

Lebanon Elections 2009

Analysis via Twitter



The parliamentary elections of Lebanon that took place on June 7, 2009 took over the local and international media airwaves (for a short time) with extensive talk about candidates and what their success / failure means to Lebanon and the region.

The following report focuses more on the impressions and concerns of people (not candidates) in the build-up for the #lebanonelections, on election day, and right after - specifically how they expressed it via Twitter.

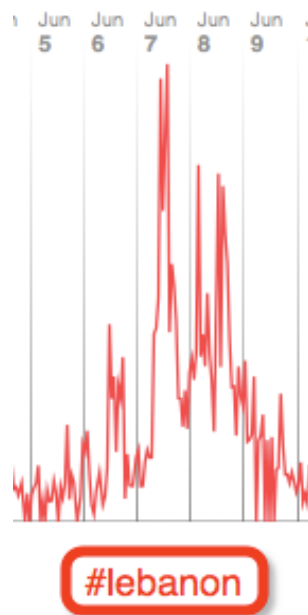


Figure 1 - Trend of #lebanon in Twitter June5 - June 9, 2009

June 6, 2009 (Saturday): one day before the elections:

Anxiety levels were high, a lot of people want to fast-forward to the night after the elections (Monday evening). There were lots of hopes that they will pass without any problems, and questions on where to find news coverage on day of election (traditional news media + citizen journalism). Exchange of Internet addresses where the news will be covered during Election Day. Pointing out of phone numbers of

police hotline just in case. Some skepticism about the whole point of election in an environment such as that of Lebanon.

June 7, 2009 (Sunday): election day:

The number of tweets for election day took a major jump in number. There were prayers and heartfelt wishes that everything goes through smoothly during election day with no problems. There were general non-political questions such as if fast food places are delivering food (refer to Food - Highlights below). For the first few hours of election day, there was lack of agreement and a bit of confusion on the hashtag to use all across tweets despite the fact that it was being discussed during the last couple of days. Proposed hashtags: #lebanonelections, #lebaneseelections, #lebanon, #elections09. Final agreement was on #lebanonelections. The hashtag #sharek961 of www.sharek961.org was added the day of the elections for tweets and retweets that had content more related to an incident or personal experience. Despite it being a busy day, a lot of people made sure that they have family lunch together. The day continued with expressions of how they felt when they voted, suggestion on how to clean out the purple ink on their thumbs, (refer to Purple Ink – Highlights below) ... You also bump into a lot of people who were in Lebanon for the elections (@nightS: The lebanese elections are like the local facebook...you get to meet people you haven't seen in ages :P)

During the last hour of the elections and just before the closing of the polls at 7 PM, there was an increased feeling of excitement and anxiety. Moreover, people were counting down systematically (refer to Countdown – Highlights below).

After polls were closed at 7 PM, there was an overall exhale and waiting for the preliminary results that start to show up in a couple of hours. When preliminary results start to be released, the anxiety levels gradually builds up again. Once the results were out, there was some gloating, some silence, and some exhales that the election hurdle was finally over (with no particular interest in who won).

June 8, 2009 (Monday): day after the elections:

In the early morning of the day after the elections, there was overall relief that the elections passed by without major conflicts that were being predicted. (@meetsamer: *Good morning guys, big day for Lebanon, eh? The whole thing wasn't so bad, we kinda behaved, ma hek?*) There was also retweeting of relatively "old" news that could be attributed to people who were abroad in a different timezone or the local Lebanese who went to sleep before the final results were out. There were also some complaints by those who had to work that day. Mostly people were tired and relieved after the long election day and were enjoying the day off to recharge (beach, family,...). Lots of others were flying back out of the country. There was also a bit of sobering up from the election's tantalizing effect and getting back to normal life in Beirut now that Beirut Summer 2009 officially started



(@c0decafe: discussing #lebanonelections is a such time sink. *work* *focus* +
@hibz: After weeks of election overdose it is time 4 clubbing :)

Selected Tweets From Lebanon Elections 2009:

- Anxiety / Wishes / Hope - Highlights:

- @nightS: I really want time to skip Monday just this time!!
#lebanonelections (June 6)
- @habibh: Feels like a night before the "Brevet" exam ... (June 6)
- @azzi: Fast Forward to Monday Evening #lebanonelections #lebanon
#elections (June 6)
- @ramadanovic: Ya rab! Make this day pass smoothly and peacefully.
(June 7)
- @majeedb: A Lebanese friend told me: If 3 Lebanese met, they'd form
4 parties! I hope Lebanon will win & remain strong above all parties &
divisions. (June 7)
- @ramadanovic: @sharek961 Can you link me with the "what went
well" category. I like to think that I'm a positive man. I like positive stuff.
:p (June 7)
- @ahmedhabib: From Beirut: Our dreams are too big for your ballot
boxes. (June 7)
- @taniakazi: Tick Tock, Tick Tock...lets see who gets voted in Lebanon.
(June 7)
- @dreand: wishes he could be in Lebanon for their elections... (June 7)
- @ConnectToBeirut: Never seen Beirut as quiet as it is this morning.
Slightly eerie (June 7)
- @nightS: It's going to be a very long night... #lebanonelections (June 7)

