amendment that enabled army commanders to assume the presidency without resigning two years prior to the date of the election as stipulated in Article 49 of the Lebanese Constitution. As the term of the presidency approached its end in 2004, it was extended by another three years, which drew objections from a number of MPs, particularly MP Walid Jumblatt and his bloc, and tacitly Rafik Hariri. The country plunged into



a big political crisis and was divided into opposing camps, one calling for the resignation of Lahhoud and one insisting on defending his right to remain in office until the last minute of his term.

Attempts were made to find a new President before the end of Lahhoud's term but to no avail because every party wanted a President compatible with their own political stance.

Speculations circulating at that time suggested that: President Lahhoud would not depart from the Baabda Presidential Palace because no successor to the post had been elected

President Lahhoud would announce a state of emergency that would allow him to stay in power.

### Lahhoud's position

Before his departure from Baabda, Lahhoud took a number of political positions articulated in a presidential announcement read out by Rafik Shlala, the media advisor at the Baabda Palace, stating that

he considered that the Fouad Seniora' government lacked constitutional legitimacy as of November 11, 2006 (the date of the resignation of the Shia'a ministers and of minister Yaacoub Sarraf). Below are some highlights of the statement:

- A state of emergency exists all over the land as of November 24, 2004
- The Lebanese Army is assigned the task of maintaining order across all Lebanese territories and all other armed forces are put at its disposal as of November 24, 2007.
- The measures undertaken by the Army shall be put before the Cabinet as soon as a legitimate government is formed.

### Seniora's response

The then PM Fouad Seniora issued a counter statement maintaining that talks about an existing state of emergency were not applicable, leaving aside the fact that they were not based on any adequate constitutional or legal grounds. Seniora said that the facts and conditions forced through by the President of the Republic, regardless of his invalidity in the first place, were unfulfilled and nonexistent and therefore he was only aiming to delude the citizens that they were in real danger and that the country too was in a serious state, while in fact security was under control because the army was keen on preserving order and the safety of citizens.

The term of President Emile Lahhoud thus ended without the establishment of a state of emergency and the Seniora government remained operative.

President Emile Lahhoud left Baabda at midnight on 23/24 November leaving the presidential seat vacant. The vacuum persisted until the election of President Michel Suleiman on May 25, 2008 pursuant to the Doha Agreement.

The recurrence of presidential vacuum proves that Lebanon does not function according to strict rules and controls; rather, it runs its government and people with a 'leave it to Allah' attitude. ●

# THIS MONTH IN HISTORY - ARAB WORLD

## MOROCCO'S GREEN MARCH

**The Green March was a strategic mass demonstration organized by the Moroccan government on November 6, 1975 to force Spain to hand over the disputed autonomous semi-metropolitan province of the Spanish Sahara to Morocco.**

Around 350,000 Moroccans gathered in the city of Tarfaya in southern Morocco to cross into the Sahara. They brandished Moroccan flags and carried photographs of the King of Morocco and banners calling for the return of the Moroccan Sahara. Green was the color selected to describe this march and intended as a symbol of Islam. The signal launching the march was given by King Hassan II on November 6, 1975. Persuading the crowds to cross into the Sahara was somewhat effortless because of the close ties between the Moroccan throne and the Moroccans.

Morocco had long claimed its right to have full sovereignty over this territory which had been an integral part of Morocco throughout history. Mauritania argued on similar lines for their possession of the disputed territory, thus trying to prove that the territory was in fact Mauritanian. In October 1975, the Moroccan government resolved to vindicate its claims by referring the case to the International Court of Justice, which declared that there existed legal and historical ties attesting to the allegiance of some Sahrawi tribes to Morocco as well as ties including some rights relating to the land between Mauritania and other Sahrawi tribes.

