



February 04, 2012

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

In 2008 and in the aftermath of the Free Patriotic Movement President's visit to Damascus, during which he called on the Lebanese to open up to the Syrian regime, we defined then six conditions for agreeing to this détente, namely:

- 1- Wait for the results of ongoing investigations by the Special Tribunal for Lebanon on the political assassinations that targeted several Lebanese figures, since the Syrian regime is the principal suspect in these assassinations.
- 2- Hand over all Syrian officials involved in individual or collective crimes against the Lebanese people from 1976 to date, so that they be prosecuted before Lebanese or international justice.
- 3- Cease Syria's interference in Lebanese affairs and stop the smuggling of weapons into Lebanon to both Lebanese and non-Lebanese organizations.
- 4- Release all Lebanese prisoners and detainees from Syrian jails.
- 5- Delineate the borders between Lebanon and Syria, beginning with the Shebaa Farms, and re-affirm the right of Lebanon to recover all territories located along the eastern Anti-Lebanon mountain range that Syria annexed from Lebanon.
- 6- A Syrian official apology to the Lebanese people for all the tragedies and calamities that was visited upon Lebanon by the Syrian Assad regime during, and after, its occupation of Lebanon.

Obviously, none of those conditions have been met by the Syrian regime, which has in fact tightened its political and security grip on Lebanon, and imposed on it a government loyal to Syria so that it can use it to confront the popular uprising by the Syrian people against the regime, and to elude and circumvent the international and Arab sanctions imposed on it.

The Syrian revolution, for its part, has taken a position diametrically opposed to that of the Syrian regime. On January 25, 2012, the Executive Bureau of the Syrian National Council has addressed a message to the Lebanese people that comprised most of the aforementioned conditions, namely border delineation, control and interdiction of weapons smuggling; end the security and intelligence role played by Syria in Lebanon; cease interfering in Lebanon's internal affairs; set up a joint Syrian-Lebanese committee to address the file of the missing Lebanese; in addition to a reassessment of the agreements signed between the two countries and a re-focus of relations between them to the proper diplomatic representation level. On January 21, 2012, the "Syrian Free Army" addressed an apology to the Lebanese people for what they endured under the regimes of the Assads, father and son.

The honorable Lebanese extend their thanks to the leaders of the Syrian revolution for these welcome initiatives and intentions, renew their full support to this revolution, and wish it

rapid success in ridding itself of this Fascist regime in order to spare the Syrian and Lebanese peoples more ruin and devastation.

Lebanon, at your service

Etienne Sacre – Abu Arz

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