

NDU Spirit, a periodical bulletin
about campus life at
Notre Dame University - Louaïze,
issued by the Public Relations Office

December 2001 - Issue N° 23



Consultative Committee
Deans of Faculties



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With
Representatives of Faculties
and Student Clubs



Layout
Technopub s.a.r.l.



Print
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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is the season when we celebrate the birth of the Second Person of the Trinity, One God, in eternity and his birth as Christ in this world.

We also strive for his rebirth in our own souls. However, this does not come about through Yuletide feasting and merrymaking. It cannot happen without a rebirth of our moral conscience, and it is this last rebirth which is sadly lacking in our world.

During the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth there was a widespread belief in what was called progress. It was thought that progress in science, in education, in medicine and in State care for the masses would ensure happiness for all, with greater love all round. Religion and moral values were seen by the "Progressives" as things of the past. But on every hand we see that all the so-called progress that has been achieved has done nothing to reduce suffering and has even led to more wide-scale cruelty than ever before.

After the collapse of the Hitlerite regime, the world remained many years burdened by fear of atomic war between the communist and capitalist blocs. But despite all the fine rhetoric directed against adversaries, nothing was done to settle the moral problems in one's own camp. The situation in Palestine, cause of endless violence and suffering throughout the Middle East, has remained a festering abscess waiting to burst. Corrupt governments have been kept in power and funded by international companies that want to exploit a poor nation's resources while poisoning the environment of the inhabitants, making agriculture and fishing impossible for them and even directly causing death. Rivalries between such companies over mineral wealth and diamond mines have been translated into ferocious wars between tribes. When industries find that safety and environmental regulations increase operating costs in their home base, they transfer operations to countries where such controls are nonexistent or can be circumvented by minute bribes that double the income of lawmakers and government officials. So really the company directors who enjoy titles and dignity and a life of luxury on an expense account are sometimes far greater terrorists than the poor wretches made desperate by a life of poverty, misery and despair from which there is no escape. We are proud that our professors of business practice at NDU have an acute awareness of such matters and try to impart principles of social morals to their students.

But let us come nearer home, to matters where we ourselves may be concerned. Do we treat our employees honestly, particularly the defenceless Asian and African servants and casual home helps? Do we pay them their due promptly? If we are employed, do we work honestly in the interests of our employers? Many newsagents sell magazines that are an incitement to the kind of immorality that has already ruined family life in the West and led many young people to grow up into criminals and drug-addicts for the lack of healthy home life and of parental guidance. Do the owners of such bookshops think that because they go to church on a Sunday they are good Christians? Sometimes the proprietor of a building rents rooms in the basement to poor unsophisticated Asian women desperate for easy money; when he sees a line of cars outside in the evening, surely he knows that their owners are not coming for prayer meetings. Does he think that because he turns a blind eye he is still a respectable member of society and perhaps even a worthy pillar of his religion?

It is not enough in this modern world to be indifferent to moral evil. We must each have an educated conscience and strive courageously for that "peace on earth and good will to men" of which God's angels sang over the pastures of Bethlehem.



Boutros Tarabay (Rev.)
President, NDU

OPENING THE YEAR IN THE NORTH

At the opening ceremony at the NDU North Campus for the academic year 2001-2002 on November 14th, the Father General of the Mariamite Maronite Order, Abbot François Eid, celebrated Mass in the presence of Member of Parliament Nabil Boustany, the President of the Municipality Charbel Biam and Mukhtar Elias Ayoub, as well as of all the staff, faculty members and students.

In his sermon, Abbot François Eid said that a university should guide its students towards freedom, which was the primary resource of the reasonable man. It was an enhancement for the human being to be free in his thoughts and in his attachments and feelings.

He added that a university should educate its students to diversity and to respect for other people's identity in a spirit far removed from violence. It was of considerable importance that a certain collaboration should be established between Christianity and Islam. People needed to discover each other without considering each other as enemies. This was the one way to distinguish religion from violence, for any religion that adopted violence was the enemy of God.



NDU ENGINEERING

With the Dean Dr. SHAHWAN KHOURY



Our readers will be aware that the rapid development of NDU has led to a redistribution of certain departments over the faculties of Natural and Applied Sciences, of Architecture and of Engineering, which is new. The Dean of the new faculty, Dr. Shahwan Khoury, has kindly answered our questions about its organisation and about what it offers.

NDU SPIRIT: TO BEGIN WITH, DR. KHOURY, CAN YOU GIVE US A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE HISTORY OF ENGINEERING AT NDU?

Dr. Shahwan Khoury: A request by NDU for the establishment of a Faculty of Engineering was submitted in 1993 to the Council of Higher Education. A main concern mentioned was the emigration of young people. Some of the general commitments were:

- American educational system
- Modern academic programs
- Appropriate laboratory facilities
- Qualified faculty members

The engineering departments to be started were as follows: Civil Engineering, Electrical, Computer and Communication Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. The number of credits required for graduation was 150 in each of the programs. The request was approved in 1996. Computer Engineering was changed to Computer and Communication Engineering in 1999.

NDU SPIRIT: HOW IS THE FACULTY ORGANISED AT PRESENT?

Dr. Shahwan Khoury: The Faculty is composed of three Departments, namely Civil Engineering, Electrical, Computer and Communication Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. Cooperation between the Departments and uniformity are ensured by the Council of Chairpersons and by the Faculty Committees. With its weekly meetings, the Council of Chairpersons has been the most active.

The laboratories complement the didactic courses. They are among the most up-to-date and extensive laboratories in the region. Laboratories and laboratory personnel are divided along departmental lines with a common core of staff for general services to all labs.

Every full-time faculty member is a coordinator for a set of courses and labs to ensure quality, continuity and improvement in course contents over the years. All full-time faculty members share in academic advising. Students are assigned advisors at admission and are free to change advisors.

Student, professional and internationally affiliated organizations provide academic, professional and social activities, such as lunch-hour series of lectures about engineering topics of interest, talks, conferences, site and plant trips, and communal services.

Through active participation, students acquire leadership qualities and obtain national and international exposure.

NDU SPIRIT: WHAT DEGREES ARE OFFERED BY THE FACULTY?

Dr. Shahwan Khoury: The Faculty offers four degrees, namely Bachelorships of Civil Engineering, of Mechanical Engineering, of Electrical Engineering, and of Computer and Communication Engineering.

NDU SPIRIT: TO WHAT OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS DO THESE DEGREES OPEN THE DOOR?

Dr. Shahwan Khoury: These degrees aim at providing students

with more than career opportunities. Diplomas are the culmination of an educational process that endeavors to form engineers who understand the ethical, social, economic and environmental context of their profession and who apply their knowledge with judgment and responsibility to develop ways to utilize the the materials and forces of nature for the benefit of mankind. Graduating students are prepared to pursue graduate study and, more importantly, to enter immediately the professional practice; this can be in design offices, contracting companies, operators of communication services, developers of software packages and industrial machines and processes, water and electric power utilities, and installation, maintenance and repair operations.

NDU SPIRIT: HAVE YOU AND YOUR FACULTY MEMBERS HAD TIME TO MAKE PLANS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT?

Dr. Shahwan Khoury: The Faculty is preparing new programs with course structure and content that will meet the challenges of the new technologies and are flexible, so as to allow the student to design his own program and attain his learning objectives.

More laboratory experiments will be introduced into the curricula through better use of the laboratory equipment. New experiments develop a change in student attitude from passive experimentation to active and creative use of equipment. With their academic functions, professional services by the labs have been initiated and will be extended.

With an academic program and laboratories that are truly up-to-date, graduating students are able to secure work or admission to graduate studies in Europe and North America. When one recalls the concerns of the original request for the establishment of a faculty of engineering, it seems that one is a victim of one's own success. Implementation of a high-tech center would add to the prestige of the Faculty and provide challenging local employment.

NDU Spirit warmly thanks Dr. Shahwan Khoury for his answers and passes on this personal information about him.

Lebanese, and born in Lebanon, he is married, with one child.

Diplomas: B.E.E. Youngstown State University, USA, 1960. M.S. in EE, Carnegie Institute of Technology, 1961. Ph.D. in EE, Carnegie Institute of Technology, 1965.

Honours: Fellow of the Electrical Engineering Department at Carnegie Tech. Member, Sigma Xi, Honorary Research Society. Member, Sigma Tau, Honorary Engineering Society. Member, Eta Kappa Nu, Honorary Electrical Engineering Society.

Languages: Arabic, English, French.

Academic experience: 1966-1970, Ass. Professor of Electrical Engineering, AUB. 1970-1971, Ass. Professor of Electrical Engineering, University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. 1971-1975, Assoc. Professor of Electrical Engineering, AUB. 1989, Assoc. Professor of Electrical Engineering, AUB. 1990 (summer), visiting scholar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology,

Boston, USA. 1991-1997, Chair, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, AUB. 2000, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, NDU.

Professional experience: 1960-1975, work on reflection of radio waves from highly ionized upper atmosphere. On technical staff of Bell Telephone Laboratories, American Telephone and Telegraph, Inc. (AT&T), N.Y.. Design of program control exchanges and research on reliability, etc..

1975-1979, Technical Director, Projects, Studies and Implementation Co., Geneva and San Francisco. Mobile Telephone System for PTT, Iraq, and communication projects with security control for the Iraqi government, etc..

1979-1988, Business management including General Manager, Debbas. Studies for projects at Beirut International Airport and Damascus Conference Center. 1988-1989, Consultant, SDI, London, UK.

Public Services: International Chamber of Commerce, 1997 to present. Member of the Committee on Investment, Trade and Intellectual Property and of the Committee on Extortion and Bribery, etc..

Professional Services: Chair session 9, International Conference on IT in Teaching Methods in Arab Universities, NDU, 2001. Chair session W2.4, Congress on Information Science Innovations 2001, American University of Dubai. Committee for Conference Recommendations, International Conference on Globalization and Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Arab World, Tunis, 2000.

Publications: a score of these concerning advanced technology published mainly in the USA and Middle East, and in international reviews such as those of the IEEE.

NDU

DEVELOPMENTS

Dr. Edward Alam, whose grandparents emigrated to the United States from South Lebanon, has heard the call of the land of his forefathers and now with his family is firmly established among us at NDU. After several years teaching and activating the *Communio* group, he has now been given two important charges concerning the future extension of our University as Director of International Academic Affairs and as Coordinator of the Light of the East Ecumenical Institute. NDU *Spirit* asked Dr. Alam to talk about his new duties and a little about himself, so he gave us the following information.



We began by talking about the Office of International Academic Affairs. Its primary function is to maintain healthy active relationships with reputable universities abroad. It will endeavour to promote thriving exchange programmes for students, staff and faculty. These must be seen in the light of the present trend towards globalisation in every field and the need for international studies, now increasingly referred to as global. In fact most major universities now have actual degrees in global studies. So the need for contacts, cooperation and goodwill translated into concrete terms is more than evident. Already, NDU personnel and students who are interested in exchanges can contact Dr. Edward Alam in his office and are warmly invited to do so. Perhaps in the future there will be a special department of the Office to deal with exchanges, as exists in most major American universities.

Further, a number of top-ranking universities in the United States give scholarships to students in Third-World countries and Dr. Alam invites students who are interested to come to his office.

In the early preparatory stage, this Office was mostly concerned with the preparation and signature of memoranda of understanding and with setting the stage for exchanges and joint ventures. Now there is the question of obtaining US grants which are available for universities around the world having affiliations with universities in the United States. Here the help of Dr. Deirdre Evans-Pritchard, Fulbright Scholar lecturing here at NDU, is proving invaluable. The following list will show how far NDU has spread its net and certain names may cause surprise; but remember that NDU is a Catholic university, and Catholic means Universal, and NDU is glad to find warm friendship among those of different religions and cultures who show concern for the moral values implanted in man by his Creator.

Signed Memoranda of Understanding

TAFE Commission of New South Wales,
Australia, August 2000

University of Dallas, Texas, USA,
September 2000

Blue Mountains International Hotel
Management School, November 2000

Madonna University, Michigan, USA,
March 2001

Groupe École Supérieure de Commerce de
Bordeaux, France, June 2001

Middlesex University, London, U.K.

Alcalingua-Universidad de Alcala, Spain,
May 2001

Groupe École Supérieure de Commerce de
Bordeaux, France, September 2001

University of Madras, India, October 2001

University of Ottawa, August 2001

University of Florence, October 2001

The Italian Cultural Institute in Lebanon (ICI)

Pending Memoranda of Understanding

Mofid University, Qom, Iran

Nottingham University, U.K.

Université de Caen, France

Leicester University, U.K.

Signed Contracts

Brigham Young University / CPART / Utah, USA,
December 2001

As for the Light of the East Ecumenical Institute, its purpose is to promote dialogue of religion and culture in three fields, East-West Christian relations, Christian-Muslim relations, and Christian-Indian relations primarily focused on Hinduism. The idea for the Institute grew out of the office of International Academic Affairs. It is hoped that the Institute will be able to profit from a General Agreement of Cooperation and Exchange signed with Madonna University, Livonia, Michigan, perhaps the largest Franciscan university in the United States. It has departments in Arabic Literature and Middle East Studies and on its side can offer courses in specialised technical fields. At the time of our interview, Dr. Alam was looking forward to the visit in December of Dr. Jonathan Swift, Madonna's Director for International Studies with a view to discussing US Government funding for cooperation..

When asked about his own career, Dr. Edward Alam gave us the following information. In 1985 he obtained a B.A. in Philosophy from the Catholic University of America, Washington D.C. and then did graduate studies in theology there. After seven years of teaching in high school, he obtained a Ph.D. Philosophy in 1996 from the University of Utah. His doctoral thesis, which was on John Henry Cardinal Newman and entitled **Out of the Shadows into Reality**, has been published by NDU.

Admissions

ADMISSIONS in ACTION!

Elham El-Hasham



NDU President Father Boutros Tarabay, Director of Public Relations Mr. Suheil Matar, and Director of Admissions Ms. Elham Hasham

It is a never-ending task but thanks to the unceasing loyalty and commitment and team spirit of the Admissions Office personnel at all three campuses, there are results that speak for themselves; 980 new students enrolled for Fall 2001-2002.



Mrs. Bahia Hariri, M.P. at the NDU stand

The Office is open all day from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., without closing for lunch, in order to facilitate the process of application and to provide information.

There has been close coordination with the Office of Tests, Measurement and Evaluation, headed by Dr. Kamal Abou Chedid, for the preparation of the Entrance Exams for Spring, 2002.

The exams that were held on December 7th and 8th were successfully implemented. With the four Entrance Exam sessions during summer, there were about 150 applicants for Spring 2002.

About twenty-five schools have already been visited for orientation sessions. Others have been holding their own Open Doors – Champville, December 14th and National Evangelical, Saida, December 19th. Simultaneously, school visits are being followed up by both the North Lebanon campus and the Shouf campus.

The 7th Annual Hariri Educational Fair was on at Beirut Hall during the days 23rd – 27th October, 2001. The NDU stand was extremely busy throughout the whole period. The success of the event was due to the combined contributions of the Admissions Office personnel, Main, NLC and Shouf, Faculty members and student body.

About 141 schools from all over Lebanon were scheduled to visit the Fair. In this way the programs of study offered at all three campus were promoted. Approximately 16,650 students passed through Beirut Hall; 15,000 NDU brochures were distributed and 350 NDU files with all NDU literature were allocated to the school administrators.

Moreover, NDU was represented by Dr. Amin Rihani, V.-P. for Sponsored Research, at the 2nd Annual Educational Fair in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, November 5th-7th, 2001. Eleven universities from Lebanon participated in the Fair at the Lebanese Consulate in Jeddah. Once again, the Consul General Mr. Ali Halabi and his staff did a great job in organizing and promoting the event. Representatives of more than eleven prominent schools visited the Fair and NDU information and material was distributed to them.

