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Vol. 1 | issue no. 5 | Spring 2011

# The Scope

LIU Highlights

"No Culture  
is Exclusive"

1st LIU Cultural City



Have you been to

# Jeita Grotto?

Show your support to Lebanon

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**JEITA GROTTTO**

Official Finalist



**NEW 7 WONDERS  
OF NATURE**

vote for me on  
**new7wonders.com**

- 1** Go to **www.n7w.com** and click “Vote”
- 2** Choose “**Jeita Grotto**” and 6 other sites
- 3** Enter your information
- 4** You’ll receive a confirmation mail
- 5** Click the link inside and you’re done



Jeita Grotto is supported by  
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Dr. Anwar Kawtharani  
Dr. Hassan Khachfe  
Mr. Hussein Farhat  
Mr. Wael M. Ayoub Salloum  
Mrs. Badera Nakouzi  
Mrs. Fatima Zaher  
Fouad Sakr  
Ali Hamouch  
Ghiwa el Banna

Alaa Kanaan  
Issa Hawari  
Joe Adnan  
Walaa Kbar  
Adeeb Farhat  
Yehya Fidawi  
Stephanie Laba  
Aya Chebbani  
Ali Karam Nassrallah  
Anthony Ohanessian

Alaa Takache  
Stephanie Laba  
Tarek Jaafar  
Sany Charara  
Ali Mawla  
Dalia Basma  
Mohammad Jildayeh  
Rola Fares  
Nour Club  
Hibr

**Proofread by:** Ms. Bassima Ibrahim, Mrs. Dina Chouman

**Special thanks to:** Ms. Laila Manasfi, Mr. Hassan Choubassi, Mr. Ahmad Kerdi, Ms. Asma Al Ashhab

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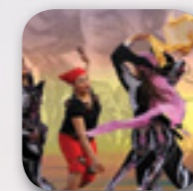
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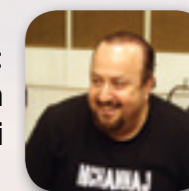
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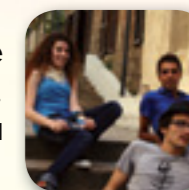
1<sup>st</sup> LIU Cultural City

Interview: Ghassan Rahbani



The ICT Revolution

The Prize Goes to... You



The I.CAN Exhibit

Workshop Wages War



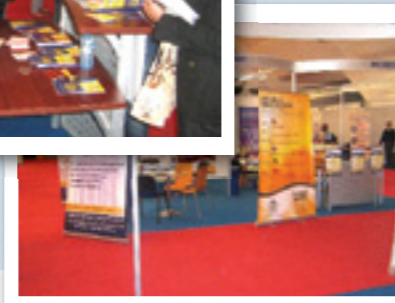
# HIGHLIGHTS

### Introducing Masters Program in Electronic Engineering

The School of Engineering is pleased to announce that the Electronic Engineering Department will start the Masters of Science Program in Fall 2011-2012. Students at LIU who finish their BS studies majoring in Electronics can join this program directly. Students from other Universities who finished a BS degree in Engineering, majoring in Electronics can also apply for the program. Moreover, students who have earned a degree in Science from other universities (four years) can directly join the Masters program, with remedial courses if needed. The program is completed over the course of four semesters (two years) and the student must pass 52 credits to graduate.

### LIU Participates in Annual International Forum in Morocco

The Lebanese International University in Casablanca, Morocco, participated in the annual Casablanca International Forum (edition 20) from April 21 until April 24, 2011. LIU representatives welcomed more than 1500 visitors who were interested in the facilities provided by LIU in Lebanon, Yemen, Mauritania, Senegal and Morocco.



### LIU Students Participate in the 9th Student Film Festival and Cabriolet Film Festival

Sylvana Mawla, Rawad Kansoun, Yehya Fidawi and Jihad Marhaba, all Radio and TV students, participated in the 9th Student Film Festival from May 31 to June 4, 2011, and in the Cabriolet Film Festival from May 27 to 29, 2011. They presented the short films that they produced as their senior or class projects.



### LIU Students' Short Films in 10 Days 10 Minutes Film Competition

LIU was both a sponsor and participant in the 10 Days 10 Minutes (10D10M) International Film Competition, with our students entering several short films. They were aired at a public screening at the UNESCO Palace on April 9, 2011.

### Al Marah Club Organizes Trip to Turkey

The Al Marah Club, based in the Tripoli campus, organized a three-day trip to Turkey during the break between the Fall and Spring semesters. The road trip included stops at Mersin, Turkey, where the students stayed for two days and visited the old markets and the city mall, one of the largest in Europe. They continued to Tarsus and its waterfalls, to visit the city of Adna and its magnificent grottos.



### New LIU Campus in Rayak

In the newest step in LIU's quest to bring accessible education to all regions of Lebanon and the Arab world, a new LIU campus has opened in Rayak in the Bekaa valley. Instruction will start in Fall 2011/2012. For more information or to register at this campus, call 08/640 932.



### Third Annual Outdoors Day

The Lebanese International University organized the annual Outdoors Day event at the Tripoli campus and gave everyone a chance to escape daily routines and have a little fun. The two-day event included several activities varying from competitive games to selling souvenirs. Food and beverages were sold at vending stands, and some students sold their own handmade handicrafts. Even Administrative Director Dr. Ahmad al Ahdab and some staff joined in the games. The musical atmosphere included the LIU Music club performing a special playlist, followed by students playing on the Oud and the drums, and finally, a lively Karaoke that brought the whole campus together. Towards the end, the students thanked Head of Student Affairs Ms. Shaymaa al Samad for her great effort to create a successful event, which was undeterred by the less-than-ideal weather conditions.

### LIU Bekaa Hosts Lebanese Norwegian Cultural Week

On Wednesday, April 6, LIU hosted one day of Lebanese Norwegian Cultural week at its Bekaa campus. Lecturer Hanada Kharma gave a speech titled "Palestinian refugees in Norway: Between laws of asylum and policies of cultural integration", and Mr. Hesham Dibsi led a discussion on the relation between Palestinian refugees and Lebanon.

**LIU Community Commemorates Day of Return**

On May 16, 2011, LIU campuses all across Lebanon commemorated the Palestinian Nakba. In Saida, an event dubbed 'We Will Return', included videos of the forced displacement of Palestinians from their native homeland and of the crimes committed against them. In Tripoli, there was a photography exhibit that included pictures of Palestinian towns and villages and some of the massacres that were committed, as well as a 'Palestine Tent' that displayed some cultural artifacts. The slogan "it's a dream, but it can come true" was prominent across the campuses, and participating students promised to continue the struggle until they return to their occupied lands.



## News

Whether it's a world-class Cultural City, an initiative to make the Jeita Grotto one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, or a step into the future with ICT, this semester's events knew no boundaries.

**LIU Star Competition**

LIU Saida held the LIU Star competition on May 19, 2011, and the most talented students vied for the top title. Thirteen students competed in the second stage and the judging committee selected six finalists. More than a 1000 students and staff spectators were present. The performances of the students were exquisite and noted to be highly professional.

**No Culture is Exclusive**

LIU 1st Cultural City

**The R Word?**

Take a Pledge!

**The ICT Revolution****Commencement 2011**

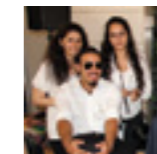
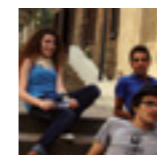
A New Step

**LIU Joins Ranks**

to Vote Jeita

**Business is Booming**

at LIU's 6th Career Fair

**And the Prize Goes to You!****LIU and Facebook Integration**

Academic Updates

**LIU Pledges Green****LIU Mauritania's**

First Graduation Commencement





No Culture is Exclusive

1<sup>st</sup> LIU Cultural City

By David Zoaiter and Fatima Abou Nassif

COVER STORY

The 1st annual LIU Cultural City kicked off on Sunday, May 1st, 2011 in our campus in Khyara, Bekaa. The two-week long program consisted of an unprecedented display of Lebanese and international cultures through a myriad of outlets consisting of plays, movie screenings, art exhibitions, music, dance, book signings, poetry recitals and more.

Cultural City set the grounds for a new LIU tradition "which embraces cultural diversity," according to its chief organizer, Executive Director of the LIU Human Rights Center Mrs. Kholoud Al Khatib. Its aim is to promote cultural awareness about the world and to create a local culture that welcomes differences. "It isn't enough to just live in our Lebanese comfort bubble," says Mrs. Khatib, "The well-rounded individual needs to be aware of global issues and conflicts in order to become a responsible global citizen." She stresses the event's potential is to "administer social development through participatory, non-political and non-religious ap-



proaches."

Representatives of President Michel Suleiman and Speaker of Parliament Nabih Berri, as well as ambassadors, consuls and first secretaries from countries all over the world were present. This year's participants included the Netherlands, Turkey, Columbia, Brazil, Venezuela, South Korea, Cuba, Palestine, Sudan, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, Syria, Iran, Philippines, Indonesia, and Romania. During the opening ceremony, ambassadors and consulate members represented their respective countries at their national stands. Each stand contained pictures, booklets, giveaways, and a little something from each culture. The other half of the convention was filled with pure



Lebanese talent: designers, artists, and craft workers showcasing their work for the entirety of the two-week program.

During the ceremony, Administrative Director of LIU Bekaa Mr. Bassem Hazimeh conveyed the importance of the event and emphasized on the fact that this was "the very first annual event of its nature". The location of the event also served to "show that even the most rural venues are qualified to host and organize" an event of this great magnitude. He hopes that this event will expand and welcome more participants over the coming years.

### Closer Ties

One of the more prominent participants, South Korea, was present for a special reason: to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Lebanese-Korean diplomatic ties. Mr. Juseon Park, First Secretary at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Lebanon, emphasized the importance of Lebanese awareness of South Korea's history. "We are witnessing an increasing demand of Korean products in the Lebanese market,"



## Interview on Site

### Kholoud Khatib

Executive Director of the LIU Human Rights Center

#### What does Cultural City represent and what is its purpose?

The Cultural City was launched on behalf of the Human Rights Center at the Lebanese International University. This center is committed to the best interest of the community with the promotion of Human Rights. Due to the significance of intercultural communication, we were honored to launch the 15 day Cultural City commencement. The center has arranged this event to symbolize Lebanese civilization and talent as well as other foreign cultures in its professional aspects and in many areas.

#### Why did you choose to do this event in the Bekaa?

We needed to have this event in the Bekaa to change the image that the Bekaa is a rural area and that all major events should be centralized; there was a need to open connections, and we did, to open the university to new chances for further issues.



#### What was Cultural City's biggest success?

The success lasted throughout the whole fifteen days. First, it was in the intercultural communication, in the gathering of many cultures, and in the attendance of ambassadors and consuls and first secretaries from countries all over the world. Second, having this kind of prosperous event in a rural area was also a big success. And finally, it was in the participation of youth in the organization of Cultural City, which was instrumental.



he explains, "and with this comes closer ties." However, this celebration of ties didn't focus on politics. Instead, the country representatives strived to highlight the beauty of their nation and introduce cultural traditions not widely known by the Lebanese public. This helped create a fusion of different countries in which LIU students enjoyed learning about new cultures.

#### A Chance to Speak Out

Some participants felt a duty to take part in Cultural City, as it gave many cultural and national representatives the opportunity to showcase their essence and identities. Among them were the Palestinian Human Rights Organization (PHRO) and Amnesty International. For them, it was a chance to shed light on issues not widely known. The PHRO's information stand provided those passing with shocking facts that challenged the stereotypical Lebanese perception of Palestinian refugee camps. Mr. Walid Taha, an Ein el Helwe camp resident, exposed the brutal reality of the inhumane conditions there that are usually withheld from the general public. "Official records state that 45,000 people live in the 2,000 km<sup>2</sup> area, but in reality there are over 80,000 Palestinian residents in Ein El Helwe" he says, "and it is easily influenced by any political distress because of the important social and political Palestinian figures living in the camp". He was very thankful and appreciative towards LIU, and Cultural City, for giving him the chance to speak out.



#### Cultural Institutes

Cultural institutes from all corners of the globe were present at the Cultural City launch. The German Goethe Institute invited people to come in and share their social and cultural views without judgment, with a touch of the German culture. The German Center is trying to "bridge the gap in the cultural dispute" between Europe and the

Middle East, as its representative Ms. Susanne Rieper said. And the Brazilian Culture Center's programs allow students to learn Brazilian Capoeira, cooking, and the Portuguese language. The center also hosts weekly political and cultural seminars open to the public.

#### LIU's Own

Many of LIU's own students took the chance to debut their work and share their talents with the attending audiences. Mohamad Mourad, an interior design student, took advantage of Cultural City as a chance to exhibit his very expressive paintings. LIU artists collectively expressed their deep value for liberation through art, with their art pieces including juxtaposed portrayals of life's contradictions, freedoms, and constraints. The artists also stressed that art can play a big part in raising awareness about many global social issues, since it is a very effective and expressive medium.

Next year's Cultural City will include more participants from nations all over the world and more of Lebanon's local talent, to have an even wider range and inclusive display. Hope to see you all there at LIU Cultural City 2012!





### LIU Cultural City Program

- Palestinian Dabkeh
- Armenian Folk Dance
- Miming Show
- Oshak el Aksa and Sanabel Group Music Night
- Sudanese Evening
- Danish Movie
- Brazilian Movie: Dois Filhos de Francisc
- Kazakh Movie
- Palestinian Movie: Mamlakat al Nesaa
- South Korean Movie
- Iranian Movie
- Romanian Movie: Occident
- Zoetrope Film Festival
- Romanian Play: Le Corps de la Femme Dans la Guerre de Bosnie
- Lebanese Plays by Balamand University and Beirut Arab University
- The Use of Latin Alphabet in Internet Seminar By Dr. Saad Kamouni
- Book Signing – By Hasan Abou Rakbe
- Book Signing – By Mohamad Shamseddine
- Book Signing – By Kabalan Kabalan
- Book Signing – Rafic Nasrallah
- Book Signing – Omar Shebli
- The Palestinian Status in Camps Seminar: Reality and Prospects
- Hawiye w Entimaa Seminar – By Dr. Fouad Khalil
- Freedom of Speech: Why and How? Workshop – By Mr. Sultan Nasr Al Deen
- Arab Future Prospects – By Mr. Abdulrahim Mourad
- Defending Foreign Workers in Lebanon Campaign Launch
- South Korean Cultural Show – By the UNIFIL Battalion
- Jefra and Hanine Music Night
- Ahmad Kaabour Yougani Al Nas Music Night
- Khaled Al Abdallah Music Night
- Poetry Session – By Jamile Hussein
- Poetry Seminar and Book Signing – By Zahi Wehbi



## Interview on Site

### Mohammad Mourad

Interior Design Student and Artist

#### Tell us about yourself

I am currently finishing my studies in Interior Design at LIU in Beirut. I was born in 1985 in Ghazze, a small village in the West Bekaa. I have three sisters and one brother. Drawing started from childhood; I can still remember the scratches on the margins of my books and on my class tables. It was a talent developed in every school project and in every workshop until I reached university. The natural result was my choice of Interior Design for my studies and work.

#### How does the atmosphere of each of the Bekaa and Beirut affect your work?

I acquired different colors and gray spaces, calmness and noisiness; these bring contrast to my work.

#### What is your work most influenced by?

I just express feelings born from the contradictions of life, so I think life, in its micro and macro aspects, is what inspires me.



#### What are the media you use in your paintings?

I always have a pen and a white paper in my pocket for sketching and for developing my work. I am now working with acrylic because of its flexibility and because it dries quickly.

#### What are you working on now and what do you have planned for the future?

For now, I am working on my interior design senior project, while finishing my art collection for my first gallery. In the future, I think I'll continue my studies and paint more.





# The ICT Revolution

## Integrating Technology into LIU's 21st Century Classroom

By Dr. Anwar Kawtharani, Mohammad Mortada and Saja Takache

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has become an essential part of the curricula and learning tools in schools and universities to enhance and improve the quality of students' learning. In an effort to adopt policies in tune with the global trend where technology wears the pants, the School of Education collaborated with experts in the field to conduct two forums that tackled and identified different teaching and learning approaches of an ICT-driven pedagogy. Instructors from the Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, and Pharmacy participated.

On July 6 and 7, 2011, Florida Atlantic University Instructional Designer and Technology Trainer, Dr. Hanadi Saleh, steered a workshop on ICT-based education and provided insight on the best practices of teaching with technology. Dr. Saleh provided strategies and tutorials to different technology tools (ten standardized tools) that will assist instructors in integrating technology into the curriculum to engage and motivate their students.

On July 26, another roundtable discussion on the use of technology in the classroom as well as on the implementation of a program of distance learning was facilitated by Ohio University Professors, Dr. Linda Rice, Associate Professor of English Education and Dr. Danielle Dani, Assistant Professor of Science

Education. The discussion addressed program design aspects (launching brand new programs), curricular design, and actual teaching and facilitating in distance and online formats. Dr. Dani showed the attendees what a high quality online course looks like in terms of design, content, and interface for students. Dr. Rice discussed aspects of marketing, scalability, financial models, and facilitation.

As we progress into the 21st century, the emergence of ICT as learning technologies goes hand in hand with the growing awareness of using alternative theories for learning. It is imperative that we ensure that the opportunities and advantages of technologies are realized in order for learning to become more relevant to students' needs and learning outcomes become more targeted.



## Dr. Hanadi Saleh on ICT

Instructional Designer and Technology Trainer  
Dr. Hanadi Saleh tells us more about ICT

### Could you give us more details, from your perspective, about the importance of ICT?

ICT includes online tools that instructors can use to enhance the teaching and learning of their students. They can also be used to better serve the community as well, because we need to prepare our students for the workforce and to enhance their technological literacy. Technology is here today and every day we have something new. It is evolving every day and the more you learn, the more you feel that you are behind. And, that's what we're trying to tell the faculty. You need to keep going. So, how important is it? It is the future.

### We just saw a great deal of enthusiasm from the faculty. What kind of opportunities do you think this ICT will give them for the future?

First, they are now exposed to different tools that they can use to be organized as a faculty. Second, they can use the ICT or the technology tools with their students to engage them in the learning process, enhancing their learning. When they use technology with their students, the students will be motivated to learn. They will be addressing their different learning styles because lecturing all the time is not a good thing. Using technology allows you to tackle different learning styles. Some students are visual learners and they like to see videos. Some students are more hands-on and you need to take them to the computer lab, to a chemistry website, to show them a concept. And also, most importantly, we are trying to teach our students that you need technology to be prepared for the workforce.

### What were the most important topics you covered in the workshop?

We started with a discussion on how to create an educational game for your students, such as Jeopardy. It's a template that you can download from the internet; all you have to do is just change the questions. I also covered Podcasts, Delicious (a social networking tool) and Jing.

One of the most important topics covered was a learning management system called Course Site, where instructors can create a course and put up the syllabus, PowerPoint presentations, discussions, assessments, quizzes, and even the grade book; all online. They can upload all handouts and documents to this site so students can access them 24 hours per day, seven days a week. With Course Site, you can design web-enhanced classes, blended classes, and online classes. We also covered Google Docs which helps students to collaborate.

### Other than faculty, who else can benefit from ICT?

Everyone. You know, the most important thing I keep on emphasizing is that you want to engage your students in the learning process. If I show you a tool, it is great if you use it with your students, but ideally, show them how to use it in a project as well. For example, with Podcasts; ask a few students to go to iTunes and find something and to share it with the other students, instead of solely using it in the lesson. This will help make the class interactive and the students will retain the information.



## How will ICT change the LIU classroom?

### Dr. Anwar Kawtharani

Dean of the School of Education

The classroom will transform into a hybrid, with 50% in the university and 50% in the students' homes. We will have new tools for teaching and for learning, such as SmartDraw and ActiveInspire, used on the Smartboards to enhance teaching. In terms of learning, we will use tools such as Google Docs and Blackboard, which will become the medium of interaction between instructors and students. It will connect the classroom to the home because tests, assignments and homework can be tracked in an application similar to Facebook. The impact of ICT is that we will move from passive to active teaching, from knowledge based instruction to empowering our students.



### Dr. Ibrahim Baghdadi

Hospitality and Tourism Coordinator,  
Beirut Campus

Implementing ICT in our classrooms will look like this: an instructor can prepare a lesson, in all its details, with video, audio, examples, and even additional reading, use it as many times as needed and across the world. A lesson prepared here can be given in LIU's international campuses, and the students there will not miss out on anything.

### Dr. Afif Hijazy

Chair of the English Department,  
South Campuses

Education is a dynamic body that changes very fast, and we need to catch up with these changes to stay ahead of the challenges in teaching, learning and evaluation practices. By adopting ICT in our system, LIU will have fast access to quality research work, as well as opportunities for reaching a wider dimension of global information, and this will transform our classrooms.



## LIU Joins Ranks to Vote Jeita!

By Saja Takache and David Zoaiter

Lebanon boasts one of the world's most spectacular natural marvels; the Jeita Grotto. This underground cave consists of a natural 10-kilometer-long network of wet and dry limestone which stretches out under the Kesserwan Mountains. The Jeita Grotto is a national treasure and has been a symbol of Lebanon for as long as anyone can remember. It is a symbol that unites all Lebanese regardless of religious and political affiliation.

Now, after long years of work and effort into rehabilitating and maintaining the Lebanese national caves of Jeita, the Grotto is amongst the international finalists competing to become a part of the new Seven Natural Wonders. This alone is a big milestone, not only for the Grotto, but for all of Lebanon.

The cave has been through just as much history as Lebanon itself and being a finalist has put the relatively small Lebanon on the map for something that is sometimes forgotten for, its national beauty.

Yet to receive the coveted title, the Grotto must receive enough votes, and this will need some effort. Other finalists around the world are spearheading aggressive awareness campaigns to encourage their citizens and fans to vote. This summer, LIU and Dr. Nabil Haddad, Managing Director of the Jeita Grotto, joined ranks to lead a campaign to mobilize people to vote for Jeita. In the coming months, we will see various initiatives from LIU's schools and departments as they launch distinctive campaigns to raise awareness about the vote. So far, the Fine Arts, Communication Arts, and Hospitality and Tourism departments have joined in. "If the Jeita Grotto is recognized as one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the whole country will benefit," says





Dr. Haddad, "Tourists wouldn't come to Lebanon for two hours to visit the Grotto, they will stay in Lebanon for a few days at least."

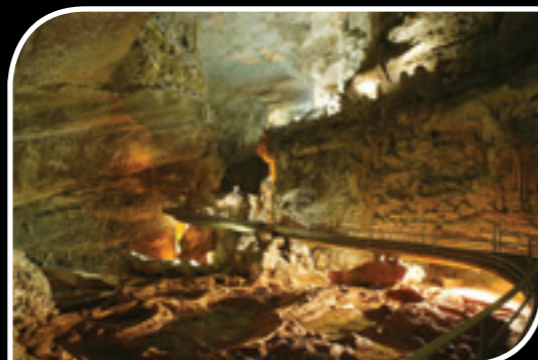
The Seven Wonders competition was launched in 2001 with the aim of preserving world heritage sites, after the destruction of the illustrious Bamiyan Buddhas in Afghanistan. It was discovered then that of the traditional seven wonders, only the Egyptian pyramids remained. A movement was launched to locate and designate seven new wonders. On 7/7/77, 100 million voters around the world voted new seven wonders. Jordan's Petra caves were among the winners after receiving 23 million votes. "The entire country participated," says Dr. Haddad, "and the designation of the caves as a Wonder resulted in a 60% increase in tourism there."

Now, the campaign aims to vote and designate seven natural wonders. Lebanon initially entered its cedar forests and the Jeita Grotto, yet eventually dropped the cedar forests to focus efforts on the Grotto. 222 natural sites around the world were entered, and then they were narrowed down to 77. Of these 77, 28 were selected as finalists, including the Jeita Grotto. 11/11/11 will be the very last day of voting and the winners will be revealed. Will our Grotto be one of them? •END•

**LIU's 22 000 students  
can tip the scale**

**Vote Jeita at [www.n7w.com](http://www.n7w.com)**

## Jeita... in a Glance



## And the Prize Goes to... **YOU!**

by Saja Takache

LIU students have long been distinguished for their ingenuity, creativity, energy, and achievement. This semester, they lived up to this expectation by exceeding standards: more students were conferred more awards than ever before, in a wider range of fields and with more high-profile awards. In Spring 2011 alone, students Patrick Saliba, Rana Radwan, and Jihad Marhaba received coveted regional and international awards for their distinctive work. Yet these are only a few of LIU's best and brightest and, undoubtedly, more will join their ranks. Will you be next?

### Patrick Saliba

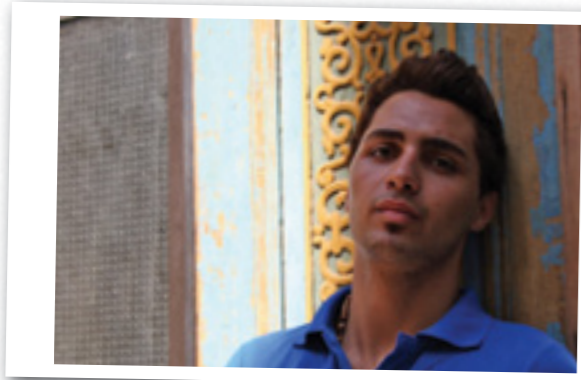
First Place in Lebanon  
International Speech Competition

Pharmacy student Patrick Saliba won the International Speech Competition staged on Zaven's Sireh w Infatahet on Future TV, after presenting a speech titled, "Words Are Not Enough." He was selected to travel to London to attend the International English-Speaking Union's annual speech competition. Patrick is the second LIU student to win this award in two years. He won against students from AUB, LAU, USJ, HCU, ALBA, AUST, and the University of Balamand.

Patrick believes that the secret behind his success in the speech competition was setting a clear goal, and doing anything to achieve it. He attributes it both to this hard work as well as talent. "The passion behind standing in public and saying a speech, and the ability to keep it all confident and convincing, are with no doubt related to talent," he says. Patrick's inspiration to pursue this goal was quite a surprise. "I wanted to experiment with



## “Words Are Not Enough”



**Jihad Marhaba**

Moscar Award for Best Acting  
*Moscar Film Festival*

Radio and Television student Jihad Marhaba was awarded best actor for his part in his short film *Lyom Film Mish Naeem* (Today a Movie not Heaven) in the first Moscar Film Festival. This festival is organized by the 3738 Life Group, an Egypt-based online exhibition that selects creative Middle Eastern artists for its Moscar Awards.

Jihad attributes success primarily to ambition. “One must have ambition and a plan. And one must not give up, especially in a country like Lebanon.” He sees his award as only a first step in a long journey, stating, “There’s been a lot of good feedback to my efforts so far, and this encouraged me to continue my work.” To Jihad, natural talent is worthless without plenty of persistence to support it. His role model? “My dad, Abou Jihad,” he says.



something new and at the same time to compete with other young people, for the sheer competition and the adrenaline rush,” he says.

