

1841 - 1845 - 1860 Massacres Christian Casualties

Summer – Autumn 1841

- Druze and Maronite peasant militias clash in Upper Metn, Shouf, and Keserwan.
- November 1841: Fighting escalates.
- Thousands of Christians are killed or displaced, especially in southern Mount Lebanon.
- Christian villages in Shouf are burned, and their inhabitants massacred or forced to flee.

Spring – Summer 1845

• Druze forces, better organized and armed, attack Christian villages in the Shouf, Hasbaya, and Rashaya. Major massacres occur in: Jezzine, Deir al-Qamar, Rashaya, Hasbaya.

June - July 1845: Hundreds of Christians are reportedly killed; villages are destroyed. Thousands displaced.

Key Dates of the 1860 Massacre in Lebanon:

• May 29, 1860 _ The conflict begins in Beit Mery, with tensions escalating between Maronite Christians and Druze.

• June 1-18, 1860 _ Major massacres occur in towns and villages across Mount Lebanon, especially in: Deir al-Qamar, Hasbaya, Rashaya, Zahle, Jezzine.

June 1-5: Druze attacks on Christian villages in the Matn and Shouf regions.

June 6-10: Jezzine attacked and burned.

June 10-12: Hasbaya massacre: Christians who had sought refuge in the Serail (Ottoman government building) are massacred (over 1,000 killed). Rashaya: Similar events; Druze forces overrun the town and kill hundreds.

June 13-16: Deir al-Qamar, the largest Christian town in the Druze Shouf heartland, is attacked despite Ottoman promises of protection. Several thousand Christians are killed

June 18: Zahlé (in the Bekaa) is attacked and completely destroyed by combined Druze and Muslim forces. Hundreds killed; survivors flee.

• June 18-30, 1860, peak June 18-20 _ Damascus massacre begins, targeting Christians. Homes, churches, monasteries, and schools are burned. Entire families are slaughtered. Women and children are not spared. Around 3,000 - 5,000 Christians killed over several days, including foreign missionaries and clergy, by Sunni Muslims (not Druzes). Several thousand homes destroyed, entire neighborhoods flattened.

• Death toll: estimated 10,000 + Christians killed in Mount Lebanon. 5000 in Damascus. Around 100,000 Christians displaced in Lebanon.