However, the Court denied the presence of ties of territorial sovereignty between the province and Morocco, or Mauritania, stating that the aforementioned ties were not sufficient enough to support either country's demand for annexation of the Spanish Sahara to their territories. The Court ruled that the indigenous Sahrawis were the owners of the land and thus possessed the right to self-determination, meaning that the approval of the people of the territory was necessary to pass whatever political solution was to be found to



the question of sovereignty. However, King Hassan II considered that Moroccan-Sahrawi ties of allegiance raised previously by the Court validated his position and within hours from the verdict issuance, he announced the organizing of a “Green March” to Spanish Sahara in order to re-annex it to its motherland. Thus, the Green March brought to end close to a century long colonial occupation and enabled Morocco to realize its territorial unity.

Four days after the launch of the march, intensive diplomatic correspondence began between Morocco and Spain in order to find a solution that would guarantee the former's right to its Saharian territories. On November 14, 1975, Morocco, Spain and Mauritania signed an agreement in Madrid, whereby Morocco regained its southern provinces. ●

# ISLAMIC ORGANIZATIONS (10)

## BOKO HARAM: TERRORISTS OR ISLAMISTS?

Over a decade ago, an Islamic Nigerian organization by the name of “The People of Sunnah for Preaching and Jihad” hit the media headlines. The group is viewed by its followers as an Islamic organization seeking to spread Islam and establish an Islamic State. The majority of people, however, consider it a terrorist organization killing both Muslims and non-Muslims and expelling them from their houses.

### Etymology

In the language of the African Hausa tribes, Boko Haram means “banning Western education. “ However, the Islamic Jama’ah refuses this name and opts for “The People of Sunnah for Preaching and Jihad. “

### Establishment

Opinions differ on the birth of Boko Haram. Some argue that the group was established in 1995 by Abou Bakr Lawan, the founder of The People of Sunnah and Emigration in the University of Maiduguri in Nigeria. Others believe it was founded in 2002 in the Nigerian state of Borno by Sheikh Mohammad Youssef who had studied Islam and started to diffuse it among the illiterate youth of Nigerian taking the village of Kanama on the border with Niger as his base.

In 2009, Boko Haram initiated its military action by killing its opponents. The ensuing massacres resulted in thousands of deaths and tens of thousands fleeing the violence. Fierce clashes erupted between Boko Haram and the army leading the latter to announce its intent to finish off all Boko Haram members. Yet, action failed to follow the announcement and the group is still standing its ground and resorting to murder and kidnappings. Boko Haram has between 6000 to 8000 fighters.

### Doctrines

- Establishing an Islamic State and calling for the immediate implementation of Islamic sharia’ah.

- Insulting and oppressing women; this has led to a significant share of killings and sufferings. One of Boko Haram’s practices is inspired by the jahiliyah, thoughts of the pre-Islamic era, which advocated burning new-born girls alive.
- Banning work within the state’s governmental and security apparatuses; such apparatuses are considered apostate.
- Refusing Western education and influence because they corrupt Islamic beliefs.
- Discrediting Western sciences including the fact that the earth is round.
- Abandoning contrivances and heresies and sticking to the Prophetic sunnah.
- Fighting mystic thoughts and ways.
- Defending Islam and Muslims in Nigeria against the Christian Igbo tribe.

### Founder’s destiny

Boko Haram’s founder Mohammad Youssef was killed in 2009 following conflicts with the Nigerian armed forces and he was succeeded by Abou Bakr Shekau. The death of the founder is said to have increased the group’s extremism. ●

## REAL ESTATE PRICES- SEPTEMBER 2015

The decline in real estate transactions recorded in August 2015 continued at the same pace in September. If no positive signs emerge as to the general situation in Lebanon, particularly as to the presidential elections and the activity of both Parliament and the government, the real estate market will most likely continue to deteriorate. Despite this sluggishness, prices maintained the same previous patterns with an increase of 2% to 3% in the prices medium-sized properties and a modest increase in the prices of large properties.

Tables 1 and 2 illustrate the prices of some estates and apartments sold in September 2015.

