



News Coverage

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



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Newspapers (24/04/2012)



Pages: 1, 3, 5, 20

Author: Ahram reporters and agencies

Positive Political and Public Reactions to Scraping the Gas Deal with Israel



Besides the wide public contentment, the decision to scrap the deal of exporting gas to Israel has triggered political contentment. MPs, politicians and presidential candidate voiced contentment at the decision.

Amidst the wide public contentment, Egypt's Minister of Petrol Abd Allah Ghurab said the decision was not political.

Meanwhile, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Fayzah Abu al-Naja declared that the Egyptian government was ready to negotiate with Israel to export gas for new prices.

Israel's Minister of Foreign Affairs warned of the strategic unrest in the relationships with Egypt after the Jan 25 Revolution, stressing that the Gas issue was not political and should not be dealt with as a political issue.

Pages: 1, 7
Author: Ali Shammad

The Egyptian Army's Maneuvers in Sinai



During the successful maneuvers of the Egyptian Army in Sinai, Field Marshal Muhammad Hasanein Tantawi hailed the Egyptian Army as great, and will remain great in protecting the hot borders of Egypt, especially in the North West.

Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi, head of SCAF asserted that Egypt would not allow any body to transgress its borders, sending a strong-worded message to whoever might try to transgress the Egyptian borders.

In another context, Field Marrisal Tantawi reiterated that the coming president would be chosen by the people, stressing that the dignity of Egyptians regardless of their belongings and tendencies was above all.



Pages: 4
 Author: many authors

Updates on the Presidential Elections in al-Ahram



In his electoral conference in Mansoura, Mahmoud Mursi the Muslim Brotherhood candidate for presidency in Egypt asserted that the Muslim Brotherhood's slogan "Islam is the solution" is the way to renaissance.

Mursi received warmly by his advocates. However, clashes were reported between his supporters and his opponents.

Presidential Candidate Amr Mussa referred to the strong position of many of the presidential candidate, especially those who enjoy Islamists' support.

Mussa asserted that if he won the elections he would reject the exclusion policy against any trend.

On his part, presidential Abu al-Futouh asserted that he did not doubt the integrity of the High Presidential Elections Commission.

Candidate Hamadain Sabbahi declared that he supported the Armed Forces to protect the nation. Sabbahi reiterated that any criticism against SCAF did not mean at all criticizing the Armed Forces in general.

In another context, presidential candidate Abu al-Izz al-Hariri will question PM Ganzouri today about the "fatal deficiency" committed in securing the Armed Forces and the High Presidential Elections Commission communications. The Muslim Brotherhood could hack the communication system.

Al-Hariri asserted that if the hack was true, the Muslim Brotherhood then had sophisticated equipment that make the secrets of the Armed Forces revealed, which is, in his opinion, a threat to the national security.



Resignations in Salafist Al-Nour Party



A large number of Salafist Al-Nour Party members tendered their resignation from the party in protest of the Salafist Call's interference in the party's affairs.

The members were also enraged by the party's rejection to support disqualified presidential candidate Hazem Salah Abu-Ismael.

Meanwhile, supporters of Abul-Ismael continued a sit-in in Tahrir Square, Downtown Cairo, for the fourth day running.



Page: 5

Author: News agencies

Israeli Envoy in Cairo to Tackle Gas Decision

An Israeli envoy concluded his visit to Cairo and left back to Tel Aviv after a several hours' visit, during which he tackled the repercussions of Egypt's decision to halt natural gas exports to Israel on the future of relations between the two countries.

The envoy's visit is the first to Cairo by an Israeli official since Egypt announced the decision on Sunday.

Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Monday that Egypt's decision to cancel the gas deal with Israel did not stem from any sort of diplomatic developments or decisions, but rather due to a business dispute between companies.

"The termination of the natural gas supply from Egypt is not motivated by political decisions, but is a business dispute between the Israeli and the Egyptian companies," Haaretz newspaper quoted Netanyahu as saying.

Egypt's national gas company EGAS announced Sunday that it will be cancelling its natural gas supply deal with Israel because the latter failed to pay its bills.



Pages: 1
 Author: Mohamed Al-Ads

The Parliament Approves the Isolation Law



Parliament Suggestions Committee approved yesterday amendments to the political isolation law that prohibits corrupting the political life and by exploiting one's influential position.

Pages: 3

Author: Mohamed Al-Ads

The Parliament Approves Draft Law



Constitution and Legislative Parliament Committee approves in principal the draft law of dropping all the political charges off political prisoners since 1981, as all those who were convicted were opponents of the former regime.

