



# Women's League Bulletin

Website: [www.aub.edu.lb/women\\_league](http://www.aub.edu.lb/women_league)

### WL Mission Statement

The WL is an organization of women from different nationalities. Its purpose is to promote a broad acquaintance, to socialize, learn and support one another, and establish social network. Its goal is to secure a yearly scholarship fund for a disabled student

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"May the Joy of Peace and Brotherhood fill our hearts this Holiday Season and throughout the New Year."

Anonymous

The Christmas season is celebrated in different ways around the world varying by country and region. Though the mode of celebration, the dates and the traditions vary, the spirit remains the same everywhere. The holiday season is coming and with it our childhood memories. As children we used to wake up early on Christmas morning to look for gifts which Santa Claus had left at the house for every "good" child.

Christmas is also a reunion of families and friends, singing carols and attending concerts. The celebration includes the traditional Christmas meal composed of roasted turkey, glazed ham, the German "Stollen" or Italian "panetone" and French "bûche". It is an atmosphere of joy and happiness. But let us remember also at this time of the year those less fortunate than ourselves, who are deprived. Let us give them a helping hand. Christmas is the season to be merry and think of others.

Season's Greetings, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year 2012 to you all.

Salwa Damiani

President



**Mr. Georges Ghanem**

The speaker for the November general meeting of the Women's League was Mr. Georges Ghanem, director and manager of LBC's news. Mr. Ghanem presented an informative talk in Arabic on how Lebanon won its independence.

Having the opportunity to discuss matters of sovereignty and independence, the Lebanese national leaders asked Général de Gaulle to end the French Mandate and unconditionally recognize Lebanon's independence. After some national and international pressure, Général Georges Catroux (a delegate general under de Gaulle) proclaimed in the name of his government the Lebanese independence on November 26, 1941. On November 8, 1943, and after electing President Bechara El Khoury and appointing Prime Minister Riad al-Solh, the Chamber of Deputies amended the Lebanese Constitution which abolished the articles referring to the Mandate and modified the specified powers of High Commissioner, thus unilaterally ending the Mandate. The French responded by arresting the president, the prime minister, and other cabinet members, and exiling them to an old citadel located in Rachaya. This incident, which unified the Christian and Muslim opinion towards the mandate, led to an international pressure demanding then Lebanese leaders release and massive street protests. Finally, France yielded to the augmenting demand of numerous countries and released the prisoners from Rachaya on November 22, 1943, since then this day has been celebrated as Lebanese Independence Day.

The two principles of the National Pact were:

1. Lebanon is a completely independent state.
2. Public offices should be distributed proportionally among the recognized religious groups, but in technical positions preference should be given to competence without regard to confessional considerations. Moreover, the three top government positions should be distributed as follows: the president of the republic be a Maronite; the prime minister, a Sunni Muslim. The ratio of deputies was to be six Christians to five Muslims.

In 1945, Lebanon became a member of the Arab League (March 22) and a member in the United Nations. On December 31, 1946, French troops withdrew completely from Lebanon, with the signing of the Franco-Lebanese Treaty.

Here below is printed the text of a hymn originally in Greek from the Greek Orthodox Church as submitted by Ellen Eid, Secretary.

Arminée H. Choukassizian, Editor

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God has shone to the world the light of Wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore Thee, the son of Righteousness and to know Thee, the Orient from on high, O Lord Glory to Thee.

### November Trip

#### To Anjar

On Monday November 21, 2011 some 37 ladies left Beirut heading to Eastern Beka'a, mainly to the city of Anjar. The day started with a stop in Chtaura for a manakish breakfast and then to Chateau Ksara, where we were received by Mrs. Rania Chammas and other staff members who first showed us a movie about the Chateau from its beginning and then a round in the Cave. After that they invited us to taste their different kinds of wine which we all enjoyed.

The trip continued to the town of Anjar, which has also an Armenian name because the inhabitants are mostly Armenians, and the name Anjar in Armenian means "unresolved or the running river also known as "Haoush Moussa". We then visited the Kal'a of Anjar, also known as Gerrha, stronghold built by the Umayyad Caliph Al\_Walid Ibn Abdel Malek in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, yet the site was later abandoned, leaving a number of well-preserved ruins. The ruins have been recognized as a World Heritage Site.

We then had a very delicious Lebanese mezze lunch, which everybody enjoyed and on the way back we passed by Deir Ta'nayel, a Jesuit convent which has a farm for their dairy products and also a very big lake with an attractive and peaceful scenery. And after buying some of their dairy products, we headed back to Beirut having enjoyed the refreshing cool weather. We arrived in Beirut at 6:30 p.m.

Lamia Kawar



## Brownies

A recipe submitted by Zeina Arab

### Ingredients:

Butter 200 grams  
1 cup or glass of water  
3 1/2 tablespoons of cocoa  
2 cups or glasses of flour  
2 cups or glasses of sugar  
2 eggs  
1 tablespoon vanilla  
2 tablespoons of baking powder

### Preparation:

Butter and flour cake pan and set it aside  
Melt the butter and add water and cocoa until it boils, then add the rest of the ingredients to the mixture.  
Pour into cake pan and bake in medium heat oven for 20 to 30 minutes. See that it stays moist.  
Ingredients for topping  
100 grams of butter  
3 1/2 tablespoons of cocoa  
1 1/2 cup of fine sugar  
1 tablespoon of vanilla  
One cup or glass of cold milk  
Bring to boil the cocoa and the butter, and vanilla.  
Pour milk on the mixture little by little until mixture becomes smooth  
Pour topping mixture on the cake when you remove it from the oven. Allow the cake to cool and serve.

## Women's League Affiliations

Welcome Club International is an international organization of about 25 women's clubs in various countries all over the world. Every spring executive committee members get together for a conference to share information and develop links between clubs. In 2005 The Women's League became a member of this organization.

The women's League is a member of the Lebanese Council of Women.

## Condolences

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Mrs. Victoria Mouri, sister of Mrs. Evelyne Elia. May her soul rest in peace.