



# News Coverage

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



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## ■ Thematic Headlines

### ➤ Domestic Scene

- ✓ Mubarak, Jailed Regime Figures Did Not Request to Vote in Polls
- ✓ Interior Ministry Completes Measures to Secure Elections
- ✓ Morsi Number 1 in Kuwait
- ✓ Shafiq Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in New York and Los Angeles; Abul-Fotouh in Chicago and Houston
- ✓ HPEC Admits Policemen, Army Men among Voters
- ✓ Parties Reject to Grant Parliament Right to Withdraw Confidence from Government
- ✓ Al-Ahram's Updates on Presidential Elections
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- ✓ The Ministry of Endowments Questions Whoever Uses Mosques in Electoral Campaigns
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- ✓ MB Plots to Disrupt Elections
- ✓ 20 Protesters Detained in Al-Abbasiya Clashes Were Released
- ✓ Independent Judicial Committee to Monitor Presidential Elections
- ✓



## Newspapers (20/05/2012)



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Author: Wires

### **A Billion Euros from the European Bank for Investments in the Arab Spring Countries**



The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development devoted a special fund of a billion Euros to support the Middle East countries of the so-called "Arab Spring."

The bank declared that the funds would used in investments in the countries were new branches of the bank had been opened for the first time like Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia and Morocco.



Page: 1, 6, 7, 8, 28, 26

Author: many authors

### Al-Ahram's Updates on Presidential Elections



Judge Hatim Bagato, secretary general of the High Presidential Elections Commission declared that the commission took all the needed procedures to grant decent and transparent elections.

Bagato said the voters' lists were cleared and updated. Unqualified voters' names were deleted from the lists. The names of dead people were also deleted.

Bagato added, in a press conference yesterday, that nobody had interest to forge the elections. He also stressed the importance of not looking at the judicial authorities in the light of doubt. Bagato also denied any rigging in expatriates' votes.

Bagato said that's fully veiled women [niqabis] would have to reveal their faces and hands to grant single voting. Women who will refuse to reveal their faces and hands won't have the right to vote.

Candidates will not have the right to campaign in or outside the polling stations on the elections days. Anybody who will be involved in campaigns during the electoral silence period will be arrested. Taking photos of the ballots is also prohibited.

There are 50.4 eligible voters in Egypt; 586 thousands of them are abroad. 1200 female judges have been assigned in women committees.

The High Presidential Elections Commission gave permission to one deputy of each candidate to spend the night in front of the polling centers. Cote counting swill be performed in sub-stations in the presence of the candidates deputies, NGOs' observers and the media.

In a related context, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to hold a press conference today in the presence of Judge Bagato and the presidential candidates or their representatives to declare the final results of expatriates' votes.



Meanwhile, clashes took place between supporters of candidate Ahmad Shafiq and his opponents before a press conference for the Association of Pilots and workers at the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

According to al-Ahram Center for Strategic and Political Research's survey this week, Amr Mussa comes first with 31.7% followed by Ahmad Shafiq with 22.6%. Muhammad Mursi came third with 17.2% followed by Hamdin Sabbahi who came fourth with 13.8%. Abd al-Munim Abu al-Futouh deteriorated to the fifth position with 13.2%. Muhammad Salim al-Awwa came in the sixth position with 2.1%.

It is noteworthy that al-Ahram published a full separate supplement today about presidential elections. The supplement "al-Ra'ees" [The President] is specialized to report on presidential elections updates and also news about the candidates and the different presidential elections-related issues.