Close contacts have been made with the Ministry of Higher Education and the Equivalence Committee to confirm the latest list of licensed and accredited universities and similar institutions, their number now being about fifty.



Mrs. Tabarra, representing Mrs. Nazek Hariri, with officials from the Hariri Foundation at the NDU stand



Member of Parliament Ghenwa Jaloul, visits the NDU stand



The Admissions Office family: Ms. Elham Hasham (seated) and behind her from left to right Miss Mirna Waked, Mrs. Karine Saadeh, Mr. Mario Kozaily, Miss Pascal Abi Rizk and Miss Christine Al-Rayess



The students did an excellent job.



Everyone was happy.



Throughout the whole Fair, the NDU stand was always busy.



The student body of NDU displayed extreme commitment.

The amendments made to the Undergraduate Admission Policy are now being implemented. These are all published in the Admissions Guide, 2001-2002. The next step is to be the drawing up of a Graduate Admission Policy to cover admission to all the categories. In addition, financial aid in forms such as Assistantships and Fellowships are being considered.

The year 2002 will see numerous local and international events at which the Admissions Office will be present.

For now, the Admissions Office would like to take the opportunity to say Ramadan Kareem and Joyful El-Fetr as well as Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.

May the Holy Virgin be with you always.

DEVELOPMENTS *in* FAAD

There have been major changes in the curriculum of the Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design, and also preparation for launching Master's degrees. Dr. Nadim Karam, Dean of the Faculty, had the following to say.

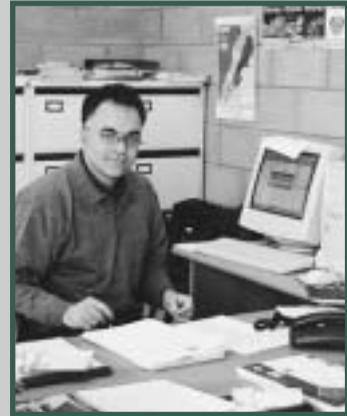
We have made a study to reorganise the school itself. We have set up a new programme according to which students can finish their studies in one year less than before. As for the reasons, we wanted to have a curriculum for more specialised studies, with one common foundation year for all students. In this way we think that finally our students will more easily find job opportunities. As for the Bachelor of Architecture, this will require 191 credits and the course of studies is a 5-year one. New brochures giving details are now available.

The Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design requires 136 credits and is oriented particularly towards furniture, materials and textiles, with also a historical presentation.

The Bachelor of Graphic Design requires 102 credits and covers drawing, visual culture and visual communication, as may be seen in more detail in the brochure. Students can do studies in a certain specialisation for 10 credits, for example in illustration, moving image, photography, typography or packaging.

Finally, the Master of Architecture will follow a course of 36 credits. That of Design will also be a 36-credit course, with two alternative curricula:

FAAD students at work



Dr. Nadim Karam

- Graphic Design, with typography, packaging, illustration, moving image and photography.
- Interior Design, with environmental furniture and product design.

As for the workshops, we intend to create several workshops for all NDU students so that they can have some fun and forget their stress with such things as ceramics, woodwork, model-making and the use of metal and fibre.

NDU *Spirit* thanks Dr. Nadim Karam and suggests that any interested prospective students should apply for the excellent brochures.

Corrigenda

We apologise for two faults in the layout of issue n° 22. On page 8

Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences should

have appeared as a heading. On page 47, it was not clear that "It is an outrageous abuse ... some charm of style" was the quotation from Cicero, the rest of the page being an editorial development of the subject. *Particle* in line 3 of the second column on the same page should of course read *participle*.

INFORMATION FROM MEMORANDA

ISSUED BY THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE, NDU

| Year 2001 | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 10 th October: | Appointments at NDU - Shouf Campus: Mr. Antoine Rechdan, Administrative Assistant, Admissions and Registrar, effective 1 st June, 2001. Miss Jocelyne Issa, Administrative Assistant; Miss Rania Najem, Secretary; Mr. Elie Abou Abdou, Accountant, effective 1 st October, 2001. |
| 10 th October: | Appointment of ad-hoc committee on Graduate Studies Policy: Dr. George M. Eid, PVP, Academic Affairs, Chairperson; Dr. Boulos Sarru', Dean, FH; Dr. Michel Nehmeh, Dean, FPSPAD; Dr. Jean Fares, Dean, FNAS; Dr. Antoine Karam, Dean, FBAE; Miss Elham Hasham, Director of Admissions, Secretary; Miss Lea Eid, Registrar. Effective from 11 th October, 2001. |
| 10 th October: | Appointments: Miss Lara Nasr, Secretary, Office of Academic Affairs, effective 1st August, 2001. Miss Eliane Harfouche, Social Assistant, Student Affairs Office, effective 17th September, 2001. Mr. Nabil Saber, Manager, Human Resources Office; Miss Brigitta Kassis, Computer Laboratory Assistant; Mr. Joseph Abi Nassif, Maintenance. Effective 1 st October, 2001. Mrs. Micheline Slaiby Nasrallah, Accountant Business Office, effective 4 th October, 2001. Miss Mirna Waked, Secretary, Office of Admissions; Mr. Mario Kozayli, Office Assistant, Office of Admissions, effective 8 th October, 2001. |
| 11 th October: | Appointment of Mr. Chaouke Eid as Assistant Director of Administration at NDU - Shouf Campus for the academic year 2001-2002, effective from 1st October, 2001. |
| 11 th October: | Application for parking permits by Faculty and Staff members at Information Desk (Miss Diala El Mast, ext. 2392.) Requirements. |
| 11 th October: | Promotion of Mr. Nicolas Gabriel to rank of Senior Lecturer in the Department of Architecture, effective from 1 st October, 2001. |
| 12 th October: | Appointment of Mr. Joseph Fares as University Coordinator for DCE-Spanish Program with the University of ALCALA, Spain, management of the Dormitory, management of the Car Park, Conferences and Exhibitions as they relate to Public Relations, and University Development in relation to syndicates, companies and other organizations. |
| 22 nd October: | Appointment of ad hoc committee on NDU Finance Functions for the academic year 2001-2002: Fr. Samir Ghsoub, Director of Finance; Fr. Walid Moussa, Director of Administration; Mr. Sabah Matar, University Attorney; Mr. Antoine Khalil, Chairperson, Dept. of Finance, Accounting and Economics; Mr. Sami Youssef, Chairperson of the Accounts Division, CNSS; Mr. Elias Saadeh, Director, Business Office. |
| 25 th October: | Establishment of the Photography Office headed by Mr. Habib Sleilaty, effective 1 st November, 2001. |
| 5 th November: | Queries pertaining to job opportunities and placements in connection with NDU graduates to be coordinated with the NDU Placement Office. Information from Mrs. Grace Khalil. |
| 6 th November: | Queries pertaining to press coverage, interviews and the like to be coordinated with the NDU Public Relations and Information Office. Miss Rosette Fadel to be contacted for further information. |
| 8 th November: | Miss Maryanne Fayad, Administrative Assistant, Library Administration; Mrs. Thérèse Jad, Library Secretary, effective 1 st October, 2001. Miss Rita Orfali, Administrative Assistant, Office of Tests, Measurements and Evaluation, effective 15 th October, 2001. |

8th November:

Appointments: Miss Nancy Rizk, Student Affairs Office (SAO) Officer, NDU-NLC, effective 7th October, 2001. Miss Nathalie Fahed, Secretary, Department of Electrical and Computer and Communication Engineering, effective 15th October, 2001. Miss Rania Abdel Baki, Library Assistant, NDU-Shouf Campus, effective 16th October, 2001. Miss Rita Azar, Secretary, Office of International Academic Affairs, effective 25th October, 2001.

29th November:

Appointment of Mr. Elias Ibrahim as Computer Laboratory Assistant at NDU-NLC, effective 1st November, 2001.

From Dr. George M. Eid, PVP, Academic Affairs

12th October:

Members of the University Standards Committee (USAC) for the academic year 2001-2002: Dr. George M. Eid, PVP, Academic Affairs (Chairperson); Dr. Chahine Ghais, Director, SAO; Mrs. Lea Eid, Registrar (Chairperson); one Full-Time Member from each NDU Branch.

12th October:

Official Title of Mrs. Leslie A. Hage for the academic year 2001-2002 being Director of the University Libraries, effective 1st October, 2001.

We thank the Goethe Institut for the following information:



GOETHE-INSTITUT
B E I R U T

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OPENING HOURS

EXIBITION HALL

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m - 1 p.m

Monday - Thursday: 3 a.m. - 6 p.m.

LIBRARY AND INFOCENTER

Our library is open to everyone.

All media apart from reference-books can be lent out for an annual fee. Special prices for students of our language courses.

We provide information on Germany not only in German, but, if available, also in English, French and Arabic. Via satellite you can listen to German TV, you can also see videos or listen to cassettes and CD's. A PC is available for self-instruction. On special demand we provide internet-researches.

[Http://www.goethe.de/na/bei/deindex.htm](http://www.goethe.de/na/bei/deindex.htm)

Library e-mail: goethe_bibl@cyberia.net.lb

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday: 10 a.m - 1 p.m

Monday to Thursday: 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

NDU SHOUF

On November 25th, the NDU Shouf Campus opened its first exhibition of sculpture and painting in Deir el-Qamar Square. More than thirty Lebanese painters and sculptors took part, among them the President of the Lebanese Association for Painting and Sculpture, Mr. Bassam Kyrillos. During the two days of the exhibition, artists painted several works inspired by nature and its colours.

To conclude, several of the masterpieces will be exhibited in the Shouf Campus itself. All who are interested should bear in mind that another exhibition, devoted to sculpture, will be organised next spring at the same location.



Activities of NDU Architecture: **A LECTURE BY AJMAL MAIWANDI**

Undoing Kabul: an urban disintegration

The people of Lebanon, who themselves have suffered so much from Great Power politics, feel deep and heartfelt sympathy and sorrow for the people of Afghanistan, mingled with admiration for their courage in their fight for independence and sovereignty. Neither the British Empire in the 19th century nor the Soviet Empire in the 20th was able to impose itself on them. Foreigners who stayed in the country when it was still a kingdom admired the Afghans for their integrity and their hospitality. Kabul University had professors, both men and women, of real merit. However, one good has come out of the disasters of recent years: Afghans forced into residence abroad have been making the Afghan nation known to the world and commanded respect. So NDU was honoured by the visit of the architect Ajmal Maiwandi, when, on Friday, 9th of November, 2001, in the framework of the programme of talks and exhibitions organised by the Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design, he came to talk about the fate of his beloved capital city. May it rise like a phoenix from the ashes! We give here an outline of Ajmal Maiwandi's talk and a brief outline of his career provided through the kindness of the FAAD. -Ed.



An attentive audience listens to the Tragedy of Kabul

The lecture "Undoing Kabul" focused on the urban condition of Kabul, particularly addressing the current disintegration of the city. Starting with the beginnings of modern Kabul in the late 1800s, the presentation traced its rapid urban growth under development programmes aided by foreign-assisted projects and the slow transition of the city from a military outpost into an oasis where diverse and disparate cultures and traditions could mingle. The unfolding events of the past thirty years may be detected in the evaporated city by scanning the transformations which have resulted in the stripping of all the layers constituting its urban form, including the erosion of built fabric and infrastructure, the steady dissolution of its public services, the collapse of its educational and cultural institutions, the dismantling of government agencies and regulating bodies, the dispersion of its workforce, and the erasure of its cultural identity. As a result, the city has become a field of intense gravitational pull, absorbing energy and displacing material, with a rewinding into an archaic timelessness.

The exhibition:

In conjunction with the lecture, there was an exhibition of colour photographs and of maps of the city. A selection of these are being printed as the feature article of the forthcoming issue of Blueprint Magazine in London.

About Ajmal Maiwandi:

Our guest, who now lives in London, UK, possesses both Afghan and United States citizenship. His professional formation started in 1991 when he was an undergraduate at the Catholic University of America, Washington DC. He obtained his bachelorship in Architecture at SCI-Arc., Los Angeles, 1993/1996. He was an exchange student at Vico Morcote, Switzerland, and Kyoto Seika University, Japan, for one year at each. He then followed the M. Arch. Design Course at the Bartlett School of Architecture in London, 1997/1998, and was leader there of the six-member Kabul Unit.

His recent activities have included projects for sites, exhibitions, lectures, workshops and films, many of them concerning Kabul, at Beirut, London, Washington DC, Kyoto, Corona-Switzerland and Berlin in Germany. He has worked with our FAAD Dean, Dr. Nadim Karam, particularly for London. He has been Guest Critic at the Bartlett School of Architecture and given workshops on urbanism at the Technical University of Berlin and the American University of Beirut. He was assistant at the Catholic University of America (1st year Design) and to Professors Noriaki Okabe and Gregory Walsh at Vico Morcote.

**Kabul has become
a rewinding
into an archaic
timelessness**

SOCIAL

NDU Spirit has pleasure in announcing the marriage on Saturday, December 16th, 2001, of Mr. Ghassan el-Beyrouty, of the Department of Hotel Management and Tourism, and Miss Carla el-Hawa. The marriage was celebrated at the church of Mar Yuhanna in Jbeil and was followed by a cocktail at Bel Azure, Jounieh.



DEPARTMENT TAKES THE STAGE

On November 30th, 2001, the Major of Psychology and Social Behavior of the School of Humanities launched its series of lectures by raising the issue of Afghanistan in a talk given by Mr. Suheil Matar, NDU Director of Public Relations. In the audience were NDU President Father Boutros Tarabay and former Member of Parliament Issam Khoury.

Dr. Doumit Salameh, as Chairperson of the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences, opened the proceedings by presenting the new series of talks organised by the School of Humanities and then passed the microphone to Dr. Boulos Sarru', Dean.



Dr. Sarru' remarked that it was being said everywhere that the world had changed since the events of September 11th. This sentence was being repeated without any consideration of the reasons behind what had happened. Did an explosion in the most important city of America, tragic though it was, make all the difference when so many people were starving as a result of poverty and violence? What should be clear was that September 11th would bring change in the third millennium because people were becoming more sensitive to the problem of starvation.

Taking the stand, Mr. Suheil Matar divided his talk into four parts. First he focused on the geographic pattern and the population statistics for the period after the war. The twenty-six million people of Afghanistan were in a state of continual emigration and immigration, going to and fro between their homeland and such countries as Pakistan, Iran, former states of the Soviet Union and North America. The people were living in deplorable conditions of misery on an average yearly income of US\$ 178. 64% of adults were illiterate, there was high mortality among children and 70% of the population suffered from malnutrition.

In the second part of his talk, Mr. Suheil Matar outlined the history of Afghanistan from its formal independence in 1921 until the coming to power of the king, Mohammed Zaher Shah, who ruled between 1933 and 1973. During this time a constitution was proclaimed, and the period of open-mindedness reached its climax in 1964. The reign ended with a military *coup d'état* and the proclamation of a republic in 1978 by Ali Mohammed Daoud, who was murdered. His murder was followed by the intrusion of the Soviet Union in 1979. Soviet intervention ended as a result of the resistance of the Afghan people and then the Taliban seized power in 1966. During this time Oussama ben Laden was able to set up his *Al-Qa'ida*.

In the third part of his talk, Mr. Suheil Matar raised several points about the future of Afghanistan and the setting up of a coalition government under the ægis of the United Nations. Finally, after making some suggestions of his own, Mr. Matar invited the United States to consider its priorities and its attitude to the role of the United Nations regarding countries such as Palestine that were in a state of war. He stressed the importance of diversity in the world with justice, freedom and peace.

LA REDOUTE REPRESENTATIVE GUEST OF NDU

Invited by the NDU Placement Office, Ms. Liliane Kareh, representative of the famous *La Redoute* organisation, gave a talk on November 12th to all the students of Business, gathered in Friends' Hall. She spoke about the company's functions, markets and prospects for employment.

