

Arab spring



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Section/# Arab Spring: Egypt The regime of Hosni Mubarak was one that had lasted for nearly 30 years. Accordingly, the power structure within Egypt at the time that the Arab Spring took place was one in which one individual and his security forces directed nearly every action that the state took. Such an undemocratic process had defined Egyptian politics long before even Mubarak had come to power however. As a result of the corruption and the knowledge that Mubarak was likely to hand his power to his son, thereby creating a type of dynasty, the unease and dissatisfaction among those living in Egypt reached a boiling point and instigated what has become to be known as the Arab Spring. This brief analysis essay will compare some of the positive and negative effects that this Arab Spring has had on Egypt as well as to discuss some of the key changes that have taken place as a result.

Firstly, it is this author's strong belief that the Arab Spring in Egypt has created a fundamentally good thing. Whereas before no level of democratic process typified the way in which the government ruled the people, as a result of the Arab Spring in Egypt, elections have been held, a president has been selected, a constitution drafted, and a representative parliament has been formed. As opposed to before where Mubarak's dictatorship was a seemingly endless definition of the future of the nation, the people of Egypt are now able to take part in their own right to self determination, sovereignty, and the democratic process (el Faki 1). In this way, the effect of the Arab Spring has been profound in helping a nation to modernize and realize a long held wish that democracy would come to its inhabitants.

The cons to such a process of course involve the painful transition to democracy. It is not the argument of this author that such a transition is without it's drawbacks. Whereas Egypt has been controlled by one form of

absolute monarch or dictator for the better part of the past several hundred years, providing a smooth and painless segue into democracy would be all but impossible. As such, some of the cons that have followed the process are the actions of key groups that feel that their rights have not been fully represented to a satisfactory extent within the confines of the democratic system. As such, these individuals have resorted to violence, coercion, and other illegalities as a means of expressing their own unique view. However, as has been stated, such is to be expected within the process of democratization and the untimely end of an absolute dictatorship that had gripped the country for the better part of three decades. In this sense, the onlooker should reasonably expect that the formation of a democratic system will have the requisite growing pains and will not be a seamless process. However, regardless of the means by which one measures the situation that is unfolding in Egypt currently, the fact of the matter is that the average citizen is better represented and has more rights and freedoms currently than were ever experienced under Mubarak.

Work Cited

El Faki, Mustafa. " Arab Spring a Dry Fall for Egypt." Al-Monitor. N. p., 15 Nov. 2012. Web. 09 Dec. 2012.