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Egypt

Egypt A Year later: Mubarak's Trail, Future Policy Towards US & Iran & The presidential Election



Arabist

- New blog post by Issandr El Amrani: **"Mubarak's Letter to Court"** http://www.arabist.net/blog/2012/2/24/mubaraks-letter-to-court.html



Mona Iskander

- PBS video: what's happening in Egypt today, a year after the military regime took control : "**Egypt, today**"

  "*This week, we are devoting this week's entire broadcast to* ***a story that has huge implications for the United States and Israel****. We're talking about the continuing fallout from the revolution in the Arab world's most populous country: Egypt. For decades now, the United States has sent more than $1 billion a year to Egypt*" http://www.pbs.org/wnet/need-to-know/video/video-egypt-now/13191/



Amira Howeidy

- Working for a would-be president. Good overview of candidates' staffers. http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2012/1086/eg21.htm

- Al-Ahram Weekly - Amani Maged asks **whether Egyptian-Iranian relations will resume.** http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2012/1086/eg42.htm

"At a time when the US is signaling that it could cut off aid to Egypt, there are signs of a dramatic change in the relationship between Egypt and Iran. After decades of diplomatic, economic and cultural rupture, it looks like the two countries will resume ties or, at least, take serious steps towards this end."

- **One Year After Mubarak**: Wadah Khanfar On Networks, Journalism and Democracy.

  Do social networks inherently support democratic values, in contrast with ideology-bound political institutions?

  Former Al Jazeera Director General Wadah Khanfar talked about what it took for the news company to reimagine itself and listen to networks during the Arab Spring

  http://civic.mit.edu/blog/natematias/one-year-after-mubarak-wadah-khanfar-on-networks-journalism-and-democracy



Bassem Sabry

- **Egypt Presidential Elections** on 23rd and 24th of May, run-offs 16th and 17th of June, Results 21st of June, no international monitoring.
- The Egyptians abroad will be voting in Presidential elections from the 11th of May till the 17th.
- 27 presidential candidates in Egypt. That would mean 26 more candidates than they had in Yemen.
- Egyptian Parliamentary elections showed voters only decide in the last few days before voting, and tend to go towards the right wing.

- New Blog Post by Bassem Sabry: "**The Guide to Choosing a President**" - http://anarabcitizen.blogspot.com/2012/02/guide-to-choosing-president.html



What's next for Syria? Foreign Intervention/Arming FSA/ New Constitution



Shireen

- Khamenei tries to break a fist symbolizing the Syrian Revolution





Ahmed Al Omran

- Syrian Activist: **'I Could Be Killed At Any Moment'** http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2012/02/23/147305199/syrian-activist-i-could-be-killed-at-any-moment
- **Raw full transcript for our interview with Abo Bakr, an activist** based in Bab Amr - many details here – http://saudijeans.tumblr.com/post/18169303461/babamr

- **Syria and the New Constitution: The End of Reform**? By: Salama Kayla http://english.al-akhbar.com/content/syria-and-new-constitution-end-reform

- **Live-tweeting the Uprising of Syria – 27/2** http://storify.com/ahmed/live-tweeting-the-uprising-of-syria-2-27?awesm=sfy.co_d2m&utm_campaign=&utm_medium=sfy.co-twitter&utm_source=t.co&utm_content=storify-pingback

Elias Muhanna

- New Blog Post by Qifa Nabki: "**Selling Foreign Intervention (in Syria & Lebanon)"** http://qifanabki.com/2012/02/24/selling-foreign-intervention-in-syria/



Arabist

- New Blog Post by Issandr El Amrani: **The Best Thing You'll Read on Syria** http://www.arabist.net/blog/2012/2/26/the-best-thing-youll-read-on-syria.html?utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter

See Syria

- A new Blog Post: **"Arming the Free Syria Army"** http://seesyria.wordpress.com/2012/02/26/86/

Laila Lalami

- **New constitution in Syria adopted with 89.4% of the vote**. Pffffft. Amateurs. Morocco's new constitution was adopted with 98.5% of the vote!

Ahmad H. Aggour

- Assad knows the World is watching him, so unlike 1982, he's killing people off slowly. In 1982 over 35,000 were killed in 25 days.

- So according to **Syria's new constitution**, Assad gets to be President until 2028 and torture of detainees is prohibited.

Saudi Arabia

The Saudi uprising & Saudi-Qatari Relations at Stake



Jess Hill

- A New Blog Post by Jess Hill: "**The Growing Rebellion in Saudi Arabia**"- http://www.theglobalmail.org/feature/the-growing-rebellion-in-saudi-arabia/84/



Women March at the Funeral of another Young Qatifi



David B Roberts

- New fascinating Blog Post by David B Roberts: "**Examining Qatari-Saudi Relations**"

  "German newspaper Die Welt recently reported that Saudi Arabia held a meeting with fellow Gulf States to discuss what should be done to counter increasing Hezbollah activity – but it did not include Qatar in the discussions."

  http://thegulfblog.com/2012/02/28/examining-qatari-saudi-relations/

Palestinian

Palestinian Reconciliation & Hamas Ditches Assad



Arabist

- New Blog Post by Issandr El Amrani: **"Palestinian Reconciliation: Hamas' Opening Gambit"** http://www.arabist.net/blog/2012/2/24/palestinian-reconciliation-hamas-opening-gambit.html



Murud Jadallah

- Khader, Prisons and the Liberation of Palestine: **An Interview with a Palestinian Youth Activist** by John Bennett:

  "The Palestinian youth today must work together to end the control of all the leaders from different parties, and we must form a new national liberation movement."

  http://internationalsocialist.org.uk/index.php/2012/02/khader-prisons-and-the-liberation-of-palestine-an-interview-with-a-palestinian-youth-activist/



The Big Pharaoh

- **Hamas abandonment of Assad is purely political**. When Assad falls, MB will rule Syria like Egypt. Will MB give Hamas the same haven?



