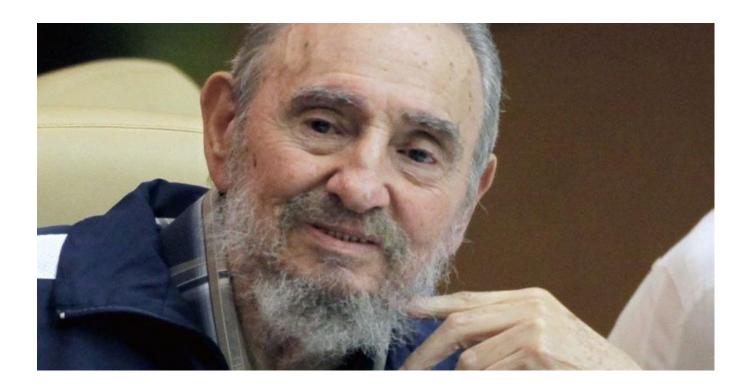


Cuba's Lebanese Friends Congratulate Fidel on his 90th Birthday

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Cuba's friends in Lebanon today sent cordial greetings and congratulations to the historical leader of the Revolution on the Caribbean island, Fidel Castro, on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

"His wise revolutionary leadership has allowed Cubans to achieve victories, to strengthen the glorious Revolution and allowed them... to create a socialist system on the borders of the most powerful empire humanity has ever had," a letter from the Lebanon-Cuba Friendship Association stated.

As the president of the association, Lebanese revolutionary and communist, Maurice Nohra, delivered the letter, addressed to Fidel Castro, to the Caribbean nation's embassy in Beirut, on occasion of his 90th birthday, which will take place on August 13th.

Building a socialist revolution 90 miles from the United States, "is a historic achievement of great importance and an example of dignity for the people of Latin America and others in the world who are aspiring to achieve independence and emancipation," the message said.

Such a feat 'gave faith to these fighting people to achieve triumphs,' said the message in which concrete examples that confirm 'the internationalist nature of the Cuban Revolution and its principles' are mentioned.

The letter, which begins by referring to Fidel Castro as 'Dear Comrade,' extended the 'best cordial greetings and congratulations' to Fidel and concluded with a 'Happy Birthday Commander!' and 'Hasta la victoria siempre!'.