

## Tourist attraction



Photo by Mohammed Zaatar

While local visitors have neglected the Fatima Gate lately, even during holidays, unlike the days that followed the liberation of the South, the Israeli side is attracting numerous tourists to the Metulla settlement park. Water that flows from Lebanon passes through the Israeli park, planted with cinchona trees and assorted plants, attracting visitors from around the country. Local residents living near the Metulla settlement said the park has been attracting tourists recently, especially during weekends. Tourist buses were seen on the other side, without Israeli military escorts.

Lebanese residents complained that Israelis were supported by their

government in the agricultural and tourist sectors, while the Lebanese were still clearing minefields. Residents said Israeli troops were not conducting their regular patrols along the border.

Meanwhile, Israeli warplanes flew over Southern Lebanon Friday, drawing fire from Hizbullah fighters that resulted in shrapnel from anti-aircraft shells landing in Northern Israel, according to officials on both sides. The shrapnel caused no casualties. Two Israeli jets violated Lebanon's airspace by flying at medium altitude over the border region of Iqlim al-Tufah and Sidon.