Erin Cunningham

- **Hamas ditches Assad** (& by default Iran & Hez) Assuming Haniya got a few guarantees from Egypt before making this move. http://www.juancole.com/2012/02/hamas-breaks-with-syrian-regime.html?utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=Feed:+juancole/ymbn+(Informed+Comment)

Iran domestics & the upcoming parliamentary election

- **What you can learn from riding Tehran taxis**: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/tehranbureau/2012/02/dispatch-tehran-drift-between-omar-khayyam-and-the-void.html

- **Iranians May Vote, But Would They Fight**? http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/tehranbureau/2012/02/dispatch-iranians-may-vote-but-would-they-fight.html

- **Khamenei: The Nuclear Decision-maker** by Alireza Nader http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/tehranbureau/2012/02/khamenei-the-nuclear-decision-maker.html

- **'Stay home on Election Day' Green Council calls on Iranians - Full boycott coupled with street presence**
  "Just days ahead of ***parliamentary elections on 2 March****, the Coordination Council of the Green Path of Hope has called on Iranians to stay at home on Election Day"*
  http://en.irangreenvoice.com/article/2012/feb/25/3542



- **Iran's Parliamentary Elections**, **Part I**: The Political Landscape – *"A farce, but an important one"* by Muhammad Sahimi http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/tehranbureau/2012/02/opinion-irans-parliamentary-elections-part-i-the-political-landscape.html

- **Iran's Parliamentary Elections, Part II**: The Role of the Military http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/tehranbureau/2012/02/irans-parliamentary-elections-part-ii-the-competing-factions.html

Jordan

Is Jordan next?



Karim Kawar

- **Opinion: Where does Jordan stand in the Arab Spring?** By Mohannad Aljawamis**.** A student from Jordan reflects on the upheavals in the Arab World http://www.skidmorenews.com/op-ed/opinion-where-does-jordan-stand-in-the-arab-spring-1.2796284#.TothvvGDv4s

Yemen

Yemen – Post-Revolution - What Is Next?!



Tom Finn

- **An interview with US ambassador to Yemen** http://twitdoc.com/view.asp?id=38343&sid=TL3&ext=DOCX&lcl=Feierstein-interview.docx&usr=tomfinn2&doc=82493194&key=key-2ibfb6yys3dncacygpfs



Hind Aleryani

- New Blog Post by Dory Eryani - **"The Yemen We don't Want"** http://www.thearabdigest.com/2012/02/yemen-we-dont-want.html

Morocco

Morocco Democracy Movement & The Gulf Counter-Role

- "**Morocco will not be an exception**..." By Fouad Oujani http://emajmagazine.com/2012/02/25/morocco-will-not/



- **Morocco, the Gulf and the Media**

An interesting item at Angry Arab — Aljazeera and Morocco:

"Yassine sent me this: "So al-Jazeera decided not to air the documentary on Morocco and the 20th of February Movement (nuqta sakhina), which they had been promoting for more than a week. Why not? Again? (In November the same thing happened (back then the al-Jazeera crew was forbidden to go to Tanger and the al-Hoceima area: two centers of the Moroccan uprising). The Moroccan king recently 'gave' the Qatari emir some 4 5.000 hectares (=450 km²) in the Guelmim area so that the Qatari emir could go hunt there. And also, these two weeks al-Jazeera has been negotiating a possible return to Morocco with the new minister of information. So I guess the negotiations are concluded. Perhaps the documentary was just a card in the negotiation-process. This is Gulf-media"

The Emir of Qatar has a huge property in Tangier where he spends part of the summer, close to the king's own palace (and the king spends most of his summer in the north, either in Tangier or nearby Tetouan). Jazeera like other media has had trouble with the Moroccan government, but there is little explanation for the cancellation of the broadcast of this documentary (presumably as part the channel's very good series of documentaries on the Arab uprisings).

Incidentally, two members of the February 20 movement who worked for a UAE-based TV channel (Dubai TV) were fired at the request of the minister of information last year. Solidarity among absolute monarchs trumps all.

Bahrain

The Bahraini Revolution - Socio-Economic Angle



Hasan Alhasan

- **The socio-economic foundations of Bahrain's political crisis**

  http://www.opendemocracy.net/hasan-tariq-alhasan/socio-economic-foundations-of-bahrain%E2%80%99s-political-crisis

- **Bahrain - The Current Economic Outlook**
  http://www.bahrainedb.com/uploadedFiles/Bahraincom/BahrainForBusiness/BEQ%20Q3%202011%20(20%2012%202011).pdf