

Part of the "History of National Flags" Series from Flagmakers

## Flag of Lebanon - A Brief History







The cedar of Lebanon is mentioned 77 times in the Bible.

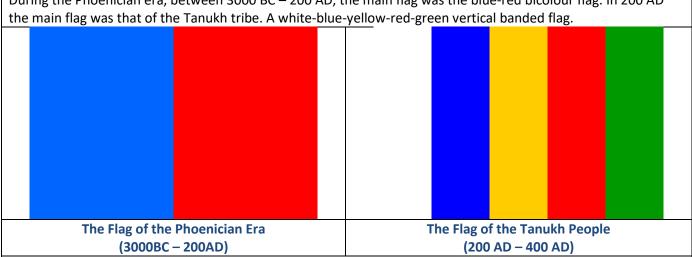
Technical Specification

Adopted:	7 <sup>th</sup> December 1943
<b>Proportion:</b>	2:3
Design:	A red-white-red horizontal triband flag with a green Lebanon Cedar in the centre.

Colours:	<b>PMS</b> Red: 032	Green: 355

### **Brief History**

During the Phoenician era, between 3000 BC – 200 AD, the main flag was the blue-red bicolour flag. In 200 AD



In 750 a plain black flag was adopted under the control of the Abbasid Caliphate. Part of Lebanon was part of the Kingdom of Jerusalem from 1099 and had a flag made of a white field with a large gold cross and three smaller crosses.







The Flag of the Abbasid Caliphate (750 – 1258)

The Flag of the Kingdom of Jerusalem (1099 - 1291)

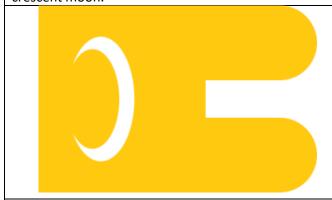
Between 1119 and 1697 part of Lebanon were controlled by the Banu Ma'an tribe. The flag was a white-red diagonal bicolour with laurel wreath. In 1282 the Ayyubid Dynasty had some control adopting a plain yellow field.



The Flag of the Maanid Emirate (1119 – 1697)

The Flag of the Mamluk Sultanate (1282 – 1516)

The Mamluk Sultanate had control of the area from 1250 and used a flag featuring a Egyptian yellow field with left facing crescent moon. From 1697 the flag of the Chehab Empire adopted a plain blue field with right facing crescent moon.

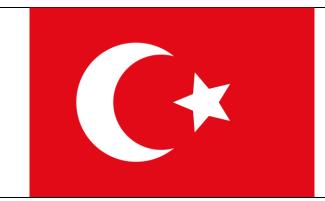


The Flag of the Mamluk Sultanate (1250 – 1517)

The Flag of the Chehab Emirate (1697 – 1842)

The Ottoman Empire ruled Lebanon between 1516 and 1918. The flag features a red field with white crescent moon and five-pointed star. After the fall of the Lebanon Empire there was a new flag adopted featuring a white field with a green Lebanon Cedar tree in the centre.



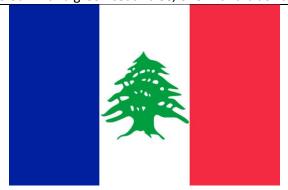




The Flag of the Ottoman Empire (1516 – 1918)

The Flag of Lebanon (1918-1920)

In 1920 the French took control of Lebanon. They adopted three flags featuring a blue, white, red vertical tricolour with a green cedar tree, one with a black cedar tree and one with green leaves and a brown stem.



The Flag of the State of Greater Lebanon (1920 – 1943)



The Flag of the State of Greater Lebanon (1920 -1943)

In 1943 Lebanon gained independence and adopted a flag made up of a white field with two horizontal red stripes at the top and bottom with a green cedar tree in the centre. The red represent the blood shed and white represents purity and peace. The cedar represents the bible.



The Flag of the State of Greater Lebanon (1920 – 1943)



The Flag of Lebanon (1943 to Present Day)

The Coat of Arms of Lebanon



The Coat of Arms of Lebanon was a shield made up of a red-white-red horizontal field with the cedar tree at the centre.



#### The Military Flags of Lebanon

The Flag of the Lebanese Armed Forces is a white-red diagonal bicolour with coat of arms featuring crossed swords, cedar, anchor and wings in the centre.

The First Flag of the Lebanese Army is a red-white-red horizontal triband flag with cedar tree in the centre.

The Flag of the Lebanese Navy is a plain white field with anchor and ancient ship in the centre.



The Flag of the Lebanese Armed Forces



The First Flag of the Lebanese Army



The Flag of the Lebanese Navy

# The Flag of the Multinational Force in Lebanon

The Flag of the Multinational Force in Lebanon is the flag of United Nations. It features a sky blue field with a map of the world inside two laurel branches

It was originally flown as part of an international peacekeeping mission in Lebanon in 1982.

