

13 EGY 3 - 13-06-06 Damanhour et coup d'Etat

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http://www.lexpressiondz.com/linformation_en_continue/172665-egypte-39-personnes-arretees-apres-les-affrontements-au-caire.html

Egypte: 39 personnes arrêtées après les affrontements au Caire

Samedi 20 Avril 2013 - Lu 251 fois

La police égyptienne a arrêté 39 personnes au lendemain d'affrontements vendredi au Caire entre islamistes et opposants au président Mohamed Morsi, qui ont fait plus d'une centaine de blessés et durant lesquels des coups de feu ont été échangés, a annoncé une source judiciaire.

Cette source a ajouté que les interrogatoires des suspects avaient débuté samedi, tandis que le ministère de la Santé a annoncé dans un communiqué que 105 personnes avaient été blessées dans ces violences.

Les affrontements ont éclaté vendredi après-midi quand des manifestants anti-Morsi se sont dirigés vers la Cour suprême, où des milliers de Frères musulmans étaient rassemblés pour réclamer une refonte de la justice qu'ils jugent hostile au président islamiste.

Durant ces heurts, les manifestants de l'opposition ont tiré à la chevrotine sur les islamistes puis sur la police anti-émeutes sur l'emblématique place Tahrir du Caire.

Des vidéos mises en ligne sur Youtube ont également montré deux hommes parmi les manifestants islamistes tirant avec ce qui semblait être des armes à feu artisanales.

Vendredi après-midi, les Frères musulmans, dont est issu M. Morsi, à couteaux tirés avec le pouvoir judiciaire, avaient organisé une manifestation alors que le Sénat dominé par les islamistes s'apprêtait à discuter d'un texte ramenant l'âge de la retraite des juges de 70 à 60 ans. Des juges y voient une manoeuvre pour se débarrasser de magistrats hostiles.

En mars, la justice a rejeté un décret de M. Morsi limogeant le procureur général Abdel Meguid Mahmoud, qui avait été nommé par le président déchu Hosni Moubarak.

La présidence de M. Morsi, entamée en juin, a été émaillée d'affrontements meurtriers entre manifestants et policiers et de heurts confessionnels alors que le pays vit dans l'instabilité politique et économique depuis la révolte populaire de début 2011 ayant provoqué la chute du président Hosni Moubarak.

<http://www.eluniverso.com/2013/04/20/1/1361/disturbios-centro-cairo-dejaron-60-heridos.html>

Sábado 20 de abril del 2013 **Internacional**

Disturbios en el centro de El Cairo dejaron 60 heridos

EFE | El Cairo

Opositores

Sesenta personas resultaron heridas ayer, en disturbios en el centro de El Cairo que se iniciaron por choques entre partidarios y opositores de los Hermanos Musulmanes, informó una fuente gubernamental.

Los disturbios comenzaron sobre las 16:00 frente al Tribunal Supremo. Una fuente policial dijo que los opositores eran manifestantes de grupos revolucionarios que estaban en la plaza Tahrir, mientras que la televisión estatal egipcia destacó que también intervinieron grupos de desconocidos.

En la plaza Tahrir estaba convocada una protesta de grupos opositores y revolucionarios contra las políticas del presidente, el islamista Mohamed Mursi, y la Hermandad, pero unas pocas decenas de personas se concentraron.

<http://rt.com/news/egypt-clashes-islamists-protesters-146/>

Some 40 arrested, 115 injured after Egypt clashes

Published time: April 20, 2013 16:45

Edited time: April 20, 2013 22:57

Egyptian police have made almost 40 arrests after clashes between Islamists and their opponents across several governorates, which have left 115 people injured, as both sides exchanged gunfire.

Over 100 of the injuries occurred in Cairo after violence flared up near a Muslim Brotherhood protest.

A further six people were injured after clashes in Alexandria and another four were injured in Daqahleya, Egypt's Daily News reported.

The clashes erupted after opposition activists confronted Islamists who were holding a rally outside the Supreme Court to demand judges, they say are opposed to Egypt's Islamist President Mohamed Morsi, be sacked.

Last month a court overturned a decree by Morsi to sack prosecutor Abdel Meguid Mahmud, who had been appointed by Egypt's former President Mubarak, and replace him with Talaat Abdallah.

A court also overturned Morsi's demand for parliamentary polls this month. They ruled that the president had passed a new electoral law without consulting the constitutional court first. Morsi accepted the court's ruling.

The violence erupted around Tahir Square, the epicenter of mass protests in early 2011 which toppled the long serving president Hosni Mubarak. Opposition activists fired bird shot at Islamists and riot police. Riot police from the Central Security Forces intervened, firing tear gas at protesters.



Anti-government protesters throw stones at Muslim Brotherhood members during clashes near Cairo's Tahrir Square April 19, 2013.(Reuters / Mohamed Abd El Ghany)

An amateur video on Youtube also showed Islamists firing what appeared to be homemade guns, according to AFP.

The Muslim Brotherhood accused masked Black Bloc members of attacking and setting on fire one of its buses. Black Bloc is a term used when protesters use black clothing, such as scarves and ski masks, to conceal their identity.

“Those who masterminded attacks against peaceful demonstrators today are people who are afraid of their legitimate demands. The Egyptian people know well who calls for violence and who calls for achieving the goals and demands of the revolution. All attempts to drag us into violence will not succeed,” a Muslim Brotherhood media spokesman said on the group's website.

A senior member of the Freedom and Justice Party (FJP), Mohamed Al-Beltagy, described the clashes as “*contrived*” and initiated by “*paid thugs*”.

Egypt has been plagued by political instability and violence since Morsi took office in June last year. There have been deadly clashes between protesters and police, sectarian violence, a revolt in the cities on the Suez Canal and a devastating economic crisis. Some fear that Egypt is teetering on the brink of chaos.

http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/fr_fr/noticias/internacional/2013/3/16/personnes-arretees-apres-les-affrontements-Caire,414e14a1-a748-4c9d-bc8b-a8e452eb0efb.html

21/04/13 12:25

Le Caire

39 personnes arrêtées après les affrontements au Caire

Le Caire - La police égyptienne a arrêté 39 personnes au lendemain d'affrontements vendredi dernier, au Caire, entre islamistes et opposants au président Mohamed Morsi, qui ont fait plus d'une centaine de blessés et durant lesquels des coups de feu ont été échangés, a annoncé une source judiciaire.

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http://www.ecuavisa.com/noticias/Internacionales/48680-fuerzas-del-orden-aseguran-que-ya-controlan-los-disturbios-de-el-cairo.html?qt-m_s_le_das_votadas_por_secciones=0

Fuerzas del orden aseguran que ya controlan los disturbios de El Cairo

Miércoles 02 de Mayo de 2012 - 12:13



Fuerzas del orden aseguran que ya controlan los disturbios de El Cairo

La policía y el ejército lograron hoy controlar los disturbios ocurridos en las inmediaciones del Ministerio de Defensa, en el barrio caiota de Abasiya, donde al menos once personas han muerto y setenta han resultado heridas.

Una fuente de los servicios de seguridad dijo a Efe que las fuerzas del orden se han interpuesto entre los "baltaguiya" (agitadores violentos) y los manifestantes, en su mayoría salafistas, que desde la pasada madrugada se enfrentan en los alrededores de la sede ministerial.

Aun así, todavía estallan de vez en cuando choques aislados en los que ambos bandos se lanzan piedras, dijo la fuente.

La televisión egipcia mostró imágenes de la batalla campaña esta mañana en el barrio de Abasiya, en las que se veía hogueras y el humo de los gases lacrimógenos.

También había grupos de personas que arrojaban piedras e incluso otras que lanzaban objetos desde las azoteas de los edificios.

Los disturbios se originaron la pasada madrugada en las cercanías del Ministerio, escenario desde el pasado viernes de una sentada en la que participan seguidores del jeque salafista Hazem Abu Ismail, que protestan contra la decisión de la Comisión Electoral de rechazar su candidatura a las elecciones presidenciales, y jóvenes que piden la renuncia de la Junta Militar.

Los incidentes ocurren a menos de tres semanas de que se celebren comicios presidenciales en Egipto, los primeros de este tipo desde el derrocamiento del régimen de Hosni Mubarak en febrero de 2011.

Dos candidatos islamistas, el moderado Abdelmoneim Abul Futuh y Mohamed Mursi, este último de los Hermanos Musulmanes, han suspendido hoy sus campañas electorales en protesta por los disturbios.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/71613/Egypt/0/More-political-parties-join-antiMorsi-petition-cam.aspx>

More political parties join anti-Morsi petition campaign

Egypt's Constitution and Al-Wafd parties, along with other political groups, join the 'Rebel' campaign, opens all its offices to collect signatures of no-confidence in President Mohamed Morsi

Ahram Online, Thursday 16 May 2013

Member of the public signs a confidence-withdrawal form (Photo: Ahram)

Egypt's prominent political forces continue to announce their backing of the recently launched anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaign, giving a fresh momentum to the defiant initiative.

Egypt's Constitution Party, founded by democracy advocate Mohamed ElBaradei, announced on Thursday its official and "full" support of the petition movement that seeks to collect signatures in favour of a vote of no-confidence in the administration of President Mohamed Morsi.

Officially launched on 1 May, the group said it has collected more than two million signatures in the first 10 days.

In a Thursday statement, the Constitution Party asserted its volunteering members have been at the forefront of the initiative.

"The party plans to open all its offices to the signature-collecting process as well as any other activities, which will help bolster the movement," read the statement.

Al-Wafd Party was also among the most prominent backers of the signature drive. The party also announced it will utilise its offices in holding the campaign's activities.

The April 6 Youth Movement, a powerful actor in Egypt's political scene and a leading force behind the 2011 revolution, had earlier joined the campaign.

April 6 spokesman Khaled El-Masry asserted in recent comments that the new signature drive represented a "peaceful, forward-thinking and democratic means by which to oppose the current regime and reveal the extent of its [declining] popularity among the Egyptian public."

The initiative seeks to collect 15 million signatures in support of a vote of no-confidence in Morsi; outnumbering the 13.2 million votes Morsi won in Egypt's first-ever free presidential polls last year, in which he narrowly beat Mubarak-era Prime Minister Ahmed Shafiq.

Organisers say the petition will eventually be submitted to the country's state prosecutor to follow necessary legal actions.

The campaign hopes to conclude with a million-strong rally outside the presidential palace in Cairo's Heliopolis district to demand snap presidential elections.

<http://www.europapress.es/internacional/noticia-multitudinaria-protesta-contra-mursi-concluye-disturbios-cerca-plaza-tahrir-20130518011231.html>

Entre la Policía y un grupo de jóvenes

Una multitudinaria protesta contra Mursi concluye en disturbios cerca de la plaza Tahrir

EL CAIRO, 18 May. (Reuters/EP) -

Una multitudinaria protesta contra el presidente de Egipto, Mohamed Mursi, ha concluido este sábado en disturbios cerca de la plaza de Tahrir, en El Cairo, entre la Policía y una veintena de manifestantes, según han informado medios locales.