Prices of some estates sold in September 2015			Table 1
Region	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Price (USD)	USD/m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Beirut</b>			
Ashrafieh (Jeitawi)	450	3,375,000	7,500
<b>Baabda</b>			
Tarshish	1,800	90,000	50
<b>Matn</b>			
Sin el-Fil	350	1,120,000	3,200
Monteverde	1,000	1,150,000	1,150
Ain Saadeh	880	924,000	1,050
Baabdat	2,500	500,000	200
<b>Aley</b>			
Aley	750	337,500	450
Doha Aramoun	800	800,000	1,000
<b>Kessrouan</b>			
Farayya	3,000	750,000	250
Sahel Alma	1,000	1,000,000	1,000
Qoulay'at	1,200	420,000	350
Zouq Mosbeh	1,050	1,312,500	1,250

Source: Compiled by Information International

Prices of some apartments sold in September 2015			Table 2
Region	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Price (USD)	USD/m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Beirut</b>			
Ashrafieh	210	525,000	2,500
Ras Nabe'e	170	399,500	2,350
Qraytem	250	1,250,000	5,000
Msaytbeh	190	494,000	2,600
Basta Fawqa	130	260,000	2,000
Tareeq Jdideh	110	220,000	2,000
Verdun	170	442,000	2,600
<b>Baabda</b>			
Hazmieh (Mar Taqla)	160	344,000	2,150
Baabda (Antouniyeh)	200	200,000	1,000
Hadath (Saint George)	100	135,000	1,350
Haret Hreik	250	275,000	1,100
Hazmieh (Mar Roukuz)	180	273,600	1,520
Hadath (Amerkan)	240	480,000	2,000
Shiyyah (Ministry of Labor)	200	260,000	1,300
<b>Matn</b>			
Jal el-Dib	150	247,500	1,650
Beit Mery	220	334,400	1,520
Zalqa	200	300,000	1,500
Broummana (Ouyoun)	150	210,000	1,400
Antelias	160	192,000	1,200
Dawra	130	130,000	1,000
Mansourieh	200	260,000	1,300
<b>Aley</b>			
Khaldeh	140	133,000	950
Khaldeh	170	238,000	1,400
Aramoun	150	180,000	1,200
Doha Aramoun	200	230,000	1,150
<b>Kessrouan</b>			
Sahel Alma	250	362,500	1,450
Adonis	200	200,000	1,000
Zouq Mosbeh	170	238,000	1,400
Ashqout	210	283,500	1,350
Souhaileh	220	330,000	1,500

Source: Compiled by Information International

## TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA

- **8,182,794** is the number of traffic accidents recorded in Saudi Arabia between 1970 and 2012 according to the Interior Ministry Statistics. The crashes resulted in 1,014,688 injuries and 149,802 deaths.
- **86,000** people have been involved with traffic collisions in Saudi Arabia over the past 2 years according to Hazem Kinani, the director of the Saudi Center for Security and Safety.
- **49** deaths is the estimated death rate per 100,000 people due to road traffic accidents, costing Saudi Arabia more than 13 billion riyals (USD 3.4 billion) every year.
- **85%** of accidents occur on intercity highways.
- **80%** of patients in the intensive care units in the Taif city are young people who have been involved in traffic accidents according to Siraj Al-Humaidan, the spokesperson for Taif's Directorate of Health Affairs.



## Beirut International Airport

### Rafic Hariri International airport Traffic- September 2015

Compared to the previous month, passenger traffic at the Rafic Hariri International Airport declined in September 2015 by 16% while it increased by 17% compared to the traffic recorded in the same period in 2014.

A total of 5,546,760 used the airport since the beginning of 2015 until the end of September, up from 5,018,169 during the same period last year, i.e. an increase of 527,591 passengers or 10.5%.

