

**Dilemma and dynamics of Democracy in Egypt in the
post-Cold War period**

ABSTRACT

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ABSTRACT

Democracy is a competitive, multiparty political system where universal adult suffrage for all citizens (with exceptions for restrictions that states may legitimately place on citizens for criminal offenses) is guaranteed. It is unique system marked with regularly contested elections conducted in conditions of ballot secrecy, reasonable ballot security and in the absence of massive voter fraud that yields results that are unrepresentative of the public will. It provides significant public access of major political campaigning. It ensures effective participation before a policy is adopted by the association; all the members must have equal and effective opportunities for making their views known to the other members as to what the policy should be.

The region of West Asia continues to be the base of global politics. War, conflict and terrorism define the face of contemporary West Asia at popular level. Contemporary West Asia is facing many problems and challenges in social, economic field. West Asia include Saudi Arabia, Yeman, Bahrain, Jordon, Iran, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar, Oman and the North African countries are Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Lebanon and Algeria. These countries also refer as Muslim world because most of the population in these countries Muslim. Their culture and language are same. In these Arab worlds the languages used Arabic, Turkish and Persian etc. So they are close to each other. In North African countries language are used very strongly.

Egypt lies between latitudes 24.09° N and 31.5° N and longitudes 25.51° E and 34.89° E. At 100,450 square kilometres, it is the world's 30th biggest country. Egypt includes division of the Sahara Desert and Libyan Desert. These deserts that secluded the kingdom of the Pharaohs commencing Western threats were referred to as the "red land" in antique Egypt. Egypt is the nation of the North Africa but it also refers at West Asia and Arab countries.

In the wave of riots and uprising that have shaken the Arab countries since December 2010, Egypt was the second country after Tunisia, to arrive on the stage. The recent events in Egypt and Tunisia show the people's power will assert itself in one way or other. Most of Middle East countries are ruled by monarchs for ages and

some parts of Arab world is still unrepresented. Whether people power will assert in these regions is the key question for the debate. Also, probably in the case of Egypt whether the ouster of President Mubarak really means that in some way or the other or background or foreground the Egyptian military will take change of affairs. And, whether if the movement spreads to the other countries, the same pattern of military replacing autocrats may prevail and do the business as usual. The other pattern may be the Islamisation of the region. As the country on our west is already imposing, it will have implications for the India. The following deliberations will help us to conceptualize the effects of the Egyptian revolution and its implications for India's neighbourhood.

In 1996, Ministry of Social Affairs (Mosa) estimated that community development association (CDA) accounted for approximately 25 percent of the total number of registered NGOs. One major aspect is the role the media which underscored the salient features of the crises such as role of youth and the leaderless kind of movement particularly in Egypt.

This is extremely significant in the case of Egypt and to a large extent to Tunisia and Algeria as well. Because of the implications of the political dynamics that is produces may have some interments of Islam. Interestingly, these movements had not only challenged the monopoly of power by the autocrat like Mubarak and Ali but also have challenged the monopoly of the opposition parties characterized by Muslim Brotherhood. However, this does not mean that Muslim Brotherhood will be out of the picture; rather it will definitely play a crucial role in Arab politics which will eventually depend upon his factor that to what extent it can redefine itself along with the democratic citizenship that has been discussed. Given the kind of organizational flexibility and diversity the Muslim brotherhood has, the political to change according to the newly emerged citizenship perceptions.

One of the positive outcomes of the crisis is the emergence of 'democratic citizenship imagination' in the Arab world which is unique and strong. This kind of citizenship has longer history and closely associated with the evolution of civil society movements in Arab world.

The constitution dates from 11 September 1971, when the Arab Republic of Egypt was a one party state. It has been amended four times (1977, 1980, 2005, and 2007). Amendments adopted in 1977 and 1980 instituted a multi-party system but at its core the constitution retains a sense of 'one-party'. Other amendments introduced new orientations namely that Egypt is a Socialist Democratic State and principles of Islamic Shria'h are the source of legislation. Although the constitution establishes a mixed presidential-parliamentary-cabinet system, the Presidency is a dominant political institution. It is widely assumed that the President's de facto power is even greater than that accorded to him by the Constitution. His extensive authority is currently further enhanced by extraordinary powers established by the legislation regulating the state of emergency which has been in force since