Ms Kareh explained the contents of the *La Redoute* handbook, which is divided according to the six main lines of products under the headings Women, Lingerie, Children, Sport, Men and Household Items. She then told her audience about the techniques and methods for making a sale according to the *La Redoute* procedure. First they should discover the potential of their environment, which statistics showed to be divided into four categories, namely couples with small babies, mothers with infant children, young people in their twenties and middle-aged adults. The target groups providing the most likely buyers, those who find the *La Redoute* service a great help to them, are active women who have no time for shopping and need to rest when they arrive home, housewives and mothers without a car, classic women wanting to follow the French fashions, and finally women at home who buy the wardrobes for themselves and for their families as well.

Using the catalogue for the presentation, the salesperson can create a suitable climate by asking questions that enable the customer to talk about her requirements (usually it is women who make the buying decisions). She might be reminded that *La Redoute* has 6,000 regular local customers satisfied with its services. The salesperson must be ready to answer objections to sales through catalogue in a convincing way so as to gain the confidence of the prospective client.

For example, a woman might ask how she can be expected to buy something that she has not seen or tried on. Then it may be pointed out to her that the visiting salesperson gives her more explanation about the article than she is likely to receive in any shop or stores. Then, if the size proves not to be suitable, it can be changed without extra cost. The client might be encouraged by being proposed a small purchase of items among those most frequently ordered, after which she would see the advantages of the *Redoute* purchasing policy. Finally, Ms. Liliane Kareh said that her company was interested in receiving NDU Business students for internships.

BIOLOGICAL WARFARE

With the anthrax scare on so many people's minds, the Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences invited Dr. Jacques E. Mokhbat, eminent specialist of infectious diseases at the Department of Medicine of the Lebanese University, to speak on the problem of biological warfare. He did this on November 28th in the presence of the Dean of Natural and Applied Sciences Dr. Jean Fares, the Director of Public Relations Mr. Suheil Matar, and a keenly interested audience.



Dr. Jacques Mokhbat

Dr. Mokhbat defined biological warfare as the intentional use of micro-organisms or toxins to produce death or disease in humans, animals or plants. This is not entirely new, as in historical times corpses were introduced into besieged cities to start outbreaks of plague. Intentionally or unintentionally, smallpox and measles played a major role in the conquest of Central and South America by the Spanish Conquistadors and also in the conquest of the Australian continent and the Pacific Islands, where the natives had little or no inherited resistance.

Any agent used now has to be highly infectious, toxic, lethal, highly reliable and able to be targeted precisely at an enemy. It has to have stability, with a long shelf life and aerosol durability. The epidemic spread must be limited and the agent has to be easy and cheap to produce. As for its inhalation, it has to have a point or line source in the field or be limited by air delivery in enclosed spaces. Orally, there may be contamination through food or water. The agent may enter the body through the mucous membranes or abrasions or by accidental or intentional percutaneous penetration.

Toxic agents may be used against military personnel or a civilian population, also for the economic harassment of a corporation or a nation by tampering with medications,



fruit, farm animals or crops. Dr. Mokhbat listed the bacteria and the viruses that were likely to be used. Smallpox, he said, was not a rational weapon as its spread was uncontrollable, but of course this consideration might not deter a distorted human mind at war.

The anthrax bacillus as an agent had the advantage that it was easily grown and the spores were long-lived. But it required the difficult production of a cloud of sufficiently minute particles and was susceptible to atmospheric factors such as wind, rain and sun. The casualty rate was 10,000 per kilogram of spores but this depended on expertise and on knowledge of meteorology. But what was true for a military planner did not necessarily hold for clandestine groups.

Dr. Mokhbat said that fire departments, law enforcement and civil defence agencies were at highest risk, and the response depended on local police, national security services and health providers, with diagnosis, sorting, emergency medical treatment, follow-up and decontamination, followed by unbroken vigilance. Public attention was necessary, but not hysteria. The disclosure of constructive steps to combat any outbreak and of technical details of cultivation and dissemination had to be avoided as this might help culprits to circumvent all the measures taken. There had to be checking of micro-aerosol generating equipment and control of the distribution of special pathogens.

The first indicator of an epidemic was a cluster of symptomatic cases of an unusual disease. Immuno-compromised hosts could be the most sensitive indicators, but the difficulty was that of distinguishing between natural and man-made outbreaks of viral disease. Some diseases left no doubt about their identity, as in the case of pulmonic anthrax. The earliest cases were always the most heavily dosed but those with longer incubation periods might be treated. But all was a matter of hours.

For medical and public health management, record-keeping, the mobilisation of trained and specialised personnel and facilities outside hospitals were necessary. Protection could be provided by masks and special suits, mass prophylactic vaccination, antibiotic prophylaxis and routine monitoring of suspected clouds in the theatre of military operations.

Dr. Mokhbat concluded by saying that there was no historical precedent for such a threat other than natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and hurricanes. However, when dealing with members of the public one had to distinguish between the really sick on one hand and the worried, the angry and the resentful on the other.

On November 16th there was a debate organised by the Faculty of Political and Diplomatic studies concerning the international efforts to define and defeat terrorism.

“The foreign policy of American capitalism has been responsible for the convoluted bundle of modern ideologies that foster episodes of political violence,” said Dr. Michel Nehme, Dean of the Faculty of Political and Diplomatic Studies. He explained that the United States had always encouraged a mixture of ideologies in order to embarrass the Soviet Union, but the mixture had backfired on the United States itself following the destruction of the Soviet bloc.

Author Talal Husseini insisted that terrorism had not originated in the Arab World. He said that the modern definition of the Arabic word for terrorism, *irhab*, was not to be found in older Arabic dictionaries. Focusing on the origins of the three-letter root r-h-b, Mr. Husseini said that in pre-Islamic times the expression meant humiliation. In the Koran it meant humiliation of the enemy in the context of *jihad*.

Dr. Melhem Chaoul, Professor of Sociology in the Lebanese University, stressed the historical understanding of political violence. He said that before and after the French

TERRORISM!



Speaking on terrorism, from left to right, Mr. Samir Cassir, Dr. Melhem Shaoul, Mr. Suheil Matar, Dr. Michel Nehme and Mr. Talal Hussaini

Revolution, the definition of political violence had evolved with the development of the modern nation-state. At the time of St. Thomas Aquinas, violence had been considered permissible when there was a revolt against a despotic ruler. He added that the international community was incapable of producing an appropriate definition of terrorism for the application of resolutions against Iraq and against parties in Kosovo.

Finally, Dr. Samir Cassir, Professor of Political Studies at St. Joseph's University, said that the German Nation Socialists (Hitler's Nazi Party -ed.) used the term "terrorism" to describe the French Resistance during World War II. In their turn the French had used it to describe the Algerian Resistance during the colonial war in North Africa. He added that when Israel defined the Palestinian and Lebanese resistance groups as terrorist organisations, the Arabs needed to insist on the terrorist activities of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. "It is enough for us to show how international law would describe Sharon's activity. It is worse than being a terrorist," declared Dr. Cassir.

'LUCKILY' INFECTED AFFECTED,

mundus imaginalis, by Mr. Chadi Chamoun

The NDU Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design invited the public to its second event of the month of November, a lecture given by Chady Chamoun in Friends' Hall on November 26th and bearing the title indicated above. It was followed by an exhibition lasting until December 14th in the FAAD Mood Gallery. The lecturer discussed "the transformation of the beauty and sensuality of current events, art and the environment into works of architecture." The problem of today was the fusion of a physical and the virtual worlds and the answer lay in enhancing the various forms of communication (architecture) which were the resolution to the problem.

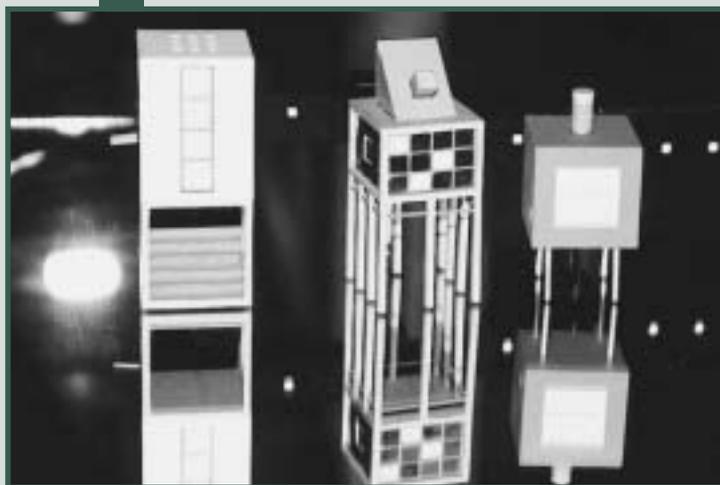
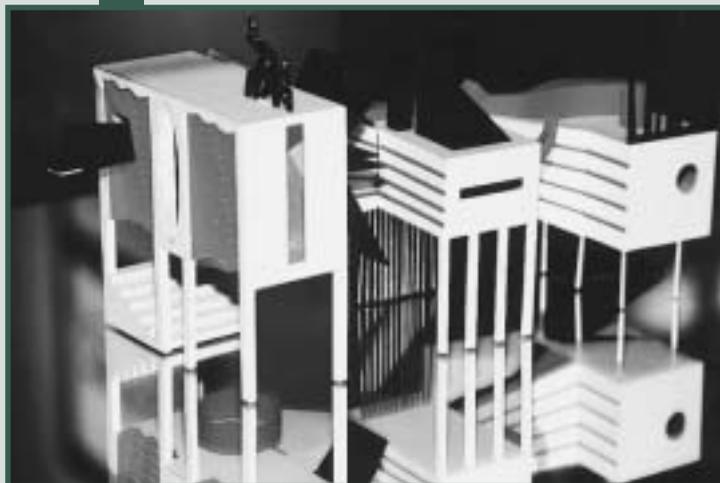
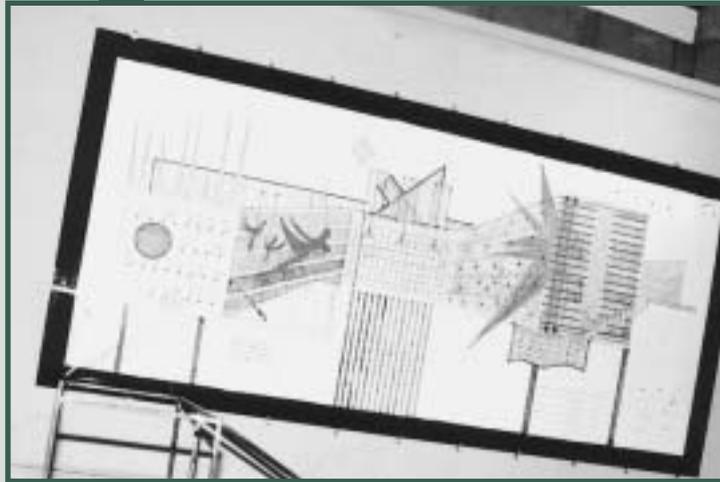
After graduating at the LAU, Mr. Chady Chamoun obtained his Master's degree at the Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning of the State University of New York. The title of his thesis was Womb for the Soul of Architects. His professional work has included the HUS VAR Estate, overlooking Niagara, N.Y., U.S.A. (42,000 square feet), CHEK COM Information Technology headquarters, Buffalo (2,500 square metres), N.Y., TOWER OF EMBRACE, Toula, Batroun, Lebanon, and various other fine residences. He received the Skidmore Owings Merrill Fellowship Nomination, being nominated by the Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning and also the DAAD for a four-week intensive



architectural survey of Berlin and neighbouring cities. Mr. Chady Chamoun directs the ARC99 studios in both Zouk Mikael, Lebanon, and in New York City. He is currently conducting various experiments in the development of "cool cost-conscious" private residential homes.

For the benefit of the readers of *NDU Spirit*, Mr. Chady Chamoun explained that the event 'Luckily' Infected Affected had made a dent in his soul. His principle is that attempting to establish a connection between the client's fantasies, desires and feelings on the one hand and the architecture of his house on the other had become the subject for a new programme. For him it was important to learn through conversation how the client

Views of Mr. Chady Chamoun's exhibition in the FAAD Mood Gallery



feels, how he lives and how he is conditioned emotionally. For example, for a project of interior decoration for one of his clients, he divided the house into three parts, favouring three different emotions for the three different aspects of the client's life, private, social and active. At present he is working on a project in North Lebanon and is therefore having an insight into the psychology of his client.

NDU Spirit is looking forward to more contact with Mr. Chady Chamoun in the future when he will be able to develop his highly original ideas for our readers.

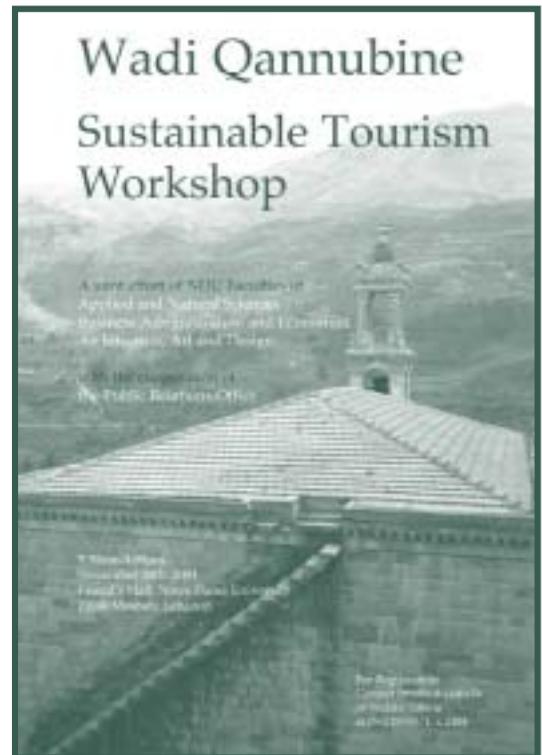
Wadi Qannubine

On November 30th, Notre Dame University held a Sustainable Tourism Workshop with Wadi Qannubine as its subject. This was a joint effort of the NDU Faculties of Natural and Applied Sciences, Business Administration and Economics, and Architecture, Art and Design, in collaboration with the Public Relations Office.

Opening the proceedings, Father Boutros Tarabay, President of NDU, said that the region of Qannubine urgently needed attention and that this was the responsibility of the people who really cared for its future as an important tourist area. Stressing the importance of the day's workshop, he said that it should be realised how careless people were about historical monuments and beauty spots, for many crimes were being committed daily



Speakers, from left to right, Mr. Youssef Zgheib, Chairman HM&T, Father Boutros Tarabay, President NDU, Mr. Suheil Matar, Director of Public Relations, and Dr. D. Evans-Pritchard



against nature and history. The only solution was to launch an awareness campaign so that people would accept responsibility for preserving the divine gifts.

Dr. Layla Khalaf Keyrouz, Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences, discussed the issue of environment concern and solid waste production and control. She pointed out that Qannubine Valley was full of uncollected garbage. Admitting that there was the problem of making natural beauty spots available to all while at the same time protecting the environment from people's intrusion, she went on to outline internationally accepted measures to deal with the difficulty.

Dr. Tony El-Hajj, of the Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences, focused his attention on



Some of the audience

preserving the biodiversity of the Holy Valley, bringing in questions of geography, sustainability, surveying of the region, and the possible role of NDU. Local people should develop eco-tourism for their economic advantage while preserving the environment.

The second part of the workshop dealt with the issue of architectural conservation. Mr. Habib Melki, of the Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design, focused on “sustainable architectural design”, dealing with seven levels of intervention, namely prevention of deterioration, preservation of property in its existing state, consolidation (direct conservation) by adding adhesive or supporting materials, restoration, rehabilitation to keep buildings in use, reconstruction of damaged property, and reproduction of artifacts.