- Beach - Highlights:

- @azzi: @rosemaryCNN I am doing great spending at the beach in my
village in Lebanon and staying overnight to be able to vote early
tomorrow!! (June 6)
- @sugarpoppy: Am still at d beach @ La Voile Rmyleh my native
village..there's not 1 cat around..people r either scared or all went to
vote..am enjoying (June 7)
- @sugarpoppy: Am by the beach still & can here fireworks, gun shots,
horns when nothing official released yet..irritating to the max! (June 7)
- @eliekhoury: Going to release my stress on the beach! have a nice
day everyone... (June 8)
- @krikor: i am not working today, heading to the pool side in 1 hour
(June 8)

- Lebanon Centric - Highlights:

- @nightS: The lebanese elections are like the local facebook...you get
to meet people you haven't seen in ages :P (June 7)



- @nightS: @antissa fireworks bass?!?! :D come on it's Lebanon :P #Lebanonelections (June 7)
- @azzi: Ok when will we have the press conference where they will say WALA DARBETT KAFF (NO CHEEK SLAP!!) #Lebanonelections (June 7)
- @justimage: is explaining to foreign jorns that one guy shooting a gun in the air in ain al-romaneh does not count as "clashes" #Lebanonelections (June 7)
- @ramadanovic: @justimage Lazeezen hal journalists walla. Mab yeshko men shee. :p (June 7)
- @plus961: no electricity cut in Beirut since last night, at least in my area! (June 7)
- @andrea_im: Why did the bell hop at our hotel say that tomorrow will either be a quiet day in Beirut or there may be war? Umm, what????!!
- @calperryann: @azzi: ONLY in Beirut: where the day is planned out by packs of youths: 'vote early, conserve sunlight for quality tanning time' I love it. (June 7)
- @arkhemidus: beirut tonight: eerily quiet...then FIRECRACKERS!...car alarms sounding dogs barking babies crying...then quiet again #Lebanonelections (June 7)
- @mony_: enjoying the lebanese folklore of tabbel car cortege fireworks and heavy honking (June 7)
- @habibh: Happy that election day went smooth; Hats off Ziad Baroud, Now can we do smthing abt late night honking & fireworks #LebanonElections (June 7)
- octavianasrCNN I guess u're right :) RT @lammoush: Oh it wouldn't be beirut without both! RT @octavianasrCNN: Me too I also dislike fireworks!! RT @cal ...
- @kk1820: Why isn't there dancing and music in the streets around our elections? (see Lebanon) (June 8)
- @habibh: On my way to Dubai, flight fully booked, ppl talking about elections, Conspiracy theories all around, How I love Beirut! #OnlyInLebanon (June 8)

- **Twitter Trending Topics Attempt - Highlights:**

- @khouryrt: Ok, people, can we please bring the hashtag #Lebanonelections into Twitter Trends?! (June 7)
- @SamerKaram: RT @ramadanovic: wants the Lebanese elections to be on the Trending Topics list. #Lebanonelections. (June 7)
- @khouryrt: One more conclusion from today, it's safe to say that no matter how hard we tried, #Lebanonelections didn't make it to Twitter trends :((June 7)

- **Purple Ink - Highlights:**

- @nightS: I voted an hour ago..what's with this stupid ink think..it's all over my hands :S (June 7)



- @Inlne: @mxml <http://twitpic.com/6thmx> – lol my mom's been trying everything to get the ink off to no avail :P it'll be funny to go to MCC and ... (June 7)
- @SamerKaram: RT @Plus961: I used Clorox to remove the ink off my finger! Quiet efficient ;) (June 7)
- @SanaTawileh: <http://twitpic.com/6tqao> – How to make a finger look purple! #Lebanonelections (June 7)
- @SanaTawileh: @Inlne All I can tell you, is that it doesn't go off your finger even if washed. And that if you're left-handed u put prints everywhere! (June 7)
- @SamerKaram: RT @SanaTawileh: True story: She got "cotton-tige" with her to paint her finger just from inside because of the manucure! #Lebanonelections (June 7)
- @ramadanovic: @meetsamer RT Departing from Beirut Int'l & EVERYONE has a case of purple thumb #lebanonelections #Sharek961 (June 7)

- Countdown - Highlights:

- @nightS: Probably Lebanon is now experiencing the longest 25 minutes left..#lebanonelections (June 7)
- @sygma: 15 minutes left to vote #LebanonElections (June 7)
- @nightS: 9 minutes left..tick tock #lebanonelections (June 7)
- @SamerKaram: RT @antissa: It's like counting down to New Years. Are we expecting fireworks? #lebanonelections (June 7)
- @Plus961: 10 minutes to go!! hurry hurry last chance to get a purple thumb!!! (June 7)
- @sharek961: 10 minutes to go before polls close. we'll be here. keep reporting - with massive turnout & long lines, a critical period. #lebanonelections (June 7)
- @Plus961: 5 more minutes! (June 7)
- @SamerKaram: RT @Beirutspring: RT @hibz: the 1 day election process is a first in leb & should b applauded as part of a big reform process (June 7)
- @SamerKaram: RT @Plus961: 5 more minutes! (June 7)
- @Plus961: Marcel Ghanem is on LBC, declared that it is 7:00PM and polling stations are CLOSED. #lebanonelections (June 7)
- @azzi: ok people countdown to results starts now!!!! #lebanonelections you think we'll see surprises?? (June 7)

- Food - Highlights:

- @sygma: Any idea if fast foods are delivering today? #beirut (June 7)#lebanonelections (June 7)
- @SanaTawileh: City life & crowd action, high discussions on elections, tainted fingers and no free tables @ Paul Saifi #lebanonelections (June 7)
- @octavianasrCNN: Took the kids out to lunch and now visiting my sister. Looks like pro-west lists on way to a majority in Lebanon's parliamentary elections. (June 7)



- *@habibh*: Teta, tabbouleh; Teta, tabbouleh ... At my grandma's ... <http://yfrog.com/4blhdkj> (June 7)

- **Just After Polls Closed - Highlights:**

- *@nightS*: #lebanonelections phase-2 started!! (June 7)
- *@Plus961*: once again, do follow Marcel Ghanem on LBC, his analysis will probably be the best among all other shows (June 7)
- *@khouryrt*: Wooow, thanks to the #lebanonelections i have jumped over 400 followers and 2000 updates. Thank you Lebanon :D (June 7)
- *@mikewhills*: that was a sweaty 12 hour election (June 7)
- *@nightS*: *@Lastoadri* Voting polls are closed.phase 2 is the counting ..the results will be announced by midnight or tomorrow morning *@lebanonelections* (June 7)
- *@Monajem*: Its funny, how both of them r predicting to win, for sure one of them is a liar if not both!#Lebanonelections#Lebelections (June 7)
- *@nightS*: *@vinceperritano* i don't know maybe after midnight...it's still early to tell #lebanonelections (June 7)
- *@Plus961*: Streets are empty, the best time to have a drive around Beirut is now! (June 7)
- *@SanaTawileh*: *@Plus961* Can you feel it. It's so empty! (June 7)
- *@khouryrt*: oh COME ON, I need the results like NOW, #lebanonelections (June 7)
- *@mikewhills*: so how are we #lebanonelections tweeps? i'm refreshed after a sort-of-quick trip to Torinos in Gemm for a White Russian. great day! (June 7)
- *@ramadanovic*: El sahra 6aweeleh elyoum. (June 7)
- *@sugarpoppy*: These unofficial results are driving nuts..not looking good..they shld stop & wait for official figures,period! (June 7)
- *@azzi*: I think filling the airwaves with music video is better than reporting partial and useless results #lebanonelections (June 7)
- *@ramadanovic*: Wal3aaaane el entekhet!!! #lebanonelections
- *@MXML*: yalla bikaffeekon.. long day ahead of me tomorrow.. wake me up when someone has definitive results for either #lebanonelections or #eu09 (June 7)
- *@sadekham*: I'm not going to watch this anymore :S #WCQ (June 7)



Appendix

Full Listing of Twitter Entries Related to Lebanon Elections 2009

June 6, 2009 (Saturday): one day before the elections:

octavianasrCNN good to monitor @calperrycnn RT @azzi: <http://bit.ly/jVftx> is asking people to upload their elections photos and news on the website.

azzi @rosemaryCNN I am doing great spending at the beach in my village in Lebanon and staying overnight to be able to vote early tomorrow!!

magio big election in Lebanon tomorrow. this little country that many of us love so much is constantly in an exposed situation...

afiftabsh monitoring the situation in lebanon concerning the elections and political discourse...

eebz One day before the elections, Noblesse Dificile: the difficult art and science of political advertising in Lebanon beirutntsc.blogspot.com

Lastoadri RT: @meedan: One day to go. Are you ready for Lebanon elections? - Join the discussion with @sharek961 on @Meedan <http://tinyurl.com/o96hgk>

Plus961 RT @nowlebanon How to vote in lebanon: <http://bit.ly/156CWw>, also NOWLebanon now formatted for election news; follow us at nowlebanon.com

Monajem 4 any prob during z elections, plz call z police free hotline: 1790 & send sms to sharek961:71-189118 & LADE: 71-121408 #Lebanonelections

Plus961 Vote against them all. VOTE WHITE!!