When asked about his biggest weakness throughout this experience, Patrick presents the title of his winning speech. “Words Are Not Enough,” he says, “I often felt overwhelmed by the great reactions to my award, and then I couldn’t control my feelings, so I started forgetting words and becoming speechless when describing how beautiful success is.” Has this award changed his life? “Definitely. What I’ve been through is a huge gateway for many opportunities, and this is due to a great blessing by God and all the Saints and to the beautiful support of my family. It has led me, finally, to a major change in my life.”



## “One must have ambition”

From his experience in the production of his winning film, which was his senior graduate project, Jihad saw that he needs to be more serious on set. “And I need to stop trying to do many things all at once, because this can get very overwhelming.” He says that the inspiration behind *Lyom Film Mish Naeem* was “everything I have lived and experienced.” It has changed his life, he believes, because it showed him that nothing is impossible.

**Rana Radwan**

Best Nougat and Malban Packaging Design  
*Student Starpack Awards 2011*

Graphic Design student Rana Radwan’s exceptional designing talents were recognized when she won best packaging design for the newly introduced Nougat and Malban category at the Student StarPack 2011 Awards. This yearly ceremony is organized by LibanPack and includes design students from all over the Middle East. Rana competed against 240 design students from LAU, AUB, USEK, AUST, the Lebanese University, the University of Jordan, and Al-Ahliya Amman University.

Like Patrick, Rana’s conception of success also consists of initiative and action, as well as a fusion of passion. “It takes determination, because this is a tough industry to stand out in. You have to be willing to do it differently and to work a lot harder than the others. You’ve got to have passion.” To Rana, the best boon of winning the Student Starpack Award is the recognition one gets from the competitive design industry. “I worked very hard to win this competition and to be recognized by one another is a big deal for sure,” she says.



## “It takes determination”

Rana is especially proud of her winning design, a traditional package for nougats and malban.

“The concept is a mixture of the backgammon and nougats that were a big part of Turkish tradition, so the inspiration behind it was the history of the Turkish people,” she says. As for her role model, it is “everyone around me who is positive and who I can learn from.” She believes that her success, embodied in her award, has changed her life in that it is keeping her motivated and always giving her very best. •END•



Rana's winning design



By Fatima Abou Nassif and David Zoaiter

As we all know, Lebanon's climate is "weird" sometimes. Either we blame it on the typical unstable February weather, or on global warming, or we just simply confess to our metrological ignorance. Global warming has been on the top of the environmental campaigns and has even made headlines with people like U.S. presidency candidate Al Gore, whose entire campaign was built on environmental awareness. The environmental crises have become very controversial issues over the past few years, with increased awareness about them. However, there's more to this than just inevitable climate change. We, as human beings, aware or not, have a big role in what's happening around the world. We may



not be able to stop it immediately, but we can do a lot to reduce the damage we are imposing on the environment.

April 22, 2011 was one of the several days a year which was dedicated to raise international awareness about how to "live green". On this day, LIU invited its students to take a step toward more environmentally-friendly practices, and kicked off the Go Green recycling campaign and Clean Lebanon Awareness Club launch. Clean Lebanon applications were also given out across LIU campuses all over the country to recruit students to take action in their free time to help the country where needed.



Head of Alumni and Career Development Ms. Laila Manasfi shares more details about LIU's Green initiative:

**The name "Earth Day" speaks for itself but what is it really all about?**

Earth Day is an internationally-celebrated day; it is a way to celebrate the Earth and think of the environment we are living in (our air, soil, water...) in short, it is about promoting recycling!

**Why does LIU promote Earth Day?**

It is important to promote this kind of day since it is a day of awareness that the Lebanese community needs to know about. Therefore, LIU wanted to promote this event to help the community, and consequently, the environment.

**How can we as an educational institution contribute to large-scale international campaigns?**

Given that LIU has a very large number of students, it can affect a big part of the community. These students will influence family members and friends, and this influence, when set off, has no limit.

**Does one day really satisfy the need to raise awareness about the environmental issues at hand? What new initiatives/campaigns is LIU launching?**

One day per year is not enough for such a big event; recycling is an on-going process throughout the whole year. Therefore, doing activities every now and then will help remind students of its importance. After launching the paper recycling program and the Clean Lebanon organization, we will be launching the "Bouchons Roulants" and "Mr. Tanak" campaigns to promote the recycling of bottle caps and cans during the coming Fall 2011-2012 semester.



For those who didn't have the chance to participate in Earth Day 2011 and would like to publicly take a Green Pledge, you can go to <http://act.earthday.org/> and pledge to make a small difference at the local level. Pledges include: 'I pledge to walk whenever possible, to double-side print when I must print, to organize environmental activism on my campus', and many more. This is your chance to take your own pledge to Live Green!

# The R-Word? Take a Pledge!

By Fatima Abou Nassif

"He is such a r\*\*a\*d!" At a first glance, most of us can't really tell what this censored word spells out. What is an offensive word that starts with an "R"? It's really hard to figure this one out, especially since many of us take its meaning for granted and use it without thinking about its implications.

The R-Word awareness campaign was launched at all LIU campuses across Lebanon on Wednesday, May 18, 2011. This 3-week campaign was planned in coordination with Special Olympics, in which LIU played a prominent role. It all started with a teaser on the first week. A large poster reading "What is the 'R' Word?" was posted on LIU entrances inviting those passing by to take a guess at what it might be. Despite the synonyms printed on the posters to give students hints regarding the R word's connotations, the written guesses were very diverse. Answers included, but weren't limited to: "Racism", "Rape", "Romance", "Revolution", "Rejection", "Real Madrid", "Radio TV", and "Registration". This public display went on for a couple of days, giving LIU students a chance to take a guess. The first week's teaser got the LIU community curiously asking, "What is the R-word?"

Yes, the answer is one word but the campaign



didn't spell it out directly. Another teaser was posted on the second week, giving LIU-ers another hint that would help them find out the notorious word. This poster revealed some of the letters that make up the R word. The campaign filled out part of the Hangman word to be guessed, and those passing by had to think very hard about the remaining letters that made up this mysterious word. This week, most guesses were correct: **Retarded**.

The third week of the R-Word campaign was two-fold. First, LIU-ers were invited to sign their names on a poster pledging to not use the R-word anymore. But that wasn't the end of the pledge. Those who signed their names were directed to a desk which had a laptop with the R-Word Campaign website open for LIU-ers to immediately pledge online, along with the hundreds of thousands who already took action, to stop using the R-word.

Why take a pledge? Because the word is hurtful, demeaning, disrespectful, insensitive and offensive. Those who weren't able to be on campus during the campaign still have a chance to join the wave of students who pledged for a change. All you have to do is go to <http://www.r-word.org> and take the pledge!

**Spread the word to end the word.**



## What are the Special Olympics?

The R-word campaign cumulated with the launch of the Special Olympics, in which LIU staff and students had a leading role to play. Our campuses, Lebanon-wide, had a strong presence; notably the Saida campus, the second largest in Lebanon. Head of Activities in Saida Mrs. Fatima Zaher explains more about the Special Olympics and LIU's part:

### How did this initiative start?

The Special Olympics first started when a series of NGOs came up with the idea in order to promote awareness about people with special needs. As such, LIU was one of the first pioneers who became involved in this social event.

### How was the LIU community involved?

Encompassing senior administration staff and volunteer students, we were actively involved in assisting doctors in queuing athletes to get ready for their health screenings, supporting students with special needs, and volunteering in logistics and support.



### What organizations did LIU partner with to make this happen?

This happened in partnership with Dar El Yateem, located in Saida, Lebanon. Briefly, Dar El Yateem is a well established institution that has helped generations of people in need of socioeconomic aid. Additionally, it has a special section catering for people with special needs. With its first-rate reputation, Dar El Yateem was able to reach out to the widest scope of people and further raise awareness on the importance of understanding the needs of people with special needs, in order to remove the discrimination barrier and stigma against them.

### What are the future plans of LIU, specifically the Saida campus, with regards to community involvement initiatives such as this one?

With this success story as the stepping stone to future events, we will be more involved with NGOs and the local community to further add to the value of better living and raising new generations of people that are socially aware. The event was a huge success both for LIU and for Saida. We, as a university garnered, the dedication and commitment of our staff and volunteers and created a colossal event that gave back to the community we are a part of. •END•



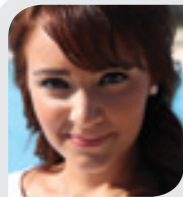


## Commencement 2011 A New Step

By Mohammad Kansoun and Fatima Hanan El Reda

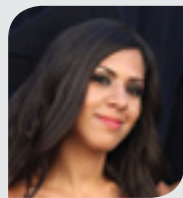
1,500 graduates celebrated their academic success in a commencement held at the LIU campus in Khiara, west Bekaa on July 1, 2011. Valedictorians Katia Saeb (Bachelor) and Fouad Rafic Sakr, who spoke on behalf of the first PharmD class ever to graduate, proudly marked their graduation, not as the end of their university years, but as its continuation.

### Graduates, what's your next step?



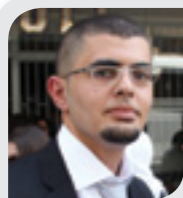
**Sandy Hallal, Pharmacy**

Currently, I'm studying for the Pharmacy Colloquium, and when I'm done I plan to look for work in the research domain.



**Riham Mansour, Interior Design**

I plan to continue my studies in cinematography. I recently received a silver medal in Studio el Fan, and I am a painter; it's because of this that I want to do something in the arts.



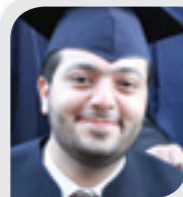
**Mohamad Ghadban, Radio and Television**

I will travel to KSA to work, and then I will immigrate to another country and get a passport.



**Hiba Ramzi Aboufakher, Nutrition and Dietetics**

My next step after graduation is to start training in a hospital for 6 months before doing my colloquium. Then I'm planning to work officially in a hospital for a few years until I have enough experience to open my own clinic, God willing.



**Haidar Makky, Communication Engineering**

Thankfully I've found a job in Riyadh, KSA, and I will be traveling next month as soon as my papers are done.



**Hiba Hassan Fadlallah, Accounting Information Systems**

I want to gain experience and improve myself through an internship in a bank, and then I want to start working and continue my Master's degree.



## Business is Booming at LIU's 6th Career Fair

By Fatima Hanan El Reda

A career fair lit up LIU's campus in Beirut on May 24, 2011 for the sixth time. It was inaugurated under the patronage of the Minister of Youth and Sports, Dr. Ali Abdallah, and in the presence of a number of the university's administrators, including Vice President Dr. Samir Abou Nassif, and Provost Dr. Ali Tarabay.

In his speech, Minister Abdallah indicated the fact that career opportunities in Lebanon have not been contiguous with university graduates and referred to the shortcomings of the government in this respect. In this regard, he said, the career fair is influential on social, economic, and other levels contributing to the development of the Lebanese society.

A word on behalf of His Excellency Abdul Rahim Mourad was given by the Dean of the School of Business, Dr. Wajdi Naman, welcoming students and organizations and offering thanks for their participation. He affirmed that the transpiration of the annual career fair was a part of a strategy that aims to assist students in career related decisions and enable them to compete in the job market.

The career fair was a mapped maze of opportunities for LIU students and graduates. Forty-four companies were advantageously aligned throughout the campus to take in applications and curricula vitae. Students in search of jobs and internships had the opportunity to learn the art of communicating with job prospects. "I'm participating in order to get to know companies and discover career opportunities," said Mohamad Saad, a Banking and Finance student. Mr. Ayman Dahrouj, LIU's Public Relations Director, said that the Career Fair prepares students for the work field, gives information about the job market, and provides a background for future careers. The biggest indicator of the event's success was the participation of both students and companies who were hopeful and active. •END•

### INTERVIEW:

Mr. Rawad Khalaf, Ant Ventures Holdings

**What do you look for in students?** We expect enthusiasm, energy, motivation, and a love for work from people who want to work at our company.

**What kinds of jobs do you recruit for?** We recruit both full and part time jobs. We also offer internships.

**Do you take students and graduates?** We take graduates as well as students.

**What distinguishes LIU?** We have previous experiences in LIU Career Fairs and have employees from LIU.

**Why did you participate in LIU's Career Fair?** We like to recruit new students who are well educated and match what our company is looking for.

**How important are first impressions?** First impressions are usually determinants in interviews. HR teams take first impressions into consideration. The better it is, the better the chance of being hired.



**1 First Time in Lebanon**  
LIU & Facebook Integration - a project by LIU's IT Department

Get your LIU grades, announcements, etc. directly on Facebook *(Privately in your inbox)*

- Log in with your LIU ID at [www.liuserver.com](http://www.liuserver.com)
- Click on the "Facebook" link at the top right side of the screen
- Follow the steps.

## LIU and Facebook Integration: Academic Updates

By Fatima Hanan El Reda

While checking your friends' recent updates on Facebook, or maybe navigating through their latest pictures, you receive a message! It is an Academic Update sent by LIU, and the content is your final exam grade. LIU's Office of Information Technology can now send Academic Updates directly to your Facebook account.



"Reaching out to our students is one of the main objectives of this integration. Social networks are fast, reliable, and personal," says Ayman Dayekh, Chief Technology Officer in LIU. "For many of our students today and tomorrow, staying connected has become a de facto trend of life."

LIU's utilization of social networks started with the official Facebook page, YouTube channel, and Twitter. Most recently, a LinkedIn group targeting LIU's alumni was created. "All universities had these," says Mr. Dayekh, "and we needed something unique for our university, so we started thinking of ways to connect and send Academic Updates to students' Facebook accounts."

What began as a suggestion from Mr. Dayekh is now a pioneer accomplishment. LIU Academic Updates are now sent to Facebook as well as students' emails, which they don't check as of-

ten. Students are now able to receive grades, absence notifications, changes in passwords, and notifications in cases of cancellation and change in schedule or location of courses. "Although Facebook is blocked on campus, for many reasons, I still keep my promise to unblock it when the number of 'likes' on LIU's official Facebook page reaches 10,000," says Mr. Dayekh, clarifying that Facebook will have the right to exist on campus after this integration.

The innovative nature of the idea made Dayekh aware of its exceptionality as he declares: "I haven't heard of any university in Lebanon that uses Facebook as we do. And I believe this is not the last step for the integration. We have other ideas which will remain discrete for the current moment."

It is important to note that Academic Updates will be sent to students as private messages and not as Wall posts. Students' fears of the notifications and grades being posted on their walls are misplaced. Everything resulting from this integration will be sent as messages accessible only to the user of the account. •END•

### Steps to subscribe to LIU's Academic Updates:

1. Claim your Facebook email
2. Login to [www.liuserver.com](http://www.liuserver.com)
3. Click on the Facebook link and submit your Facebook email account



*Congratulations Mauritania Class 2011*

## LIU MAURITANIA'S FIRST GRADUATION COMMENCEMENT

By Hussein Farhat

Administrative Director, LIU Mauritania

The Lebanese International University in Mauritania is the only private university that has succeeded in entering Mauritania's reserved society. Since its opening in 2008, the university has entered with full force and successfully dispelled the bad reputation built from years of failed private learning in the country. LIU has boosted education to lofty levels and turned it into a serious, distinct, and objective process; providing the best educational conditions coupled with affordable prices, allowing education to spread throughout different levels of Mauritanian society.

As a result of three years of hard-pressed work, LIU has proven itself as an important pillar supporting the Mauritanian field of education. On June 2, 2011, upon celebrating its first commencement, LIU set a precedent in Mauritania's history. The commencement was crowned with the participation of HE Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, who personally granted LIU graduates their degrees. Such an honour was unprecedented, even for students graduating from Nouakchott University, Mauritania's official university. The Minister hand delivered a charge

to select graduates praised for their role in raising the scientific level of students and modernizing higher education in Mauritania through LIU.

Thirty three graduates in the Faculties of Arts and Sciences and Business Administration (Bachelor and Master) proudly entered the Congress Palace's hall; the reflection of graduation robes prominent in their parents' sparkling eyes; for the parents were relishing the sight of their children in such regalia for the first time in a country too often deprived of celebration. Signs of astonishment





and joy mixed with the audience's warm applause and accompanied the entry of students, president and faculty in a sight that Mauritians usually experience from a distance, through films.

Through a short period of time, LIU Mauritania was able to inlay its name with success and pride while following the footsteps of its main branch in Lebanon. Lebanon has bestowed upon Mauritania a gift fit for humanity by enlightening the world through such a prestigious university. In addition, LIU Mauritania is developing a PhD program that will allow opportunities for Masters Degree holders to continue their studies in their home country while being able to afford tuition. High hopes are built on the Mauritania branch of LIU and the future promises more and more success. Registration of worthy students is increasing by the day and the forthcoming academic year is especially promising with a peak in enrollment after the recent extraordinary commencement ceremony. Many students from various schools and universities attended the commencement and were witnesses to the high levels of commitment and discipline of our students. A serious example has most certainly been set by them, and many are eager to follow.

As a result, LIU's successful experience in Mauritania will surely pave the route for new branches expected to open in the near future in North Africa and among the different regions of the Arab world. Nonetheless, as a Lebanese University, LIU is playing the role of Lebanon's ambassador in the countries it is currently found in; spreading the educated air of Lebanon and its ancient literary culture. In addition, LIU is helping to refute fallacies widespread among Arab youth that Lebanon's sole representatives are pop singers. LIU is assisting Lebanon's return to its reputation as a country of culture and education, serving as the East's beacon to a home of history and philosophy.

The President of the Lebanese International University H.E. Mr. Abdul Rahim Mourad has said: "Our mission is to add new quality to higher education and not mere quantity". LIU is continuously striving towards excellence and the effort of each and every member in the LIU family worldwide proves the truthfulness of the President's words. It is not surprising that this university has flourished in the field of higher education, and is a true testament to the Lebanese spirit: even in the face of obstacles, where there is a will, there is a way. •END•



## Moroccan Students Visit Lebanon under LIU Mobility Program

Wael M. Ayoub Salloum  
Administrative Director, MINSAS-LIU Morocco

The mobility program that the Lebanese International University utilizes abroad is considered a vital policy. The first class of LIU Morocco visited Lebanon from Saturday, May 25, 2011 to Saturday June 6, 2011 and enjoyed a comprehensive touristic, educational, cultural, and entertainment program under the custody of Lebanese and Moroccan staff members and instructors.

Every year, the LIU Bekaa campus hosts plenty of its international students that are enrolled in its international campuses in Yemen, Mauritania, Senegal, and Morocco. Yet the special thing this year is that this visit was the first visit of Moroccan students and faculty to Lebanon. The students participated in various activities that enriched their diverse program. First, the touristic trips were organized and chosen to cover different aspects of tourism in Lebanon including culture, nature, and history. For this, the Moroccan team visited Baalbek Castle that was built by the Romans, Baalbek market, the beach and Rawshi Rock in Beirut, Qaroun Lake, and the surrounding villages



in West Bekaa including Ain Deb, Saghbin and Aitanit; characterized by their wonderful green nature. In addition, the visitors went to Beited-dine Castle and Moussa Castle in Mount Lebanon, and the Jeita Grotto that is a candidate of the Seven Wonders of the World. Finally, the students visited Zahle and Berdawni River, in addition to Sultan Yaacoub village in West Bekaa, where they prepared an important documentary about the Moroccan King Yaacoub Mansour, who was actually buried there.

Second, the organized program aimed to introduce Al Ghad Al Afdal institutions to our Moroccan guests, so they visited some of the Lebanese International University campuses in Lebanon, including the Bekaa campus and the Beirut campus, where they attended the 6th Annual Career Fair in addition to the annual Arts Day. They met LIU VP Dr. Samir Abou Nassif and Dr. Ali Tarabay. Moreover, the students visited Dar Alhanan for orphans where they had lunch with the orphans that are under the patronage of the university president H.E Abdul Rahim Mourad. They also went to Sohoul Club and pools, Omar Al Mukhtar Educational Center, Bekaa Professional and



Technical Institute, Dar Al Aman, Abo Bakr Al Sedek Mosque, and Ibn Rouchd Library, where they met with some of the staff.

Third, the students got the chance to enjoy entertainment activities including a Lebanese wedding, as well as other activities in the Bekaa Campus, where they met students from Mauritania, Yemen, Syria, Iraq and other nationalities who study there. Our students also attended English courses, seminars, and Pharmacy Day. Moreover, Mr. Abdelhamid Bennani, module leader in the School of Business in LIU Casablanca, gave a seminar titled, "Tourism in Morocco", that was attended by marketing students from Bekaa campus and by Dr. George Karaouni, Dean of School of Business in the Bekaa campus.

Finally, the students prepared a live documentary in the LIU studios, in which they conducted various interviews with many students, creating a unique environment between LIU students from the different countries. At the end, LIU and its administration proved again and again their honesty and excellence in education, and that student satisfaction is a real target in all campuses. •END•



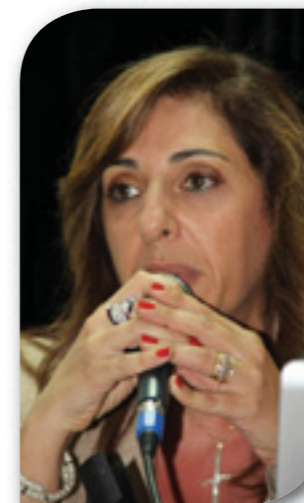
## The Leading Cause of Death in Lebanon

**Traffic safety workshop raises much-needed awareness**

Reported by Mhamad Kleit and Saja Takache

With Lebanon being such a tumultuous country, it may come as a surprise to many that the leading cause of death here is not war, nor instability, not even the multitude of health problems. It's traffic accidents. On May 26, 2011, the LIU Saida campus' Activities Bureau organized an activity entitled 'Car Accidents: the Leading Cause of Deaths in Lebanon' in cooperation with The Human Rights Club and Hanthala Club, and with the participation of Kunhadi and The Lebanese Red Cross. This came at a much needed time, because unfortunately, our traffic problems stem in a large part from negligence and a lack of awareness on the part of the general Lebanese population.

To start the event, Vice President of Kunhadi Lina Jubran gave a presentation about the causes of the high death rate in traffic accidents. Dangerous habits that are taken very, very seriously in developed countries are actually widely accepted in Lebanon, such as drunk driving, speeding, not using a seatbelt, texting and talking on a



cell phone. Simply ignoring common traffic laws accounted for the majority of deaths. To exacerbate the problem when an accident does occur, ignoring common sense and regulations transforms what could be a light accident into a fatal one. Mr. Mohammad Abu Zahra from the Lebanese Red Cross gave a thorough explanation of the difficulties that crew members face from citizens during car accidents. "Interference without knowledge of the basics of first aid, in addition to parking cars in accident zones and standing in the way of the medics, may lead to the death or permanent disability of the victim," he explained. The workshop was a part of a campaign that LIU Saida has launched to raise awareness towards our duties and behavior in society. •END•

## “It Is Time to Move Forward”

*MP Najah Wakim Discusses Arab Spring with LIU Students*

By Malak Jaafar



In light of the revolutions that have taken the region by surprise and are spreading throughout the Arab world, former Member of Parliament, Najah Wakim gave a speech on May 10, 2011, addressing the students of the LIU Beirut campus. Mr. Wakim covered several topics ranging from local politics to the Arab Spring and the Palestinian cause, and even discussed Western and Israeli conspiracies.

Even though he discussed the current situation of Lebanon and its government, Mr. Wakim did not reflect specifically on the politicians. “Don’t expect me to talk in details about Lebanese politics because it isn’t even politics. It is back and forth bickering between two sides.” He stated at first. Mr. Wakim explained that Lebanon has a long way to go before any real change occurs in the sectarian political system that is wearing down the country and its citizens. Nonetheless, he mentioned that the anti-sectarianism movement in Lebanon “did not fail; it accomplished its first steps”, citing that it is the peaceful movement of the protesters, who have been gathering in the streets every Sunday, that will empower them. “The Lebanese system, whether you like it or not, is at the end of its life, it is dying, it won’t last more than a year,” he later added. “When someone says there will be no revolution because we have sectarianism, tell them it is because of sectarianism that a revolution will happen.”

Mr. Wakim then explained the events that are occurring in nearby Arab nations. He stated that the Arab world is in a “transitional stage, between a collapsed regime and a new regime that hasn’t been born yet”. He praised the youths of this generation who have risen in Tunisia, Egypt, Yemen, Libya, Bahrain, and Lebanon. “Everything that is happening in the region is under the grand title of ‘the conflict on the future of the Middle East’,” stated Mr. Wakim, making clear that even though there are real demands for freedom and democracy, people must not deny nor be oblivious to the fact that Western and Israeli conspiracies still exist.

Mr. Wakim reminded the audience of the painful events of the invasion of Iraq in 2003 and reiterated that it would be naïve to think that the US did actually spend all this money and weaponry in order to bring so-called democracy to Iraq. He asked, “How come the United States managed to take notice of the lack of democracy and freedom in Iraq, but not in Saudi Arabia?”

At the end of his speech, Mr. Wakim implored Lebanese youth to make use of this Arab Spring, and to make a change in a country that desperately needs amendment. “It is now time to reflect on the first steps of the movement in Lebanon, to see what are the accomplishments and setbacks. It is time to move forward.” •END•

## His Story in his Words

*Samir al Kantar Holds Book Signing at LIU*

By Saja Takache

National hero, Samir al Kantar, held a book signing of his new book, *My Story*, at the Nabatieh campus of LIU on May 10, 2011. The high profile event was organized by Nour Club and started with a poetry recital by poet Ahmad Issa and a word of welcome from the Academic Director of the Nabatieh campus, Dr. Hassan Khashfe. Mr. Kantar gave a speech about the experiences he chronicles in his new book, which was written in collaboration with prominent writer Hassan Al Zein. *My Story*, details the life of Samir al Kantar during his 30-year incarceration.

In his speech, Mr. Kantar spoke about the strength of spirit that carried him and other prisoners through their most difficult times, and about the fight they put up to get access to education. He said, “When I was imprisoned, I was sentenced to 548 years. They did this to kill me slowly and to stifle my spirit. But instead of dying in our prisons, we battled. We went on hunger strikes for our right to an education. We transformed our jail cells into universities through hundreds of martyrs.” He also discussed the recent revolutions around the Arab world, arguing that they stemmed from a desire to re-instill cultural and national pride. “Some say that they (the revolutions) happened because of poverty and hunger, but I say to them that there was poverty and hunger during the time of (Egyptian President) Gamal Abdul Nasser,” he explained, “But people at that time brimmed with pride, despite their difficult circumstances, and did not rise up against their leaders. Egyptians even went to the streets to demand that Nasser return after he once resigned. What is happening now is that people are rising up against their leaders because the honor and pride of our nations have been stifled.” Mr. Kantar then signed copies of his book and conversed with students and administration. •END•





## LIU Celebrates International Women's Day

By Mhamad Kleit

In 1977, the United Nations dedicated May 8 as International Women's Day, and since then it has been observed worldwide to promote women's rights. On May 8, 2011, the LIU activities bureau in the Saida campus celebrated International Women's Day, in collaboration with The Human Rights Club. The event included a lecture by Dr. Haleema al Qaqour, supervisor of The Human Rights Club in LIU Saida that discussed women's rights in international law and agreements. The lecture concentrated on the 1979 agreement that prohibits all acts of discrimination against women. Dr. Qaqour also shed light on the protection of women under Lebanese law, and discussed the changes that should be made to ensure our laws are in accordance with international law.