Airport traffic in September 2015 compared to August 2015 and September 2014					Table 1
Traffic	August 2015	September 2015	September 2014	% of change August/September 2015	% of change September 2014/2015
Arriving airplanes	3,608	3,338	2,965	- 7.4	+ 12.5
Departing airplanes	3,608	3,341	2,960	- 7.4	+ 12.7
<b>Total no. of airplanes</b>	<b>7,216</b>	<b>6,679</b>	<b>5,925</b>	<b>- 7.4</b>	<b>+ 12.7</b>
Arriving passengers	378,693	331,181	281,566	- 12.5	+ 17.6
Departing passengers	510,998	413,488	358,288	- 19	+ 15.4
Transit passengers	4,017	5,621	844	+ 40	+ 566
<b>Total no. of passengers</b>	<b>893,708</b>	<b>750,290</b>	<b>640,698</b>	<b>- 16</b>	<b>+ 17.1</b>
Imported goods (per ton)	4,517	4,681	4,378	+ 3.6	+ 6.9
Exported goods (per ton)	2,968	3,038	3,190	+ 2.3	- 4.7
<b>Total amount of goods (per ton)</b>	<b>7,485</b>	<b>7,719</b>	<b>7,568</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>	<b>+ 2</b>

Source: Compiled by Information International based on statistics by the Directorate General of Aviation

● **USD 340 million** is the cost of the two power generating stations added to the Jiyeh and Zouk plants. The stations can produce 272 megawatts.

● **630** is the number of the institutions headquartered in Beirut's downtown. They include 10 hotels, 120 restaurants and coffee shops and 500 shops.

● **USD 9.2 billion** is the worth (sales + purchases) of the real estate transactions registered in 2014, according to the registers of the real estate departments.

● **USD 4.7 billion** is the worth of the oil derivatives imported by Lebanon in 2014 followed by USD 1.5 billion for imported cars and motorcycles.

● **140,000 tons** is the annual Lebanese apple production. The figure may decrease to 110,000 tons when production is slow. Exported quantities do not exceed 50,000 tons and are usually destined for Egypt.

## Publications by Information International (in Arabic):

- 1- Salaries and Remunerations in the Public Sector
- 2- Public Seaside Properties
- 3- Lebanon's Parliamentary History 1920-2000
- 4- Taxes and Fees
- 5- Lebanon in Figures 1992-2002
- 6- Lebanon in Figures 2003-2004
- 7- Lebanon in Figures 2005-2006
- 8- Lebanon in Figures 2007-2008
- 9- Lebanon's MPs and Lebanese Parliamentary Elections 1960 - 2009
- 10- 2009 Parliamentary Elections by ballot box, candidate and confession-North District
- 11- 2009 Parliamentary Elections by ballot box, candidate and confession-Beirut District
- 12- 2009 Parliamentary Elections by ballot box, candidate and confession-Mount Lebanon District
- 13- 2009 Parliamentary Elections by ballot box, candidate and confession-Beqa'a District
- 14- 2009 Parliamentary Elections by ballot box, candidate and confession-South and Nabatiyeh District
- 15- Municipal Elections 2010

## Publications by INMA (in Arabic):

- 1- "I am Responsible, All of Us are Responsible"
- 2- "Our Environment is Our Home"
- 3- "My Society is My Responsibility"
- 4- "My Society is My Responsibility" Workbook
- 5- "I am a Student, I am a Citizen: Ways Towards State Building"
- 6- "I am a Student, I am a Citizen: Ways Towards State Building" Workbook
- 7- "Lebanon Wars, why?"
- 8- Discrimination in Lebanon
- 9- Najma men Biladi
- 10- Aklam men Biladi

## Publications by Kutub (in Arabic):

- 1- May Ziadeh, Evolution of a Free Female Thinker
- 2- Mission in Hijaz - Lion Roche
- 3- Aleppo Cuisine
- 4- From An-Nabk to Florida
- 5- Institution of Aesthetic Discourse -Saad el-Kassab
- 6- Al 'amal Al She'rya Al-Kamila -Kamal Keir beik
- 7- Majhoulat Gibran
- 8- Shweir and Its Hills, *A photographic record*
- 9- The Wars of Lajat 1837-1838
- 10- New Funerary Phoenician Stelae, *Private Collection*
- 11- Harakat Al Hadasa fi Al-She'r Al-Arabi Al-Mo'aser -Kamal Keir beik
- 12- Al Tanassot Ala Al Hatef fi Lebnan 1947-1958
- 13- Beirut *Daw' Ala Warak 1850-1915*
- 14- Shukri Al-Asali *Articles and Documents*