Pages: 5
Author: Mohamed Al-Ads

Members of the Parliament Criticize Al-Ganzory Government



The People’s Assembly completed yesterday discussing PM Kamal Al-Ganzory’s policy statement. All MPs of the Islamist parties criticized the policy statement and said it didn’t tackle several vital issues, and didn’t solve several critical issues either.

They also demanded SCAF to take action regarding this.



Pages: 1, 6.
Author: Amira Ibrahim.

Tantawi: We Will Not Leave Power until Egypt is Secure and Stable



Head of the ruling Supreme Council of Armed Forces Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi continued his heavy criticism on those who demand the overthrow of SCAF, addressing his soldiers and officers to pay attention to the plots targeting the army and undermining its role in protecting the country's security.

Tantawi described these demands as “voices calling for defeat,” confirming that “whoever pursue such demands externally or internally should silence because they want to sabotage Egypt.”

These statements came on the sidelines of the army maneuver titled “Nasr 7” in Sinai.



Page: 6.

Authors: Mahmoud Badr and Yasmine El-Geyoushi.

Abu Ismail's Supports Sit-in Continues



Supporters of Sheikh Hazem Salah Abu Ismail, disqualified presidential candidate, continued their sit-in in Tahrir Square for the third day in a row to demand amending Article 18 of the Constitutional Declaration that grants the Presidential Elections Commission absolute powers and gives its decision full immunity.

They prevented traffic from going into Tahrir Square, leading to a heavy traffic jam in Downtown Cairo.

They said that there is a clear conspiracy against Abu Ismail plotted by SCAF generals and their US allies to exclude their candidate from the presidential race.



Page: 1.

Author: Mohamed Al-Ramah.

Foreign Ministry Follows up on Al-Gizawy's Case



Following a full week of the detention of Ahmed Al-Gizawy, a lawyer and human rights activist, in Saudi Arabia while he was on his way to perform pilgrimage, the only response from the Egyptian government was follow up on the issue.

Amr Roshdi, official spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, confirmed that Minister of Foreign Affairs Mohamel Kamel Amr is personally following up on Al-Gizawy's case to determine his legal situation and reasons behind his detention.

Al-Gizawy was sentenced to one year in prison in addition to 20 lashes over charges of “insulting the Royal Family.”



Page: 1.

Author: Ahmed Abd Al-Hafiz.

State Commissioners Authority Recommends Dissolving Parliament



The State Commissioners Authority has issued its report yesterday recommending that the People’s Assembly and the Shoura Council are dissolved. The Supreme Constitutional Court scheduled the announcement of the decision to be on May 6.

The authority based its decision on the fact that not putting Article 5 of the Constitutional Declaration into effect and allowing political parties to compete for single-member constituencies invalidates elections. The authority described this as a clear violation of the Constitutional Declaration, which in turn invalidates the People’s Assembly and the Shoura Council elections.

Moreover, the Administrative Court will examine today the case filed by Mohamed Farid, a lawyer, demanding overruling the call for presidential elections because there is a large number of presidential candidates who were nominated by Members of the Parliament. According to Farid, since the parliament is invalidated and unconstitutional, all legal procedures related to the parliament should be annulled, including the MPs’ forms of endorsement for presidential candidates. If the Administrative Court issued its decision to suspend presidential elections, another call for presidential elections can only be issued following the re-election of the parliament.



Pages: 1, 5.
 Author: Mohamed Khayyal.

Legal Experts: SCAF Will Remain in Power until Constitution is Drafted



Judicial sources, who preferred not to be named, said that “SCAF will not leave power until the new constitution is drafted, whether it was a temporary constitutional declaration or a permanent constitution, which determines the powers of Egypt’s coming president and the jurisdictions of the state’s three branches of power.”

The sources mentioned that the proposed constitutional declaration could revive the 1971 Constitution with amendments to the powers of the head of state.

Senior Judge Tahani Al-Gebali, deputy head of the Supreme Constitutional Court, said, “It is better to renew the 1971 Constitution instead of issuing a new constitutional declaration.”



Pages: 1, 5

Author: Mahmoud Rida and Ahmad Abd al-Radi

Mussa Mocks Presidential Candidates



Amr Mussa seems to be very confident of winning the presidential race. ‘When I finish my mandate, Egypt will have started serious work,’ said Mussa.

Mussa also mocked candidate Abd al-munim Abu alFutouh, stating that he was only a sheik rather than a strong competent. Mussa said that when he would be president, he would not exclude anybody, referring to Abu al-Futouh previous statements that he would “sit with Mussa.”

Mussa also played down the chance of candidate Hamadain Sabbahi. Mussa referred to Sabbahi’s statements that he wanted to isolate Field Marshal Tantawi if he became president, Mussa expressed his rejection to the policy of exclusion of any trend, person or power.



