

TechNews

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Political unification necessary for Egyptian success

Marc Sednaoui
TECHNEWS WRITER

The people created a revolution, got rid of the dictator, elected a new president, got rid of him and now they are ruled by a temporary non-elected government. This doesn't make any sense. Well, I will tell what's happening. I will also try my best to not take sides in order for you to understand the whole picture.

In 1981, Muhammad Hosni El Sayed Mubarak took the position of president of one of the most important countries in Africa and the Middle East. Most of the people loved him, as he was the Commander of the Air Force during the war with Israel in 1973. The first couple of years, he was doing well with improving the economy, maintaining international relations and building a solid infra-structure for the country.

But things don't last forever. The economy started to shatter. The political opposition such as the Muslim Brotherhood (MB) and other parties were being eliminated and put in to prison.

Freedom of speech? Only if you support the president, unless you want to spend the next ten years in jail.

Social Justice? Only if you have a lot of cash to invest and are a monopoly in the industry.

Bread? The Only thing you can get for almost free is bread. All other groceries began to inflate.

Egypt began to depend on foreign goods through exporting instead of producing its own goods. Education was there to teach you to think in a certain way. More like a mask that restricts looking to the side. To sound good in the eyes of the young generation, Mubarak's history with the war was written in textbooks and his photo was hung in every school, private or public.

The police were so brutal to anyone

who they thought looked suspicious, to the degree that they would beat a person until they died. Khaled Said met death from a similar situation, which resulted in one of the strongest triggers to the Revolution.

On January 25, 2011, the people revolted.

The three main causes of the revolution were: bread, freedom, and social justice. Tahrir Square was the main place for protest gathering and a symbol of the revolution. Protests happened all over the country.

After 11 days, Mubarak resigned and the military took the position of the transaction to select a new freely elected president. Five important people applied for presidency: two Pro-Revolution, two MB, one Air Force commander, and one ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The MB were popular then. Firstly, they were the "social security" of the poor people during Mubarak era. Furthermore, they gave away food, clothes, and did charity work and their main slogan was "Islam is the solution."

The two Pro-Revolution candidates opposed each other so much that the votes for a Pro-revolution president were split into two. The Air Force commander was popular for certain people because some were looking for an experienced president that would drive Egypt from the chaos it was living in the last two years.

Results were out; the finalists were the Air Force commander and the MB. The MB won the presidency, Mohamed Morsi.

Activists blamed the military for not handling the election properly. The military used violence against protesters who opposed the rule of the military during the transaction process.

The constitution was written after the elections, which was supposed to be the other way around, as to not give the elected president power to participate in writing it.

People protested against Morsi, who was known to be the first freely-elected

president in Egypt. Their reason was that the constitution was not written properly. The Parliament and the constitution community were mostly MB members. During the election, the MB promised a 100-day plan that would make Egypt a better place. However, only ten percent of their plan was fulfilled.

A group of young activists soon formed a petition to overthrow the new president. It was the only way to overthrow him as he was protected by the constitution. The Judicial Branch that was monitoring the president actions was attacked by the constitutional declaration.

On June 30, massive protests went against Morsi. The number of people ranged and could not be estimated precisely, but it was not less than a seven-digit number. Morsi refused to step down even after the military asked him to correct the situation. On the July 3, the number of people kept rising, and the military decided to take action and oust Morsi from his position as a president.

Debates opened as to whether the ouster of Morsi was a revolution or a military coup. Protests from the pro-Morsi side rose, stating that the move was anti-democratic and Morsi was still the legitimate president of Egypt. The military couldn't handle the protests and used violence to separate them.

Today, Egypt is divided. The only way Egypt has a chance to stand up on its feet and rise as a strong nation is to unite.

We need to put our political differences aside.

To be a secular or a religious country? It does not matter when first we have to provide food to the people who are starving. What if we worked together to ameliorate Egypt's basic needs: bread, freedom and social justice? What if we stood together to fight corruption, instead of fighting each other? What if we work to provide high quality of education, end poverty, give access to health insurance, create jobs, and give tourism a boost? If only Egypt could unite.

10 easy ways to ace final exams

Shireen Gul

COPY EDITOR

about the best way to deal with it. Be critical and help yourself.

2. Prepare early

You promise yourself every time that you will start preparing for your next exam early but you always break your promise. Ah-hhh! Not a good thing. You should know how to keep your promises and be a person of your word. Preparation for exams should begin earlier than the day before the test. You can't cram an entire subject in one night. Pity yourself and get started at least a week before the exam.

3. Organize

It can be a hard thing to do but give it a try. Begin by making yourself a calendar outlining a daily schedule of topics for review. When making the calendar tell yourself loudly that "YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW IT OR ELSE YOU ARE A DEAD RAT." Cover a small amount of material for each subject each day. Every time you complete a topic, give yourself a mini-review and put yourself on the back for keeping your word.

4. Study actively

At this point you should be trying to get the "big picture." Where do you want to see yourself in a few years? Trust me, this helps a lot. Once you can see the "big picture", you will automatically start studying actively because this will motivate you towards your goal. Active studying does not mean just reading your notes and textbook. Active studying means interacting with the material while you study.

5. Make flashcards

I know most of you use this technique, as it is really helpful. Make an outline of your material. When you have written down the information from your outline, you have already done half of the job. Then make flashcards; once the flashcards are complete, you will have a portable study packet to look over whenever you want to revise.

6. Don't be too shy to get help

If you are having trouble memorizing something or a particular concept is just not sinking in, get help before it's too late. Ask your teacher to go over a glitch you might be having or engage your family members to quiz you with index cards.

7. Sleep well

I know most of the students prefer staying up all night to study so they can be ahead the next morning but this is not the way. You need at least seven hours of sleep a night to let your brain function properly. The exams are designed to make you think. If you are sleep-deprived, you won't be able to remember any of the information you worked so hard to cram into your brain. So sleep well and wake up fresh.

8. Take blessings

This is my personal favorite and I have blind faith in this. Pray before you leave for exams and get the blessings of the elders at home, especially your mom. Trust me, it works the best.

9. Don't rush

Finally, you are sitting in the examination room. The paper is right in front of you. Work through the exam slowly and read all the questions before answering them. If you are done before the time is up, look over your answers again. You have spent at least two weeks studying, so what's wrong in spending few more minutes reviewing it?

10. Relax post-exam

Okay, now you are done with your paper, so don't let panic devastate you. Even if you think you failed the paper, worrying will not change your score. It may, however, affect your mindset for your next final. Now put this aside and stay focused on the next one. Trust me, you never do as bad as you think you did.