

## Discours du DG Michel Jazzar

Visite au RCB le 15 octobre 2018

Fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary,

Good evening! I am glad, once again, to visit the Rotary Club de Beyrouth, the 'Doyen' of the Rotary Clubs in District 2452.

I am proud to notice the increase of the number of friends in your club, aspiring to reach 100% of your capacity. As all of you know, I am visiting your club as a friend and your trust in my capacities puts me today, in front of you, as District Governor. Thank you again for your confidence.

I am glad to do this address in the presence of 49 Rotarians and guests participating in the 'Friendship Exchange Program' - FEP of our District. It is the third event FEP that our District is performing during 2018-2019.

Fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary,

The Rotary Club de Beyrouth is shining with success; Rotary tradition, protocol and respect of the procedure and support of the RI and TRF programs. May I congratulate the President Nabil Abboud, the Board and all members of the club, for this jar magic mix that your club falls into like 'Obelix' in the 'Les aventures d'Asterix et d'Obelix'.

Fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary,

Former President Ian Riseley chose 'Rotary Real Impact' as the presidential theme for the 2017/2018 Rotary year, while 2018/2019 President Barry Rassin calls for 'Be the Inspiration'.

The Impact means an effect on others, the wider community, while the Inspiration tends to generate an impulse to make, to suggest or to advise for achievements.

The four I's" of Leadership are: Inspiration, Influence, Innovation, and Impact. I invite to shift from the 'role' of 'People of action' to undertake Innovative realizations in order to better Influence in the world.

I believe you are receiving in time the interactive monthly letter from the governor. I hope you have had the time to read the content of the interview, published in the issue of the month of July. I responded to questions with sincerity, clarity, confidence and passion. I would like to invite all of you to read it.

In this interview, I invite every Rotarian to serve others with Joy and Respect, to be the Inspiration that engenders the sense of each other in our fellow Rotarians and to restore confidence and pride in any useful and lasting achievement.

I need to enlighten on three important points for RY 2018-2019:

► **The annual contribution to the program 'Ending Polio Now'**

I am asking you to make an annual effort per club to contribute by the amount of 1000 or 1500 USD to support our promise to kids to eradicate polio. Our District goal is to reach 100,000 USD for the current RY. The 2452 District Fund contributes for US \$ 10,000, or 20% of the total amount of the Fund.

If we reach this goal in addition to the annual amount of US \$ 100,000, we will announce to the world that since 2013-2014 our District, with the matching of Gates Foundation, which doubles Rotary payments, would have contributed more than US \$ 1 million.

► **The 6th District 2452 Conference**

This annual District conference is to be held between May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, in Beirut, Hilton Habtoor Hotel. It will be preceded on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm, for the first time in our District history since 1929, by a half-day dedicated to the New Generations.

I would like to point out that the theme of District 2452 is: 'Youth is our Future'. With you all, the half-day for the new generation and the District Conference will be two

unforgettable Rotarian events. I ask any Club in Lebanon to register all its members in the Conference panels for the amount of \$ 100, as it is our tradition when it comes to Lebanon to organize this event.

Financial support to cover the costs of organizing the District Conference is calling for your passion for Rotary. We need your help in two directions: Find financial partners and participate in the funding of the booklet that will be published and the participants. The President of the Organizing Team of the conference PP Jawad Mouawad and / or that of the Sponsoring Committee Chair PE Carmen Chammas are visiting all Clubs of Lebanon for this purpose.

This Conference is strategic, as we are in Rotary on a cross point: New Zone starting year 2020, new RI's Vision starting 2018 and new RI/TRF strategy starting July 2019, our communication with the D.2451 of Egypt and D.9010 of Arab countries in North Africa now separated from D.2452 by the RI Board into another zone, the leadership beyond the District 2452 and our contribution to the success of the RI and the RF Programs.

Strategic by: its panels, breakout sessions, celebration of anniversaries, and by the RI President Representative to the 6<sup>th</sup> District Conference who, I am advised, will be the General Secretary John Hewko.

More fun, entertainment, touristic visits for guests and spouses are on the program as well.

► **The D. 2452 theme and its program and the District pilot project mixing two Area of Focus.**

The District theme is 'Youth is our Future'. We say "is" and not "are" simply because youth is a matter of age and spirit. Rotarians have, no matter what their ages are, the volunteering spirit, the joy and passion while serving their communities, the hope that is shining from the sustainability of their humanitarian projects. This theme is implemented within a program. Invite the District chair PP Ralph Sayah for more information, you will be amazed by its content.

The Rotary Club de Beyrouth is leading in implementing the theme 'Youth is our Future', you have sponsored three Rotaract Clubs, and I have the pleasure, as former Rotaractor and District Governor, to approve the newest Rotaract club de Beyrouth Millennium, you are sponsoring Rotaractors for the District RYLA, for the 1<sup>st</sup> New Generations. Your club is a champion in believing that 'Youth is our Future'. Thank you for your support! And congratulations to Rotaract Clubs for their achievements and results, they have inspired me a lot.

As for the District pilot project, that we recommend Clubs to be part of it, is 'Civic Education for Peacebuilding'. We have merged two areas of Focus, Education [as civic] and Peace [as building, peace being for us the positive peace, or the social peace which is a counter part of the RI Areas of Focus, including the 4-Way Test and the five Rotary core values].

Your club's President has received all information on the 'road map's project' and if you are interested, please appoint a committee, brainstorm of the project's content, ask for more information of the District Chair, PE Ghada Ayoub from RC Saida and apply for a District Grant on the first comes, first serves basis.

Last, it should be noted that the District website is renewed and updated regularly.

Fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary,

I hereby thank you all for honoring my wife Diah and me.

Indeed, it is a pleasure to be your friend and so inspired by your Rotary way of life, act and achievements.

\*\*\*\*\*