



# News Coverage

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



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## ▪ Thematic Headlines

### ▪ Domestic Scene

- ✓ Military Official: Mubarak is Not Part of the Military
- ✓ Date for Presidential Elections Decided
- ✓ General Intelligence Officer Joins Presidential Race
- ✓ Carter Center Demands Higher Female Representation in Constituent Assembly
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- ✓ Heads of Shura Council Committees Elected
- ✓ Another MP Beaten Up by Thugs
- ✓ Army Contains Huge Siwa Fire
- ✓ A Phone Call behind the Resignations of the Court Jury
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- ✓ Travel Ban Lifted
- ✓ MPs Reject Pressure on Judicial Authorities
- ✓ A Deal to Release the American Suspects
- ✓ An Interview with Hamadain Sabbahi
- ✓ Courts Closed by Chains on the Second Day of Employees Strike
- ✓ Al-Nour Supports MB Decision to Withdraw Confidence from El-Ganzouri's Government
- ✓ Former Al-Qaeda Leader Arrested in Cairo Airport
- ✓ El-Ganzouri Heads Governors Meeting
- ✓ Military Prosecution Examines 50.000 Complaints Filed against MP Al-Eleimy
- ✓ Parliament's Defense Committee Demand National Security to Identify "Third Party"



## Newspapers (01/03/2012)



Page: 1

Author: Not mentioned

### The White House: no Confirmed News about Lifting the Ban on Traveling



The White House asserted that it had received no confirmation about the lift of the ban of traveling imposed on the 19 American suspects being tried in the case of NGOs.

US Secretary of State Hilary Clinton denied receiving confirmation about this issue.

We do not have confirmation, but the news is promising, said Clinton.

Judge Adel al-Said, spokesman of the General Prosecution declared that lifting the travel ban was not part of the prosecution's authority.

Similar news was reported in Tahrir, pp. 1, 3.



Page: 4

Author: Abd al-Jawwad Ali and Samih Lachin

### MPs Reject Pressure on Judicial Authorities



MPs expressed their rejection of any pressure applied on the judicial authorities responsible for the case of illegal foreign funds and activities of a number of NGOs.

They called on the Minister of Justice to reveal the real reasons behind the resignation of the court jury.



## A Phone Call behind the Resignations of the Court Jury



The Court Jury responsible for the illegal NGOs case has resigned.

No reasons were given for the resignation, however.

Al-Ahram reported that the resignation was after a jury member had received a phone call, caller unidentified.

A number of men of law called on Judge Mahmud Shukri to uncover the real reasons of the jury's resignation.

On his part, Judge Muhammad Shukri denied any political reasons for the resignation. He also denied rumors about his son being involved in the case of NGOs. He also declared that there were no personal reasons behind the resignation.

Shukri said he would present a document to the High Judicial Council explaining the reasons of the jury's resignation.



المصري اليوم

www.almasryalyoum.com

Pages: 1, 7.

Authors: Hamdi Dabsh, Osama Al-Mahdi (and others).

### Al-Nour Supports MB Decision to Withdraw Confidence from El-Ganzouri's Government



Al-Nour Salafi Party reconsidered their previous decision to refuse withdrawing confidence from Prime Minister Dr. Kamal El-Ganzouri's government. The Freedom and Justice Party began deliberations with political parties represented in the parliament to ensure majority of votes necessary to withdraw confidence from El-Ganzouri's government.

Dr. Ahmed Khalil, member of Al-Nour Party's executive bureau and an MP, said they will take some steps within the next few days towards forming a coalition government. "El-Ganzouri's government has failed to administer the affairs of the country. Security conditions continue to deteriorate in the country as thugs spread on the streets. Time has come to form a new government capable of assuming responsibility," Khalil told Al-Masry Al-Youm. Al-Nour/MP Dr. Hisham Abo Al-Nasr confirmed that Al-Nour Salafi Party will demand to take a number of ministries equivalent to the percentage of votes they gained in the People's Assembly and the Shoura Council elections.

