



# News Coverage

prepared for: **The European Union delegation to Egypt**



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## ▪ Thematic Headlines

### ➤ Domestic Scene

- ✓ Martyrs Families Demand an Independent Judicial Committee
- ✓ Opening Candidacy Door for Presidential Elections in April
- ✓ Judge: Strong Evidence on NGO's Illegitimate Funds
- ✓ A Student Accused of Defamation of Religion
- ✓ Tension Escalate over Security Raids on NGO's
- ✓ Elections Updates
- ✓ Mubarak and His Family Spend New Year's Eve in Prison
- ✓ New Year's Celebrations in Tahrir Square
- ✓ Tantawi Reassures Washington over Measures Taken against NGO's
- ✓ Tantawi: I Call on People to Confront all Forms of Vandalism

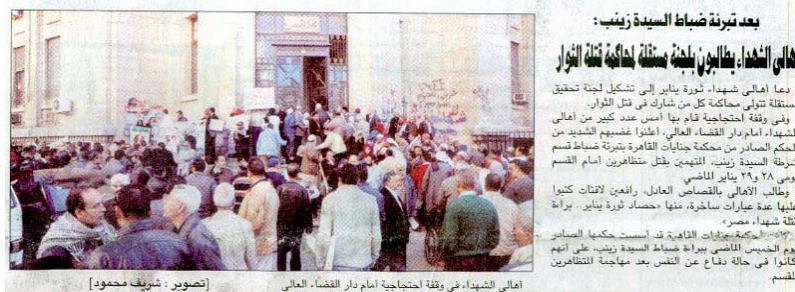
## Newspapers (01/01/2012)



Page: 1

Author: Not mentioned.

### **Martyrs Families Demand an Independent Judicial Committee**



Families of the martyrs of the January 25 revolution demanded an independent investigation committee to prosecute all those involved in killing protesters.

A large number of the members of the martyrs' families organized a stand in front of the High Court of Justice to express their complete discontent with the decision issued from Cairo's Criminal Court that acquits Sayeda Zeinab police officers from the charges of killing protesters on January 27 and 28 last year. Families held banners demanding retribution.

The court's decision to acquit the Sayeda Zeinab police officers was based on the assumption that they were in a state of self-defense after protesters attacked the police station.

Repeated in: Al-Gomhoreya: Page 16; Al-Dostour: Page 3; Al-Akhbar: Page 7; Al-Sherouk: Front Page; Al-Masry Al-Youm: Front Page



Page: 1

Author: Osama Abd Al-Aziz and Sherief Gab Allah.

## Opening Candidacy Door for Presidential Elections in April



Senior Judge Mohamed Attiya, Minister of People's Assembly and Shoura Council Affairs, said the door will be opened for presidential candidates next April, following the referendum on the new constitution. The Constituent Assembly will be formed after a joint meeting of the People's Assembly and the Shoura Council. It will be assigned the task of writing the new constitution within a period of one month, then presidential elections will take place, he explained.

He also said that the criteria specified for presidential candidates remain the same as mentioned in the Constitutional Declaration including the condition that the presidential candidate is no less than 40 years old and that the term of presidency is 4 years with one-time re-election.

He added that a commission will be formed, similar to the Higher Elections Commission, to supervise presidential elections. It will determine the rules of campaigning and organize voting in the polling stations around the country.



Page: 1,5

Author: Mohamed Hegab.

### **Judge: Strong Evidence on NGO's Illegitimate Funds**



Ashraf Ashmawi, prosecutor designated by the Minister of Justice to investigate into the foreign funds received by human rights organizations and NGO's, said that police raided the offices of some of these organizations which were under investigation for receiving funds from foreign centers and institutions. The Public Prosecution has strong evidence that proves these organizations have committed many serious financial and legal violations, he explained.

He said the prosecution office is now examining all the files confiscated from those organizations and a specialized committee was formed from the staff of the Ministry of International Cooperation and the Ministry of Social Affairs to evaluate the situation.