Las fuerzas de seguridad han respondido con bombas de gas lacrimógeno al lanzamiento de piedras y cócteles molotov por parte de un grupo de jóvenes. La Policía ha arrestado a varias personas, según la agencia estatal de noticias, MENA.

Varios miles de personas han secundado una protesta convocada por la plataforma "rebelde" lanzada este mes en pos de "retirar la confianza" a Mursi y forzar unas elecciones presidenciales anticipadas.

Los manifestantes han prendido fuego a varios neumáticos y han bloqueado una calle y el puente de Kasr el Nile con fogatas, según ha informado el diario egipcio 'Al Ahram'.

En los últimos meses se han registrado altercados de forma intermitente entre grupos de manifestantes y las fuerzas de seguridad en las inmediaciones del hotel Semiramis, próximo a la plaza Tahrir.

Esta plataforma "rebelde" dice haber recabado alrededor de dos millones de firmas a favor de la convocatoria de elecciones presidenciales anticipadas, en el marco de un contexto político polarizado entre los partidarios y detractores del presidente Mursi, tras dos años de inestabilidad política y económica.

<http://www.omantribune.com/index.php?page=news&id=144415&heading=Middle%20East>
19 mai 2013

Cops fire tear gas to disperse anti-Mursi protesters

CAIRO Demonstrators calling for Egypt's Islamist President Mohamed Mursi to resign and demanding early elections clashed with riot police in Cairo late on Friday.

Hundreds of people had marched on Cairo's Tahrir Square on Friday for the protest, called by a number of opposition groups.

The demonstrators, most of them teenagers, threw molotov cocktails at the police who replied with volleys of tear gas cannisters, but there were no reports of casualties.

The clashes took place near Cairo's Tahrir Square, the symbolic heart of the opposition movement that brought down president Hosni Mubarak in February 2011.

Earlier on Friday, marches had begun in various parts of the capital with the aim of converging on Tahrir Square.

At the head of one march people were carrying two large banners, one reading "an early presidential election" and the other "a unifying constitution for Egypt".

Marchers from the Tamarod (rebellion) campaign, which claims to have garnered more than two million signatures demanding that Mursi resign, collected more names from people along the route.

Before the clashes, state media said security had been beefed up around the interior ministry, close to Tahrir Square, as it has been the scene of violent confrontations in the past. The protest was called by groups including the Al Dustur party of former UN atomic watchdog chief Mohamed ElBaradei and the April 6 movement that spearheaded the 2011 uprising to oust then president Mubarak.

The opposition accuses Mursi of governing only in the interests of his Muslim Brotherhood, while he insists he is the "president of all Egyptians".

Agence France-Presse

http://www.prensa-latina.cu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&idioma=1&id=1447461&Itemid=1

Disturbios en Egipto provocan despliegue de fuerzas de seguridad

El Cairo, 25 may (PL) Las fuerzas de seguridad egipcias están desplegadas hoy en el centro de la ciudad norteña de Alejandría tras disturbios protagonizados por seguidores del equipo de fútbol local que se extendieron hasta la madrugada.

Los manifestantes recorrieron varias calles y destruyeron seis vehículos de la Policía, acorde con precisiones de medios oficiales.

Miembros de los Ultra Águilas Verdes, como se hacen llamar los parciales del equipo Masry (Egipcios, árabe), rival impenitente de El Ahly (Nacional), de esta capital, marcharon por la ciudad en demanda de la excarcelación de sus miembros detenidos desde enero pasado.

Violentos disturbios, en los cuales murieron unas 50 personas, sacudieron Alejandría en enero pasado tras el fallo de un tribunal que condenó a muerte a 21 miembros de los Águilas Verdes acusados de la matanza de 74 seguidores de Al Ahly el año pasado.

Del resto de los 74 encartados, además de los 21 condenados a la horca, 28 fueron absueltos, cinco a cadena perpetua y el resto a sentencias de entre 10 y 15 años de reclusión.

lac/msl

<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/News/2706.aspx>

Issue 1149, 23 - 29 May 2013

EGYPT

Tamarod to nowhere

Politics abhors a vacuum. But the Rebellion signature campaign that seeks to topple Morsi offers no viable alternatives, writes Amira Howeidy
Al-Ahram Weekly

In the chaotic conditions of post-revolution Egypt few solutions to the country's mounting crises are on offer. The *Tamarod* — or Rebellion — movement, which is petitioning to force early presidential elections, is no exception to the rule.

The movement, which appeared to surface from nowhere, has been making the news with claims it has collected more than three million signatures in less than two weeks. According to the movement's spokespeople, the target is to collect 15 million signatures by 30 June and thus outnumber the votes by which Mohamed Morsi was elected president, and on his first anniversary in office.

Tamarod's May Wahba says the plan is to then file a lawsuit against Morsi for "impersonating" Egypt's president. She fully expects the case to be accepted and referred to the Supreme Constitutional Court (SCC) which will rule to annul Morsi's presidency and call for early presidential elections. In the interim the SCC's head will be Egypt's acting president.

Wahba, who says she is affiliated with the pre-revolution anti-Hosni Mubarak movement Kifaya, insists the plan is not only constitutional but achievable. She cites those sections of “the constitution” which stipulate that the people are the source of all power. “So if the people provide evidence that they want early presidential elections then that’s definitely constitutional. We have consulted legal specialists so we know.”

But the legality of Tamarod’s plan is based on Article 84 of the defunct 1971 constitution which stipulates that the parliamentary speaker should temporarily replace the president if the latter is unable to carry out his duties or, should parliament be dissolved, the head of the SCC. Article 153 of the new constitution, approved by referendum last December, stipulates that it is the prime minister who takes over.

The buzz the movement has created clearly has little to do with watertight constitutional arguments.

Anti-Morsi protests denouncing the president’s government and the Muslim Brotherhood, the group from which he hails, quickly became fixated on terminating Morsi’s rule rather than competing with it. Initially there was some hesitation about openly demanding Morsi be removed from power but this has changed in the last five months, thanks largely to the president’s lacklustre performance.

Anti-Morsi protests found their way to the presidential palace in November after the president issued a constitutional declaration that placed him above the law. The protests turned bloody when Morsi’s supporters appeared on the scene. Violence resurfaced in January when defendants in the Port Said football stadium case were sentenced to death. For several days the authorities appeared to lose control of the canal city. Clashes subsequently spread to Cairo as the presidential palace once again became the focus of violent demonstrations.

By February calls for civil disobedience were gaining momentum in several provinces, most notably in Port Said where they were hailed, and often exaggerated, by the opposition. The momentum soon dissipated between a host of competing aims. Some wanted to overthrow Morsi. Others were demanding better wages, reform of the security apparatus, an overhaul of public services, the addressing of unemployment and action to halt the collapse of the economy.

Tamarod’s initiative is a far cry from the Molotov-throwing protests whose violence turned off so many. The movement’s claim it has collected three million signatures might be an exaggeration; in the absence of any independent transparent check it is impossible to tell. Tamarod’s petition takes the form of A4 photocopied sheets of paper without serial numbers. Each sheet briefly explains the aim of the petition and has four fields for the name and ID number of signatories. There is also a website which allows for electronic signing though it fails to detail the number of signatures.

It is, concedes anti-Morsi signatory Khaled Salah, essentially a “symbolic” protest. “I’m mad at the system, at Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood and I want them to know it, that’s all,” he says.

Tamarod’s Facebook page, helped along by press and TV outlets opposed to Morsi, has given much attention to the spectacle of celebrities, politicians, activists and laypeople signing and posing with the form. That the Morsi-appointed prosecutor-general has now ordered an

investigation into claims that TV hosts and Tamarod spokespeople are seeking to topple the regime and overthrow the constitution shows the extent to which the movement has caught officials on the back foot. Ironically, the same vague charges used to be pressed against the Muslim Brotherhood during Hosni Mubarak's three-decade rule.

Most recently the kidnapping of security personnel in Sinai has overshadowed the debate about Tamarod's appeal to both pro- and anti-revolution forces, though it can have come as no surprise when Ahmed Shafik, Mubarak's last prime minister and Morsi's presidential election rival, signed Tamarod's form. Shafik's signature provoked some pro-revolution activists, like leftist Wael Khalil, to complain about the way those who are against the Brotherhood but support — and fought for — the revolution are being grouped with those who want to restore the old regime.

“I want to bring Morsi down because of his anti-revolution posturing and because I want to continue the revolution,” says Khalil, “but this isn't compatible with an alliance with counter-revolution forces who want to overthrow the existing regime in order to replace it.”

Whatever the signature count, one thing the petition campaign is doing is throwing light on the existential dilemma facing opposition forces.

Focussing solely on ousting Morsi in the absence of a revolutionary leadership capable of offering any viable alternative recalls the way Mubarak was overthrown, only for protesters to find themselves ruled by the military, and the way the military was itself replaced by the only organised political group, the Muslim Brotherhood.

Polls show a decline in Morsi's and the Brotherhood's popularity but it is not as if the opposition National Salvation Front is picking up support. Anti-Morsi forces who don't relate to the opposition's current leadership say they feel betrayed by the absence of any alternatives.

“Tamarod is not enough,” proclaims a widely circulated blog post by Amr Al-Deeb, an Egyptian based in Canada. “To fill the void left by an ousted regime, revolutionary forces need clear principles and objectives that can be realised.” At best, adds Al-Deeb, Tamarod will only create a new void. “The problem is in filling it”.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/72693/Egypt/0/Egypt-antiMorsi-Rebel-campaign-An-inside-look.aspx>

Egypt's anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaign: An inside look

Founders of Egypt's 'Rebel' signature drive against President Morsi provide inside look at campaign's rationale and ultimate objectives

Osman El Sharnoubi, Wednesday 29 May 2013

Man and his family stops in Cairo's downtown streets to sign 'Rebel' petition (Photo: Mai Shaheen)

Founders of Egypt's 'Rebel' campaign, a newly established movement that aims to withdraw confidence from President Mohamed Morsi by collecting citizens' signatures, spoke at an open forum on Tuesday to discuss the campaign, which has recently gone viral online and on the streets.

'Rebel' campaigners hope to collect 15 million signatures and hold a mass sit-in on 30 June – marking the end of Morsi's first year as president – to call for snap presidential elections and force Morsi out of office.

They appear confident that voters will not choose a Muslim Brotherhood candidate – or one associated with the former regime – this time around, but rather one representing Egypt's 2011 revolution.