"There is coordination between Members of Parliament and political parties to take a decision to withdraw confidence from El-Ganzouri's government," said FJP/MP Dr. Mohamed Emad Al-Din.



Pages: 1, 6.

Authors: Walid Magdi, Haitham Al-Sharqawi (and others).

### Courts Closed by Chains on the Second Day of Employees Strike



The strike of court and prosecution employees entered its second day and work was disrupted in the majority of courts around the country. Employees are holding a sit-in at their workplaces to demand fulfilling the promises of the Minister of Justice to separate their budget from that of the Supreme Council of Justice and establish an independent administrative and financial structure for them.

Employees in Al-Menoufia chained courts and surrounded prosecutors in their offices, which resulted in minor clashes with the police force responsible for securing the court.

Abdo Fadel, secretary general of the independent syndicate for court and prosecution workers, confirmed they will continue their sit-in until their demands are fulfilled. He said that criminal courts should continue their work normally because there might be innocent suspects who will be unjustly held in prison due to the strike. Employees also refused to strike in the courts examining the trial of former regime figures because they support the goals of the revolution.

Similar news was mentioned in: Al-Tahrir: Page 4; Al-Akhbar: Pages 3, 8; Al-Gomhoria: Page 24.



Pages: 1, 9.

Authors: Ali Zalat, Yosri Al-Badri (and others).

### Former Al-Qaeda Leader Arrested in Cairo Airport



Security sources said they apprehended Mohamed Ibrahim Mekkawi, former leader of Al-Qaeda, in Cairo Airport shortly after his arrival from Pakistan. Sources denied the rumors that said the person who was arrested is prominent Al-Qaeda leader known as “Seif Al-Adl.”

Sources said Mekkawi was a former officer in Egypt’s Armed Forces. He was arrested in cases related to Tanzim Al-Jehad, militant Islamists organization, and he left Egypt in 1989 heading to Saudi Arabia, then Pakistan and Afghanistan to join Al-Mujahedeen in their war against the Soviet Union.

“Mekkawi returned to Egypt of his own free will after he realized the change in the political conditions in the country following the January 25 revolution,” sources confirmed.

Similar news was mentioned in: Al-Gomhoria: Page 4.



Page: 5.  
 Author: Mohamed Ghareib.

### Parliament’s Defense Committee Demand National Security to Identify “Third Party”



General Magdi Abd Al-Ghaffar, head of the National Security Apparatus at the Ministry of Interior, confirmed that the apparatus will not accept again the practices that were exercised by the former State Security Apparatus as they were heavily criticized by the people.

A delegation from the national defense and security committee of the People’s Assembly visited the headquarters of the National Security Apparatus on Tuesday. General Abd Al-Ghaffar said the criticism directed against the apparatus is hindering their work. He confirmed that the apparatus is no longer interfering in the religious practices of citizens and it does not apprehend or interrogate suspects anymore.

MP Dr. Mohamed Al-Beltagi, a member of the committee, demanded General Abd Al-Ghaffar to fulfill the role of his security apparatus and identify the “third party” that disrupts the country’s security and stability. “It is not acceptable that an official gives us statements saying there are hidden hands disrupting the country’s security,” Dr. Al-Beltagi said.

“We have collected information on the ‘third party’ and we are cooperating with other state institutions to identify who pays money to spread chaos and disrupt stability in our country. We will present the evidence to the court to bring them to justice,” said General Abd Al-Ghaffar.



Pages: 1, 5.

Author: Hisham Abd Al-Hafiz.

## Military Prosecution Examines 50.000 Complaints Filed against MP Al-Eleimy



General Adel Al-Morsi, head of the Military Justice Commission, said the commission received more than 50.000 complaints filed to demand taking legal action against MP Zeyad Al-Eleimy over statements insulting Head of the ruling SCAF Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi.