The following headlines are published in the supplement today:

- Surveys; a trick, a lie or a victim to slanders? p. 2
- The "haram" [forbidden in religion] Funds of Presidential Elections Campaigns, p. 2
- Judge Farouq Sultan, head of the High Presidential Elections Commission responds to general public inquiries about the electoral process, p. 3
- Sabbahi: I will fight poverty and unemployment, not Israel, p. 5
- Mussa puts Egypt between two options: a theocracy and a civil state, p. 6
- Shafiq: whoever the coming president might be, Egypt will be better, p. 8
- Will Mursi is the President? p. 9
- Abu al-Futouh: the age of "inspired president" is over, p. 9
- Who has the authority to acquit Mubarak if he was convicted? p. 12
- Billions of Pounds were smuggled outside the country and other billions were stolen inside, p. 12
- Naguib Sawiris: I do not wish a president with Islamic reference, p. 13
- The Arabs' president's characteristics, p. 13
- Top Secret; who are the president's followers in the coming era? p. 14
- The financial remedy: many promises and unclear mechanisms, p. 11



- A reading in the platforms of the six “knights” [Candidates Amr Mussa, Abd al-Munim Abu al-Futouh, Ahmad Shafiq, Hamdin Sabbahi and Muhamamd Salim al-Awwa and Muhammad Mursi], p. 11

- Who can treat Egyptians’ pains? p. 16

- Dr. Farouq al-Baz: the elections results should be respected, p. 16

### Al-Ahram Interviews Muhammad Hassanein Hailak



Al-Ahram interviews the prominent political thinker Muhammad Hassanein Haikal.

Haikal told al-Ahram that the crisis in Egypt is so close to the edge, and the crisis that are close to the edges can usually sweep the nation, and the region to the abyss. However, Haikal said that things in Egypt are historically in their right tracks, as Egypt is a revolutionary era.

Haikals stated that the triggers of the Jan 25 Revolution were social, economical and cultural rather than religious. As such the Islamist trend was, according to Haikal, mistaken to believe that it was the trigger and axis of the revolution. In fact, the Islamic trend was a “tributary;” for the revolution did not happen as a respond to the Islamist trend calls.

In a related context, Haikal explained how the Islamic trend lost a lot when it tried to dominate all the authorities.

Haikal said it was not correct to describe the current Parliament as the “Revolution Parliament,’ because there was no proof to such a definition.

Haikal believes that the coming president needs a miracle to succeed, maybe because, according to Haikal, no one of the presidential candidates has a sufficient vision or an efficient staff to administrate the coming mandate.



### Interior Ministry Completes Measures to Secure Elections



The Interior Ministry completed laying down a plan to secure the presidential elections, which will take place on May 23 and 24.

The plan aims to secure nearly 13,000 sub-stations and 357 polling stations as well as securing roads, vital institutions and currency exchange offices.

All of the Interior Ministry's sectors will be part of the plan, which also includes tightening the grip on prisons.

### Morsi Number 1 in Kuwait



Muslim Brotherhood presidential candidate Mohamed Morsi was ranked first in Kuwait in terms of votes he garnered from Egyptian expatriates said Egypt's Ambassador to Kuwait Abdel-Karim Soliman.

Abdel-Moneim Abul-Fotouh landed in the second place, while Hamdeen Sabahi third, Soliman said.

The results in Kuwait were announced as follow:

- Mohamed Morsi: 17,139
- Abdel-Moneim ABul-Fotouh: 14,109
- Hamdeen Sabahi: 9,031
- Amr Moussa: 8,876
- Ahmed Shafiq: 5,054

Page: 5

Author: Hiba el-Qudsi

## Shafiq Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in New York and Los Angeles; Abul-Fotouh in Chicago and Houston



Egyptian nationals residing in the US cast their ballots in the Egyptian presidential elections and the results were announced a day after the voting ended.

The results in New York were as follow:

- Ahmed Shafiq: 1,201
- Amr Moussa: 1,126
- Abdel-Moneim Abul-Fotouh: 952
- Hamdeen Sabahi: 952
- Mohamed Morsi: 362

Chicago:

- Abdel-Moneim Abul-Fotouh: 386
- Hamdeen Sabahi: 219
- Amr Moussa: 211
- Ahmed Shafiq: 91
- Mohamed Morsi: 13

Los Angeles:

- Ahmed Shafiq: 777
- Amr Moussa: 666
- Hamdeen Sabahi: 642
- Abdel-Moneim Abul-Fotouh: 609
- Mohamed Morsi: 102

Houston:

- Abdel-Moneim Abul-Fotouh: 353
- Amr Moussa: 351
- Ahmed Shafiq: 201
- Hamdeen Sabahi: 149

## The Ministry of Endowments Questions Whoever Uses Mosques in Electoral Campaigns



Minister of Endowments Abd al-Fadil al-Qousi declared that he would question anybody who would use mosques in presidential electoral campaigns or pull voters.