Lawyer Mohamed Abdel-Aziz, who opened the discussion, which was hosted by the Revolutionary Socialists at the Centre for Socialist Studies in Giza, talked about the reasons behind the campaign's launch.

If Morsi looks into a mirror

Abdel-Aziz believes that the Muslim Brotherhood, the group from which Morsi hails, along with his government, are perpetuating what Egyptians revolted against when they ousted Hosni Mubarak in 2011, necessitating a continuation of the revolution and Morsi's overthrow.

“Mubarak was a dictator and now Morsi is trying to be one, and failing at it,” Abdel-Aziz said. He pointed in particular to the famous incident in which the president declared a curfew in the cities of the Suez Canal and was met with nightly protests at which demonstrators organised football matches in front of the provincial governor's office.

Mubarak was partial to businessmen and the rich and Morsi is following in his footsteps, said Abdel-Aziz, comparing prominent Mubarak-era businessman/politician Ahmed Ezz to Muslim Brotherhood deputy head Khairat El-Shater, often considered the brains behind the Brotherhood.

Mubarak squandered Egypt's national independence by serving US and Israeli policy in the region, Abdel-Aziz continued, and Morsi is steadfastly following Washington's instructions and has failed to break Mubarak's friendly relations with Israel.

“Morsi is selling the same merchandise that Mubarak sold, only, in his term, there's an Islamic label on it,” said Abdel-Aziz. He added that, were Morsi to shave his beard and look into a mirror, he would “see Mubarak staring back at him.”

This is why Abdel-Aziz rejects the polarisation of Egyptian politics into Islamist vs. civil or secular. He maintains that Egyptians should be against Morsi not because he's an Islamist but due to his politics, which are the same as those of the former regime.

“Our problem with Morsi is that he strayed from the goals set out in Tahrir Square,” Abdel-Aziz went on, referring to Cairo's premier protest venue in which hundreds of thousands congregated in early 2011 to demand Mubarak's ouster.

“We are rebelling to achieve national independence, freedom and social justice,” said Hassan Shaheen, one of the campaign's founders, asserting that the current government had strayed well away from these goals.

Taking revolution to the streets

One of the main obstacles in the way of the revolution is that it failed to reach the mass of Egyptians, the poor and marginalised who have the most interest in the revolution's success, 'Rebel' campaigners believe.

“‘Rebel’ forms are now available with street vendors, at bakeries, at grocery stores and at kiosks,” said Shaheen, adding that, instead of people hearing about protests and demonstrations via the media, they now represent their own popular media, inviting each other to revolt in their homes and workplaces and the streets.

The rationale behind ‘Rebel’ is to move the revolution from the squares in which demonstrations are held to society at large, said Abdel-Aziz.

Abdel-Aziz highlighted what he views as a general inclination by a large number of Egyptians for stability instead of the instability associated with revolution. He recalls Mubarak's second speech during the 2011 uprising, when he won the sympathy of large swathes of the public.

Despite this, the revolutionary momentum remained intact and ultimately led to Mubarak's ouster, he says. Abdel-Aziz asserts that the ‘Rebel’ campaign can counteract the seeming contradiction between a revolution – and the inevitable sacrifices associated with it – and a society plagued with economic burdens that force it to seek 'stability.'

“Now, small electricians' shops carry signs reading ‘Rebel forms available,’ while kiosk owners ask patrons to sign the form,” he said. Examples like these, Abdel-Aziz says, show that the average citizen is proactive in revolting against the government – something that official opposition groups have failed at so far.

‘Rebel’ and the opposition

While the founders of ‘Rebel’ are critical of the way Egypt's political opposition has operated thus far, they nonetheless see themselves as part and parcel of it.

“We are part of the opposition; we don't separate what we do from the struggles of other opposition movements and parties,” said Mahmoud Badr, one of the campaign founders who attended the forum.

Badr maintains that his disagreement with how the opposition has dealt with the Morsi administration has not created a barrier between them.

While he criticised how the National Salvation Front (NSF) – Egypt's most comprehensive opposition umbrella group – had dealt with the current government, he noted how other opposition groups had recognised the ‘Rebel’ campaign's potential and opened their headquarters for the collection of signatures.

“‘Rebel’ was established to bridge the gap between the Egyptian street and the political opposition,” Shaheen said – a longstanding failure on the part of the opposition that the campaign's founders felt they needed to address.

Commenting on whether the movement would be affected by the opposition's perceived rigidity, Badr called on Egyptians to hold 'Rebel' campaigners responsible if they confined

themselves to the offices of Mohamed ElBaradei and Hamdeen Sabbahi – both NSF figureheads – and fail to campaign in the streets of Egypt.

30 June

Campaign founders insist that their decision to call for snap presidential elections at June's planned mass demonstration was realistic.

“We knew that in order to reach people we must present a clear-cut demand that appeals to them. We ultimately decided that calling for early presidential elections was the best way to go,” Abdel-Aziz said.

He went on to explain that other ways by which a revolution can rule, such as forming a 'revolutionary council' that overtakes power in a radical way, aren't accepted by most Egyptians.

The group of founders decided that a peaceful and democratic form of protest was what would be accepted by the average Egyptian, and represent the best way to “rooting the revolution” in Egyptian society.

Campaigners hope that a mass demonstration and ensuing sit-in will start at the presidential palace on 30 June with the support of the large number of people who had signed the 'Rebel' petition.

“If two or three million people gather, they would have the support of the other 12 million who signed the petition but remain at home,” said Badr.

As for speculation as to the campaign's legality, Badr doesn't seem very concerned. The crux of the matter, he says, “is that people come down to support the millions of voices against Morsi.”

“What does it matter if it's legal or not if the current regime tramples the law time and again,” he said, asking whether Morsi's controversial constitutional declaration in November – which had shielded him from judicial oversight – was legal.

If the ruler doesn't abide by the law, said Badr, it is the custom of revolution to impose its own.

“After 30 June [which campaign founders repeatedly refer to as 'the beginning of the end' of Morsi's rule], we will impose revolutionary law,” he concluded.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-22745568>

Egypt's Shura Council and constitution panel 'invalid'

2 June 2013

Egypt's top court has ruled that the upper house, or Shura Council, and a panel that drafted the new constitution are invalid.

The Supreme Constitutional Court ruled that the laws governing the election of members of the Islamist-dominated Shura Council and the constitutional panel were illegal.

But the court said the Shura would only be dissolved after new elections.

Egypt has faced a string of court cases challenging official institutions.

High security

Islamist President Mohammed Morsi had established the 100-member constitutional panel to draw up the new document.

The constitution was adopted by a nationwide vote in December.

It was unclear what effect the ruling would have on the legitimacy of the constitution.

The Supreme Constitutional Court had ruled last year that the electoral law under which both houses of parliament were elected was invalid, prompting its dissolution.

The Shura Council was then given legislative powers by the constitutional panel.

Mr Morsi's Freedom and Justice party, the Muslim Brotherhood's political wing, holds 42% of the Shura Council's seats and can easily gain a majority with support from conservative allies.

Opponents say the president has used the council to rush through an Islamist agenda and laws that have too many loopholes.

In the latest ruling, the presiding judge, Maher al-Beheiry, said the Shura Council should remain until the election of a new parliament. A date has yet to be set for elections.

There was high security at the court building in southern Cairo ahead of the latest ruling.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/5/35/73249/Arts--Culture/Stage--Street/-Artists-break-into-Egypt-culture-ministry-buildi.aspx>

Artists break into Egypt's culture ministry building, declare sit-in

Dozens of protesting artists stage open-ended sit-in at Egypt's culture ministry building in Cairo until Minister Alaa Abdel-Aziz is removed

Mohammed Saad and Sara Elkamel, Wednesday 5 Jun 2013



The Ministry of Culture in Zamalek. (Photo: Mohammed Saad)

Dozens of prominent artists and intellectuals have broken into Egypt's Ministry of Culture in Cairo's Zamalek district, declaring an open-ended sit-in inside the building until Minister Alaa Abdel-Aziz is replaced.

The protesters include novelists Bahaa Taher and Son'allah Ibrahim, film director Khaled Yousef, and figures from the cinema industry, Galal El-Sharkawy, Fardos Abdel-Hamid, and Sameh El-Seriety.

The artists also released a handwritten statement strongly condemning the newly-appointed Minister of Culture Alaa Abdel-Aziz.

Scriptwriter Mohamed El-Adl, actors Mahmoud Kabil and Nabil El-Helfawy, and visual artist Mohamed Abla were among approximately 30 artists who broke into the ministry.

El-Helfawy told the press that artists cannot stay silent and ignore the current attack on Egyptian culture.

"The intellectuals, writers and artists inside the ministry announce their rejection of the minister, appointed by the religious fascist regime, who has embarked on his plan to destroy national culture," read the statement.

"They [protesting artists] declare that they will not accept the presence of a minister that does not fulfil the aspirations of intellectuals to cultivate a culture that lives up to the hopes of the great revolution since it started on 25 January 2011 and achieves its goals."

Protesting artists have declared an open-ended sit-in until the position is filled by someone who supports and works towards "enshrining values of diversity, citizenship and cultural richness, which were hallmarks of Egyptian culture across the ages."

Other artists participating in the sit-in inside the ministry include Galal El-Sharkawy, Khaled Yousef, Soheir El-Morshedy, and poet Sayed Hegab.

Meanwhile, supporters of the minister gathered outside and constructed a stage from which they chanted in his favour. Outside the ministry building, artists chanted against the minister, saying they would wait for Minister Alaa Abdel-Aziz to arrive.

On 2 June, protesting artists surrounded the front and back exits of the ministry, keeping Abdel-Aziz trapped inside the building until 7:30pm.

The current crisis in Egypt's cultural scene started on 28 May when the culture minister fired the heads of Cairo Opera House and Fine Arts Sector.

Artists from Cairo Opera House and Fine Arts Sector held protests outside the Opera House, which led to an on-stage protest at a performance of Aida and a three-day halt of performances.

On 1 June, the Cairo Symphony Orchestra was scheduled to perform with world-renowned pianist Ramzi Yassa. However, the artists announced a continuation of their strike and intention to march to the culture ministry on 2 June to demand his resignation.

Outraged artists accuse the minister of executing a Muslim Brotherhood agenda to Islamise Egyptian culture and reforming Egypt's national identity.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/73413/Egypt/Politics/-injured-in-pro-and-antiBrotherhood-clashes-in-Egy.aspx>

24 injured in pro and anti-Brotherhood clashes in Egypt's Damanhour

Brotherhood supporters and opponents clash in Egypt's Nile Delta while honouring the death of the revolution's icon

Ahram Online, Friday 7 Jun 2013

At least 24 were injured on Thursday night in clashes between supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood - which dominate governmental positions, including the presidency - and opposition activists in the central Al-Saa Square in the northern Nile Delta city of Damanhour.

