



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

A retrospective on the Egyptian revolution shows that, in its form, its organization, the sophistication of its youth, the decency of its slogans and the advanced peaceful conduct and methods of its people, it resembles the Lebanese Cedars Revolution of 2005, despite the time interval that separates them. One might argue that the Cedars Revolution did inspire the Egyptian people, and before them the Tunisian people, as well as the other peoples of the region to rise up from their slumber and rid themselves of their chronic dictatorships.

In practice, however, and while the Egyptian revolution succeeded in toppling a regime and all its corrupt figures and moving into the realm of freedom, dignity and democracy at lightning speed, the Cedars Revolution did in fact fail to achieve any of its objectives. The Syrian occupation has returned, albeit masked, and has consolidated its influence. Its allied armed mini-states have increased their armament and their sway at the expense of the State, and indeed have moved from opposition to seizing control of the State! Moreover, while the Egyptians who mobilized in Tahrir Square barely exceeded 7% of the entire Egyptian population, the Cedars Revolution did mobilize half of the Lebanese people and still obtained nothing but disappointment and the shattering of people's dreams.

The first reason for this utter failure in Lebanon is the lack of clear vision in defining the objectives of the revolution, meaning that the young of Lebanon focused their demands on the withdrawal of the Syrian occupation but did not demand the toppling of the occupation's domestic figures and their pursuit, as a revolution ought to do. In particular, the Cedars Revolution did not pursue those collaborators who brought about the Syrian occupation and colluded with it in ruling the country, pilfering its resources, repressing its people, and ultimately provided it with a comfortable cover to stay on our soil for 30 continuous years.

The second reason for the Cedars Revolution's failure is to have allowed the Lebanese political bosses, including many of the collaborators mentioned above, to actually lead the revolution and ride its coattails at first, then divert it from its original path and turn against it, and finally abort it.

And so, after being revolution pioneers, we stand today envious of others for their revolutions. In Egypt, the courts have begun pursuing the figures of the old regime, corrupt ministers and officials are being arrested and their assets frozen, and a ban on their travel has been imposed as a prelude to their prosecution in the courts. In Lebanon, on the other hand, the bosses remain entrenched on their thrones, and their wealth continues to grow at the expense of the Lebanese people who continue to sink further and further into poverty, need, and despair.

In Egypt, the young people who led the revolution have begun participating in the new political life, while in Lebanon those young people who launched the revolution continue to emigrate in droves, disgusted from both the new and the old political life.

In Egypt and in Tunisia, the revolution eliminated the phenomenon of political inheritance, while in Lebanon, political inheritance has become the rule and has even expanded to include, besides the politicians' children, their grandchildren, their wives, their daughters, and their sons-in-law.

In Egypt, the sun of freedom, justice, and hope has risen. In Lebanon, the people have entered deeper into a dark tunnel whose end no one can see!

All of this because the young people of Egypt led the revolution against the miscreants of politics, while in Lebanon the miscreants led the revolution against the young people of Lebanon.

A Cedars Revolution II is the only remaining solution, provided that, this time around, it targets the entire political class.

Lebanon, at your service

Abu Arz

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