Dr. Magdi Abd Al-Hamid, Head of the Egyptian Association for Community Participation, confirmed that all civil society organizations enjoy an independent legal status and that they have the right to function freely without any security restraints or legal pursuit. "The history of civil society in Egypt is deeply-rooted. Whereas people change, history does not, and the values of civil society, represented by philanthropy and civic action, will remain because they are a part of the human heritage of Egyptians," he said.

The raid on human rights organizations and NGO's were met with heavy condemnation regionally and internationally. Three Tunisian human rights organizations demanded an end to these unjust measures. Offices should be opened once again, all documents and properties confiscated from the organizations should be restored, and authorities should respect the right of these organizations to carry out civil work freely, Tunisian organizations said. US Department of State Spokesman requested assurances from the Egyptian government on the position of NGO's that are not receiving funds from the US.

**Repeated in: Al-Tahrir: Page 3; Al-Akhbar: Pages 4, 5; Al-Dostour: Page 4; Yom 7: Pages 1, 5**



### A Student Accused of Defamation of Religion



Chief of Assiut Security Directorate Mohamed Sayed ordered the imprisonment of Gamal Abdo Masoud, the person accused of igniting the sectarian strife incidents, for a period of 4 days pending the investigation. Masoud will face the charges of defamation of religion and creating a sectarian strife after publishing drawings that are offensive to Islam and Muslims on his Facebook page.

Tension swelled in four of the city's villages as clashes occurred between a group of young men who threw rocks at security forces when they tried to prevent them from setting a number of Copts' houses on fire.

A military source said an immediate conference will be held to contain the emerging crisis and provide security to churches during the celebrations of Christmas.

Repeated in: Yom 7: Page 5; Al-Sherouk: Page 7; Al-Dostour: Front Page; Al-Gomhoreya: Page 16



Pages: 1, 4

Authors: Fatma Zeidan, Ahmed Shalabi (and others)

### Tension Escalate over Security Raids on NGO's



The Egyptian government agreed on Friday to cease its crackdowns on non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that advocate for democracy in Egypt, according to the US Department of State. The State Department spokesperson Victoria Nuland said US Ambassador to Egypt Anne Petterson spoke Friday with senior Egyptian officials to underscore Washington's concern about the raids on these organizations. SCAF generals told Patterson that the raids would stop and confiscated equipments would be returned to the organizations, Nuland said.

Al-Masry Al-Youm was able to obtain files indicating that one of the female parliamentary candidates has received 22.000 riyals from Qatar in July 2011. Informed sources revealed that National Security was able to track down these money transfers and locate the person who received them.

Initial investigations revealed that the confiscated computers and bank checks indicate that these human rights organizations receive illegitimate foreign funds and that some of their staff receive very high salaries. Also, investigations relied on some recordings to prove the involvement of a well-known political organization in receiving foreign funds. Members of the April 6 movement, in particular, were accused of receiving military training abroad in order to create strife in the country.

International and Egyptian organizations heavily condemned the security raids on 17 human rights organizations. They considered this to be an organized campaign designed by SCAF to silence human rights defenders and throw all the blame of recent events on them.

Germany has summoned Egypt's ambassador to Berlin to protest against the security raids on civil society organizations. Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Hans-Gert Pöttering, a former head of the European parliament, called the action "very irritating" and demanded that the office be reopened.



Page: 4,5

Author: Mohamed Faisal and Mohamed Auf.

### Elections Updates



The Freedom and Justice Party and Al-Nour Salafi Party are competing in informing voters of their polling stations and their registered numbers.

Former NDP members are standing in the last battle against the Muslim Brotherhood and Salafis in Al-Gharbia.

Famous Salafi figure Dr. Yaser Borhami raised controversy as he called on families of the January 25 revolution to accept blood money. He confirmed that Al-Nour Party is committed to the plans SCAF made for the transitional phase.

Head of the FJP Dr. Mohamed El-Morsi said that Egypt has always been an Islamic state and they intend to keep it this way as Islam protects all its citizens Muslims and Christians.



