



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

Why is the Syrian Revolution Faltering?

Despite the enormous sacrifices made by the Syrian people over the past ten months, and the rare courage they demonstrated in the face of one of the most violent police states in the world, their revolution seems to be faltering at this time and unable to reach its objectives, unlike its sister revolutions in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya. There are three main reasons for this difficulty:

1- The failure of the Syrian opposition to unify its ranks and its voice, and its splintering into groups differing in their objectives and vision, something which enabled the regime to play the card of this sensitive issue and prevented an international recognition of the opposition. In turn, this made the Syrian people lose their confidence in the opposition, after they had been farther ahead of it in designating their priorities while the opposition did not rise to the level of the sacrifices, the pain and the dreams of its people.

2- The fatal mistake made by this opposition in choosing the Arab solution and agreeing to the initiative of the Arab League, which has a long history of failure and fumbling, instead of insisting on referring the case to the Security Council with its expertise and capabilities in addressing this kind of complex crises, not unlike the Libyan crisis. This mistake – or rather this foolishness – led to prolonging the tragedy, spilling more innocent blood, and squandering precious time. It also gave the regime a golden opportunity to gain time, circumvent the Arab initiative, and continue in its daily massacres in full sight of the Arab observers.

3- The Western world's dull and dubious stances vis-à-vis the savagery of the Syrian regime which had proven, previously in Lebanon and now in Syria, that it belonged to the class of blood-thirsty regimes, and that it will not refrain from murdering all the Syrian people if need be, in order to nip the revolution in the bud and remain in power, as was understood from Assad's last speech. Add to all this the wavering and ambiguous position of the Turkish government upon which the Syrian people had counted, to no avail unfortunately, as its promises and threats appeared destined for media consumption alone. Not to mention the shameful positions of Russia and China and their insistence on covering for the crimes of the regime and encouraging it to commit even more crimes, by supporting the regime in the diplomatic, political and military areas. The latest such support was to send a Russian aircraft carrier to the port of Tartous, followed by abundant supplies of weapons and munitions.

In view of this stalemate and the fateful challenges that confront the Syrian revolution, there is no option left but one: To proceed forward and mobilize its people, intensify its demonstrations, expand its protests, and issue daily and unrelenting calls for international protection, while shunning any Arab intervention. It is a difficult choice which requires additional sacrifices at an exorbitant price. But it is the correct option if the Syrian people were to cross into the oasis of freedom and dignity.

Lebanon, at your service
Etienne Sacre – Abu Arz
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