



News Coverage

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



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Newspapers (04/03/2012)



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Author: 1

The Constituent Assembly



Speaker of the People’s Assembly Saad al-Katatni confirmed that the Constituent Assembly that would be assigned to draft the new constitution would represent all political players and all the Egyptian society.

The Muslim Brotherhood’s Freedom and Justice Party that represents the parliament majority suggests 40 members from the Parliament and 60 others from outside the Parliament to be members of the assembly.



Pages: homepage, 3, 4, 23

Author: Many authors

In the Aftermath of the Suspects' Leave



Al-Ahram reported on two urgent sessions of the High Judicial Council and the Parliament to discuss the details of the lift of travel ban that was imposed on foreign suspects in the NGOs case.

All suspects are to be tried before another jury next week, after the resignation of the former jury.

Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Saad al-Katatni rejected the political resolution of the case.

In another context, the United States asserted that the United States asserted its commitment to provide Egypt with the needed financial and economic supports. The American promise was made by Victoria Nuland, spokesman of the US Secretary of State.



Pages: 3

Author: Not mentioned

The General Revolution Alliance Doubts the Presidential Elections Authenticity



Spokesman of the General Revolution Alliance Mustafa Yunis al-Najmi said the scenario of dealing with the foreign suspects shed a negative light on the authenticity of the coming presidential elections.

The General Revolution Alliance consists of 18 revolutionary movements and coalitions.



Pages: 3

Author: Samir al-Sayyid

SCAF and the MB's Ties with US Power Centers



The Free Front for Peaceful Change criticized the Muslim Brotherhood after Senator John McCain's appreciation of SCAF's and the Muslim Brotherhood's effort to solve the Foreigner suspects crisis.



Page: 3

Author: El-Sayed El-Azouni

Qatar Releases 15 Egyptians Detained After Football Match

Qatari authorities released 15 Egyptian youth, who were arrested after a football match between Egypt and Congo.

According to media reports, the Egyptian fans were arrested because they lifted banners with slogans against the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces during the match.

Egypt's Ambassador in Doha Mahmoud Fawzi said he could not confirm whether the Egyptians were deported.



Page: 4
 Author: Khalil Ebadi

Salafist Preacher calls for Arming Free Syrian Army



Salafist preacher Mohamed Hasan called on the Egyptian authorities to expel the Syrian ambassador from Cairo and help in arming the Free Syrian Army.

The preacher said that there was no time for talks but actions with the mass killings being carried out against the civilian population.



Page: 6.

Authors: Nabil Nour, Ahmed Goma (and others).

Potential Presidential Candidates on NGOs Case: Embarrassment to Judicial Authority



Decision to lift travel ban and allow foreign suspects accused in the NGOs case to return to their country raised a lot of controversy in the Egyptian society.

Opinions of potential presidential candidates on this issue varied but they all agree that Egyptian judiciary was deprived from performing its role in trying the foreign suspects.

Dr. Abd Al-Moneim Aboul Fotouh, potential presidential candidate, denounced the involvement of judiciary authority in the games of politics and tampering with its decisions. According to him, the interference in the powers of the judicial authority results only in disrupting the image of the state in Egypt.

Amr Moussa, potential presidential candidate, demanded explaining the circumstances surrounding the case of NGOs. "It is apparent that political pressures were exerted and that there was interference in the work of the court, which resulted in the decision of judges to recuse themselves from the case."

Hamdeen Sabbahi, potential presidential candidate, accused SCAF and the government of violating Egypt's sovereignty by allowing foreign suspects to travel before their trial ends.

Zend: Shokri's Recusal is Prove to Judicial Integrity



Judge Ahmed El-Zend, head of the judges club, assured that the judicial system does not yield to any kind of pressure and the greatest proof to that is Judge Mahmoud Shokri who recused himself from the NGOs case for feeling uneasiness in presiding the case.



Pages: 1, 2, 3.

Authors: Amira Ibrahim, Eman Abd Al-Moneim (and others).

Field Marshal Called for Parliament's Joint Meeting and Didn't Attend



Despite of the fact that Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi, head of the ruling Supreme Council of Armed Forces, has called for a joint meeting between the People's Assembly and the Shoura Council, he did not show up in the end.

