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# La Masonería en el mundo - Líbano

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Adrian Mac Liman  
Centro Ibérico de Estudios Masónicos (CIEM)  
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## **Regular Freemasonry in Lebanon: The Facts**

The Grand Lodge of Scotland opened its first lodge in Lebanon in 1861 and was called Palestine Lodge No. 415. In 1869 the Grand Orient of France (GOF), which was still recognized as the regular Grand Lodge in France, consecrated “Le Liban Lodge” in Beirut, Lebanon, without seeking the consent of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The National Grand Lodge of Egypt, which was recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England in 1877, opened “Phoenicia Lodge” in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1891, without seeking the consent of any other Grand Lodge operating in that country at the time.

The Grand Lodge of New York chartered two lodges in Lebanon in 1924 and all records, including the official proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, show that neither permission from nor consent was granted by the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

In 1955, following an attempt by the Grand Lodge of New York to establish a Grand Lodge of Lebanon, which, according to non-documented but widely accepted legend among Freemasons in Lebanon of all jurisdictions was rejected by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the Grand Lodge of New York went ahead and established the District Grand Lodge of Syria-Lebanon under its own grand jurisdiction without seeking the consent of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The official proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York reflect that no consent was sought from the Grand Lodge of Scotland prior to establishing the District Grand Lodge of Syria-Lebanon.

In 1988, the Grand Orient of Italy, the only recognized regular Grand Lodge in Italy, issued a charter to “Fraternita Italo-Lebanese Lodge No. 1073 in the city of Jounieh, Lebanon without asking permission from or obtaining the consent of either the Grand Lodge of Scotland or the Grand Lodge of New York.

In 2002, the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy (consecrated in 1993 by the United Grand Lodge of England after the latter broke amity with the Grand Orient of Italy) re-chartered under its own jurisdiction in Lebanon “Fraternita Italo-Lebanese Lodge No. 1073 (which was under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient of Italy) as “Fraternita Italo-Lebanese Lodge No. 168” and did that without seeking permission from or obtaining the consent of any other Grand Lodge operating in Lebanon.

In 2003, The Regular Grand Lodge of Italy chartered four additional lodges in Lebanon, namely, France Lodge No. 171, California Lodge No. 172, Britanica Lodge No. 173, and Mont-Blanc Lodge No. 174, and established the District Grand Lodge of Lebanon.