Moreover, students presented a comedy play that highlighted some of the double standards that happen when a family raises a girl and a boy, shedding light on the cultural aspect of Lebanese women's rights and not just the legal one. The event was concluded by a song from student Sa'eed Saleme, dedicated to women and to their status in current society. •END•



## STEWARDS OF THE EARTH

### LIU and LAU Collaborate to Raise Awareness on Environment

By Mhamad Kleit



In collaboration with the Lebanese American University, LIU organized a day of environmental awareness at Saida campus, held on May 5, 2011. It took place with the presence of Executive Director Mr. Khaled Mourad, in addition to a committee of educational and administrative personnel and a crowd of students.

The day started with a lecture under the title of Energy Efficiency by Dr. Ahmad Houry, President of the Lebanese Solar Energy Committee, in which he explained the civic responsibility of preserving energy through decreasing consumption to a minimum. This was followed by a lecture from Dr. Haleema al Qaqour, supervisor of the LIU's Human



Rights Club, where she clarified the importance of rights and international laws in environmental conservation. Mira al Mawla, president of the LAU International Affairs Club, and Waseem al Qaqour, Vice President of the LAU International Affairs Club, also participated in the lecture about environmental rights in international laws. A representative of the Human Rights Club, Suzan Marouf, had her share in explaining the hazards of our current neglect of the environment. She spoke about Saida's infamous 'trash mountain' and gave several possible solutions to resolve the issue.

Such an activity showed the extent of collaboration between different universities and educational establishments to spread ecological and health awareness amongst colleagues. Today's students and their institutions are united under the purpose of preserving Lebanon and its ecological system. •END•



LIU ESTABLISHES COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIP  
WITH LEBANESE HEALTH COMMITTEE

By Saja Takache



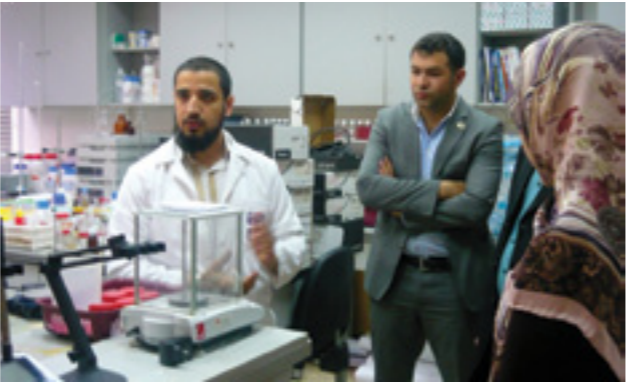
On May 12, 2011, the Lebanese International University administration met with representatives from the Lebanese Health Committee to create an ongoing partnership between the two institutions. The visitors were welcomed at LIU Vice President Dr. Samir Abou Nassif's office and given a tour to LIU's laboratories and facilities.

The two groups suggested possible areas of cooperation, and set the groundwork for an upcoming partnership. They found that both LIU and Health Committee institutions are not limited to the capital and to major cities, but also serve communities all over Lebanon. This would allow for coordination between each institution's branches in each region, would translate into more opportunities for LIU students studying in branches in peripheral provinces. Internships and job opportunities at Health Committee facilities would also be made possible, as well as opportunities for community service. LIU Provost, Dr. Ali Tarabay, suggested setting more emphasis on community service within the LIU community. "In universities all over the world, there is a culture of community service, so any coordination with the Health Committee should include the establishment of initiatives that would foster this spirit," he commented.

Other areas of future cooperation could include taking advantage of LIU's influence as an educational institution to raise awareness about health matters. Vice-president of the Health Committee

Mr. Malik Hamzeh said: "Through our interactions with our communities, we've found that there is a major lack of education on basic health issues. The role of a good education in promoting awareness about health issues is vital." The group went on to tour the Biomedical Department and the School of Pharmacy's facilities.

Chair of Biomedical Science, Dr. Ali Samaha, introduced the Health Committee representatives to the Biomedical department and programs at LIU. He spoke about some of the achievements of the department, saying, "All of our Biomedical Science students successfully passed the last Lebanese Biomedical Colloquium, with eight achieving exceptional scores." Dr. Samaha reiterated the need for cooperative initiatives such as this one, and thanked the Health Committee for their visit. •END•



Schools

Every semester we pride ourselves with the new accomplishments of our schools, and this time is no exception. From educational programs expanding to the far reaches of the Arab world, and waging paintball war as a part of a course's requirement, this semester's issue is packed with schools' news, events and future plans.

School of  
Arts & Sciences

I CAN Exhibit

On the 23rd of May, 2011, LIU marked a day its students proved that they CAN. In a display of both photography and graphic design student...

School of Business

LIU in the Spotlight: Launch of Hospitality and Tourism Club

The Lebanese International University is proud to introduce its newest initiative: the Hospitality and Tourism Club. Launched in the Spring semester of 2011 by students with the help of Dr. Ibrahim Baghdadi, this club...

School of  
English & Education

Destination Mauritania

Dr. Anwar Kawtharani, Dean of the School of Education, traveled to Mauritania on April 24th, 2011. His trip had one destination: LIU Nouakchott, Mauritania campus. He was accompanied by both the...

School of  
Engineering

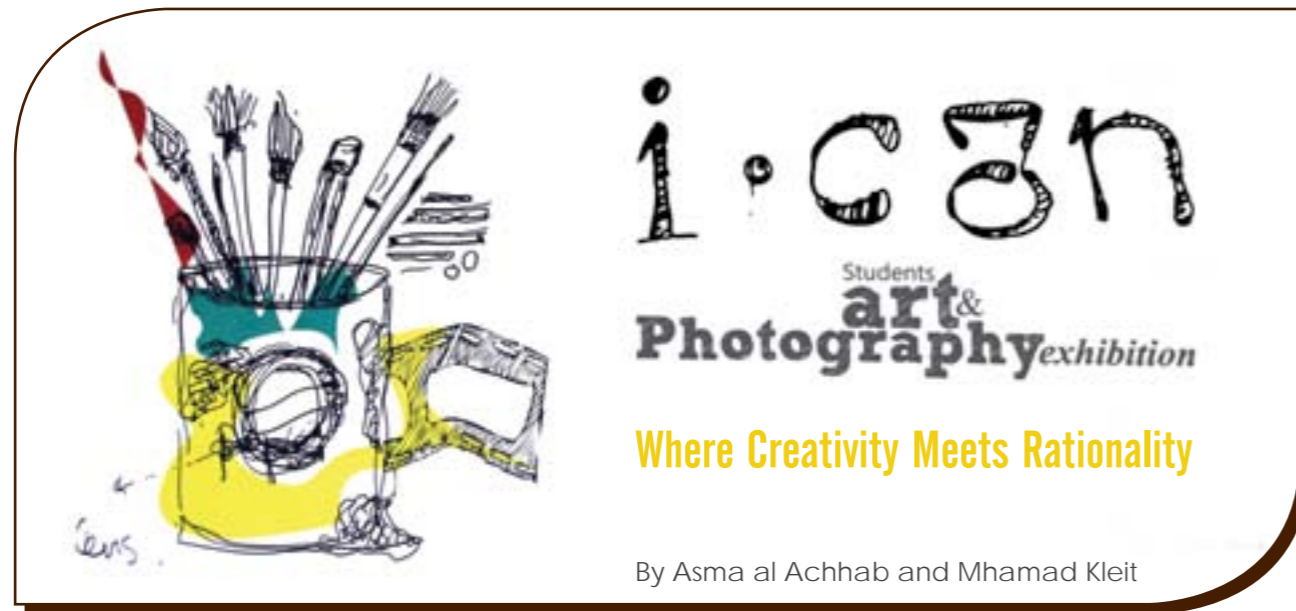
Engineering Seniors Team up to Excel

Students in the School of Engineering have long impressed the LIU community with their ingenuity and hard work, not the least in their senior projects. This year, the projects were characterized by close...

School of Pharmacy

First Year of Doctorate of Pharmacy Program

Dr. Mohammad Rahal, the Dean of School of Pharmacy, sees that the program is designed for candidates to apply their knowledge from the didactic courses in clinical settings. It allows students to interact with...



On the 23rd of May, 2011, LIU marked a day its students proved that they CAN. In a display of both photography and graphic design student projects, the I-CAN Exhibition was held at 12:30 in the Beirut campus, featuring the works of our future artists. Many of these young art enthusiasts' friends came to marvel upon their colleague's true aspirations to become professional photographers and graphic designers. Various photography themes were displayed including monochromatic, dominant color, and perspective. Art projects included creative visual elements, such

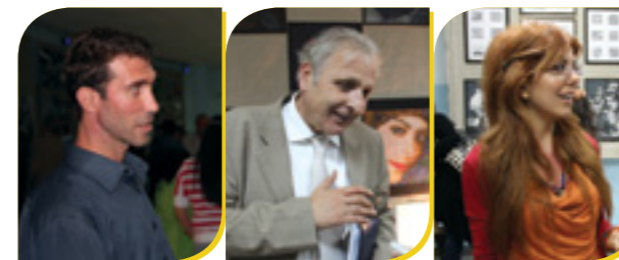
as installations of pipelines with bulbs to wired statues and nude portraits. How else would it be a part of the School of Arts and Sciences; where creativity meets rationality?

In a conversation with Mohammed Ali Kansoun, a Communication Arts student who had his work posted on the Wall of Fame, he told The Scope what he truly thinks about his and his colleagues photography. "I think the idea of having an exhibition here in our campus is spectacular, seeing the sheer variety of talents we possess," Mohammed exclaimed. When asked to describe his

favorite theme to photograph, he instantly mentioned two of his esteemed projects assigned to him by photography professor, Dr. Ronald Nassif: Old Lebanese Houses and Playing Kids. These were amongst many that Mohammed has been shooting lately. As one of LIU's official event photojournalists, his camera shutter never stops snapping. Seeing his passion, one would think that he had such a drive to photograph for ages, but he confessed that it wasn't until he took



the photography course that he discovered what he now hopes is his future career. Students didn't only use the newfound knowledge they acquired in the courses to discover their calling; some had a more practical purpose. Student Omar Saadeddine was posing for a photo in front of his Art Scene when we asked him how he will benefit from displaying his work in the exhibit; his answer was, "it doesn't only look good displayed here; it'll look even better on my CV."



Highlighting the satisfaction that the participants achieved during the event, and bearing in mind the beautiful artwork and the high potential reached, Mr. Roger of the Graphic Design Department expressed his satisfaction with the

results. "I was a bit demanding on the students, to see where they would go, and they did not disappoint me," he explained, "We started together from A to Z, but amazingly enough they carried through on their own; this is their work and they have my full respect to what they have achieved, and without a doubt they are the best among all the universities I teach in." Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences Dr. Tarek Harb was also not surprised by what the students were able to offer, for he said that he was expecting great success. He said of the exhibition, "The quality of art is getting better and I wish these hard workers the best of luck in their future years." Provost Dr. Ali Tarabay had a smile that never left his face during his tour of the exhibition. He said that seeing this fantastic accomplishment from fellow staff, revealed in the talent of the undergraduates, gives a huge spark of hope for the university as a whole to level up in its academic stature, in order to compete with even stronger universities. Such words were explained further by Chairperson of the Fine Arts and Design Department, Ms. Ruba al Amine, when she said that the LIU students should be educated as in "all other high standard universities", and building on such, to better ourselves to preserve superiority in the academic field.

The event was concluded with certificates distributed to the students who achieved the highest scores on their photographs, paintings and art projects. Short speeches filled with the contentment of administrators in the School of Arts and Sciences were given; with a wish to take a step further to reach the limits that all LIU students crave for. The two-day exhibition was only a sideshow to what, hopefully, will be the beginning of more creative expositions, as well as a message to students that they CAN. •END•





## Communication Arts Trip to Turkey: A Unique Glance at Media in Action

By Fatima Abou Nassif

On February 16th, 2011, ten LIU students and two LIU instructors met at the airport. They knew where they were heading, but I'm sure they had no idea what kinds of experiences were awaiting them in Istanbul. A typical 4-day trip to Istanbul is usually packed with visits to tourist sites in order to discover the culture-rich city. However, the group from LIU was lucky enough to have these 4 days filled with visits to media outlets, educational centers, in addition to the usual touristic sites. The trip would set the stage for future partnerships between LIU and some of these educational centers.

### Day 1: Coşkun College and Samanyolu TV

It all started as soon as we landed in the beautiful city of Istanbul. We drove to Coşkun College only to be warmly welcomed with a typical Turkish breakfast. We were briefed about the ideology and system of the school. The faculty explained that their main goal is to promote coexistence through education. While touring the school's facilities, it became obvious that this school's system wasn't all about "in-class" education. The campus was equipped with swimming pools, sports courts, and multiple auditoriums to offer its students a well-balanced education.

After the welcoming visit, we headed to Samanyolu TV. This Turkish Television station is rapidly expanding within Turkey and even to the Arab world, and is already broadcasting in the United States. We had an exclusive tour around the building and had the chance to witness the crew at work. It was interesting to see the producers



working on Adobe Premiere, a program all Communication Arts students have worked with. However, there were two unplanned experiences that were everyone's highlights of this visit. The Green Apple, or Elma, Cook Show is a signature Samanyolu show which we were invited to watch live while during its shooting. We were also lucky enough to watch a news anchor live and meet with her during her break. For most of us, it was the first time we ever saw the theories we are learning about put into practice in front of us.

### Day 2- Fatih Kolegi School, Zaman Newspaper, Gihan TV

Our second educational visit was to Fatih Koleji School. We watched a video about the institu-



tion and found out that they strive to shape youth to become the next generation of stars; excellence is their motto. They encourage their students to invest in any extracurricular talents and skills in order to master them. It seems they have been successful at this, since the students have received national and regional awards for their achievements in science, math, sports and arts.

Afterwards, we headed to Zaman newspaper. It is considered to be Turkey's most-widely read daily newspaper. We were surrounded by round tables filled with the different teams within the Zaman Newspaper hierarchy. Even though we weren't sitting with them, we were able to get a feeling of their daily routine. After this, we had a guided tour of the building and a briefing about the work process. We also had the chance to meet the Editor in Chief of the Turkish Review, Kerim Balci. He enjoyed a political discussion with our very own Dr. Jamal Wakim and told him he would appreciate Dr. Wakim's contributions to the journal.

In the same facility grounds, we visited the Gihan TV's headquarters. This is where LIU Journalism student Engin Demirkaya works. Even though this television's studios are relatively smaller than Samanyolu's, the state-of-the-art equipment made up for the size difference. We got to enter one of their green screen studios. This studio had no decoration, only a table in the middle. Everything except the table was added onto the newscasts through chroma keying. What surprised us was that Gihan doesn't have a TV channel for itself. Instead, it records broadcasts and programs to distribute them to different media outlets. These media outlets use Gihan's videos under their own respective logos, as though they produced them.

### Day 3: Fatih University

Our final visit to an educational institution was to Fatih University. Located in the suburbs of Istanbul, Fatih University is proud to have a student population representative of all the world's continents. It is very proud of its numerous international affiliations with universities and will hopefully sign one with LIU. Fatih University has its own hospital which provides its medical students with real-life practice and is another source of revenue for the university. It is one of the major sources of profit, other than students' tuitions, that enables the several campus expansions and the generous scholarship grants. The Fatih University representative emphasized that money should never be an obstacle in the way of education.

### Day 4: Aviiad Business Association

Before heading back to Istanbul airport to come back home, we stopped by the Aviiad Business Association. We finally got to meet some of the faces belonging to the organization that generously hosted our stay in Istanbul and arranged for our visit. Other than enjoying our last moments in Turkey, we heard about their association and about their objectives. They basically rely on Aviiad to serve as a stage in which different businesses share ideas and plans in order to think collectively. It was during this visit that we also witnessed Turkish eagerness to establish connections with Arab countries.

### Istanbul in 1129 words?

Four days were definitely not enough to fully experience Istanbul. Likewise, 1,129 words are not enough to describe this dynamic city. It is a city rich in culture and history which deserves more leisure days. However, we were able to visit most of the major monuments and attractions. Whether walking along the Bosphorus Sea or walking through one of Topkapi's impressive rooms, we all got to know the Turkish culture. When wandering around Istanbul, don't expect to be bombarded by English or Arabic- tourist-friendly signs. You have to make the extra effort to understand Turkish. Whether we used our phone translators, or literally acted out the phrase, "What time do you close?" by pointing at a watch and leaving the store, we had to find a way to communicate. But, this was all a part of the unique experience.

The LIU Communication Arts Department is planning to arrange more trips of this kind because it provides its students with exclusive extracurricular experiences. This trip was filled with educational visits accompanied with touristic ones which created unique memories shared by students and instructors alike. In a matter of only four days, the group was able to get a well-rounded feel of the historic city of Istanbul, while also enriching their knowledge about their own fields of study. What we all agreed on, though, was that Istanbul deserves another visit. •END•



### SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES



The bullet hit him and tainted him with the color of defeat. He was injured four times at the battlefield while obstinately holding on to his weapon. Nevertheless, the paint on this photographer's clothes, unlike blood, could be washed away easily.

The battlefield was a paintball center called Underground in Hazmieh, far from any actual bullets. Our 'injured' photographer, Mohammad Kansoun, was covering a simulated war between other Radio and Television students from Workshop 2, as a final project. In between the battling teams, they were there as press agents moving from being embedded to roaming freely yet precariously in the theater of war.

This unconventional method of implementing everything learned in the classroom or studio, which remains theoretical, is important as it is the practical part of the course. It is also an unusual yet sensible preparation for situations that students will likely face in their future careers. A

war zone is vastly different from a studio, where everything can be controlled: in the studio, the camera, lighting, and the set in general and are not as susceptible to technical difficulties and risks. "In the 21 century, there is no country where war or clashes don't happen. The reporter goes to the battlefield without having the option of deciding whether he/she is ready or not. By choosing to be a reporter, he/she automatically must accept these terms," says Mr. Bashar Nasrallah, the Communication Arts instructor who chose to wage a war for workshop class.



Mr. Nasrallah explains that in this way, by the time the students graduate they would have already had such a didactic experience. The reality of journalism is that many reporters will be injured and killed while pursuing their duties. Although they do have immunity as reporters, sometimes they become victims, either accidentally or as a result of malicious intentions. This paintball project made students experience this, albeit on a mild level.

"A journalist is a soldier and his camera is his weapon," he adds. Losing the camera or the ability to use it means that the reporter is no longer useful. Futility as a videographer in the war will be definitive; that is why a reporter should always be prepared when it comes to tape or memory capacity and battery lifetime.

In the middle of the battlefield, the reporter also faces the question of ethics. Only then, in the midst of a raging battle, does he/she acquire the art of ethics and is able to make a choice. Ethics are relative values and no one can rely on the absoluteness of decisions regarding them. In an editing lab, an ethical decision relating to the principle of elimination of harm, such as whether to include scenes that could be emotionally distressing, the ethical decision is clear. In contrast, in the middle of the battlefield, the case is very different. It depends on instantaneous human reactions and the inner conflict of whether to capture someone's death and present it to the world, or to lay aside the camera and save him. "There was a moment in which I was confused as to whether to help the injured or to continue shooting," states Kansoun, "I decided to keep on shooting, that way I would be helping many by transmitting the images of the war".

This paintball war was not the first coverage experience they had had. They had been through three experiences that enabled them to realize the difficulty and delicacy of their work. As regulations require them to always have their cameras in class, they were told to cover a meeting followed by a press conference - with the danger of assassination lurking around. Another time

they were instructed to cover a prearranged explosion scene at which "they came out acting like a group of tourists," according to Mr. Nasrallah. After being directed to shoot and were told that people were dying, they realized the seriousness of the situation and handled it appropriately. In yet another case of "staged reality", a group of students acting as soldiers invaded a class in an attempt to arrest a wanted "fugitive". During the paintball war and these other experiences, shooting was no longer an easy task.



These experiences, in addition to everything they were trained to do during the semester in their theoretical studies in Workshop 1, prepared students for the battlefield and for their prospective careers. "We really felt like reporters, that we had a duty to fulfill. I learned a lot from this unique experience," says Mohamad Kansoun. Zeina Anani, a Radio and Television student describes it with one word: "Amazing." Mr. Nasrallah says that the Communication Arts department won't stop here; this life-simulating experience will even be further developed and taken to the next level.

•END•



## LIU in the Spotlight

### Launch of Hospitality and Tourism Club

By Mohammad Mortada and Malak Jaafar

The Lebanese International University is proud to introduce its newest initiative: the Hospitality and Tourism Club. Launched in the Spring semester of 2011 by students with the help of Dr. Ibrahim Baghdadi, this club aims at integrating hospitality students into the labor market, local and international, and setting them on their right career paths. By achieving these objectives, the hospitality club would have put the LIU hospitality department on the radar among other universities' departments, both in Lebanon and abroad.



"Our students administer the club. It has its own administration composed of a treasurer, a marketing officer, etc.," says Dr. Ibrahim Baghdadi, the Hospitality and Tourism Coordinator of the Beirut campus, in an interview with The Scope. "The club's initiatives and projects are financed by sponsors that the students themselves seek out. The club now aims to find more sponsors to finance events all across Lebanon, events such as conferences, seminars and more. These events will place the hospitality program at LIU in the spotlight and capture more attention for the club," he adds.

One of the first events the Hospitality Club organized was the Hospitality and Tourism Prom Night, an event that was organized entirely by hospitality students. Students applied what they learned about planning and man-

aging events and put together an event that culminates three years of studies. The Hospitality Club is currently working on the Jeita Grotto campaign that the LIU has adopted. The club aims at encouraging people to vote for Jeita as one of the seven natural wonders of the world by creating links and relations with individuals and clubs in Lebanon and abroad.

The students at the club have already established relations with international organizations such as the American Hospitality and Lodging Association (AHLA), which



has already taken in some of the LIU hospitality students and trained them in international management at hotels all across the United States. Other companies have also shown interest in the LIU hospitality program and have taken in students to train in management, then recruited them. "We have students working all over the world, from Saudi Arabia to China. They have started to spread the name of the LIU hospitality department all over the world." Dr. Baghdadi adds.

To join the Hospitality and Tourism Club, become a member of the Facebook group

**Hospitality & Tourism Management Club – LIU**



## Meet the new Dean of Business

### Dr. Adel Daaboul

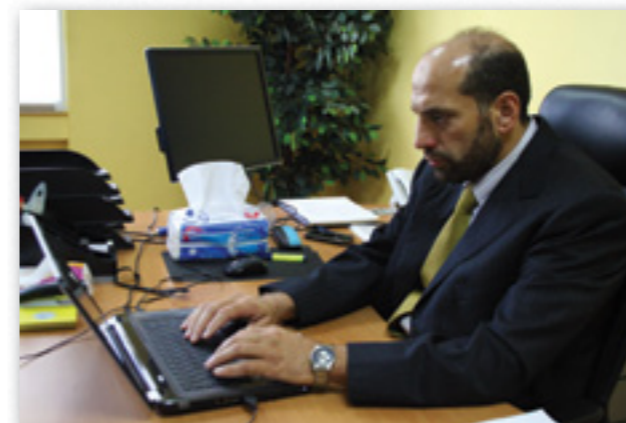
By Mohammad Mortada

*Dr. Adel Daaboul has long been a distinguished member of the LIU team. Starting out as a part-time instructor in the School of Engineering, he made his way to the top, and earned his place this semester as the new Dean of Business. In this interview, he tells us about his plans for the School.*



**There must have been a long journey that led to your appointment as LIU's Dean of Business. Could you tell us where it started?**

**Dr. Daaboul:** I started my work at LIU eight years ago as a part timer in the School of Engineering. One year later I became a full timer. In two years, I became the Chair of the Electrical Engineering department; two years after that I became assistant dean, and two years after that I became Associate Dean of Engineering. From there, I became the Dean of Business.



**How did you make the jump from the School of Engineering to the School of Business?**

**Dr. Daaboul:** I finished my Engineering BE in 1985 and then I went to the UK to continue my studies, and in 1987, I studied in an MBA program; I am one of the first people in Lebanon to have finished an MBA in 1987. I have long worked in the School of Business, giving courses both in Saida and Beirut.

**What are your plans for the School of Business? Will you make any changes?**

**Dr. Daaboul:** I see that everyone is expecting changes to the School, and this is normal. When the dean of a school is changed, usually the new dean brings new ideas. I will bring with me the experience I had in the School of Engineering. I will be forming a new structure for the School of Business, and I trust that this new structure will serve students better.

**What advice do you give to new business students concerning internships, job opportunities and self-development?**

**Dr. Daaboul:** New Business students are advised to take their studies seriously. We will make sure

that they are studying properly, that they are examined properly, and that they are graded properly. We hope that the image and reputation of the School of Business will become even better than before, and that our students will be prouder of being students at the School.

**As for business students who will be graduating in the coming year, what advice do you have for them?**

**Dr. Daaboul:** For our students who will be graduating next year, I suggest that they use their summer for internships and training. This is because training is very beneficial, even if unpaid. It gives students a taste of what is to come, and it may even give them opportunities to find work.

**Competition in the world of business is fierce. What, in your opinion, are the main factors for future success?**

**Dr. Daaboul:** I think success requires three things for anyone, whether in business or in any other field. In my opinion, you need a solid knowledge base, good communication skills, and a good personality. Unfortunately, personality is more important than the other two, so students should make sure they work on their personalities.



**What are you planning to do to develop students' knowledge base and communication skills?**

**Dr. Daaboul:** In the next year or two, we will be revising all the curricula, syllabi, and teaching methodologies, in order to ensure that our students are being taught what they should be taught in the right way.

**Is social media in the new program?**

**Dr. Daaboul:** As I said, everything will be revised in the years to come, and since social media is here to stay, we may very well subject our students to it. •END•



## Destination Mauritania

By Fatima Abou Nassif



Dr. Anwar Kawtharani, Dean of the School of Education, traveled to Mauritania on April 24th, 2011. His trip had one destination: LIU Nouakchott, Mauritania campus. He was accompanied by both the Administrative and Academic directors in Beirut, Dr. Samir Abou Nassif and Dr. Ali Tarabay respectively. This LIU team of three led the teaching visit which brought together 32 student-educators who formed an audience for Dr. Kawtharani's course *EDUC555 Advanced Methods of Teaching*. However, the classroom

wasn't only limited to LIU student-educators pursuing their Master's degrees. Education inspectors, Ministry of Education personnel, the Swiss and Syrian ambassadors to Mauritania, the Director of Inspection, the Director of the Assessment Committee, and the Director of Higher Education attended the course and symposium presented by LIU's Dean of the School of Education.