Al-Morsi said that complaints came from different segments of the society; civilians and officers who saw that the Member of Parliament has insulted the entire military institution. He said the complaints are under investigation and the military prosecution will reach a decision after examining the complaints.

Al-Morsi explained there is no contradiction between military and civilian justice. Dozens of complaints examined by the military commission were previously filed before the Public Prosecutor and referred to the commission because it is within its jurisdictions, he said.

Similar news was mentioned in: Al-Akhbar: Page 4.

Page: 4.

Authors: Mohamed Fathallah and Gehan Hassan.

## El-Ganzouri Heads Governors Meeting



During his meeting with governors, Prime Minister Dr. Kamal El-Ganzouri decided that the state budget will support a plan to clean the Egyptian streets from garbage. He also decided to form a committee comprising Ministers of Electricity, International Cooperation and Local Development to take a decision on the type of technology needed to recycle wastes.

El-Ganzouri also assigned the Social Fund for Development to visit Siwa Oasis to evaluate the situation and identify the needs of its residents, following the huge fire that destroyed large hectares of farmland. He said the regional office of the fund in Matrouh will design and implement projects that would fulfill the needs of Siwa residents.

The prime minister also decided to establish a national council for the handicapped. The legislative committee of the cabinet has prepared the draft law related to establishing this council. The committee will present the draft law to the Cabinet of Ministers for approval in order to present it to the People's Assembly to take a final decision to establish the council.



Page: 1  
 Author: Imad Hamdi

### A Deal to Release the American Suspects



News was reported about an alleged deal between Egypt and the U.S.A to release the American suspects in the case of NGOs.

The alleged deal includes releasing the American suspects in Egypt for releasing 50 Egyptian prisoners in the American prisons, on the top of who was Sheik Omar Abd al-Rahman, mufti of al-Jamaah al-Islamiyah.

US Secretary of State Hilary Clinton had alluded to a soon compromise with the Egyptian authorities.

Gen Muhamamd Hani Zahir had also called for putting pressure on the United States through this case to release more than 500 Egyptian prisoners in the United States.

Similar news was reported in al-Shurouk, p. 1

Pages: 3  
Author: Nada Hamdy

## Military Official: Mubarak is Not Part of the Military



Head of Egypt's military judiciary, Adel El-Morsy, said Wednesday that ousted President Mubarak cannot be referred to a military court as he does not enjoy a military designation at present.

During a press conference, Morsy said Mubarak's designation as chief commander of the armed forces was honorary.



Page: 1 and 3  
 Author: Salah Laban and Ibrahim Moussa

### Another MP Beaten Up by Thugs



Al-Nour Party MP Ali el-Balkimi was critically injured after being beaten up by five masked men in the Cairo-Alexandria desert road on Tuesday night.

Balkimi was driving back to Cairo when a black Jeep blocked his way. Five masked men got out of the Jeep, beat him up and stole EGP 100,000 from his car.

He was taken to hospital unconscious.

The incident comes days after presidential candidate Abdel-Moneim Abul-Fotouh and MP Hassan el-Brence were assaulted similarly in two separate attacks in a sign of the deteriorating security situation in the country.

Al-Nour Party leader Emadeddin Abdel-Ghaffour condemned the attack and said the security instability in the country should not go unresolved.

Similar news was reported in Al-Yom7 (page 1 and 4), Al-Shorouk (page 3), Al- Masry Al-Yom (page 3 and 7) and Al-Akhbar (page 3 and 18)



Page: 1

Author: Haitham al-Badri and Nadir Shukri

### A Copt Convicted for Despising Religion



Copt Makarim Diyab Said was sentenced to 6-year jail for despising Islam and offending Prophet Muhammad.

The Salafist Call in Asyout filed the claim against Said.

Said’s brother said his brother who worked in a school had a discussion with a newly assigned Salafist teacher. He asked the Salafist whether Prophet Muhammad married 40 women. The Salafist considered the question to be an offense against Islam and the Muslim prophet.