Page: 3

Author: Not mentioned

Tantawi Approves Political Isolation Law



Al-Akhabar newspaper learned that head of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi approved a bill on the exercise of political rights that was passed by parliament two weeks ago.

People's Assembly Speaker Saad el-Katatni is expected to announce the news to the parliament.

Under the bill, which introduces amendments to the law governing the exercise of political rights, no person who worked as a president, vice president, prime minister or led the once-ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) can exercise their political rights, which include voting or running in the parliamentary or presidential elections for the coming 10 years.

The amendments also covered members of the NDP's general secretariat and political bureau.

Similar news was reported in Al-Ahram (page 1 and 6) and Masry Yom (page 1)



Page: 3

Author: Regaa el-Nemr, Ahmed Abdel-Hamid and Hazem el-Sharqawi

Parliament Calls for Immediate Release of Egyptian in Saudi Arabia



The People’s Assembly Human Rights Committee urged the foreign minister to take measures necessary to release Egyptian citizen, Ahmed el-Gizawi, who was arrested after arriving in Saudi Arabia to enforce a one-year sentence against him that was issued in absentia and 20 whiplashes.

MP Anwar el-Sadat called on the foreign minister to ensure the extradition of Gizawi and that he receives a trial in an Egyptian court of law.

The Saudi ruling was issued against him for “defaming the king.”

Egypt Demands Clarifications over Israeli FM Remarks



Egypt said it formally requested that Israel look into a statement attributed to Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman in which he described Egypt as more “worrying” than Israel’s arch-nemesis Iran.

A foreign ministry statement said Foreign Minister Mohammed Kamel Amr asked Cairo’s ambassador in Tel Aviv to request “clarifications on the accuracy of the statement attributed to the Israeli foreign minister.”

The Israeli daily Maariv had quoted Lieberman as saying: “The Egyptian issue is far more disturbing than the Iranian question.”

Egypt announced on Sunday that it had annulled a contract to export gas to Israel, accusing it of failing to meet its financial obligations under the deal.



TV Coverage (23/04/2012)



Program: Al-Hayat Al-Yoom
Channel: Al-Hayat
Host: Lobna Assal

Minister of Foreign Affairs demands an explanation from Israel for Lieberman's recent statement.



Program: Hona Al-Asema
Channel: CBC
Host: Lamis Al-Hadidy

Field Marshal Tantawi approves the law that deprives former regime members from running in the presidential actions.



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

Egypt decides to halt gas exports to Israel.

News
Channel 1 "State TV"

Presidential Elections Commission will allow human rights organizations to monitor the upcoming presidential elections. 3:00 AM

The Shoura Council praises the suspension of exporting gas to Israel. 5:00 PM



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

Minister of Petroleum Abdullah Ghorab said ending the deal with Israel was due to trade reasons not political ones.



Field Marshal Tantawi said we will strictly face anyone who tries to harm Egypt.
Minister Fayza Abu Al-Naga said Egypt is ready to hold a new deal with Israel after setting a new price.

Similar news was reported in Program: Hona Al-Asema, Channel: CBC, Host: Lamis Al-Hadidy

Disagreements took place in the Parliament's Constitutional and Legislative Committee regarding the crisis of the Constituent Assembly.

Program: Yesed Sabahak
Channel 2"State TV"
Host: Dina Farouk

Presidential Elections Commission decided to refer any candidate who uses the slogan "Islam is the Answer" to Public Prosecution.

There is an agreement to form a committee that includes Ammar, Al-Halabawy and Shahin to form a presidential council.

Speaker of the People's Assembly Dr. Saad Al-Katatny demands SCAF to swiftly implement Political Isolation Law.

Major General Mamdouh Shahin said SCAF hasn't received the decision of the Supreme Constitutional Court regarding Political Rights Law.

People's Assembly approves amending Article 48 of the Military Justice Law.



Radio Coverage (23/04/2012)



News

Channel: Radio Masr

Time: 18:00:00

Minister of International Cooperation said that foreign reserves will increase in the upcoming period.

Head of the Petroleum Public Sector said ending the gas deal with Israel was due to commercial reasons not political.

Egypt is ready to negotiate with Israel about a new gas deal with new prices.



News

Channel: Al-Shark Al-Awsat

Head of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi approves the law that deprives former regime members from running in the presidential actions. 25:00:00

The High Presidential Elections Commission will allow human rights committees to monitor the upcoming presidential elections. 23:00:00



Internet Coverage (24/4/2012)

facebook

Facebook

We Are All Khaled Saeed:

According to our survey, in which more than 20,000 members took part, the most favorite media person was Bassem Youssef. The whole results will be announced tomorrow.