The one-week teaching visit consisted of a very thoroughly-planned schedule. The student-educators, who in average were 50 year-olds, were





taught in a daily schedule of 7.5 hours of class per day. However, the teaching methods applied were far from traditional. Dr. Kawtharani encouraged his peers to “discover and explore” in order to learn new information through the cooperative learning structures presented. He shared descriptions of methods, lesson samples, formal report samples, and a computer with digital data applications in order to engage his students in a hands-on learning process. He also made sure to incorporate Arabic materials in order to maximize the student-educators’ interaction during his one-week stay.

Dr. Kawtharani took advantage of his presence there to arrange meetings with Education and English LIU instructors. His meetings dwelled on how to improve the Education department in LIU Mauritania. The meetings concluded in agreements to contribute to each other’s course descriptions and to enhance the curriculum framework at their campus, with Dr. Kawtharani’s guidance. Dr. Chamak Mbarak, Academic Director of LIU Mauritania, was very enthusiastic about Dr. Kawtharani’s input and is looking forward to the upcoming developments.



The visit concluded with Dr. Anwar Kawtharani’s symposium “Towards a Strategic Leadership in Information Communication Technology (ICT)”. Dr. Anwar explained that “ICT helps enhance learning; it motivates students to be more engaged in the classroom and it promotes critical thinking amongst students.”

This one-week visit attracted the attention of the media. A 45-minute radio interview with Dr. Kawtharani broadcasted LIU’s use of teaching techniques and why its students were enthusiastic about them. The interview also tackled the differences between the Lebanese and Mauritanian education systems, as well as LIU’s mission and vision. Mauritania TV also featured Dr. Kawtharani’s symposium on its news, highlighting the most important ideas presented by LIU’s visiting instructor.

Dr. Kawtharani’s trip ended with the Mauritanian Ministry of Education’s request for the establishment of a continuous training program for teachers. It came to no one’s surprise that after the end of the eventful week, the Mauritania class of EDUC 555 and Dr. Chamak himself, requested Dr. Kawtharani’s return in the summer to teach EDUC 677. •END•



## LIU Literary Awards

The First Book Review Contest

By Saja Takache



On June 3, 2011, English students at the Nabatieh campus got the chance to show their full talents and receive monetary awards for doing so. For the first time, a Book Review contest was held for students enrolled in Basic English Skills (English 051) and Introduction to Oral and Written Skills (English 101). Students selected novels of their choice from the new library and presented a full review, including a written report and an oral presentation via a detailed PowerPoint presentation. Finalists were selected for the June 3 contest based on their in-class presentations, which were evaluated for content and presentation.



First place winners Mohammad Jawad and Hassan Charara received \$50 awards. The second place winners were Samira Zbib, Lama Joumaa and Kamel Hamzeh. Both first place winners had written reports on the novel *We Didn’t Mean to Go to Sea*. Their presentations included a summary of the storyline, an evaluation of the main characters, and discussions of the theme and the writer’s tone and attitude. They also provided their own judgments based on the criteria learned in their English courses.

They were judged by Ms. Fawziya Tarhini, Ms. Khadija Ghousein and Samira Zbib. Administrative Director of Nabatieh campus Mr. Samer Hazimeh distributed the awards to the winners. The organizer, English Coordinator at Nabatieh campus Ms. Fawziya Tarhini, said that she organized this event “to provide students with motives and incentives for future development in the English language.” She said, “I would like to give special thanks to the directors for hosting this event at the campus, to the instructors for setting the groundwork, and especially to the students whose hard work made this come true.” •END•

## Engineering Seniors

### Team up to Excel

LIU City Car



Students in the School of Engineering have long impressed the LIU community with their ingenuity and hard work, not the least in their senior projects. This year, the projects were characterized by close cooperation between the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering departments, and the result was the production of important and sophisticated contraptions, some of which are rarely constructed as senior projects. They were presented in the LIU Bekaa campus on Friday, June 17, 2011, in the presence of the Academic Director Dr. Ahmed Faraj, Acting Dean of Engineering School Prof. Ahmad Muhieddine, Head of Mechanical Engineering Department Dr. Farouk Hachem, and a number of instructors and students.

Twenty-two students participated in these projects, with ten completed either jointly between the two branches of Electronic Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, or divided between them. Some of these projects were:

- LIU City car
- Designing and building PLC robot
- Boundary layer of concave surfaces
- Elevator
- Large scale WIFI network
- Designing and testing CNC drilling machine
- Wireless remote control

The deans and professors expressed their admiration for the achievements of students, considering that the projects were all challenges in light of the limited means and time available to the students. Also, Dr. Faraj and faculty members congratulated the graduates on their achievement in reaching this advanced level of educational attainment. •END•



Elevator model



## School of Engineering Hosts Seminar on Medical Ultrasound Imaging

By Fatima Abou Nassif

The LIU Engineering Department held a seminar titled 'Introduction to Medical Ultrasound and its Applications' at the Beirut campus on Thursday, March 28th, 2011. The guest speaker was Dr. Souheil Hakeem from Medtronic, a leading International company in the biomedical equipment domain. He provided students with an introduction to medical ultrasound imaging, which is commonly used as a low cost medical tool in diagnosis and treatment.

Dr. Hakeem started off by asking the audience if they could imagine a "biopsy without invasively touching the tissue." This is basically the essence of ultrasound imaging. This type of imaging allows us to assess the anatomy of a person and diagnose diseases without physically altering anything.

"We are seeing with our ears" he explained. This technique is applied in many fields including the assessment of fetal development, neurosurgical biopsy, lithotripsy (shock waves therapy to destroy kidney stones), skin rejuvenation, and tissue ablation (heat waves therapy to heal cancer tissues).

When asked about the "perfect" ultrasound imaging machine, he answered that there isn't one just yet. One of the main factors that holds back the development of a high-quality, high-resolution, high-penetration, and high-safety machine is ethics. The main ethical concern is to make sure the machine doesn't "cook the patient" with its sound waves. He also emphasized the importance of the users' knowledge about the machines because "a fool with a nice tool is still a fool" as he said.

Dr. Souheil Hakim concluded his seminar with his own personal insight. He believes that even though the current ultrasound imaging techniques remain an "immature diagnostic modality", biomedical engineers should specialize in this field in order to further benefit from the technology. He advised LIU students to be persistent workers and researchers since there is "always a first step." He gave the example of the first neck imaging machine, the 1949 B-29 gun turret, that was actually the first step that led to the advanced models used today. •END•





## First Year of Doctorate of Pharmacy Program Practice and Professionalism

By Fouad Sakr

The School of Pharmacy at LIU launched its first Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program this year, as a postgraduate degree that prepares pharmacists for advanced clinical pharmacy practice.

Dr. Mohammad Rahal, the Dean of School of Pharmacy, sees that the program is designed for candidates to apply their knowledge from the didactic courses in clinical settings. It allows students to interact with other healthcare professionals such as doctors, nurses, and pharmacists, to optimize drug utilization and to minimize medication errors. PharmD candidates are not passive learners in this program; they discuss and suggest modifications in medication selection and dose adjustments in patients according to evidence-based information.

Dr. Rahal says that by the end of the program graduates will be able to evaluate medication uses and abuses. Similarly, they will be more aware about the indication and contraindications of drugs based on patients' specific conditions. Moreover, they will strengthen their knowledge and expand their experience in drugs' applications and complications. Finally, candidates will

become a trusted source of drug information, both to patients and to healthcare providers.

The PharmD coordinator, Dr. Diana Malaeb, states that all candidates have proven high standards and qualifications in the medical field. They were expected to rotate in six hospitals, where their professional skills were applied and developed. These candidates constituted an im-



portant part of the health care team and were dedicated to help meet various patients' needs. Furthermore, LIU students this year provided innovative, integrated, comprehensive, and patient-centered activities using the best available local Lebanese hospital facilities to enhance the medical therapies given to patients.

Indeed, all PharmD candidates have had six rotations in the clinical setting, which included the cardiac care unit, intensive care unit, internal medicine, infectious diseases, endocrinology or oncology, and pediatrics departments, as well as one rotation in the community setting. Candidates made rounds on a daily basis with the medical team on the assigned site, where they were actively involved in the choice of medications based on patients' profiles. Similarly, they have practiced how to individualize patients' therapy based on international guidelines with respect to drug indications, administration, dosage forms, dosing, adverse drug reactions, drug interactions, and dose adjustments. In addition, they presented a myriad of medical topics for both the medical team in hospital settings and the PharmD class on campus. Moreover, several candidates lectured the fifth year pharmacy students about numerous topics, which included 'Atrial Fibrillation' by Fouad Sakr, 'Male and Female Infertility' by Mariam Dabbous, 'Septic Shock' by Taghreed Sulaiman, and 'Liver Cirrhosis' by Maha Khalil.

Dr. Etwal Bou Raad, a PharmD preceptor, believes that she has shared an excited phase during her PharmD precepting. She sees that a preceptor is a unique combination of teacher and mentor. A preceptor is in a position to teach students the necessary skills they will need to

practice pharmacy. She shares her clinical and community knowledge base, instilling enthusiasm for pharmacy practice and exhibiting patience towards students.

In short, this first offspring of LIU PharmD program was a successful and fruitful experience for both candidates and preceptors. PharmD graduates have developed critical thinking skills, life-long learning and communication skills. They impressed all health care professionals in every department they rotated in, and exhibited excellent professional attitude. Congratulations to the first class of LIU pharmacy doctors! •END•





## Pharmacy Day 2011: Celebration and Education

By David Zoaiter



On May 27, 2011, LIU held its 6th annual Pharmacy Day, a pharmaceutical convention concerning public drug and health awareness. Held at the Bekaa campus, it was headed by Dr. Rahal, Dean of the School of Pharmacy, and it was organized by School of Pharmacy students and staff. It was held under the patronage of Dr. Ziad Nassour, President of the Syndicate of Pharmacists in Lebanon. A whole block in LIU's campus in Khyara, West Bekaa transformed into a hall of stands with displays on the effects of drugs and the proper conduct of medications, with students behind each desk further explaining and assisting visitors.

Dr. Jihan Safwan, an organizer, explained that one of the goals of this year's Pharmacy Day was to "reach out to the public who are unaware of medical facts and to help them understand their household medications in common language." She explained that many Lebanese people lack knowledge about the

very simple medications they use at home and are unaware of neither proper usage, side effects, nor drug interactions when more than one medicine is being consumed instantaneously. Students chose to relay the most important information through posters that included key points, pictures, graphics and designs.

Dr. Ziad Nassour, who showed much pride and recognition towards LIU Pharmacy students and graduates, took advantage of his stage time to speak about new Pharmacy regulations being implemented in Lebanon. Starting from



2011, new laws will be put into action including one that obliges all pharmacies to have a certified pharmacist available at all open times. The practice of 'Brand-Generic substitution', or switching a doctor's order medicine with something else with close or same composition, will also be banned. The new regulations also oblige pharmaceutical sales representatives to be certified pharmacists, instead of the previous practice where various types of degree holders in the vast field of biology could do clinical sales of drugs and pharmaceuticals.



Pharmacy Day also held the official launch of the Doctorate of Pharmacy (PharmD) program. This program allows the pharmacist to work as part of a medical team in hospitals for patient attention and monitoring when it comes to use of medications, and is also important if one wishes to teach the profession. Students who wish to partake in this program will be assigned to write a thesis together with hospital rotations for an entire educational year, covering numerous medical cases.

After a joyful educational day filled with games and seminars, all participants joined a buffet that included the participation of Marinas Turbo, the only energy drink allowed to be sold at pharmacies because of its low percentage of caffeine. The event came to an end with a draw for prizes, from which all profit went to charity. •**END**•



## Eagles

*The LIU Eagles sports teams span a multitude of sports including soccer, football, basketball, ping pong, and many more. Its players are among the best in Lebanon, with new stars emerging, and, like their namesake, soaring.*

Sports News  
Spring 2011

Take a look at the tons of sports events taking place on and off campus

## Eagles Sports Star

The Scope had the chance to interview one of Lebanon's finest athletes who took part in the Shenzhen XXVI Universiade games this summer: Ahmad Harb.

## Eagles Team Profile

Meet the Eagles Soccer Team - Beirut

Sports News  
Spring 2011**Universities Soccer Tournament**

The Eagles qualified to the quarter finals after a winning against LAU in the second round with a score of 3-2

**CNAM Basketball Tournament**

The Eagles emerged as the champions after winning against CNAM with a score of 75-40

**Beirut Arab University Thai Boxing Tournament**

LIU came in 4th place after Ibrahim Hassanain won the gold medal in the over 90 Kg category, and Riad Ratel, Habib Rahhal, Mohamad Ghermawi and Ahmad Shkeir each won silver medals

**Lebanese University Ping-Pong Tournament**

LIU won second place with its team of four: Ahmad Harb, Amro Khalil, Amir Khawaja and Bashar Yamak

**Tripoli Campus Soccer Tournament**

11 teams of students played against each other in a friendly tournament at the Tripoli campus

**Ping-Pong friendly game at the Sidon Municipality**

LIU's ping-pong players participated in this competition

**USJ International Basketball Tournament**

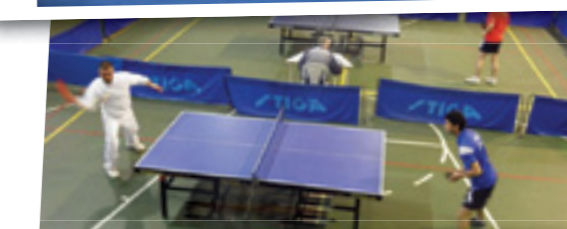
The Eagles women's Basketball team from the Beirut campus participated

**Kalamoun Soccer Tournament**

The Eagles Soccer team from the Tripoli campus qualified to the semi-final of the Kalamoun tournament after defeating the winners of Lebanon's second division Futsal League with a score of 4-2

**AFAK Basketball Tournament**

The Eagles Soccer team from the Nabatieh campus won the AFAK basketball tournament after defeating the AFAK Institution in the finals





#### Nabatieh Soccer and Basketball Tournament

Students played friendly soccer and basketball matches against each other

#### AUST Soccer Tournament

The Eagles Soccer team from the Saida campus won the AUST soccer Tournament in Saida

#### BAU Basketball Tournament

The Eagles Basketball team from the Saida campus won the first BAU Basketball Tournament

#### Friendly Streetball Tournament at Jdeideh Campus

The tournament included 10 teams, and prizes were distributed by Administrative Director Dr. Gaby Khoury and Sports Coordinator Ahmad Kerdi

#### Saida Region Schools Tournament

LIU Saida organized the fourth Schools Tournament in soccer and basketball, with thirteen schools from Saida, Sour, and Nabatieh participating

#### Universities Semi-Contact Tournament

Despite only two players, Riad Ratel and Mohammad Ghamrawi, LIU came in third place in Lebanon's Semi-Contact Competition for Universities, organized by The Modern University for Business and Sciences (MUBS). The competition included the Military School, MUBS, LIU, Haigazian, and Balamand

#### Coach Nazir al Saoudi Cup

This tournament was organized by LIU and Al Jinan University and was named Nazir al Saoudi in memory of the LIU's late Sports Director. NDU emerged as the champion after winning against the Military School with a score of 85-68 in an exciting game that was not settled until the last moments. The closing ceremony included a word from the father of the late Nazir al Saoudi, who thanked the organizers, and a brief speech from the administrator of the LIU's Tripoli campus, Dr. Ahmad al Ahdab

#### Martyrs of Return Football Championship

Under the sponsorship of Minister of Youth and Sports Dr. Ali Al-Abdullah represented by Mr. Tariq Al-Abdullah, the final match in the Martyrs of Return Football Championship took place on Thursday June 2, 2011 in the LIU stadiums in Bekaa. Nineteen teams from all branches of LIU Lebanon participated in this competition.

## Staff and Faculty BASKETBALL Tournament

By David Zoaiter



For the first time ever in LIU history, passerby in the Beirut campus witnessed a basketball tournament played only by staff and faculty members. On Friday May 20, 2011, the first staff and faculty basketball tournament was held, with teams made up of administration staff and instructors from all different faculties. The teams were composed of three members each, and 'un-official' basketball rules were played upon. There was a level of high anticipation from everyone on campus, and crowds even gathered on a Friday, which was unusual because many students do not have classes on this day. Yet, the event was enough of an attraction to make them get down to the university to witness.



Players showed much enthusiasm, and discussions were heard about them having practiced days prior to the tournament in preparation for the face-off. Some teams had even made jerseys and matching team t-shirts. Their happy smiles showed passion for sports and competition. But when the sweat broke, the smiles changed to determined faces, and warriors were seen fighting for the trophy. It was a tough competition and all teams were strong contenders, but as in all sports only one can win. Both first and second place went to two teams representing the Faculty of Engineering, and third place was proudly accepted and earned by the ladies of the School of Pharmacy, who were honored to make it this far in the competition. Congratulations to the teams, all other faculty members and last but not least the students; for great sportsmanship, dedication and a trophy well earned.





# Ahmad Harb

By Malak Jaafar

**Sport:** Ping-Pong  
**Date of Birth:** May 11, 1992 (Age 19)  
**Place of Birth:** Jibchit, South Lebanon  
**Height:** 1.82m  
**Weight:** 70 kg  
**Competed for:** Seven years



The Scope had the chance to interview one of Lebanon's finest athletes who took part in the Shenzhen XXVI Universiade games this summer: Ahmad Harb. Only 19, Ahmad has a history decorated with awards, medals and trophies in a sport not so common in Lebanon, ping-pong.

The Universiade is an international multi-sport event organized for university athletes from around the world. It is similar to the Olympics, but reserved only for university students. It is held every two years, and like the Olympics, each time in a different country. This year, the Summer Universiade XXVI (2011) was hosted in Shenzhen, China where athletes from 150 countries participated. Since it is an international event that brings together the best of the best in different sports, qualifying and eventually playing any sport there indicates that the participating athlete is one with international standards and the potential to be number one in their sport. Undoubtedly, Ahmad is already a first rate athlete with unlimited potential.



**Not many people in Lebanon choose to play ping-pong professionally like you did, how did your journey in this sport begin?**

Well, my favorite sport since the beginning has been and will always be football. I've been playing since I was a child, but in 2002 I suffered a serious leg injury that forced me to the sidelines for a long time and, eventually, to stop playing the sport. I still went to my town's club where we used to practice football and it was there that my older friends and my trainer introduced me to ping-pong; I instantly found myself good at the game and with time I fell in love with it.



**What is your current rank in Lebanon?**

I am currently Lebanon's champion in the under 21 category. I also rank 10th in the over 21 category even though I am only 19. I've been in the top ranks in Lebanon ever since I started competing professionally.

**This summer you took part in the Universiade competitions in China, the biggest tournament you ever played in. Tell us about your time there.**

It really was a major event, I think there were more than 2 million people in the stands when we were playing; even when we were only training the stands were full of people.

From Lebanon, there were 50 athletes and coaches participating in this world championship. Unfortunately, Lebanon didn't win any medals, but if you would have seen the way the Lebanese athletes played and how they gave their best, you would have been extremely proud.

Even in ping-pong, my team and I didn't win anything; the Chinese players won most ping-pong matches. I wasn't surprised though, ping-pong is after all a Chinese sport; they are the experts in that sport.

**What was your best match at the Universiade?**

Participating countries were categorized into groups of three or four and played against each other, the country with the top scores by the end of the games qualifies to the finals. Lebanon was categorized with Germany and Vietnam. Germany emerged as the winner from that group and they deserved it because they played really well. But there was this one game we played



My ping-pong trainer, who was also my football trainer, usually focused on the older kids during training sessions and I was given only the last five minutes of his time, and I wasn't usually chosen to play in matches against other clubs. But I was determined to become one of the best players in my club so I trained harder, sometimes with my trainer, at other times alone, and I gave my very best in every match I played. In a span of only a couple of months, I improved significantly and proved to my trainer and the other players that I could carry my own weight in any ping-pong match, even against older and more experienced players.

I played in my first official tournament in 2005 and won. In that same year I was ranked third in Lebanon in the under 21-years old (U-21) category after winning a tournament in the Mont La Salle competition in Ein Sa'ade.

against the German team that I am really proud of. Even though we lost 3 – 1, we lost against one of the toughest teams in the competition and really gave them a run for their money. We played our very best in that match.

**How do you feel competing that far away from home?**

I didn't mind playing in China because I've gotten used to travelling and playing abroad, even though China is the farthest I've ever travelled. I have been competing for seven years now and have had numerous competitions abroad.

**What did you like most about your time in the competitions in China?**

Other than playing ping-pong, I loved the opening ceremony. The Chinese really did amaze everyone in that stadium. It was exciting and fun to watch, there were dancers, performers, singers, light and laser shows... it was just perfect. I also loved the way we were treated with utmost respect. The Chinese people are also so welcoming and hospitable, they did their best to make us feel at home and to provide us with everything we needed.



**How do you train for ping-pong and how much is staying fit important for this sport?**

Training is daily, usually in the morning and afternoons. There is a short warm up/training session before any game. There are numerous training methods, it actually depends on the tournaments and matches I'm about to play in.

As for fitness, this may come as a surprise for people who don't know much about this sport but being fit and in shape is an absolute must in ping-pong, especially when it comes to your legs and lower body. Ping-pong actually requires more fitness in those parts of the body than football does!

**How supportive is your family of what you do?**

My family is extremely proud of me and has always been there for me, in the sidelines cheering me on and supporting me ever since I could remember. My nephew especially loves it when I win; he loves to carry my medals and trophies and to pose with them.

**In your opinion, how does the Lebanese government treat athletes and coaches?**

The sad thing about Lebanon is that there are so many athletes who are amazingly talented but are not treated with respect. The government doesn't provide funding, training, or help in any way to nurture this talent, and like most precious things that aren't taken care of, this talent goes to waste.

This lack of interest is directed at all sports and not only ping-pong, this is also the case in football, swimming, basketball, etc. Sports and athletes are not given the respect and attention needed.

**What is your goal for the near future?**

First, I want to make it to the top four ranks in the over 21 category in Lebanon. I know I'm not yet 21 but I believe I can make it because as I mentioned before, I am currently ranked 10th in that category. I also aim to become the 1st in the under-21 category.

**Lastly, what is your advice for aspiring Lebanese athletes?**

My advice for them will sound like a cliché but is in fact so true: work hard and persevere. If you don't work hard and improve yourself, you won't move forward. You have to eat, sleep, and breathe your sport. It may be difficult at times, but in the end it is definitely worth it. •END•



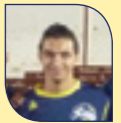
## Meet LIU Eagles Soccer Team Beirut

### **Coach Bassem Mohammad**

Height: 160 cm  
Weight: 62 kg  
Birth date: 1978  
Birthplace: Beirut

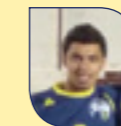
### **Ahmad Ghazawi**

Position: Defender  
Height: 175 cm  
Weight: 90 kg  
Birth date: 1990  
Birthplace: Beirut  
Major: Management Information Systems



### **Hasan Fardos**

Position: Midfield  
Height: 181 cm  
Weight: 81 kg  
Birth date: 1989  
Birthplace: Borj Hammoud  
Major: Banking and Finance



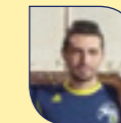
### **Mohammad Dayekh**

Position: Midfield  
Height: 177 cm  
Weight: 89 kg  
Birth date: 1989  
Birthplace: Nabatieh  
Major: Engineering



### **Marwan Issa**

Position: Defender  
Height: 182 cm  
Weight: 91 kg  
Birth date: 1991  
Birthplace: Beirut  
Major: Interior Design



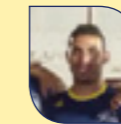
### **Issa Shouman**

Position: Midfield  
Height: 176 cm  
Weight: 88 kg  
Birth date: 1988  
Birthplace: Al Borj  
Major: Accounting



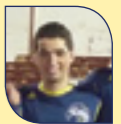
### **Hassan Termos**

Position: Midfield  
Height: 173 cm  
Weight: 91 kg  
Birth date: 1991  
Birthplace: Al Borj  
Major: Management Information Systems



### **Ahmad Sabea**

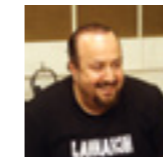
Position: Defender  
Height: 176 cm  
Weight: 75 kg  
Birth date: 1991  
Birthplace: Borj Al Barajneh  
Major: Communication Engineering



## Campus Life

Let's face it: we live on campus. This section represents our university experience. It is a social workspace for creative writing and innovative ideas that can be shared among the spectrum of the LIU community. Here you can deliver your message, be it a poem, an essay or a cause for the world to hear.

