

Libraries and Bookmarkets in Lebanon in Times of Crisis – Current Struggles and Future Perspectives

Hans-Peter Pökel
Orient-Institut Beirut



Library Data

- Founded in 1961 by the German Oriental Society (DMG)
- Ca. 140.000 physical volumes in 9 stack rooms
- 60% of the OIBs library collection is in Arabic
- Ca. 2000 journal titles
- Around 160 running journal titles
- Since 2012 funded by the Max Weber Foundation
- Following increasingly an e-first policy in the library with
 - National licences
 - Ebook and journal packages
 - Open Access

Lebanon protests: How WhatsApp tax anger revealed a much deeper crisis

🕒 7 November 2019



Challenges of the OIB Library during the Corona pandemic

MIDDLE EAST

Lebanon: Coronavirus lockdown weighs heavy on a country in crisis

Coronavirus, economic crisis and an unresolved explosion: The situation in Lebanon is tense and a new lockdown is only making things worse for a people already suffering trauma and economic devastation.



- Heavy lockdowns during the corona pandemic with a complete home office
- Difficulties in book deliveries from abroad
- Increasing electricity problems with heavy implications on the library book holdings

Beirut briefly after the blast on August 4, 2020

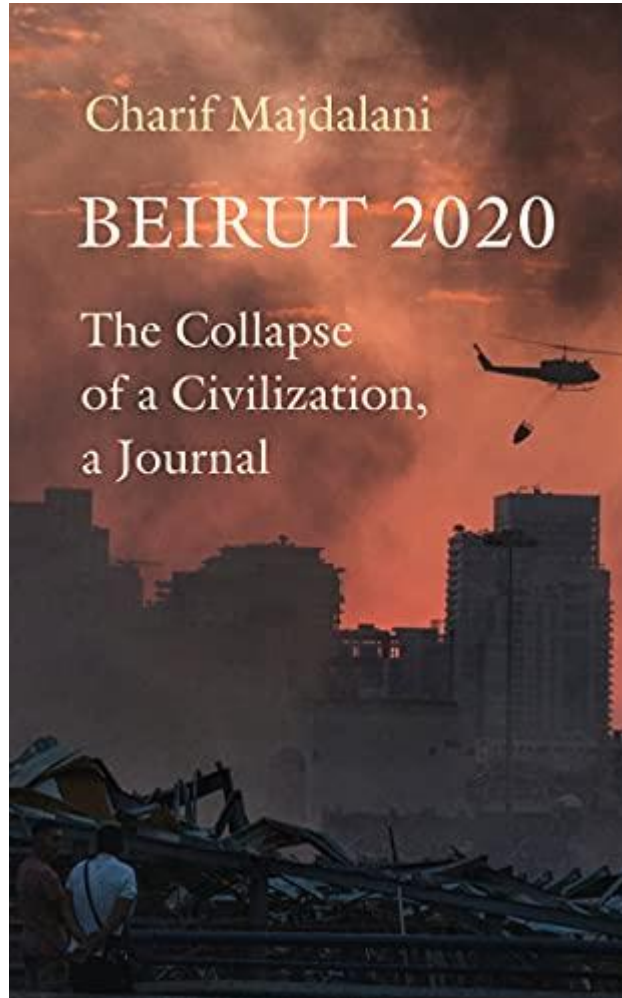


Beirut after the blast





Lebanon's Crisis in Literature



Isabelle **ADJANI** • Fanny **ARDANT**
Tahar **BEN JELLOUN** de l'Académie Goncourt • Bernie **BONVOISIN**
Sarah **BRIAND** • Renaud **CAPUÇON** • Patrick **CHAUVEL**
Louis **CHEDID** • Boris **CYRULNIK** • Sophie **FONTANEL**
Laurent **GAUDÉ** • Marie-Agnès **GILLOT**