Fayza Abul-Naga: We are ready to negotiate with Israel to continue gas exports!!!!!!
<http://www.shorouknews.com/news/view.aspx?cdate=23042012&id=bec7d16c-9f84-4dd9-b2da-c688d6b9ca59>



Muslim brotherhood

Urgent Parliamentary Statement against Arrest of Egyptian Lawyer in Saudi Arabia

MP Dr. Emad Al-Din Mohamed Sabir, member of the Foreign Relations Committee at the People's Assembly and member of the Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) Parliamentary Commission, made an urgent statement seeking to ascertain the fact that the Egyptian citizen Ahmed Algizawi has been arrested while traveling to perform Umrah (minor pilgrimage) in Saudi Arabia.

Earlier, on Tuesday April 17, Airport authorities arrested the lawyer and human rights activist Ahmed Algizawi (29 years) from Jeddah International Airport. He was accompanied by some of his family and friends, having obtained a visa to the Kingdom without any difficulties.

The lawyer's friends and associates say that the Saudi authorities are punishing Algizawi for filing a lawsuit, in the past, against the Saudi authorities for the practice of arbitrary detention and torture against some Egyptians outside legal processes.

They added that Ahmed was sentenced in absentia, but never notified that he had received a custodial sentence of one year in prison and 20 lashes for insulting the royal ruler.

Dr. Emad Al-Din said that the Saudi ambassador to Egypt must be urgently summoned and urgent decisions taken before the execution of the sentence, especially as there have been a lot of discussions with the ambassador about similar cases concerning the dignity of the Egyptian citizen, which seem to be repeated frequently.

The FJP MP added that Saudi Arabia is almost the only country that still punishes and detains Egyptian thinkers for their political opinions even after the revolution.



Press Release from Presidential Candidate Mohamed Morsi Support Campaign

Ahmed Abdel-Ati, General Coordinator of the campaign to support Mohamed Morsi for the presidency, said that the official slogan of the campaign is 'Renaissance, the Will of the People', and that the project and the platform presented by Morsi is the 'Renaissance Program'.

He assured that reports on the use of the slogan 'Islam is the solution' are totally unfounded.

At the first public rally and press conference, Saturday, officially launching Morsi's presidential campaign, he said: "When we raised the slogan 'Islam is the solution', some used to say it was only a generic slogan with no practical program of action. But today we offer the Renaissance Project as a practical application of the slogan we raised before".



Nawara Negm Blog:

Damn you and your so-called "royal entity." http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-rZUqVHtGifE/T5Vq_CYvIbI/AAAAAAAAAAsQ/nCv5_J5YImw/s1600/toz.jpg



Twitter

@AsmaaMahfouz

Most Egyptians who are living in Saudi Arabia are treated very badly and they are suffering from many problems. #Free Gezawy

A lot of people have realized the games SCAF generals are playing. Now they just need to know what to do to put an end to this farce.

@Ghonim

"The Arab World Info graphics competition: <http://bit.ly/HXMRxh>"

There are people whose main job is to get depressed and spread depression among others. If you believe that "everything will go in vain," then it is your call, but you should stay away from those who continue to work!

@Arabist

"This surely applies to Egypt RT [@arstechnica](http://arstechnica.com): Quantum decision affects results of measurements taken earlier in time:<http://arst.ch/tg9>"



"I would count the 15 attacks on the pipeline as relevant political pressure!"

"Egypt terminates deal to supply Israel with natural gas:<http://bit.ly/JpIzDo> Lisa Goldman, for +972, with more details on the Israeli side."

"Agree - MB fell into trap, deserve no sympathy RT@EgyIndependent: Analysis: The multiple sins of the Brothers<http://ow.ly/as3ya>"

"New on Arabist: The impact of the end of the Egypt-Israel gas agreement <http://bit.ly/IqOGmF>"

@Iyad_ElBaghdadi

"We can all line up and scream obscenities at problems all we want, but they won't magically disappear. #Arab Spring"

"Is ignorance bliss, or oblivion?"

@Gsquare86

"Our revolution is already for women, men, young and old, all the oppressed, no need for a women's, we need to finish it!"

"I can't even imagine being in the shoes of the bravest girl who exposed an army to be used by Mona in her article ...I would want to die"

"When something hits you so deep with anger, it is very hard to respond while being balanced & constructive ...i am trying"

"You know when in first read the title "why do they hate us?" i thought she (@monaeltahawy) will finally speak about SCAF, haha but idiot me i had hope #fail

"Criticizing her analysis doesn't mean I am dismissing the problem and inequality we have, but pointing out diff reason"



▪ 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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