To contribute, email [the.scope@liu.edu.lb](mailto:the.scope@liu.edu.lb)



**Interview**  
Ghassan Rahbani



**We ask the institute**



**I want a job... but where?**



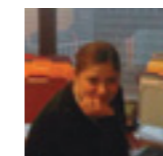
**In Memoriam: Dr. Toni Rahi**



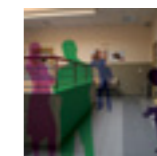
**Shop Smarter,  
Eat Healthier**



**International Cuisine**



**LIU Alumni  
Success Stories**



**Between Classes...**



**Kholoud Al Khatib**

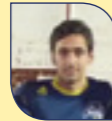


**Dear Loocha**

*and much more...*

**Disclaimer:** Any opinions and/or viewpoints that are published herein are directly from the contributing author and do not represent the philosophy or viewpoints of the Lebanese International University

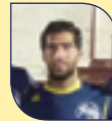
**Mostafa Sharafeddine**  
Position: Defensive Midfielder  
Height: 188 cm  
Weight: 75 kg  
Birth date: 1989  
Birthplace: Rihan  
Major: Management Information Systems



**Hamza Merhi**  
Position: Midfield  
Height: 161 cm  
Weight: 93 kg  
Birth date: 1993  
Birthplace: Sour  
Major: Business Management



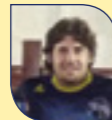
**Ali Rammal**  
Position: Striker  
Height: 180 cm  
Weight: 80 kg  
Birth date: 1989  
Birthplace: Saida  
Major: Accounting



**Fares Hobballah**  
Position: Striker  
Height: 67 kg  
Weight: 91 kg  
Birth date: 1991  
Birthplace: Kuwait  
Major: Banking and Finance



**Hussein Ayoub**  
Position: Defender  
Height: 188 cm  
Weight: 92 kg  
Birth date: 1992  
Birthplace: Kuwait  
Major: Management Information Systems



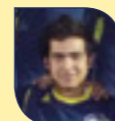
**Ali Sharafeddine**  
Position: Midfield  
Height: 170 cm  
Weight: 93 kg  
Birth date: 1993  
Birthplace: Al Borj  
Major: Engineering



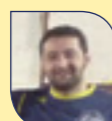
**Raed Yassine**  
Position: Defender  
Height: 175 cm  
Weight: 91 kg  
Birth date: 1991  
Birthplace: Kuwait  
Major: Public Relations



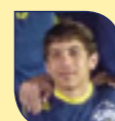
**Mohammad Mashlab**  
Position: Striker  
Height: 180 cm  
Weight: 91 kg  
Birth date: 1991  
Birthplace: Nabatieh  
Major: Engineering



**Asaad Al Asaad**  
Position: Defender  
Height: 183 cm  
Weight: 62 kg  
Birth date: 1985  
Birthplace: Khyam  
Major: Hospitality and Tourism Management



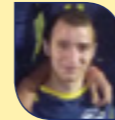
**Ahmad Khreis**  
Position: Midfield  
Height: 168 cm  
Weight: 92 kg  
Birth date: 1992  
Birthplace: Khyam  
Major: Business Management



**Hussein Khreis**  
Position: Goalkeeper  
Height: 171 cm  
Weight: 91 kg  
Birth date: 1991  
Birthplace: Kuwait  
Major: Engineering



**Rami Zreik**  
Position: Midfield  
Height: 173 cm  
Weight: 89 kg  
Birth date: 1989  
Birthplace: Chiah  
Major: Management Information Systems



**Hassan Hammoud**  
Position: Striker  
Height: 177 cm  
Weight: 90 kg  
Birth date: 1990  
Birthplace: Beirut  
Major: Banking and Finance



**Mohammad Hindawi**  
Position: Defender  
Height: 173 cm  
Weight: 90 kg  
Birth date: 1990  
Birthplace: Beirut  
Major: Management Information Systems



**Mostafa Al Hassan**  
Position: Defender  
Height: 172 cm  
Weight: 89 kg  
Birth date: 1989  
Birthplace: Beirut  
Major: Engineering



# Ghassan al Rahbani

The Scope Team

When it comes to Lebanese art, you can't but bump into his name. He is the son of Lebanese music legend Elias al Rahbani. He is the nephew of musical phenomena Mansour and Assi al Rahbani. He is Ghassan al Rahbani. From the children's songs we all sang along with, "Ammi Bou Massoud" and "Kellon Endon Seyarat", to political songs, orchestras and plays, his name resonates. He has written, directed and acted in theatrical productions and has managed many Lebanese musical icons. The energy and love Ghassan puts into his work creates an aura of perfection around his creations. His dedication is seen in his late-night work hours, in the patriotism, in his lyrics, and in his environmental and social activism. Unlike many of today's singers and songwriters, Ghassan chooses to write what he feels, what upsets him and what makes him happy. Starting off as the first Arab heavy metal artist, he was and still is history in the making. A musical visionary bouncing between production, writing, and managing, Ghassan still makes it home in time for dinner with his wife and three daughters. He is the man whose only weakness is his children and whose best work is "yet to come". He has proven that he is truly one of the legendary Rahbanis.

interview





**Why did you choose to pursue heavy metal early in your career at a time when no one in Lebanon had even heard of the genre?**

It was an accident. When I was 12 years old, I used to go to a discotheque in Antelias called Melodia. There were large vinyl records all over Melodia's walls. I asked the owner, "Who are those on the records?" He told me, "These are Pink Floyd, Whitesnake, and Deep Purple". Then, he played Smoke on the Water by Deep Purple, and I was blown away! I was amazed by the notes they could reach. Wadih al Safi would amaze the audience when he reached the final DO note, but these artists started with that final DO note! From then on, I was enraptured by the vocals, and I thought to myself, 'I'm either going to sing like those bands, or I won't sing at all'.

**Your music is very wide ranging and diverse. How do you manage that?**

I don't know. It's a lot like love. You never wake up thinking 'today I shall fall in love'. When I compose this variety of music, it just happens without me really planning for it. Rock, Jazz, Blues, Arabic and Oriental can all come to me once I hold my pen to compose a score, I don't force myself. If a tune comes to me that would fit an Arabic song, I don't try to adjust it or stunt it to fit into rock, I let it be what it is.

**What was the best phase of your career?**

It hasn't come yet. I've used up only 2% of my abilities.

**Four Cats, how did that happen?**

I realized that I hadn't worked in the Arabic pop genre, so I came up with the Four Cats. It was a major hit in the Arab world in 1997. At the time, bands were rare in the Arab world because the focus was usually on a solo singer, and a girl band was virtually unheard of. But, I had been in bands from the very beginning of my

career with the Ghassan Rahbani Group (GRG) and before that Wild Haze, so the idea seemed very normal to me.

**What song is stuck in your head right now?**

Tearing Out My Heart by Rainbow.

**What do you consider your voice as?**

Technically, it's a Tenor, but after training I can go up to Soprano and go low as Baritone.

**From a musical perspective, what is the relationship between the ear and the voice?**

If you don't have a musical ear, your voice, no matter how beautiful it is, is worthless. It will get lost between the notes and the tunes. Yet, if you have a good musical ear, you can excel even if your voice isn't exquisite. There is a difference between a good voice and good performance.

**What have you offered the world of music?**

Many singers separate their personal life from their art. I can't do that. By instinct, I write about what bothers me and what makes me happy. I found that most people share what bothers me, so my music has a great impact on them.



## On a Personal Note

**Who is your role model?**

Jesus Christ. Let me tell you why. Jesus taught us how to love all people no matter how different they are from us. Everything I've read about Him has made me realize that there is no reason whatsoever for people of different religions to not live together in peace and harmony and to love one another.

Let me tell you something: from Jesus Christ, Prophet Mohammad and Karl Marx, all the way to Bachir and Pierre Gemayel and Michel Aoun. They wrote, said, and taught things that most of their followers don't apply! That is why my relationship with Jesus Christ is directly between me and Him. He is more than a religion and a book. He is a way of life. Many people follow His words and teachings without being Christian because His words bring people together and teach them how to love.

**Have you ever been crazy in love?**

Yes. When I love, I love blindly. And in each stage of my life, I had a big love.

**So it's not true that love comes only once?**

No way! When a person is in love, he thinks he'll never love again, but a while (after she leaves him) he finds that love is possible again. A person can train himself to move on, just so he doesn't die. I respect the time I spent with the women I was in love with, and I'm still in touch with some of them.

**You are married now. But what if love knocks on your door again? Is it possible to prevent your heart from feeling what it feels?**

Yes, because I'm not an animal. The difference between a human and an animal is that a human is conscious of his actions. My reason makes me aware of the difference between my mother, my sister, my wife, and my friend. Even if I get an impulse to go out with another woman, my reason stops me. Everyone should hear this, coming from a rocker, from an open minded and liberated person. When someone is unmarried, their heart is an open door; it accepts all feelings that come its way. Yet after marriage, one must train the heart to close certain doors because there is now a wife, children, and a home. If I keep all doors open, it means I'm closer to being an animal. You're right that love sometimes comes at unexpected times, but the bottom line is that you make the decision whether to act or not. Fidelity is a choice.

*You never wake up thinking  
'today I shall fall in love'*

**How would you describe yourself in one word?**

Truthful.

**What do you regret?**

I always dreamed of making it in the west. I was in the U.S. in 1984, I was young, I had blue eyes and blonde hair, and I looked like Robert Plant, but record companies didn't accept me because of Lebanon's conflict with Israel. And in 1990, I experienced the same thing in London and in France. My last attempt was in 2001 in Hollywood, where I was trying to sign a contract for a movie soundtrack. This contract was so important to me because if I got it, I'd be in Lebanon among the Lebanese watching a Class-A movie in the cinema and listening to my own soundtrack. Ten days before I was to sign, the planes struck the twin towers on 9/11, and the movie was cancelled because it was about terrorists attacking the U.S. I said to myself, 'ma ilak illa Lebnen' (all I have is Lebanon). I came back home, got married, had children, and built a house. The longer I stay here the more that dream goes farther.

**So you regret starting a family?**

No. I regret not starting a family earlier.

**What are your weaknesses?**

My children. I would die for them.

**Where do you find yourself most?**

I find myself most in theater, either acting in a play or watching one I wrote, watching people giving a standing ovation, and in rock concerts.

**You've recently become involved in environmental issues. Why?**

I became involved in environmental activism because none of the officials are doing their jobs. They simply do not care about the environmental crimes taking place in Lebanon. I couldn't see these crimes happening in front of me without doing anything about it, so I had to do the job of those who weren't doing theirs.

**Why did you name your cat Hitler?**

Hitler (the cat) was a terminator. I would put out food for him and his sisters, and he would obliterate them to get all the food.

# The Legends

## What's behind the artistic unity between Fairouz and the Rahbanis, besides marriage?

The marriage made the union possible, but it was a special chemistry that made the masterpieces. When Assi, Mansour and Fairouz started working, they didn't know that things would be as colossal as they would. But then they realized what they had and what they created; we all knew; their audiences knew. What they had may not happen again in 500 years.

## How did the breakup of Fairouz and the Rahbanis affect the Rahbanis' work?

Pink Floyd lost their star, and the Beatles broke up. Good things don't last forever. After the breakup of Fayrouz and the Rahbanis, many opportunities were opened for others to become stars. Life had to go on; Fairouz kept making concerts and so did the Rahbani brothers. When you have a gap, you have to fill it with other people's work and find new inspiration. No one took Fairouz' place, but there was a new intellectual wave that could become something in theatrical work. Maybe the new star is Ghassan Saliba. He gave popular performances in the Middle East which are worth noting. He acts and sings, and that's exactly what we need in the Rahbani theatre. He has an aura when performing, his talent comes by instinct.

## What musical innovations are owed to the Rahbanis?

My father was the first one to introduce the synthesizer to his music in 1972, and a lot of people criticized him for adding electrical instruments to acoustic ones. Nowadays, every musical professional uses a synthesizer. Innovations are not considered important in their own time. They become so only after they withstand the test of time. Just as when Jean-Jacques Rousseau wrote 'The Dreamer', but he never knew it was going to be taught in schools later on. I have a theory of harmonic scripture with three types of vocal levels in one verse. It could be judged as unacceptable, but in my music it's applicable and true. This may become accepted as a theory in the future, yet nobody knows which new innovations will become disciplines and which will die with the innovator.



# The Homeland

## It was recently revealed that the Lebanese national anthem was copied. How do you think this affects the Lebanese citizen's psyche?

The national anthem is like a mother. Finding out that your national anthem is stolen should be like discovering that your parents aren't your parents. If we as people consider ourselves a second-hand nation, then we should accept a second-hand anthem. Unfortunately, it didn't affect us at all because we don't feel anymore. You hear people saying, so what if this song or that melody is stolen from Fayrouz or from the Rahbanis? This is the general psyche; we, as a third world nation, do not appreciate the written word. If we can't eat it, we don't value it.

## If you could compose the national anthem, what would it be like?

It wouldn't be hard for me to write a much better anthem than the one we have now. But I won't do that because everyone will say that Ghassan brought up the controversy around the anthem so that he can get the chance to compose another one. Let me tell you this: I don't need more fame, I don't need more money. I need truth.

## What is the historical role of Arab civilization in advancing music and the arts, and have we done our history justice?

There's a song for the Four Cats called Taal Intizari (My Prolonged Wait), it has these lyrics: "We invented the letter and wrote the word, and since then we haven't uttered a single word." We as a people are so pleased with ourselves because we invented the alphabet, but then we've left everything to the west alone to advance.

## You mentioned something you like to call 'the Lebanese miracle'. What is that?

The Muslim and the Christian in Lebanon do not resemble any Muslim or Christian in the world.



This is because I have something, maybe a custom or a way of thinking that I've adopted from you and you have something, maybe the way you dress, that you've adopted from me. On the other hand, a Muslim in Iran or a Christian in Luxembourg doesn't resemble either of us in any way. We the Lebanese do not resemble anyone. The whole world tries to divide our country, yet they always fail because they do not understand this. If you enter the reality of Lebanon, the facts, into a supercomputer, it will process them for 100 years with no result. It doesn't add up. According to the facts, our country shouldn't even be intact, yet you look at life on the ground and you see that the Lebanese are still going out and partying. This is the Lebanese miracle.

# The Future

## Are you optimistic about the future of music in Lebanon?

I would be optimistic if the people who make music cared about music instead of their pockets.

## What's the solution to the decline in the quality of music in the Arab world?

The solution is for people who provide quality music to take up space. My show Ghanni ma' Ghassan takes up a certain space in 24 hours of programming; so if I take up 2 hours of the trash music's time, and someone else provides another hour of quality music, that's three less hours of trash music on air.

## What is your advice for aspiring Lebanese artists?

I advise them to behave as though they have a responsibility towards their audience. People are affected by you; they are influenced by how you

behave, act, talk, and walk. A poet or a performer or a singer who behaves responsibly towards the audience will advance their art. On the other hand, if all they have on their mind is money and women, their art will spoil.

## You've literally done everything in your career, from music to politics to activism. What's next for Ghassan al Rahbani?

My show Ghanni ma' Ghassan is a big part of my life now. It allows the new generation that's constantly exposed to trash music to actually experience quality music. It allows us to improve the musical environment of the Arab youth. Its high ratings coupled with its young viewership are proof that young people do appreciate quality music. Provide the younger generation with good music, and they will accept it!



## In Memoriam: Dr. Toni Rahi

"But fate ordains that dearest friends must part." -Edward Young

The Bible says that "blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted." I pray that God will bless us and all those who mourn you and give us the strength to carry on without you!

Toni truly was a Godsend; no one ever heard an ill word uttered by him. He was kind, polite, compassionate, and not only a true gentleman but a man of God, and in his service he had dedicated himself. Sadly, there are few people like that in the world today. We really miss his gentle and tender words and attitude that everybody is familiar with. He was always quick to start a conversation and engage in topics that really would make us miss his wisdom.

Zouk-Mosbeh, Himlaya, Bikfaya and the Louaize convent will truly miss Father Rahi in their Sunday masses and celebrations. Bkerke and the new patriarch will miss his love, sympathy, and urge to serve. He went early, leaving unfulfilled plans and dreams for the betterment of Lebanon and the order that he loved and vowed to serve.

LIU students will miss him in all the campus, cafeterias and offices, where his companionship and company were a delight. They will miss his open-mindedness, his support, his enthusiasm to help, advise and foster. Toni was an excellent listener; he would never count the times listening to students' demands, requests or even objections. He was also excellent in terms of friendship: when he needed anybody's help or support he would never hesitate to ask for it and sometimes demand it! He never bragged about his knowledge, degrees, positions, or family ties. He was admirably humble. Toni, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for giving us the pleasure of working with you. That was a real pleasure. We will also pray for your family and brothers who were always in your thoughts.

"Friendship does not end at death. It is eternal."



## Faculty Profile

## Kholoud Al Khatib

Executive Director of the LIU Human Rights Center

By Malak Jaafar



Half way through our conversation, Mrs. Kholoud Khatib puts down her pen and paper, reaches for her laptop, and begins showing me some of her students' work; they were human rights awareness ads. You could see her eyes light up with excitement and admiration as she shifts through the images. She couldn't help but smile.

## Who is Kholoud Al Khatib?

Mrs. Kholoud Khatib is the woman who believes in the power of the youth; she is the woman who teaches the importance of knowing one's fundamental rights and responsibilities. She is the woman who founded the Lebanese International University's first and very unique Human Rights Center.

Mrs. Khatib has been teaching the Introduction to Human Rights elective course at LIU for eight years now. She noticed how her students seemed to be genuinely interested in the entire class and its concepts; especially when they stepped outside the borders of the classroom and interacted with real people. At one point, her students asked her "can't we transmit these ideas and beliefs to the real societies surrounding us?"

With her dedication, impressive background, and history with activism, the students' request was made possible. On January 12, 2011, LIU launched its first ever university-based Human Rights Center, with the aim of making human rights awareness an integral part of our culture.



## "Law is more than a subject"

Mrs. Khatib herself is a lawyer and holds a BA in Law, a Master's degree in Private Law, and a second Master's degree in Public Law with an emphasis on Human Rights Study. By 2012, she would have received her PhD degree in Public Law. Her doctoral dissertation is on the effect of international treaties on third parties. "It addresses how states, organizations and individuals are affected by the rapid changes in international rules and customs, and how we can escalate and defend human rights to a certain level that could bind everyone in every state, even without the signature on the treaty," explains Mrs. Khatib.

For Mrs. Khatib, law is more than a subject we study; it is an important part of human life that affects all people. "I respect it [law]. I'm a lawyer and being one, I can communicate with all people; I swing between all members of the society," Mrs. Khatib explains. It doesn't take a genius to notice her utmost respect for law, genuine care for other human beings and her goals of making real, concrete change in the society. She has held these three values close since she was a child; they created her identity. She adds: "Being a lawyer and an advocate for human rights is already an accomplishment in society"; which is why she thought it is necessary for students at LIU to take the first step towards change in their society through the Human Rights Center; for when they renew and change they will not be hardened.



## Family and Future

When asked about her family life, Mrs. Khatib, smiles warmly and reaches for a necklace she is almost always seen wearing. It is inscribed with 'Jad'. At this moment, Kholoud Khatib the lawyer, activist, and teacher steps down, and Kholoud Khatib the proud and loving mother speaks. Jad is her five year-old son and "source of power"; a child, who from this young age, is already absorbing his mother's thoughts and ideas. "He objects, and asks about his rights; he argues very well, to the point where I've nicknamed him 'Mr. Why', " Mrs. Khatib says with a laugh, "Jad, Jihad (my husband and soul mate) and I constitute a happy family, with a great belief in each other and a rooted backing to one another."

On a personal level, Mrs. Khatib looks forward to making a real change in human rights activism, both locally and internationally. "I hope to see everyone defending and attaining what he or she believes and deserves," she says. What about her son? Her answer is: "I wish for Jad to be who he is meant to be: a leader in society."



## Does Technology Connect or Isolate People?

By Mrs. Badera Nakouzi



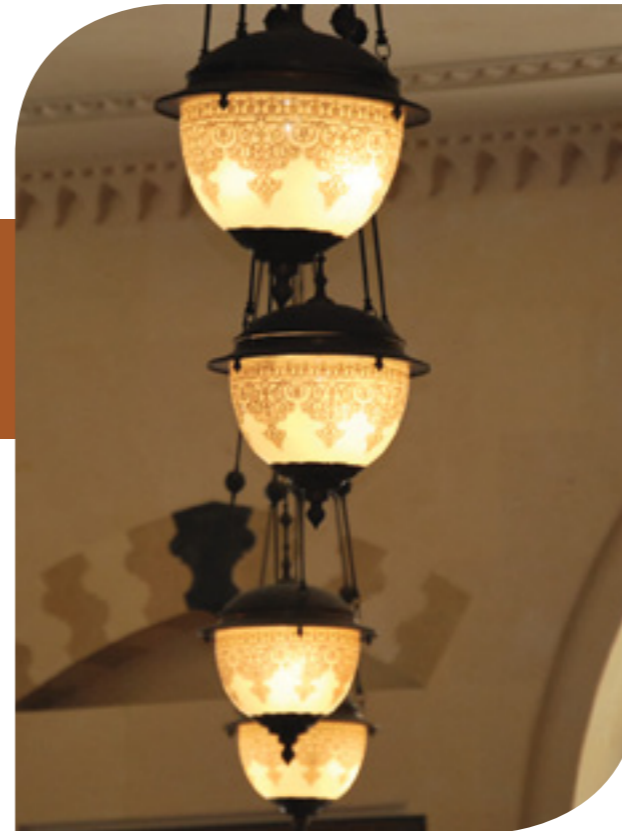
A discussion was raised in one of our classes in the course 'Integrating Technology in Education' regarding the use of technology now a day, and the main issue that was discussed was whether technology is a mean for connecting people or if it is a tool for isolating them.

How easy it is now a day to chat with a friend who is living in Brazil, to send images within seconds to your family members in Australia, to have a video conference with a group of people sharing with you a profession or an interest, or to be a member of an internet social network. The examples that you can give to present the latest technologies as communication devices are limitless. Your laptop, your ipad, your blackberry, and many others are becoming portable, cheaper, and can connect you to anyone at any time.

Looking at it from this side will give you the illusion that definitely technology is connecting people, but let's look at it from the other side. I still remember my parents insisting on us to have dinner all together as a family. Afterwards, we used to sit in the living room to talk, to pass jokes, and to discuss all the problems that faced us during the day. Nowadays, I rarely see my children even when living in the same house. They are busy talking on the phone, chatting on the internet, sending an email, researching about a topic in their rooms. Their laptops and mobiles are like part of

them that they cannot live without them. Apart from the family circle, you see people living in a building or a district in which they don't know any of their neighbors; they are too busy working and using their technology devices. You even look at people while socializing, taking pictures or writing texts and sending them to someone living thousands of kilometers apart. Some of my students said that every day when they wake up, they spend at least two hours using their computers and not talking to any of their family members; it is like their morning coffee or breakfast. Another student said that she had an argument with her mom to ask her to spend at least one hour with her every day without using the blackberry to chat with her cousins in the USA.

Technology is a double edge weapon, it is connecting us to people who are apart, but at the same time it is keeping us apart from people who are close to us. Most of the time, we are creating virtual images of people that we might not really know, and an artificial structure of interaction. It is helping us with our work and studies, but alienating us from people that are around us and depriving us from our social skills. Do we blame it all on technology? In fact it is not technology to be blamed, it is the way we use or abuse technology. We must be able to manage the time and use of technology in a way that it becomes a slave to us helping us to succeed, instead of us becoming its slaves. •END•



## FASTING THE MONTH OF RAMADAN: A REFLECTION

By Dr. Hassan Khachfe  
Academic Director - Nabatieh



forth; this is the fast of the select. "Surely, the hearing, the sight, and the heart, all of these, shall be questioned [on Judgment Day]" (17:36).

The most sublime fast, that of the heart, is attained by the spiritual elite. As such, the worshipper severs his or her self from any thought other than the remembrance of God. In the words of Ali bin Abi Talib, an intimate companion and relative of Prophet Muhammad, "I never observed a thing but that I witnessed God before it, after it, and beside it". Of a worshipper drawn so near to Him, God says: "I shall love him," and in metaphor, "When I love him, I become his hearing with which he hears, his sight with which he sees, his hand with which he strikes, and his leg with which he walks."

The Qur'an exemplifies the higher stations of fasting, where it narrates the virgin birth of Jesus and his miraculous speech in the cradle. When "the throes of childbirth drove [Mary] to the trunk of the palm-tree, she [despaired] ... Then, [Jesus, the infant] called unto her from below, saying: 'Grieve not! Your Lord has placed a rivulet beneath you. Shake the trunk of the palm-tree toward you, to cause fresh, ripe dates to fall upon you. So eat, drink, and be consoled. And if you meet any mortal, say: 'Lord! I have vowed a fast unto the Beneficent, and may not speak this day to any mortal' (19:23--26). Mary's fast allows for food and drink, but not speech.

Spiritually rejuvenated from sustained, intense worship, the believers greet the occasion of Eid al-Fitr with elation. As they flock to, and from, congregational prayers on the Day of Eid, angels stand at every corner of every alley to salute them, while God addresses them, saying: "Go, with all your sins forgiven, for you indeed [strove to] please Me, and I am pleased with you." •END•

This year, the month of August was loaded with entangled spiritual occasions. While Christians commemorated Saint Mary's Day, Muslims began preparation to piously and obediently worship during the Nights of Al-Qadr. The spiritual essence of these nights is the Month of Ramadan, with which there is an intimate relationship with Saint Mary.

"O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may cultivate piety," says God in the Qur'an (2:183). The fast of the Month of Ramadan is a pillar of Islamic faith; it entails abstention, curbing worldly passions, purifying the inward self, standing in humble prayer before God, and seeking His forgiveness. It was in this month that God first revealed the Qur'an to the Prophet of Islam, as guidance to humanity.

"Fasting is for Me, and I am its reward," says God to the believers, in the words of Prophet Muhammad. The fast, like all modes of worship, has spiritual stations. Its exoteric form is a compulsory refrain (between dawn and dusk) from food, drink, smoke, and sexual intercourse; this is the fast of the common folk.

A nobler fast imposes discipline on all bodily senses and limbs. Thus, the tongue fasts by refraining from superfluous or harmful speech (e.g., slander), the eyes fast by avoiding what is not permitted (e.g., lustful gaze), the ears by eschewing what is forbidden (e.g., giving audience to backbiting), and so



## Lebanese and Middle-Eastern Higher Education

### LIU President's Future Vision

By Dr. Tony Rahi  
PhD in Educational Management

During the first decade of this millennium, LIU's openness to Arab countries and African nations, especially in Yemen, Mauritania, Senegal, Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia, where new campuses were inaugurated, made it possible to spread higher learning among these different countries of the world. Two years ago, on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009, His Excellency former Minister of Education and Higher Learning Abdel-Rahim Mourad, President of LIU, Dr. Samir Abou-Nassif, Vice-President for Administration and Dr. Majdi Hammad, hosted a two-day conference on Private Higher Education in the Arab world.

His Excellency Abdel-Rahim Mourad viewed the establishment of new private higher education institutions in poor Middle-Eastern and African countries as a necessity to overcome the public sector's difficulties. This educational private sector in any nation may also accompany the technological and scientific developments that are taking place in the world's global village. In

addition, the higher education private sector in Lebanon is facing several problems related to the discrepancies between the purpose of the institutions' educational mission and the outcomes of private financial investments and their respective return profits. Moreover, the problematic belongingness to a nation, the religious affiliations and ideologies are challenges encountered by the educational private sector in Lebanon to be overcome.

In our case, personal leadership and institutional leadership are being initially rooted in the mind of LIU's founders to create a university as a dream to become reality. The founder's primary intention is to establish the most appropriate physical facilities and premises that fulfill the demands of a modern university such as laboratories, theaters, and athletic facilities. The leadership concept has been launched within a comprehensive educational project based on the motto: "Together Towards a Better Future, from Kinder-

garten to University." Togetherness implies a sign of participative and democratic approach to leadership that is executed by most of LIU's constituencies at both administrative and academic levels: Distinct education with low possible costs and less financial burdens on the students.

Furthermore, institutional leadership has been incorporated within LIU's overall mission, principles and objectives that ensure current and future administrative and academic excellence. It is a matter of encompassing its main objectives and principles in the following three task specializations, such as: First, LIU aims to provide its faculty and students with the most sophisticated and up-to-date knowledge, in accordance with the most advanced international programs, especially those implemented by the universities of the United States of America. Hence, the usage of the English language in teaching and communicating would exclusively be the basic requirement for these curricula. In fact, the university will coordinate higher education as being modern, pluralistic and flexible.

