

## The Blatant American Interference From the election of the President of the Republic to Parliamentary Consultations to the Appointment of a Prime Minister!

(Translated)

Despite two years of presidential vacancy in Lebanon, within just four days—from Thursday, January 9, 2025, to Monday, January 13, 2025—presidential elections were held, resulting in the victory of Mr. Joseph Aoun. Parliamentary consultations followed, concluding with the appointment of Mr. Nawaf Salam as Prime Minister. A blatant and public scene unfolded, where the country's sovereignty and authority over its political decision-making were subordinated to direct American administration! This occurred despite Lebanese politicians and ruling parties constantly filling the country with noise about independence, sovereignty, and the rule of law—from the far-right of these politicians and parties to their far-left!

The U.S. Embassy's Chargé d'Affaires, Lisa Johnson, in front of all media cameras, and even before officially becoming an ambassador due to the vacancy in the presidency tasked with approving ambassadorial appointments, was, in a blatant constitutional violation, touring the halls of the parliamentary building on the morning of the presidential election to affirm the demand: the election of Army Commander Joseph Aoun as President of Lebanon even before he announced his candidacy for the position. Despite the legal dispute over the eligibility of the Army Commander to assume the presidency, he accepted his nomination and won in the second round of voting with an absolute majority of 99 votes out of 128—the total number of MPs (Members of Parliament), none of whom missed the election session! In the second round, those who did not vote for him in the first round cast their votes for him! This raises the question of the extent of American will and its dominance over politics in the country, the politicians, and even the highest level of politics in it!

And perhaps what happened with the victory of Judge Nawaf Salam in being tasked with forming the government, with a majority of parliamentary consultation votes (85 votes), even to the extent that the strength of direct American influence on the MPs made those who intended to vote for President Najib Mikati as a designated prime minister either suddenly change their stance or others refrain from naming Mikati, resulting in him emerging from the designation scene with only nine votes! And this, once again, is an indication of the extent of American will and its dominance over political decision-making and politicians in this country!

**O people of Lebanon**, Lebanon and its people, and even the region and its people, have been left for lean years during which America prevented any solution sought by the people of the region. During this time, it worked on shaping its solution according to its project for the New Middle East, from Palestine to Lebanon, to Syria, and to the rest of the countries in the region. And here it is, for that purpose, mobilizing countries that follow its policies or revolve in its orbit, like Turkey, which supports what happened in Syria and serves America's interests and influence there.

Meanwhile, the Arabs rush to provide financial support, which would not have occurred without the issuance of the American decision! Then Trump exerts all his weight to resolve the Gaza issue before his assumption of office on the 20th of this month; otherwise, the threat of hell engulfing the Middle East is the alternative.

The result of all this is a clear and comprehensive normalization with the Jewish entity, which began in Lebanon with the maritime border demarcation in 2022 and will now continue with the land border demarcation. Afterward, Saudi Arabia will join the train of normalization with the Jewish entity, as America promised the Jews in the event of completing the Gaza deal! Subsequently, America believes it will secure its position in the Levant though it is deluded.

We, in Hizb ut Tahrir / Wilayah Lebanon, warn against the complacency and leniency in facing what is happening and against accepting the disgraceful submissiveness of politicians under the pretext of potential financial and economic relief that Lebanon might witness. Rather, it is a religious duty to confront the American project for the region, as it is a colonial project whose criminality we clearly see with our own eyes in Gaza and its complicity in Syria. Remaining silent about it amounts to surrendering to what America wants for Lebanon and the region, while Allah Almighty has decreed that the kufar must not have any authority over the believers, as He says: ﴿وَلَنْ يَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ لِلْكَافِرِينَ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ سَبِيلًا﴾ **“And never will Allah give the disbelievers over the believers a way [to overcome them].”** [An-Nisa:141].

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Hizb ut Tahrir

Wilayah Lebanon