

# The Case of Lebanon: Uncovering the Country's Complex Political Landscape

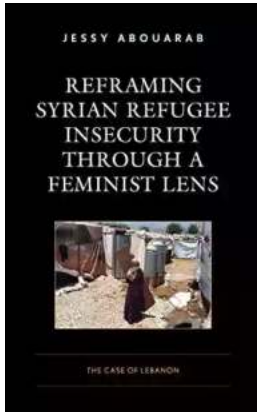


The small Mediterranean country of Lebanon has been making headlines in recent years due to its ongoing political crisis. The case of Lebanon is a complex one, with a rich history and a unique political landscape, characterized by sectarianism, corruption, and external influences. This article takes a closer look at the different aspects of Lebanon's political dilemma, offering insights into the root causes and potential solutions.

## The History of Lebanon: A Mosaic of Influences

Lebanon's history is marked by a diverse range of influences, including ancient civilizations, regional powers, and colonial forces. From Phoenician traders to

Ottoman rulers and French colonizers, Lebanon has often been at the crossroads of competing interests. These historic factors have contributed to the creation of a highly sectarian society, where different religious groups hold considerable influence over political decisions.



## Reframing Syrian Refugee Insecurity through a Feminist Lens: The Case of Lebanon

by Francis Parkman(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 15290 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 265 pages



## Sectarianism and Power-Sharing: A Delicate Balancing Act

Lebanon's political system is based on a power-sharing mechanism that allocates government positions based on religious affiliation. This system, known as confessionalism, aims to maintain the delicate balance between the country's different religious groups. However, confessionalism is often criticized for perpetuating divisions and exacerbating sectarian tensions.

The power-sharing arrangement has also enabled corruption to thrive within the country. Political parties, associated with specific religious communities, have been accused of promoting patronage networks and engaging in illicit practices. As a result, Lebanon has witnessed widespread discontent and protests against the ruling elite in recent years.

## **External Actors: Influence and Interference**

Lebanon's political landscape is also heavily influenced by external actors, including regional powers such as Iran and Saudi Arabia, as well as global powers like the United States and Russia. These external forces often use Lebanon as a proxy battleground for their own geopolitical agendas, further complicating the country's political situation. It is not uncommon for regional conflicts such as the Arab-Israeli conflict or the Syrian civil war to spill over into Lebanon.

Furthermore, the presence of armed militias, such as Hezbollah, adds another layer of complexity to Lebanon's political dynamics. Hezbollah, a Shia Islamist political and military organization, has significant influence within the country and is often seen as a key player in regional conflicts. Its involvement in the Syrian civil war, for example, has been a source of controversy and sectarian tensions within Lebanon.

## **The Economic Crisis: Adding Fuel to the Fire**

In recent years, Lebanon has also been facing a severe economic crisis, further exacerbating the country's political woes. Years of mismanagement, corruption, and economic policies that favored the elite have led to a deteriorating economy, marked by soaring inflation, high unemployment rates, and a depreciating currency. The economic collapse has caused widespread poverty and social unrest, fueling the anger and frustration of the Lebanese population.

## **Possible Solutions and the Way Forward**

Addressing Lebanon's political crisis requires a multi-faceted approach that tackles issues of corruption, sectarianism, and external interference. Reforms should include measures to fight corruption, promote transparency, and strengthen state institutions. Additionally, efforts should be made to foster a sense

of national unity and mitigate sectarian divisions that have long plagued the country.

International support and pressure are also crucial in helping Lebanon overcome its challenges. The international community can play a significant role by providing financial assistance, promoting diplomatic dialogues, and encouraging regional actors to respect Lebanon's sovereignty.

The case of Lebanon presents a complex political landscape shaped by history, sectarianism, corruption, external influences, and an ongoing economic crisis. Understanding the root causes of Lebanon's political woes and exploring potential solutions are essential to support the country's path towards stability, prosperity, and national unity.



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While there has been a shift in security studies from the security of states to that of people, realpolitik still takes place under the banner of an emerging discourse of "refugee crisis." Located at the intersection of security studies and refugee scholarship, this book is both a process and a product. It explores the multi-

leveled sites of refugee security construction and policy translation that play an instrumental role in informing how Syrian refugee insecurity is engendered and experienced in the case of Lebanon. It sheds light on how impromptu choices made by involved bodies—such as the Lebanese government and the UNHCR—can significantly impact local realities, creating a vicious cycle of Syrian refugee insecurities.



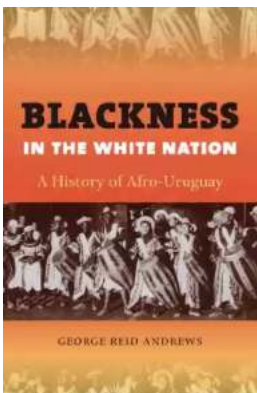
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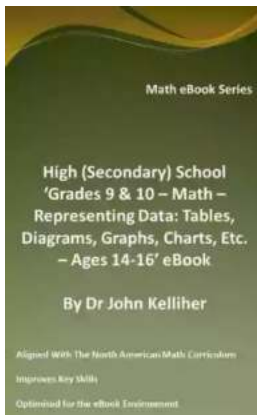
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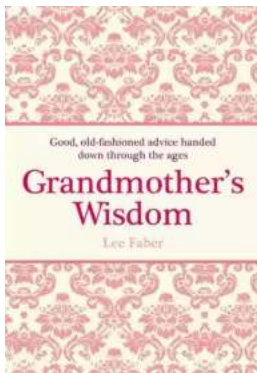
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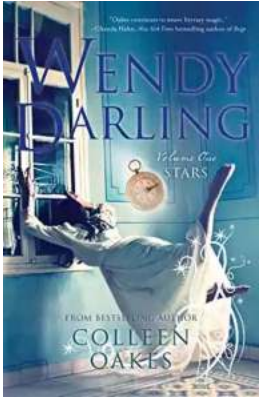
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