



Triangle Lebanese Association
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RALEIGH – Members of the Triangle Lebanese Association (TLA) and the Lebanese community in the Triangle have been watching with alarm the intensification of Israeli army attacks against Lebanon. Civilian casualties are being reported in Beirut as a result of Israeli bombardments, raising concerns in the community here about family members back in Lebanon. The only international airport in Beirut has been shelled and all flights in and out of Beirut have been cancelled, disrupting summer travel plans, family reunions, and business activity. Israel has also instituted a naval blockade preventing the use of ports and is promising further widespread attacks to destroy transportation, communication, and energy infrastructures. As Israel’s army chief warned: “Nothing is safe” in Lebanon.

Once again, Lebanon’s civilian population is paying the price for a festering Middle East conflict that has no end in sight. The repercussions of the escalation of tensions is being felt not only in the Middle East but also here in the US in financial terms and more importantly in diminished moral authority throughout the world. The US can and should play a vital role in reducing the tensions and restarting the process of bringing peace to a long-suffering region. This will only happen if we, as US citizens care to get educated about the issues and take action. The TLA is ready to do its share in this education process and to participate with the media in raising awareness in the Triangle area about the issues involved and desired actions.

The mission of the TLA is to preserve and promote the Lebanese culture and heritage, and provide an exchange of information between the Lebanese, American, and other cultures through social, cultural, and humanitarian endeavors. The Lebanese Educational Center (LEC) is a tax-exempt, non-profit, educational center of the TLA. It seeks to implement the mission of the TLA via educational activities and outreach.