



The Guardians of the Cedars Party issued the following communiqué:

The Lebanese are bidding farewell to this year with some regrets, while welcoming the new year with a lot of anxiety and fear, as the political crisis continues to build up, proposals for solutions seem to be headed to failure, and escalation remains the order of the day.

Thirty years have gone by and the same act is played over and over again. One year goes by and another comes and the Lebanese see no glimmer of hope to give them back confidence in their future and the future of their nation. For every crisis that is navigated, many other crises loom on the horizon, and for every wound that is healed, many more are opened.

And in the midst of these endless crises, with despair in people's spirits and darkness hanging over the country, and with the unprecedented political decadence, only the Army remains different, in a higher sphere above the fray, rising above the conflicts, and displaying lofty moral discipline, thus making this institution the pillar for the temple, the last haven and the only remaining hope.

We offer two greetings on the occasion of these – yet again sad – holidays. The first goes to our dignified military institution, wishing it and its commander continued glory and success, and the second to our overcome people, patient as they are despite the wounds, afflicted with their politicians and leaders, wishing them a prompt exit from the vortex of misery to a free and dignified life, so that they recover the joy, hope, and peace that they deserve after so much pain.

Lebanon , at your service

Abu Arz
December 29, 2006