



News Coverage

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



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■ Thematic Headlines

➤ Domestic Scene

- ✓ An Azhar Initiative for the Constituent Assembly
- ✓ A Documentary on the Revolution Martyrs
- ✓ A Mass Demonstration to Save the Revolution
- ✓ Islamist Players against Mursi
- ✓ Port Said Suspects Tried Today
- ✓ The High Presidential Elections Commission to Issue a Final Decision
- ✓ The Field Marshal's Recommendation Confuses the Muslim Brotherhood
- ✓ A Plan to Move Mubarak to Tora Prison
- ✓ SCAF Has No Intention to Postpone Presidential Elections
- ✓ Heads of Parliamentary Parties and Committees Discuss Formation of Constituent Assembly
- ✓ Political Activist Kidnapped for Two Days
- ✓ Al-Awa: SCAF Cannot Force Political Forces to Draft Constitution before Presidential Elections
- ✓ Foreign Affairs Minister Negotiates a Truce between North and South Sudan
- ✓



Newspapers (17/02/2012)



Pages: 1, 6

Author: Muhammad Abd al-Khaliq and Samir al-Sayyid

AL Azhar Initiative for the Constituent Assembly



The Azhar launched a new initiative to set guidelines for the formation of the Constituent Assembly that is to draft the Constitution without the monopoly of the Parliament. The suggested guidelines guarantee the representation of all the social sectors.

The Azhar called on all political players in Egypt to be united and to respect the judicial rulings and the constitutional principles in this response.

Al-Wafd party has started intensive talks with different political players to arrange a meeting tomorrow to discuss the constitution crisis.

Meanwhile, political and partisan players voiced concerns about the possibility to finish the constitution before June 30, the date set by SCAF to hand over the power to a civil authority.

MP Mustafa Bakri expected that the presidential elections would not be held on time if the constitution was not drafted on time. On the other hand, Head of the Freedom and Justice Party Muhammad Mursi promised to finish the constitution on time.



Pages: 6

Author: Muhammad Hijab

A Documentary on the Revolution Martyrs



The Arab Network for Human Rights Information will issue a book that documents facts about the martyrs of the Jan 25 Revolution in Egypt. The book mentions 811 martyrs in addition to 31 unidentified martyrs. The book also documents the lawsuits filed and considered at Egyptian courts against the killers of demonstrators.

The book also highlights one of the earliest articles that supported the revolution and revolutionary. This is an article by Wael Qandil. The article was published in al-Shurouk newspapers on January 26, 2011.



Pages: 6

Author: Ibrahim Imran and others

A Mass Demonstration to Save the Revolution



56 political movements, parties and coalitions called for a mass demonstration on Friday in Tahrir Square and other squares in Egypt. The march will be organized under the name “save the revolution.” The march calls for preventing the return of the remnants of the former regime and the soon handing over of power to a civil authority.

The Muslim Brotherhood will take part in the march and is considering staging a sit-in.



المصري اليوم

www.almasyalyoum.com

Pages: 1

Author: Not mentioned

The High Presidential Elections Commission to Issue a Final Decision



The High Presidential Elections Commission is to rule today in the complaints brought by the excluded presidential candidates against the exclusion decision.

Meanwhile, political players are getting ready to deal with the new map of the presidential elections.

Abd al-Munim Abd al-Maqsoud, lawyer of the Muslim Brotherhood Candidate Khairat al-Shater said the amnesty al-Shater had got gave him the right to practice all his political rights. On his part, the excluded candidate Ayman Nour said that the amnesty he had got from SCAF gave him the right to practice all his political rights.

Meanwhile, the commission refused to receive any new documents from the candidates. Omar Suleiman wanted to apply documents that proved that he had got the needed number of endorsements in Asyout. Suleiman applied shortly before the deadline and there was no time to complete the needed documents. However, the commission declared that it would not accept any new documents from any candidate and that the missing documents will remain missing if not proved to be implied in the application offered within the deadline. Suleiman declared that he would respect the High Presidential Elections Commission's decision no matter what it could be.

Ahmad Abd al-Rahman of the Muslim Brotherhood Shura Council declared that supporters of Hazim Salah Abu Ismail will go to the Brotherhood candidate Muhammad Musri if Abu Ismail was finally excluded.

Sources at Salafist al-Nour party, however, declared that's the party would support Abu al-Futouh if Abu Ismail was excluded.

Similar news about the presidential elections updates was mentioned in all newspapers today waiting for the the High Presidential Elections Commission's final decision after considering the claims brought by the excluded candidates against the exclusion decision.



Page: 3.

Author: Not mentioned.

Foreign Affairs Minister Negotiates a Truce between North and South Sudan



Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mohamed Kamal Amr visited Juba yesterday to express Egypt's concern toward the escalating crisis between North and South Sudan.