Monajem The last Lebanese elections, where only 21+ can vote, next time 18+. #Lebanonelections#Lebelections

tueni Sleepless in Beirut, but for very exciting project. Transparency & citizen reporting in action. Fingers crossed. Sharek961.org

nightS I really want time to skip Monday just this time!! #lebanonelections

Monajem More than 3m can vote 2morrow in the elections. Lets c what will the percentage b #Lebanonelections#Lebelections#Lebanon#elections

nightS @azzi LOL you think? I don't think anything would change...waja3 rass 3al fadi!

azzi @habibh is that related to #lebanonelections? are you voting? where do you vote?

habibh Feels like a night before the "Brevet" exam ...

Inline Is off to bed =) Will spend Election day lounging by the pool :P Goodnight Tweeps =) & may the best men/women win =)

sharek961 @Monajem looking forward to your tweets from the press conference tomorrow. will you be using a special tag that we can follow, i.e. #LADE?

nightS What's with the psychics thing in the Lebanese media? They're everywhere broadcasting their "elections results".SERIOUSLY? #lebanonelections

murielskaf @azzi well .. kelloun rekinna how fortunate ...

tupacamauta Beirut...quite calm for being the day before elections....

daloo3a anyone twittering Lebanon elections? that would be a first :D

halluca MP elections tmw in beirut!! i hope errthin will go smoothly! the only bad thing is ima wake up early to go n vote! pff we need an Obama!!

nearhat to all lebanese twitterers out there, go out and vote, bitches! #lebanon #elections09

unikrm Crowdsourcing the Lebanese elections this weekend at www.sharek961.org, @sharek961

nightS @azzi Issues in Lebanon the politicians should focus on instead of fighting each other..corruption, pollution, "wastat", bribes.you name it!

azzi Fast Forward to Monday Evening #lebanonelections #lebanon #elections

MadEast Lebanon votes to choose between March 14, March 8 and March of the Penguins

Nsibai I'm now following the parliment elections in lebanon

Nsibai Today till Sunday.I'm following the parliment elections in Lebanon

nearhat Tomorrow, Lebanon goes to the polls. Whatever the results, nothing will be the same after June 7th, 2009.

HannesSiebert In Beirut watching the elections and looking forward to see the unfolding of a new chapter for Lebanon...

Itlmsnour AND very anxious/excited about tomorrow's parliamentary elections in Lebanon. Suffering a mild form of voter envy.

Tom_El_Rumi RT: @meedan: One day to go. Are you ready for Lebanon elections? - Join the discussion with @sharek961 on @Meedan <http://tinyurl.com/o96hgk>

June 7, 2009 (Sunday): election day:

tueni In 5h, it's the start for a hot & busy day. Over 4m reporters in the field want to be co-ordinated! #sharek961

ramadanovic Oh boy... it's elections day.

nightS The lebanese elections are like the local facebook...you get to meet people you haven't seen in ages :P

justimage will be out all day tweeting elections from phone, "voter casts ballot..." exciting! #lebaneseelections #lebanonelections

nightS Good Morning :) It's going to be a very long yet interesting day in Lebanon. #lebanonelections

unikrm <http://twitpic.com/6t6mu> - beirut on election morning. i've never seen downtown so empty. #lebanonelections

khouryrt Ok, people, can we please bring the hashtag #lebanonelections into Twitter Trends?!

nightS I voted an hour ago..what's with this stupid ink think..it's all over my hands :S

mony_ good morning everyone! big day for lebanon! on my way to vote! fingers crossed

justimage switching to #lebanonelections tag like many others after using #lebaneseelections, sry im not smart and still new to twitter.

habibh Probably only dude on a billboard who is not running for elections. #LebanonElections <http://yfrog.com/0pd9bwj>

azzi arrghh I am not being able to delete any of my saved searches on twitter to save the #LebanonElections anyone has ideas?

meedan Follow and report #LebanonElections in Arabic and English on Meedan with @Sharek961 <http://tinyurl.com/pyo5pc>

Monajem Validating incidents that are coming in. Follow live on LADE website: <http://bit.ly/Rd0cg> #Lebelections#Lebanonelections

sygma Any idea if fast foods are delivering today? #beirut #lebanonelections

khouryrt Fi 3alam beilon b batnon RT @sygma: Any idea if fast foods are delivering today? #beirut #lebanonelections

habibh Teta, tabbouleh; Teta, tabbouleh ... At my grandma's ... <http://yfrog.com/4blhdkj>

ramadanovic Ya rab! Make this day pass smoothly and peacefully.

sygma @mikewhills @khouryrt I really couldn't care less who wins. Same sh**, different color. #lebanonelections

meetsamer Didn't go vote yet, will do so in the next hour

@spotonpr: RT Twitterfall for Lebanon Elections <http://tinyurl.com/mmj6wn> (real-time updates from Twitter)

Beirutspring Just in case you don't know where to watch the Lebanese elections: MTV Lebanon has a live feed on <http://www.mtv.com.lb/live.php>

majeedb Guess who's winning in Lebanon's elections? That is not like: Guess who's coming to dinner! you never can tell. wait and see.

majeedb A Lebanese friend told me: If 3 Lebanese met, they'd form 4 parties! I hope Lebanon will win & remain strong above all parties & divisions.

karimkhansa elections in lebanon....nthn good can come out of this !

sharek961 @ramadanovic hey can we map your reports?