Mr. Aram Yeretzian dealt with environment as man’s breathing space, now under threat from technology, industry and general negligence.. He pointed out that architecture should be an element in the ecosystem and not dominate it.

Mr. Samir Saddi raised the issue of “space in crisis”, insisting that social and economic progress should meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Finally, Dr. George Labaki of the Faculty of Business Administration and Economics dealt with the question of legislation and urban planning. He

explained that Qannubine Valley had been placed under study by the Directorate of Urban Planning. Although this was a major step for the preservation of the Valley, it was most important to know what would come next. Also, as the planning had been adjudicated to a private company, it was a matter of urgency to follow up its work.

In the third part of the workshop, Dr. Deidre Evans-Pritchard, Fulbright Scholar in the FBA&E, said that the painful realities of large-scale unsustainable tourism were a reminder that ecotourism allowed small-scale development without enormous financial investment and was also a means of teaching and enforcing the preservation of nature and of cultures.

The Chairman of Hospitality and Tourism Mr. Youssef Zgheib and instructor Carol Assaf Abboud then led the students in a study of Qannubine Valley based on practical issues. A preliminary assessment of the cultural, religious and ecological tourist potentials of the region was presented. The tourist supply, an eventually deficient provision, was evaluated and practical suggestions were proposed.



The Hotel Management and Tourism Department of the FBA&E got off to a good start this year with the visit on October 10th of executive members of Skål International. They spoke about Professionals Promoting Tourism and Friendship round the World. Mr. Youssef Zgheib, Chairperson of the NDU Hotel Management and Tourism Department, had a serious discussion with the visitors about the possibility of forming at NDU the first Young Skål group in Lebanon, to be attached to the Skål Club in Beirut.

At the start of the conference, Mr. Omar al-Eid, Secretary of the Skål Club of Beirut, was welcomed by Mr. Youssef Zgheib, who said that young people, whether professionals or still students, would benefit from orientation towards such associations where they could develop their professional and social skills and enhance the possibilities of their career.

For his part, Mr. Omar al-Eid described Skål as the only international organisation bringing together all branches of the travel and tourist industry. "Skålleagues", including managers and executives, met at the local, national and international levels in an environment of friendship to discuss subjects of common interest.

As for the history of Skål, Mr. Eid said that it was founded in Paris in 1932 by managers in the travel business who had been on an educative tour of Scandinavia and the idea of international friendship gained such popularity that in 1934 Skål achieved international status. Now there were more than 25,000 members in five hundred clubs spread over eighty countries. Most activities took place within the clubs. Skål, said Mr. Eid, was managed by an executive

committee of nine members elected by club delegates to the General Assembly.

After hearing these explanations, members of the audience asked how one could become a Young Skål. The brochure that was distributed in answer to their question says that every candidate whose membership of Young Skål is approved by the General Secretariat will receive an annual membership card, which is green, and will be allowed to wear the green Young Skål badge, similar to the official Skål emblem. Candidates must be at least 18 years old and not yet over 29.

Cakes and Pastries

Then on November 23rd, Mr. Youssef Habbal, Production and Sales Manager of Dunkin Donuts, gave a talk on pastries and baked food in general. He said that effective dealing in this kind of produce must take into consideration its content and mixing, its taste, its presentation and its promotion. Further, it really was a delicate business working in the field of pastries and baked foods since having the confidence of the customer always in mind was quite a challenge.

FIGHTING OIL POLLUTION

Two of NDU's Mechanical Engineering students, Mr. Imad Mansour and Mr. Samer Jadam, were successful in exhibiting their senior project apparatus designed to recover oil from spills on water at the Fifth Industrial Exhibition at UNESCO. This was in the framework of the Fifth Lebanese Industrial Research Achievements- LIRA "Conference and Exhibition.", November 23rd to December 2nd, 2001. The apparatus they exhibited was used in a study funded by the National Council for Scientific Research and the study bore the title The Hydraulic Performance of Brush Skimmer.

The study on oil recovery was conducted at the NDU Engineering Laboratory. It required three months of experimentation with oils of different viscosity including crude oil brought from the Syrian oil fields. The research team responsible for the project consisted of the following members:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Group leader | Dr. Walid C. Assaf |
| Laboratory instructor | Dr. Ali Hammoud |
| Engineer | Mr. Ghazi Rahal |
| Machinist | Mr. Maroun Eid |
| Technician | Mr. Charles Abi Nader |

The results of the study are to be published early in 2002.

The "Conference and Exhibition" was followed by a National Training Course on Accidental Marine Pollution, held in Beirut between the 3rd and 5th of December. It was sponsored by the Ministry of the Environment and conducted by the UN Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Center for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) and by Briggs Egypt Marine and Environmental Service (BMES). There was a one-day practice session in dealing with a hypothetical oil spill situation imagined to have taken place in Beirut Harbour. Among the participants was Dr. Walid Assaf, Chairman of the NDU Mechanical Engineering Department.



Scale model of the Rotating Brush Oil Skimmer designed by Samer Jadam and Imad Mansour

Dr. Assaf also participated in a round-table discussion on November 29th about "The Role of Universities in Enhancing the Development of the Industrial Sector". Dr. Ibrahim Kobeisy, President of the Lebanese University, was chairman and the guest speaker was Dr. Gilbert Frade, *Directeur-Adjoint Créateur de l'Acte d'Entreprendre à l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Paris*. There was unanimous agreement on the need for funding of student and faculty projects designed to improve the operations of industrial and manufacturing processes. Funding was expected to come in the form of guaranteed government loans and/or from direct contracts with industry.

Information kindly supplied by
Dr. Walid Assaf

Pierre Abou Khater,

THE SILENT BENEFACTOR

A Requiem Mass was celebrated in the University for the repose of the soul of Pierre Abou Khater in the presence of the former Father General of the Maronite Mariamite Order Boutros Fahed, Mrs. Terry Abou Khater, widow of the deceased, and NDU staff, faculty and students.

The Director of the Public Relations Office Mr. Suheil Matar said that all were gathered together out of respect for Mr. Pierre Abou Khater, from whose generosity the University had so greatly benefited. A five-minute videotape was played of the occasion last year when Mr. Abou Khater inaugurated the Fahed Hall and Library.

A moving address was delivered by NDU President Father Boutros Tarabay. Father Walid Moussa and some students then took turns to express the appreciation of the whole University for the role of Mr. Pierre Abou Khater in its development.



The bereaved, the widow Mrs. Terry Aboukhater on extreme right



The Mass: *Requiescat in pace!*

A FAMILY GATHERING

As NDU is a family of *all* Lebanese, and this could be felt when the proximity this year of Christmas and El-Fitr gave the opportunity for a common celebration on December 14th at a dinner in the Regency Hotel's Jad Hall. Officials, faculty, staff and old friends were welcomed with some appropriate words by NDU President Father Boutros Tarabay before enjoying each other's company over a tempting table.

NDU PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS:

Father Boutros Tarabay, President of NDU, opened the evening with a short speech. He pointed out that this special occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of Notre Dame University brought together family and friends, in particular the Maronite Mariamite Order, all branches of the University, the Board of Trustees, the Association of Friends, and the Association of Alumni, while those who were absent and far away were not forgotten.

This yearly dinner, he said, brought together family and friends of NDU so that they could get to know each other better in the spirit of the national life that the Catholic hierarchies now meeting in Bkerke insisted on. This time it marked the feasts of Christmas and El-Fitr together,



Presentation of a commemorative medallion to His Lordship Bishop Beshara Rahi



Presentation to The Right Reverend Abbot Antoine Sfeir



Presentation to the Right Reverend Abbot François Eid



Presentation to Mr. Suheil Matar



Presentation to Mr. Charbel Hajj

giving an opportunity for both to be celebrated in a spirit of love and brotherhood. It also marked the opening of the fifteenth year of a period of effort during which NDU as an independent institution had affirmed its strength and reputation. Father President Tarabay then singled out personalities who had become symbolic of the University and to whom he presented commemorative medallions.

Monsignor Beshara Rahi was the big brother of the University, wearing it like an icon on his breast.

The Right Reverend Abbot Antoine Sfeir had directed the University prior to its independence and his election as Father General of the Mariamite Order.

The Right Reverend Abbot François Eid by his dynamism had prepared the University both in Zouk and at Barsa for the third millennium and now joined concern for the Order with concern for the University.

Mr. Suheil Matar, a man of academic and administrative capacity, the longest serving instructor in the University, had laboured for it throughout its history with whole-hearted zeal.

After twenty years, Mr. Charbel Hajj was the longest-serving



Presentation to Doctor Hratch Hadjetian



Presentation to Doctor Henry Melki through the hands of his son Mr. Habib.



The vast Jade Ballroom of the Regency Palace, Adma, filled with guests



Dancing to stirring music winds up the evening.

member of the administrative staff, one who was called on to solve every difficulty. Further, through him the University wished to show its esteem for all its devoted administrative personnel.

Doctor Hratch Hadjetian had long been an example of character, modesty and deep learning. Though retired as dean, he still honoured NDU with his presence and his science.

Doctor Henry Melki, now in retirement, had graduated not only students but also instructors, shuttling devotedly between Zouk and the North Campus. His son Mr. Habib Melki was presented with the medallion in his father's absence.

Bishop Beshara Rahi then spoke to thank Father Boutros Tarabay, who was also a symbol of the University, having been twice its President. His Lordship then gave his blessing to the dinner, which all present settled down to enjoy while listening to excellent music and indulging in lively conversation.

CHRISTMAS AT NDU



On Friday December 21st, NDU personnel presented their Christmas wishes to the President, Father Boutros Tarabay, who at midday celebrated Mass in front of a large congregation.

In the evening, he presided a Christmas Party for the faculty and staff and their children as well as for some orphans. Children numbered 300. Father Khalil Rahmeh led the NDU choir and then taught the children a carol. Father Salim Ragi told some stories and did some tricks. After some small acts by the children, there was a distribution of gifts.



It's Christmas Time

“It’s Christmas time, the season of love and understanding, the occasion yielding most happiness, the time when people put up decorations, bring in the Christmas tree and plant seeds that sprout to symbolise joy.

“We at NDU Pastoral Work had seeds of love, care and sharing that we planted and watered. The outcome was the NDU Charity Tree. It carries wishes, hopes and the power to make kids laugh, feeling the joy that Christmas brings. Every Christmas Ball bears a belief in the Yuletide’s magic touch, an orphan’s name with his letter to Santa Claus. If you would like to participate in bringing a smile to those orphans’ faces, if you think you can help us make those wishes come true, pick a Christmas Ball, open it and be a Santa Claus to one lonely kid.”

This is what you will find next to the Christmas Tree at the upper cafeteria.. It is the result of a little effort and much thoughtfulness. Its purpose is to let as many people as possible feel the joy of Christmas, the time of care, of deeds of charity, of joy and of festivity, and all this by people like yourself picking a Christmas Ball from this magical tree, taking part in an orphan’s dream, and helping us win back that innocent smile..

You can also find two baskets waiting to be filled with those small, insignificant, easy-to-get candies that are small, secret dreams for others.

As at Christmas most dreams must come true, we need your help in filling the boxes and answering those small letters in the Christmas Balls. We are counting on your support and on the child in you who still hopes for a better world and dreams of spreading joy around.

Lara Ghanimeh B.S.Biology,
NDU Pastoral Work

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Following the well-established NDU tradition, at midday on November 21st all administrators, faculty, staff and students commemorated Independence Day by a simple ceremony of Raising the Flag, at the main entrance of the Central Court.

Thinking of Independence...



NDU students honour the flag.

STUDENT CABINET ELECTIONS

An orderly November 19th

Under the supervision of the Student Affairs Office and its Director Dr. Chahine Ghais, the election on November 19th of a new NDU Student Cabinet for the academic year 2001-2002 passed off in a calm and democratic atmosphere. Prior to the election, photographs of the candidates were affixed on the University walls and copies were distributed of the programmes of the three rival lists, programmes that were made up of practical suggestions for further improvement of the campus, of student welfare, and of opportunities for study. The lists were composed as follows.

List of CHANGE:

Sophomore: Miriam Tawk, Rabih Khoury, Pascal Kassab, George Tarabay, Jad Arida, Wissam Abi Aad, George Nassif.

Junior: Nicolas Zeidan, Richard Abou Jawde, Samir Mattar, Vanig Dakessian, Ramzy Karkaby, Toufic Keyrouz, Rodrigue Akiki.

Seniors: Sohad Abou Chabke, Raymond Mattar, Chady Nemer, Gilbert Kdeiss, Imad Nacouzi, Bakhos Alwan, Rudy Kozah.



Dr. Chahine Ghais and his team supervise

The INDEPENDENT LIST:

Sophomore: Khalil Asmar, Youssef Bechaalany, Serge Yasmine, Eddy Youssef, Michel Honein, Guy Khoury, Samer Ghorayeb.

Junior: Ralph Rizk, Henri Haddad, Riad Mouawad, Jean-Paul Hage, Hady Salameh, Joseph Abou Nader, Charbel Boulahdou.

Senior: Tony Korban, Lucien Bourjeily, Tommy Touma, Elie Daou, Wadih Nakhle, Pedro Maroun Eid, Nassim Ghorayeb.

The Majority List:

Sophomore: Wissam Abi Nader, Antoine Bismarjy, Edmond Bouez, Raymond Keyrouz, Joe Saliba, Rock Chlela, George Houeiss.

Junior: Joy Khoury, Karen-Carol Sherfan, Cynthia Massaad, Riad Fahed, Dany Roumoz, Nelson Daou, Henri Kaii.

Senior: Sami Chalhoub, Elie Khoury, Joseph Lahoud, Jean Gemayel, Salim Tayah, Samer El Hajj, Dany Chakhtoura.



The debate



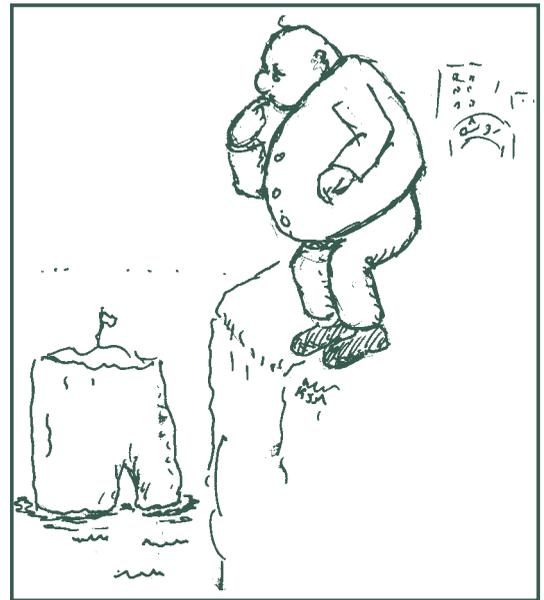
One of the lists

When the results were announced, it appeared that the Majority List had taken all the places. Its programme included among others the following proposals: provision of photocopying machines, exhibitions of student skills for all majors, a students' suggestions box, student representation in the financial aid committee and the disciplinary committee, sports events, environmental projects such as recycling, finding training opportunities for undergraduates and graduates, distribution of a percentage of Student Cabinet funds to needy students, support for needy clubs, lowering GPA requirements for certain scholarships, upgrading the computer for graphics and interior design students, a small theatre, and the installation of lockers.



Voting

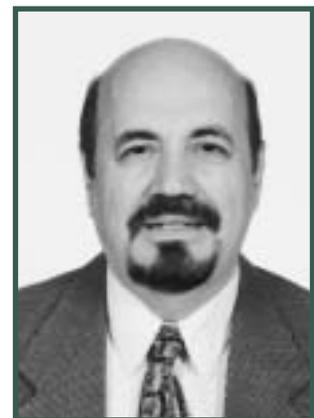
Do you feel alarm and despondency about the Value Added Tax? Before you jump off the Raouché get the real low-down from the Faculty of Business Administration and Economics. The Dean Dr. Antoine Karam and Ass. Professor Victor Bahous will tell you all about it.