Sheik al-Qousi asserted that the imams should be neutral in this response even he personally believed in and supported a particular candidate.

Sheik al-Qousi asserted that all Muslims should not use mosques in political conflicts to avoid sedition and division.

## The Arab League Monitors Egypt's Presidential Elections



The High Presidential Elections Commission approved an Arab League demand to participate in observing the presidential elections in Egypt that are to be held on the Wednesday and Thursday.

The Arab League's observing team will be a team of 50 observers who will spread in the "main" governorates.

Special Procedures have reportedly taken place to facilitate the observers' task.



Page: 1.

Author: Not mentioned.

## Complementary Constitutional Declaration to Determine Powers of President and Parliament



Sources within the parliament revealed that a complementary constitutional declaration, composed of 10 new articles, will be issued before the presidential elections. Negotiations are underway between various political powers to determine the powers of the president, the parliament and the military institution.

Sources also said that if there was no consensus, then a complementary declaration will be issued and it will contain only the powers of the coming president. They also said that the parliament's Islamist majority deliberately hindered the formation of the Constituent Assembly to wait until the new president is in office; if Morsi won elections, they will choose a presidential regime type, and if he did not win, the new constitution will give the parliament more powers over the president.



Page: 1.  
Author: Amr Roshdi.

### MB Plots to Disrupt Elections



Al-Dostour obtained a copy of a statement from the Muslim Brotherhood to all its members revealing a plot to manipulate the presidential elections and mobilize voters. The statement, which carried the signature of prominent MB leader Khairat Al-Shater, reveals a plan to invalidate votes in some of the polling stations through ballot rigging or through preventing citizens from entering the polling stations.

Al-Shater demanded FJP Members of the Parliament to ensure that Mohamed Morsi and Abdel Moneim Aboul Fotouh gain the majority of votes in their constituencies; otherwise he said the MB will not allow them to run again in parliamentary elections.

Al-Shater also said the MB will form monitoring committees to identify areas in which the majority will vote for Amr Moussa and Ahmed Shafik. He said that citizens should be prevented in any way possible from casting their votes in such areas.



Pages: 1, 4.

Author: Hussein Abd Al-Halim.

## 27 Local and International Organizations Will Monitor Presidential Elections



Senior Judge Hatem Bagato, secretary general of the Presidential Elections Commission, concluded the press conference held at the commission’s headquarters with angry remarks at the accusations directed against the committee. One of the journalists working at RNN questioned the integrity of judges who will supervise the process of elections, Bagato responded angrily by saying that he will not allow anyone to question the integrity of judges. He told Al-Dostour newspaper that presidential elections will be held in a transparent manner, despite of all the skeptics.

Bagato said the commission assigned and allocated judges to cover all the polling stations around the country. It has also allowed 24 local human rights organization and three international organizations to monitor the process of elections, he stated.



Page: 2.

Author: Suzanne Abd Al-Ghani.