Page: 1

Author: Hoda Abu Bakr, Al-Walid Ismail (and others)

## Mubarak and His Family Spend New Year's Eve in Prison



In 2011, Mubarak and his family said goodbye to the life they had in palaces and spent most of the year behind bars or in hospital.

Sources said Suzanne Mubarak, former first lady, gathered the rest of the family members to celebrate the New Year with the ousted president at the International Medical Center.

Cairo's Criminal Court, headed by Senior Judge Ahmed Refaat, will resume tomorrow its next session of the trial of Mubarak, his two sons, his friend Hussein Salem, his minister of interior Habib Al-Adli, along with 6 of his security officials, in the case of killing protesters, exporting gas to Israel, and stealing public funds.



Page: 1

Authors: Ahmed Eiweis, Mahmoud Zouheiri (and others)

## New Year's Celebrations in Tahrir Square



Tahrir Square witnessed yesterday a huge celebration of the New Year titled "For a Free Happy Egypt in 2012." Various public figures, actors and activists participated in the celebration.

A huge stage was set up in Tahrir and the square was full of revolutionary chants. Many poets read their patriotic works to the crowd, denouncing the retreat in the gains of the revolution and demanding full rights for all Egyptians.

Hundreds of protesters also gathered yesterday in a silent stand holding candles. They commemorated the victims of the Two Saints Church bombing in Alexandria last year. They chanted anti-SCAF slogans and confirmed the unity of Muslims and Christians.

Repeated in: Al-Gomhoreya: Page 2; Al-Akhbar: Pages 6, 7; Al-Tahrir: Page 2; Al-Masry Al-Youm: Page 3



Page: 1, 4, 5

Authors: Mostafa Eid, Alyaa Hamed (and others)

### Tantawi Reassures Washington over Measures Taken against NGO's



Prime Minister Dr. Kamal El-Ganzouri held a meeting yesterday with two SCAF generals to discuss the police raids on human rights organizations and centers and the ensuing international pressures.

Fayza Abol Naga, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, announced that "the Public Prosecution's investigations with a number of civil society organizations is a judicial matter and the government has nothing to do with it."

In response to the statements made by EU Foreign Policy Chief Catherine Ashton, Abol Naga said "the computers, which were confiscated, will return to these organizations. Cairo will not accept orders from anyone."

SCAF declared, through their Facebook page, that the raids are a matter to be decided by "the great Egyptian judiciary authority."

Ahmed Maher Front of the April 6 movement threatened to mobilize large-scale demonstrations to protest the police raids on civil society organizations.

The US Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta contacted Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi, Head of SCAF, to express Washington's concerns about the raids on civil society organizations. Tantawi pledged halting raids on the organizations and allowing work to resume in their offices.

Judicial sources revealed that a fact-finding committee will be formed to investigate a new complaint accusing religious organizations and institutions of receiving \$75 million from Iran.



## اليوم السابع

Pages: 1, 6

Authors: Ibrahim Qassem

### Elections Updates

**14.5 مليون ناخب في المرحلة الثالثة بعد غد.. ولا اعتذارات للقضاة الإخوان والنور يسعيان إلى الصدارة.. ومناظرة بين الوفد والكتلة المصرية**

كتب - إبراهيم قاسم

يترجمه 14 مليوناً و500 ألف ناخب لهم حق التصويت في المرحلة الثالثة من الانتخابات البرلمانية المزمع إجراؤها في 3-4 يناير، والأربعة المئتين إلى مسابق التفرغ بـ 15 ألفاً و175 لجنة فرعية في 9 محافظات ليبدأ أولى مراحل الجولة الثالثة من الانتخابات مجلس الشعب لاختيار 150 نائباً منهم 100 لنظام القوائم و50 بنظام الفردي ليكمل بالمرحلة الثالثة اختيار جميع نواب البرلمان. وتشهد هذه المرحلة زيادة في أعداد القضاة المشرفين عليها، وقال المستشار يسرى عبد الكريم رئيس المكتب الفني وعضو الأمانة العامة بالقضاة الذين سيشرفون على المرحلة الثالثة يصل لحوالي 12 ألف قاضٍ، موضيهاً أن المرحلة الثالثة ستجرى بجانبها أيضاً الانتخابات في 5 بولدر أخرى كانت قد ألغيت في المراحل السابقة بسبب الأحكام القضائية، وهي

ويعنى الحرية والعدالة، المنشق عن جماعة الإخوان المسلمين، إن الاحتفاظ بالقدرة في المرحلة الثالثة في المرحلة الثانية.