Before the clashes started, activists were marking the anniversary of the death of Egypt's revolution icon Khaled Said as well as protesting the newly-appointed culture minister - accused of following Brotherhood orders to "Islamise" the culture sector - in front of the Creativity Centre.

The violence reportedly erupted after Brotherhood members held bats and allegedly barred activists from entering the lawyers' syndicate close to the Creativity Centre. The two later pelted each other with rocks.

Police fired tear gas in an attempt to break up the crowd, leaving dozens injured, including police officers.

Thursday marked the third anniversary of the murder of Khaled Said, beaten to death allegedly by police officers on 6 June 2010. A photograph his brother took of Said on the autopsy table with his face mutilated almost beyond recognition went viral online and was argued to be one of the reasons that sparked the January 25 Revolution, which ousted autocratic president Hosni Mubarak.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/73434/Egypt/Politics-/Brotherhood-MP-denounces-attack-on-his-home-in-Egy.aspx>

Brotherhood MP denounces attack on his home in Egypt's Damanhour

Member of the upper house Shura Council Gamal Heshmat's house in the Nile Delta city of Damanhour is attacked following clashes between opposition and Brotherhood activists

Ahram Online , Friday 7 Jun 2013

Heshmat's Damanhour residence facade damaged (Photo: Ahram Arabic news website)

Tens of protesters attempted to storm the house of the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party MP Gamal Heshmat in the Nile Delta city of Damanhour, in the governorate of Beheira.

According to Al-Ahram daily website, a group of protesters attacked the front gate of Heshmat's home and damaged his car amid a complete absence of security forces.

In a statement to Al-Ahram's Arabic news website, Heshmat said the attack reflects a dangerous transformation in Egypt's political climate, saying that if no one responds such attacks will become normal in the future.

He accused Rebel campaigners and 'members of political parties' of conducting the attack with the help of 'thugs'.

The leading Brotherhood figure said that the assailants threw rocks at the house as he he was spending the day with his family at home.

Heshmat said the response from police was slow as the attack lasted 45 minutes before the authorities showed up.

"It will be easy from now on for anyone having a disagreement with any political personality to hire thugs to attack their home," he said.

The attack comes only hours after clashes between supporters of the ruling Muslim Brotherhood and opposition activists in Damanhour broke out on Thursday leaving 24 injured.

Al-Ahram reported that opposition activists demonstrated Friday against Thursday's incident accusing the Brotherhood of instigating the clashes.

After the demonstration ended, some of the protesters attacked Heshmat's house destroying the gate.

Opposition activists were demonstrating Thursday to commemorate the death of Egypt's revolution icon Khaled Said, who was allegedly beaten to death by police officers on 6 June 2010.

The Freedom and Justice Party website said two activists working on the Rebel campaign against President Mohamed Morsi were arrested for the attack on Heshmat's house, calling them members of the 'Rebel' "militia".

Rebel is a signature collecting campaign aiming to withdraw confidence from Morsi and calling for early presidential elections.

Rebel's headquarters was torched early Friday by unknown assailants. Rebel formally accused leading members of the ruling group, including President Morsi, of inciting the attack.

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2013/06/07/307633/one-killed-in-fresh-egypt-clashes/>

One killed in fresh Egypt clashes



Clashes have erupted between anti-government protesters and supporters of Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt. (File photo)
Fri Jun 7, 2013 9:37AM GMT

At least one person has been killed and more than 20 others injured in clashes between supporters of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood and anti-government protesters in the northern town of Damanhour.

The clashes broke out on Thursday between members of the Brotherhood and the Youth Revolutionary Forces in the al-Sa'aa square.

Security forces fired tear gas to disperse the two groups.

Anti-government demonstrators staged another protest outside the city's Creativity Center near the Egyptian lawyers' syndicate office.

On June 2, Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi stated that he reinstated the Senate, known as Shura Council, after the country's Supreme Constitutional Court ruled that the Senate and the panel that drafted the constitution were illegally elected and must be dissolved.

The lower house of the parliament, dominated by Muslim Brotherhood lawmakers, was dissolved by a military decision in line with a ruling by the same court prior to the presidential election in June 2012.

No date has been set for the parliamentary elections, but President Morsi had previously hinted that the vote could be held in October 2013.

GMA/HSN

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/73390/Egypt/0/AntiMorsi-petition-Rebel-Campaign-office-set-on-fi.aspx>

Anti-Morsi petition Rebel Campaign office set on fire

Unknown assailants set Rebel Campaign headquarters on fire, threatening to burn their petitions to remove confidence from President Morsi

Ahram Online, Friday 7 Jun 2013

Office of 'Rebel' set on fire (Photo courtesy of Rebel campaign Facebook page)

Unknown assailants set on fire the anti-Morsi Rebel Campaign headquarters in Cairo's downtown district in the early hours of Friday, Al Ahram Arabic news website reports.

Assailants threw Molotov cocktails at the office, the group posted on its official Facebook page immediately after the attack.

The Rebel Campaign aims to force early presidential elections by gathering 15 million anti-Morsi signatures to outnumber the 13.2 votes that got him into office in June 2012.

Supporters of President Morsi charge that the Rebel campaign is anti-democratic as it attempts to prevent the elected president from finishing his 4-year term.

Campaign organisers expected only limited damages to the petition forms since members and volunteers managed to put out the fire.

Police arrived at the scene shortly after.

Campaign Spokesman Hassan Shahin sustained burns to his arm as he attempted to contain the fire, the group said.

Organisers said the group has received threats of physical harm from Islamist presidential supporters in recent days.

Shortly after the attack started, the group urged on its Facebook account for its campaigners and volunteers to rescue the office, where hundreds of thousands of petition forms are stored.

"Their attempts to intimidate rebels will only strengthen their determination to bring down the regime and press on with the revolution," Shahin declared early on Friday.

Rebel campaigners have been subject to a series of intimidation attacks, physical assaults and brief arrests and abductions throughout the past two weeks.

In a similar incident, the Free Egyptians Party headquarters in Cairo's Al-Zaher district was attacked, allegedly by President Morsi allies on Sunday and a number petition forms there were stolen.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/73601/Egypt/0/Egypt%E2%80%99s-Rebel-Campaign-demands-security-protect--J.aspx>

Egypt's Rebel Campaign demands security protect 30 June protests

Anti-Morsi petition campaigners insist on taking to the streets on 30 June to demand early elections in spite of alleged Brotherhood threats and assaults

Ahram Online , Monday 10 Jun 2013

The Anti-Morsi Rebel Campaign reaffirms on Sunday its commitment to peaceful protests scheduled for 30 June and demands that security forces protect the demonstrations.

The statement denounced recent alleged threats issued by President Mohamed Morsi supporters, asserting that the threats will not stop people from taking to the street to demand early presidential elections.

Rebel Campaign members have been complaining that members of Islamist groups or their supporters have been threatening them with bodily harm or have actually physically assaulted them.

On Saturday the campaign accused Muslim Brotherhood members of attacking their peaceful rally in Mansoura in the Nile Delta, injuring four, including one who was allegedly stabbed by the cousin of the Brotherhood Mufti.

The Rebel Campaign aims to force early presidential elections by gathering 15 million anti-Morsi signatures to outnumber the 13.2 million votes that got Brotherhood-fielded Morsi into office in June 2012.

Rebel organisers announced last week that they have collected seven million petitions since they launched the campaign in early May.

To counter the anti-Morsi Rebel petition, Abdel-Meguid, a member of Gamaa Islamiya, along with Islamist powers in the country, launched a pro-Morsi campaign "Impartiality" on 12 May.

On 2 June, Islamist groups announced that the initiative had managed to collect two million signatures supporting President Mohamed Morsi.

On Friday, the Rebel Campaign headquarters in downtown Cairo was torched by unknown assailants, causing limited damage to the petitions collected.

Campaign members filed a complaint against President Morsi, Muslim Brotherhood Supreme Guide Mohamed Badie; his deputy Khairat El-Shater; the secretary general of the Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party; Islamist activist Ahmed El-Mogheir and a leading member of Gamaa Islamiya, Assem Abdel-Maged, accusing them of being behind the arsonist attack.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/73716/Egypt/0/Police-wont-protect-Brotherhood-HQ-on--June-Interi.aspx>

Police won't protect Brotherhood HQ on 30 June: Interior minister

Only state institutions will be protected by police during planned mass protests marking anniversary of President Morsi's inauguration

Ahram Online , Tuesday 11 Jun 2013



File photo: Muslim Brotherhood supporters chant pro-Mursi slogans in front of the Brotherhood's main headquarters in Cairo March 22, 2013. (Photo: Reuters)

Police will only protect state institutions, not the Muslim Brotherhood headquarters, during opposition protests on 30 June, Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim said on Tuesday.

The presidential guard is the only force responsible for protecting the presidential palace, Ibrahim added, but police will offer support if requested.

The palace has witnessed a number of clashes between supporters and opponents of President Mohamed Morsi. The worst outbreak of violence, on 5 December 2012, killed at least 10 and injured more than 600.

Police will not guard the Muslim Brotherhood HQ, which also witnessed protests and violence the past few months, or those of other political parties, Ibrahim stated.

The Rebel (*tamarod*) campaign has accused the interior ministry of failing to protect its headquarters in downtown Cairo which was torched on Friday.

Minister Ibrahim said police would not stop protests on 30 June, but was silent on whether they would protect opposition 'Rebel' supporters from pro-Morsi groups who have decided to stage counter rallies.

Assem Abdel-Maged, a leading member of Egypt's ultra-conservative Al-Jamaa Al-Islamiya movement, had earlier said that "there is no limit to what might be done to protect the legitimacy [of the president] and the state."

The Rebel campaign, a signature drive launched in May with the intention of "withdrawing confidence" from Morsi by collecting 15 million citizens' endorsements, has called for mass protests on 30 June to demand Morsi's ouster.

Late in May, the campaign announced collecting seven million endorsements.

Citing Egypt's increasingly dire economic situation, the Rebel campaign has called for nationwide protests to coincide with the end of Morsi's first year as president on 30 June.

Morsi, who hails from the Muslim Brotherhood, was elected last year in Egypt's first post-Mubarak presidential elections.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/73949/Egypt/0/Alexandrias-Rebel-Campaign-to-continue-on-Friday-d.aspx>

Alexandria's Rebel Campaign to continue on Friday despite clashes

Anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaigners intend to collect signatures Friday in same area of Alexandria despite clashes occurred with Muslim Brotherhood members

Ahram Online , Thursday 13 Jun 2013

An Egyptian activist distributes petitions for "Tamarod", Arabic for "rebel", a campaign calling for the ouster of Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi and for early presidential elections during a protest in Tahrir Square, in Cairo, Egypt, Friday, May 24, 2013 (Photo: AP)

Spokesman for the anti-Morsi Rebel Campaign in Alexandria Khaled El-Kady asserted on Thursday that the movement's activists will campaign in the same location as Wednesday's clashes with Muslim Brotherhood members.

