



News Coverage

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



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▪ Thematic Headlines

▪ Domestic Scene

- ✓ A Project of Revolution
- ✓ Elections without Voters
- ✓ Who's to head the NCHR
- ✓ Foreign Funds Sow Strife
- ✓ US Embassy Refutes Allegations
- ✓ International Humanitarian Organizations Recommend the Tunisian Law
- ✓ Suspects Released and others Detained in Port Said
- ✓ Students' Strike
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- ✓ Cautious Calm in Sharqiya, One Day after Clashes
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- ✓ Anan: Army Keen to Resume Democratic Transition
- ✓ Presidential Election Commission Rules out Amendments
- ✓ Tantawi: I Will Not Run for President
- ✓ Muslim Brotherhood Reneged on Proposal to Form Government
- ✓ Al-Ameriya Calls for Resolving the Conflict
- ✓ Resolved Sectarian Strife in Al-Minya
- ✓ Revolution's Parliament: Power to Legislate but Not to Enact Laws
- ✓ Anan Demands Supporting MOI
- ✓



Newspapers (16/02/2012)



Pages: 1, 5, 9

Author: Imad al-Fiqi, Mustafa Tammam and wires

Foreign Funds Sow Strife



Al-Ahram received copies of the evidences against the suspected NGOs. 43 suspects face charges of receiving illegal foreign funds and donations and working illegally in Egypt.

In her testimony, Egypt's Assistant Foreign Minister for Human Rights Affairs asserted that the only authorization the IRI and the National Democratic Institute had was to follow up with the Parliamentary elections. However, the two institutes went further and interfered in the interior political affairs, disregarding the clear prohibition of such activities.

A senior investigative security officer declared that the IRI, the National Democratic Institute and Freedom House held 387 workshops in Egypt after the Jan 25 Revolution. All workshops were related to Egyptian political and partisan issues that had no link with the humanitarian affairs that are usually in the core of those institutes' activities.

An investigative officer stated that the Freedom House's main goal was to spread a state of lack of confidence in the Egyptian society. It also aimed at inciting against the state and its institutions, especially the strategic institutions. That was through adopting critical topics such as monitoring the social and humanitarian conditions of Copts and Nubians in Egypt. Moreover, the officer said, the aim was also to sow sectarian and racial strifes and urge division under the pretext of protecting the "minorities."

In a related context, al-Ahram reported on clear division amongst the members of the Foreign Relation Committee at the American Congress where Gen Martin Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff does not seem to support stopping the USAID to Egypt.

Meanwhile, there are more calls for stopping the USAID to Egypt as a strong-worded message to Egypt.



Republican Senior US Senator John McCain preceded his visit to Egypt next week by backing the calls to stop the US AIDs.

"Our relationship with Egypt is vital, but the fact is that the welfare of our citizens (is) even more vital," McCain said.

Pages: 1, 4

Author: Suad Tantawi and others

Elections without Voters



“Deadly calm and unlimited emptiness” was reported on in polling stations in the second phase of elections to the higher house of Parliament, the Shura Council.

Employees in polling stations spent their time with their personal laptops, checking their personal “facebook accounts.”

Candidates and their advocates kept campaigning to urge voters, however.

In al-Hilmiyah polling station in Kafr al-Shaykh turned to a birthing clinic when the deputy of the Freedom and Justice Party gave birth in the polling station after a sudden labor.

Judge Yusri Abd al-Karim, head of the technical office of the High Judicial Elections Commission declared that vote counting started yesterday and the final results were to be declared on Friday.



Pages: 3
Author: Imad Hijab

Who's to head the NCHR



Former Vice president of the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR) Ahmad Kamal Abu al-Majd seems to be a strong candidate for the council's president position, succeeding Dr. Butrus Ghali who suffers from health problems.



Pages: 6
 Author: Najat Abd al-Naim (interviewer)

A Project of Revolution



Didier Billion Deputy Director of the Paris-based Institute of International and Strategic Relations (IRIS) said what was going in the region, except for Tunisia, was not revolutions but a state of “effervescence” of all social classes.

Billion believes that Mubarak preserved Egypt’s sovereignty and left in a deal and the U.S.A let Mubarak down to save their alliance with the Egyptian Armed Forces.

