



The Guardians of the Cedars Party - The Movement for Lebanese Nationalism issued the following communiqué:

They rejected a reliance on the international judiciary on the ground that it is politicized, biased and partial, and instead they sought the Syrian judiciary which is "impartial, just, and not politicized". They insulted people's intelligence by claiming that the Syrian arrest warrants issued against a number of Lebanese figures are a purely legal matter without any political dimension, as if the Syrian judicial system is independent of the political system and is not directly subject to it, as is the case in all totalitarian regimes that use the judiciary to settle scores with their opponents.

The Syrian arrest warrants, though without any value in a legal and judicial sense, prove one more time that Syria's policy toward Lebanon remains the same old policy that existed prior to, under, and after the Syrian tutelage over Lebanon. It is a policy governed by condescension, a lust for domination, an insult to the dignity of the Lebanese, and a refusal to recognize Lebanon as an independent, sovereign country that is fundamentally distinct from Syria. Any other drivel about "special relations", "common interests", the solicitude by the "big sister" for the security and stability of the "little brother", and such other flowery and smooth verbiage is just pure lies and nonsense aiming to deceive and camouflage the reality.

It is naïve to believe that Syria's hegemonic policy over Lebanon can just be switched off, with the visit by an official here, a placatory statement there, or the signing of a treaty over there. The reason is that Syrian policy toward Lebanon is historic and not circumstantial, it is deterministic and not optional, it is systematic and continuous, and is governed by matters of history and geography.

This Syrian-Lebanese conflict, or rather the Syrian struggle over Lebanon, will come to an end only under one of the following three conditions:

- 1- When Lebanon's entire people is fully subjected to the Syrian will and acquiesces to its unconditional tutelage. This will never happen, if Lebanon's history of struggle over the centuries is any guide, and because of the boundless passion of the Lebanese for freedom and independence.
- 2- When the regime in Syria changes from totalitarian to democratic, similar to what happened in Europe and led to the cessation of armed conflicts between its peoples. This too is not likely to happen in the foreseeable future.
- 3- When the Lebanese people renew their cohesion and rise up in a sweeping revolution, much like the Cedars Revolution of late, provided this new revolution topples the existing political class, especially those politicians who voided the Cedars Revolution with their mastery of clientelism and subservience, and replaces it with a new class qualified to build a modern state that can impose its prestige, authority, and respect over other countries, near or far. This is what ought to be; this is our wish and the wish of the decent and honorable fighters for this country.

In the meantime, faith, patience, and perseverance are qualities we seek from God until such a change is possible.

Lebanon, at your service
Abu Arz
October 8, 2010