THE MEANING AND IMPACT OF A VALUE-ADDED TAX (VAT) IN LEBANON

If the Lebanese Parliament gives its approval, starting on January 1st, 2002, Lebanon will be one of over one hundred and twenty-five countries with a Value-Added Tax (VAT). Like anything new, the VAT is causing controversies, different interpretations and mixed expectations. And since it is a tax – and no one likes taxes of any kind – there is the added feeling of anxiety and fears about its possible legal, financial and economic consequences. There are also the additional costs associated with educating business owners, managers and the general public as well as the relatively high implementation and collection costs engendered by any new major tax.

Doctor Antoine
Karam



➔ What is a VAT?

A Value-Added Tax is somewhat similar to a broad-based sales tax. The VAT is widely used in Europe, while a general sales tax is widely used in the different individual states in the USA.

The VAT is a major form of what are called ad valorem taxes, that is to say taxes computed as a percentage of the money value of the added value of output of a given product or service at every stage of its production. In addition, the VAT usually covers transactions related to the distribution of goods and services, whether they are locally produced or imported. In spite of the fact that VAT is collected by businesses from buyers of goods and services and paid to the government, it is nevertheless a consumption tax, ultimately paid by consumers in higher prices of the goods and services covered by this tax.

➔ A Numerical Example of a Value-Added Tax

Although basic and essential goods such as bread are usually excluded from VAT, we are nonetheless going to illustrate the work of the VAT on the simple and straightforward example of the activities connected with bread production and distribution.

| (1) Stages of Production | (2) \$ Gross value of the product | (3) \$ value of intermediate Inputs | (4) \$ value added | (5) \$ VAT (10%) | (6) Income created net of VAT |
|---|--|--|--------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Stage 1 \$ value of wheat produced (per kg.) | \$0.18 | \$0 | \$0.18 | \$0.018 | \$0.162 |
| Stage 2 \$ value of flour produce (per kg.) | 0.42 | 0.18 | 0.24 | 0.024 | 0.216 |
| Stage 3 \$ value of bread produced (per kg.) | 0.80 | 0.42 | 0.38 | 0.038 | 0.342 |
| Stage 4 \$ value of bread sold by grocery stores (per kg.) | 1.00 | 0.80 | 0.20 | 0.020 | 0.180 |
| Value of final Product, total value added, and total VAT (per kg.) | \$1.00 | --- | \$1.00 | \$0.10 | \$0.90 |

➔ Value Added on \$1/kg of Bread Output with a 10% VAT Rate

The example above illustrates a 10% VAT rate imposed on the \$ value added at each stage of bread production and distribution. This assumes that bread goes through four stages, from stage one of wheat production, to flour, to bread (in the bakeries), to bread available in the grocery stores. The \$ values added in column (4) are obtained by subtracting the \$ value of intermediate inputs (raw materials, power, labor inputs, etc.) used in column (3) from the \$ gross value of the output at the stage given in column (2). Thus during the first stage \$0.18 of wheat is added for every \$1 of bread produced. Similarly, \$0.24 of flour, \$0.38 of bread (at the bakery level), and \$0.20 of bread at the retail grocery stores are added during the succeeding stages. In column (5), VAT is calculated at 10% of the value added at each stage of production and distribution. For all four stages, VAT totals \$0.10 out of every \$1 of bread produced and distributed, which is a VAT rate of 10% as initially assumed.

Column (5) gives net income generated by every \$1 of bread sold. The total of that column comes to \$0.90 for every \$1 of bread. Thus, \$0.10 + \$0.90 = \$1.00. That is, 90% of the net total income produced goes to factors and inputs of production (and

distribution) and 10% is supposed to go to the government in the form of value-added tax. In reality, the actual percentage (and total \$ amount) collected by the government will be less, due to the additional costs associated with inefficiencies of collection and administration.

The Proposed Lebanese Value-Added Tax

The Lebanese Government approved a draft law at its meeting of June 7th ,2001 to institute a Value-Added Tax (VAT) in Lebanon. With the recent, rather harsh, warning by the IMF about Lebanon's deteriorating public finances, the Lebanese Government has been desperately looking for new sources of budget revenue. and it has found in VAT the golden goose. Set at 10%, VAT is expected by the government to bring to its coffers about \$530 million in annual revenues, starting with the year 2002. In reality, VAT tax collection will be less than expected for many reasons. For one thing, we have to subtract from the expected tax money the associated collection costs estimated (in Europe) at about 10-11% of Vat monetary value. More importantly, the net collected VAT revenues are likely to be less than expected because, other things being equal, VAT would lead to a lower volume of transactions for goods and services, for their market demands are likely to become lower, and the prices to be paid by consumers higher. Businesses will not be able to pass all of the VAT on to the consumers and will have de facto to bear a part of the burden of that tax. In addition, we shall have the problem of evasion of payment to the government of all the VAT money collected by business firms and due to the government. In particular, the burden of collecting VAT is going to fall heavier on small businesses than on large ones. That is why the Lebanese Government is exempting companies from registration, if they choose to accept, with an annual turnover of less than LBP 500 million.

It should be clear that the more those economic sectors such as manufacturing and services that involve a large number of stages of production and distribution or a large number of middlemen before the final product or service reaches the final consumer, the more the transactions associated with them will have to bear the brunt of the VAT in proportion.

Another way of describing what happens with VAT is to say that when a business buys inputs either from domestic sources or from imports, it will have a theoretical liability towards the government to pay the 10% VAT, which in fact makes the VAT an input tax. But when the firm sells its final product, it will charge the buyer (another business or more usually the consumer) a 10% VAT which is the output tax. The business collects from the buyer the amount in dollars due. It subtracts the input tax it owes the government from the output tax it has collected if this happens within a period set by the government (monthly, quarterly, etc.). The net sum of the two is transferred to the government.

A VAT is an indirect tax, which means that it is not directly computed in relation to a person's gross or disposable income. Like all indirect taxes, it could be regressive in its impact. This means that it would hurt the poor and middle classes relatively more than it would the wealthier class. That is why the

VAT is usually accompanied by an exemption on basic goods and services such as fresh food, bread, books, medicines, education, public transport, etc..

The Lebanese Government has been preparing itself for more than two years to implement the VAT. With the help in money and personnel of the IMF and the European Union, it has trained about 170 employees to take over the administration of the new tax. However, no corresponding effort has been made to explain VAT to businesses and to the general public, who remain in almost complete ignorance and in a state of anxiety, living through a period of what may be described as VAT-phobia!

VAT or no VAT, any tax right now is an additional burden on business, on the consumer, on the national economy, and on its possibilities for growth. On the other hand the Lebanese Government is in such dire financial straits that more revenue from any source is badly needed.

It remains true that as in almost everything in life, the devil is in the details (in what is really excluded from VAT.) The good that might come out of it lies in good education of the public about this novel tax, in its efficient and fair implementation, and in the good use of the revenues it will generate.

VALUE ADDED TAX: DOES IT WORRY US?

Victor Bahous, Ass. Professor, FBAE, NDU



January 1st, 2002, Lebanon will start applying the Value-Added Tax (VAT), following the example of many other countries in the world and adding its name to their list as number 124. This list includes both developed and developing nations, most of which took the decision many years ago (Senuora, 2001). Does it mean that Lebanon should have applied this tax before?

From a technical point of view, value-added taxes, like any other taxes, serve the nation's purpose of increasing public revenues and thereby reducing its deficit (Senuora, 2001), while at the same time decreasing the purchasing power of consumers. Value-Added Tax is levied in a multi-stage process during the consumption process. It is paid by a business through buying goods and services and is discounted back by the same business as these goods and services are transferred to another business or to the consumer. It clearly implies that the final burden rests on the consumer. Governments prefer it to turnover tax because it is simpler to apply and it allows the discounting back of taxes paid by businesses upon rendering services or goods. In addition, it has an advantage over the sales tax, which does not cover the service sector and cannot be effectively controlled. Value-Added Tax is an objective tax because it is imposed on both local and imported products. It will help Lebanon to join the World Trade Organization and the European trading partnership, both of which require the elimination of customs tariffs. Therefore it will help Lebanon to seek a new source of revenue.

In Lebanon, direct taxes do not exceed 13% of GDP, while they exceed 40% in developed nations (Senuora, 2001). Different countries apply different value-added tax plans. These range from applying one simple rate to applying a whole set of variable rates based on the varying types of products. The rate sometimes goes as

high as 20%. Lebanon is planning to apply a simple rate, which is expected to be equal to 10% on all products and services. In a clear attempt to reduce the burden of this tax on the middle- and lower-class income brackets, the government is planning to issue a list of products and services that are exempted from this tax. The list includes agricultural and pharmaceutical products, meat and fish, in addition to medical, educational and public transport services. The government has announced a clear objective in using the revenues of the Value-Added Tax, which is to reduce the public debt. It is expected that these revenues will approach half a billion dollars, equal to 3% of the GDP (Senuora, 2001).

A clear and objective judgment is that the government has scattered plans in handling the economic situation (Newspaper opening, 2001). Such plans should have been part of a long-term strategy to overcome the economic difficulties.

In the early 1990's, the focus of the government was the construction of infrastructure, which cost over ten billion dollars. At that time there was no clear vision of the financing strategy. Based on the relatively sound credit worthiness of Lebanon, the government looked towards the easiest kind of source, but one with the highest cost (reaching 40%), which is the public and external debt. Moreover, an objective plan for servicing that debt never existed. Then, throughout that period up until the present day, the government has been announcing from time to time independent plans to deal with the financial crisis.. It has been focusing on tackling inter-related issues independently. We can take the following example.

It waited until the year 2000 to handle the huge losses of a public enterprise, the MEA. MEA had reported losses of \$360 million over the last four years because of corruption and lack of strategic planning. Today MEA does not own a single aircraft. Its fleet is made up of aircraft on lease, costing \$ 250,000 per month per plane, whereas such sums could have been used to buy the planes over a period of 20-30 years. In 1997, MEA sold three jumbo jets for \$ 60 million, including spare parts to a value of \$ 18 million. The market price was \$ 60 million each (Khatib, 2000).

In the year 2001, the government started looking at Tele-Liban. Whereas before the war Tele-Liban was among the leading stations in the region, today it is yet another government-run organization with huge losses and debts open to intervention by politicians. The operating result of the year 2000 showed losses of \$ 20 million. The solution to this problem is still pending (Tavoukjian, 2001).

The problems of electricity, water and power have not yet

been tackled. Baydoun (2001), Minister for Electricity, Water and Power, said that privatization of the electricity sector required a three-year period to move it from the public to the private sector.

During this period a managing partner from the private sector with no more than 10% ownership is required to improve the efficiency of this sector before its shares can be entered in the Stock Exchange.

In its search to increase its revenues, the government has had contradictory plans. Early in 1999 it increased taxes by increasing tax rates and by imposing new taxes. In the year 2001, the Lebanese Government took a decision to drastically reduce the import tariffs. This was justified by the belief that it would help businesses to increase their trading efficiency. Marwan Iskander, an economist, believed that the step was a psychological one. He added that the step should be supplemented by another measure to compensate the loss in public revenue due to the lowering of taxes (Kirsten, 2001).

It is believed that the proceeds of the privatization process would have been enough to finance the cost of infrastructure if it had been done early in the 1990s. Now it is realized that these proceeds can hardly cover the cost of financing for one year.

help Lebanon
to seek
a new source
of revenue

Saidi (1999), the Minister of the Economy, Trade and Industry at the time, said that the 1999 government's five-year budget included the privatization process as one of its major goals of economic development, but it has never been applied.

The public debt in the year 2000 reached \$ 23.27 billion, which is equivalent to 145% of GDP. According to a recent study, the cost of servicing debts is equal to the total revenues of the State (Sawabini, 2001)..

In addition, Ayoub (2001) argued that it was worth noting that the government was on the one hand encouraging international investors to participate in the economic development of Lebanon with a policy set to provide a healthy financial environment. On the other hand it supported the activities of the Lebanese Resistance against Israel in the South, which created a duality in the objectives

set. It is clear that the basic requirements of these two groups stand at opposite extremes. Political stability, which is an important and basic element for international investors, is hard to conciliate with the support of military activities in the South.

Finally the government has no clear strategy and contingency plans to face the financial crisis, which makes us raise the following question: Applying the Value-Added Tax, an added plan, does it worry us?

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THE STORY OF THE ROSARY

One afternoon, a student passed by my office and inquired, "Sir, if you were to be asked the most distinctive emblem of Catholics, what would your answer be?" Without any hesitation, I took the object out of my shirt pocket and showed it to him, the Rosary.

"The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the Rosary shall not perish." This was the promise of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Since the early centuries of Christianity, prayers and hymns of praise have been addressed to Mary, Mother of God, to express our veneration for her. During the last two centuries she has appeared in various parts of the world, such as Lourdes, Fatima, Guadalupe and Madugorje, and called for a great increase in the use of the Rosary, her favorite prayer. Mary has said repeatedly that the wicked scheming and jealousy of the devil are largely responsible for making people neglect the Holy Rosary and in this way have blocked the flow of God's grace upon the world. In every apparition, Mary has invited her devotees to recite the Rosary as a powerful weapon to bring true peace on earth.

The origin of the Rosary can be traced back to the ninth century, when monks recited the 150 Psalms of David daily. Because very few people outside the monasteries knew how to read and because the 150 Psalms were too long to memorize, the lay people were unable to adopt this form of prayer for their own use. So an Irish monk suggested to his neighbors that they pray 150 Our Fathers instead of reciting all the Psalms. In order to keep count of their Our Fathers, people invented many devices until eventually they began to use strings having fifty pieces of wood.

St. Peter Damien, who died in 1072, was the first to mention the Angelic Salutation, which makes up most of the first part of our Hail Mary. It remained for some time a simple salutation, "Hail Mary, full of grace...", rather than an actual prayer. In the year 1214, the Rosary was given to the Church by St. Dominic, founder of the Dominican Order, who had received it from the Blessed Virgin Mary before the altar of St. James. Historical documents affirm that it was a Dominican preacher, Blessed Alan de la Roche, who in 1460 gave it the name of Rosary in its present form, meaning Crown of Roses. The Rosary was divided into three chaplets of fifty Hail Mary's each, these in turn being divided into tens (decades), for meditation on the five Joyful Mysteries, the five Sorrowful Mysteries and the five Glorious Mysteries. At the same time the second half of the Hail Mary was added, "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen." Also, the "Glory be ..." was added to close each decade. Our Lady has shown her approval of the name Rosary by revealing to several people that each time they said a Hail Mary they were giving her a beautiful rose and that each complete Rosary made a crown of Roses. In 1569 Pope Pius V gave the Rosary official approbation. However, it was not until her Apparition at Fatima in 1917 that Mary finally revealed herself as Our Lady of the Rosary.

The Rosary is a simple form of prayer, made of two divinely revealed parts, to be seen in the Gospels, the Lord's Prayer and the Angelic Salutation. The purpose of the Rosary is to help us keep in mind the principal events and mysteries in the history of our salvation and to thank and praise God for them. The Rosary combines both vocal prayer (the Our Fathers and Hail Marys) and mental prayer (meditation on the lives of Christ and of Mary).

There is no prayer that is easier, more pleasing, more precious, more helpful and more profound than the Rosary. It is recited throughout the world. It is often said in common but it remains above all an individual prayer. There is a Feast of the Rosary on October 7, celebrated in all churches which possess an altar dedicated to the Holy Rosary.

On August 6, 1945, when the Atomic Bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, a small community of eight Jesuit Fathers, a few hundred meters from ground zero, remained unharmed while everybody else in a radius of two kilometers was killed. A number of scientists carried out investigations for several years in search of some scientific explanation. Father Huber Schiffer, one of the eight priests, all of whom were still alive and well, said at a seminar that there was only one thing that had made their house survive. They recited the Holy Rosary every day.