Page: 1  
Author: Ibrahim Qasim

### Travel Ban Lifted



Department of Grievance at Cairo Criminal Court accepted the grievances of 16 American suspects against the ban on travelling imposed on them by Egyptian judicial authorities.

The ban was lifted for a 2-million Egyptian Pounds bail for each.

Similar news was reported in al-Shurouk, p.1

Page: 8-9

Author: Muhammad al-Bahrawi (editor)

### An Interview with Hamadain Sabbahi



Potential Presidential Candidate Hamadain Sabbahi supports the handing over of power to a civil authority. Sabbahi also calls to try the culprits in the transgressions and crimes committed against demonstrators.

Sabbahi dreams of a new advanced Egypt after 8 years if “we took the justice from Islam and love from Christianity,” he said.

Sabbahi also believes that the coming president of Egypt will not be chosen by one party or political player but rather by all Egyptians.

Sabbahi will choose three vice presidents; a liberal, a leftist and an Islamist.

He stressed the importance of engaging the youth in the different positions.

He also referred to his plan to solve the problem of slums.

Sabbahi also stated that it was unfair to maltreat 3 million Egyptians for the simple reason of being members of the dissolved National Democratic Party. He called for trying the culprits without making the innocent subjects to injustice.



Pages: 1, 6  
 Author: Mohamed Basal

## Date for Presidential Elections Decided



The High Presidential Elections Commission, headed by Judge Farouk Sultan, president of the Supreme Constitutional Court announced the timetable of the presidential elections.

The first round of the elections will be held on May 23 and 24, the results will be announced on May 29, runoffs will be held on June 16 and 17. The name of the elected president will be announced on June 21st.

Presidential candidature will be opened March 10th and will last for 30 days. Two days will be dedicated for judicial challenges. The final list of candidates will be announced April 26th.

The commission has allocated 7 days for expatriate voting in each round. In the first round it will take place on 11-17 May, and on 3-9 June in the second round.

Similar news was reported in Youm7 page 1 and 6; Akhbar page 5; Ahram page 1 and 5; Masry Youm pages 1 and 7; Gomhoria page 3; Tahrir 3.



Page: 3  
Authors: MENA

## Constituent Assembly Elections



Shura Council Speaker, Ahmed Fahmy called all the members to a joint session that includes both house of Parliament next Saturday to select Constituent Assembly members.

The session will be held next Tuesday March 6; it will discuss the Assembly's role in drafting the constitution.



Page: 4

Author: Aliaa Hamed

## Carter Center Demands Higher Female Representation in Constituent Assembly



Carter Center called Egypt's Parliament members to address the issue of the weak representation of women in the parliament by making sure that at least 30 members of the Constituent Assembly members are females.

Carter Center Field Office Director Sanne van den Bergh said that there are only 41 women of the 678 Parliamentary women, those results raise great concern that one of the main voices in the resolution will not be heard while drafting the constitution.



Page: 5

Author: Maisaa Fahmy

## General Intelligence Officer Joins Presidential Race



Former General Intelligence Director Mamdouh Qotb announced joining the presidential race in a conference in the Journalists Syndicate yesterday.

He said that amending article 28 of the Constitutional Declaration will stall the presidential elections at a time we need to end the transitional period as soon as possible.

Similar news was reported in Dostour page 5; Akhbar page 7



Page: 1 and 9  
 Author: Medhat Nassar

## Army Contains Huge Siwa Fire

**النيران التهمت ٦٥ فدانا مزروعة بالتمخيل والزيتون في سيوة**  
**الجيش ينجح في السيطرة على الحريق باستخدام طائرات الهليكوبتر**  
**صرف مليون جنيه تمويزات فوزية للمزارعين.. وإثناء نقطة إطفاء**

صور من النيران العنيفة



**مطربح - صحف مصر:** ٦٥ فدانا تلتهم من النيران التي اندلعت صباح اليوم في محافظة سيوة، حيث تم السيطرة على الحريق باستخدام طائرات الهليكوبتر. وقد دعت الحكومة المزارعين المتضررين إلى تقديم طلبات للحصول على تعويضات بقيمة مليون جنيه.