Some observers said this decision was due to security reasons. Others said this might be due to the controversy over allowing foreign suspects, accused of receiving foreign funds in the NGO's case, to travel back to their country. SCAF was heavily criticized after US suspects traveled and judges examining the case recused themselves. Military sources, however, mentioned that Field Marshal Tantawi preferred not to show up because his presence will increase talks and controversy about his character.

Military sources also denied reports that said Tantawi reconsidered attending the joint meeting. They said that Tantawi did not plan to attend the meeting from the first place. They said he did not inform anyone in the parliament of his attendance or of giving a speech.

These sources confirmed that the entire story is fabricated because Tantawi did not prepare a speech and SCAF will not interfere in the work of the parliament. Field Marshal Tantawi has called for the meeting as a part of the coordinating role the ruling military council is practicing within the scope of their powers, sources said.

Similar news was mentioned in: Al-Dostour: Page 5.

Page: 8.

Authors: Asmaa Fathi, Hisham Soliman (and others).

Work Returns to Egypt's Courts



The crisis of courts and prosecution employees was resolved after employees suspended their strike yesterday and returned to perform their tasks normally in most courthouses and prosecution offices around the country.

Nasser Abdo Fadel, secretary general of the independent syndicate for court and prosecution employees, said that they had a meeting with Minister of Justice Senior Judge Adel Abd Al-Hamid. They sensed a good response from the minister, hence they decided to suspend their strike and wait until the rest of their demands are fulfilled.

Fadel explained that their demands were both moral and financial and the minister fulfilled their demands including the most important of them which is “to treat court employees with respect and consider them equal to their colleagues in the sectors of the ministry.”



Page: 8.
 Author: Mohamed Abd Al-Gelil.

El-Ganzouri Meets Minister of Interior



Prime Minister Dr. Kamal El-Ganzouri held a meeting yesterday with Minister of Interior General Mohamed Ibrahim and a number of security officials and leaders at the Public Security Sector in Al-Abbasiya. They reviewed security conditions in the country and security officials presented the most important items of the security plan to PM El-Ganzouri.

General Mohamed Ibrahim presented the different dimensions of the security situation in the country and measures taken to improve the level of security. He also presented plans for securing vital buildings and institutions to create a sense of stability.

During the meeting, General Ibrahim reviewed the necessary technical requirements to ensure an effective role for police forces. He confirmed to the PM the commitment of police forces to secure the country and protect its stability.

Similar news was mentioned in: Al-Gomhoreya: Page 3.



Page: 1

Author: Mohamed Khayal, Donia Salem

FJP Drafts a Constitution



FJP sources reported that the party sent a draft constitution prepared by the legal committee inside the Muslim Brotherhood to Judge Tarek El-Beshry, deputy head of the State Council.

Sources reported that MB's constitution worked on activating the role of the Shura Council. They also suggested electing the vice president.



Page: 1
 Author: Mohamed Basal

Constitutional Court Considers Presidential Elections Law



The Supreme Constitutional Court received a letter from the People’s Assembly including the two amendment approved by the PA on the Presidential Election Law.

The two amended articles are articles 30 and 38 that are concerned with conducting the vote count process inside substations.

The Court’s delegation committee is supposed to prepare a report on both amendments that will be issued within two weeks.

Page: 1

Author: Ahmed Fathy

Parliament to Elect Constituent Assembly March 24



PA Speaker Mohamed Saad El-katatni announced that the formation of a special committee that includes both Shura and PA members. The committee will be responsible for receiving suggestions from Parliamentary houses, unions, and syndicate over the criteria for selecting Constituent Assembly members.

The committee will be allowed 14 days for receiving and classifying suggestions. After that, the parliament is to meet again on March 17 to discuss the suggestions and select Constituent Assembly members.

El-Katatni said that the Parliament is to meet again on March 24 to select the members.

Political forces disagreed over the representation percentages inside the Assembly. FJP suggested that the assembly should include 40 MPs; 10 Shura members and 30 PA members.

