

What is the role of the Palestinian revolution in Lebanon?

The Palestinian revolution is in Lebanon openly as well as underground. It is underground in occupied areas and openly present in the nationalist areas. Palestinian revolutionaries participate fully in the military operations in the South under the command of the Lebanese National Resistance Front. The Palestinian revolution is an effective force in the attacks against the occupiers, but there is a decision by all Palestinian organizations to operate in Lebanon under the leadership of the Lebanese nationalists. We feel it is our responsibility to fight the occupation, and we consider that our struggle is united with that of the Lebanese nationalist forces.

How do the Lebanese people respond to the Palestinian revolution today?

Nationalist Lebanese do not at all differentiate between a nationalist Lebanese and a nationalist Palestinian. We are present in all the nationalist areas and have not faced problems or signs of rejection. Our masses in Lebanon have suffered a great deal from the Lebanese fascist forces and army after the Palestinian revolution left Beirut. Therefore, the liberation of West Beirut in February was a great victory for Lebanese and Palestinian nationalists. Our camps were liberated and repression ceased. The Lebanese nationalist forces provided security and support to the Palestinians in the camps, allowing them to live freely, sharing rights and duties with the Lebanese masses.

Do you see a possibility of Israeli withdrawal in Lebanon?

The Zionist entity has had expansionist aims since its establishment. From the war of 1948 to that of 1982, the Zionist enemy has occupied piece after piece of Arab land in addition to Palestine. Therefore it is wrong to believe that the enemy will withdraw from any occupied area on the basis of negotiations, mediation or UN resolutions. The enemy will not withdraw unless defeated by struggle that affects a change in the balance of forces in favor of the Arab forces which confront occupation. It is also a mistake to believe that there are strategic differences between Labor and Likud. Any differences are tactical. All previous occupations, except the one in 1982, were enacted by the Labor Party. Historically, the Zionist enemy coveted the Litani River to alleviate its serious water shortage. Therefore, we expect that any withdrawal in South Lebanon will only be to the Litani River. However, the continuation of the Lebanese-Palestinian struggle and the effects of the Lebanese National Resistance Front's operations will sooner or later force the enemy out.

What are the possibilities of an Israeli attack on Syria at this time?

Before the Israeli elections, we do not expect large-scale Israeli military attacks on Syria, leading to a war. We do expect the continuation of the enemy's attacks against the Palestinians by all means. Syria today has a military capacity which

enables it to hit the enemy hard and thus prevent it from achieving its goals.

How will the Karami cabinet affect the struggle in Lebanon?

We do not believe that the formation of the Karami government will accomplish the goals of the Lebanese nationalist masses. The Lebanese situation is not resolvable by the formation of a cabinet, or its successes. There are contradictions between the nationalist and fascist forces that cannot be solved by solutions that do not deal with the heart of the problem. Radical change is required that will eliminate the fascist project. The maximum realistic expectation is that there will be a temporary truce. This, however, will explode since 'Israel' and its tools in Lebanon will make obstacles for any nationalist solutions. This is evident in the actions of the fascist Lebanese Forces and their opening an office in occupied Jerusalem. In practice, there is no way to reconcile the two opposing forces, one which is allied with 'Israel' and the other opposing.

How do you evaluate Nabih Berri's role in the cabinet?

Nabih Berri of the Amal movement takes nationalist positions and pushes for continuation of the struggle against the Zionist enemy in order to liberate the South. However, he will face major obstacles in his efforts to meet the needs of the masses of the South, because the essential part of state power remains with President Amin Gemayel, who as a Phalangist is in total contradiction to the aspirations of the Lebanese people, especially in the South.

What is the role of the South Lebanon army headed by Lahad?

Lahad's army is an extension of Saad Haddad's forces and part and parcel of the Zionist forces. All its support and arms come from 'Israel'. These forces implement Israeli policy in the South. We know for a fact that these forces are also supported by President Gemayel and the Lebanese Army's commander in chief. It has been confirmed that Lahad was an officer with the Lebanese Army working at Baabda (location of the Lebanese presidential palace and central army barracks) and that he was assigned officially by Gemayel and the Lebanese Army's commander for this task. He is officially still

PSP fighters defending the mountains