**مطربح - صحف مصر:** اندلعت نيران هائلة في محافظة سيوة صباح اليوم، حيث اشتعلت نيران ٦٥ فدانا مزروعة بالتمخيل والزيتون. وقد دعت الحكومة المزارعين المتضررين إلى تقديم طلبات للحصول على تعويضات بقيمة مليون جنيه.

**مطربح - صحف مصر:** نجح الجيش في السيطرة على الحريق باستخدام طائرات الهليكوبتر. وقد دعت الحكومة المزارعين المتضررين إلى تقديم طلبات للحصول على تعويضات بقيمة مليون جنيه.

**مطربح - صحف مصر:** صرف مليون جنيه تمويزات فوزية للمزارعين. وإثناء نقطة إطفاء.

After 12 hours of the blazing fire that erupted in farmlands of Siwa Oasis, Armed Forces personnel contained the blaze in coordination with the residents and civil defense forces.

As many as 65 feddans of palm trees and olives by the fire.

Immediate compensations worth one million pounds were earmarked for the affected farmers.

Initial losses were estimated at EGP 7 million.

Siwa is in the Matrouh governorate near Egypt's border with Libya.

No human casualties were reported in the fire, said Health Ministry undersecretary in the governorate Mahmoud Zahran said.

Similar news was reported in Al-Gomhoria (page 5)





## TV Coverage (29/02/2012)



**Program: Al-Hayat Al-An**  
**Channel: Al-Hayat**  
**Host: Maha Bahnasy**

Freedom and Justice Party won 9 Shura sub-committees, Al-Nour Party won two subcommittees, and the Egyptian Democratic and Civilization Parties got one subcommittee.

Presidential Elections Commissions: presidential candidature will be opened from March 10<sup>th</sup> until April 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Program: Al-Hayat Al-Yoom**  
**Channel: Al-Hayat**  
**Host: Sherief Amer and Lobna Assal**

Travel ban on suspects in the NGOs case was lifted.



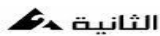
**Program: 24 hours news**  
**Channel 1"State TV"**

Stock market gained EGP 93bn profits in two months.

**News**  
**Channel 1"State TV"**  
**Time: 1:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

Freedom and Justice Party wins the majority of the Shura Council sub-committees.

Presidential Elections Commission announces the timeline for holding the presidential elections.



**News**  
**Channel 2"State TV"**  
**Time: 26:00:00**

Public Prosecution denies lifting travel ban on the suspects in the NGOs case. The prosecution is not entitled to take any measures in this case according to the law.



Presidential Elections Commission announces holding the presidential elections on Wednesday and Thursday, May 23rd and 24th, . Runoffs will start June 16th and will end on June 17th.

Electoral publicity campaigns will be allowed for 21 days from April 30th until May 20th.

Expatriate Egyptians voting will be held from June 3rd until June 9th.

The maximum budget for each presidential candidate in the first round is EGP 10mn and EGP 2mn in the reruns.

Shura Council Speaker calls the two houses of Parliament to meet in order to choose Constituent Assembly members.

**Program: Yessed Sabahak**  
**Channel 2"State TV"**  
**Host: Hend Rashad and Yasser Abdel-Hakim**

Field Marshal Tantawi vowed that the presidential elections will be transparent.

Dr. Ahmed Fahmy, member of Freedom and Justice Party, was nominated as Shura Council Speaker.