During his meeting with South Sudan's President Salva Kiir Mayardit, Amr said that his talks in Khartoum and Juba aims at resuming negotiations between the two neighboring countries and resolving the conflict between them depending on the initiative of the African Union.

Amr went on shuttle visits to Khartoum and Juba as a part of Egypt's initiative to calm the rising tensions between the two countries.



Pages: 1

Author: Abd al-Rahman Abu Auf

Islamist Players against Mursi



Al-Jamaah al-Islamiyah and Jihad Organization called on the Muslim Brotherhood to withdraw its candidate for presidency Muhammad Mursi if it wanted to regain its relationships with all the national political players and form a collective national stance against the remnants of the former regime.

Sheik Abboud al-Zumur stressed the importance of this step on the part of the Muslim Brotherhood.

Al-Zumur uncovered intensive communications between all the Islamist players to get united against the return of the remnants of the former regime.

In a related context, Sheik Nabil Naeim of Jihad Organization stressed the importance of withdrawing the Muslim Brotherhood's candidate for the sake of national unity.

Pages: 1

Author: Muhammad al-Sayyid and others

Port Said Suspects Tried Today



Ismailiyah Criminal Court is to hold a session today in the trials of the suspects in the Port Said incidents. The session will be held at the Police Academy in Ismailiyah.

The suspects face charges of assaulting the audience of the football match between Port Said's al-Masry and al-Ahli Team. The suspects also face charges of creating riots and assaulting public properties and police forces.

Thousands of policemen were assigned to secure the trial. The security forces and the Armed Forces cooperate in securing the trial.



Pages: 1, 3.

Author: Ismail Al-Wassemi, Mahmoud Badr (and others).

Heads of Parliamentary Parties and Committees Discuss Formation of Constituent Assembly



Potential presidential candidates refused any reasons for postponing presidential elections. They considered SCAF's talk on the necessity of finishing the drafting of the constitution before holding presidential elections to be a beginning for a stalemate.

Amr Moussa, potential presidential elections, demanded holding presidential elections on the date specified, warning from possible negative repercussions that could result from postponing the elections. He said any other proposals that would extend the transitional period will have a very negative impact on the country. "What all political forces have agreed on is to separate the process of drafting the constitution from presidential elections. We have wasted a lot of time without drafting the constitution and now is the time to begin taking immediate measures to select new members of the Constituent Assembly," said Moussa.

Ahmed Shafik, potential candidate, said that the country will fall into chaos if presidential elections were postponed. He warned that if this happened, protests will spread across the country to demand SCAF to hand over power.

Similar news was reported in: Al-Shorouk: Page 1.



Page: 3.
Author: Maisa' Fahmi.

Political Activist Kidnapped for Two Days



After nearly 48 hours of his disappearance, Mohamed Fahmi, political activist in a campaign titled “Stolen” which aims at exposing the financial and administrative corruption in the country, was found on the Suez desert road.

Ahmed Mekki, one of Fahmi’s friends, told Al-Shorouk that Fahmi sent them a message that he was kidnapped, and then they did not hear anything from him for two days. Fahmi called his friends again when his kidnappers dropped him off on the desert road.

Dozens of political activists organized a stand in front of the High Court of Justice yesterday to protest against kidnapping Fahmi and demand the release of political prisoners.

Fahmi obtained some files related to an important financial corruption case in the Suez Canal Authority when he was kidnapped by unknown people.



Pages: 1, 4, 5

Author: not mentioned

The Field Marshal's Recommendation Confuses the Muslim Brotherhood



Well informed political sources reported that Field Marshal Tantawi's recommendation to draft the constitution before electing the president confused the Muslim Brotherhood.

The recommendation has pushed the Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamist players to agree on dropping their demands to choose a number of their MPs as members in the Constituent Assembly.

The determined strong-worded recommendation of the Field Marshal was considered to be a threat by the Islamists.

Al-Adl [Justice] Party however refused the idea of postponing the presidential elections considering it a step against democracy.

Pages: 1
Author: Ahmad Harbi

A Plan to Move Mubarak to Tora Prison



Gen. Muhammad Najib Jamil Hasaan, assistant minister of interior for prison sectors declared that Arab Contractors Company had finished construction works at Torah Prison Hospital where former President Mubarak is expected to be moved in.

The Torah Prison Hospital is to be equipped with advanced complicated medical equipment to deal with critical health situations.

The Tora Prison hospital will be completely ready soon to receive Mubarak.



Pages: 1, 3.
 Author: Not mentioned.

SCAF Has No Intention to Postpone Presidential Elections



Informed sources told Al-Akhbar newspaper that SCAF generals do not intend to postpone presidential elections or stay in power after the deadline set for the transitional period on June 30.

