



The party of the Guardians of the Cedars-National Lebanese Movement, commenting the squabble between the Government and the Opposition, issued the following communique:
The row between the Government and the Opposition and the stark antagonism between a departing regime and a new one, now at its highest, prompts the citizen to ask: What has changed? What is the differences between the two regimes?
And what is all the brawl about?

- Both regimes were concocted by Syria as a cover for her continued presence in Lebanon, thereby virtually eliminating political activity, rendering our future obscure and distressing, and placing our very existence in the balance.
- The treasury is still empty and flounders year after year under the mass of public deficit and debt, and the remedy proposed is a mere sugarcoat.
- The economy is still stagnant, private firms are ceasing their activity one after the other and laying off their personnel.
- The social crisis started with the former regime, is more acute with the new; living cost is devouring the people, famine is striking at the doors of the poor and incites our youth to emigrate; and the citizen is starting to disbelieve in a country managed by foreigners more than by its own people.
- Bribery is still diligent but under differnt procedures; corruption in government circles is still predominant; the stench of scandals is choking everyone... The yesmen and the proteges are still present, though under different names and positions.
- The war in the South is still at its highest, and the taxpayer is paying its price with his life and property; the only loser is Lebanon.
- Peace is still waiting for the green light from Syria, since the Lebanese decision is held hostage in Syria's Mouhajerin Palace; the politicians belly creeping to Damascus, trying to please the Sublime Porte is unchanged, with the difference that it is gradually shifting from the fathers to the sons.
- Considering this parallelism between the two regimes, the citizen cannot understand what are they quarelling about, and for what reason? Yet the answer is obvious: they are quarelling about positions on the basis of go so that i may sit in your place. As for the national and citizen's interests, that is the least of the concerns of the political circles in power. To these political circles, we say stop contending against the people for they are bound to wake at the first opportunity from their lethargy, and then they will prevail and judge.

At the Service of Lebanon,

The Chief,

Etienne Sacre.