Billion believes that what happened in Egypt was a project of a revolution and not a revolution.

Billion also referred to the European shock by the Salafi lead in the parliamentary elections and also to the challenges the Muslim Brotherhood leaders are to face in the future. He considers SCAF and the Muslim Brotherhood to be the two legs of state in Egypt.

Ultras March against SCAF



Around 10 thousand members of Ultras Ahlawy, hardcore Al-Ahly football fans, and Ultras White Nights, Al-Zamalek team fans, organized a march to the High Court of Justice and the Public Prosecutor’s Office.

They were chanting against SCAF and the current government. They held large banners reflecting their demands.

Some of the demands were to purge the Ministry of Interior from corrupt officials, and to punish those responsible for the Port Said clashes.

A number of public figures, football players and some of the victims’ families took part in this march. The march caused traffic jam on the 6th of October Bridge.

Similar news was repeated in Al-Shorouk Newspaper



Page: 4

Author: Mohamed el-Sanhori

Presidential Election Commission Rules out Amendments



A judicial official at the Presidential Election Commission ruled out the possibility of introducing radical amendments to the presidential elections law by the People’s Assembly’s Legislative Affairs Committee.

Most of the articles contained in the law were derived from the Constitutional Declaration issued by the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) in March, the source, who asked to remain anonymous, said.

Meanwhile, Vice President of the State Council Counselor Ahmed Morsi Helmi called on the parliament to circumvent the Constitutional Declaration and amend the law because it violates the right to litigation.

Similar news was reported in Al-Tahrir (pages 3)



Page: 15
 Author: Sameh Gheis

Cautious Calm in Sharqiya, One Day after Clashes



Security forces in Sharqiya governorate contained a sectarian dispute after a Christian girl, who reportedly converted to Islam six months ago and announced her engagement to her Muslim fiancée two weeks ago, disappeared.

The village of Meit Bashar observed renewed clashes after some youths tried to storm a church there and encountered security forces.

The youths threw Molotov cocktails on Central Security Forces, injuring five. The forces in turn responded with tear gas in a bid to disperse the unruly crowd.

More than 2,000 people gathered outside the Virgin Church in the village, calling for the release of the girl, identified as Rania Khalil Ibrahim.

Rania has moved back with her father, who also converted to Islam two years ago and had dumped his Christian wife to marry a Muslim woman.

A number of Muslims formed human shields around the church to protect it.

Revolution's Parliament: Power to Legislate but Not to Enact Laws



In an unprecedented step, the People's Assembly decided to create a parliamentary committee to attend the hearing of the Minister of Interior, prior to bringing him to justice according to the law of the year 1958 that provides for trying ministers. Some experts questioned the constitutionality of this measure.

Despite of the fact that the youth and national defense parliamentary committees prepared a report on the clashes that took place near the Ministry of Interior and demanded withdrawing confidence from the Minister of Interior, Speaker of the People's Assembly Dr. Saad El-Katatni skipped this recommendation and did not place it for voting by Members of Parliament.

Reform and Development Party MP Ashraf Shabrawy said the revolution's parliament derives its strength from the revolution and its goals; however, its powers remain limited according to the Constitutional Declaration. "Until a new constitution is drafted and a new political regime is created, powers of the parliament will remain ambiguous," said Shabrawy.



Page: 1
 Author: Samar Nabih

Advisory Council Asks SCAF to Draft Constitution before Presidential Elections



The Advisory Council held a meeting on Wednesday under its vice chairman Sameh Ashour to tackle means to run the transitional period.

In a statement, the council called on the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) to complete drafting the constitution before the presidential elections.

It also called on SCAF to respond to its proposals on the criteria for choosing members of the constituent assembly that would draft the resolution.

Islamic Group Spokesman Resigns



The official spokesman of the Islamic Group Assem Abdel-Maged announced his resignation from his post.

Abdel-Maged said he would still be a member at the group's consultative council.

He said he wanted to dedicate his time for preaching.

Abdel-Maged was under tremendous pressure by the group's consultative council members to tender his resignation after his frequent rhetoric against several movements, including the April 6 Youth Movement and Revolutionary Socialists, well-informed sources said.



Page: 4.

Author: Mohamed Al-Badri.