Similar news was reported in Akhbar page 4; Dostour page 1

Page: 1

Author: Hatem El-Hagmy

Judges Who lift Travel Ban Are Former National Security Officers



A high-ranking judicial source reported that the members of the judicial committee that issued a decision of lifting a travel ban on foreign suspects in the NGOs case were former police officers before they joined the judicial corps.

The head of the committee was a former National Security officer while the other two members worked in the police.

The source added that the head of the Court of Appeals, Abd El-Moez Ibrahim, issued the decree to form the committee on Wednesday at 2pm after the recusal of Judge Mahmoud Shokri.

The committee started its work at 7pm by lifting the travel ban. It collected the bail the next day then it was dissolved.



Pages: 1

Author: Ahmad Mustafa

The Government Spying



In collaboration with the Egyptian Initiative for Individuals' Rights Cairo Center for Human Rights Studies revealed that the Egyptian government bought a spyware programs in the beginning of 2011 that are able to violate users' private accounts. The goal is allegedly to control personal accounts.



Pages: 3

Author: Mahmoud Abd al-Ghani

Al-Awwa Criticizes



Potential Presidential Candidate Muhammad Salim al-Awwa said the state of law cannot be realized without decent independent judiciary.

In the frame of his electoral campaign in Ismailiya, al-Awwa criticized the timetable of presidential elections, criticizing the unreasonable lengthy period of nominations that reflects a state of reluctance that can slow the process of handing over the power.

The Truth behind Balkimi Incident



Days after Al-Nour Party MP Anwar el-Balkimi was assaulted and critically injured, reports surfaced that the MP made up the whole incident to cover up the plastic surgery he underwent.

A cosmetic surgery hospital, named “Salma”, claims that Balkimi was discharged from hospital after undergoing a nose enhancement surgery.

The hospital said that Balkimi asked it not to reveal the news about the surgery but it could not stand idle watching the MP pretending to be a victim of an armed attack and that his nose was bandaged due to the injuries he sustained.

Balkimi denies this and said he went to the hospital to undergo a simple sinus surgery and that the attack took place on his way home.

Similar news was reported in Al-Masry Al-Yom (page 3) and Al-Dostor (page 3)



Page: 8
 Author: Khaled Merry

Spanish Court Agrees to Extradite Salem and Son to Egypt



The Spanish court overseeing Egypt's request to extradite businessman Hussein Salem agreed to hand him over to Cairo along his son.

The Spanish prosecution has approved the request after Egypt had completed all documents needed for the extradition process.

Salem fled Egypt after the uprising against former president Hosni Mubarak but was detained in Spain on an international arrest warrant.

The Egyptian government wants Salem extradited as one of Mubarak's closest friends to face trial in Cairo.

Salem is alleged to have profited by selling Egyptian gas to Israel below market prices. He is also involved in other corruption cases, including the seizure of millions of square meters of state-owned land and property in Sharm El-Sheikh, exploiting his good relations with the former president.



TV Coverage (03/03/2012)



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

MPs set the date of March 24 to choose the members of the Constituent Assembly.
Suspects in the NGOs case trial will be resumed next Thursday.

People's Assembly sets the date of March 11 to interrogate PM Kamal el-Ganzouri over lifting the travel ban on the suspects in the NGOs case.

MPs approved a proposal that the Constituent Assembly should be made up of 40 MPs and 60 members out of the Parliament.



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

People's Assembly and Shura Council MPs met to choose the members of the Constituent Assembly.

People's Assembly Speaker Al-Katatny: The NGOs case cannot be dealt with from a political perspective and those responsible will be held accountable.

Judges Club demands an investigation into lifting the travel ban in the NGOs foreign funding case.

Prime Minister Kamal el-Ganzouri discusses with the Minister of Interior the country's security situation.

Similar news was reported in "Momken" Program



Program: Momken
Channel: CBC
Host: Khairy Ramadan
Guests:

Ahmed Abu Baraka, Freedom and Justice Party Legal Advisor

Mamdouh Ismail, Member of Parliament



Lawyers organized a march against the judges responsible for lifting the travel ban imposed on foreigners involved in the NGO case.

