

Community Statement

Sunday 15 August 2021



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A Message of Solidarity and a Plea for Sanity in Humanity

The Lebanese Muslim Association and its affiliates send a message of solidarity for all our brothers and sisters that are suffering. It seems in every direction we turn. For a world that gloats about its advancements, our humanity is in recession, our moral compass in chaos, and we are standing by as we watch the world collapse onto itself. We ask You, Allah, to assist all those who seek You and Your Mercy. We ask our communities to make supplications for each and every person who is struggling, suffering and seeking help.

This morning, we were deeply saddened and horrified to learn of the explosion which occurred in Akkar in northern Lebanon. Our grief is only compounded when we hear of what is currently happening in Afghanistan, along with the ongoing struggles, hardships and humiliation of Palestinians, Yemenis, Syrians, Iraqis, Rohingyas, Uyghurs, and the list goes on.

We ask the Australian community to pray for the souls of those who have passed away from the tragedy in Lebanon and those around the world. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of those who have lost loved ones and the recovery of those injured.

Lebanon remains a country in devastation and continues to face untold hardships and catastrophes with a history of corruptive forces that have destabilised the country. Lebanese people and international organisations have been calling for international action to save Lebanon from a preventable disaster.

Hospitals are calling for action as power cuts endanger its patients. We are watching while this humanitarian catastrophe unfolds. This latest incident highlights the dire need for international assistance. The LMA is working to assist and support the people of Lebanon during this crisis.

Samier Dandan, the president of the LMA, said, "It seems wherever we turn these days, there are untold tragedies, whether we look to Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, Palestine, Algeria, Turkey – the saddest thing is those human atrocities and damage is preventable. We have seen what greed, power and corruption can cause and we need to rise up to counter this."

We ask any Australians affected in Lebanon to contact DFAT on +61262613305.

We ask the Lebanese people to heed the urgent call for blood donations at the Red Crescent or to the Lebanese Red Cross blood transfusion centres in Lebanon. There is an urgent need for all blood types.

For all media enquiries contact us on 0415 562 562.

If you wish to donate to our efforts, please visit our website (www.lma.org.au), ensure you reference "Akkar".

Our Community, Our Future