Wednesday's violence began in the coastal city's Raml district where Rebel campaigners were collecting signatures for the anti-Morsi petition.

Both Rebel activists and Brotherhood members threw rocks, which led to 17 people injured, including residents of the area, according to spokesmen from both sides.

Khaled El-Kady said the Brotherhood's "attack" on campaign organisers will not deter them from their goal, insisting that Rebel supporters will continue their campaign in full force, reported Al-Ahram Arabic-language news website.

Both sides exchanged blame regarding which group initiated the attack.

Brotherhood spokesperson Anas El-Kady said its members were assaulted by Rebel campaigners. He claimed it was an early "start to violence," in reference to opposition protests planned for 30 June; the anniversary of the president's inauguration.

Rebel leaders have stressed that 30 June protests – a mass demonstration to be held at the presidential palace – will be peaceful and have called on the Ministry of Interior to protect demonstrators.

Rebel leading member Khaled El-Kady claimed the clashes on Wednesday began when its members were attacked by Islamists using bludgeons and bladed weapons.

Brotherhood members smashed projector screens where the film 'Liars Under the Name of Religion' was to be screened, Khaled El-Kady told Al-Ahram Arabic-language news website.

Khaled El-Kady said the anti-Brotherhood documentary will be screened on Friday in Raml district in downtown Alexandria. He also called on activists and residents to support the campaign and attend early on Friday.

"The Brotherhood has been patient with such groups of thugs, abiding by its peaceful principles and refusing to be dragged into violence by the so-called civil, democratic groups," Anas El-Kady said.

Anas El-Kady claimed Rebel had been engaged in violence before under the name of Black Bloc, an anti-government youth group.

Rebel aims to collect 15 million signatures in support of a vote of no confidence in President Mohamed Morsi, to outnumber the 13.2 votes he won in last year's presidential election. It had collected more than seven million signatures by late May.

Members of Rebel have been subject to intimidation, physical assaults, brief arrests and abductions since the group's inception. Last Friday, unknown assailants set fire to its headquarters in downtown Cairo.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/73979/Egypt/Culture-ministry-sitin-continues-for-tenth-day.aspx>

Culture ministry sit-in continues for tenth day

Tahrir Square Imam Mazhar Shaheen, journalist Farida El-Shobeishy, director Aly Badrakhan, Judge Tahany El-Gebal join sit-in calling for dismissal of Minister of Culture
Ahrum Online, Friday 14 Jun 2013



Egypt's Ministry of Culture in Zamalek district (Photo: Mohammed Saad)

Filmmakers, writers, intellectuals and activists continued their sit-in at the Ministry of Culture for a tenth day on Friday.

The protesters are calling for the dismissal of Culture Minister Alaa Abdel-Aziz.

Tahrir Square Imam Mazhar Shaheen, journalist Farida El-Shobeishy, director Aly Badrakhan, and Judge Tahany El-Gebal all came out in support of the protest in Zamalek on Friday.

Journalist Adel Hamouda, producer Mohamed El-Adel, lawyers' syndicate leader Sameh Ashour and TV presenter Reem Maged also joined the sit-in.

Dozens of activists and intellectuals gathered in front of the cultural palace in Damietta, capital of Fayoum governorate, on Friday in protest at what they say are the culture minister's attempts to 'Brotherhoodise' the ministry and to show solidarity with protesters in Zamalek.

Clashes took place outside the culture ministry on Tuesday when Brotherhood supporters reportedly attempted to break up a sit-in calling for the dismissal of the culture minister, who has attracted the ire of cultural figures in recent weeks with his sackings of high profile officials.

Since his appointment in May, Culture Minister Alaa Abdel-Aziz has sacked, among others, Cairo Opera House head Enas Abdel-Dayem, Egyptian General Book Authority head Ahmed Mujahid, Fine Arts Sector head Salah El-Meligy and National Library and Archives head Abdel-Nasser Hassan.

Last week, Supreme Council for Culture head Said Tawfik resigned in protest at the dismissals.

Protesters have prevented Abdel-Aziz from entering his office at the ministry since Wednesday 5 June.

Many artists and intellectuals accuse the culture minister of attempting to impose an Islamist agenda that would quash the diversity of Egyptian culture.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74200/Egypt/0/Clashes-between-Brotherhood,-Rebel,-residents-in-E.aspx>

Clashes between Brotherhood, 'Rebel', residents in Egypt's Fayoum

Dozens injured in clashes between Muslim Brotherhood and opposition Rebel campaigners south of the capital Cairo, local residents attempt to drive Brotherhood protesters from Hawatem district

Ahram Online and MENA, Monday 17 Jun 2013

At least 34 people were injured in clashes between Muslim Brotherhood protesters and opposition Rebel campaigners in Fayoum on Sunday night, Al-Ahram Arabic news website reported.

Around three thousand Islamists were marching in support of the new governor of Fayoum, a member of the Muslim Brotherhood appointed by President Mohamed Morsi.

Clashes started when some Islamist demonstrators confronted Rebel campaigners collecting signatures for an anti-Morsi petition in Fayoum's Revolution Square.

Rebel spokesperson Mohamed Hamdi said Brotherhood supporters carrying bats and helmets approached Rebel campaigners.

“They broke tables and chairs, and destroyed tens of petitions.”

Rebel activist Ayman Bakry was injured and had his camera stolen, Hamdi added.

The Islamist marchers continued to the working class Hawatem district where there were confronted by angry locals who attempted to drive them from the area.

Rebel aims to collect 15 million signatures in support of a vote of no confidence in President Morsi, to outnumber the 13.2 votes he won in last year's presidential election. It had collected more than seven million signatures by late May.

Members of Rebel have been subject to intimidation, physical assaults, brief arrests and abductions since the group's inception.

Supporters of President Morsi say the Rebel campaign is anti-democratic because it wants President Morsi to call early presidential elections.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74234/Egypt/0/Egypt's-new-governors-sworn-in.aspx>

Egypt's new governors sworn in

Seventeen newly appointed governors take oath of office in front of President Mohamed Morsi

Ahram Online , Monday 17 Jun 2013

Egypt's 17 newly appointed governors have taken their oaths of office in front of President Mohamed Morsi at the presidential palace.

President Morsi issued a decree announcing the appointments on Sunday.

Eleven of the country's 27 governorates now have Muslim Brotherhood governors.

At least nine other governorates are run by members of the military or police.

Ten governors were appointed in September.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74409/Egypt/0/Unrest-in-Egypt-Nile-Delta-over-new-Islamist-gove.aspx>

Unrest in Egypt's Nile Delta over new Islamist governors

Appointment of Brotherhood-affiliated governors provokes angry protests in Daqahliya, Gharbiya and Kafr El-Sheikh

Ahram Online , Wednesday 19 Jun 2013



Muslim brotherhood's headquarter in Gharbia was torched by anti-government protestors (Photo: Mohamed Mabrouk)

Anger at the appointment of Muslim Brotherhood-affiliated governors continued across the Nile Delta on Tuesday.

Demonstrators in Mansoura attacked the office of new Daqahliya Governor Sobhi Younis, a Brotherhood member, state news agency MENA reported.

Police evicted the demonstrators who later converged outside the building and chanted against the Islamist group and Governor Younis.

Protesters later threw petrol bombs at the building and fought with Muslim Brotherhood supporters, injuring two, MENA reported.

On Sunday, President Mohamed Morsi appointed seven Muslim Brotherhood members as new regional governors, triggering nationwide protests at what some describe as an "Islamist power grab."

Eleven of Egypt's 27 regional governors are now members of the Muslim Brotherhood, the group that propelled President Mohamed Morsi to power. Nine other governors have military or police backgrounds.

Late on Tuesday, 26 people were injured in Tanta, Gharbiya governorate during clashes between supporters and opponents of the new governor, a Brotherhood member.

The offices of the Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party in Gharbiya's Mahalla and Tanta were attacked by protesters. The Tanta office was set ablaze by protesters throwing Molotov cocktails.

In Mahalla, protesters also threw Molotov cocktails at the residence of Kafr El-Sheikh Governor Saad Al-Husseiny and set his car ablaze. Al-Husseiny is a leading Brotherhood member who was appointed governor last September.

In a Wednesday statement, Kafr El-Sheikh governorate office blamed the assault on "thugs affiliated to the Rebel campaign and remnants of the former regime."

Local residents who tried to extinguish the fire were assaulted, the statement added. Two police officers were also attacked and had their weapons stolen.

In Menoufiya protesters continued to besiege the governorate building in protest at the appointment of Brotherhood member Ahmed Shaarawi Mohamed as governor.

There have also been protests against new governors in Damietta, Beheira, Beni Suef and Luxor, among others.

The most controversial appointment was that of Luxor Governor Adel El-Khayat, a member of Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya. His group played a role in the murder of at least 58 foreign tourists and four Egyptians in the infamous 1997 Luxor massacre. Local residents and members of the tourism sector have protested his appointment.

Instead of offering concessions to the opposition by forming a national unity government, Morsi's ministerial reshuffle in May increased the number of Brotherhood and FJP-affiliated ministers to 11 out of 35.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74565/Egypt/0/Egypt-antiMorsi-Rebel-campaign-says-it-has-gather.aspx>

Egypt's anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaign says it has gathered 15 mn signatures

'Rebel' signature drive claims to have collected 15 million citizens' endorsements in support of its calls for President Morsi's ouster and snap presidential elections

Osman El Sharnoubi, Thursday 20 Jun 2013

Supporters of the Rebel campaign gather at a conference in Qalioubiya province, Egypt, (Photo: Rebel campaign).

Egypt's opposition 'Rebel' signature campaign on Thursday announced that it had reached its target of 15 million citizens' signatures in support of a "withdrawal of confidence" from Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi.

At a conference convened in Egypt's Qalioubiya governorate north of Cairo, campaign co-founder Mahmoud Badr declared that the initiative had collected over 15 million signatures endorsing its position, according the campaign's official Facebook page.

Launched in May, the 'Rebel' campaign quickly gained momentum as anti-Morsi sentiment grew amid growing political polarisation and a persistent economic downturn during Morsi's first year in office.

The Muslim Brotherhood – from which Morsi hails – remains under fire for its perceived failure to make any progress since coming to power. The Brotherhood also holds a majority in Egypt's upper house of parliament, which is temporarily endowed with legislative powers.

The presidency, for its part, rejects claims that it has failed to govern the country, publishing a report on Wednesday claiming to have made progress in several areas.