## 20 Protesters Detained in Al-Abbasiya Clashes Were Released

**إخلاء سبيل 20 معتقلاً في أحداث العباسية**

كثيبت- سوزان هيد العلي، المحكمة العسكرية أفرجت، أمس، عن 20 شخصاً من المعتقلين في أحداث العباسية، من بينهم 4 محامين، بينما أفرجت لخمسة حبس 89 متهما على ذمة التغطية، وقالت المحامية راجية عمران عضو جبهة الدفاع عن متظاهري مصر، إنه تم عرض 109 من معتقلي الأحداث على النيابة العسكرية، التي أمرت بإخلاء سبيل 20 شخصاً، فأطاعت بسراخ، عضو الجبهة، قائلة إن الجبهة لم تقدم مطلب استئناف لأي من المعتقلين إلا بعد مرور 30 يوماً من غالب الاستئناف الأول حسب القانون، مشيرة إلى أن إجمالي المعتقلين داخل السجن أو أن يتم الإفراج عنه أيضاً، بينما أكد محمد عبد العزيز عضو جبهة الدفاع، أن عدداً من المعتقلين في سجون تحقيق طرة قنطرة تطوق إضرابهم للمصلحة العامة، بينما شارك في الإضراب معتقل استئناف مرة.

المفرج عنهم حتى الآن نحو 106 أشخاص، بينما أوشحت أن الجبهة تقدمت أمس أيضاً بطلبات إلى اللواء بأداء العرس وأحسن القضاء العسكري، لتحويل المعتقلين إلى المستشفيات ليظفرو العلاج المناسب، أو أن يتم الإفراج عنهم، فضلاً عن المطالبة بالسماح لعقاب جامعي من جامعة سوهاج بإتمام

**تجديد حبس 89 .. وتعليق الإضراب عن الطعام**

راجية

The Military Court released yesterday 20 protesters detained during Al-Abbasiya clashes, including three lawyers, and remanded in custody 89 others.

Ragia Omran, a lawyer and member of the Front to Defend Egypt's Protesters, said 109 detainees stood before the Military Prosecution and 20 of them were released. The total number of protesters released has now reached 106. The front presented a request to Head of the Military Justice Senior Judge Adel Al-Morsi to transfer injured detainees to hospitals to receive proper treatment.



Page: 2.  
Author: Hoda Abu Bakr.

## Independent Judicial Committee to Monitor Presidential Elections



A “Parallel Judicial Committee” is an initiative launched by nearly 250 judges to monitor the upcoming presidential elections. Senior Judge Zakareya Abd Al-Aziz, former head of the Judges’ Club, proposed the idea and called on all the judges around the country to participate in ensuring the integrity and transparency of the electoral process.

Abd Al-Aziz told Al-Tahrir newspaper that he held a meeting with a group of young and senior judges and they came up with this idea to respond to the fears of rigging elections which spread among many Egyptians now.

“As judges we will monitor the administrative staff of the polling stations and take notes of any violations that occur in lists of eligible voters or during the voting process itself. We will publish all this online on our website and we will have a full operation room to monitor elections,” said Abd Al-Aziz.



Page: 1, 4  
 Author: Ahmad Fathi and others

### A Complementary Constitutional Declaration to be Issued Tomorrow



SCAF is to issue tomorrow a Complementary Constitutional Declaration to identify the president's authorities.

MP of Al-Wafd Party Bahaa Abu Shaqqah said the ruling system would most probably be presidential with guarantees to prevent a ruler's dictatorship. The declaration will also identify the judiciary authorities.

Meanwhile, political parties and players failed to agree on a final unified suggestion about the complementary constitutional declaration.

Al-Shurouk published that the meeting that was scheduled yesterday between the different political parties at al-Wafd headquarters was postponed to today for undeclared reasons.

In the same context, well informed sources reported that the idea of a complementary constitutional declaration was suggested by SCAF. SCAF called on Head of al-Wafd Party to coordinate the issue with the different parties and give suggestions within 48 hours.

MP Wajih Abd al-Majid said the parties agreed on a preliminary draft of the declaration. The Abd al-Majid reported that the political parties believed that the declaration was useless and SCAF did not have the right to issue it.

### Al-Shurouk’s Presidential Updates



In addition to the general updates on the presidential elections [See al-Ahram report on presidential elections], al-Shurouq published the results of a survey it had conducted about the presidential race.

According to al-Shurouq’s survey the majority of Egyptians, 29.8%, have not decided yet on which candidate to vote for.