SanaTawileh City life & crowd action, high discussions on elections, tainted fingers and no free tables @ Paul Saifi #lebanonelections

ramadanovic Guys, after every post about the Lebanese elections, please add #lebanonelections at the end.

MXML Just got back from voting in Dhour Shweir. High turnout. Soldiers surprisingly polite when I took pictures @sharek961 #lebanonelections

meetsamer omw to the voting center #lebanonelections

sugarpoppy Am still at d beach @ La Voile Rmeyleh my native village..there's not 1 cat around..people r either scared or all went to vote..am enjoying

meetsamer Bchara el Khoury blvd & Hamra street are relatively traffic free

azzi @BonnieWeather Beirut, Lebanon: can't decide what's hotter today, the weather or the elections. Sunny w/no clouds in sight!!

krikor watching Tiji channel with my daughter, yes dont be surprised, i am few of the lebaneses not watching lbc, future,otv,nbn,mtv,newtv....

Inlne @mxml <http://twitpic.com/6thmx> - lol my mom's been trying everything to get the ink off to no avail :P it'll be funny to go to MCC and ...

meetsamer voted hassle free in Beirut 3 #lebanonelection #Sharek961

spotonpr UPDATED: Twitterfall for Lebanon Elections (incl. more key words) <http://tinyurl.com/mmj6wn> (real-time updates from Twitter)

ramadanovic @sharek961 Can you link me with the "what went well" category. I like to think that I'm a positive man. I like positive stuff. :p

Monajem Will go and have a drive in Beirut to get some feedback#Lebelections#Lebanonelections

habibh Festival of colors #LebanonElections

Plus961 Just voted ;)

azzi I think @sharek961 is doing a gr8 job.Now we need a road related sharek961 2 report all kinds of pros wiz Lebanon roads!!#lebanonelections

beingmelina LOLOLOL is it now!? RT@aliafattouh It's erections day in lebanon!

mony_ 3 hr to vote was with the ladies ...aya ladies aya ballout they re animals in disguise ! Nvr seen so much attitude on heels shocking!

ahmedhabib From Beirut: Our dreams are too big for your ballot boxes.

khouryrt Who amongst u lovely people will take it upon themselves to tweet the #lebanonelections results as they go later tonight?

SamerKaram RT @donatelladr: would love somebody monitors voting process in Italy too..we need observers more than the Lebanese ppl #lebanonelections

SamerKaram RT @mmonaa: So I went with my family to Jdeideh to vote. The place was a friggin zoo: stinky, packed BEYOND belief & highly uncivilized...

taniakazi Tick Tock, Tick Tock...lets see who gets voted in Lebanon.

zaher Just voted...feels well !! can't wait for the results tonight... #Lebanonelections

sanatawileh <http://twitpic.com/6tosk> - I did it! Yes! (elevetor style) #lebanonelections

SanaTawileh @donatelladr and so proud! but couldn't take photos...or maybe just few with my iPhone cam ;)

krikor lebanese are big F1 fans, it seems today they forgot about the grand prix. Priorities #lebanonelections

SamerKaram RT @Plus961: I used Clorox to remove the ink off my finger! Quiet efficient ;)

nightS @sanatawileh how did you take that (picture) ?? :D they make me leave my phone outside..

SanaTawileh <http://twitpic.com/6tqao> - How to make a finger look purple! #Lebanonelections

SanaTawileh @InIne All I can tell you, is that it doesn't go off your finger even if washed. And that if you're left-handed u put prints everywhere! :(

SamerKaram RT @SanaTawileh: True story: She got "cotton-tige" with her to paint her finger just from inside because of the manucure! #Lebanonelections

dreand wishes he could be in Lebanon for their elections...

sugarpoppy The final Robin Soderling v/s Roger Federer just started..when the game finishes will go & vote..

ConnectToBeirut Never seen Beirut as quiet as it is this morning. Slightly eerie

Plus961 @Beirutspring check the same girl here <http://tinyurl.com/kq4agg> from the Associated press! #lebanonelections

spotonpr RT @rosemaryCNN OK (big breath) written the cnn.com segment & the tweet script - picked 3 Leb elex tweets, getting them typed for air now

azzi Mobile phone seems to have functioned almost smoothly throughout the days. did you have any problems? #lebanonelections

khouryrt i bet it's the first time for many, to bother and go cast a vote RT: @SamerKaram: RT @singetak: This is my first vote in my country