Al-Ameriya Calls for Resolving the Conflict



Street defense groups spread in Al-Ameriya district in Alexandria following the clashes between Muslim and Coptic Christians. Customary meetings had taken the decision to deport a number of Christian families from the village.

Residents told Al-Tahrir newspaper that they are afraid the clashes might be renewed again. Attiya Abd Al-Raziq, one of the members of the street defense groups, said the decisions of the customary meeting came to put an end to sectarian strife in the village. All those who were part of the problem were deported from the village regardless of their religious backgrounds, he said.

Joseph Mahfouz, spokesman for Maspero Youth Coalition in Alexandria, said the decision to deport some Copts is more like a collective punishment for Coptic residents of the village. He said rules of law should be equally applied to the all residents of the village, not the decisions of customary meetings. Mahfouz said that shops and houses of eight Christian families were looted and burnt down.



Page: 4.
 Author: Islam Mohamed.

Resolved Sectarian Strife in Al-Minya



Security forces were able to control minor clashes that erupted in the Ismailiya village in Al-Minya. The clashes came as a result of a dispute between Muslims and Christians over holding prayers in a building that was not registered as a church.

In the early hours of the morning, hundreds of Muslim residents of the village gathered in front of the house of Noshi Sadek and Khafir Nezami, two Christian residents, to reject opening one of the unregistered buildings for prayers.

Police forces were quick to resolve the situation and they succeeded to separate between Muslims and Christians of the village. A meeting was scheduled between the head of security directorate and some of the residents to reach a solution for the dispute.



Pages: 1

Author: Mohamed Khayal and Doha Al-Gendy

Tantawi: I Will Not Run for Presidency



In his meeting with a delegation from the parliament, Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi said he has no intention to run for presidency.

Freedom and Justice Party MP Mohamed Abu Hamed said Tantawi have met only with political parties who follow SCAF orders.

The delegation highlighted the importance of drafting the constitution in conjunction with the preparations of the presidential elections. They also agreed that the transitional period should not be prolonged.

Page: 2.

Author: Ahmed Al-Bahnasawi.

Anan Demands Supporting MOI



Lieutenant General Sami Anan, Chief of Staff and Deputy Head of SCAF, stressed the importance of spreading awareness among young people in the universities, within the framework of the freedom of expression and opinion, of the reality of the situation in which the country is going through.

During a meeting with Minister of Higher Education Dr. Hussein Moussa, president of Assiut University and number of deans from the University of Alexandria, Anan said, “We must place the interests of our country on top of all other considerations. This is our ultimate goal in the transitional phase.”

He called on Egyptians to unite against criminals and thugs who threaten the stability of the country. He also confirmed the importance of supporting the Ministry of Interior in its mission to restore security and preserve the safety of citizens.



Pages: 1, 24

Author: Rim Abd al-Hamid, Ingy Majdi and Akram Sami

US Embassy Refutes Allegations



The US Embassy in Cairo issued a communiqué denying the charges of Egypt's Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Fayza Abu al-Naja against American NGOs and their role in Egypt.

Abu al-Naja had accused the U.S.A of attempting to contain the Jan 25 revolution and direct it to serve the US welfare.

The American Embassy received two days ago the charge sheet sent by the Egyptian General Prosecution.

Al-Yom al-Sabei provided a translation of the charge sheet on page 24.



Pages: 4

Author: Shaima Hamdi

Students' Strike



Cairo University students who belong to three political movements are still on strike. The three movements are the 6 of April, Tahrir and the Revolutionary socialists.

University officials describe the strike as “limited,” and assert the normal flow of work and studies at the university.

Pages: 4

Author: Muhammad Faraj

Suspects Released and others Detained in Port Said



The prosecution in Port Said released 22 of previous suspects who had been detained after the Port Said football match incidents.

57 others were newly detained to be interrogated.

Al-Yom al-Sabei published the names of the released suspects.



Pages: 5

Author: Ahmad Mustafa and Nora Fakhri

International Humanitarian Organizations Recommend the Tunisian Law



Delegation of International and Arab humanitarian Organizations suggested that Egypt adopt the Tunisian law of NGOs.

The delegation of 284 members included 284 members met the Freedom and Justice party, Dr. Fayza Abu al-Naja, Egypt's Minister of Planning and International Cooperation and the People's Assembly's human rights committee.