Sources explained that Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi, head of the ruling SCAF, did not propose postponing the date of presidential elections or extending the transitional phase, during his meeting with party leaders and representatives of political forces.

Field Marshal Tantawi demanded political parties to hasten the process of re-formulating the Constituent Assembly in the light of the Administrative Court's decision. He called on them to finish drafting the constitution before holding presidential elections so that it defines the powers of the president before he comes in office.

Similar news was reported in: Al-Shorouk: Page 1.



Page: 3.

Author: Ismail Mostafa.

Heads of Parliamentary Parties and Committees Discuss Formation of Constituent Assembly



Heads of political parties represented in the parliament and heads of parliamentary committees will hold today a preliminary meeting to discuss the criteria and conditions set for selecting the members of the Constituent Assembly, which will undertake the task of drafting the country's constitution.

This step comes in response to the initiative proposed by Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi to create consensus between parliamentary forces and political parties to resolve the crisis of the Constituent Assembly.

Participants will also attend another meeting on Thursday with the Members of the Joint Parliamentary Committee to finalize the criteria and conditions set for selecting the assembly's members. They will also hold another meeting with SCAF generals next Sunday.

Similar news was reported in: Al-Gomhoria: Page 3.



TV Coverage (16/04/2012)



Channel: al-Hayah
Program: al-Hayah al-An
Presenter: Maha Bahnasi

The Azhar Calls on the different political players to reach a consensus regarding the constitution..

The first session in the trial of the suspects in Port Said incidents is to be held tomorrow.



Channel: CH1
Program: News in 24 Hours

Field Marshal Tantawi calls the Parliament and the political players for a meeting on Sunday to reform the Constituent Assembly.

The High Presidential Elections Commission stops receiving complaints against the exclusion of a number of candidates today.

Time: 3 a.m. And 5 p.m.

The High Presidential Elections Commission issues today a final decision about the excluded candidates.



Channel: CH 2
Program: news
Time: 26:00:00

The High Presidential Elections Commission is to issue a final ruling today about the excluded candidates.

Channel: CH 2
Program: Yeseid Sabahak
Presenter: Karim Awad Allah

SCAF consults the Advisory Council about the political isolation law.

SCAF discusses the political updates with political players.



Radio Coverage (16/04/2012)



Radio Misr News

End of the period specified for appealing the Presidential Elections Commission's decision to disqualify candidates from the presidential race. 18.00.00

The first session of the trial of suspects accused in the Port Said clashes will begin today. 25.00.00



Al-Shabab wal Riyadah News 23:12:00

The Presidential Elections Commission received five appeals from disqualified presidential candidates.

Minister of Interior confirmed that Torah Prison Hospital is now ready to receive former president Hosni Mubarak.

Al-Bernameg Al-'Am 9:00 AM

Presidential Elections Commission will finish today receiving the appeals of disqualified presidential candidates.



Internet Coverage (17/04/2012)



Twitter

@AalamWassef

"I voted @Mosireen for #thebobs12 <https://thebobs.com> and that's the last time I'll be voting in 2012 (if you see what I Omar Soliman mean)"

Ahmed Shafik: A mockery presidential candidate <http://youtu.be/IHhffi71cdo>

@Arabist

"Egypt is creaking under the weight of revolution, but it will survive | Magdi Abdelhadi: <http://bit.ly/ISjkEZ>"

"New on Arabist: Links 8-16 April 2012 <http://bit.ly/ISd1WG>"

"My latest piece for @NationalComment, on Egypt's roller coaster politics: <http://bit.ly/HZFjrN>"

"New on Arabist: Of course Omar Suleiman's office is entirely black <http://arb.st/IPhZDA>"

"New on Arabist: Libya's militia problem revisited <http://arb.st/J511hD>"

@Iyad El-Baghdadi

"Is society going to dominate intellect, or is intellect going to dominate society?"

"No majority has the right to stop a minority from trying to become a majority."

"No majority has the right to stop a minority from trying to become a majority."

"What is Khalid Aly's proposed economic program? #Egypt"

"To take an ideal or eventual solution and implement it abruptly can cause far more harm than good."

"On the other hand, to take a transitional solution and act like it's an eventual, ideal solution can stop progress for years."

"I have to say I am very impressed with the Libyans. Smart, educated people with a heart of gold. Gaddafi hid you from us for a generation."

@Gsquare86

"This pic best fits the saying "business is business" #Hypocrites <http://flic.kr/p/bzermD>"

"The City's underworld #NYC <http://flic.kr/p/bN8abr>"



“EgyCrips - Egyptian rap group <http://flic.kr/p/bN4RCp>”

“V for revolution <http://flic.kr/p/bzaa7b>”

“Tantawi Mouse - #NoSCAF <http://flic.kr/p/bzab4j>”



▪ 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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