

Founders' Day – Haigazian University

October 13, 2025

President's Remarks

Excellencies, Reverends, distinguished guests, members of the Haigazian community—students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends,

Every Founders' Day is a moment to look back with gratitude and to look forward with conviction. As we remember those visionaries who, 70 years ago established Haigazian University, we also reaffirm the enduring relevance of our motto: **Truth, Freedom, and Service.**

We are not just an institution of learning; we are a community with a heart—a heart for one another, and a heart for all who seek a better quality of life through education, integrity, and purpose. At Haigazian, we seek not only to transmit knowledge but to nurture values—the very values that shape both character and society.

Behind every value lies a question worth asking:

- What is a life worth living?
- What is an occupation worth professing?
- What is a lifestyle worth enjoying?
- What is a path worth following?

Our motto must translate into the core values we live by daily—in our personal, communal, and professional lives—values that are urgently needed in Lebanon and beyond, and within Haigazian University itself. These include dependability, integrity, gentleness, generosity, gratitude, creativity, self-reflection, a lifelong posture of learning, and a faith-based foundation that grounds it all.

In an age frequently marked by selfishness, automation, and relentless competition, it is countercultural—and deeply meaningful—to cultivate introspection, deep thought, self-awareness, and honest evaluation. These are not luxuries; they are vital habits of the soul.

It is therefore fitting that this year's Founders' Day takes a somewhat less formal shape—inviting prominent leaders from various fields of service to engage with us in fresh ways, bringing to life our motto in the context of today's challenges and hopes.

As we celebrate, I stand before you with profound gratitude—not only to our founders, but also to all who have carried the Haigazian vision forward. Each of us is a disciple of the core values upon which this University was built.

May we grow in the depth of our shared life and purpose.

Happy Founders' Day!

Paul Haidostian

President