SamerKaram RT @azzi: Mainstream media vying to get more web traffic than political parties. LBC advertising its website constantly #lebanonelections

habibh @azzi @meetsamer I hate the purple ink ... How can you get it off ? #LebanonElections

meetsamer @habibh @azzi the doc used hospital disinfectant, my aunt used bleach. Am keeping mine :)

azzi @habibh @meetsamer I have used hospital disinfectant as I am working atz hospital today very efficient at home try alcohol#lebanonelections

khouryrt @habibh apparently Ariel does the job #lebanonelections

habibh @azzi Ah I wasn't able to find it, I just heard about it ... cool, thanks for sharing :) ... And I will try Alcohol to remove ink :)

SanaTawileh @donatelladr Here you go Dona!
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/sanatawileh/>

donatelladr @sharek961 getting confused with the hashtags:(

sugarpoppy Just voted..Process was fast..it feels good, truly..

donatelladr #lebanonelections #sharek961love this mix between fusah and lebanese dialect in Arabiya show:)

nightS @tariqsaleh please append ur tweets with #lebanonelections to reach out more people here:<http://search.twitter.com/search?q=lebanonelections>

nightS Probably Lebanon is now experiencing the longest 25 minutes left..#lebanonelections

SamerKaram RT @SunkenTreasure6: is writing about her 1st voting experience... :-)

sygma 15 minutes left to vote #LebanonElections

liban_lebanon #liban - #lebanonelections - #Lebelections :
<http://www.elections.gov.lb> , the elections official site is down due to the huge demand

nightS 9 minutes left..tick tock #lebanonelections

SamerKaram RT @deensharp: electoral law a person from internal security will stand behind last person who arrived before 7 and is allowed to vote

SamerKaram RT @antissa: It's like counting down to New Years. Are we expecting fireworks? #lebanonelections

Plus961 10 minutes to go!! hurry hurry last chance to get a purple thumb!!!

SamerKaram GO VOTE!

krikor the real elections will start at 19:00 #lebanonelections

nightS @antissa fireworks bass?!?! :D come on it's Lebanon :P #lebanonelections

sharek961 10 minutes to go before polls close. we'll be here. keep reporting - with massive turnout & long lines, a critical period. #lebanonelections

azzi Ok when will we have the press conference where they will say WALA DARBETT KAFF (NO CHEEK SLAP!!) #lebanonelections

meetsamer @mmonaa hopefully you went back and voted

sharek961 @meetsamer safe flight! thanks for all your tweets.

Plus961 5 more minutes!

SamerKaram RT @Beirutspring: RT @hibz: the 1 day election process is a first in lebanon & should be applauded as part of a big reform process

SamerKaram RT @Plus961: 5 more minutes!

Plus961 Marcel Ghanem is on LBC, declared that it is 7:00PM and polling stations are CLOSED. #lebanonelections

azzi ok people countdown to results starts now!!!! #lebanonelections you think we'll see surprises??

Plus961 Follow Marcel Ghanem on LBC, he will be later announcing unofficial results via the exit polls #lebanonelections

reemitani LEBANON VOTES TODAY !! BEIRUT IS LOOKIN PRETTY AWESOME !!

donatelladr @sachags #lebanonelections #sharek961 I am sure Lebanon is much better than EU..and your elections much more fun than ours

nightS #lebanonelections phase-2 started!!

donatelladr #lebanonelections #sharek961Arabiya back live from Beirut..now the real fun will start!

azzi #Lebanonelections: Nice graphics on Lebanese broadcasting corporation regarding elections!

Plus961 once again, do follow Marcel Ghanem on LBC, his analysis will probably be the best among all other shows

khouryrt Woow, thanks to the #lebanonelections i have jumped over 400 followers and 2000 updates. Thank you Lebanon :D

mikewhills that was a sweaty 12 hour election

SamerKaram @Plus961 where can i watch marcel online?

nightS @Lastoadri Voting polls are closed.phase 2 is the counting ..the results will be announced by midnight or tomorrow morning @lebanonelections

ramadanovic @meetsamer RT Departing from Beirut Int'l & EVERYONE has a case of purple thumb #lebanonelections #Sharek961

nightS It's going to be a very long night... #lebanonelections

octavianasrCNN my favorite line from NYT article "In one district, an ambulance brought hospital patients to the polls to cast their ballots."

azzi Hospital where I am based at the moment has received 3 minor injuries from scuffles related to #lebanonelections

Monajem Its funny, how both of them r predicting to win, for sure one of them is a liar if not both!#Lebanonelections#Lebelections

nightS @vinceperritano i don't know maybe after midnight...it's still early to tell #lebanonelections

Plus961 Streets are empty, the best time to have a drive around Beirut is now!

