



*The Cedar Leaf.
Serving The Lebanese South
African
Community.*

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*The New Golden Age of the Lebanese
People.*

The City of Gold...Egoli...Johannesburg South Africa ushered in the New Golden age of the Lebanese people world wide.

The World Lebanese Diaspora Energy exploded in Africa on the 2nd and 3rd of February 2017.

Following a number of years of planning and devotion,His Excellency the Lebanese Ambassador to South Africa Mr. Ara Khatchadourian and his good lady Mirriam and staff worked tirelessly to achieve this magnificent goal.

The Conference, in the heartland of Africa's economic engine , and a stone's throw from Nelson Mandela's statue was the venue.

The South African delegation was dazed at the magnitude of the event.

Dr.Azar Jamine, Lee Ann Manas, Errol Richa,Dr.Michael Louis, Anthony Kairuz, Ken Hanna, Raymond and Badwa Abrosie , Eddie Shalala, John Shalala, the Backos brothers and sons ,Charl Bassil and the brilliant planner John Kudsee to mention just a few were speechless as they confronted on another.

The Lebanese Maronite Missionaries under the leadership of Father Maurice Chidiac were present and arranged a Mass at the Church of our Lady of the Cedars in honour of all the delegates.

A community that prays together stays together.

Awakening the Lebanese Diaspora ,is the brainchild of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lebanon H.E.Gibran Bassil.

Like a true General he has marshalled the Lebanese World.

Son in Law of the President of the Republic of Lebanon, His Excellency General Michel Aoun,he has captured the opportunity of the popularity of Lebanon's President.

We quote Minister Bassil; "We the Lebanese cannot live without each other"

"Please keep that flame alive in your hearts,whilst keeping your success in the Diaspora." Says Bassil.

The President of Lebanon is more specific. "Lebanon portrays the heart,which pumps the blood of life to the whole world"

As the Lebanese portray Lebanon as a property investment destination, the Delegate from Egypt,quoted: "Lucky is he who has a goat's pen in Lebanon".

Lebanon is only 10,452 Km square.Half the size of the Kruger National Park.It has some of the best bankers in the world.

Borrow at a low interest, invest at a higher interest and make money.

Lebanon, Africa and the world is their playground.

And what about the Lebanese in Africa?

Imad Chakra, Advisor to the Minister has this to say: "The world is our limit"

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Our very own Dr. Azar Jammine and others spelt out the future of entrepreneurship in Africa.

Africans trust the Lebanese.

Education:

Fourty per cent of the delegates said that education was the number one problem in Africa.

There is need to invest in Africa, and bankers have taken note; especially in Tertiary education.

Lebanon and the Lebanese world wide take care of their small little patch. Sweep in front of their business enterprises and homes, but must be aware of what is happening in the world.

Especially in the field of finance.

Fashion:

The Gala Cocktail party hosted my the Embassy of Lebanon in South Africa was an outstanding success.

Every member of the Lebanese South African Community was invited.

The function was held at the prestigious Inanda Polo Club in Sandton.

"Cedar Leaf" is no expert on fashion, but they tell me that Madam Mirriam Khatchadourian, with her elegant dress designed in Lebanon was outstanding.

The "Don" in America, wife Melenia, also used a top Lebanese designer.

Rebuilding of Syria:

The Lebanese world is ready to rebuild Syria after the war is over.

The Northern City of Tripoli will be the centre of this enterprise.

There were success stories from all over Africa.

H.E. The Foreign Minister of Madegascar Mrs. Beatrice Atallah, of Lebanese descent captivated the Over 400 delegates.

Our very own motivational Speaker Anthony Kairuz captured the hearts of the delegates and received a standing ovation.

There was franchising.

Buy Lebanese and consume Lebanese.

The young Lebanese Entrepreneurs both South African and from other parts of Africa were networking at a furious pace.

"Cedar leaf" just could not keep pace with the dynamics of the young generation.

It was, nevertheless, fascinating to experience.

Gala Dinner:

When the Lebanese party, they party.

The Ballroom at Monte Casino, saw over 400 invited delegates entertained and dined, courtesy of the Bank Audi.

Edgard Aoun, Lebanese Tenor and Opera Singer accompanied by musicians from Lebanon and South Africa entertained the gathering.

From Cape Town to Cairo.

The trip to Africa would not have been complete, if the GENERAL. His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs did not visit the southern tip of the African Continent. Cape Town.

Courtesy of Dr. Michael Louis, only Member of Parliament of Lebanese descent in the new dispensation, Dr. Michael, Charl Bassil and Eddie Shalala, stood on the table and raised their glasses at the Groot Constantia Winery.

Lebanon is in your DNA. It is in your hearts. It is in your spirit. Said a joyous trio. It is world wide.

Take a bow Ari, take a bow,lebanese Africans,take
a bow General (our name for the man from Basoun
Bassil), take a bow Michel AounTake a bow the
lebanese and the lebanese diaspora as we usher in
the Golden Age of the Lebanese World.

May the Almighty God bless us all.

LEBANON,AFRICA AND THE WORLD.