ويضم الحرية والعدالة، المنشق عن جماعة الإخوان المسلمين، إن الاحتفاظ بالقدرة في المرحلة الثالثة التي تضم 9 محافظات وهي الأقوية، الدقهلية، القليوبية، الوادي الجديد، مرسى مطروح، شمال سيناء، جنوب سيناء، أسيوط، أقاليم شرق سيناء، أقاليم غرب سيناء، أقاليم جنوب سيناء، وأقاليم شمال سيناء، وسيتم الانتخابات من الحرية والعدالة.

التفاصيل صفحة 6

ترقب وعظم في المرحلة الثالثة للانتخابات

دوائر محرم بك في الإسكندرية، والفتح وبني سويف، بأسسوط، وأسماح بالقاهرة والمدافاة الخامسة بالشرقية، وأصناف عبد الكريم أن اللجنة العليا قررت تغيير عدد كبير من مقار لجان الفرز

وذلك بعد تفقد اللجنة واستبيان عدم ملاءمتها للقيام بأعمال التفرغ مستجراً إلى أنه تم تغيير مقار 25 لجنة فرز على مستوى المحافظات التسع، وأكد عبد الكريم على عدم وجود اعتذارات



14.5 million is the number of eligible voters in the third and last phase of parliamentary elections which will be held on January 3-4, 2012.

The number of polling stations in the nine governorates of this phase has reached 15,175 sub-stations. Voters will choose 150 representatives; among them will be 100 through party lists and 50 through single-member constituencies.

Senior Judge Yosri Abd Al-Karim, head of the technical office of the HEC, said the number of judges who will be supervising this phase has increased to be 12,000 judges. He pointed out that elections in constituencies that were previously cancelled, as a result of a judicial decision, will also take place during this phase.



Pages: 10  
 Authors: Not mentioned.

## Tantawi: I Call on People to Confront all Forms of Vandalism



Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi has decided to allocate a certain percentage of the services offered by the Specialized Spine Center at the Physical Therapy Center for free for those who are unable to afford the treatment.

He called on Egyptians to confront all forms of vandalism and preserve the ancient history of the country, confirming that the SCAF will do all what is necessary to re-constitute the Scientific Academy.

Repeated in: Al-Gomhoreya: Page 3; Yom 7: Front Page; Al-Ahram: Page 3; Al-Sherouk: Page 3; Al-Tahrir: Page 3; Al-Masry Al-Youm: Page 3



## TV Coverage (31/12/2011)



**Program: Al-Hayat Al-An (News)**

**Channel: Al-Hayat**

**Host: Maha Bahnasy**

SCAF vows to secure churches during Christmas commemoration of last year's church bombing victims.

Obstacles in expatriate Egyptians voting in the third phase of the elections.

Administrative Court allowed Ramy Lakah to run the elections.

Tantawi urges the citizens to deal with any vandalism and hopes that setting fire in the Egyptian Academy is the last kind of vandalism.

Tahrir protestors refuse to take part in Friday of Unity with Abbaseya protestors.



**Program: Masr Tantikheb**

**Channel: CBC**

**Host: Khairy Ramadan**

Fayza Abu Al-Najja: inspection of some civil society organizations premises was due to a decision from investigation authorities.

Investigation authority: The initial investigations show that some organizations receive foreign finance from illegal foreign entities.

Advisory Council described the organization that they are working for the country's sake and condemned the inspection campaigns on them.



