

Lebanon's Local Elections 2010 (Third Round)

Elections in the South and Nabetieh – 23 May 2010

The third round of local elections in Lebanon will be held on Sunday 23 May 2010. This week the elections will be held across southern Lebanon in the two *muhafezats* of South Lebanon and Nabetieh. Previous rounds of elections were held on 2 May (in Mount Lebanon) and on 9 May (in Bekaa and Beirut). The final round of elections will take place in North Lebanon on 30 May.

This weekend's elections are for the following local governmental bodies:

- 257 municipal councils, consisting of around 3,210 municipal councilors
- around 610 mukhtars (local state officials)
- around 891 seats on mukhtar councils (bodies that support the work of some mukhtars)

The elections are taking place upon the end of the six-year mandate of the current local government bodies elected in May 2004, as well as around 25 new municipalities. Not all areas of southern Lebanon are within the boundaries of a municipality (see map on page 2).

Key Data

<i>Qada (District)</i>	<i>N° of Municipal Councils</i>	<i>N° of Council Seats</i>	<i>N° Council Candidates</i>	<i>N° of Mukhtars</i>	<i>N° of Mukhtar Candidates</i>	<i>N° of Registered Voters</i>
Saida - Zahrary	46	555	1152	108	285	150,746
Tyre	60	744	1475	130	316	159,840
Bint Jbeil	36	489	935	95	253	126,387
Marjayoun	26	354	722	80	215	99,200
Hasbaya	15	183	559	37	52	43,059
Nabatiyeh	39	522	1045	91	206	125,097
Jezzine	35	363	702	69	146	54,936
Total	257	3,210	6,590	610	1,473	759,265

The number of seats on a municipal council is dependent on the number of residents in the municipality.

The five municipalities with 21 seats are Saida, Tyr, Bint Jbeil, Nabetieh and Khiyam (in Marjayoun).



Electoral contests

As with the rest of Lebanon, many of the contests for local elections in southern Lebanon are between family groups rather than political parties or alliances. Around 20% of municipal councils – mostly small villages – will have ‘uncontested’ elections (where families or persons of political influence agree on the list of candidates to be elected) but a degree of contest is foreseen in every major municipality. In contrast with the 2004 elections, when Amal and Hezbollah challenged each other for electoral dominance, their current alliance means that they have agreed upon joint lists of candidates for these elections. The key battleground municipalities, where tension may be seen on election day, are:

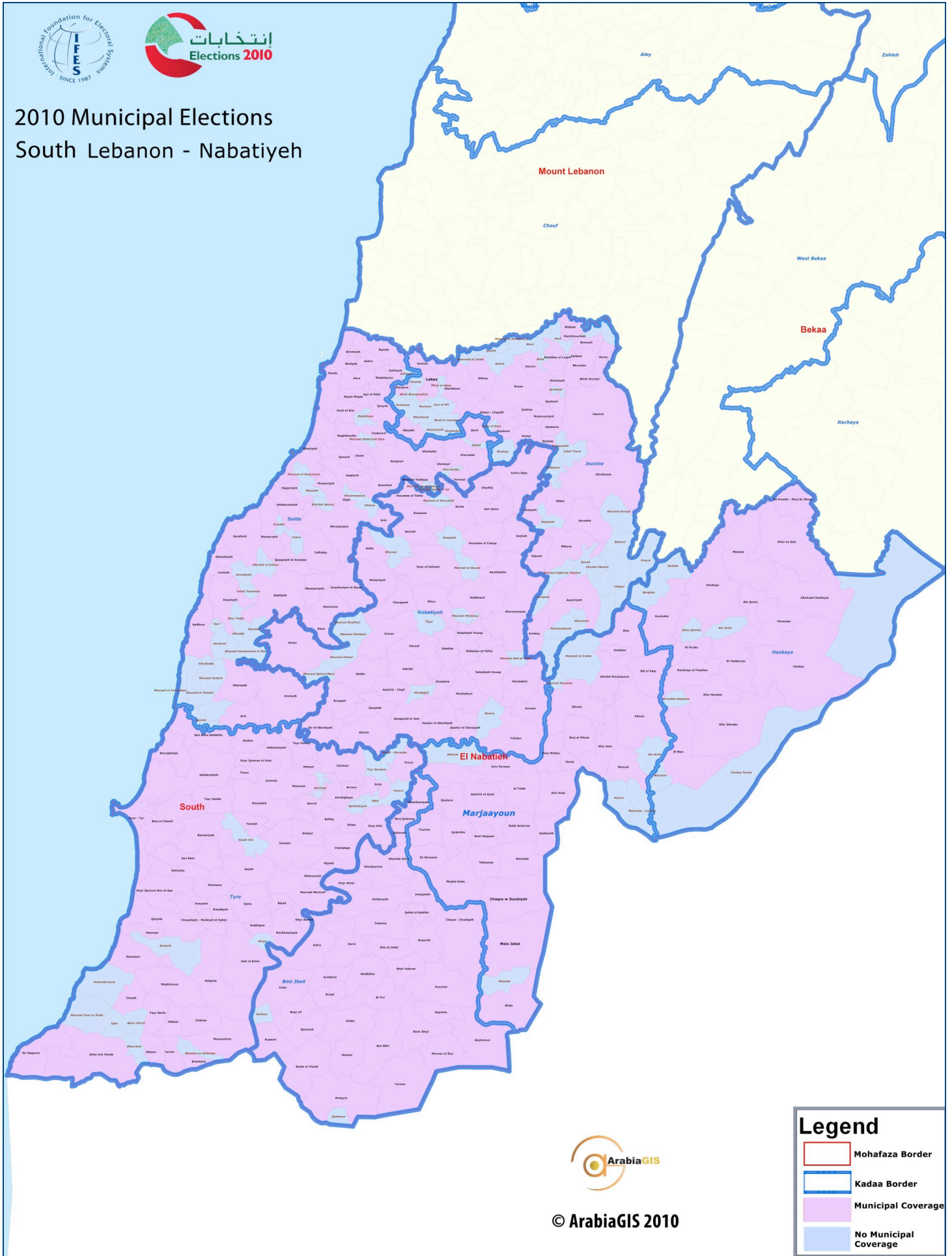
- **Saida**, between the ‘Development and Consensus’ List (supported by the Hariri Family and the Future Movement) and the ‘Popular Will’ List (supported by the Saad family and the Nasserist Movement)
- **Jezzine** between three separate lists supported by Lebanese Forces, Free Patriotic Movement and Amal Movement.
- **Marjeyoun**, between two lists supported by different family groups.

Number of Women Candidates

The number of women candidates for this weekend's elections is again very low. Out of the total number of 6,590 candidates for council seats, only 252 (3.8%) are women. Of the 1,473 candidates for mukhtars, only 27 (1.8%) are women.



2010 Municipal Elections
South Lebanon - Nabatiyeh



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Legend

- Mohafaza Border
- Kadaa Border
- Municipal Coverage
- No Municipal Coverage