## Radio Coverage (29/02/2012)



### **News**

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

Presidential Elections Commission announced that the presidential elections will be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, and the final results will be announced on June 21<sup>st</sup>. 20:00:00

Presidential Elections Commission: presidential candidature will be opened from March 10<sup>th</sup> till April 8<sup>th</sup>. 20:00:00

Presidential elections reruns will be held on June 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. 22:00:00

Travel ban was lifted on the suspects of the NGOs case. 22:00:00



### **News**

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

Public prosecution denies lifting travel ban on suspects in the NGOs trial as it is not entitled to take measures in this case according to the law. 23:00:00

Presidential Elections Commission announces holding the presidential elections on Wednesday and Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, and the reruns will be held on June 16-17. 25:00:00



## Internet Coverage (01/03/2012)

facebook

Facebook

### We are all khaled saead

All TV channels nowadays are filling the air with interviews for potential presidential candidates who are trying to convince the people to elect them.

Head of the Higher Elections Commission: Presidential elections will be held on May 23, 2012.

Only 90 days left.

May God bless all the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in order for us to reach this moment. The revolution will win God willing.

### Egyptian cabinet

Council of Governors agreed to form a national council for people with disabilities.

Presidential Elections Commission: Voting for expatriates in the presidential elections will be conducted in 7 days starting Friday May 11th until Thursday May 17th. Voting in Egypt will be conducted from Wednesday May 23rd until Thursday May 24th. The final results will be announced three days after Tuesday May 29th.

Presidential Elections Commission: Egyptians abroad will vote in the runoffs of the presidential elections in 7 days starting Sunday June 3rd until Saturday June 9th. Runoffs in Egypt will take place from Saturday June 16th until Sunday June 17th. Vote count will be finished on Monday June 18th. Reviewing contestations and announcing the final results will be on June 21st.



Twitter

@Asmaa Mahfouz

After all our mistakes in a year after the revolution that resulted in the current statuesque, what do you think is the solution?

All military prison officers, including April officers, were transferred to the Military Prosecution. Their charge was staging a hunger strike. They are currently under investigation.

Khaled Ali is the dream president for a generation that dreamt of a revolution #khaledAli #khaledAli



It is pretty easy for any presidential candidate to talk about social justice in his programs, what is different is that calls for social justice are in fact a life journey of struggle #khaledAli

How dare the Military Council, the Parliament and the Public Prosecutor let foreign funding suspects escape?! This is a major treason; they must be brought to justice.

### @Monasosh

The counterrevolution and its media succeeded in convincing the people that the revolution is against the demands and the interest of the poor. #KhaledAli

Social justice and elimination of corruption are pivotal issues for him #KhaledAli

Most people who announced they are supporting Aboul-Fotouh, including me, built their decisions on his statements during the revolution and the fact that he did not let us down.

I prefer to work hard in a campaign for someone who inspires me and reminds me of my revolutionary dreams, than to work for someone just because I know he is going to win. #KhaledAli

Khaled announced that he will only try to get the approval of 30,000 eligible voters, if he doesn't get them, he will not run. He will not try to get the approval from the Parliament #KhaledAli

### @arabist

"Protest, revolt and regime change in the Arab world: <http://bit.ly/A2Ore5> Booklet looks at various perspectives [PDF]"

"New on Arabist: Judges in Egypt's NGO case recuse themselves"

"Have been hearing rumors about Americans in NGO case leaving country all day. If so good for them, but how about the others and the aid q?"

### @Gsquare86

"Like the previous elections, presidential elections will not change the realities on the ground, only by toppling SCAF will we break regime"

### @iyad\_elbaghdadi



“Still can't believe that most organizations don't have #socialmediaguidelines and nearly half don't monitor what they do online.”

“Seems the Russian edition of the #ArabTyrantManual has been getting a small but steady trickle of Russian viewers”

“You can't have a strong economy without highly productive individuals. Crazy highly productive.”

“I have to thank all the morons, idiots, trolls, and douchebags of the world for helping me write "Bozosity: The Anatomy of BS.”

“Traditional marketing is narcissistic "Hey, look how cool my product is!" #SocialMedia”

[@waelabbas](#)

The German News Agency: an America military aircraft arrived to Cairo to transport the American suspects of the NGO case.



## ▪ 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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