**Program: Sabah Al-Kheir Ya Masr**  
**Channel 1 "National TV"**

According to Al-Gomhoreya Newspaper: Unity for a better Egypt fails in uniting Abbaseya and Tahrir protestors. The silent majority refused it, political forces boycotted it and Islamists didn't show up.

According to Al-Shorouk Newspaper: Protestors in front of Tora prison demand hanging former Minister of Interior Al-Adly.

**News All Day**  
**Channel 1" National TV"**

Tahrir protestors celebrate the new year with the motto " Prayers and calls for the sake of a better Egypt"

Expatriate Egyptians continue voting in the third phase.

Running for candidacy in the presidential elections to be in April after drafting the constitution.

Asyut Governor meets with Islamic and Christian leaders to end the sectarian strife that happened in the governorate the past two days.



**Program: Tahrir (Talk Show)**  
**Channel: Al-Yom**  
**Host: Dina Abdol-Rahman**

Guest:

Alaa Al-Aswany, Novel Writer

US Secretary of State condemns filing charges of receiving illegal foreign finances against 17 non-governmental organizations.

4 police officers accused of killing the protestors in Al-Sayeda Zeinab Police Station are proved to be innocent.



Alaa Al-Aswany said:

We took the wrong way after the revolution by not conducting trials for former regime members.

The revolution didn't rule one day, SCAF is responsible for all what is happening now.

It's not in USA's interest that Egypt becomes a democratic country as it would be dangerous for Israel.

MB and Salafi sources of finance must be investigated.



## Links

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## Radio Coverage (31/12/2011)



### **News All Day**

#### **Channel: Al-Shark Al-Awsat**

Tantawi urges the citizens to fight all kinds of vandalism.

Foreign Minister Mohamed Amr said that a committee is formed to investigate the civil organizations receiving foreign finance.

Fayza Abu Al-Najja: inspection of some civil society organizations premises was due to a decision from investigation authorities.

Asyut Governor meets with Islamic and Christian leaders to end the sectarian strife that happened in the governorate the past two days.

### **News All Day**

#### **Channel: Al-Barnameg Al-Am**

Expatriate Egyptians continue voting in the third phase of the elections.

SCAF vows to secure churches during Christmas commemoration of last year's church bombing victims.



### **News All Day**

#### **Channel: Radio Masr**

Tahrir protestors celebrate the new year with the motto " Prayers and calls for the sake of a better Egypt"



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## Internet Coverage (01/01/2012)

facebook

Facebook

### We ara all Khaled Saed

Who is responsible for killing our families in the Two Saints Church attack? Who is responsible for killing the Sudanese in Mostafa Mahmoud Square? Who killed the revolution's protesters? Who burned our young sons in Beni Suef Theater? Who killed our families in Al-Salam Ferry? Who assaulted our daughters? Who crushed our bodies under armored vehicles? Who tortured us in prisons and police stations? The answer is: The revolution continues.

Mohamed Milad el-Sayed from Kom Hamada was killed during the Cabinet events. He died from gunshot wounds in the neck. Don't forget to pray for him.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=315125328537338&set=a.204100612973144.43400.104224996294040&type=1&ref=n>

A picture taken inside the Kasr Al-Doubara Church during Coptic Christmas celebrations. Long live Egypt.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=315506941832510&set=a.315506871832517.62040.104224996294040&type=1&ref=nf>

We dream of a state that respects human rights, of an authority elected by the people and of an independent country that earns the world's respect.

### Egyptian Cabinet

Aswan governor: Work to rebuild flood-ravaged Abu-Simbel houses has started. A daily allowance was reimbursed to the inflicted families. The move completes aid distributed by the Armed Forces, NGOs and political parties.

The tourism and antiquities police launched an intensive security campaign in the Valley of the Kings and Queens in the West Bank, Luxor.

Prime Minister Kamal el-Ganzouri held talks with the Sudanese foreign minister on means of promoting bilateral relations in the various fields.

Ganzouri greeted the great Egyptian people on the New Year. He called on the people to work hard for the country's interest and achieve the goals of the January revolution.



