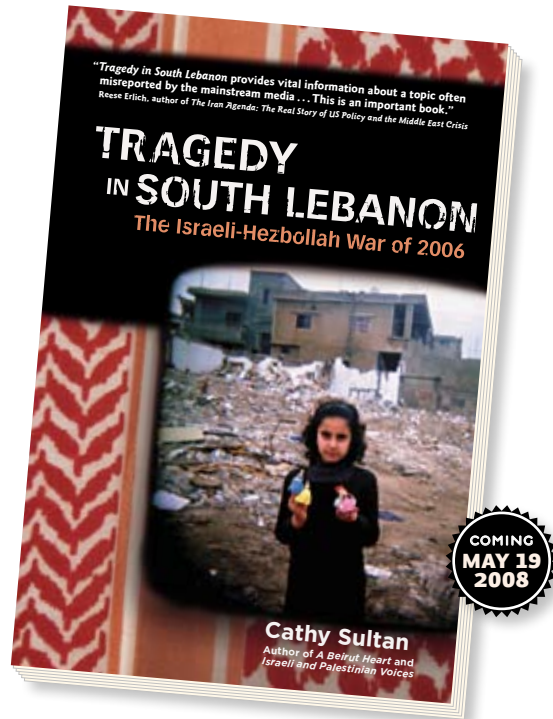


## At what point should a government be responsible for the consequences of its actions?

MINNEAPOLIS (APRIL 1, 2008) – Cathy Sultan, whose on-the-ground experience and knowledge of Lebanon and its surrounding areas are unparalleled, brings readers an unforgettable account of the war between Lebanon and Israel during the summer of 2006. Combining vital history and vivid personal interviews to relate to the lives of the oft-ignored civilians of southern Lebanon and northern Israel, *Tragedy in South Lebanon: The Israeli-Hezbollah War of 2006* (Scarletta Press: May 19, 2008; \$16.95), is one of the first books to give a voice to the thousands of people who have been victimized by the hawkish, shortsighted policy decisions of Israel, Lebanon and the U.S. Throughout the book, these narratives of mothers, soldiers, activists, deminers and ambulance drivers on both sides are particularly memorable for the detail, honesty and the deep sense of tragedy they relate.

*Tragedy in South Lebanon* also addresses the media treatment of the war, systematically dispelling common myths about the region perpetrated by government and mainstream sources. “I think that the American people need to understand that there is another side to the Middle East story,” says Sultan. “Generally we get our information from only a few news sources and there is often a political agenda behind these sources that makes them very biased.” Finally, Sultan reveals how divisive factions within current Lebanese government leave the country teetering on the brink of yet more violence, imploring government officials on all



PUBLICATION DATE	MAY 19 2008
TITLE	TRAGEDY IN SOUTH LEBANON: THE ISRAELI-HEZBOLLA WAR OF 2006
AUTHOR	CATHY SULTAN
ISBN	978-0-9798249-1-3
SPECS	\$16.95, SOFTCOVER, 284 PAGES
FEATURES	MAPS, TIMELINE, GLOSSARY, INDEX

sides to act with foresight, compassion and responsibility. *Tragedy in South Lebanon* is a tight, compelling, and readable account of this conflict that will give readers a clear and concise explanation of a vital piece of the Middle East puzzle.

###

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire University Bulletin

## Lecture Fund Established to Educate UW–Eau Claire Students about Arab World Issues

EAU CLAIRE (JANUARY 24, 2008) – The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire community will have an opportunity to focus more specifically on Middle Eastern and Arab world issues thanks to a new fund created through the UW-Eau Claire Foundation.

Cathy Sultan, a peace activist, author of *Israeli and Palestinian Voices: A Dialogue with Both Sides* and a UW-Eau Claire honorary alumna, and Dr. Kate Lang, chair of the history department, have established the Arab World Lecture Fund. The first speaker for the lecture fund will give a presentation in spring 2009.

Many individuals from the Middle East who are living in Eau Claire have donated to the fund because they believe education about Arab world issues are essential given current world politics, said Sultan, who received the honorary alumna award this past December from the UW-Eau Claire Alumni Association for her work on Middle East peace initiatives.

“More than at any other time in our nation’s history, it is essential we educate ourselves about the Middle East,” Sultan said. “This lecture series will go a long way toward filling in that gap of basic knowledge.”

Lang said she is delighted that the Arab-American community in Eau Claire is so supportive of the university’s effort to broaden students’ education about the Middle East.

“This funding will allow us to bring scholars with national and international reputations to Eau Claire at a time when it is critical for our students to learn about Arab countries,” Lang said.

For more information about the lecture fund, contact Lang at 715-836-4765 or langkh@uwec.edu.

###



CATHY SULTAN

### About the author

Cathy Sultan is the author of *A Beirut Heart* (2006 winner of Book USA’s Autobiography award) and *Israeli and Palestinian Voices* (2006 winner of Book USA’s History/Politics award and a MIPA honorable mention). A native of Washington, D.C., she moved in 1969 with her Lebanese husband and two small children to Beirut, Lebanon. She and her family survived the bloody Lebanese Civil War that began in 1975, a story recounted in *A Beirut Heart*. She sits on the Executive Board of the National Peace Foundation, where she directs Middle East educational projects. She and her husband currently reside in Eau Claire, WI.