Second, the university aims to execute global development strategies through its commitment to the principle of applying balanced growth in provinces of a nation. Therefore, it is well proven that immigration to foreign countries as well as people who fled from villages to the capital will one day come to an end. Consequently, higher learning will be provided for females who are willing to pursue higher education in their respective places of living. Another clear objective of the university is to advise and link its graduates with the Lebanese and Arab countries' marketplaces, using potentially modern technologies in their respective careers.

Third, the university's main goal will deepen both its social and national assimilation and absorption in the heart of a country. It will enhance its affiliation and belongingness to the Arab World. In this particular framework, the cultural phenomenon will mutually interact with both local education and regional civilization. From a cultural point of view, the university's primary concern is the building character of humans, who are scientifically and culturally capable to interact positively with their societies for an adequate functioning of the people's capabilities in their own domains. In this particular path of life, the university will build a bridge between the Lebanese and Arab immigrants, enabling their children to achieve the highest levels of specializations in different modern professional fields of study. On

the other hand, the university's intention is to convince the nation's citizens to be more and more rooted in their own land and dwelling places, encouraging them to acquire new science and knowledge in their mother country, avoiding the financial and living burdens of being abroad.

Another conclusive leadership strategy is the educational empowerment of educators through annual training sessions to faculty members from both the private and public sectors. Moreover, most educational institutions will conduct samples of official examinations to all students, enabling them to remedy their weaknesses and pass these examinations successfully. This indicates the existence of certain homogeneity and mutual complementarities between the two above-mentioned sectors. This is not to forget the other three empowerments, namely the cultural, athletic and the sense of belongingness, aiming to create cultural habits and athletic seasons; establish clubs and playgrounds; come up with excursion programs and youth camps for mutual and constant communication between the Lebanese and Arab youth from different religious, ethnic and social backgrounds.

Finally, it is relevant at this point to conclude that scientific and cultural relationships may be established between the various Lebanese, Arab and International universities. It would be necessary to make mutual scientific and cultural contracts and agreements, aiming to exchange their educational experiences and encouraging their collaborative research processes in scientific journals and publications. In order to achieve what has been preceded, the establishment of a certain Union may agglomerate the private Arab University Councils for consolidating their scientific and educational operations.

•END•



## LIU ALUMNI

### Success Stories

The Lebanese International University takes special pride in all its alumni. Graduates of our university have achieved extraordinary success in short periods of time and in a wide range of fields. Their expertise now benefits Lebanon and extends to countries all around the globe. In this issue, Recruiting Coordinator Hiba Boutari shares her experiences with the Scope.



**Hiba Boutari**  
BA '09 Public Relations  
Recruiting Coordinator at Deutsche Bank – New York, USA

“An education is one of the most important things you can give yourself”

**What exactly does your current position comprise of?**

I currently work at Deutsche Bank, which is an international investment bank on 60 Wall Street in New York. It has 55 floors and over 5,000 employees in that branch alone. The Deutsche Bank branch in Wall Street is actually the portal where candidates in all 50 States of the United States apply for a role. Although there are other Human Resources departments in all other DB branches, the Wall Street Branch is where everything comes together. My main role is to coordinate and set up interviews between Hiring Managers and potential candidates, organize onsite and overseas Video Conferences with the DB Branches in the United Kingdom, Europe, and India, prepare offer letters and offer packets when the candidates are hired, conduct background checks, walk candidates through the Onboarding process, authorize drug and fingerprint screenings, and submit the employee's files to Data Man-

agement to process them and include them in the Human Resources database.

**How was your transition from the classroom to the workplace?**

Not difficult for me, since I've been in the workforce ever since I finished High School at 17 years of age. However, I do miss the carefree days of having nothing on your mind except for passing the English Exam.

**What personal and professional qualities helped to launch you into your current career?**

I used to be very shy when I was a teenager, with a fear of anything that was related to communicating with people on a large scale. I didn't want to remain a painfully shy 15 year old with no dreams, so I began to force myself to be exposed to more people. Work is a very important personality builder, and interacting with strangers who aren't your friends and family helps you set boundaries and boosts your confidence to

no end, especially when you work in such a delicate profession as Human Resources. The only personal quality I can think of that helped me a lot was my willingness to try and do something different in my life.

**Please describe a typical day in your life.**

Not being a morning person, waking up at 6:00 am (since my commute is very long) and repeatedly going through the NYC Subway rush hour was, as you can imagine, very “refreshing” for me at first. When you're in Lebanon, you are polite and considerate to others. When you're standing only 2 centimeters apart from somebody's head in a crowded New York subway car (this is not an exaggeration, I'm serious) and you need to get out, and nobody wants to move, you begin to toughen up a little bit. I have the typical 9 – 5 job, and I got used to the fact that you cannot smoke anywhere in New York except on the street, which, by the way is -4 degrees and is not easy.

**What is the single most important thing you learned at university?**

You meet a lot of people in those years. Some are inspiring. Some are funny. Some you hate

then realize they're awesome. The ones that you still talk to after you leave are the ones that will always be a large part of your life no matter how many countries are between you.

**What is the single most important thing you learned at work?**

Diplomacy, diplomacy, diplomacy. I cannot stress enough that you have to bite your tongue sometimes and toughen up. Your boss will yell at you. Your co-workers don't say good morning. You'll have days where nothing goes right. Some days you really, really want to quit. That doesn't mean you're not a pro, it just means you're learning how to deal with life. In the long run, you'll be surprised how good you've gotten at what you love to do best.

**What is the best part of your job?**

People trusting you enough to let you handle their salaries and confidential information. In Lebanon, asking each other how much your salary is might not seem like a big deal. In the United States, that's a HUGE issue that you cannot ask anyone. People are extremely private here and having them tell you everything, from their family situations to their confidential information, makes me feel like I have the best job in the world.

**What is the worst part of your job?**

The sheer amount of competition, pressure, and volume of work. In Wall Street, competition between financial institutions is like putting sharks together in a swimming pool and telling them to be nice. It's very hard, because you can (and will) be replaced any second.

**What is the future of your field?**

The future is to be a Sourcing Recruiter, which is basically searching for people through websites such as Monster and LinkedIn (among others) to fill in positions when a role needs to be filled.

**What advice can you give today's students?**

Do not leave University when the going gets tough. Even if you fail all your courses, take them again. Believe me, I see resume's with people holding 3 Masters Degrees, and they are still turned down for a role because they are not qualified enough. Sure, some people don't have high school degrees, and they're millionaires, but that's the exception, not the rule. Having an education is one of the most important things you can give yourself. •END•





## “What’s your favorite Lebanese proverb, and why?”

By Asma Al Ashhab



**Mr. Abdul Raheem Mourad**  
Chairman of LIU

Law demit la ghayrak, ma alit ilak. (If it lasted for others, it wouldn't have reached you.)

This is a lesson to those in power; that if this power had lasted in the hands of their predecessors, it wouldn't have come to them. They should learn from that and remember that it will someday be someone else's turn.

Ina Allaa yu7ib itha 3amal a7adakum 3amalan an yutkinah. (God loves when one does something and perfects it).

This means that perfecting your work is a mark of faith, and God guides us towards this. Perfection leads to success in any initiative a person can take.

**Hassan Choubassi**  
Coordinator, Communication Arts Department

Le bya3rif, bya3rif. W yalli ma bya3rif, b 2oul kaf 3adass. (He who knows, knows. And he who doesn't know shall say a handful of lentils.)

Things are never what they seem. I'm hiding the truth, not to protect my enemy, but to hide my shame. When taken out of context, reality and its image are not compatible.



**Bashar Nasrallah**

Instructor at Communication Arts Department

- "Ya 3antar meen 3antarak?"
- "3antarit w ma radni 7ada."
- "Oh bully, who made you that way?"
- "I bullied and no one stood up to me."

This proverb reflects the behavior of our fellow Lebanese people, which will stay as such no matter what you try to do to change them, sadly!



**Ayman Dahrouj**  
Public Relation Director

Yalli beysaweek be nafso ma zalamak (He who treats you the same way he treats himself, won't oppress you).

This proverb is a true scale to know how to treat people and also how to think about them. Sometimes a person can do things and sometimes one can't do others, which only means that we have to reconsider the limit of his/her authority limits.

**Nisreen Jabr**  
Instructor at the English Department

"3asfour bil 2eed wala 3ashra 3al shajra" "A bird in the hand is worth more than ten in the bush."

I chose this quote because I think it resembles life perfectly. This proverb is a warning against greed, avarice, and cupidity. It is an exhortation to be content and satisfied. It teaches every one of us that we should not be discontented even when we choose to savor the least.





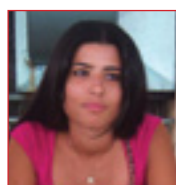
### Between Classes...

By Alaa Kanaan, Asma Al Ashhab, and Joe Adnan



#### Albert Abdul Wahed

What is your ideal job? My ideal job is to work at MAC, because it's a pioneer in our field



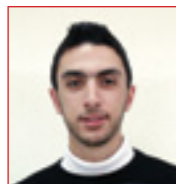
#### Rola Reslan

What is your ideal job? A news anchor or a reporter; I feel this is totally me



#### Dana Ajami

Where do you see yourself in 20 years? I see myself working in a drug company and married, maybe completing a pharmacy degree as well



#### Monah El Achkar

Where do you see yourself in 20 years? I see myself as a famous television personality in Lebanon



#### Mariam Hijazi

What is your ideal job? To own a pharmacy and teach at a university



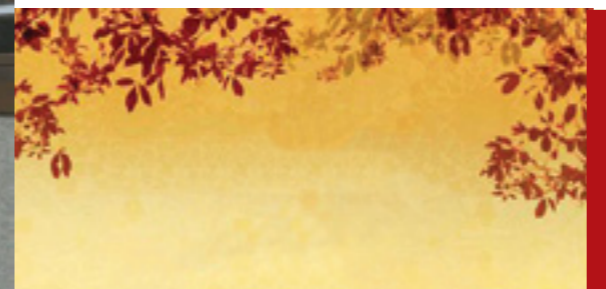
#### Issam Abdallah

What is your ideal job? To have my own media services company



#### Maha Harb

What is your ideal job? As a medical representative in a respectable company that doesn't interfere with my marital life

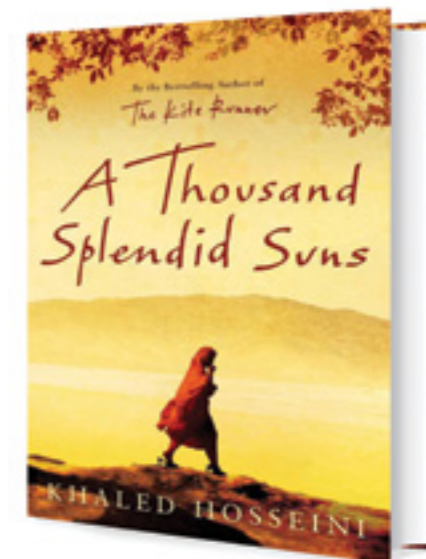


### BOOK REVIEW:

## A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS

KHALED HOSSEINI

By Fatima Hanan El Reda



Book Ratings: ★★★★★

During the war in Afghanistan, a multitude of lives were put to an end by human atrocities. Unquestionably, the war was austere on the lives of those who suffered under the bombed sky. In the wreckage of the unfathomable tragedy of life, we come to find broken pieces of what used to be a porcelain doll, a mirror, or a memory perhaps. The remainders of history become a part of it and a part of us. War knows no forbearance, no innocence, and no justice. Under its rule, there are no rules apart from "kill or be killed." Under the sky, there is no land but the earth. Under the sun, there is no darkness to hide in except for our own shadows. As much as war bruises or rather scars the body residing within the borders of its territory, in Afghanistan it is unsurpassed by its concurrent fanatical poverty-stricken society that suffocates even the flowers that arbitrarily grow on the side of the road.

In "A Thousand Splendid Suns," Khaled Hosseini paradoxically neighbors two women from completely dissimilar childhoods in a parallel world. After a long period of time, they come to meet as a result of a polygamous and undesired marriage on both accounts. However, an unlikely friendship emerges from the situation. Mariam and Laila connect and line up in a frontier in the face of their reprehensible oppressor: the husband. Some kind of unspoken and unwritten oath inscribes itself in the sanctity of their relationship, one that promises love, support, trust, and most importantly, sacrifice. After having suffered considerably and in a moment of self-defense (if both women are considered one "self") one of them manages to kill him. This forms a strike

for all Afghan women; for all women. Mariam faces the same fate as her mother's, only hers is not suicide, and it is garlanded with sacrifice and honor. Laila, on the other hand, returns to her lover and lives with him alongside her children. Although the novel is drenched with anguish, misery, and deprivation, hope flickers like an incandescent light in a dark street.

The novel comprises elements beyond literary description, imagery beyond artistic portrayal, and a sense of realism that could be mistaken for reality. Much of its eloquence derives out of simplicity and the story told behind the words. When reading the book you become Mariam, Laila, a victim, and you become Afghanistan.

It is titled "A Thousand Splendid Suns" based on the poem by Saib-e-Tabrizi on Kabul.

*"One could not count the moons that shimmer on her roofs  
And the thousand splendid suns that hide behind her walls"*

Under the sun, there is no darkness. In the darkness, there are a thousand splendid suns. A book review cannot possibly substitute the experience of reading the book because through it we live the experience of being another human being in another world, and of being blindsided by the thousand splendid suns of Kabul.

Visit the library at the LIU campuses to check out this book and many more.



Photo by Nawar Nohra

## I WANT A JOB... BUT WHERE?

By Ali Wehbe

Article contributed by

**حبر**  
www.hibr.me

After 12 years of school and up to eight years of college, many young men and women think that they have passed a milestone. But in reality, they have just started. In Lebanon, where nepotism and "wasta" (the use of contacts), are the main factors at play during the hiring process, finding a job can be a job in itself.

But there are many places to look for jobs these days. Mohammed Nehme, a 19-year-old business student at AUCE (American University of Culture and Education), told Hibr: "I usually count on newspapers such as Waseet and Al-Hadaf to look for jobs. I found my jobs by looking in the newspapers stated above."

Telecommunications engineering graduate Mohammed Hamam has not been so fortunate. "I graduated almost three years ago and I still haven't found a job in my domain, even though

I have looked in newspapers, companies, even online, but no luck so far," he said. Regarding the reasons behind his 'misfortune' in job seeking, he blamed it on "mostly [my lack of] wasta, I think."

Mohammed Hamam is just one of many unemployed youth in Lebanon. According to indexmundi.com, Lebanon's unemployment rate stands at 9.2% of the population (2007 figures).

To get some tips for more successful job-seeking, Hibr sat down with Youmna Elcheikh Ali, a human resources generalist at Diwaneer, a Beirut-based digital media company.

"Here at Diwaneer, we often use the Internet and websites such as hirelebanese.com to recruit employees," Alcheikh Ali said. "Personally, I see the Internet as the future of recruitment, and I encourage the youth to post their CVs on these websites and to have more faith in them."

Alcheikh Ali advises job-seekers to take greater care when writing their CVs. "I urge young men and women to be more attentive to their CVs. We reject so many applicants just because they have 'messy' CVs." She continued: "[Applicants] should certainly include their personal skills, [such as] being able to work under pressure. They should also include information about previous jobs they have held such as the job description without diving into details. Also, use a template to organize your CV - you can find a lot of those online."

As for interviews, Alcheikh Ali said: "I would recommend [interviewees] to just relax. Never mention negative aspects of their personalities. Also refrain from talking pejoratively about previous work places, co-workers or bosses; only mention positive things."

So, in the words of Alcheikh Ali, be positive, relax, trust the Internet and your job-seeking days will soon come to an end.

### Online resources for job-seekers



www.bayt.com  
www.monstergulf.com  
www.headhunterlebanon.com  
www.jobinlebanon.com  
www.lebanon-support.org  
www.mediaopps.me

**Eat Right,  
Feel Bright.**

**Ghiwa el Banna**

Licensed Dietitian / LIU Nutrition and Dietetics Graduate

Read Ghiwa's daily health tips on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/RD.Ghiwa](http://www.facebook.com/RD.Ghiwa)



**Shop Smarter,  
Eat Healthier**

When it comes to packaged foods, reading nutrition fact labels is mandatory for you, as for any other consumer. In fact, this special tool can help you, not only to eat healthier, but also, to shop smarter. Knowing how to interpret these labels is of greater importance.

To be honest, two main reasons have driven me to write this article: first, the small number of people who read labels prior to making a purchase; and second, the misinterpretation problem I've noticed, notably from my patients. Not noticing or ignoring the number of servings per container is the number one mistake that misleads the reader. This is mostly the case with chocolate bars and potato chips, among other high calorie foods.



Here are some tips that might be helpful through the reading-interpretation process:

1. Start by reading the **Serving Size** as well as the **Servings per Container**: in fact, the information mentioned on such labels is based on ONE serving, whereas the package might contain one, two or more servings.
2. Check the **Calories**: this is actually what counts the most!
3. Know the **Total Fat**, the **Cholesterol**, and the **Sodium** content: the lower they are, the healthier you are. Note that **Trans fat** and **Saturated Fat** (also called 'bad fat') are the ones always mentioned.
4. Analyze the **Total Carbohydrates**: look for high **Dietary Fiber** and low **Sugar** content.
5. Check the **Protein** content: choosing food high in protein and low in fat is best.
6. Choose foods that are rich in **Vitamin A**, **Vitamin C**, **Calcium**, and **Iron**: these nutrients help in disease prevention and they promote good health.
7. The Percentage of Daily Value (**% DV**) makes it easier for you to plan a balanced diet by comparing what you eat to what you should be eating. *Note: these values are based on a 2000 calorie diet; you might need more or less based on your weight, height, gender, and activity level.*

It's also worth emphasizing on the importance of checking the expiry date of any product before purchase. And remember, eat right, feel bright!

# International Cuisine

## with Chef Rabih Jammal

Recipes from LIU's Culinary Master



Compiled and photographed  
by Mohammad Kansoun



## Fish Sayadieh

This traditional Lebanese recipe includes a main dish of Fish Sayadieh as well as four different sauces that can be served on the side.

Serves 5 people.

### Ingredients

500 g American rice  
1 kg whole fish, preferably Lokkoz  
250 g onion slices  
100 ml olive oil  
100 ml vegetable oil  
1 carrot  
2 bay leaves  
1 lemon wedge  
2 tablespoons cumin  
1 tablespoon curcuma



### Directions

- Prepare fish fumet (stock) by frying the bones of one fish or one small fresh whole fish with one onion and one carrot. Add two liters of hot water and one lemon wedge.
- Aside, fry two big onion slices with a mix of olive and vegetable oil until they become brown. Add the onion to the fish fumet and let them boil, giving the fumet a brown color.
- Cook 500 grams of rice in a brazier with a little bit of olive oil. Add the cumin, the curcuma and salt. When they begin to stick, add one liter of fumet. After allowing it to simmer for two minutes, taste the water of the rice and adjust the taste. Cover and lower the heat.
- Put the fish on slices of lemon in a roasting pan to avoid sticking. Spice them with dried coriander and cumin on their skins. Bake at 180 C for 20 to 25 minutes.



### Sauces

#### Sayadieh Sauce

Light Veloute sauce  
500 ml fish water (fumet)  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
2 tablespoons flour  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
1 tablespoon butter

Make a roux from olive oil, flour and butter. Add the fumet. Add lemon juice once it reaches a gentle bubble.



#### Harra (Vegetable) Sauce

2 tablespoons olive oil  
2 onion slices  
4 cloves of garlic cut into small pieces  
1 green pepper cut a-la-julienne or in narrow strips  
1 red pepper a-la-julienne  
1 green chili pepper  
1 bunch coriander, minced  
4 tomato slices cut thin  
2 tablespoons of tomato paste  
1 bunch dried coriander  
1 cup water  
1 spoon cumin  
Salt, to taste

Fry all ingredients, adding them one by one in the order that they are listed

#### Tajen Sauce

500 ml sesame paste (Tahineh)  
Lemon Juice  
Orange Juice  
Water  
1 onion slice  
50 ml olive oil

Mix the sesame paste, lemon juice, orange juice and water until you have a liquid sauce. Aside, fry the onion in olive oil. Add the liquid sauce to the onion, and turn off the heat once it starts to gently bubble.

#### Traboulsieh Sauce

Mix an equal amount of Harra Sauce and Tajen Sauce and adjust the taste



Having relationship trouble or  
simply a question?

Ask Loocha on  
[the.scope@liu.edu.lb](mailto:the.scope@liu.edu.lb)  
and she'll answer you on  
The Scope Facebook Page  
[www.facebook.com/TheScopeLIU](http://www.facebook.com/TheScopeLIU)

**Dear Loocha: My girlfriend and I have been dating on and off for a long time, and we love each other very much. We've been together without breaking up for a year straight now. Do you think it will last forever?**

S. H.

Dear S. H: Some of the best relationships start off on a rocky road. It takes a while for a couple to become accustomed to each other's thinking, habits, and needs, and this period of time can be quite tumultuous, resulting in an on-and-off relationship like yours.

The fact that you've been together in harmony for the last year appears to be a good indication for the future. However, there is only one tried and true way to know if a relationship is the real thing: give it time. Be good to each other and accept each other's differences, and the passage of time will reveal the true potential of your relationship.

**Dear Loocha: I am having many problems with my boyfriend over his jealousy! He is really pushing it too far. I am trying to be patient and understanding, but my patience is running out. What can I do?**

R. L.

Dear R.L.: A little bit of jealousy is natural in every relationship; sometimes it can even be healthy when it helps to define and set boundaries. Yet the excessive form appearing in your relationship, to the point where you're simply running out of patience, likely stems from your boyfriend's deeper insecurities.

Sometimes a person in a relationship may be jealous of their partner, yet it may not have much to do with the reality of the present relationship. If this is the case, it's essential to recognize that the jealousy running rampant is more about previous disappointments; whether in romantic relationships or others. Support your boyfriend in becoming more conscious of the patterns from previous relationships that he may be repeating in this one. You and your boyfriend should spend some time looking even deeper at where his fears are coming from.

After you've addressed this with him in an understanding, non-judgmental way, let him know how you are feeling and tell him that his over-protection is doing more harm than good. Let him know that it is more likely to drive you away than the perceived threats he is jealous of. Agree on certain boundaries that both of you should follow, and that makes each of you feel safe. The next step is to set a strategy for dealing with jealousy when it arises. Create a common agreement on how you will act in and react to situations that could trigger jealousy. Deciding on this beforehand is key; when emotions run rampant, it's much more difficult to control actions.

## Never Fall in Love

By Alaa Takache

Someone once gave me advice and told me a story  
He said, no problems, no worries, no need for Maury  
It blossomed it grew like a plant from a seed  
I knew this is the man I'd love and I'd need  
When my eyes saw him my soul was freed  
The wounds from my past withered and healed  
It was like the world just started, Adam and Eve  
I held his hands saying I'd never leave  
Hand in hand I knew we'd succeed  
We'd laugh, we'd talk, we always agreed  
A summer from heaven got me higher than weed

When he went back home I felt kinda shaken  
Like a piece of my heart was ripped out and taken  
From then on it was never the same  
Everything I said might've sounded lame  
The calls were toned down like a light flame  
Waiting to hear him, to say his name  
Just like a storm the problems came  
When the blame was on me I felt the shame

The ups into downs and the highs to blues  
The smiles to frowns, I should've seen the clues



That's what happens when rages flare  
Their only fuel is people who care

The tones changed and switched hues  
Purple and blue was my heart's bruise  
It was clear now we had different views  
We saw life's meaning from a different scope  
But to me he's the reason I hold on and cope  
Addicted, attached, like a pot head's dope  
My leader, my soldier, he's my only hope

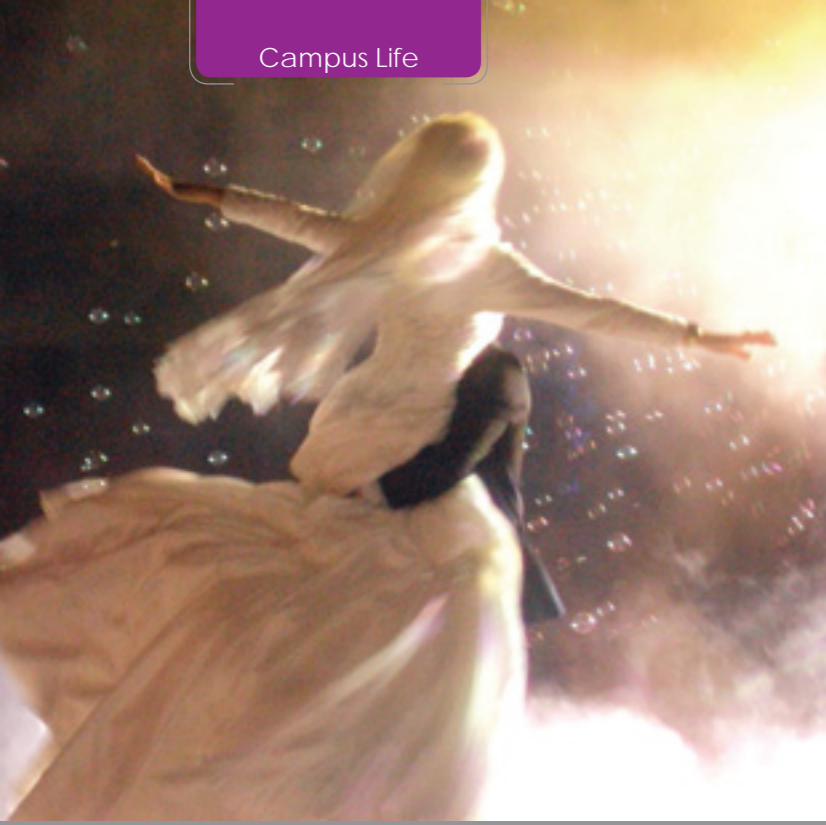
I can deal with the faults and the minor brawls  
To see Ali talk and learn to crawl  
To use a potty and draw on the wall

I just need a man to lift up my falls  
One that's got a heart and with no separating walls  
A guy that can erase all that pain  
My tears have turned to a shower of rain  
I need soft words not dope and cocaine

I never felt this way about anyone in my life  
Bou Ali's the one that can take out that knife  
With just a few words, will you still be my wife...

Never, ever, ever, fall in love





## You & Me

By Saja Takache

When we first got together,  
Everything became a game, and obstacles were nothing.  
Hope and happiness filled my life,  
And the universe revolved around you and me.  
I stole your heart and lost my mind,  
And I loved you like a child.  
The whole world was wrong and we were right,  
And two plus two was five.  
All I could see was you,  
And all you could see was me.

As the years passed and the challenges grew,  
We could never expect what was coming next.  
It was one thing after another,  
Impenetrable walls of stone.  
Everyone said we wouldn't last,  
They said we were dreaming,  
They said it shouldn't, it couldn't, it wouldn't be.  
But all I could see was you,  
And all you could see was me.