Page: 3

Author: Not Mentioned

Anan: Army Keen to Resume Democratic Transition



The Egyptian Army is keen to resume the democratic transition in the country, said Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lieutenant General Sami Anan.

During a meeting with university leaders, Anan underlined the need to put first the state's interest.

He called on university officials to educate the youths on the freedom of expression and make them aware of the current situation in the country.

Similar news was reported in Al-Masry Al-Yom (page 4)



Page: 3

Author: Mohamed Hendawi

Egypt Condemns Syrian Escalation



Egypt condemned the escalation of violence in Syria and the bombing of several Syrian cities.

Egypt rejects the use of violence against civilians and calls upon the Syrian government to fulfill the demands of its people, Foreign Minister Mohamed Amr said.

Egypt believes that the Syrian crisis could be resolved through the full implementation of the Arab plan, Amr said.

He rejected military intervention in Syria.



TV Coverage (15/02/2012)



Program: Al-Hayat Al-Yoom

Channel: Al-Hayat

Host: Sherif Amer

Guest:

Judge Ahmed Mekky

22 arrested over Port Said incidents were released and a march was organized to the Public Prosecutor Office demanding swift investigations.

Advisory Council demands drafting the constitution before holding the presidential elections.

Program: Al-Hayat Al-An

Channel: Al-Hayat

Host: Maha Bahnasy

Low turnout in the second day of the Shura elections and the run-offs will be held on February 22.

Minister of People's Assembly and Shura Council Affairs announces holding the presidential elections by the end of May in tandem with the constitution drafting. Electoral publicity will be conducted for 45 days.

A Parliament committee went to inspect Torra Hospital, where Mubarak will be transferred.

Minister of Health admits that some children contracted unknown symptoms after receiving vaccination.

All the news above was also reported in "Al-Hayat Al-Yoom" Program



Program: Baladna Bel-Masry

Channel: ON TV

Host: Reem Maged

SCAF rejected a Muslim Brotherhood suggestion to form a coalition government and stressed that PM Kamal el-Ganzouri's government will remain in office.

Freedom and Justice Party demanded granting the Shura Council the same powers of the People's Assembly.



LINKS

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/AL%20HAYAH%202-20120215-215646-220859.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/CH1-20120215-170017-174112.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/CH1-20120215-250016-250113.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/CH1-20120215-270011-270617.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/CH2-20120215-080655-081130.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/CH2-20120215-260025-261519.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/EL%20HAYAH%20TV-20120215-180027-180543.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/EL%20HAYAH%20TV-20120215-182346-182923.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/EL%20HAYAH%20TV-20120215-195936-201900.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/ONTV-20120215-211625-212259.rar



Radio Coverage (15/02/2012)



News All Day

Channel: Radio Masr

Time: 22:00:00

Egyptian Stock Market loses EGP 2.6bn due to sell-offs by Egyptian and Arab investors.

A Parliament committee went to inspect Torra Hospital, where Mubarak will be transferred.



News

Channel: Al-Shark Al-Awsat

Lieutenant General Sami Anan meets with Minister of Higher Education and leaders of Alexandria and Asyut universities and stressed in this meeting that SCAF supports the transition to democracy. 25:00:00

Tonight Shura Council elections vote count will start. 27:00:00

News

Channel: Al-Barnameg Al-Am

Time: 23:00:00

Low turnout observed in the second day of the Shura elections. The run-offs will be held on February 22.

22 arrested over Port Said incidents were released and a march was organized toward the Public Prosecutor Office demanding swift investigations into the events.

All the news on this channel were also reported on "Radio Masr"



LINKS

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/AL%20SHARQ%20AL%20AWSAT-20120215-250254-250341.rar

http://admin.home.ipsos2012.operaunite.com/file_sharing/content/AL%20SHARQ%20AL%20AWSAT-20120215-270102-270134.rar



Internet Coverage (16/02/2012)

facebook

_Faceboo

We are all khaled saeed

Alexandria:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=270994459616503&set=a.225216237527659.50786.167249909990959&type=1&ref=nf>

Tunisia's president al-Marzouki: Being an interim president does not sadden me. It is an honor to be the first elected Arab president... It makes me happy to see the Arab world starting to enjoy real democracy. I hope the freedom "virus" will "infect" dictatorship to death.

