



The Guardians of the Cedars issued the following communiqué

It's been ten months since this government was formed, and to date it has not accomplished a single iota of all that it promised in its ministerial statement beyond being a caretaker government and with much fanfare and running around in circles.

Corruption remains rampant, like it was during the tutelage era, and so is squandering of public funds. Unemployment is on the rise, young people continue to emigrate and the living conditions are unbearable. The political establishment has no concerns whatsoever for people's problems, with its figures self-absorbed in their personal scheming and bickering, as if the salvation of Lebanon rested on who among them gets to go to Bucharest for the gathering of Francophone countries.

Day in and day out we hear about how this regime is busy preparing a reform program in anticipation of the Beirut I conference, but no one knows how serious are the contents of this program, much as no one can guarantee its implementation in the midst of the extreme political tensions that are racking the country and the divisions at the helm or the government and the regime.

The Lebanese people do not expect miracles from this government, because they know how limited its prospects are. But all that they ask is for a minimum of management of public affairs that secures a modicum of the basic elements of a dignified life so that they, in turn, can hold fast in their own country until such time as God grants them a government of another mold. A government capable of transforming the country from a state of frustration and despair to one of hope, and from a state of agony to one of revival.

As an example, the State or some of its figures ought not be thinking about settling the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. Instead, it should be concerned with improving the conditions of its own citizens so they do not become refugees in their own country. It should deny the wholesale of Lebanese land before the Lebanese become foreigners in their own country. It should stop the rush of people to emigrate before the country is emptied of its young vital force. It should work to bring back those who recently left before they melt into their host countries. It should pay urgent and special attention to bringing home those young people forced to living in Israel before they become Israeli citizens, and end the tragedy of the disappeared and missing in Syrian prisons before they are forever forgotten in the catacombs and dungeons of Mazze and other infamous Syrian prisons.

As to electricity, water, roads and all the other utilities and basic requirements of modern life, we are ashamed to have to demand that the government provide them to people in this 21 st century when satellites are landing on Mars and the entire world is advancing in tune with technology and science.

Sad to say, but all we have today to fight this sick government are our words. But to whom are you reciting your psalms, oh David?

Lebanon , at your service

Abu Arz

June 23, 2006