The 'Rebel' campaign is based on the assertion that Morsi is carrying out policies identical to those of ousted president Hosni Mubarak. It is now calling for mass demonstrations on 30 June to call for snap presidential elections.

Morsi's supporters, meanwhile, have launched a counter-campaign, members of which claim to have collected ten million signatures in support of the president.

They argue that Morsi was democratically elected, saying the president's critics are legally obliged to wait until the end of his term when they will have a chance to vote him out of office.

'Rebel' founders, for their part, argue that Egypt is still in the throes of revolution, and refuse to wait another three years for Egypt's next presidential poll.

Fears of violence

Amid growing fears of violence on 30 June, the Muslim Brotherhood and its Islamist allies are planning a counter-rally on Friday dubbed "No to violence," in which they plan to promote "peaceful" means of protest.

The Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party said in a recent statement that they would hold leaders of the opposition National Salvation Front (NSF) responsible for any outbreak of violence during upcoming demonstrations.

While the 'Rebel' campaign is supported by the NSF, it is independent of it. Founders of the campaign stress that it is a peaceful movement.

At Thursday's conference, the campaign said it would request the United Nations – as an "impartial" party – to count the signatures it had collected to ensure their authenticity.

Morsi and the Brotherhood, meanwhile, say there is no legal or constitutional basis for holding early presidential elections. The 'Rebel' campaign, however, insists on its legitimacy and intends to present its signatures to Egypt's High Constitutional Court on 30 June.

Organisers say the 15 million votes – two million more than the votes garnered by Morsi in the final round of last year's presidential elections – represent a majority of Egyptians who want Morsi out of office.

Several clashes between Brotherhood members and supporters and 'Rebel' campaigners have been reported nationwide within the past month.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74494/Egypt/0/AntiBrotherhood-protests-continue-across-Egypt.aspx>

Anti-Brotherhood protests continue across Egypt

Further clashes between supporters and opponents of Muslim Brotherhood in a number of Egyptian cities overnight; 25 injured in Kafr El-Sheikh
Ahram Online, Thursday 20 Jun 2013

Clashes in Egypt's Kafr El-Sheikh on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 (Photo: Ahram Arabic news website)

Clashes erupted on Wednesday night outside a Muslim Brotherhood conference in Desouk city in Kafr El-Sheikh governorate.

It is unclear who started the violence but tension was already high following the appointment of a new Islamist governor. Hundreds fought and threw stones outside the Ibrahim El-Desouky Mosque and in nearby side streets. Twenty-five people were injured in the violence, including one by birdshot pellet, Al-Ahram Arabic news website reported.

Unrest has taken place in several cities over President Mohamed Morsi's appointment on Sunday of seven Brotherhood members as regional governors. The move sparked anger over the Islamist group's perceived attempts to tighten its grip on the country's bureaucracy.

Brotherhood members are now governors of 11 of Egypt's 27 governorates.

In Gharbiya, members of the opposition Constitution Party and April 6 blocked the doors of the city council building on Thursday morning and began a sit-in to demand the new governor's resignation.

Dozens were injured over the past few days in Fayoum, Gharbiya governorate in clashes over the contentious new governor.

Dozens of people protesting outside the Daqahliya governor's office in Mansoura were reportedly attacked in the early hours of Thursday by unknown assailants wielding bladed weapons and bludgeons.

Members of the ultraconservative Salafist Front, meanwhile, claim they were assaulted by protesters in the vicinity of the governor's office in Daqahliya "because of their breads," Al-Ahram Arabic news website reported.

The health ministry said six people were injured on Wednesday during skirmishes in Mansoura between opponents and supporters of the newly appointed governor, Sobhi Attiya Younis, a member of the Brotherhood.

Violence erupted after hours of calm following earlier clashes. Demonstrators opposed to the governor had besieged Younis's office in an attempt to prevent him leaving the building.

Younis, 52, previously served as the Islamist group's spokesperson in the governorate.

President Morsi on Sunday named a member of Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya as governor of Luxor. The group killed scores of Western tourists in the city in 1997. The group has since renounced terrorism and the governor claims never to have taken part in violence.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74579/Egypt/0/Hundreds-of-Brotherhood-members-hurt-in-Nile-Delta.aspx>

Hundreds of Brotherhood members hurt in Nile Delta clashes: Egypt's FJP

Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood accuses opposition officials of being behind spate of violence in Kafr Al-Sheikh, which group says has left hundreds of its members injured

Ahram Online, Friday 21 Jun 2013

At least 357 members of the Muslim Brotherhood and its Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) have been injured in recent clashes with political opponents in the city of Dosouk in Egypt's Kafr Al-Sheikh governorate, FJP Secretary-General Mohamed El-Heleisy announced Thursday.

According to El-Heleisy, six injuries were the result of gunshots and 90 of birdshot, in addition to 87 injuries from bladed weapons and 76 by blunt instruments.

"The injured have been taken to hospitals in nearby governorates, such as Beheira, Alexandria and Gharbiya," he said at a press conference.

The health ministry, however, has stated that the clashes left only 14 injured.

El-Heleisy added that 21 legal complaints had been filed blaming certain opposition figures for the violence, including officials affiliated with the liberal Constitution party, the anti-government 'Rebel' campaign and the Egyptian popular current, along with former Kafr Al-Sheikh MP Youssef El-Badry.

Clashes in Kafr Al-Sheikh were sparked by the president's appointment of seven Muslim Brotherhood members as new regional governors on Sunday, putting eleven of Egypt's 27 provinces under Brotherhood-affiliated governors.

Last Tuesday, anti-government protesters hurled Molotov cocktails at the residence of Kafr Al-Sheikh Governor Saad El-Husseini and set his car alight. El-Husseini, a leading Brotherhood member, was appointed governor last September.

A subsequent statement by the Kafr Al-Sheikh governor's office blamed the assault on "thugs affiliated with the 'Rebel' campaign and remnants of the former regime."

Sunday's gubernatorial appointments have provoked similar clashes in other governorates, with dozens injured in Fayoum and Gharbiya within recent days.

Islamist parties and groups held pro-government rallies Friday to 'Say no to political violence.'

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74590/Egypt/0/Clashes-break-out-between-pro,-antiMorsi-groups-in.aspx>

Clashes break out between pro, anti-Morsi groups in Alexandria

Anti-Morsi protesters besiege Al-Qaed Ibrahim mosque demanding that police arrest Brotherhood members for allegedly injuring protesters

Ahram Online, Friday 21 Jun 2013



Clashes between supporters and president Mohamed Morsi in Alexandria, 23 November 2012 (Photo: AP)

Clashes broke out in the coastal city of Alexandria on Friday between supporters and opponents of President Mohamed Morsi.

According to Al-Ahram's Arabic news website, the clashes erupted when an anti-Morsi march confronted a group of Muslim Brotherhood supporters in front of the iconic Al-Qaed Ibrahim mosque following Friday prayers.

Fistfights and stone-throwing broke out between the two sides. The supporters of the president managed to secure themselves inside the mosque, while the anti-Morsi protesters besieged the building, demanding that the police arrest those inside that they accused of causing injuries.

No official figures for those injured have been released so far.

A similar scene occurred in Alexandria last December, when activists besieged Al-Qaed Ibrahim mosque for a whole day after controversial preacher Ahmed El-Mahalawy had urged worshippers to vote yes in the constitutional referendum during his Friday sermon.

Clashes later erupted between supporters of El-Mahalawy and opponents, leaving dozens injured.

Several Egyptian governorates have seen a rise in tension between Muslim Brotherhood supporters and opponents over recent days, with anticipated anti-Morsi protests on 30 June fast approaching.

The hostility further intensified after Morsi appointed Muslim Brotherhood members to seven regional governorships on Sunday, putting eleven of Egypt's 27 provinces under the control of Brotherhood-affiliated governors.

The appointments provoked clashes in several governorates, with dozens injured in Fayoum, Kafr El-Sheikh, Daqahliya and Gharbiya over the last few days.

In Cairo on Friday afternoon, tens of thousands of Islamists are participating in an anti-violence protest, called for by Morsi's supporters.

On Thursday, the pro-Morsi 'Impartiality' campaign announced that organisers had gathered 11 million signatures in support of the president.

The campaign was formed to counter the anti-Morsi Rebel signature drive, which announced on Thursday that it had met its target of collecting 15 million signatures opposing the president.

Opposition forces are calling for protests on 30 June to press for immediate presidential elections.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74663/Egypt/0/June--Coordinating-Committee-plans-for-weeklong-pr.aspx>

June 30 Coordinating Committee plans for week-long protests

Opposition parties and groups form coordinating committee and announce joint plans for a week of action leading to 30 June anti-Morsi mass demonstrations, rejecting any military takeover of power

Ahram Online , Saturday 22 Jun 2013

One of a group of anti-Mursi protesters, made up of intellectuals and artists, holds up a picture of Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi, which has the word "rebel" written on it, in front of the Ministry of Culture during a demonstration against what they claimed are increasing influence of the Muslim Brotherhood over the Ministry of Culture and Minister of Culture Alaa Abdel Aziz, in Cairo June 11, 2013 (Photo: Reuters)

Tens of political parties and groups forming the "30 June Coordinating Committee" announced Saturday their plans for the week leading up to 30 June, the day on which mass demonstrations are scheduled against President Mohamed Morsi demanding swift presidential elections.

At a conference held in the Agouza district in Giza, attendees announced events will be organised starting 23 June.

A human chain protest will be held under the banner "The Muslim Brotherhood is corrupt" in Shubra on Sunday, 23 June. On 25 June, small "Rebel" demonstrations will be held in more than 16 metro stations to call on people to sign the Rebel campaign petition against President Morsi. On 27 June, a rally is planned to take place in Cairo's Sayeda Zeinab district. On 28 June, another rally is planned to start from Cairo's Al-Azhar district, marching to Tahrir Square protesting the use of mosques in urging people not to rebel against the president.

As for 30 June, political representatives said several demonstrations are planned to snowball through the different parts of Egypt. The final starting destinations are to be announced end of week.

The political groups announced they clearly stand against the military playing any role in the process.

Haitham Mohamadein of the Revolutionary Socialists said that the coordinating committee will finalise its political vision for when Morsi is successfully forced to step down and until new elections take place.

Constitution Party member Ahmed Harara, the well known activist who lost both his eyes in clashes with police, under Mubarak and later under military rule, thanked the youth of the revolution for the successful anti-Morsi campaign, urging them not to get distracted by "Muslim Brotherhood attempts to create side conflicts to spoil plans for 30 June."

Ali, a father of one of the protesters slain during the 18-day January 2011 uprising that led to the ouster of Mubarak, spoke at the conference attacking the president for failing to bring justice for his killed son.

