



The Guardians of the Cedars Party issued the following communiqué:

There is no doubt that establishing the International tribunal under Chapter 7, even if belated, is a victory for Lebanon and for a justice that has been denied for a little more than 30 years. More critical than creating the Tribunal is actually setting it up, launching it earlier than planned and shortening the deadlines for holding its sessions, since the road to get to the killers, arrest them, and bring them to court is long and arduous, mined with unpleasant surprises and uncertainty. This is particularly true considering that those harmed by its creation continue to issue threats of igniting Lebanon before there are made to stand before international justice. Until that moment become reality, we hope that the additional price that the Lebanese will have to pay in their own flesh won't be exorbitant.

For Syria to say that the establishment of the Tribunal “diminishes Lebanese sovereignty, and will lead to further deterioration of conditions on the Lebanese arena,” carries the usual hypocrisy and duplicity represented by a sudden keenness by Syria for a sovereignty it never recognized, and which in fact it violated whenever it found a way to do so. Syria's hypocrisy is in its concern for the security of Lebanon, which resembles the concern of the wolf for the security of the lamb. Therefore, the Lebanese and the Security Forces should exercise extreme caution and care before the entire herd of sheep is annihilated.

And speaking of Syria, we have to share with the Syrian people their great joy at renewing their allegiance to their President through a democratic referendum in which he obtained only 97.26% of the vote, that is, with a decline of 2.38% from the average in place in similar referenda conducted by the regimes of the neighborhood. So congratulations to the Syrian people for this deeply rooted democracy that was at its best this week.

As for the events of the Nahr Al-Bared Camp, any delay in destroying the terrorists there will negatively impact general security in the country and will give a boost to the other terrorist centers that are laying low in the other camps and will encourage them to a rebellion against the State.

The time has come for the political authority to make the right decision and decisively resolve this problem immediately. The overwhelming support of the people to the Army and the rallying of the Lebanese from all sides around their Army are sufficient to provide the cover needed for the Army to carry out its

national duty, in a way that protects the highest national interest on the basis of “no coexistence with terrorism”, for the people is the source of all powers.

Lebanon, at your service

Abu Arz

June 1, 2007