Dear next president, can you learn something from that man?

https://fbcdn-sphotos-a.akamaihd.net/hphotos-ak-ash4/424517_348506138532590_104224996294040_828831_559321284_n.jpg

Ahmed Shafiq in an interview with Moataz el-Demerdash: It is more logical to release 10 criminals because one of them was innocent. This is how we were raised, right?

Why didn't they teach us these things in history books at school?

https://fbcdn-sphotos-a.akamaihd.net/hphotos-ak-ash4/s720x720/402718_349090031807534_104224996294040_829982_722595141_n.jpg

Egyptian cabinet

Fayza Abul-Naga, International Cooperation Minister, said Egypt will rise with the efforts of its citizens and they have the ability to do that. Any external aid offered to Egypt must respect the Egyptian sovereignty.

PM Kamal el-Ganzouripraised the citizens for not responding to civil disobedience calls.



Arabawy

AUDIO – 8 Feb KPFA Interview

<http://www.arabawy.org/2012/02/15/audio-8-feb-kpfa-interview/>

VIDEO – SCAF's business empire

<http://www.arabawy.org/2012/02/15/video-scafs-business-empire/>

The state run unions, loyal servants of SCAF



In the past, the state backed unions played a central role in controlling and/or mobilizing the working class on behalf of Mubarak. Today, they continue to be the loyal servants of the regime and its new masters, the army junta.

The state-run federation general unions incited against the February 11th general strike calls in the media and workplaces. The picture below I took during the 10 February march on the Ministry of Defense is just one example.

The state-run public transport workers distributed banners and forced drivers on stick them on their buses, denouncing the strike calls. I and other protesters had a chat with the driver above, and he assured us he had nothing to do with this banner and he was coerced by his managers into sticking it on the bus.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/elhamalawy/6882724823/>



Twitter

[@AsmaaMahfouz](#)

Every day I become more certain that our revolution will continue.
Students in the Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University, are protesting to demand the release of one of their colleagues, Mowafy, who was arrested in recent clashes near the MOI.
Even those who were born in 2000 are demanding SCAF to leave! What are they waiting for?

[@Arabist](#)

“New on Arabist: Egyptian NGOs condemn foreign orgs crackdown <http://arb.st/yhqRyI>”

[@Gsquare86](#)

“#RevSoc and proud :) RT [@FireThisTime](#): Revolutionary Socialists: The “Brave Kids” of #Egypt <http://english.al-akhbar.com/content/revolutionary-socialists-%E2%80%9Cbrave-kids%E2%80%9D-egypt>”

This is the true spirit of the revolution:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Arj4j2tyY5E>

[@AalamWassef](#)

“State radio reporter: #ultras demo is planned to head to #masperoafter stand at supreme court.”

“News circulating on FB that #MB has put forward 2 candidates for pres. elections: Nabil Araby (Arab League, civilian) & Ahmed Shafik (whore)”



“For Egyptian Media as you've never had it >>> follow @mosireen & subscribe to its Youtube channel <http://www.youtube.com/mosireen>”
@iyad_elbaghdadi

“I think I need to make a video about the "Problem of Poverty". Too much BS being circulated, someone needs to step up.”

“When they ask for free elections, offer a referendum instead. When there's only one candidate, there's only one choice.#ArabTyrantManual”

“One year ago today, I started scanning #Libya accounts for the first signs of revolution, and I found it in #Benghazi. The rest was history.”

“It started with a gut feeling. After #Mubarak, I knew this was going to#Libya. #Syria was near the top of the list too.”

@WaelAbbas

Egyptian expatriates in London chant against military rule in a conference for potential presidential candidate Al-Awwa! This lady taught the bastard one big fat lesson:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EbMdGY6JJ-k&feature=youtu.be>

Egyptians receive Al-Awwa with chants of “Al-Awwa Out!”

@Monasosh

The number of protesters who were arrested during recent clashes is very high. We are trying to know who was imprisoned and who disappeared.

It is quite difficult to work on individual cases when the numbers of protesters arrested is high; however, we encourage the family and friends to make a special campaign for him.

Putting pressure on authorities always helps in shortening the period of imprisonment.



▪ 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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