SCARLETTA  
PRESS

# QUESTIONS FOR CATHY SULTAN

## What first brought you to Lebanon?

As a young adult growing up in Washington, DC, I yearned to experience great adventures. My dreams became reality when I fell in love with a handsome young Lebanese physician and eloped against my parents' wishes. We had two children and in 1969 moved to Beirut, Lebanon. It was called the "Switzerland of the Middle East" at the time and famous for its hospitality, its lovely Mediterranean climate and its exotic blend of Arab and Western cultures. For six years I led the life of my dreams. My home was a rooftop apartment with a terrace full of flowers and a breathtaking view of the city. I was accepted and loved as a Lebanese. My husband had a successful medical practice and my children were growing up speaking English, French and Arabic.

## When did things change?

In April 1975, my idyllic life was abruptly turned upside down. On a quiet Sunday afternoon, the Christian Phalange militia attacked a bus full of Palestinians in a neighborhood not far from mine in East Beirut. This singular incident set off an infamous civil war that eventually engulfed the whole city. My tranquil tree-lined street, a block off Damascus Road and two blocks from the National Museum, became a deadly territorial divide: the infamous Green Line, separating East from West Beirut. Someone far wiser might have fled, but my love affair with Beirut clouded my otherwise clear judgment. We stayed through the first eight years of Lebanon's bloody civil war.

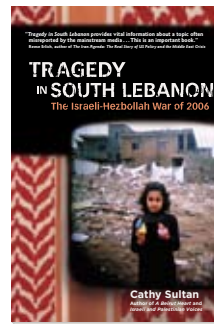
I spent my days caring for my family, racing under the bombs to rescue my children from school and comforting my physician husband who spent his days treating wounded civilians. I kept my sanity during the war by entertaining family and friends, using my passion for cooking to keep some sense of normalcy in my life. Little by little, I acquired the coping skills necessary to resist and survive in the absurd dysfunction of war. Eventually, though, war took a huge toll on my family and in 1983 we abandoned our beloved Beirut and returned to the States.

## Why did you decide to write about your experiences?

It took a number of years for all of us to regain our sanity. It wasn't until my son, by then a junior at Harvard, asked me to record our adventures in Beirut that I began to think about writing our story. What began as a project for my children quickly became my way to mourn the loss of my beloved Beirut. What repeatedly tore at my heart more than anything was attitude of people I met when my husband and I settled down in the Midwest. They seemingly could not relate to my war adventures and insisted they were not interested. This painful experience was the impetus that stimulated me to write, to pour my heart out, and to cleanse my soul of the traumas of war.

## How has it been for you since leaving the Middle East and moving to the Midwest?

My husband, Michel, and I live in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, a lovely rural community an hour and a half east of Minneapolis-St. Paul. Currently, I sit on the Executive Board of the National Peace Foundation where I oversee a variety of Middle East educational projects. I travel back to the Middle East several times a year, and when I am not there I write with a Beirut heart about a city still struggling to recover from war, a city where I found my place to grow.



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# SCARLETTA PRESS

## Cathy Sultan ON TOUR

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PHONE: 612-822-4611

**TUESDAY, MAY 21**  
MINNETONKA, MN  
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PHONE: 952.595.0977

**THURSDAY, MAY 23**  
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COMMON GOOD BOOKS •  
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**THURSDAY, JUNE 26**  
MADISON, WI  
A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN •  
6:00 PM  
PHONE: 608.257.7888

### LOOK FOR ADDITIONAL BOOK EVENTS IN:

MILWAUKEE, WI  
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SAN FRANCISCO, CA  
OAKLAND, CA  
WASHINGTON, DC

In September, Sultan will be touring the Middle East – a controversial decision due to the possible dangers she could face once there – in order to share her story with those who will either embrace or resent her experiences and ideas. Cities include:

BEIRUT  
CAIRO  
DUBAI  
QATAR

For future updates, go to  
[WWW.CATHYSULTAN.COM](http://WWW.CATHYSULTAN.COM) or  
[WWW.SCARLETTAPRESS.COM](http://WWW.SCARLETTAPRESS.COM).

## THE BUZZ

**“Tragedy in South Lebanon provides vital information about a topic often misrepresented by the mainstream media. I particularly liked the interviews with both Hezbollah and Israeli soldiers describing the same battle. This is an important book that should be read by anyone interested in Israel and Lebanon.”**

REESE ERLICH, FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT AND AUTHOR OF THE IRAN AGENDA: THE REAL STORY OF US POLICY AND THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS



**“As someone who works with other organizations to ban the use, sale, and transfer of cluster bombs, I applaud Cathy Sultan’s discussion on the effects of these lethal weapons on Lebanese civilians, many of them children, who continue to be killed and maimed by these odious, unexploded Israeli cluster munitions.”**

GEORGE CODY, PH.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AMERICAN TASK FORCE FOR LEBANON



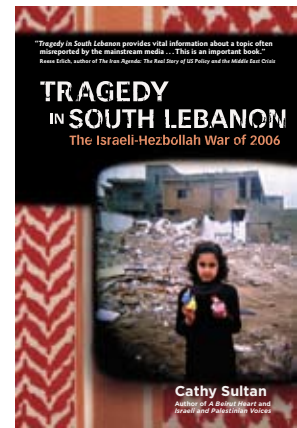
**“Finally finally finally there is a book that looks at the complex issues in Lebanon for what they are – complex. And even more importantly, Sultan has taken her experience and transported all of us into the region to better understand the complexities from the people themselves. We have had enough of the bumper sticker slogans and five second sound bites. Great!”**

JACK RICE, JOURNALIST AND FORMER CIA OFFICER



**“Sultan gives a fair and accurate account of what went on in South Lebanon. As a UN official who has spent 24 years in South Lebanon, I say she also lends refreshing voice to those who would otherwise never be heard.”**

TIMUR GOKSEL, SENIOR ADVISOR AND OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN FOR THE UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON



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