INFORMATION  
INTERNATIONAL sal  
للمعلوماتية الدولية



### To Subscribe:

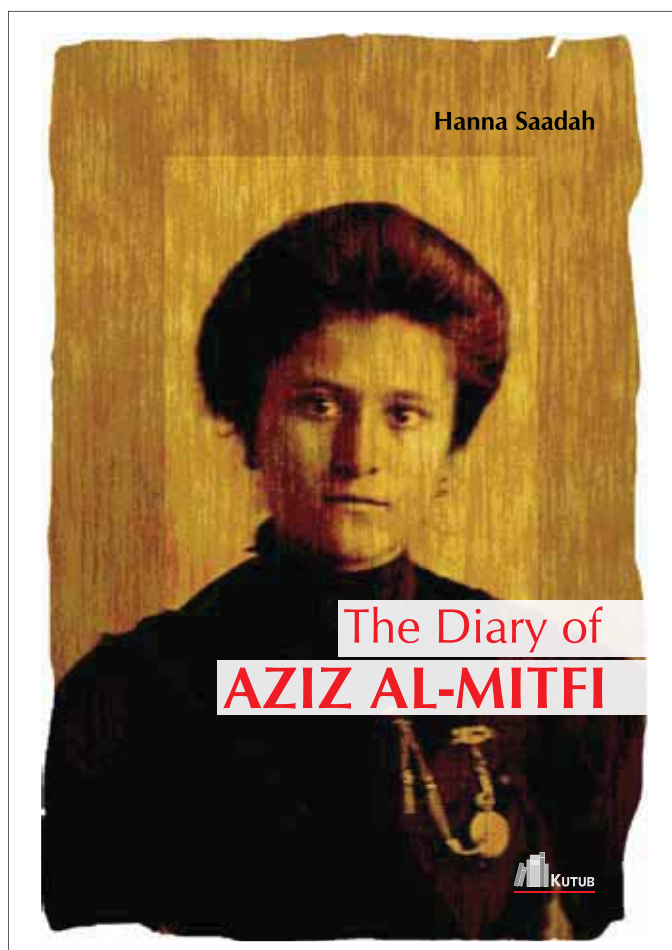
Al-Borj Building, 4th Floor, Martyrs Square  
Beirut Central District  
Telephone: 961-1-983008/9 961-3-262376  
Fax: 961-1-980630  
info@monthlymagazine.com  
www.monthlymagazine.com  
www.information-international.com  
Information International SAL All rights ©  
reserved  
License No. 180/2003

## THE DIARY OF AZIZ AL-MITFI

A riveting page-turner and a deftly-plotted narrative, Hanna Saadah's fourth novel, *The Diary of Aziz Al-Mitfi*, is sure to quench the reader's thirst for a profound story. With the grace and ease of a seasoned storyteller, Saadah chronicles the twists and turns of the life of Aziz Mitran, a man who fled the violence of his father at a very young age, setting out on a twenty-year journey peppered with both human drama and the thrills of adventure.

When his father died, Aziz returned to his hometown, Amioun, matured and wizened by his rich experiences of struggle, love, and loss. As one who was deprived of his own childhood, Aziz resolved to dedicate his healing skills and the remainder of his life to the children of Al-Kourah. When he deeply touched the lives of a bunch of boys, one of them, Salem Hawi, insisted that Aziz was too great a soul to be forgotten, and resolved to chronicle his legacy.

*The Diary of Aziz Al-Mitfi* is stitched intricately into the variegated fabrics of human nature and brings to attention the unfortunate realization that history has rarely done justice to those who deserve it the most, those unsung ordinary heroes with their countless tales of struggle, love, and loss.



© Kutub, All Rights Reserved

Al-Borj Building, 4th Floor Martyr's Square, Commercial Center  
Beirut - Lebanon

P.O.BOX: 11-4353 Beirut, Lebanon

Tel: (961-1) 983008/9 Fax: (961-1) 980630

E-mail: [kutub@kutubltd.com](mailto:kutub@kutubltd.com) Website: [www.kutubltd.com](http://www.kutubltd.com)