In 1967, except for an 18 months period between 1980 and 1981. The emergency law is sometimes described as the "quasi-constitution of the country." The 2007 constitutional amendments intend to replace this legislation by an anti-terrorism law. Following an amendment to the constitution in 1980, the President may be elected for an unlimited number of six-year terms. In 2005, President Mubarak was re-elected for a fifth term. According to official results he received some 83% of the vote in an election in which some 23% of registered voters participated. The President's powers include: proposing draft laws, promulgating laws or objecting to them; appointing and dismissing Vice Presidents and setting their jurisdiction; appointing and dismissing Ministers; convening and presiding cabinet meeting; dissolving the Shura Council (the upper house); issuing decrees, regulations and 'control regulations; calling referenda, and presiding the police authority. As a result of the 2007 constitutional changes, the President's power were further increased by allowing him to dissolve parliament 'where necessary' without the need for the holding of a referendum approving his decision. This appears at odds with his stated objecting of strengthening the parliament. According to the constitution, the Government is the supreme executive and administrative organ of state. The cabinet's functions include: laying down the general policy of state (in collaboration with the President); drawing up draft laws and decrees, and drawing up the state budget.

Egypt has a bicameral parliament comprising the people's assembly and the Shura council. According to the constitution, at least half the members of the both assemblies must be workers or farmers (article 87). The assembly has a five-year term and is composed of 444 elected members and ten members appointed by the President.

As result of the 2007 constitution changes, the people's assembly now has the right to modify the budget and force the resignation of the government, without the need for a referendum. These changes strengthen the role of parliament and enhance its ability to hold the Government to account. Following the 2005 elections, the assembly has its largest ever number of opposition MPs (108). The 2007 reform have changed this and gave the Council legislative competences. Certain laws and treaties will require the Council's approval. The Shura Council has a six term and is composed of 264 members of which 176 are directly elected and 88 are appointed by the President.

A striking factor in recent elections and referenda is the very low levels of voter turnout. In the 2000 Assembly elections official was just 20% and only 25% in 2005. According to official result only 27% of voters participated in the 2007 referendum on constitutional reform. The results of a household survey conducted by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) show that the public has little trust in the representational mechanisms of the political system. 97% of survey respondents did attend political party meetings or rallies, whilst 94% of them do not discuss community problems with their local representatives.

The judicial system is based on Islamic law and civil codes based on the Napoleonic tradition. The constitution establishes Egypt's highest court, the Supreme Constitutional court (SCC), a 'State Council' - an independent judicial organizations concerned with deciding on administrative disputes and disciplinary case, and until recently a Supreme Judicial organizations. The Supreme Judicial Court was abolished as part of the 2007 constitutional reform process and replaced by council charged with the "common affairs" of the judicial bodies.

The Constitution provides for the independence of judges and no authority may intervene in judiciary cases or in the affairs of justice (Article 166). Parts of the

judiciary indeed enjoy a significant level of independence in Egypt and have frequently held other branches of power to account. The relationship between the judiciary and the executive is tense as for as politically sensitive matters are concerned.

Egypt is divided into administrative units comprising governorates, cities and villages. There are twenty six Governorates, which are headed by a governor and an Executive council, appointed by the President. Governors have significant powers. At the next level, there are one hundred twenty six districts. There are councils have limited authority and are subject to oversight by appointed Executive Councils. Local councils are directly elected. Half of councils' members must be farmers and workers. While, the reformed constitution guarantees decentralization, Egypt remains at present a highly centralized state.

The Egyptian parliament is bicameral, consisting of the Shura Council, elected for six years terms and the house of Representative, whose constituent is elected to provide five years terms. The legal system based on Islamic, Egyptian are by far the main ethnic group in the nation, consisting 91% of the total inhabitants. Ethnic minorities include the Abazas, Turks and Greeks, Bedouin, Arab Tribes livelihood in the Eastern wasteland and the Sinai Peninsula, the Berber exclamation Siwis (Amazigh) of the Siwa Oasis, Nubian neighbourhood concentrated in the south eastern-most-corner, that a number of Dom clans chiefly in the Nile Delta and Faiyum who are increasingly becoming assimilated as urbanization augments.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:-

- The west has always used democracy as a pretext to intervene in the West Asian and North African countries.
- As long as the regimes of respecting countries are friendly to the West, there is hardly an issue of democracy in that country.
- The West is dual in its approach to countries in West Asia and set different parameters for different countries. Its treats with Iran on the question of

human rights and democracy differently Saudi Arabia and other friendly countries.