Meanwhile, 15.8% support Ahmad Shafiq, 15.1% support Amr Mussa and 13.2% support Abu al-Afutouh. Hamdin Sabbahi comes in the fourth position with 12.3% and Muhammad Mursi fifth with 9.5%.

1.3% of Egyptians will vote for Salim al-Awwa and 1.0% for Khalid Ali. 1.9 % will vote for other candidates.

The details of the survey show that 17.9% of Egyptians participated in Parliamentary elections while 82.1% didn’t.

The survey shows that 91.3% of Egyptians will participate in the presidential elections while 5.4% will not. 3.4% of Egyptians, however, have not decided yet.

Al-Shuouk published graphs about the differences in the results between the first survey and the second one. Another graph showed people’s opinions about the main causes that should be priorities for the coming president. There were also graphs about the reasons why people would vote for a given candidate.

According to the survey 47.4% of Egyptians believe that the TV emissions and debates have not influenced the public support for a given candidates, while 52.6% believe that the media emissions and debates affected people’s decisions. 87% of people said that the media presence of the candidates and the media debates asserted their opinions.

Another graph showed people’s expectations about who would be in the runoffs.



Page: 1  
 Author: Not mentioned

## HPEC Admits Policemen, Army Men among Voters



Just 72 hours before the start of the presidential elections in Egypt, Secretary General of the High Presidential Elections Commission (HPEC) Counselor Hatem Begato confirmed the veracity of reports that some policemen and army soldiers were enlisted among voters.

Speaking to TV presenter Wael el-Abrashi, Begato said he received CDs showing many policemen and army soldiers included in voter lists.

Under Egyptian law, all policemen, army soldiers and conscripts do not have the right to vote in all elections, either parliamentary or presidential.



Page: 1

Author: Mohamed Ismail, Rami Nawar and Kamel Kamel

## Parties Reject to Grant Parliament Right to Withdraw Confidence from Government



Political parties and powers have reached a final draft on amending three articles in the Constitutional Declaration and introducing three others to regulate the relationship between the three main authorities in the country, said coordinator of the Democratic Alliance Wahid Abdel-Meguid.

The proposed amendments do not include giving the president the right to dissolve the parliament or giving the parliament the right to withdraw confidence from the government, Abdel-Meguid said.



Page: 3  
Author: Gamal Hussein

## Mubarak, Jailed Regime Figures Did Not Request to Vote in Polls



None of the former regime figures, who are currently held in prison, have asked or expressed desire to partake in the upcoming presidential elections, a security source at the prison administration said.

Former President Hosni Mubarak and his two imprisoned sons did not ask to vote in the presidential elections, the source said.

Anyone who has been convicted by court does not have the right to vote but those still standing trial can, the source added.



## TV Coverage (19/5/2012)



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

Some features of the Complementary Constitutional Declaration are:

The President can appoint his deputy, Al-Azhar Sheikh, the Grand Mufti, and has the power to dissolve the Parliament.

The Parliament has the right to withdraw confidence from the government.

SCAF is responsible for all the issues related to the Armed Forces, and the Defense and National Security Committee can review the budget of the Armed Forces in a secret session.

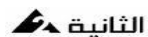
Presidential Elections Commission will hold a press conference to review the presidential elections preparations.

Similar news was reported in:  
Program: Akhbar Masr, Channel 1 "State TV"  
Program: 24 Hours News, Channel 1 "State TV"



**Program: Akhbar Masr**  
**Channel 1 "State TV"**

Egyptian expatriates vote counting ended in the majority of the embassies.



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

Presidential Elections Commission refuses any accusations of forging the elections.

**Program: Yesed Sabahak**  
**Channel 2 "State TV"**  
**Host: Dina Farouk and Ghada Abdel-Salam**

There is an attempt to hinder forming the Constituent Assembly.

"Observers to Save the Revolution" is a new initiative to monitor the elections.

Arab League will participate in monitoring the elections.