During a private audience I had with the Reverend Msgr. M. Bransfield, Rector of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C., we were discussing the science of Psychology and Religion, and he told me the following story:

"A proud university student sat next to an old man on a train in France. He noticed that the old gentleman was reciting the Rosary. 'Sir,' he said, 'do you believe in such a silly thing? Take my advice and throw that Rosary out of the window and learn what science has to say.'

" 'Science? I don't understand this science, perhaps you can explain it to me,' the old gentleman replied.

"The university student noticed that his fellow passenger was deeply moved. To avoid hurting the old man's feelings he said, 'Sir, give me your address and I will send you some literature to explain the matter to you.' The old man pulled out his business card. On reading the card, the student lowered his head in shame. The card read 'Louis Pasteur, Director of Scientific Research, Paris.' "

On June 1, 2001, two days before the ninth anniversary of the decease of the late Reverend Father Patrick Peyton, the famous Rosary Priest, the opening of his cause for beatification was announced from the Vatican. During the fifty years of his priesthood, Father Peyton encouraged millions of families around the world to recite the Rosary together daily in order to strengthen family life and to obtain peace for the world. He always asserted that with the Rosary all things became possible. The roots of Father Peyton's devotion went back to his parents who with their nine children prayed the Rosary every day. At

the age of nineteen he miraculously survived tuberculosis through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He conducted forty Rosary Crusades in many countries, including Brazil, Spain, Tanzania, India and the Philippines. He is also known as the Catholic media pioneer, since he produced 600 radio and TV programs. Behind all of Father Peyton's achievements there was a prayerful man of deep faith and piety who always had the Rosary in his hand. Father Patrick Peyton now has the title Servant of God, following the acceptance by Rome of his cause.

On October 14th, 2001, for the fourth time in two weeks, Pope John Paul II appealed to the faithful to pray the Rosary. He said:

"Given the present international situation, I have invited individuals and communities to pray the Rosary for Peace. The Rosary is the contemplation of Christ in his mysteries in close union with Mary Most Holy ... And who better than Mary can accompany us in this journey of Heart and mind?"

Information collected by
Mr. Simon A. Abou Jaoudeh

We advise students to note the proper punctuation as shown above for quotations within a quotation, with alternating double and single inverted commas. They should also note the correct punctuation for quotations that are several paragraphs long, inverted commas opening each paragraph but closing only the last. Full stops and commas should be inside closing quotation marks unless these enclose a single word or some particular expression. -Ed.

A LETTER TO DESDEMONA



Dear Desdemona,

Iago's false portrayal of what you really are prompted me to write you. Iago's devious scheme and Othello's naivety in believing in your deceptive nature, made me want to scream in anguish, for there is nothing more frustrating than injustice.

Why did Othello choose to believe Iago rather than Desdemona? Did Othello really have a choice or was he so cleverly manipulated by trusted "honest Iago", his friend and companion for so many years, that he could not think straight any more? Was he so insecure as not to believe that someone as beautiful as you could actually love him? Did you not, dear Desdemona, marry the Moor, thus "preferring" him to your father, and in front of a whole company make a superb declaration of love and loyalty to Othello? Did you not stand up to your father and explain in all sincerity that you owed the Moor your duty and loyalty, "so much duty as my mother owed to you"? Your commitment to Othello cannot be reciprocated. The "foolish" Moor is quite incapable of reciprocating your unfaltering loyalty. Ever the noble lady, and until the last hour, not once did you blame your "kind lord". In answer to Emilia's question "Who hath done this deed?" you replied, "I myself."

Alas, Emilia was part of the devious ploy as well as Iago. In accepting to steal the handkerchief, she contributed to providing the alleged "proof" of your dishonesty. I so wish I could have been there, dear Desdemona, to warn you not to be so trusting. People are not so noble and kind hearted as you are. To think that, were it not for the devilish Iago, you and your beloved Moor could have lived happily ever after! Why is it, I wonder, that men do not trust women.

There you were torn between your love to your dear father and your love or "duty" to your beloved husband. Why, I ask, should you have to choose? Are not these kinds of emotions perfectly justifiable and understandable?

Why should a woman have to justify her love – such a different kind of love – to the men in her life? Are you not allowed to

respect and love your father, and honor and love your husband as well? Why does the notion of "divided duty" have to come out? In truth, it is your father's inability to relinquish his paternal hold on you, your father's refusal to allow you to choose your own destiny, that is the problem. Yet, from the very beginning, you answered your father's questions, not with challenge, but with respect and honesty. Your response was strong and honest, but quite frankly, my dear, neither man deserves you; Brabantio does not deserve an obedient and loving daughter such as you, and Othello does not deserve the loyal and compassionate wife that you are. Who is to blame for this absurd tragedy? Iago for his devilish conspiracy, Othello for his blindness to the truth, Emilia for – unknowingly – contributing to your misfortune, or you, dear Desdemona, for being so trusting and pure, and for not foreseeing the outcome of the whole disastrous connivance?

Nay, let us only blame the time you lived in, a time when women were viewed as untrustworthy and devoid of character; a time when

men – and men alone – ruled the world, disrespectfully of women’s wishes, for women did not count for much at the time. Not that the situation has changed much in the twenty-first century, but at least now women can voice their opinions, women can object to what they do not accept, and women actually have legal rights!

Othello’s jealousy blinded him of all reason. His jealousy, although not rooted in reality, is so rooted in his mind that he is jealous for jealousy’s sake. Thus, to return to my earlier question, why did Othello believe Iago? Was it because, in order to believe you, Othello would have had to have faith in you, beyond reason, something unfortunately he had lost?

Thus, Othello was left without any choice but to react with his “guts” rather than with his mind.

In closing, I would like to add that your innocence of any act of adultery or treachery of any kind makes Othello’s mistake even worse. Your love surpasses understanding in its ability to fuse with your loved one and its willingness to hold on to love at all costs.

Your charitable, pure and devoted nature is incomparable. Your strength of character is commendable, your sense of morality amazing. In contrast, Othello’s insecurity seems larger than life.

After all, it may be more appropriate to pity “poor Othello” rather than Desdemona, for you evoke nothing less than total admiration and respect.

May you rest in peace.

**Amal (woman of the 21st century)
(Dr. Amal Saleeby Malek)**

LE VIEIL HOMME ET SON ÂME



Un vieil homme tissant sa trame
Dans l’espace et le temps
Voulut contempler son âme
En passant.

Dis-moi âme
Où voudrais-tu que je t’emmène ?
Hors de ce monde
Hors de l’infini.

Loin, plus loin des jours
Plus loin des nuits
Plus loin des ténèbres
Plus loin de la vie.

... Ainsi promena-t-il son âme
En dehors de l’oubli.

Dr. Amal Saleeby Malek

The Atomic Bomb

OF THE POOR

EDITED BY FADIA EL-HAGE

Are we going to face a Third World War? Our planet Earth indeed faces military and economic wars that threaten the future of populations numbering countless millions. A Western fleet is ready with all its rockets and various lethal weapons backed by great numbers of aircraft, submarines and tanks and by thousands of military personnel. All are tensed ready to contribute to this vicious circle of violence. It is certain that humanitarian catastrophe will affect many millions, whether they are directly involved in the war or not.

As a matter of fact, the great industrial nations keep on producing and developing biological weapons, charged with fatal diseases. Are they going to be used in a Third World War? The huge store of biological weapons can cause a complete genocide if used internationally and no form of protective mask will be of avail against them.

Let us get a general idea about chemical weapons. Forty-eight countries own weapons of this type, so that the international store has attained a figure of 26 million tons, with a yearly increase of 2 million tons. The United States, Russia, China, France and Great Britain own 85% of this huge arsenal, which is enough to wipe out all living creatures. The Hague Treaty of 1899 considered the use of such weapons as barbarous. Unfortunately, chemical and even biological weapons were used throughout the wars of the 20th century and caused the death of millions.

Here are some statistics about their use. 125,000 tons were used during the First World War, causing the death of a quarter of a



million individuals while three million others were permanently handicapped. 250,000 tons were used during the Second World War. Three million were killed and six million were injured and became handicapped. Between the years 1945 and 2001, three million tons of these weapons were discharged during the different regional wars, particularly in Vietnam and Cambodia, and in the conflicts involving Afghanistan and the USSR (1979-1986), and South

Africa and Namibia. Portugal used these weapons against Angola (1970-72), Egypt against Yemen, and Cuba against Unita, also in Angola (1985).

During the nineteen-thirties, Germany, Italy and Japan were the countries considered to have the greatest production. Since 1899, all the international agreements have treated this issue, but they have remained so much paper, without any serious application.

These weapons have the following characteristics:

Their cost is low and their production does not need advanced technology.

Unlike atomic weapons, they make no noise.

They can spread the most deadly fatal diseases, such as anthrax, plague and various fevers..

They are cheap and easy to produce. Any Third World country can produce such weapons, known as "the Atomic Bomb of the poor".

The missiles filled with chemicals or bacteria have a range of thousands of kilometres and so can spread fatal diseases far and wide.

The weak in particular are threatened by the use of such weapons. There are always individuals with a passion for power and wanting to dominate the helpless. Suddenly the world finds itself within a circle of countries able to threaten all the life in the planet. All the international negotiations have proved useless and countries have continued to develop and to produce biological arms.

Many thousands of people have been killed or wounded as a result of catastrophic explosions since the Second World War. In December of 1984 chemical explosions in a factory of Bhabhal, a city in India, killed or wounded around 30,000 people. A fire produced poisonous pollutants threatening some 850,000 residents. Hundreds of individuals suffered as a result from lung complaints. A few years ago highly toxic serine gas was deliberately released in a subway station of Tokyo used by great numbers of travellers. Many suffered dizziness and quite a few died. In September of 2001 there was an explosion in a factory at Toulouse in France involving about 4,500 tons of flammable and poisonous chemicals. 1,250 workers were killed and hundreds suffered from severe burns.

Let us face the facts. Are we threatened by biological warfare or will international negotiations finally succeed in calming the rivalry between the industrial nations which are striving to control weaker countries rich in natural resources such as oil, water and minerals?

IS IT FAIR TO FACE TERRORISM BY TAKING REVENGE?

Here it is worth mentioning that Israel is considered number six in the production of weapons of the type we are discussing, but international society keeps silent about it.. On the other hand, Iraq is kept under control and not allowed to produce such weapons through the implementation of a military and economic boycott.

In the opinion of many, poverty and illiteracy are major causes of terrorism and violence. How can these reasons be forgotten? In point of fact, through implementing economic and technical programs, and improving the standard of living, poor countries can be helped to rid themselves of gangs devoted to violence. According to an old proverb, who sows a wind will harvest a storm. The circle of violence and of terrorism knows no end. If ever there is a Third World War (we ask God to be merciful and not allow it), the economic and military shrapnel will attain hundreds of millions. Remember that some societies are still suffering from the consequences of the Second World War even after half a century.

AN INTRODUCTION TO FOSSILS

By Joe Chamma

Millions of years ago, long before there were any people on the earth, the world was already full of animals and plants. No human being ever saw them while they were still living, yet we know exactly what they looked like because the remains of many of them still exist. These remains are called fossils. The oldest fossils are those of bacteria and simple algae found in rocks over 3,200 million years old.

Where fossils are found

Most of the animals that have become fossilised are found in sedimentary rocks. Over millions of years, more and more layers of sand and mud covered the animals or plants. Gradually, the layers hardened and became rock. Fossils can be found in places where wind and water have worn the rock away.

Two varieties of fossil

Telling the age of fossils

Scientists can tell the age of fossils in several ways. They can sometimes tell the age of rocks, and of the



Ammonite shell

fossils in them, by measuring any changes to the rocks that have taken place. They can also discover the age of some fossils and rocks by finding their content of certain chemicals, particularly degraded radio-active elements.

Fossils tell us a lot about changes in the earth. For example, when remains of marine animals are found on land, we know that the land was once under the sea.



Dinosaur footprint

Kinds of fossils

Remains are found in other materials as well as in rock. Many are found preserved in ice, in tar, or in amber.

Whole animals. Whole animals have been preserved. A few woolly rhinoceroses and woolly mammoths, animals that lived tens of thousands of years ago, were “deep frozen” when they fell into holes in snow and ice. Insects have been perfectly preserved for millions of years in amber.

Parts of animals. Usually only the hard parts of animal bodies have been preserved, such as teeth, bones and shells. Sometimes an animal’s body has dried out until only a film of carbon is left. The carbon shows the outline of the animal’s body.

Petrified fossils. Often an animal part has been petrified, that is to say turned into stone. Water in the soil has slowly dissolved away an animal or plant; then minerals carried in the water have built up in the space

left and formed a piece of rock that looks just like the animal or plant.

Moulds. When water has completely dissolved away the body of a buried animal, an empty space is left which has exactly the same shape, forming a mould. This may be filled by mud which solidifies or be filled by scientists using plaster. Then a cast is obtained which looks exactly like the animal.

Tracks. Among the most interesting fossils are tracks in the form of footprints left by animals when they were walking across mud. Then the mud hardened to rock, preserving the footprints.

A tongue-twister:

try saying ten
times quickly,
“She sells
seashells
on the
Seychelles
seashore.”

Joe Chamma

LOVE, HATE and my COMPUTER



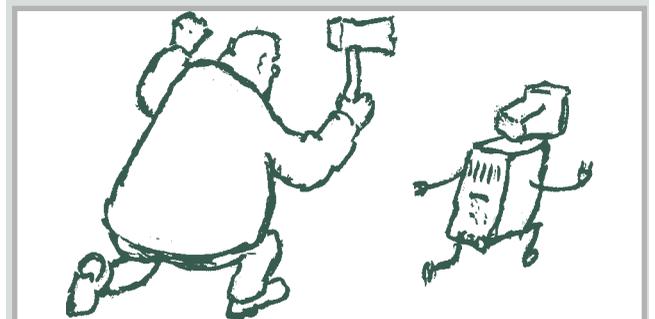
by *Kenneth Mortimer*

I suppose most people who are not professional computer experts have a love-hate relationship with their computer. The reasons for loving it are obvious. When translating a book in 1986, for every fifty pages I had to make half-a-dozen trips to the printing press, correcting and recorrecting the work of the offset typist, whose command of English was rather less than perfect. Now, I just make a print-out to double check my text, and then give the floppy to the client and get paid. I can alter, add and delete without spoiling the page. The spelling check makes it far easier to avoid misprints.

However, there are disadvantages. When anything went wrong with my old typewriters, with a bit of patience and a screwdriver I was always able to set matters right. But when my computer tells me that I have done an illicit operation (as though I were a drugs trafficker or worse) and the instructions and options keep going in circles, or when the printer says the paper is maladjusted after I have

adjusted it twenty times, or when the marker stops blinking and the arrow disappears, I am at a complete loss. I do think our NDU computer engineers would do us great service if they invented a computer made of bouncing plastics or india-rubber, so one could punch it, kick it, jump on it or throw it against the wall without inflicting too much damage.

My one satisfaction is that people far more computer-wise than myself seem to have problems. Some have lost the fruit of months of painstaking research and careful arrangement through some false touch of a key. I hear on the BBC that most office workers in London suffer from stress because every day they have a fight with some pig-headed computer. One speaker had a hot-line service so that his clients could ring him up for advice when their computer was playing them up. One of his customers had actually shot his computer with a gun.