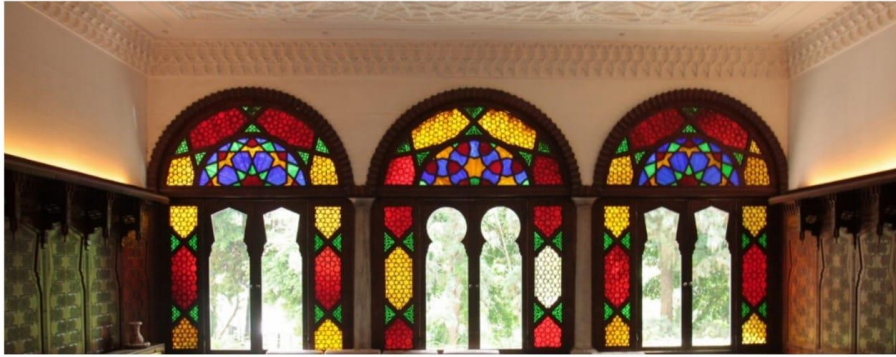
Pour l'amour de Beyrouth



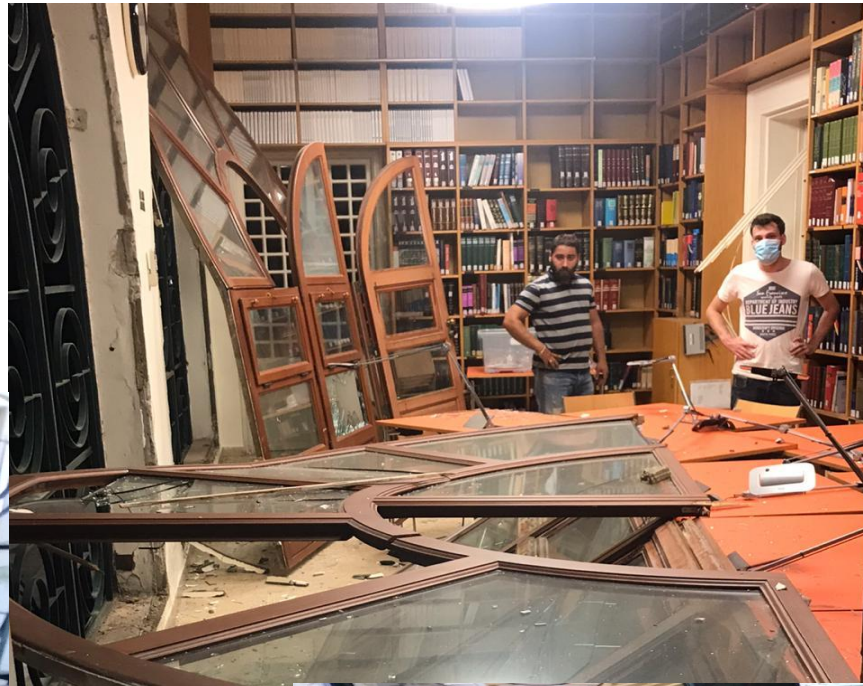
Tania **HADJITHOMAS MEHANNA** • Alexandre **JARDIN**
Vénus **KHOURY-GHATA** • Dany **LAFERRIÈRE** de l'Académie française
Marc **LAMBRON** de l'Académie française • Jack **LANG**
Yara **LAPIDUS** • J.M.G. **LE CLÉZIO** • Amin **MAALOUF**
de l'Académie française • Charif **MAJDALANI** • Diane **MAZLOUM**
Alexis **MICHALIK** • Kamal **MOUZAWAK** • Alexandre **NAJJAR**
Nahida **NAKAD** • Christophe **ONO-DIT-BIOT**
Maria **OUSSEIMI** • Katherine **PANCOL**
Patrick **POIVRE D'ARVOR** • Daniel **RONDEAU**
de l'Académie française • Sylvia **ROZELIER** • Elie **SAAB**
Emanuele **SCORCELLETTI** • Jacques **WEBER**

fayard

The OIB after the blast



The OIB Library after the blast



Renovation Works from Oct 2020 till March 2021



Book Stores and distributors in times of crisis in Lebanon

Once Lebanon's center of glamour, Hamra Street goes dark

By BASSEM MROUE February 13, 2022



The Way In book shop, once an oasis of quiet in a street full of chaos, closes its doors after 51 years

L'Orient Today / By [Farah-Silvana Kanaan](#), 01 March 2022 20:11, updated on 20:12



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PRESS FREEDOMS F
against Israel's killing

Impacts of the Financial Crisis on the Press

Closure of the Daily Star

Daily Star: Lebanon's crisis forces oldest English newspaper to close

🕒 2 November 2021



Lebanon's Daily Star paper should not have ended with a whimper

Staff at the esteemed publication endured years of on-again, off-again salary payments

MICHAEL YOUNG



Aaliya's Books Closes Amid Beirut's Economic and Political Crisis

In News by Olivia Snaije / September 2, 2021



Aaliya's Books, a much-loved Beirut bookstore named for a Rabih Alameddine novel, has lost the battle to stay open



Reading in times of crisis: Lebanon's bookstores and bibliophiles battle through the storm

L'Orient Today / By Tala Ramadan, 10 January 2022 19:32



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The first Book Fair 2022 after three years break

The Arab Weekly

The scandal of the Beirut Book Fair

The purpose of the new backward assault was to announce the birth of Iranian Lebanon.

Tuesday 15/03/2022



برعاية رئيس مجلس الوزراء

معرض بيروت العربي الدولي للكتاب 63

13-03
آذار - مارس 2022

An illustration of a stack of books with a pair of glasses and a small figure of two people sitting on top. The figure is wearing a red and green patterned outfit. The books are of various colors and sizes, and the glasses are black-rimmed.

من 10 صباحاً لغاية 8 مساءً
SEASIDE ARENA

New life in libraries in Lebanon

Public libraries get new lease of life in Lebanon

Public libraries offer people "breathing room," but they are beset by challenges.

Thursday 24/02/2022



Lebanon's national library given new lease of life after Beirut port explosion



OIB's main distributors in Lebanon

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- Dar Nassif
- Dar Saqi
- Librairie Le Point
- Dar al-Ulum
- Furat
- Sulayman's Bookshop
- Private book sellers

Acquisition development

2020	Copy-	mini-								standing				
	Data	record	Arabic	other	E-books		Media	Arabic	Others	orders / cont'	Gifts & Exchange	vols	copy- Data	mini- record
January	7	21	20	34	0	DVD	CD	240			8		90	10
February	0	0	0	3	0	3	1	87			9	108	30	44
March	21	2	26	15	0						3			
April	4	23	8	101	5									
May	26	34	33	136	22									
June	43	17	60	65	32						21			
July	9	1	9	35	53				6					
August	23	9	25	41	55									
September	8	10	9	25	33						6			
October	7	2	5	69	164		1	4	29	18			13	2
November	120	22	141	35	10					15	1			
December	30	10	47	45	3						7			
TOTAL	298	151	383	604	377	3	2	331	35	33	55	108	120	54
			1.823											

Thank you for your
attention!