

Lebanese President urges Sovereignty and unity in talks with Iran



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BEIRUT, Aug. 13 Lebanese President Joseph Aoun reaffirmed Lebanon's commitment to sovereignty, national unity, and mutual respect during talks with Ali Larijani, Secretary General of Iran's Supreme National Security Council.

In their meeting, Aoun stressed that Lebanon welcomes cooperation with Iran but firmly rejects any interference in its internal affairs. "Lebanon has never interfered in the affairs of other states

and will not accept anyone interfering in its own," he stated.

Highlighting that Lebanon's friendship with Iran must encompass all Lebanese regardless of sect or faction, Aoun reaffirmed that the country is a homeland for all its citizens, Christian and Muslim alike. He said only Lebanon's constitutional institutions represent its people and safeguard national interests.

Aoun warned against any group taking up arms with foreign backing, noting the heavy price

Lebanon has paid for such actions in the past. He emphasized that threats from Israel or any other

source target all Lebanese equally and that national unity remains the strongest shield against

external challenges.

Larijani conveyed greetings from the Iranian president and reiterated Iran's respect for Lebanon's sovereignty. He invited Aoun to visit Tehran, expressed support for Lebanon's constitutional institutions, and proposed establishing a reconstruction fund for areas damaged by Israeli attacks.

Following his meeting with Aoun, Larijani held talks with Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih

Berri, describing Lebanon as a friendly country with long-standing ties to Iran. He underlined that

Iran does not impose timetables or directives on Lebanon, emphasizing the importance of

regional countries making independent decisions.

Larijani also affirmed Iran's readiness to assist Lebanon if requested by its government and pledged to respect any decisions made regarding factions operating within Lebanese territor