I learnt to write on a mechanical typewriter, using all ten fingers, in a matter of hours all by myself. A computer is a different matter. My first computer was delivered me by a dealer who had a doctorate in *logiciel* from Louvain University in Belgium. I shall never forget his expression when I asked him for the handbook of instructions for users. I supposed that there would be some little 8-page pamphlet (perhaps in English, French, German, Spanish and Japanese) like the ones you get when you buy a washing machine or a micro-wave oven. When I tried to find a book of instructions, I discovered that if you needed the book you couldn't understand it, and if you could understand it you didn't need it. One BBC expert talking about books for beginners admitted that computer engineers were generally not literary people, and literary people (ones who could write clear English) generally knew little or nothing about computers. Fortunately I worked at NDU, where kind friends were able to help me with my problems. Otherwise I too would probably have shot either the computer or myself.

So let us admit that a computer is an enormous help for writing. One can do a volume of work that would have been impossible without it. But I have some advice even for the experts.

Do not be misled by the green lines of the grammar check.

It may be that computers do not know English very well. Perhaps the complexities and contortions of such an idiomatic and subtle language as English are beyond them and the green lines are simply a warning that the computer has thrown up its hands in despair, so if you want to be sure that your sentence is correct you must check it yourself. Remember that English is **not**, repeat **not**, an easy language, *vide* the last issue of *NDU Spirit*.

Computers tend to be very suspicious of the Passive Voice of verbs. Every time you use the Passive Voice a green line appears, and if you press the matter further you are told that you have used the Passive



Voice. So what? Incidentally, my computer has evidently given up trying to warn me, knowing that I do not take any notice of its stupid remarks. The Passive Voice is part of the English language, textbooks give paradigms and explanations about it, and there are plenty of cases where the use of the Active Voice would be bad English. Just as in Arabic, the Passive Voice is used where the doer of the action is either unknown (مجهول) or unimportant. For example:

John Smith was given a prize for a poem he wrote.

We do not know whether it was the headmaster or the school or a committee of parents or some outside benefactor such as a publisher of schoolbooks who presented the prize, and it does not matter.

Paul was fined for speeding.

It is not necessary to say who fined him. The only person it could possibly be is a policeman. If Paul was fined in court, it could only have been by the judge. Notice that the use of the passive verb makes the sentence much shorter and even more musical, and is therefore far better style.

The Passive Voice is also used when the doer of the action is much more vague than the recipient, whether or not one mentions the doer. For example:

My friend Peter was severely punished by the teacher for speaking in class.

My friend Peter is a much more precise indication than *the teacher*. Take also this sentence:

The Roman Empire was invaded by barbarian tribes. (O ho! Green line? I don't care a damn!)

The Roman Empire was something with a name, clear boundaries, great buildings and unified government. But *barbarian tribes* leaves us with a confused image of chaotic hordes of savages and therefore the Passive Voice gives a much better sentence than *Barbarian tribes invaded the Roman Empire*.

Notice that the frequent use of the Passive Voice has made it very flexible in English. In particular, when there is a direct and an indirect object, it is more often the indirect object that becomes subject in the Passive, something which is impossible in French. Consider:

Active: *They told me the news.* (=told the news to me)

Passive: *I was told the news.*

Active: *Somebody sent Mary a letter.* (=sent a letter to Mary)

Passive: *Mary was sent a letter.*

This holds true even when there is a preposition or postposition after the verb. For example:

Active: *The headmaster spoke to him severely.*

Passive: *He was severely spoken to.*

Active: *His uncle put him up for the night.*

Passive: *He was put up for the night by his uncle.*

The Active Voice will come naturally if the uncle has already been referred to. If there has been no previous mention, the Passive Voice will highlight the word *uncle* as it comes at the end of the sentence.

Computers do not like the relative pronoun *which*. They prefer *that*. Heavens knows why. I suppose it is because they are not good at English. There are many cases where it is either incorrect to use *that* instead of *which* or *who* or at least ugly or unharmonious.

There are two kinds of relative clause. First, there is the **defining clause**, which tells you which particular individual person or thing you are referring to. It is not separated by commas, because it is an important part of the sentence. For example:

My uncle who lives in Argentina has a farm.

This means that I have several uncles, and it is the one who lives in Argentina who has a farm. Without the relative clause the sentence would be incomplete because you would not know which uncle I meant. In such sentences the word *which* may easily be replaced by *that*. It may even be omitted altogether if it is direct or indirect object and if the resulting sentence is simple and clear. If it is governed by a preposition, the preposition must come at the end of the relative clause. *That* may also replace the pronoun *who* or *whom* if the antecedent is very vague and general, but unless you have very sure judgment, particularly when

writing, *who* and *whom* generally sound far better. For example:

Anyone with whom you speak will tell you where my house is.

Or: *Anyone whom you speak with will tell you where my house is.*

Or: *Anyone that you speak with will tell you where my house is.*

Or: *Anyone you speak with will tell you where my house is.*

Second, there is the **non-defining clause**, which simply adds more information about an antecedent which is already clearly defined, or at least reminds you. It is like an addition in parenthesis, not usually strictly necessary, and therefore it is separated by commas. When one is speaking, there is a slight pause and change of pitch in the voice at the commas. For example:

My uncle Arthur, who lives in Argentina, has a farm.

Here it is perfectly clear which uncle I am talking about even if I leave out the relative clause. “*My Uncle Arthur has a farm*” has complete sense. If I simply say *My uncle*, without his name, I imply that I have only one uncle. **In such a clause you cannot use the word *that* to replace *who*, *whom* or *which* and you cannot omit the relative pronoun.** So you can tell that to your computer.

Admittedly, some relative clauses can fall into either category, for example: *That ex-army officer over there(,) whom I was telling you about(,) wants to meet you.* But when, as here, the relative subordinate clause comes in the middle of the sentence, you must put either two commas or none at all. If in doubt, you have at least a fifty-fifty chance of being right. My former pupils who in their uncertainty put only one comma soon got out of the habit!

Sometimes the pronoun *that* is precluded for stylistic reasons, at least in written English, as

when a postposition and a preposition come together, since you cannot put a preposition in front of that but must put it after the verb. *This the car in which we always go out* looks better than *This is the car that we always go out in.*

Another point: computers do not know the difference between a preposition and a conjunction. Sometimes a flag comes up with a sentence starting *It looks like you...*, followed by a conjugated verb. On page 59 of issue 21 of the *Spirit* we gave the example “It looks like you’re writing a letter.” *Like* is a preposition (sometimes a verb) and not a conjunction and therefore can be followed only by a noun or by a verb in the gerund form, i.e. ending in *-ing* and used as a noun, as in the example *Trying to find an address in Beirut is like looking for a needle in a haystack.*

Now of course in conversation many rules of grammar should not be too strictly applied. Gestures, expressions of the face and intonation of the voice all help to make clear your meaning to a friend who is in any case “on the same wavelength” as you are. The trouble comes when you have to write a longish letter, a report or a serious article, where the meaning must be perfectly clear thanks to good grammar, clear and logical sequence of ideas and flowing style. To sum up: take the green lines on the monitor screen as a warning to be careful, but don’t think you can learn grammar from your computer!

SI LES LIBANAIS M'ETAIENT CONTES



UN MARTYR DU GÉNOCIDE ARMÉNIEN: LÉONARD MELKI CAPUCIN LIBANAIS,

par le P. Salim Rizkallah
Résumé par le docteur George Labaki

Cette page vise à faire connaître aux Libanais leur histoire vieille de 6000 ans. L'histoire du Liban est inversement proportionnelle à son étendue: au pays des Cèdres l'histoire a vaincu la géographie.

Le Père Léonard, de son vrai nom Youssef Habib MELKI, est né à Baabdate au Metn le 4 octobre 1881, dans ce village dont l'histoire moderne est pétrie de la présence - ô combien singulière et bénie - des Pères Capucins. A la suite d'une pénible querelle, le futur Père Léonard décide de rejoindre l'Ordre des Capucins. Le jeune

Youssef est alors envoyé au Petit Séminaire de San Stéfano - ce qui constitua probablement un dépaysement pour ce jeune cèdre du Liban, qui quitta Baabdate en août 1897- où en plus du français, du latin, de l'italien, les étudiants devaient se mettre au turc et à l'arménien, idéal missionnaire oblige. Le 13 juillet, 1898, Youssef pris l'habit religieux en prenant comme nom Léonard en souvenir de saint Léonard de Port Maurice, célèbre prédicateur du XVIII siècle. Après le noviciat, Léonard, alias Youssef, fut envoyé au Séminaire de Boudja près de Smyrne en Turquie. Il gravit rapidement les échelons du sacerdoce: il reçut la tonsure le 10 février 1900, le diaconat le 24 juillet 1904, puis le sacerdoce en décembre 1904. Et c'est élevé à la dignité sacerdotale que le moine Léonard revint parmi les siens à Baabdate après avoir conquis la toison dorée. Beaucoup plus restait à venir: la toison éternelle sera bientôt au rendez-vous.

Sa première assignation fut à la Mission de Mardine, ville de Turquie où pour une fois les chrétiens étaient plus nombreux que les musulmans et où se cotoyaient grecs-catholiques, arméniens et chaldéens. Au cours de cette première mission, le Père Léonard s'occupe parmi d'autres activités du Tiers Ordre, très nombreux dans cette ville: plus de 400. Ses autres activités comprenaient l'enseignement et le travail pastoral. Dans cet environnement édifiant et bon enfant, commençait à se profiler l'ombre d'évènements qui allaient ensanglanter la Turquie et tout l'Orient. En effet, un Comité appelé "Jeune Turc" prend le pouvoir. Idéologiquement sectaire, les Jeunes Turcs prétendent régénérer la Turquie à n'importe quel prix: même au prix du massacre de communautés entières. Sous couvert d'appel à l'union et au progrès, les Jeunes Turcs rétablirent la Constitution de 1876 qui déclaraient l'égalité entre toutes les religions de l'Empire ...qui du reste ne fut jamais respecté. Avec le rétablissement de la Constitution, écrit un missionnaire Capucin, l'esprit de libertinage et d'indifférence religieuse s'introduisit dans toutes les Eglises d'Orient.

Atteint d'un mal de tête "acharné qui ne lui donne jamais de trêve" le Père Léonard est transféré à Mamouretel-Azziz, mais rien n'y fit; sa santé continuait à se détériorer. Léonard revint passer quelques temps dans son village, qu'il devait quitter pour toujours en 1911. Le Père Léonard rentra en Mésopotamie pour s'occuper de la mission de la ville d'Orfa. A l'ombre se proliférait la grande guerre qui devait éclater en août 1914. Les premières vexations contre les chrétiens ne tardèrent pas à commencer: arrestations, interrogatoires, enlèvements, assassinats...Le complot ourdi par les Jeunes Turcs visait à massacrer les chrétiens d'Orient injustement soupçonnés de faire le jeu des puissances européennes. La méthode des massacres consistaient à arrêter en masse les hommes, en premier lieu les notables, à les diriger vers des destinations inconnues, puis à les disperser en petits groupes avant de les massacrer. Le Père Léonard fut

transféré à Mardine. C'est dans l'église des capucins que le Père Léonard fut arrêté à l'aube du 15 juin 1915. Les soldats y découvrirent un cahier comprenant les noms des membres de la fraternité de Saint François: c'était suffisant pour prétendre que c'était une association française. Des mouchards rapportèrent aux Turcs l'existence de l'association du Précieux Sang. C'était suffisant pour l'accuser de vouloir verser le sang des musulmans!

Le mercredi 9 juin, les soldats sortirent le Père Léonard de sa cellule et se mirent à le battre. *Ils lui arrachèrent la barbe, lui enlevèrent les ongles des doigts et des orteils et le suspendirent la tête en bas pendant environ deux heures au cours desquelles ils se relayaient pour le battre avec des verges et des batons. Ils lui disaient: " Appelle la France pour qu'elle se hâte et vienne te tenir compagnie. Convoque tes amis pour qu'ils viennent te sauver." Mais le doux Père garda le silence, se confiant aux mains de son Seigneur. A la fin, ils le basculèrent dans l'escalier où il s'évanouit. Dieu seul sait ce qu'il endura de souffrances et de tortures de toute sortes. "* (1)

Un autre témoin, le P. Hyacinthe Simon, nous parle des souffrances du Père Léonard: "Citerai-je le PR

Léonard de Baabdate, missionnaire capucin, libanais de nationalité, qui dut boire tout un calice d'ignominie? Et pourquoi? Parce qu'il était le directeur de la Confrérie du Précieux Sang. La signification de ce mot "Précieux sang", Mamdouh bey la restreignit au sang des musulmans, dont le dit missionnaire convoitait et prêchait et favorisait la plus abondante effusion. D'autant plus que l'on avait trouvé la liste des membres de la dite confrérie affichée à la porte de l'église capucine c'était donc bien une association plus que séditiuse et nuisible. Elle ne se contentait pas de provoquer des troubles dans l'Empire, elle réclamait son sang. Et voici notre P. Léonard accablé d'injures et de crachats et de coups. Mais il tint ferme. Mamdouh bey torturait le P. Léonard, le P. Léonard bénissait Mamdouh bey."

D'autres chrétiens subissaient des massacres, à la tête desquels figuraient l'évêque arménien Mayolan qui devait connaître le martyr à côté du Père Léonard. Après avoir refusé une fois de plus d'abjurer la religion chrétienne, le sort des 417 chrétiens fut arrêté. A l'aube du jeudi 11 juin, le convoi devait quitter la ville de Mardine vers son ultime destination: la mort. Le même témoin oculaire, P. Hyacinthe Simon, rapporte: " *Le cortège funèbre s'avance lentement et en silence à travers les rues de la ville...Plusieurs portaient les chaînes aux bras, quelques uns même avaient le cou entouré des anneaux de fer. Tous étaient encadrés de cent soldats de la milice...On vit aussi le P. Léonard, capucin, brutalement frappé, lors de son passage devant son couvent...C'est lui qui eut l'honneur d'ouvrir le cortège, ayant à ses côtés deux tertiaires franciscains. On vit enfin Mgr Maloyan, tête et pieds nus, les fers au cou, fermant la procession, entouré de deux policiers..."* (3)

Quand les prisonniers avaient refusé une fois de plus d'apostasier, le massacre pouvait commencer. Les malheureux furent divisés en petits groupes. Certains furent emmenés près de la citadelle nommée Zarzawane. D'autres furent conduits au lieu dit "Grottes de Cheikhane". Ils furent exterminés jusqu'au dernier. Leur mort fit l'admiration des kurdes eux-mêmes. " *Jamais, dit l'un d'eux, nous n'avons vu pareille fermeté religieuse. Si pour des motifs analogues, les chrétiens se jetaient sur nous, nous nous ferions tous chrétiens à leur demande."*

Maloyan et Léonard - de même que tous les martyrs des massacres en Turquie de cette époque - sont considérés à juste raison des martyrs. D'ailleurs Monseigneur Maloyan vient d'être béatifié par le Pape Jean Paul II. (Les Arméniens avaient préféré présenter le procès de béatification de Mgr Maloyan séparément de celui de ses collègues.) Et comme le cas du P. Léonard est strictement semblable à celui du P. Léonard on peut espérer par la grace du Saint Esprit parvenir au même résultat.

(1) P. Rizkallah Salim, Un martyr du Genocide Arménien, Léonard Melki, Capucin Libanais, Baabdate, C.P.Selim Rizkallah, 2001, p. 95.

(2) Ibid. p. 97.

(3) Ibid. p. 118

(4) Ibid. p.119.

Dr. Georges LABAKI

UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1374 ON TERRORISM DR. GEORGES LABAKI, NDU

UN Security Council Resolution 1374 of September 28, 2001 brought about a major shift in international relations by calling upon all countries to take all appropriate measures to fight against terrorism. The resolution

“reaffirming further that such acts, like any act of internationalism terrorism, constitute a threat to international peace, (and) calls on States to work together urgently to prevent and suppress terrorist acts, including through increased cooperation and full implementation of the relevant international conventions relating to terrorism, and to suppress in their territories, by all lawful means, the conventions relating to terrorism, the financing and preparation of any acts of terrorism. The UN decision reaffirms the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence as recognized by the Charter of the United Nations.”