Program: Hona Al-Asema

Channel: CBC

Host: Lamis Al-Hadidy

Businessman Hussein Salem's lawyer appeals Salem's extradition order.



Radio Coverage 03/03/2012)



News

Channel: Radio Masr

The Parliament forms a committee to receive the MPs' suggestions regarding the Constituent Assembly. 18:00:00

Presidential elections registration for expatriate Egyptians starts tomorrow. 18:00:00

A march was organized in front of the High Court of Justice calling for an investigation into the NGOs case. 24:00:00



News

Channel: Al-Shark Al-Awsat

MPs determine to choose members of the Constituent Assembly on March 24th. 20:00:00

Foreign funding suspects' trial will be resumed on Thursday. 25:00:00

Channel: El-Barnameg El-A'am

Program: News

People's Assembly and Shura Council MPs met to choose the members of the Constituent Assembly. 9:00 AM

Egypt's Embassy in Riyadh said tomorrow expatriate Egyptians will start registration for the presidential elections on the High presidential Elections Commission Website. 4:00 AM



Internet Coverage (04/03/2012)



Facebook

We are all Khaled Saeed

The revolution was born an idea that is why it can never die. Freedom inside our country is our main demand. The Revolution will continue; it will prevail.



Arabawy

After the successful launch of @EgyStrikes, the Revolutionary Socialists' media committee has launched a new twitter account @EgyCapitalism, where facts about Capitalism in Egypt is tweeted regularly in Arabic... Please follow us...



Twitter

@AsmaaMahfouz

Why every time I write something on Twitter, people respond by telling me to stop talking!!

I will not allow anyone, no matter who they are, to deprive me from my right to express myself.

Since we were not able to overthrow the regime and the revolution is not yet complete, why are we ashamed to go out in a small protest in which there are tens of protesters chanting alone? This was the case with us during the Mubarak regime.

Prosecution sent me a letter in which they summon me over a complaint. Someone complained against me claiming that I have beaten a citizen, and they did not write any of their names in the letter.

@Arabist

"In Dubai. There's too many Brits with regional accents here."

@Gsquare86

"Been really busy with my personal life but all my solidarity goes to #GUCstudents #GUCStrike #EgyStudents , stay strong as you are :)"



"#RevSoc is launching the Egyptian version of @I_am_Capitalismtomorrow, MUST FOLLOW >>> @EgyCapitalism (arabic) #Egypt"

"Tunisian official's rhetoric undermines human rights | Amnesty International <https://www.amnesty.org/en/news/tunisian-officials-rhetoric-undermines-human-rights-2012-02-24>"

"Spanish court orders extradition of Mubarak associate <http://bbc.in/wcxHYh> #Egypt"

@iyad_elbaghdadi

"In a few minutes we'll be discussing this infographic that lays out the options for #Syria: <http://bit.ly/wpYGYi>"

"Sickening video: Shabiha stamping on dead bodies, "#Assad only!#Assad is your God! Long live the sect!" <http://bit.ly/zr0xpJ> #Syria"

"Who else feels that lately Robert Fisk's articles have degenerated into rants against just about everything & everyone?"

"The people will not stop protesting, that's impossible. Also the regime won't stop killing, that's impossible. Do you agree?"

"Some are saying this is depressing, but I say getting grounded in reality is necessary to start making progress: <http://bit.ly/wpYGYi#Syria>"

"Infographic showing paths left for #Syria's revolution. Sobering & a little depressing. <http://bit.ly/wpYGYi>"

@WaelAbbas

Prosecution prepares to send a request to lift immunity from MP Al-Balkemi, who said he was attacked by thugs and beaten in his face, while he only had a plastic surgery on his nose.

These zombies are created by dictator regimes. These are Qaddafi's sons!!
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZawXJANKL-A>

@Ghonim

By the way, investigative judges acquitted April 6 movements and its members from charges of receiving foreign funds, yet many people are determined to consider them guilty.

@Monasosh



Congratulations to Al-Masry Al-Youm journalists on Al-Galad's resignation.



▪ 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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