The Guardians of the Cedars National Lebanese Movement



حراس الأرز حركة القومية اللبنانية القائد

The Commander

The Guardians of the Cedars issued the following communiqué

The President of the Baabda palace is fooling himself if he thinks that his expected visit to New York to attend the UN General Assembly, should it happen without problems, has the ability to improve his image to the outside world or to break the international isolation imposed on him since the passage of resolution 1559. He is also mistaken if he thinks that hiding behind well-known spiritual and political leaders will improve his image internally or will strengthen his position through the end of his illegal term. Particularly when all prognostications attribute to him direct or indirect responsibility in the assassination of Rafik Hariri in solidarity and association with his masters in Damascus, and at a time when the upcoming report by the international investigator Detlev Mehlis is already a sword hanging over his head.

More important than the visit to New York and the nature of the delegation that will accompany him there, is the content of the speech he will give at the UN since the international community expects to hear from him a clear and honest position vis-a-vis resolutions 1559 and 1614, while he will try – as appears to be the case – to be evasive by resorting to generalities and vague and pompous language in an attempt at obscuring and deceiving, which will add to his isolation and increase international resentment against him.

We don't know how this man will be able to get out of this new predicament in which he shoved himself. We don't know who encouraged him to undertake this suicidal trip. But what we do know is that the man's final act will definitely be an unhappy one and of a nature he did not wish for himself.

Similarly, the new government is mistaken if it thinks that the international community will rush to support it and extend to it material and moral assistance, simply because it was made in Beirut and not in Damascus. And like the international community, the Lebanese people, in contrast to the Parliament, refuses to endorse the government for a number of reasons, of which we mention but a few:

- 1 The government did not emerge from the March 14 movement as the Lebanese people had wished. It came as a result of a cheap allotment of shares among traditional political forces at the expense of the people, and also from a marriage between the March 14 figures and those of the Syrian rule era.
- 2 The government gave in to the pressures of the fundamentalist groups and, for the first time in the history of Lebanon, members of those groups now sit in the government. No sane person will believe that the international community will help a government that includes fundamentalists classified as terrorists.
- 3 The government has been hesitant, if not paralyzed and incapable, at implementing a single item from the huge reform program if promised in its ministerial program statement. Not even urgent administrative appointments, especially in the sectors of security and the economy, have been made to confront the terrifying deteriorating security climate that hangs over the country or the dire economic straits that continue to choke the Lebanese in their livelihoods.

When will those masters of politics understand that the world will never help Lebanon if the latter refuses to help itself. The question that remains unanswered is: When will Lebanon rid itself of those masters, and how??

Lebanon, at your service

Abu Arz August 26, 2005