



The Guardians of the Cedars Party issued the following communiqué:

We look up to those countries that respect themselves and their people and who hold their officials accountable if they fail, no matter how important they are. On the other hand, in Lebanon, the powerful people mess around with the destiny of the country and the people and no one dares to hold them accountable. They are above the law which applies only to ordinary citizens, and basically, the law of the jungle is the rule.

The treasury is under a deficit of more than \$40 billion and not a voice has called for an inquiry commission to uncover those responsible for this horrifying deficit and to explain what happened to those billions and who squandered and pilfered them!

The current crisis has reached a wall. It threatens the country with a collapse at all levels. The constitutional institutions are dysfunctional, and fires rage across Lebanon. Tens of deaths and wounded, and the competing parties throw the ball back to their opponent. In spite of all of this, no judicial inquiry is underway to identify the responsibilities and put an end to this unending recklessness with the destiny of the people and the nation!!

The country is nearing a famine, commercial enterprises are closing their doors one after the other and unemployment is rising at an alarming pace. Drove of young people are emigrating in despair and disgust, and the government is silent. No one bother to ask why and no is called to account.

No. This is not the Lebanon that we proclaimed, nor is it the Lebanon we promised the Lebanese people. We fought for it for 30 continuous years and we offered priceless sacrifices and martyrs at its altar.

We see no hope in the rise of Lebanon before the principle of punishment and retribution is applied. The powerful ones must be subjected to the law before ordinary citizens are, and leaders must go to jail when they deserve it. Otherwise, Lebanon's condition will continue to deteriorate and all bets are up as to where the country is going.

Lebanon, at your service

Abu Arz
February 9, 2007