

Brochure for the Committee of the Families (Relatives?) of the Kidnapped and the Disappeared in Lebanon

What is the Committee of the Families (Relatives?) of the Kidnapped and the Disappeared in Lebanon?

We, the families (relatives) of the kidnapped and the disappeared

are the families (relatives) of all those who were abducted and who disappeared in Lebanon during the Lebanese war. The kidnapped and the disappeared are your brothers, they are the children of this country, and their numbers are estimated at 17,000.

We, the families of the kidnapped and the disappeared consider those abducted alive until the Lebanese authorities say the contrary. We demand to know the fate of our loved ones, despite the fact that the state has, until now, avoided investigating what happened to the kidnapped and disappeared.

We, the families of the kidnapped and the disappeared want, like everybody else, to turn the page of the war in an equitable and just way. This will allow us to heal our wounds and enable our children to free themselves from the nightmares of their childhood.

What does the Committee of the Families (Relatives?) of the Kidnapped and the Disappeared call for?

- The establishment of an official commission of inquiry to investigate in a thorough way the fate of the kidnapped and the disappeared in Lebanon. The commission will report its findings in a period not exceeding one year from the date of its formation.
- The creation of a social assistance program for the relatives of the kidnapped and the disappeared, to protect them from poverty, unemployment and sickness, and which will ensure that they can maintain a respectable standard of living.
- The proclamation that April 13 of each year will be a Day of Remembrance and the Disappeared. In addition, the preparation of

a memorial to the disappeared, that will also commemorate all war victims and condemn war crimes.

Who are the Friends of the Committee of the Families (Relatives?) of the Kidnapped and the Disappeared?

For 17 years the Committee of the Families (Relatives?) of the Kidnapped and the Disappeared has sought information on those abducted. This effort should be broadened to include all Lebanese society. That is why a Friends of the Committee of the Families has been established to help the families in the pursuit of their demands.

In order for the authorities to respond positively to the demands of the Committee of the Families, Lebanese society at large must be familiar with their struggle. Only this can persuade the authorities to assume their responsibilities towards the kidnapped and disappeared. This effort at national mobilization is the specific task of the Friends of the Committee of the Families, working under the supervision of the Committee of the Families in the framework of a campaign entitled:

We have the right to know

How does one participate in the campaign *We have the right to know*?

- By informing your friends, family members, and acquaintances of this legitimate campaign;
- By requesting a copy of a letter sent by the Friends of the Committee of the Families to the President of the Republic, by sending a copy of the letter yourselves, and by asking your friends to do the same;
- By participating with your friends in the activities organized within the framework of the campaign.

For more information, please contact: (03) 706-685

17,000 kidnapped and disappeared: They are our brothers

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**The 17,000 kidnapped and disappeared are the sons of this
country**

We have the right to know their fate

The right to know