

Explosion in Beirut – August 4th, 2020

A call from the Harvard University Alumni Association in Lebanon (HUAAL) to donate to two of the most renowned educational establishments badly damaged by the blast: Saint Joseph University of Beirut (established in 1875) and Notre Dame University (established in 1862)

A terrible explosion took place at the Beirut port on August 4, 2020 shaking Lebanon and our community to its core. It is probably the largest explosion in a civilian area since World War II. Whole neighborhoods in Beirut were ravaged by the blast - Mar Mikhael, Gemayzeh, Ashrafieh, Rmeil, Dora and Downtown - have been demolished. Hundreds of people have been killed or mutilated and hundreds of thousands displaced. All the pillars of society including homes, schools, universities, hospitals, churches, mosques and businesses have been damaged or destroyed.

The HUAAL is fundraising for two of the most renowned educational establishments damaged by the blast: *Saint Joseph University of Beirut (established in 1875) and Notre Dame University (established in 1862).* We believe that this initiative is vital because the young Lebanese are immigrating in the tens of thousands and the trend will only increase if the schools and universities are not in a condition to open in the fall. Our educational system is one of the main pillars of Lebanese society and among the best in the region, therefore we need to support it during these very challenging times. As representatives of Harvard Alumni in Lebanon, please help us help the education sector get back on its feet.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" **Nelson Mandela**

Your kind donations will go to the following academic institutions: Université Saint Joseph of Beirut (<u>www.usj.edu.lb</u>) and College Notre Dame de Nazareth (<u>www.ndn.edu.lb</u>).

The following video was filmed as a call for donations featuring the Rector of Saint Joseph University of Beirut Pr. Salim Daccache, s.j. and the principal of Notre Dame de Nazareth Sister Magida Fheili:

https://youtu.be/GDVfe-QlqiU

PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATIONS to one of the following:

https://www.actforlebanonusa.org/huaal/ Act for Lebanon – USA - registered 501(c)(3) OR

https://ihjoz.com/events/5874-huaal-fundraiser-for-usj-and-ndn-august-4th-explosion

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the greatest intention" Gebran K. Gebran