Monajem 2h and results will be more clear.#Lebanonelections#Lebelections

justimage is explaining to foreign jornos that one guy shooting a gun in the air in ain al-romaneh does not count as "clashes" #lebanonelections

ramadanovic @justimage Lazeezen hal journalists walla. Mab yeshko men shee. :p

Sshabby is chilling on the streets of beirut despite these shabby elections.
WAKAWAKAWAKAWAKA

antissa Congratulations to Lebanon for not descending into internal chaos on election day. No killings reported. #lebanonelections

Hasbini broadcasting live from Beirut, Lebanon. Lebanese men have small feet.

plus961 no electricity cut in Beirut since last night, at least in my area!

andrea_im Why did the bell hop at our hotel say that tomorrow will either be a quiet day in Beirut or there may be war? Umm, what???!?

calperrycnn @azzi: ONLY in Beirut: where the day is planned out by packs of youths: 'vote early, conserve sunlight for quality tanning time' I love it.

SanaTawileh @Plus961 Can you feel it. It's so empty!

khouryrt oh COME ON, I need the results like NOW, #lebanonelections

mikewhills so how are we #lebanonelections tweeps? i'm refreshed after a sort-of-quick trip to Torinos in Gemm for a White Russian. great day!

ramadanovic El sahra 6aweeleh elyoum.

mikewhills oh, and today i had the privilege of meeting @onoffbeirut - what a passionate, inspirational guy! #lebanonelections

MXML Why does Marcel keep referring to his brother as George Ghanem?

mikewhills @RamiHage it was only ordered on @onoffbeirut's advice!

sugarpoppy These unofficial results are driving nuts..not looking good..they shld stop & wait for official figures,period!

sugarpoppy Am by the beach still & can here fireworks, gun shots, horns when nothing official released yet..irritating to the max!

azzi I think filling the airwaves with music video is better than reporting partial and useless results #lebanonelections

azzi Future TV using huge touchscreen? or faking it ? to report #lebanonelections results. anyone with info about this screen @arzleb?

ramadanovic Wal3aaaane el entekhet!!! #lebanonelections

MXML yalla bikaffeekon.. long day ahead of me tomorrow.. wake me up when someone has definitive results for either #lebanonelections or #eu09

arkhemidus beirut tonight: eerily quiet...then FIRECRACKERS!...car alarms sounding dogs barking babies crying...then quiet again #lebanonelections

mony_ hope that the events in leb will not affect the peace and wont create any internal conflicts

sadekhm I'm not going to watch this anymore :S #WCQ

khouryrt off to put some food in the oven, anyone wants a bite? #lebanonelections

khouryrt ugh, a girl can't leave her pc to go cook without the whole hell breaking loose???

khouryrt @clintonjeff @wampyre the said @khouryrt has other things to worry about (runs to take food out of the oven) #lebanonelections

ramadanovic Now that the M14 coalition won, house prices in Lebanon will shoot up, hahaha. Yalla ely 3endo beit eybeee3.

mony_ enjoying the lebanese folklore of tabbel car cortege fireworks and heavy honking

mony_ hope that the events in leb will not affect the peace and wont create any internal conflicts

princelmoro Beirut is swamped in loud music and Human traffic. Seems the parties have already begun! Looking forward to midnight results teaser.

SamerKaram back... did i miss anything???

ramadanovic @SamerKaram M14 won. If you own a house, sell it. It's worth double the price now.

SamerKaram @ramadanovic are those the final results?

SamerKaram RT @ramadanovic: wants the Lebanese elections to be on the Trending Topics list. #lebanonelections.

SamerKaram RT @ianschuler: 1000 Lira notes (about US \$0.66) found in voting envelopes instead of ballots. Statement on vote buying?

SamerKaram RT @kheleil: #lebanonelections Anyone voted Donald Duck?

khouryrt Given the turnout in this #lebanonelection, it's safe to say that NO ONE can say that the lebanese didn't make their choice themselves

donatelladr #lebanonelections #sharek961 but in Sweden the Pirate Party which stands for Internet freedom and rights got more than 7%!

ramadanovic @zouzis Ra7 koon democrateh, w 2ellak mabrouk. :)

liban_lebanon @azzi #lebanonelections - I'll buy tomorrow my ticket for Beirut !!!

donatelladr @azzi #lebanonelections #sharek961yeah ia3ish Lubnan!

khouryrt thank you #lebanonelections for throwing at me not less than 23 spam followers... UGH, blocking them one at a time

donatelladr #lebanonelections #sharek961might turn off computer and go to sleep for a while.too many elections today:)

khouryrt One more conclusion from today, it's safe to say that no matter how hard we tried, #lebanonelections didn't make it to Twitter trends :(

khouryrt @azzi keep me updated, i'm off to my Google Reader to see the latest iPhone rumors :D 8-) #Lebanonelections

octavianasrCNN Took the kids out to lunch and now visiting my sister. Looks like pro-west lists on way to a majority in Lebanon's parliamentary elections.

lammoush Worried about government formation. Results coming out for #lebanonelections

tarek From AJE "Lebanese politics *is* very, very complicated" --> Understatement of the year.

sugarpoppy Tonight, Life in Beirut looks screamingly amazing!!

ramadanovic Mabrouk lal jamee3, w tosbe7ona 3ala wa6an.

habibh Happy that election day went smooth; Hats off Ziad Baroud, Now can we do smthing abt late night honking & fireworks #LebanonElections

anahiyeh can't help it sorry :D #lebanonelections

Pazuzu_hsp 2 independents?! 2?! walaw?! la ma bsaddi2 #lebanonelections

SafadiUSA Qifa Nabki blog provided #lebanonelections updates all day long: <http://bit.ly/2x0JNE>

liban_lebanon @azzi #lebanonelections - I'll buy tomorrow my ticket for Beirut !!!

octavianasrCNN I guess u're right :) RT @lammoush: Oh it wouldn't be beirut without both! RT @octavianasrCNN: Me too I also dislike fireworks!! RT @cal ...



