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

All that was said about the armed clashes of last week in Beirut, namely that they were an isolated individual incident without any political or sectarian background, or a mere disagreement between brothers, etc., is just nonsense and hogwash.

Similarly, the tough positions expressed by the State's Tripartite Ministerial Commission, the Higher Defense Council, and some officials, promising tightened security measures across Lebanon, especially in Beirut, making sure that what happened will not happen again, and the slogan of a "demilitarized Beirut", are all nonsense and really taking the Lebanese people for fools.

Why? Because the vast majority of the Lebanese people have long lost any confidence in this State and no longer believe any of its repetitively disgusting promises. In fact, they have tired of the State's chronic impotence and failure in all areas of security, in social and economic issues, in the administration and plain daily life problems, and instead have come to rely on themselves in managing their needs in water and electricity, and even in their personal security.

Because people know that the real causes behind the security anarchy are the anomalous and failed coexistence between the State and all the other mini-states that have mushroomed up and down the Lebanese landscape, beginning with the so-called "Hezbollah" and all the way to the Palestinian military bases armed to the hilt, and every last organization that keeps its weapons and military cadres.

Because people also know that these security incidents, amid the jungle of weapons and gunmen, are bound to recur at every opportunity and to move about the country, and that the State will, as usual, resort to treating these incidents with sedatives through the charade of "security by mutual consent" and hypocritical pats on the back, by forming joint committees between the opponents, and issuing statements of denunciation and condemnation as a way to whitewash its responsibility.

And finally, because the Lebanese people know that the only condition for the rise of a sound and healthy State is the elimination of the alternative mini-states, which they know is not forthcoming any time soon.

One needs to stress that the policy of "security by mutual consent" means to weakness before the strong, and bullying the weak, which is an old habit that successive Lebanese governments have gotten used to for decades in their servitude to the old political and financial feudalism, and in order to bolster its sway at the expense of ordinary citizens. We thought, however, that with the disappearance of that feudalism the situation of the country would improve and straighten. But today we are witnessing a new political feudalism which, perhaps due to its recent advent, is even more virulent in its contempt for people, and more rabid for power and money than the old feudalism!!!

We call on this silent majority to break its silence, and we remind it that the final word in determining the fate of the country ultimately belongs to it.

Lebanon, at your service  
Abu Arz  
September 3, 2010