Today,  
Everything is still a game, and obstacles are nothing.  
Hope and happiness fill my life because you are hope and happiness,  
And the universe still revolves around you and me.  
We're gonna take over the world,  
And rule it forever and ever,  
And live together and die together and go to heaven together,  
Because all I can see is you,  
And all you can see is me.

## Marking Scrambled Thoughts

By Mhamad Kleit

It was the beginning of what was brought to me,  
what got me closer to see the thing that had fallen  
between my arms, in my heart, through my soul,  
among my body.

I stand on the edge of mental chaos to steal the  
whispers of angels once they describe your beauty.

Day and night they break the dome of silence by  
gazing at your beauty, sensing it mercilessly, while it  
collapses the altars of Eden to revive a new heaven  
colliding with your aroma.

Every feather, wind, breeze, sunray, river, spring, sum-  
mer, everything, attains essence from your sensuality  
and so do I.

Would I ever have had a storm crashing and assem-  
bling disassembled waves that have risen to collide  
among each other to represent the feelings that  
have ricocheted every single simple corner of this  
thing that was mended once your name was uttered  
and thus this life had a taste after having been fallen  
to an endless bitterness for so long?

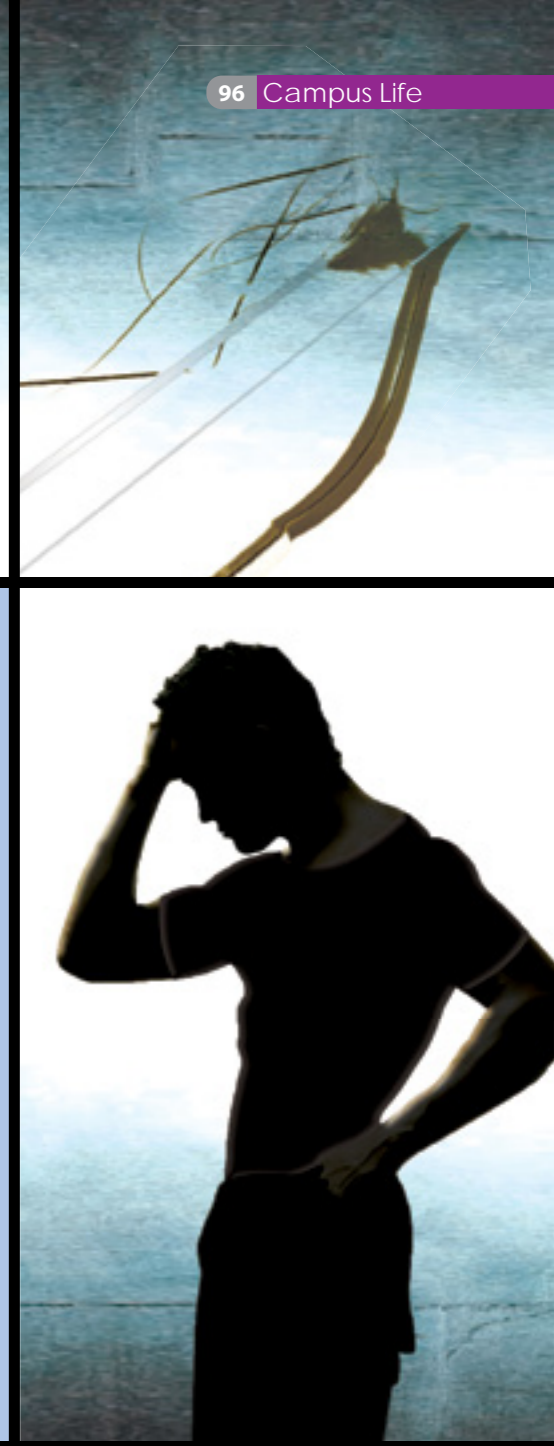
Never have I been as such and forever I am yours.



A Reply To  
His Majesty  
by another Anonymous

You thought I would not reply to your admiration  
For you are now the one who took the initiation  
Writing to me on this magazine risking your reputation  
You waited with a little hope, and a lot of anticipation  
Knowing I'm out there somewhere in this wide nation  
And that if I would read the words behind your dictation  
I would reply knowing your privacy is under violation  
But what you don't know is that your poem was an inspiration  
And your words were firm and direct in penetration  
Through my chest to my heart that has been on vacation  
And been with you since our unfortunate separation

From my first sight it was immediate infatuation  
When our eyes crossed, waiting at a bus station  
And I felt desperate to start any kind of conversation  
So I took a breath, and with a whole lot of determination  
I stared, you stared back as an indication  
That I was rewarded for being kind and patient  
I took your phone number and your current location  
Hoping I could stop by or call for a continuation  
Wrote it down on a piece of paper with a short validation  
Cause with the first wind blow it flew to an unknown destination  
Leaving me there broken, and with a new aspiration  
For me and this girl to meet once more before the end of civilization  
Or before my or her life exceeds its god given limitation



From that day, I have been showing more appreciation  
For the gift God has granted me with this miracle creation  
Meeting her then losing her has left me in total starvation  
Hungry not for food, but for one more confrontation  
With the one that I describe and end with an exclamation  
Knowing that what I feel is no where near my explanation

I lived life from that day with no passion or organization  
Until The Scope issue four dropped on the desk of administration  
And I saw your life saving page 56 participation  
Denoted under the name anonymous to be low on visualization  
But I'm here hoping to be anonymous's awaited relation  
And I know this is more of a rap than your poem sensation  
But all you got to do is right back for further information....



# The Will of Survival

By Anthony Ohanessian

On the eve of April 24th 1915, a huge cold-blooded massacre took place in Armenia, in which 1.5 million Armenians were brutally butchered by the Ottoman army. Fortunately, those who were lucky enough fled, but those who were not had a fatal encounter with destiny.

Ever since my childhood, my grandparents told me stories about the Armenian genocide and the atrocities that were committed against them. Back then, I did not fully grasp and appreciate the gravity of such events. However, a trip to Der Zor, Syria on April 21st 2007, was more than enough to make me appreciate the loss of the Armenians and the tremendous suffering that they went through. During the trip, I visited a small sandy village on the Syrian border with Turkey called Margade, and in the sand of this village, I literally found bones of Armenians who were trying to evade death.

This genocide drastically affected the course of

our lives. Being uprooted from our native country was not easy at all. It had its difficulties and challenges, because there was a new life lying ahead of us. However, we did not allow the difficulties to thwart the pace of our new life, and we never succumbed to the hardships of life. We fought life with great gallantry, and the very pain that we all felt helped us to overcome both our horrendous past and the difficulties of this new life. As time went by, our strong will of survival helped us to conquer all the odds and achieve the unimaginable, and for that, I am ever so proud of being an Armenian.

Although the Armenian genocide occurred 96 years ago, it seems to us as though it was only yesterday. We do forgive those who perpetrated the atrocities, since forgiveness is the attribute of the strong, but we will never give up on our rights. It is quite remarkable to know that it is the strong will of survival that rescued us from oblivion. At the end, we all thrived.

## ROODY BOULOS BOUTROS *Always Beloved & Never Forgotten*

By Stephanie Laba



Roody, we were grateful to have had the chance to know you. We had the chance to share a piece of our life with you. You were always here for us just to make us smile. We could never imagine our life without you. It never crossed our minds, not even for a second, that tomorrow you could be gone. Having known you, having walked with you, will always be truly an honor.

For days we tried to reach you, but we couldn't even get a glimmer of hope. We figured it was just a coincidence; we just couldn't accept the truth. Every time we remembered your smiling face, we cracked up in tears, we knew you didn't have time to feel a thing, but we also knew that you now had plenty of time to feel our fears and our tears from up there! Since that day, all we've been doing is remembering all the things we've done together since the day we met until our last good bye. Every day when we think of you, we can't stop the tears from falling from our eyes.

Roody, you were a best friend and forever you will remain one! In our hearts forever you will be, and in our memories together we will always be the best of friends. Roody, you were so young and you had a brilliant future in front of you. We all have special memories of you; you were loved by all and will be greatly missed by all. For years, you will stay in our mind; for years, your smile will be engraved in our hearts, and for years your presence will linger among us!

It is with great sadness and sorrow that I am writing these words about a friend that left this life to an eternal one. Roody Boulos Boutros, at the age of 21, passed away after a struggle with a lung problem. Roody was an excellent engineering student who was supposed to graduate this spring. He was a very smart student; his GPA was 3.66, and he was a very polite and cheerful person, loved by all who knew him. He was very loving, caring, compassionate, supportive, wonderful, generous, and the best friend anyone could ever have. May God accept his soul and let him rest in peace.

A few months ago the world was beautiful, a few months ago his life was colorful, and a few months ago the earth was repeating the echo of his laugh. And now he's gone! His presence has become just a memory; his smile has become the title of his story!

And now, never again to see Roody's smile light up the skies, never again to hear him laughing loudly. A brother of the sun has been taken away, but in our hearts his smile will always stay! Roody will now dance among the clouds, and from heavens, we will still hear him laughing loud and proud. A star has been plucked from the sky... Roody Boulos Boutros is a friend that will never die!

### You Are Near!

We had never sat like this before  
Grouped together looking for fun  
We had never sat like this before  
Looking for some fun and lacking your smile  
Surprisingly enough, we weren't missing you  
Surprisingly enough,  
nobody mentioned that you're far  
Until your name lingered so loud  
We called you by your name,  
and waited for your reply

Your friend were called by your name  
Were we confused or were you really there?

Everybody waited for your reply  
Attracted by a powerful wind

Then, we went back to normal  
When your wings were felt up there

This is why we weren't missing you:  
You are near, you are here!



## I Dream of Palestine

By Tarek Jaafar

I dream of the orange tree whose fruit I may never taste  
 Of the olive tree in whose shade I may never seek refuge  
 And of fields of green heaven whose splendor I may never see  
 And of proud mountains whose majesty my being may never surrender to  
 Of neighbors whose kindness may never shame me  
 Of sweet wine I may never savor, from grapes I may never grow  
 Of sweat that may never leave my pores, on land I may never toil  
 And tears I may never shed out of pain I may never feel  
 Laughter that will never fill my heart, with friends I may never know  
 Of lovers in whose hearts I may never take refuge  
 Or on whose account I may never cry  
 Or of memories whose sweet taste may never bring tears to my eyes  
 Of mistakes I may never make  
 Of a life I may never live  
 Oh Palestine, I dream of you

## Revolutionize

Fatima Hanan El Reda

We are addicted  
 To the monotonous music  
 We hear but don't listen to  
 We are conflicted  
 Yet oblivious  
 We are fools of time  
 We were evicted  
 From our land  
 Though we are still here  
 We are convicted  
 And we confess  
 To an undone crime  
 We are innocent  
 Yet guilty of being silent  
 Revolution is unpredicted  
 Revolutionize  
 We are resistant  
 To change  
 But addicted  
 To traditionalism  
 We are consistent  
 With modernity  
 Yet antagonistic  
 To resistance  
 We are torn  
 Between two roads  
 We are existent  
 In the vacuum of existence  
 The light is distant  
 But in the distance  
 Lies the truth  
 Revolutionize



BY SANY CHARARA

# Horoscopes

## ARIES



You aren't satisfied with the way your relationship is going. You have doubts regarding your partner's fidelity, but don't act out until you can substantiate your mistrust or you might regret your actions in the future.

## LIBRA



You might be facing some financial difficulties, but they will prove to be temporary. Focus on your partner, who recently seems distant and bothered by something, because this is where there is real cause for concern. Offer them your help now, and you will avert a coming storm.

## TAURUS



At this point in time it's ideal to set aside some you-time and take a break from your stressful life. Yet be careful not to prolong this break beyond its capacity, because you might have a hard time getting back to your busy schedule.

## SCORPIO



Your hard work and perseverance will finally pay off. Be ready for a surprising turn of events in your work or classes. It is a good time to share your happiness with your loved ones and to open up about recent romantic developments in your life.

## GEMINI



Now is a good time to spend some real time with your family. You might receive some criticism from them but try to overlook it; most of it is unfounded. It is also a good time to disclose certain information that you have been hiding from them.

## SAGITTARIUS



The small problems that you are used to ignoring in your schoolwork or in your relationship have grown and you can't look past them anymore. A challenging time awaits you, and if you want any chance of weathering it through, you must resolve these problems from their core.

## CANCER



Jealousy, be it of others' success or of your partner, has hit you – hard. Don't act on impulse; think very carefully about every step you take and every decision you make. This time, luck is not on your side; logic and rationality are.

## CAPRICORN



Recently, money has become a priority to you, and that is taking its toll on social life. Make some time for family, friends, and your partner.

## LEO



Your past mistakes might finally be catching up with you. Tread carefully. Honesty with the people you love is the best course of action now; sneakiness will only give you further trouble.

## AQUARIUS



Your partner, classmate or co-worker will reveal news to you that might take you by surprise and upset you. Don't react negatively; instead, embrace his/her honesty and look to the future, because there is a good one awaiting you together.

## VIRGO



This is a good time for you to set certain goals for the near future, as your high energy and optimism will make accomplishing these tasks easier. But be wary not to neglect your best relationships, and make room for your loved ones in your plans.

## PISCES



You have finally attained, or very near to attaining, both financial security and a loving partner. Be wary of asking for too much at this point; doing so may set back what you have already worked so hard to accomplish.



Dear The Scope,

We hear about students from other universities participating on many TV shows, including political shows. But I rarely see LIU students in such shows, so we should make an effort to be included in such activities.

Mohammad Kansoun  
Beirut campus

Dear The Scope,

Please get us more ATMs for the Beirut campus! There are thousands of students here and the one existing may have been enough two years ago, even last year, but now payment day is dreaded.

Zainab T  
Beirut Campus

Dear The Scope,

I would like to bring up the issue of smoking. Is it a functional way for people to escape their problems? And what kind of relationship makes people so addicted, so as to carry a small rectangular box in their pocket for the whole day, month or year? What good effect exactly could this mixture of nicotine and tobacco have? Is it really essential for having great and strong social relations? Finally, who can answer all these questions at a time when I'm sitting on the benches of the Lebanese International University, in a crowd, trying to study (because the library is always full) beside a very annoying group that can't stop the smoking for more than one hour and a half?

Emad Aboulteif  
Beirut Campus

## Riddle Challenge

Can you solve any of these riddles?  
If you think you have an answer,  
email [the.scope@liu.edu.lb](mailto:the.scope@liu.edu.lb) and claim your prize!  
Please include 'riddles' in the subject line.

**1** What does man love more than life?  
Fear more than death or mortal strife?  
What do the poor have, that the rich require,  
And what contented men desire?  
What does the miser spend, the spendthrift save,  
And all men carry to their graves?

**2** Brothers and sisters have I none,  
Yet that man's father is my father's son.  
How is this possible?

## Sudoku

			4	8	6	5	7	
			1	5				2
5		9	2				1	
1	4	5		9			2	
	9						4	
	2			4		9	6	8
	3				4	8		7
8				6	3			
	7	4	8	2	5			

## Word Search

n	m	s	j	e	a	l	o	u	s	y	e	c	t
t	l	g	i	d	i	p	l	o	m	a	c	y	t
r	e	c	r	u	i	t	m	e	n	t	c	e	r
h	a	i	e	c	n	m	a	w	a	v	h	n	m
u	d	v	v	a	e	a	t	e	f	m	o	u	a
m	e	i	o	t	p	j	e	a	g	l	l	t	s
a	r	l	l	i	o	e	r	t	h	t	e	r	t
n	s	i	u	o	t	s	i	h	a	m	s	i	e
i	h	z	t	n	i	t	a	e	n	i	t	t	r
t	i	a	i	n	s	y	l	r	i	u	e	i	p
y	p	t	o	r	m	e	n	t	s	d	r	o	i
a	n	i	n	s	p	i	r	a	t	i	o	n	e
i	c	o	m	m	u	t	e	m	a	o	l	h	c
c	o	n	s	c	i	o	u	s	n	e	s	s	e

Revolution  
Majesty  
Jealousy  
Civilization  
Inspiration  
Leadership  
Education  
Humanity  
Torment  
Commute  
Diplomacy  
Afghanistan  
Nepotism  
Recruitment  
Nutrition  
Cholesterol  
Masterpiece  
Consciousness  
Weather  
Material

## صنفوني

## كافراً

صنفوني كافراً..

وهتدوني...

أن لي ناراً ساجها إلى الأبد..

وأن النار ما بقيت.. سيبقى يحرق جليدي

وأن على كفتي، ملاك يعمل مخبر

على شفتي، ملاك يعمل مخبر..

يعرف حتى إن عصيت الله في الأحلام

ينظر أينما أنظر

يشعر مثلاً أشعر

يكتب أفعالي على دفتر

يحال بعدها للتصحيح...

فيا ما أملك الجنة

وإما أمضي نحو الرج

وأن الدنيا تجربة

كأنك تحيا في مسرح

فبما أنها زائلة

ممنوع أنت أن تفرح

صنفوني كافراً..

من حصلوا على براءة اختراع الطوائف

وبراءة اختراع المصارف

وبراءة اختراع الأصنام..

أنا أشرف من أشرفكم وأتم كلكم أقزام..

أعترف أنني عصيت الله في الدنيا

لكني لم أمنح

عائلة بكملها لقب الأيتام..

ما سرقت وما قتل

وما عشت في الأرض خراباً..

لكن الحق يقال..

نعم الحق يقال..



مفتيس من كتاب

أنا أقدر رجل في التاريخ

فقد أخبروني أن الدين

هو الحب والتسامح

والعدل والصفاء والسلام..

فأين الدين في ما حللتم وحرمته؟

أين الدين في ما قرأتم؟

إن كنتم قرأتم...

كنتم صنفتموني

ضال الهدى ضيق المدى

أوجاهلاً ديني...

لأن تصنفوني كافراً

وما أفساه من تصنيف

وأنا لست بكافر...

فصنفوا ما تصنفوا

وأقيموا الحد علي..

لكن أودكم أن تعرفوا

إن لي رباً أدرى

بما جنته يدي..

لي رباً يجازي نفسي ما تبنت من ظلام..

لي رباً يصنفي..

مات الكلام...

## عليه السوالج

أنا لست بجالم  
... و ما رجوت الذبال في كتاباتي ..  
و ما ابتدعت من أوهام بكاياتي ..  
بكل اختصار كتبت واقعا  
لتلقى في أسطري مرآة لنفسك...  
أنا أقدر رجل في التاريخ هو كتاب  
شعر يهشد العديد من البالات الإجتماعية  
و القضايا الوطنية و الدينية



## إرم يسينك

كفى تنظروني..

فعدوني علمتي لأفهمه بالنظرات

أيضاً علمتي أن أسبق الأحداث

بعد وقوعها بلحظات

فيا عدوني.. رغبة الجهل أن تموتي

فكل ما فيك يريد الحياة؟؟؟

حتى أسلحتي.. تريد الحياة..

أسلحتي صارت تقلد النساء

في فن الحكايات..

أسلحتي الآن تشكوني

وقد حقت أنوثتها للسماوات

وتقول: "إلى الآن ما فض بكارتني

وأنا زوجته من سنوات..

ولا داعيتي ولا لاعتبي..

صدت أطرافني لنقص في اللمسات

صرت في الستين عاماً

وأسأل غيري ما الإحساس في القبلات؟

ما الإحساس أن أخرج من منزلي؟

فأنا ما لي إلا جدران أحكيها دون الكلمات

بينما نساء الغرب - إسم الله يحرسهن -

قد زرن كل القارات..

فهن متي أحلى، ومتي أغلى

لكن ما دم في يد عربي.. أنا أحلى فتاة...

أيضاً، أخبروني أي في الشدائد له سند

صلبوا العروبة وما صنتها من الأزمات

رسموا على أرضه بالألوان قسمة حدها

فصرخ فخرأ: "ما أجمل هذي الرسومات"

سلمت أيديكم فمصر أول بلد في الدنيا

زاوية تسعين، وخطوطه مستقيماً

وحمل الخدائط وصار يلزمها..

هندسة الغرب صنعت لبنينا تعديلات

هنا لبنان... هنا الشام... و... وهنا بغداد

وهذه منطقة حرّة... من النيل إلى الفرات

قسمة يهوا..

حقه المزعزم كما جاء في التوراة؟!

فلا النيل لاجئ قسري لنا..

ولا الفرات في أثيوبيا، يحجري بين الغابات

يا يهوا أنا لا أرفض أن تملك وطناً..

لكن.. أرضي ليست دار زكاة

قد كانوا أعطوك عندهم أرضاً

أو نسبوا لك ولاية من الولايات

لأن يستبيحوني بالقنابل والشتائم..

وفي نشرة الأخبار نصيح نحن الغزاة..

أهذي الأرض التي من أجلها

درب النار غشيها حفاة؟

في وجهها طعنات.. في صدرها طعنات

في خصرها طعنات.. من خلفها طعنات..

بيدك السكين دامية

وتسأل من أين الطعنات؟!!!

دعها تحيا صراعاً واحداً..

لا ينصر من حارب كل الجبهات

تدري في عشقنا للأوطان مآسيها

وكونك أنت عاشتها.. بمحذاته مأساة..

العله فيك يا رجلي، فلو كان الغرب على أرضي

لكانت سيّدة الدنيا، وتمشي واثقة الخطوات

حتى علم القواعد في لغتي

يرضاك سيافه رجلاً.. إن غابت عنك الحركات

فيا ١١١١١ رجلي... حتى المايا صرت أكرهها

ففي انعكاسها رغبة قديك.. تظهرني وحدي المرأة

أطلق زمامي لأرضك لي رجلاً

لن أحيا معك في أرض لا تحوي رماة..

إرم يمينك.. إن الشعب قد صحا

ودعني أرتمي حضن الثورات

دعني أزور كل شبر سلب غصباً

دعني والظلم... رأسي رأسه في الطرقات..

ودع الشعب يتزوج غيري ألفاً.. وألفاً وألفاً..

فمن يجالي.. سترضي تعدد الزوجات

إرم يمينك، أو اطلبي إلى بيت الطاعة

فما أنت إلا مرف في ذكريات..

كن رجلاً، بالله عليك.. كن رجلاً..

قاتل أو أقتل..

أم أن الرجولة أن تنعي خلف البنات؟

إرم يمينك فإن الدنيا تتحول..

أنا أحيا في زمن ينقرض فيه الطغاة

وافهم.. أن لي منك قدساً.. سآخذها، سآخذها

وأحجها في اليوم ملايين المرات

ما كنت أفهم لم الحج حكر مكة

دام أقصانا بقيه الصلاة؟؟؟

## حقيقة أحذية الأرز...

لم تكن في يوم من الأيام السياسة ذات الحرية المطلقة هي السياسة التي يجدر بها أن تسود في أنحاء العالم، فإن تعدد السياسات التي شهدناها ناتج عن تعدد المصالح الشخصية في كل دولة، علماً أن اختلاس فكرة تعدد الأديان كانت غطاء للعديد من هذه المصالح.. فالدين واحد كما الحق واحد والله أحد..

قال الإمام زين العابدين عليه السلام: إن للحمق دولة على العقل وللمنكر دولة على المعروف، وللشر دولة على الخير، وللجهل دولة على الحلم، وللجزع دولة على الصبر، وللخرق دولة على الرفق، ولللبؤس دولة على الخصب، وللشدّة دولة على الرخاء، وللرغبة دولة على الزهد، وللبيوت الخبيثة دولة على بيوتات الشرف، وللأرض السبخة دولة على الأرض العذبة.

وإذا كانت «الدولة» هي: الغلبة والاستيلاء، وهي من أبرز مقومات «السلطة الحاكمة» فإن الدين الحقيقي الكفيل بأن يسود قد أدرج قضية السلطة السياسية في سائر القضايا الحيويّة، والطبيعية، التي يهتم بها، ويفكر في إصلاحها، ويحاول رفع مشكلاتها التي تستولي على الإنسان، من اقتصاديّة، وثقافيّة، ونفسية، ودينيّة من دون أدنى احتكار أو أدنى تخلي أيضاً.

نادي نور



## وطن من ورق

منذ بضعة أيام...  
كنت ناراً لا تخفيها قطرات الماء  
عاصفة شديدة لا يعينها الانحسار  
بحر غاضب هجره الهدوء  
و ثورة مشتعلة تأبى أن تنطفئ  
لكن عندما شارف الأمر على النهاية  
لم تكن سوى (وطن من ورق)

رولا محمد فارس

## أنغام الناي

ها هي، أيها القلب أصغي،  
ان في هذا الناي  
تسرب موسيقى الأزهار البرية،  
والأوراق المتناثرة  
والمياه المتلاثة  
ومعه تساب موسيقى الظلال الرنانة.

لقد نسل الناي بسمته من شفة حبي،  
ثم سلسلها في حياتي.  
لكن دوماً تقف بعيداً عن أغنيات،  
فموجات أنغامي تغمر قدميك،  
بيد أني لا أدري كيف أصل اليك،

انه الألم الذي أمسى نغم،  
نغم ينساب من الناي،  
الناي الذي ينتظر الساعة  
الساعة التي يعبر قاربك الماء،  
وتمسك يدي.

فأقف مندهشاً  
ونافذة قلبي مفتوحة ومذهولة

بوجود الاسم الذي عرفتني اياه،  
مسطوراً على ورقات النسيان و أزاهيره.

لقد كنت مركز قلبي  
ولهذا لم أعثر عليك قط  
حين هفا قلبي هائماً.

لقد تواريت من حبي،  
وعزفت عن آخر آمالي التي واكبتها دوماً.

ففي كبريائي  
قد غنيت لنفسي  
في كل نشوة من حياتي  
وقد نسيت أن أغني لك.

حين ترفع مصباحك في السماء  
فأنه يريق نوره على وجهي  
ويتطامن ظله فوقك.