June 8, 2009 (Monday): day after the elections:

krikor what a nice shiny monday morning, all electoral sms stopped suddenly

salimhb goodbye #lebanonelections day, now bring it on #WWDC :D

morning everyone

Plus961 Road are almost empty today, seems everyone is off! I got to work from Sodeco to Jdaydeh via Achrafiyeh in 10 minutes!

eliekhoury Going to release my stress on the beach! have a nice day everyone...

alexzawya anyone else at work in beirut this morning?

Plus961 @alexzawya I'm at work today :(

krikor i am not working today, heading to the pool side in 1 hour

salimhb @alexzawya me

westephan what happened in Metn? Who won, who lost??? #Lebanonelections, #lebanon, #sharek961

calperrycnn Streets of Beirut totally empty: except for Army. Everyone was up ALL night - various parties celebrating until dawn. Fireworks and gunfire.

arzleb Good morning all, for the first time in years i see the calm and tranquility in Beirut streets, very relaxing everyone is "Rekhiha" at home

sanatawileh For the first time in Lebanon's elections history, voting blank is considered & counted officially, confirmed by PM Baroud #Lebanonelections

SanaTawileh @alexzawya Morning Alex, listening to Minister Z Baroud then going to office too :)

lalosas taking a much needed break from #lebanonelections. heading south alone for 2 days off of everything internet, cellphone...be well everybody

calperrycnn Streets of Beirut totally empty: except for Army. Everyone was up ALL night - various parties celebrating until dawn. Fireworks and gunfire.

Sandman84 Back from Beirut. Absolutely exhausted. In the middle of possibly the toughest day in the past 3 months. Ugh.

meetsamer Good morning guys, big day for Lebanon, eh? The whole thing wasn't so bad, we kinda behaved, ma hek?

krikor best thing about these elections, both sides did not exchange titles, mou3arada are still mou3arada & mouwelet are still mouwelet

krikor me go to pool, me drink lots of beer, me get galaxy chocolate color sun tanning



UxSoup @alexzawya nope, good ol soup is enjoying some pancakes @home while deciding where to kick back since everyone is working :)

ramadanovic Sho? Estaba7na 3a wa6an wala ba3ed?

Plus961 @SanaTawileh I voted a white paper in this elections, and I am excited to see it in the stats today!

Plus961 Low traffic on the sea road near Geant, If I were off today I would have gone to tripoli for Hallab's Lahmeh Baajin!

scorpioxy back from village for elections. Smooth process, people's fears were unfounded..but now comes the real test of democracy.

kk1820 Why isn't there dancing and music in the streets around our elections? (see Lebanon)

westephan Verdun is empty almost everything is closed...#lebanonelections

westephan can we find the elections results published in details for each electoral station??? where??? #lebanonelections, #sharek961

sharek961 @westephan we find this map quite useful and detailed
<http://bit.ly/12SI6R>

sugarpoppy Leaving the beach..going back home with ocean & the dogs..back to reality, work & office tomorrow..

leelouz I Love Lebanon... may it have a great summer and great people working for a better futur for ALL...

c0decafe discussing #lebanonelections is a such time sink. *work* *focus*

SunkenTreasure6 @Beirutspring i hear a lot of shooting and fer2a3 (still celebrating? ... so far so good... :-)

arkhemidus crazy fireworks and gunshots in hamra right now! #lebanonelections

Plus961 I hear a lot of gunshooting from Basta

Candyflip78 Will be in gemayze tonight, I heard many bars are open :)

Plus961 Histerical fireworks and shooting in Ras el-Nabeh!

hibz After weeks of election overdose it is time 4 clubbing :)

donatelladr #lebanonelections #sharek961 wish Italian politicians could acknowlegde one another's victory..let's do a training in Lebanon!

krikor i wish my tv cable provider removes all lebanese channels for the coming 1 month

mony_ very busy long week end i had! beach elections beer beach waiting 4
elections results beer & lots of beer! Hang over ...

habiti4 Stop off from my morning run along the Corniche.Glad to be back here in
Beirut. Election was peaceful and orderly,looks like New Year celeb.

habibh On my way to Dubai, flight fully booked, ppl talking about elections,
Conspiracy theories all around, How I love Beirut! #OnlyInLebanon