Representative of the Rebel campaign Mahmoud Badr, for his part, urged the opposition to remain united and create a powerful front. Khaled Ali, of the Egyptian Popular Current, told attendees that "the regime is scared," its fear symbolised by the mass demonstration organised by Islamists in support of the president Friday.

Political parties and groups represented in the 30 June Coordinating Committee include the Constitution Party, the Egyptian Popular Current, the Egyptian Social Democratic Party, the Socialist Popular Alliance Party, the Wafd Party, the Free Egyptians Party, the Tagammu Party, the Egyptian Communist Party, the Egyptian Socialist Party, the Democratic Front Party, the Unified Nasserist Party, the Justice and Freedom Youth, the Rebel campaign, the Alliance of Revolutionary Forces, the Second Revolution of Rage Movement, the Front for Peaceful Change, the April 6 Youth Movement, the April 6 Democratic Front Movement, the Mina Daniel Movement, the Lotus Revolution Coalition, the Workers and Farmers Party, the Kifaya Movement, the Socialist Youth Union, the National Front for Justice and Democracy, the Revolutionary Youth Union and the Children of Egypt Coalition.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74637/Egypt/0/Egypt-interior-minister-plans-with-Central-Securi.aspx>

Egypt's interior minister plans with Central Security for 30 June protests

For the first time to public knowledge, Egyptian Interior Minister Ibrahim meets with Central Security Forces to confirm what they will - and won't - protect on anti-Morsi protest day
Ahram Online, Saturday 22 Jun 2013

Mohamed Ibrahim (Photo: Al-Ahram)

Egypt's Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim met with Central Security Forces (CSF) on Saturday to discuss the security plan for upcoming nationwide anti-government protests scheduled for 30 June.

Ibrahim said during the first meeting announced to the public with CSF that the ministry will work to protect the protests against violent intruders and will not attack any protestor who remains peaceful.

At the same time, Ibrahim said, security forces will not allow any attacks on public or private institutions or police sites.

Similarly, Ibrahim iterated last week that the CSF "will not allow the invasion of prisons again."

A large number of convicts escaped from Egyptian prisons during the mass protests against ousted president Hosni Mubarak's rule in 2011.

Egyptian opposition groups are planning nationwide protests against President Mohamed Morsi on 30 June, his first-year anniversary in power, to call for his ouster and early presidential elections.

Ibrahim also said last week that although the security of the Itihidaya presidential palace, where the Cairo rallies are expected to take place, is the responsibility of the presidential guard, interior ministry forces will still be present to preempt clashes between Morsi opponents and supporters.

No security will be afforded by the ministry for political party's office, he further detailed.

"Every party is responsible for securing its own offices. However, if violent clashes erupt between two groups, building or party office, we will go to disperse the clashes to protect everyone," he said.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/74646/Egypt/0/Morsi-should-resign-for-the-good-of-Egypt-ElBaradei.aspx>

Morsi should resign for the good of Egypt: ElBaradei

Head of the National Salvation Front Mohamed ElBaradei said Saturday that many Egyptians who voted for Mohamed Morsi in 2012 now ask for his dismissal and early elections

Ahram Online, Saturday 22 Jun 2013

Senior opposition figure Mohamed ElBaradei (R) and Leftist leader Hamdeen Sabahi stand during a news conference ahead of the planned protest against Egypt's President Mohamed Mursi, at the end of the month, in Cairo June 22, 2013 (Photo: Reuters)

Egypt's opposition figure Mohamed ElBaradei said Saturday that even though the Egyptian people voted for President Mohamed Morsi, he now "has to resign so Egypt can start a new stage."

ElBaradei said in a conference held by the opposition umbrella group the National Salvation Front (NSF), which he co-founded, that a large number of Egyptians who voted for Morsi in 2012 are now calling for early presidential elections.

Egypt is anticipating mass nationwide protests 30 June against Morsi — who hails from the Muslim Brotherhood group — that aim to force him to step down, after which new presidential elections would be held.

The protest is spearheaded by the Rebel campaign, a movement launched in May that aims to withdraw confidence from Morsi by collecting 15 million signatures from citizens to outnumber the 13.2 million that put him into office. The campaign is supported by major opposition groups, including the NSF and the Egyptian Popular Current.

"I thank the Rebel movement and the Egyptian people who took part in the revolution, and what they are doing for 30 June to correct the path of the revolution peacefully," ElBaradei said.

Hamdeen Sabbahi, leading opposition figure and former presidential contender, also said in the conference that 30 June will be the "start of a wave that will end when the revolutionary goals are fulfilled."

He also emphasised that the protests will be peaceful.

ElBaradei added that the ruling regime has focused on "creating divisions in society" rather than working on fulfilling the goals of the January 25 Revolution of social justice, liberty and human dignity. He stated that the regime lacks the ability to rule.

"People ask about the alternative [to Morsi]. The answer is that there is an alternative that will transform the country to the path of the revolution," he said.

ElBaradei called for a system that starts with a new constitution that guarantees equality for everyone.

Both Sabbahi and ElBaradei were supposed to attend a conference in Cairo's working class Imbaba district Friday, and apologised for not attending.

The conference's organiser, the Egyptian Popular Front, founded by Sabbahi, announced that the Friday conference was cancelled for "security reasons". A scaled-down meeting, without the presence of Sabbahi or ElBaradei, went ahead in place of the conference.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/74709/Egypt/Politics-/Clashes-continue-in-Egypt-Mahalla-and-Kafr-ElShei.aspx>

Clashes continue in Egypt's Mahalla and Kafr El-Sheikh

A 12-year-old boy was shot in the head in Mahalla during clashes between pro- and anti-Morsi groups

Ahram Online , Sunday 23 Jun 2013

Nile Delta unrest

Shops set on fire in Egypt's Kafr El-Sheikh (Photo: Ahram Arabic news website)

Increasing tensions between supporters and opponents of President Mohamed Morsi have led to clashes in a number of Egyptian cities.

A 12-year-old boy, Al-Said Gamal, was shot in the head during clashes between supporters and opponents of the beleaguered president in the Nile Delta city of Mahalla late on Saturday. He remains in critical condition, a security source told Ahram Online.

Reports varied as to how the clashes started. Ahram's Arabic language website reported that bearded men fired rounds of live ammunition in the air to disperse an anti-Morsi protest endorsing a call for snap presidential polls in El-Banzioun Square when Gamal was shot.

London-based daily Al-Hayat, however, reported that an argument broke out between Nour Party supporters and opponents of the government, leading Nour supporters to take shelter inside their local party office, which was then besieged by the anti-Morsi group, who threw Molotov cocktails and ransacked the building.

Another person was reported to have been critically wounded in the Mahalla clashes, although no further details were available.

Many other cities have seen growing unrest between opponents and supporters of the Islamist president in the run-up to mass anti-government protests on 30 June.

In the neighbouring Kafr El-Sheikh governorate, a group of infuriated opponents of the Muslim Brotherhood late on Saturday set ablaze a number of shops believed to belong to Brotherhood supporters, as tension between rival camps continued to mount.

The incident was reportedly triggered by an attack on a member of the opposition Egyptian Popular Current, Mohamed El-Shaboury, by a group of Brotherhood members in the city of Fowa, according to MENA state news agency.

El-Shaboury was reported to have been critically injured.

Mohamed Shaheen, a leading member of the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party, claimed in a report he filed that government opponents initiated the violence when they attacked three shops belonging to members of the Islamist group in Kafr El-Sheikh on Friday.

Assailants wielding bladed weapons also clashed with Brotherhood members at the Abdullah Al-Emary Mosque and outside the residence of another leading member of the group, Mahmoud El-Saiedy, the Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) Kafr El-Sheikh secretary-general Ragab El-Banna was quoted as saying.

Tension in the city has escalated since an anti-Brotherhood conference convened there on Friday, attended by a number of opposition activists and former MPs including Mostafa Bakry. Thousands of local residents took part in the event.

In addition, the FJP said on Saturday that a member of hardline Islamist group Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya died from gunshot wounds in Egypt's central Fayoum governorate, blaming the opposition.

The FJP said in a statement that Mohamed Said El-Shalakany, 35, was shot by "thugs" from the opposition coalition the National Salvation Front (NSF) and proponents of the anti-Morsi Rebel campaign, during a rally supporting the president on 16 June. Another Brotherhood member was quoted blaming remnants of the former regime for the attack.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/74687/Egypt/Politics-/Two-critically-wounded-in-Mahalla-clashes-between-.aspx>

Two critically wounded in Mahalla clashes between president opponents and supporters

For the second day in a row, opponents and supporters of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi engage in clashes, leaving two in critical condition

Ahram Online , Sunday 23 Jun 2013

Two people were critically wounded after fresh clashes erupted between supporters and opponents of beleaguered president Mohamed Morsi in the late hours of Saturday in Egypt's industrial city Mahalla.

Bearded men were seen firing rounds in the air to disperse an anti-Morsi protest in the Nile Delta City, which is located in the Gharbiya governorate, witnesses told Ahram's Arabic-language news website.

The protest, which was interrupted in El-Banzioun square in Mahalla, endorsed the ultimate

demand of the anticipated 30 June demonstration against Morsi's rule – a call for snap presidential elections.

The office of Salafist Nour party in the city was subsequently attacked by angry demonstrators after two men were severely injured, according to party official Ahmed El-Qattan.

"They ransacked the office and then torched it. It remains under siege, and the police have refused to intervene," he said in a phone interview with satellite channel Al-Hayat.

Mahmoud Haroun, a Mahalla resident and member of the Revolutionary Socialists, who took part in the protest, told Ahram Online that the two people who were injured in Saturday's clashes were taken to a hospital in a critical condition.

Contrary to Qattan's account, Haroun said the demonstrators attacked the Nour office in retaliation after they were shot by people inside the office.

Mounting tensions

Nour declined to join a mass rally to support Morsi on Friday in Cairo, saying it would only add to already mounting tensions. The party said it opposes many of the president's decisions but did not endorse the call for early presidential elections.

"We are not accusing anybody [of involvement in attack on Nour office], this is the police role. We will not be dragged into a war with anyone," Nour spokesman Nader Bakkar told Ahram Online.

"The party's relationship with revolutionary forces in Mahalla is very good, and nothing could affect that."

There were also scuffles on Friday that left two Salafists critically injured and saw anti-Morsi demonstrators hand over a 34-year-old man to police after he attempted to shoot at protesters.

Earlier on Saturday, the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) said that a Gamaa Islamiya member had died from gunshot wounds in Egypt's central Fayoum governorate, pointing the finger at opposition forces.

Several pro-Morsi and anti-Morsi demonstrations have been held over the past months in the build-up to 30 June, which is expected to witness mass rallies by opposition to demand snap presidential elections.

The Rebel petition campaign, which declared it had collected 15 million signatures for withdrawing confidence from the president, was first to call for the 30 June demonstrations. All opposition forces including the main opposition umbrella of the National Salvation Front (NSF) had adopted the call.