## Radio Coverage (19/5/2012)



### **News**

**Channel: Radio Masr**

**Time: 25:00:00**

Egyptian expatriates vote counting ended in the majority of the embassies.  
The pre-election silence starts Monday midnight and lasts for 48 hours.

Presidential Elections Commission will hold a press conference to review the preparations of the elections.

Similar news was reported in Channel: Al-Shabab W Al-reyada, Time: 23:15:00



### **News**

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

**Time: 17:00:00**

Presidential Elections Commission Secretary General said all the preparations for the presidential elections are ready.

Similar news was reported in Channel: State Radio, Time: 17:00:00



## Internet Coverage (20/5/2012)

**facebook**

Facebook

### We Are All Khaled Saeed:

Do you remember this? Head of the Supreme Council of the Armed Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi announced handing over the legislative and supervisory powers to the elected People's Assembly. Just four months later, the SCAF issues a complementary presidential proclamation to the Constitutional Declaration. What do you think? <http://digital.ahram.org.eg/articles.aspx?Serial=777378&eid=203>

### Egyptian Cabinet:

To know the location of your polling station, check this website [www.elections.eg](http://www.elections.eg)



Twitter

@AsmaaMahfouz

Tomorrow we will meet at 12:00PM in front of the Journalists Syndicate to begin a 24-hour hunger strike in solidarity with the hunger strike of Al-Abbasiya detainees.

There is nothing confirmed yet about the news related to issuing a complementary constitutional declaration. These rumors spread to test society's reaction and if people stood silent, then SCAF will coordinate with political parties, which agreed to negotiate with it, to issue the declaration.

@Ghonim

In democratic states, opinion polls offer a transparent representation of how the people view their political regimes. In Egypt, opinion polls reflect the regime's self-created image in the society.

@Arabist

"Huge if true MT @AlexanderPageSY: here is a pic of 6 top officials who have supposedly been assassinated #Syria<http://yfrog.com/mn7exixj>"

@Iyad\_ElBaghdadi

"#Syria state TV is "speechless" at the lies, but it takes them 2 hours to express their speechlessness."



“According to #Syria regime loyalists, we're all radical Islamist Zionist CIA Mossad GCC oil sheikh Alqaeda Qatar Aljazeera conspirators.”

“The #UAE has asked its citizens not to travel to #Lebanon, and to return if they are currently there. #Syria”

“The FSA, SNC, and LCC's are kinda in the same "ecosystem" but aren't under one "organizational structure". #Syria”

“The #SNC is a political front but has been fraught with disagreement & controversy. It's an umbrella with nothing much under it. #Syria”

“The LCCs to me are the spirit & soul of #Syria's revolution; they plan the protests and nonviolent events.”

“The #FSA itself is struggling to form a unified front or chain of command. For a while it was more an address than an army. #Syria”

“#FSA's Damascus military council chief is on AJA now once again claiming to have wiped out six pillars of #Assad's regime. #Syria”

“In the #pt, FSA calls Al-Shami hospital, guy on the phone denies anyone having been brought there. <http://bit.ly/K2LX4w> #Syria”

“#Syria state TV has denied the news. But then again they denied Gaddafi's death, said Marie Colvin was Alqaeda, and said Bashar is awesome.”

@Gsquare86

“I think we will do the same but with shoes “Eggs thrown as Taiwanese president sworn in “ <http://is.gd/iC9deI> #Egypt #Taiwan”

“Popular support for Egypt's Islamist parties on wane: Gallup poll <http://is.gd/0WfTIX> #Ikhwan #Egypt”

“Military prosecutor releases 20 arrested at defense ministry clashes; 89 still detained <http://is.gd/EXtUqH> #Abbasyia”

“USAID funds Egypt's presidential elections with \$3 million <http://is.gd/PwsmdQ> #fail”

“Do you really think SCAF will be sitting down the day of the elections anticipating the “results”? <http://is.gd/ci7KNV> #idiot”

“SCAF constitutional declaration expected to give president right to dissolve parliament <http://is.gd/tI4Hcw> #Egypt”



## ▪ 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**

Are 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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