HYPOTHESES:-

- Democracy in West Asia have not been allowed by internal and external forces, to evolve and develop from inside.
- In most of the West Asian countries unlike India reforms in various fields have not been carried out.
- In most of the West Asian countries during national liberation, the struggle was against colonial power but the democratization of society and polity could not take place like India, Sri Lanka or for that matter Bangladesh.
- The biggest obstacles in the path of democracy in West Asia in general and Egypt in particular are the absence of modern values i.e. equality and liberty.
- Egypt is standing at crossroad where it has adopted a right path.

CHAPTERIZATION:

Egypt is a most important country in respect to the West Asia, Africa, Europe and Asian politics because Suez Canal in the main route for Asian and Europe trade. So it is important to analyse the democracy of Egypt with reference to **“Dilemma and dynamics of Democracy in Egypt in the post-Cold War period”**. In order to critically this theme, chapterization of this thesis work has been divided in seven, which are following:

Chapter I: Introduction

Under this chapter, important of Egypt, power of Muslim Brotherhood and Introduction of democracy of Egypt have been described with literature reviews of related to dilemma and dynamics of democracy in Egypt in the post- Cold War period. Objective and hypothesis of the study have been mentioned.

Chapter II: Historical background of Egyptian politics in the post colonial period:

This chapter deals with the history of Egyptian politics. It also deals with the regimes of various presidents of Egypt with their development in favour of Egypt's democracy and when and why some crises were emerged during their regimes.

Chapter III: Models of Democratization in developing countries

This chapter deals with the history, concept, meaning, types and features of democracy. It also deals with the various models of democracy, which are founded in across the world. The challenges of Egyptian democracy have been mentioned.

Chapter IV: Dynamics of democracy in Egypt

This chapter deals with the location, political and historical condition of Egypt and what are the causes of democratic changes in Egypt and what are the nature of spring revolution in Egypt and their challenges.

Chapter V: Democratic Movement in Egypt

This chapter deals with what are causes of democratic movement in Egypt and what are the changing nature of democratic movement and what is the different between democratic movement in during cold war and post cold war in Egypt. It has been also mentioned about achievements after democratic movement in Egypt after Hosni Mubarak regime.

Chapter VI: Dilemma and challenges of democracy in Egypt

This chapter deals with the various dilemma and challenges of Egypt with critically analysis.

Chapter VII: Conclusion and Suggestions

This chapter deals with the validation of Research hypotheses and finding of analysis. After that Some Suggestions have been given to strengthen of democracy in Egypt.

After analysis of all chapters, it is clear that the internal and external factors have been responsible for democracy to take various forms in Egyptian politics. In the post-Cold War era, this perspective was challenged as a result of the findings of

studies examining the ‘third wave’ of democratization and the subsequent growth of ‘good governance’ discourse on the agenda of the global politics. While not basically challenging the traditional hypothesis that privileged the primacy of domestic factors, the new perspective nonetheless attached a more significant role to external factors in the democratization process than was originally thought of. Thus, it is concluded that the international dimensions of the democratization process in Egypt in the post Cold War era; a period that witnessed a noticeable swell of global pressures towards democratization, have played important roles. It also acquired even more significance at the academic and policy-oriented levels in light of the growing internationalization of reform arrangements in the Arab world in the post 9/11 era, and subsequently the greater involvement of external powers in Arab domestic politics following the outbreak of the Arab Spring uprisings in 2011.

Hence, the external factors have played a significant role in Egypt’s democratization process, as well as to analyze the mechanisms of influence and the conditions under which the influence of external factors have been produced; an important dimension that has not satisfactorily been addressed to date. Thus the study leaves ample scope for scholars to take the issue of democratisation in Egyptian politics in future. Democracy is a means and end both. It is a continuous process in which collective efforts by the common people, leadership, civil society and media play role in achieving it. It is true for all states where democracy is in peril and crisis.
