



## THE COUNCIL OF LEBANESE AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS Founded in 1989 to serve the USA and Lebanon.

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**CLAO**

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## CLAO Mourns the Treacherous Assassination of the Great Gibran Tueini

The Council of Lebanese American Organizations (CLAO) mourns the treacherous assassination of Lebanon's champion of freedom, the fearless journalist, tireless activist, genuine humanitarian, astute politician, exemplary citizen, affectionate father, husband, and son, the great Gibran Tueini.

The man that authored the patriotic pledge in Beirut on March 14, 2005 and that was instrumental in the Cedar Revolution, had no goals of a personal nature through his historic stands. He had fame as a visionary Editor-In-Chief of one of the most widely circulated newspapers in the Middle East. He hailed from a wealthy, prominent family and had no intentions of any personal gains. His motivation was wholly patriotic and based on his deep-rooted believes in democracy, freedom, and human rights. He believed in a Lebanon that is strong and united, that engages in genuine democratic practices, where religious diversity is celebrated.

This latest terrorist attack has the same fingerprints as many other assassinations of other leaders of Lebanon that threatened Syria's goal to control Lebanon: Rafik Harriri, Samir Kassir, George Hawi, Dany Chamoun and his family, Rene Mouawad, Bashir Gemayel, Al mufti Hasan Khaled, Kamal Jumblatt, Selim El-Louwayze, and Riad Taha. Gibran Tueini's courageous and vocal stands were a direct threat to the enemies of freedom and sovereignty in Lebanon. These enemies are organized, controlled and financed by non other than the despotic, Stalinistic, Syrian regime.

A regime who undertakes such an attack in spite being under investigation by the international community for a previous attack, will stop at nothing. The people of Lebanon and the whole region can no longer tolerate the existence of such a rogue state that is so blatant in its support of terrorism. The Council is of the opinion that it is grand time that the Syrian regime be eradicated. Nothing less will ensure the recovery of Lebanon and the stability of the region.

CLAO's family extends its condolences to the Tueini family, the Annahar family, and to the freedom loving people of Lebanon. The road to freedom is long and hard. CLAO impresses on the Lebanese to remain steadfast in their desire to regain the free Lebanon they seek. Let us remain united and realize the dream that Gibran Tueini worked so hard for and died for.

*SCALA - Southern Calif. Assn. of Lebanese Americans - CA  
LACLV - Lebanese American Committee of Las Vegas-NV  
LACSF - Lebanese American Club of San Francisco-CA  
ALCNJ - American Lebanese Club of New Jersey-NJ  
VLAC - Vermont Leb. American Committee - VT  
CLAO Students \*\*\*\*\* - USA  
Texans for Lebanon \*\*\*\*\* - TX*

*LACNC - Lebanese American Council of N. Carolina - NC  
ALI - American Lebanese Institute - Washington, D.C.  
LID - Liberty Independence Dignity for Lebanon-NY  
ALOHA - American Lebanese Ohio Assn. - OH  
ALC - American Lebanese of the Carolinas - NC  
BTL - Bridge to Lebanon - USA  
AFL - Americans for Free Lebanese-CT*

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