و حين ترفع مصباح الحب في قلبي،  
فأن نوره ينسكب فوقك  
وأقبع أنا في الظل ... وحيداً

محمد قليط



## رسالة قصيرة

ها أنا أكتب رسالة  
لمن هو قلبي نابضاً  
يضخ لي الدماء تاركاً  
كل هموم قلبي مبتسماً  
من أين أنا أتيت له سائلاً  
حلم أم وهم أتياً  
نعيم أم جحيم سائداً  
يقول أنني لست بإنساناً عادياً  
ملاك ساطع الوجه فاتناً  
أغدو وأطير في الفضاء حاملاً  
كل آمالها وأمنياتها داعيه  
أن أكون رجل أحلامها ناسيه  
أنها هي من أشعلت قلبي  
بالدفء والحنان اللذين  
من دونهما لا يوجد لذة للعيش  
ولا حتى القدرة على التنفس  
العيش من دونك كالعيش عند خالي  
ولا أبالغ إن قلت في الربيع الخالي  
صليت سجدت دعيت لإله  
متى سيخفق قلبي الفاني  
وها أنا أنظر إليك مبتسماً  
أروي لك قصة أحلامي  
فرحاً دخلت لقلبي مائلاً  
ماسحاً كل جروحي وآلامي  
كل سحر أسرت عيني  
و قلبت كل كياني  
كيان الصهيوني لا يملك القوة  
التي يملكها قلبي وجداني  
حبي إليك كحبي لفلسطين  
سائلاً متى اللقاء

محمد جلدايه

## قصة أميرة

مشت في حدائق الريحان تتغندر  
خائفة الورود من بهائها تستر  
واكليل الورد على جبينها صار أحمر  
محرج وكيف لا يخجل ؟  
فهي أميرة ومن تأمر لا يزعل  
وهي في البهاء لهيب شمعة لم تشعل

تتعالى في مرج أبي فيه ملك أن يتكبر  
ولكن هي استصناء من بين الكبار تُعذر  
ها هي تغني وترندح تحت الصنوبر

تقف مندهشة لأن البلبل لا يرضى بمنافسة  
غنت و علا صوت عذب ، تهزمه لعل وعسى  
رُفِضَت الهزيمة وتجلت أهازيج بصوت لا ينسى

تواضعت الأميرة المهزومة والتتويج بالاكلي  
مرادها

بينما تتسلق ، غصن حسود الى الأرض أعادها  
وحسد الطبيعة قلب رحمة ، نهر وديع تلقاها  
عامت فرحة على وجهها وبسمة على شفتها  
لكن التكبر والغيظ لم تفارق المرجة ذكرها  
فتقل الماء في حريرها قد أغرق جثمانها  
فضاعت بين الضياء ورأدها  
وبين الطبيعة وأدها  
نسيت أن للتكبر والتعالي أثمانها

محمد قليط

## قصيدة نبيلة

اشتقت إليك يا فلذة مني يا قطعة مني يا أنا يا كل الحياة  
فأنت البداية وأنت النهاية وحبي لك سيبقى حتى الممات  
نبيلة اليوم ستكتب لك بكل الأحرف وسينشر مقالها بكل المجلات  
نبيلة الفتاة البسيطة الطيبة من أجلك أحبت الحياة  
نبيلة سافرت بعيداً - كتبت فيك القصص والحكايات  
وبأسفارها هذه رأت كثيراً وبكت أعينها أنت  
بكتك يا أغلى الناس ويا أروعها ويا الحياة .  
ارادت أن تقول ارادت أن تقول لك كم أحبتك يا أسمى الناس وأشرفها  
يا أطيب ما خلق الله من بشر ..  
أصبحت فتاتك غريبة من بعدك ، وما أبشع غربتك عنها  
يا من وضع على وجهها الضحكات  
فرحت فرحاً عظيماً بوجودك وكم تأملت من بعدك  
كم بكت بكائها وكم كان بكائها طويلاً  
طويلاً جداً لأن سفرك كان بعيداً وحزيناً أيضاً  
أصبحت الآن عروس وكم أردت أن تراني بالافستان الأبيض  
.. عروسة جميلة أنا اليوم ولكن تمنيت وجودك معي يا حبيب عمري  
يا سنييني الراحلة يا أحزاني يا حبي الأبدى يا الحنان يا الكلمات ويا كل شيء  
أبي كم أنت حبيبي وكم تنتهي عندك الكلمات  
يا أبي العين مشتاقة جداً ، والقلب متلهف لرؤياك ..  
مع أنها أجمل سنييني ولكنني انتظر لقياك  
أعد الأيام والساعات ولا شيئاً يعنيني من بعدك  
نعم رحلت إلى عوالم بعيدة جداً وما ظلت أسافر ببحر دنياك  
استرجع ذكرى طفولتي معك واسترجع كيف كنت تروي الحكايات  
سوف أعد الساعات يا أبي حتى نلتقي مجدداً سوف أعد الساعات  
وقبل أن استودعك مجدداً يا أبي أود أن أقول لك أنك حبي الأول والأجمل أنت أنا وأنت الحياة

داليا بسمة

الدكتورة حليلة القعقور

فاطمة ضاهر

عوض مرعي

ليلى مناصفي

بالتنسيق والتعاون مع نيبال فتوني

وبناء على قناعاتهم بان الوعي هو مفتاح الطريق للتغيير الذي هو جوهر الحياة....

ومما يميز هذه التجربة في فرع الجامعة اللبنانية الدولية/ فرع صيدا، أن المشاركة جاءت تطوعية من 35 طالب وطالبة شاركوا بحماس ملحوظ في اليوم الاولبي لذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة في 15 ايار الماضي ليحولوا يوم النكبة الى يوم مشرق بالأفكار الجديدة المعطاءة المشعة لعلنا نشهد فرحا ملهما جديدا. وكان تجمع المتطوعين من الطلبة في ساحة رعاية دار اليتيم في صيدا الذي اقيم الحدث بالتعاون معهم تأكيدا من الطرفين ان اصعب الحقائق في العالم يمكن مواجهتها بمبادرة بسيطة واكبر الثوابت والأفكار النمطية يمكن تغييرها بالعمل والجد والمثابرة وفق مبدأ الحكمة الصينية القديمة بأن كل عبارة صادمة تتلاشى بالوعي والعمل والاصرار على التغيير والشباب هم دائما سر هذا التغيير وانهم ليسوا مجرد كائنات لا تتعدى اهتماماتها حدود المظهر الخارجي او تحقيق التحصيل الدراسي الاكاديمي... وهكذا بدأ جيل المتطوعين رحلة الالف ميل بخطوة استهلتها كلمات توعوية ارشادية اعقبها اشعال اللاعب وليد فاخوري شعلة الأولبياد الخاص لذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة/ لبنان، معلنا بداية النشاط الاولبيادي الذي تضمن المشاركة بكرة القدم والطائرة والعب القوى ولعبة البوتشي.

كما تخلل النشاط على صعيد اخر فحوصات طبية شاملة دورية للاعبين المشاركين من كافة الأعمار من قبل اطباء متطوعين وبدعم من فريق المتطوعين في الجامعة اللبنانية الدولية/ صيدا وشمل فحص السمع والنظر والاسنان والصحة العامة والعلاج الفيزيائي كما دون الطلاب المتطوعون ملاحظاتهم عن رحلة تواصلهم مع اللاعبين والأهالي والأطباء في تقارير خاصة بهدف تحقيق اهداف النشاط في تحقيق الدمج بين الأسوياء وذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة ونشر رسالة المحبة والالفة بين ابناء البشرية الواحدة وعدم وضع هذه الفئات في صندوق مغلق يحدد امالهم وأحلامهم وطموحاتهم في الحياة.

ومن جانب اخر، ذكرت الجامعة اللبنانية الدولية، ان هذا النشاط لن يكون نهاية المطاف في التعاون مع هذه القضية المجتمعية الهامة والمحورية بل يأتي ضمن خطة شاملة تتبناها الجامعة اللبنانية الدولية لتغيير نظرة المجتمع نحو قضية الاعاقة في اطار عمل مستمر ودؤوب يهدف اولا الى اشراك الطلاب والطالبات في الاعمال التطوعية وصقل شخصيتهم وتواصلهم مع قضايا مجتمعهم وتعميم النشاط من جانب اخر على كافة فروع الجامعة اللبنانية الدولية في لبنان ودعم كل الافكار التي تصب في نشر الوعي بضرورة تغيير نظرنا الى كثير من المفاهيم الخاطئة كذلك تضع ادارة الجامعة في صيدا في برامجها خطة لاستمرار التعاون مع دار رعاية اليتيم في صيدا يقدم من خلالها الطلاب والطالبات كافة جهودهم وخدماتهم التعليمية والمادية واللوجستية لاستمرار التواصل مع المؤسسة المشهود لها بدورها الانساني في صيدا.

فاطمة ضاهر



## رسالة الحر والدي

جلست في غرفتي وكان الطقس عاصفاً. بدأت استجمع ذكرياتي معك وذكريات الطفولة الحزينة أتصفح كتاب الزمن المر الذي كنا نحن ابطاله. أتذكر يا أبي عندما كنت طفلة صغيرة وكنت تروي لي قصة النبي يوسف وتحذرنني من خيانة البشر، وترسم لي صوراً غريبة عن الحرب على لبنان وإجتياح فلسطين وعن طبيعة البشر. استوقفتني هذه القصة كثيراً وعدت بذاكرتي واستجمعت نفسي وتذكرت غدرهم لك يا والدي. هؤلاء الذين من أجلهم أحببت الحياة، والذين من أجلهم ضحيت بسنين الغربة وتحملت عذابات الليالي الوحيدة. هؤلاء الذي اشتريت لهم المنازل وحرصت على تعليمهم واشتريت لهم الذهب والفضة واحتفلت باولادهم. هؤلاء الذي من أجلهم رحلت بعيداً واعترفت بحبك لهم كثيراً وميزتهم بكل شيء واستمرت بتقصيرك لنا تحت شعار الأخوة. يصطفون حولنا ويجمعون لقتلنا ويحرقون على تشويه سمعتنا وتحطيم عزيمتنا وارادتنا. يخترعون قصصاً غريبة بل ويجعلون منك أضحوكة الموسم

لماذا تحيت جانبا ولماذا الصمت يا أبي. كم من مرة حاولو حرقنا في المنزل. كم من مرة هذا الذي أسميته الوالد الحنون عمل على تحطيمك. كيف تطلب مني أن أنسى ذاك اليوم الذي يساوي عندي ألف سنة.. يوم ذهب للقائك ورأيتك نائماً كالطير المذبوح تنزف من الوريد إلى الوريد. ثن من الألم وتعاند الأوجاع المريرة. كيف تطلب مني أن أنسى السبعون ليلة التي كنت اركع فيها واطلب من رب العالمين أن يبقيك حيا. أنا قاعدة وأطفالي الصغار لا تسمع إلا أصوات الريح الحزينة وأجراس الرعب تحدثنا ونحدق بأعين خائفة. أتذكر ذاك اليوم الذي أتى به ذاك الرجل طالبا السماح. كيف تغفر لهم يا والدي. أليس هم الذين جعلو بنا غرباء بين البلاد. نغادر من منطقة إلى أخرى سعياً إلى حياة أفضل وأنت تترك لهم ثمرة عطائك بإسم العائلة. كيف تطلب مني أن أنسى دمة أمي بإسم ماذا يا أبي.

أتذكر عندما علمتني أقاويل المسيح ومنها قد يغفر لها أخطائها الكثيرة لأنها أحببت كثيراً. قد يغفر رب العالمين لهذا النوع من البشر ولكن أشك أن يغفر لعدد من العاهرات في عائلتنا يا أبي. هذا النوع المميز من العاهرات الذين يملكون كل شيء الزوج الصالح والمنزل والحياة

الكريمة ولكنهم يصرون إصراراً شديداً على تشويه سمعتنا. إذا سألتني لماذا لأنهم بعيدون جداً عن الشرف والكرامة ولأنهم ممثلون بالحق. انني أدرجهم تحت النوع المميز من العاهرات لأن عهرهم لم يتوقف مع مرور الزمن ولن يتوقف أبداً وتطلب مني الصمت مجدداً. كيف تسقط عن هذه الجريمة النكراء. قد سعو جداً على تعذبنا ونحن تقابلنا العذاب. مرت سنين وبدأنا نعمل معاً وتفوقنا في مجالات عديدة. هذه الحقيقة ترعيبهم بل بالحقيقة تزعجهم يا والدي. انهم اليوم يبحثون عن طريقة جديدة لتحطيمنا، يختارون المكان والزمان ويحضرون لمقبرة جماعية. يبحثون عن سيناريو جديد يبعد الشبهات هم الذين من أجلهم أحببت الحياة وسيحزنك كلامي هذا يا أبي. فأنت قررت لعب دور البطولة وقررت لعب دور الإنسان الذي يترفع عن كل الأخطاء. اليوم قررت أن أقلب صفحات الزمن المر وأشرح للأصدقاء عن الحياة. ساكتب تفاصيل صغيرة لأنني لو كتبتها كبيرة سوف تبكي الملايين وسوف تدمع أعين الأمهات، فليقرأ القارئون وليستمع السامعون وليعرفو قصتنا يا والدي. كل واحد منهم يحكم علينا بطريقة خاصة ونحن نعش بمجتمع ممتلئ بالخباياث فليعرف الأصدقاء أن قلبك كان واسع جميل يحب الحياة وأنا طبيبتك كانت مفرطة وأن بساطتك تخطت الحدود ولذلكك قطعت سيوف غدرهم سنينك يا والدي

لقد أحبوا المال حباً جماً وفضلوا المراكز ولم يحفرو في ذاكرتي إلى طفولة مفتقصة. هذه أختي الصغيرة شيرين تقلب صفحات هذا الزمن الذي كنا نحن ابطاله وأنتي كانت مرارته أشد مرارة العلقم. الله أكبر من ظلمهم يا أبي. الله أكبر من مكرهم لك. الله أكبر وسوف اكتب كل يوم صفحة وأتمس حرارة دمعتي. فكم تمنيت كتابة هذه الصفحات معك يا والدي فأنت كاتب مبدع ومميز. كم وعدتني سابقاً أي ن نكتب معاً. أنا اليوم جالسة وحيدة اكتب وحيدة فأنا الحزينة وتطلب مني أن اسامحهم. أعدك أن أطوي صفحات هذا الكتاب بنجاح فأنا أسلمت روحي إلى برئي ولم أعد أخاف شيئاً والحمد لله أصبحت أقوى. اني اتحادثهم اليوم وأعدهم بأن إنتقام الله سوف يكون عسيراً وحتى لو مرت سنين كثيرة فوعد الله حق والله لا يخلف الميعاد وإنشأ الله سنكون من الصابرين.

داليا بسمّة

## متخلفون، معاقون،

## مفاهيم بائدة يجب محوها

35 متطوعاً ومتطوعة من طلاب الجامعة اللبنانية الدولية - صيدا/

يدعمون اليوم الأولمبي / لدخول الاحتياجات الخاصة

عبارات، مفردات، مفاهيم، ومصطلحات عديدة سيئة السمعة نداولها في حياتنا اليومية أثناء أحاديثنا المتكررة دون عمد أو وعي أو معرفة مسبقة لكنها للأسف تترك أثارها النفسية وخدوشها الجارحة العميقة في قلوب ونفوس المعنيين بها والمتضررين منها الى درجة قد يخبو معها بصيص الحياة والأمل ويسيطر عليهم روح الاحباط للأسف وبدون مبالغة..

هذه الأفكار والصور النمطية تطال كافة فئات المجتمع، بدءاً من النساء اللواتي قدمن زهرة شبابهن في رعاية عوائلهن لينتهي بمعظمهن المطاف بعد تقدم العمر الى مجرد نساء يقال عنهن انهن في سن اليأس لا سن التغيير كما هو مفروض....مرورا باخرين عرضتهم الحياة المجحفة لاضطرابات نفسية عادية او حادة في عصرنا المتلبد المشاعر فأطلقنا عليهم بكل سخريه كلمة مجانين او ضعاف الشخصية أو تهكمنا على الأماكن الحقيقية التي يجب ان يكونوا فيها وما أكثر من تسمياتها الغريبة في مجتمعاتنا التي تبعد في هذا الحقل بدهشة شديدة التساؤل..

وأخيراً وليس آخراً وهنا المحك في موضوعنا أصبحت كلمة (معاقين) أو (متخلفين) من الكلمات الدارجة الشائعة على ألسنتنا جميعاً نطلقها باجحاف على اطفال وشباب وشابات في عمر الورود وبالغون ايضاً تعرضوا ربما لحوادث مروية او عانوا من عيوب خلقية جعلتهم مختلفون وليس متخلفون وهناك فرق شاسع بين المصطلحين منهم مختلفين شكلاً وليس مضموناً ولكن لاحقتهم هذه الكلمة المقيتة عبر سنوات طويلة، صحيح اننا لم نحرقهم كما فعل هتلر ولكننا جلدناهم بهذه الكلمة عبر سنوات طويلة عن جهل ربما او عدم احساس لنحدث لهم اعياء وتعباً نفسياً ونعرضهم لضغوط حادة تفوق بدرجات معاناتهم الجسدية....

كل هذه الكلمات البائدة التي ليست كالكلمات والتي يتباهى بها أحياناً من قست قلوبهم او يلفظها آخرون عن غير وعي وقصد في عصر سميناه عصر التقدم والعلم والتطور وجد كثيرون مند زمن ليس بالبعيد أنه قد حان الوقت لمحاولة التغيير والتوقف عن التلفظ بها او حتى التعايش والتكيف معها و استبدالها على الأقل بكلمات أكثر رقة وما اكثرها في زمن امتلأت به شاشات التلفزة بعبارات الحب والالفة ليكون سماعها اقل

نقلاً لشعور الشفقة الذي امتد لسنوات طوال عبر الأجيال خاصة بعد اطلاق حقوق الطفل الخاص من قبل الامم المتحدة والذي يجب ان لا يتوقف عند حدود تقديم الدعم المادي فقط بل يجب ان يتعداه الى تغيير اوصافنا واحكامنا وكلماتنا التي تشكل وتبلور نظرتنا الى الحياة وتوقعاتنا تجاه كل من يعيش بيننا من الأسوياء والمرضى الدين يعانون يومياً من صعوبات على كافة الصعد ولكنهم لا يقلون بقدراتهم وارادتهم وتحديدهم عن ذويهم من الأصحاء....

من هذا المنطلق دأبت كثير من المنظمات الأهلية على مستوى العالم والوطن العربي على ضرورة تغيير هذه التسميات غير المرغوبة عبر اطلاق حملات منظمة شعارها تسليط الضوء على نشاطات وقدرات ذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة لأهداف سامية بحتة.

وفي لبنان جاءت مبادرة الجمعيات المدنية والأهلية باطلاق هذه الحملات والدعوات الجادة لضخ حياتنا بوقود اجتماعي مستثيريدمل الجروح ويشفي نفوس الأصحاء وينشر الوعي بينهم عن امور وأفكار طالما اعتبرناها ثانوية وعابرة وعادية لكنها اثبتت عملياً انها مقيتة ومؤلمة وشديدة العنصرية وسيئة وعدوانية ومرعبة ومؤذية للمشاعر والأحاسيس، كما نوه واختصر طلاب الجامعة اللبنانية الدولية في صيدا وجميع فروع الجامعة من خلال ملصق جميل صممه انامل وافكار مبدعة وواعدة لمكافحة ترداد مصطلح المعاق والمتخلف واستبداله بذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة اي الذين يحتاجون الى رعاية من نوع خاص على كافة الصعد في اطار اعادة تأهيلهم لحياة افضل وأنجح وأكثر كفاءة كأقل واجب تجاههم، وهذا الملصق ضمن مبادرة استهلت باجتماعات وتنظيم من قبل الجامعة اللبنانية الدولية وعلى راسها السيدة زينب ابو ناصيف وادارييها ومنهم:



"التفوق الانساني للشباب يتوازح مع النجاح الأكاديمي"

السيدة زينب أبو ناصيف





حين صباغ

## ..قصّتي بعد التّخرّج

الانطلاقة الأولى في العمل بعد الانتهاء من الدراسة الجامعية تشكل تحدياً كبيراً، والتحدي الأكبر ان تكون عاملاً في غرفة الأخبار التلفزيونية.

اليوم الاول في العمل كان بالنسبة لي "كارثة" للوهلة الاولى اعتقدت انني انتقلت عبر الضوء الى زمان ومكان آخر. بالكاد فهمت شيئاً!

لم يخطر يوماً على بالي العمل في غرفة الاخبار ولم اكلف نفسي العناء لاسمى خلف "الواسطة اللبنانية" عند شي "شيخ طائفة" لأنني كنت اعلم "وهيدا تحصيل حاصل" ان العمل في اخبار المحطات المحلية اللبنانية يحتم عليّ التخلي عن مبادئ وقيماتي لصالح سياسة المحطة، وهو الامر الذي ارفضه تماماً.

لكن شاءت الاقدار ان اسافر الى دبي بعد فترة قصيرة من التخرج "لغير جو" لا سيّما بعد ان استنفذت طاقتي أيام الـ "senior project". مضت الاجازة وقبل العودة الى بيروت بيوم واحد فقط تلقيت اتصالاً من تلفزيون الآن الذي يبت من مدينة دبي للاعلام، وكان اللقاء في صباح اليوم الثاني مع مديرة قسم الموارد البشرية.. اتخذت القرار بشكل سريع اما العودة الى بيروت واما الانتظار حيث انا.. وانتظرت..

حتى تقرر موعد الامتحان!

اي امتحان؟

امتحان الـ "news tv writing" هذا ما قالوه لي..

قلت في نفسي: "يا حبيبي خلصنا من الجامعة، ليك شو طلعللي!" لحسن حظي ان كتاب "الكتابة للصورة" في جزأيه الاول والثاني كان معي..

"و أعدت ادرس عن جديد!"

وعلى الرغم من التوتر الذي اصابني عند الامتحان الا ان هذا التوتر سرعان ما تلاشى بعد ان رايت الاسئلة.

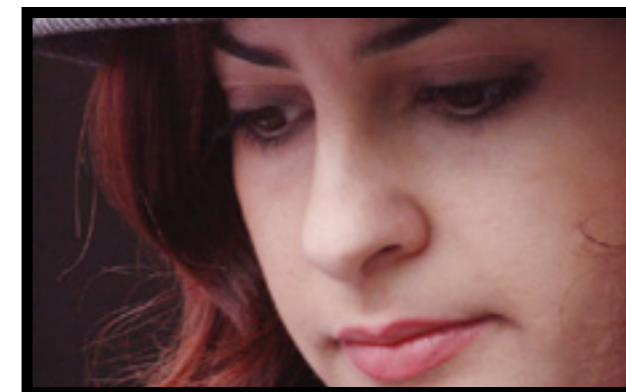
الامتحان كان عبارة عن اسئلة في الـ :

Tv Production. Mass Communication. Radio-Tv News بالإضافة الى بعض الاسئلة العامة حول الاعلام العربي والتوجهات السياسية للمحطات وانعكاسات ذلك على الناس في الشارع العربي..

وهنا ادركت اهمية الدراسة والمعلومات التي تلقيتها اثناء الاربعة سنين التي قضيتها في الجامعة اللبنانية الدولية، وادركت اهمية التواصل بين الاساتذة والتلامذة في قسم الاعلام بتهيئتهم للوصول الى مستوى معين يتوافق مع الجو الاعلامي العام من حيث التقنيات والمعلومات الوفيرة والدقيقة في آن معاً.

بعد ان اجتزت جميع مراحل التوظيف، قُبلت في قسم الاخبار الذي لم اكن احلم يوماً بالانضمام اليه، ومع مرور الوقت والايام التي لم تتجاوز حتى الآن التسعين اكتسبت خبرة اكثر من المتوقع، لأن النظام في تلفزيون الآن يحتم على جميع العاملين بغرفة الاخبار ان ينجزوا مهمّات متعددة بحيث انه يمكن للمذيع ان يكون منتج النشر، وان منتج النشر ممكن ان يكون الـ editor، وممكن لكاتب الاخبار ان يكون محرراً ومراسلاً في آن معاً.. باختصار لازم نعرف كل شي".

هذا الامر متعب ويتطلب سرعة وممارسة في التنفيذ، الامر الذي عانيت منه في الايام الاولى، لكن مع مرور الوقت اعتدت على الاجواء الاخبارية واستطعت ان اثبت نفسي خلال اسابيع قليلة لذلك اود ان اتوجه بالشكر الجزيل لاساتذتي في قسم الاعلام على جهدهم المتواصل وعلى الدعم الذي تلقيته منهم اثناء الدراسة وبعد التخرج.



## إبتسم... صورة!

المكان هنا، الزمان الآن. يتضح الهدف فتولد الصورة. التقطت "اللحظة" وحُبست في إطار صغير. تجمد الوقت وكذلك الوجوه. انعدمت الحركة وساد الصمت. حين تراها عين القارئ، تصبح اللحظة ملكة، يحررها من اطارها فتتعداه ويغدو المغزى في "ما وراء الصورة" من عمق المعنى ووسع آفاق الرؤية. تغدو اللحظة تجسد حالة، فكرة، شعور، تجسد أمة بأسرها، حقبة زمنية معينة. تحمل تلك اللحظة واقعاً بأكمله، يمكننا معرفته "بالإصغاء" إلى الصورة، فتسمع أصوات الحياة ونشعر بنبضها وحركتها.

ومع ذلك، لا يزال البعض ينظر إلى آلة التصوير كلعبة للصفار، لا تختلف عن الدمى. من هنا تبدأ معاناة المصور الفوتوغرافي أو إي هاوي أو مبتدئ. فهو يرى في التصوير وسيلة للتعبير، فسحة أمل، مساحة تسمح له أن يصرخ كل ما في داخله، وكل ما يفعله المجتمع هو إحباط تلك المحاولات الفنية.

أول ما يواجه المصور الهاوي هي نظرة الأقرباء المليئة بالسخرية والعائلة التي تظن أنه في التقاط الصور مضيق للوقت فيطلقون على هذه الظاهرة لقب "موضة الجيل" في ظل "عجقة الكاميرات" في أزقة بيروت. لذلك يذكرون دائماً أن التصوير "هواية فقط" و "ممنوع تصوير مهنة"، ظناً منهم أن إدارة الأعمال مربحة أكثر...

ثم يصطدم المصور بعقبة أخرى وهي نظرة المجتمع ككل. فتحن نعاني اليوم من سوء فهم وعدم تقدير للفنون في لبنان حيث ينظر البعض إلى هواة المسرح والرسم والنحت والتصوير باستخفاف وينادونهم بـ "جماعة الفنون اللي بدهن يغيرو الدنيا".

كما أن التقاط الصور يكاد أن يصبح جريمة في بلدنا، فلا يقتصر الموضوع على المارة والمشاة والنواطير والعاطلين عن العمل الذين يفتحون تحقيق: "ماذا تصوّر؟ من تصوّر؟ لماذا؟ لحساب من تعمل؟ هل معك إذن؟"، بل يتعداهم وذلك "لأسباب وضرورات أمنية". فالأحزاب تقرض طوقاً على معظم أحياء وزواريب بيروت، محولة اياها إلى "مراكز رصد ومراقبة". وهنا تجدر الإشارة إلى التعامل اللا أخلاقي مع مصوريين الشوارع الذين لا يمنعون عن ممارسات حقهم في التصوير، بل يتعرضون إلى الإهانة والشتيمة وأحياناً إلى الضرب ومصادرة أو كسر الكاميرا.

رغم تلك الصعوبات التي تواجه المصور اليوم، لن يستطيع أحد أن يمد يده أمام عدسته مانعاً التصوير. فمصورى الشوارع في زواريب بيروت هم النبض الذي يجري في شرايين مدينتنا.

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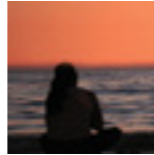
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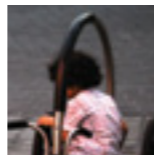
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