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Security Council decided that all states shall:

Prevent and suppress the financing of terrorist acts;

Criminalize the wilful provision or collection, by any means, directly or indirectly, of funds by their nationals or in their territories with the intention that the funds should be used,



or in the knowledge that they are to be used, in order to carry out terrorist acts;

Freeze without delay funds and other financial assets or economic resources of persons who commit, or attempt to commit, terrorist acts or participate in or facilitate the commission of terrorist acts; of entities owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such persons; and of persons or entities acting on behalf of, or at the direction of such persons and entities, including funds derived or generated from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such persons and associated persons and entities;

Prohibit their nationals or any persons or entities within their territories from making any funds, financial assets or economic resources or financial or other related services available, directly or indirectly, for the benefit of persons who commit or attempt to commit or facilitate or participate in the commission of terrorist acts, of

entities own or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such persons and of persons and entities acting on behalf of or at the direction of such persons;

On the other hand, all States are called upon to:

Refrain from providing any form of support, active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts, including by suppressing recruitment of members of terrorist groups and eliminating the supply of weapons to terrorists;

Take the necessary measures to prevent the commission of terrorist acts, including the provision of early warning to other States by exchange of information;

Deny safe haven to those who finance, plan, support, or commit terrorist acts, or provide safe havens;

Prevent those who finance, plan, facilitate, or commit terrorist acts from using their respective territories for those purposes against other States or their citizens;

Ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice and ensure that, in addition to any other measures against them, such terrorist acts are established as serious criminal offences in domestic laws and regulations and that the punishment duly reflects the seriousness of such terrorist acts;

Afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal proceedings relating to the financing or support of terrorist acts, including assistance in obtaining evidence in their possession necessary for the proceedings;

Prevent the movement of terrorists or terrorist groups by effective border controls and controls on issuance of identity papers and travel documents, and through measures for preventing counterfeiting, forgery or fraudulent use of identity papers and travel documents.

Also, the decision calls upon all States to

Find ways of intensifying and accelerating the exchange of operational information, especially regarding actions or movements of terrorist persons or networks; forged or falsified travel documents; traffic in arms, explosives or sensitive

materials; use of communication technologies by terrorist groups; and the threat posed by the possession of weapons of mass destruction by terrorist groups.

Exchange information in accordance with international and domestic law and cooperate on administrative and judicial matters to prevent the commission of terrorist acts;

Cooperate particularly through bilateral and multilateral arrangements and agreements, to prevent and suppress terrorist attacks and take action against perpetrators of such acts;

Become parties as soon as possible to the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism and Security Council Resolutions relating to terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism of 9 December 1999;

Increase cooperation and fully implement the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism and Security Council resolutions 1269 (1999) and 1368 (2001);

Take appropriate measures in conformity with the relevant provisions of national and international law, including international standards of human rights, before granting refugee status, for the purpose of ensuring that the asylum seeker has not planned, facilitated or participated in the commission of terrorist acts;

Ensure, in conformity with international law, that refugee status is not abused by the perpetrators, organizers or facilitators of terrorist acts, and that claims of political motivation are not recognized as grounds for refusing requests for the extradition of alleged terrorists;

The Security Council –

Notes with concern the close connection between international terrorism and transnational organized crime, illicit drugs, money-laundering, illegal arms-trafficking, and illegal movement of nuclear, chemical, biologically and other potentially deadly materials, and in this regard emphasizes the need to enhance coordination of efforts on national, sub-regional, regional and international levels in order to strengthen a global response to this serious challenge and threat to international security;

Declares that acts, methods, and practices of terrorism are contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations and that knowingly financing, planning and inciting terrorist acts are also contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

Decides that in accordance with rule 28 of its provisional rules of procedure, a Committee of the Security Council, consisting of all the members of the Council be formed, to monitor implementation of this resolution, with the assistance of appropriate expertise, and calls upon all States to report to the committee, no later than 90 days from the adoption of this resolution and thereafter according to a timetable to be proposed by the Committee, on the steps they have taken to implement this resolution;

Directs the Committee to delineate its tasks, submit a work program within 30 days of the adoption of this resolution, and to consider the support it requires, in consultation with the Secretary-General;

Expresses its determination to take all necessary steps in order to ensure the full implementation of this resolution in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter.

The major issue in the coming period will be to define precisely what is terrorism to avoid any misinterpretations of the decision. Moreover, a number of internal laws are being introduced, specially in the United States, to control money laundering and even banking and stock-exchange operations. Also, efforts will have to be deployed to make a distinction between the activity of national liberation movements and terrorism. Some countries will face major difficulties in their quest to convince super-powers in this connection. Finally, the need to combat by all means terrorist acts often motivated by intolerance or extremism must be met in a way in accordance with the United Nations Charter.

CAN WE FIND HOPE IN TODAY'S WORLD?

IS THERE ANY HOPE?

The future is uncertain.

Drugs are ruining cities and societies in schools, families and universities.

Families are falling apart.

Disease is killing our people.

IS THERE ANY HOPE?

Can we find any joy in our hearts?

Can we find fulfillment in life?

Can we have power and strength to live meaningful lives?

DOES ANYONE CARE?

We simply reply that we bear witness and we believe that there is somebody who cares, somebody who suffered for what we are asking now! Not because we have something that he may appreciate in us but because we are his brothers in our humanity!

It is true that "making of your life something makes of you someone." But...! The life that you make is not for yourself; it belongs to others and to GOD. Therefore, put into your life all the love you can and spread it to your brothers, as truly it leads to Glory.

Do not depend on others to bring peace and freedom to you! You should depend on yourself and on Him; you should be the mirror that reflects his image without fear as a witness for the truth. For what is real love and brotherhood in forgiveness seek the truth, and wherever you pass you will leave footprints.

Nowadays people hide their faces under masks; with the new millennium they become new chameleons. Their blindness changes and takes on different colors and new ethics. All their many masks harden their hearts, they are blind, their eyes see but their hearts are shut!

Leaders proclaim Peace, Truth and



Freedom! But they speak for their own advantage alone, for their souls seek to possess and to climb in the hierarchy to monarchy. Their sin is great because they knew the right but refused to enforce it, in their blindness they refused to see and to listen.

September 11th was a turning point. Now is the time to make changes. Make your examination of conscience and do not be afraid. With good will everything is possible. Each one should review his conscience, search it and then act. Let your minds distinguish between what is wrong and what is right and then make your decisions!

"We are made to understand each other, we are made for love," said J. Prévert.

Do we not have a common purpose, peace for our children and rightful living for our families?

Do not tell me that we are no more than flesh and bone or living in a world with no future Heaven or Hell!

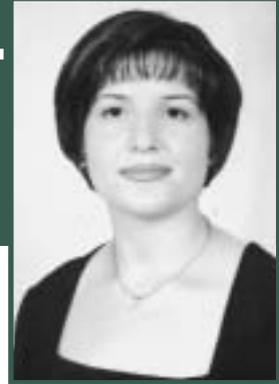
Nothing is more precious than your soul, and the good you do and your love. These are eternal. Keep this truth in your heart. Then the future will be certain, families will not fall apart, peace and joy shall reign in you, and you will have the power and the strength to lead a meaningful life.

Maybe once you had lost these values and had no hope. But NOW???

"The human spirit is the most noble spirit in this world and the human body is the most noble body in this world." From *Mafatih al-Ghayb*, Imam Fakhi al-Din al-Razi's interpretation of the Noble Qur'an.

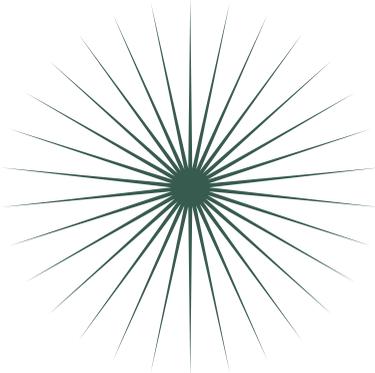
Mireille El Kassis

MoRRow, TomoRRow!



Awaiting the morrow... sweet dream to be clear;
Looking for tomorrow... fairy tale to become real;
Efforts relentless and energy unending to gain the laurel leaf.

Forever alive, forever young, forever energetic;
Almost hopeless but eager to fulfill their fantasy, children, young and adults...
All seek this glorious coming.
Believers and unbelievers, virtuous and sinners,
All living for their bright future to be present and plain.



Some haunted by this delusion take their own life.
Many who err, obsessed by their myth, come under the power of evil deceit.
Others seize the present moment to praise the Holy Name,
The name of our loving Lord, and prepare for the new morrow born,
A crib swinging to the enchantment of thrilling divine prayers swelling up from
their heart and soul.
But, at the same time, nations declare war and invade others' lands, driven by
passion for domination,
Although human beings have been created with enough intelligence and
perception to distinguish good from bad and virtue from evil.

Why worry? We can see.
However, we need to cleanse our hearts and our souls from all poisonous
impurities so that we may progress and rise high to heavenly serenity.
Maybe we are not perfect and may never attain full awareness and cognition;
But always in God we trust,
He who reserves for each of us the best, soon to come to light.
Tomorrow belongs to the steadfastly ambitious;
It revives among the good-hearted survivors,
And vanishes where cowardice and surrender exist.
Go ahead, make your choice, take part, and never falter.



SOMETHING for your GREY matter

We are grateful to Dr. Jean Fares, Dean of FNAS, for the following:

Recreational Mathematics

Tired of reading opinionated articles, but interesting in seeing and solving puzzles?

Recreational Mathematics is the space to look at, read through, and get some stimulation for your brain. Below you will find four amusing puzzles. Read them and figure out their solutions. In the next issue of *NDU Spirit* these puzzles will no longer be puzzles, for their solutions will be provided.

Puzzle 1

Take 16 soldiers and arrange them in 4 rows of 4 soldiers each. Can you remove 6, leaving an even number of soldiers in each row and each column?

Puzzle 2

A woman from the Bekaa was carrying a basket of eggs to market when a passer-by bumped into her. She dropped the basket and all the eggs broke. The passer-by, wishing to pay for her loss, kindly asked her, "How many eggs were there in your basket?"

"I don't remember exactly," the woman replied, "but my husband told me that if I sold them in lots of 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, there would always be one egg left over; but if I sold them in lots of 7, I would empty the basket."

What is the least possible number of eggs that were broken?

Puzzle 3

Once upon a time there was a wealthy merchant who was much respected by all who knew him. He had three sons, and it was his rule of life to treat them all exactly alike. One day this man fell sick and died, leaving all his possessions to his three sons in equal shares.

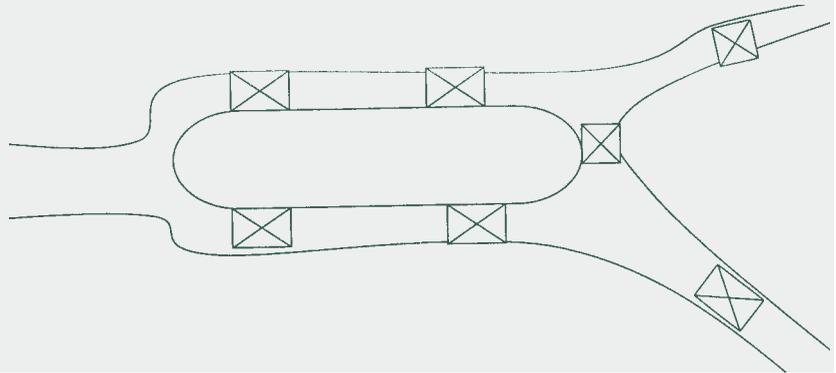
The only difficulty that arose in dividing the inheritance was over the stock of honey. There were 21 barrels, of which 7 were full, 7 were half full, and 7 were empty. The old man had left instructions that not only should every son receive an equal quantity of honey, but also that they should each receive exactly the same number of barrels, without any honey being transferred from barrel to barrel.

The distribution of the stock of honey was found to be puzzling, especially as every one of the brothers objected to taking more than four barrels of the same description.

Can you show how the brothers succeeded in making a correct division of the property?

Puzzle 4

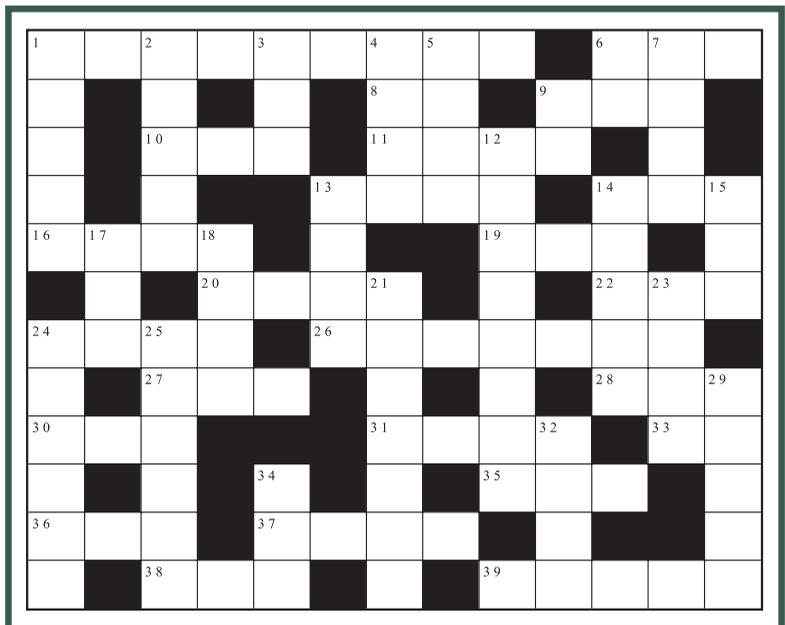
The Königsberg Bridges problem asks whether you can cross each of the seven bridges exactly once and return to your starting point. The X's represent the bridges.



CLUES

Across:

1. Science
6. Starts a series
8. Concerning
9. Exist
10. A colour
11. Any number between zero and nine
13. Old
14. Devoured
16. For fear that
19. Slippery fish
20. Part in a play
22. Boy, youth
24. Be regretful, low-spirited and withdrawn
26. Presentation of a book
27. Turn of a wheel
28. Gained
30. Infusion to drink
31. Goes with
33. Refusal
35. But, until now
36. Electrically charged particle
37. Monsoon cereal
38. Notice, observe
39. Fairies



Down:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Capital in the news | 15. Termination |
| 2. Man-eating monsters | 17. Self |
| 3. Conducted | 18. May be deciduous or evergreen |
| 4. May be a medicine or a poison | 21. Building |
| 5. It makes you what you are | 23. In due course, later |
| 6. Introduces alternative | 24. Intercellular tissue, mould |
| 7. Avian retreat | 25. Large shrimps |
| 9. Preposition | 29. They make up a scale |
| 12. Who one is | 32. Marine animal |
| 13. Capable | 34. Anger |
| 14. Permit | |

POUR TOUS LES CHEVAUX DU MONDE,

One of the factors that have enriched Lebanon and enabled it to play its unique role in the Arab World has been its absorption of French culture to the point where it has even been able to contribute to the French heritage. Too much has been made of a supposed conflict between the Arab and Western worlds, whereas in fact both belong to that Mediterranean civilisation whose existence has been emphasised by the Egyptian Nobel Prize winner Naguib Mahfouz.

It is with pleasure therefore that we have regularly printed poems taken from the collection *L'Heure bleue* by Dr. Amal Saleeby Malek, poems full of dreamlike magic. Now we have another collection of hers, *Pour tous les chevaux du monde*. We hope to draw on its pages from time to time to charm our readers.

K. J. M.

by
Dr. Amal Saleeby Malek,
éditions
Dar an-Nahar, 99 pages



*Pour tous
les chevaux du monde*

Amal Saleeby Malek



ÉDITIONS DAR AN-NAHAR