



# Women's League Bulletin



December 2018

*"Peace On Earth Will Come To Stay, When We Live Christmas Every Day"*

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

## WL Mission Statement

The Women's League 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 wish is to secure a yearly scholarship fund for a disabled student at AUB.

## Letter from The President

*Dear Members*

*Christmas is within a few days! It is a day of joy and festivities, but the true meaning of Christmas is the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ which is celebrated on December 25<sup>th</sup>*

*This day is also a reunion of families and friends and festive activities including exchanging of presents, singing Christmas carols and attending concerts.*

*Every year in Beirut we have for almost the whole month of December a rich program of concerts called "Beirut Chants" offering to the general public Christmas concerts.*

*Each country has its own way of celebrating its traditional Christmas meal and sweets, such as the roasted turkey, the German "Stollen", the Italian "Panetone" and the French "Buche". It is an atmosphere of joy and happiness.*

*This is also an important time to remember those that are less fortunate than ourselves, who are deprived or sick or do not have families. Let us find ways to give them a helping hand.*

*A few days ago, we celebrated also the birth date of Prophet Mohammad who is the founder of Islam.*

*Lastly, please do not forget our Christmas lunch. It will take place on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 1 pm at Hotel Coral Beach, "Salle des Ambassadeurs" I hope to see you all.*

*I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year 2019.*

*Salwa Damiani*

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## NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The 5<sup>th</sup> November General Meeting started with a word of welcome from The President Mrs. Salwa Damiani to all the members and to our speaker Dr. Fifi Kallab. Afterwards Mrs. Damiani asked Hala Farah, Zeina Baba and Nada Maktabi to share their announcements of activities with the league members.

The Speaker of our General Meeting was Dr. Fifi Kallab. Mrs. Suad Khoury, The Program Chariperson, introduced Dr. Kallab who is an ex consultant for many United Nations Organizations, many municipalities and NGO's. Dr. Kallab has been a Speaker at many National and International Conferences such as UNESCO, World Bank and The Arab League. She is also the Founder, Chairman and Board member to many organizations that care for Women and Environment. She has been honored by many organizations, among them The Arab Women Council in The Arab League and The National Council of Women in Lebanon.

The subject of the Lecture: "The Waste Crisis, Alternative Solutions and the local civil society role".

Dr. Kallab said that Lebanon produces daily 6000 Tons of Solid wastes classified as follows: 55% organic, 30% Recyclable, 10% not dangerous and 5% dangerous.

How Lebanon gets rid of its wastes? 8% Recycled, 9% Composted, 30% dumped randomly and 53% in sanitary landfills.

Incinerators suggestion: Dr. Kallab highlighted the many dangers that burning of wastes poses on the health and well-being of residents. Though the incinerators might have pollution control devices, still they produce very dangerous and toxic chemicals such as Dioxin and heavy metals that cause cancer in addition to the pollution of air, soil and water not to forget the high cost to build, operate and maintain.

The best alternative solution is to sort from the source: It allows to separate the dangerous wastes from those that are not dangerous and store them in a secured place. It saves water to clean the wastes that need recycling, it reduces the weight of the wastes that to be dumped and hence reduce cost.

The importance of Sorting and Recycling: It provides jobs, helps to reduce costs, secure material to Recycling factories which will require specialist and labor force, provides raw material and energy to produce again and activates new industries.

Citizen's Role: The citizen has to change his behavior in terms of consumption by doing the following: Adopt Sorting and recycling, Use the products and materials that are recycled, segregate the hazardous and dangerous wastes alone, minimize using chemical products in their homes.

Finally, Dr. Kallab requested that the Lebanese Citizen should always claim for their right to have access to information and should urge the Lebanese Authorities to review the National Law on solid Waste Management.

All guests were then invited to The Tea Table to join The Women's League members in cutting the cake for two dear occasions: The Independence day of Lebanon and The Women's League 99<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



## NOVEMBER'S TRIP



*Hasbeya, Nabatieh Governate, is one of the most important and oldest towns of Mount Hermon area. The peak of Mount Hermon is called Jabal al Sheikh. Hasbaya is also the capital of Wadi El Taym, a long fertile valley running parallel to the western foot of Mount Hermon. The low hills of Wadi El Taym are covered with rows of silver green olive trees. In addition, the town produces honey, grapes, figs, prickly pears, pine nuts and other fruits.*

*So on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November, The Women's League trip was to Hasbaya! But before going back in history, the ladies stopped at a very modern place called Alforno in Khalde for snacks. After Alforno, the buses headed to Hasbaya. It is a long drive but all through our way we passed by beautiful places with amazing sceneries. The first stop was at the miraculous "Ain El Massih" (Water spring) in Kawkaba. It is believed that Jesus Christ on one of his visits to his relatives in Kawkaba, blew water from the ground, drank from it and blessed it according to traditions of the inherited history. The people of Kawkaba and their neighbors believe in the holiness of this place. The Ladies prayed with father Habshi who was waiting for us there and drank from the holy water for blessings. We then left to Dar Hasbaya, a non-governmental organization, built by Hasbaya MP Anwar El Khalil. At the Dar, we were welcomed by Mr. Shadi Nammour a member of the municipality. After we were served with coffee and sweets, an old kind man from the town talked to us about Hasbaya.*

*If you could go back in time, sure many of you will choose to visit The Citadel in Hasbaya! The Citadel which is owned now by the Emirs of the Chehab family, was previously held by the Crusaders under the control of Count Oran but in year 1171, The Emirs of The Chehab captured the Citadel after they defeated the Crusaders in many battles. The Citadel is a group of buildings surrounding an unpaved central square with several medieval houses and a Mosque around. Emir Monzer Chehab, a descendant of the old Chehab family who lives in the citadel until today, was kind enough to tell us about the great history of the place.*

*Visiting Hasbaya compels you to visit the olive oil presses where olives and oil are both important source of income in the town. Our final visit was to Muntazah Nab3 Al Bahsasa Restaurant where we enjoyed the delicious food and the rich variety of the dishes served. We were not able to visit all places especially The Primary Sanctuary of the Druze at Khalwat Al Bayyada due to unforeseen circumstance. The afternoon rainy weather obliged us to leave early to Beirut but sure we will come back Hasbaya!!!*



## MINI MEETINGS

The November mini meeting was held on November 15<sup>th</sup>. As part of The Beirut Art Film Festival (BAFF), the attendees watched three short documentaries about "Georges Nasser", "Water" and "Hagia Sophia" at Theatre Beryte, Universite' Saint Joseph. The Ladies enjoyed the event and got acquainted with new information revealed by the three movies. Again, thank you Nada Maktabi!



*Hallelujah! Hallelujah! He is Born!*

**Let us adore Him, Christ the Lord, King of Kings, Prince of Peace for all The Universe, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**LUKE 2:14-16:** "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace among those with whom he is pleased! When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us" and they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger".

**Preparing for Christmas Lunch!! So Ladies don't miss it and see you there on December 11<sup>th</sup>.**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our January General Meeting will take place at Auditorium B, West Hall, on Monday January 7<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 4:00 p.m.
- There will be no trip in December, 2018 as it is replaced by the Annual Christmas Lunch
- We kindly request from our dear guests and members to stay in their places until the speaker and the president leave the lecture room. Apologize for any inconvenience caused!

Ghada Shoujah / Editor of the Bulletin

A  
Very  
Merry  
Christmas  
And all the  
Best Wishes for  
A Happy New Year!