**Twitter:**

**Asmaa Mahfouz**

In Kasr Al-Doubara Church, celebrations are held to mark Christmas. Happy New Year everyone.

**Aalam Wassef**

Gr8 news frm #freemaikel. Lawyer, prosecutor's office & physician saw him, filed a complaint for ill-treatment. Maikel ended strike. HNY.

#freemaikel's lawyer filed a complaint and requested his immediate transfer to a hospital and another prison. Results tomorrow, in court.

**Ghonim**

"You must not fight too often with one enemy, or you will teach him all your art of war."  
Napoleon Bonaparte

**Gsquare86**

I am grateful for all the wonderful people I met in the year of the revolution, thank you 2011

I wished for a revolution last new year's eve, today I wish our revolution continues until victory #Egypt



Muslim Brotherhood Site

## **Full Press Statement by FJP Secretary-General on Recent Raids on NGO's**

Dr. Mohamed Saad Katatni, Secretary General of the Freedom and Justice Party (FJP), denounced the way in which civil society organizations have been dealt with and the closure of some NGO's accused of receiving donations from other countries and foreign organizations, disbursement of said funds to non-legitimate purposes, training thugs and outlaws in political matters, and using those in disrupting national security and public order in the homeland – implementing dubious foreign agendas, without clear evidence to prove this.

Katatni added that the former regime never stormed those organizations or closed any of them the way we see now, which we do not expect to ever happen after the blessed revolution of the twenty-fifth of January, especially as these organizations have been receiving funding since long periods.

Katatni wondered why those organizations were left to operate for so long, if indeed they were breaking the law, and why no law was passed to prohibit foreign funding of human rights organizations, as this is the legitimate way to deal with NGO's.

Katatni stressed the importance of the role played by civil society organizations in monitoring government actions, assisting it in reaching the public, and preventing its security forces from returning to the policies and practices of oppression and injustice and tyranny that prevailed in the days of the defunct former regime, by monitoring the actions and movements of these forces, and conveying this information to the public in a completely transparent process.

The Secretary-General pointed to the need for priorities of Egyptian human rights organizations to be in harmony with priorities of the Egyptian people, adding that it is also important for these organizations to seek to fund their activities by voluntary contributions of Egyptians only.



He demanded of the Egyptian government and the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces total transparency in disclosure of information on those organizations, as well as transparency in the investigations, so that the Egyptian public opinion is always informed of the developments of that issue, and also to ensure a fair trial for those who are proved guilty of these organizations.



## ▪ Publication overview

### ❖ **Al-Ahram: Egyptian state-run official daily newspaper**

Founded in 1875, is the most widely circulating Egyptian [daily](#) newspaper, and the second oldest after al-Waqa'i`al-Masriya (English: The Egyptian Events, founded 1828). It is majority owned by the [Egyptian government](#).

### ❖ **Al-Akhbar: Egyptian state-owned semi-official daily newspaper**

It was founded in May [1952](#) as a part of [Akhbar El Yom](#).

### ❖ **Al-Gomhoria: Egyptian state-owned daily newspaper**

An influential state-owned [Egyptian Arabic language](#) daily [newspaper](#). It was established in 1954.

### ❖ **Al-Shorouk: Egyptian daily independent newspaper**

Is a prominent Arabic newspaper published in Egypt [\[1\]](#) and several other Arabic nations It is a daily independent newspaper, covering mainly politics, militant affairs and sport.

### ❖ **Al-Masry al-Yom: Independent daily newspaper**

On 7 June 2004, it published its first edition. The paper initially circulated primarily amongst Cairo's intellectual elite, providing objective news coverage in the belief that good news would beat sensationalist reporting found in other Egyptian print media. After 3 years, it was challenging *Al-Ahram* for the status of being the national paper of record. Though

### ❖ **Tahrir: Daily independent newspaper**

### ❖ **Dostor: Daily independent newspaper**

### ❖ **Yom 7: Daily independent newspaper**



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