Islamists in support of the president have in turn launched a petition in support of Morsi.

Opponents and supporters of Morsi have engaged in several clashes across Egypt for the past seven months. The deadliest one occurred in December in front of the presidential palace in Cairo's Heliopolis district, which left 10 people dead from both sides.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/74732/Egypt/Politics-/Egypts-Nour-Party-to-stay-neutral-despite-office-b.aspx>

Egypt's Nour Party to stay neutral despite office burning

With tensions ahead of 30 June escalating, Nour Party maintains position against taking sides but condemns Muslim Brotherhood for feeding political polarisation

Ahram Online, Sunday 23 Jun 2013

Nour Party

Salafist Al-Nour Party chairman Younis Makhion (Photo: Al-Ahram)

Egypt's Salafist-oriented Nour Party will take legal action in response to the attack on its office in the Nile Delta city of Mahalla, the party's spokesman Nader Bakkar said on Saturday.

Bakkar said on his official Twitter account that the party will not "accuse anyone haphazardly."

According to Ahmed Qattan, the party's secretary in Gharbiya governorate where Mahalla is located, the attackers "ransacked the office and torched it [while] the police refused to intervene."

The office was attacked on Saturday after a protest in the city to mobilise for the anticipated 30 June demonstration against President Mohamed Morsi's rule. Clashes subsequently erupted between supporters and opponents of Morsi.

Commenting on the incident, Bakkar asserted to Ahram Online that his party will not "be dragged into a conflict that will destroy the country, and will continue exercising self-restraint." He stated that the party's relations with all the other political groups in Mahalla remains strong.

Qattan released a statement Sunday denying that party members fired any gunshots during the melee. Media reports citing eye-witnesses in Mahalla had said that bearded men were seen firing rounds in the air to disperse the protest.

The Salafist Call, Egypt's largest Salafist movement and the parent organisation of the Nour Party, announced last Tuesday that its members will not join the 30 June protests demanding early presidential elections, or the pro-Morsi rally organised by a number of Islamist groups which took place on Friday.

In addition, the group warned against violent rhetoric and mobilisation on both sides "that would divide the nation."

On Friday, about 17 Islamist parties participated in Friday's rally in support of the president, including the Freedom and Justice Party (FJP), the Wasat Party, the Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya's Building and Development Party, and the Salafist Watan and Asala parties.

Assem Abdel-Maged, leading figure of the ultra-conservative Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya told the crowds on Friday that the Nour Party was present in the demonstration, due to the presence of prominent member Mohamed Emara.

However, Bakkar, commenting on the incident later Friday that, "the attendance of one of our members at the rally is a personal action that does not represent the party in any way."

In addition, he requested that the FJP and the Building and Development Party "do not speak in the [Nour] party's name."

The party renounced the protests, saying that they "only added to the existing tension in the [political] scene instead of seeking a sensible solution for pacification," according to Bakkar.

Tarek El-Zomor, a leader of the ultra-conservative Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya, said at the rally, "they threaten us with protests on 30 June, and today we promise [the opposition] they will be crushed on that day."

Leading preacher in the Salafist Call, Yasser Borhami, said on Sunday that Friday's rally contradicts its slogans of "No to violence."

He added in his weekly Friday sermon in Alexandria that Egypt is exposed to the danger of civil war and said that it has decided not to take part to avoid bloodshed.

Calls for protests on 30 June were made by the Rebel campaign, a movement launched in May to collect signatures calling for Morsi's removal and early presidential elections.

The campaign has been supported by major opposition groups, including the leftist Egyptian Popular Current and the National Salvation Front coalition.

On Thursday, the campaign announced it had reached its target of 15 million signatures.

The Salafist Call said that it recognises Morsi as the elected president who should remain in office for four years according to the constitution. However, it also said that does not, in principle, oppose holding early presidential elections, but sees that this decision belongs to the president alone in the event that he feels he has lost support.

Nevertheless, it stressed it opposed some of Morsi's policies and those of his government.

In addition, it asserted that it does not condone 'takfeery speech,' that is, speech which condemns opponents as 'infidels;' nor does it approve labelling opponents as 'traitors.'

On Sunday, head of the Nour Party Younis Makhioun, said in a meeting with the party's youth in Sharqiya governorate that it is not acceptable to "divide the Egyptians into two camps of Muslims and infidels."

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/74885/Egypt/Politics-/Clashes-in-Egypt-Sharqiya--injured-.aspx>

Clashes in Egypt's Sharqiya, 2 injured

Opponents and supporters of President Mohamed Morsi clash in Nile Delta's Sharqiya
Ahrām Online , Tuesday 25 Jun 2013

Clashes erupted between opponents and supporters of President Mohamed Morsi in Sharqiya on Monday leaving two injured, Al-Ahram Arabic news website reported.

The groups exchanged volleys of rocks after an opposition protester was injured by pellet shots. A Central Security Forces (CSF) officer suffered a head wound.

It remains unclear what started the violence. There have been a series of clashes between anti- and pro-government protesters across Egypt in recent weeks.

The Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) announced on Facebook that it would be holding an open-ended sit-in alongside 20 other Islamist parties across Egypt from Friday under the slogan "legitimacy is a red line."

On Monday, an alliance of Islamist parties announced in Cairo that they would be holding an open-ended protest in Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square in Cairo's Nasr City under the same slogan.

The call for protests by pro-Morsi Islamist groups comes amid plans for mass demonstrations against President Mohamed Morsi, who hails from the Brotherhood, on 30 June, the anniversary of his inauguration, to demand his removal and early presidential elections.

Rebel (Tamarod) was the first group to call for protests on 30 June.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75034/Egypt/0/Tamarod-launches--June-Front,-proposes-postMorsi-r.aspx>

Tamarod launches 30 June Front, proposes post-Morsi roadmap

The revolutionary Rebel movement, aiming to oust President Morsi via a mass petition, proposes a six-month transitional roadmap where executive powers are assigned to an independent technocratic premier

Zeinab El Gundy, Wednesday 26 Jun 2013

Opposition political and revolutionary forces, led by the "Rebel" (Tamarod) campaign, launched Wednesday the 30 June Front, a coordinating political body to organise planned protests Sunday, as well the political demands of the protests.

At a press conference for the launch, the Front also proposed a roadmap for a transitional period in Egypt to follow President Morsi's departure.

"We announce the 30 June Front as an initiative from Tamarod to represent Egyptians who refuse Muslim Brotherhood rule and to share with the great Egyptian people their political vision in order to avoid the mistakes of the past period and to continue on the path of January 25 Revolution," said Mohamed Abdel Aziz, co-founder of Tamarod, in the presence of many famous revolutionary and political figures in Egypt.

Among the attendees were law professor and analyst Hossam Eissa, spokesman of the National Salvation Front Khaled Daoud, Islamic preacher Mazhar Shaheen and activists Klahed Teliema and Esraa Abdel Fattah.

The political roadmap proposed by the Front includes full authorities afforded for an independent prime minister who represents the January 25 Revolution on the condition that he does not run in the first upcoming presidential or parliamentary elections.

“The independent prime minister will head a technocratic government whose main mission is to put together an urgent economic plan to save the Egyptian economy and to expand social justice policies,” said Abdel Aziz.

He also hinted that the premier would not be drawn from among well known politicians.

“The head of the High Constitutional Court would be assigned the duties of the president according to protocol when all executive powers are assigned to the prime minister in a six-month transitional period that ends by presidential elections judicially supervised and monitored internationally, followed by parliamentary elections,” the Tamarod co-founder added.

Dissolving the Shura Council, suspending the current constitution and drafting a new constitution are steps in the roadmap proposed by the newly founded Front.

According to the proposed roadmap, the prime minister will call on the National Defence Council to do its job in keeping with the national security needs of the country.

Abdel Aziz also revealed details about the internal structure of the new Front. “There are 10 committees operating in the 30 June Front: the day-to-day work committee, the e-work committee, the public work committee, the legal work committee, the foreign media communication committee, the communication with political powers and figures committee, the logistics committee, the fieldwork committee, the governorates committee and the labour unions committee.”

The Front will name a general secretary from among its members and choose two or three spokespersons to liaise with the media.

The activists and speakers of Tamarod stressed that the 30 June Front does not represent all revolutionaries in Egypt, yet it hopes that it will represent all Egyptians on 30 June.

“There will be no flags or banners except Egyptian flags in the protests as well the photos of Egypt’s martyrs, starting with the martyrs of the January 25 Revolution,” leaders said in the conference.

Among speakers at the event were activist Dr Ahmed Harara and Mrs Samia Gindy, the mother of late activist Mohamed Gindy. “It is time to live in a democratic state where the police, army, presidency, judiciary and parliament serve the people, as people pay their salaries from their taxes,” said Harara, who lost both his eyes in 2011 during protest clashes.

In an emotional speech, Samia Gindy accused authorities of torturing her son to death, asking the youth to forget their differences and return to Tahrir Square in order to restore hope and dignity to Egypt.

“I wish that I had joined my son when he used to protest in Tahrir Square, but now I am going to Tahrir Square. I call on parents to take their sons and restore the rights of Egyptians,” the grieving mother said.

Regarding the anticipated presidential speech this evening, The Front called on the Egyptian people to listen to the speech in Tahrir Square. It is expected that the president's speech will aired be at 9.30pm. Groups of revolutionary and opposition forces have already started to set up a stage with a screen in the square.

“We do not think there will be new concessions, and already it is too as late for negotiations as we are in the new wave of the January 25 Revolution. We want to achieve the goals of bread, freedom and democracy,” said Khaled Dawood, National Salvation Front spokesperson.

“This is the initial plan, but it may change as circumstances change,” said Hossam Eissa, constitutional law professor and politician, commenting on the roadmap announced by the Front.

Tamarod also called on the Egyptian people to join its planned mass protests across Egypt on Friday, 28 June — titled "Leave" — against President Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood.

Islamist powers led by the Muslim Brotherhood are planning mass demonstrations in solidarity with Morsi and his legitimacy as president also on 28 June.

The Tamarod movement announced some of locations on the 30 June rallies map, including four marches from Heliopolis and Ain Shams to the presidential palace, and another four rallies from Cairo and Giza to Tahrir Square.

The press conference of Tamarod held Wednesday afternoon is the fourth to be held by the movement aiming to oust President Morsi by popular petition. At an upcoming press conference Saturday, the campaign will announce the final number of signatures it has collected from citizens calling for the departure of the president. It will announce the location of all other rallies planned for 30 June also on Saturday.

Tamarod is a signature drive launched in May with the intention of "withdrawing confidence" from Morsi by collecting 15 million citizen endorsements, exceeding the number of votes Morsi amassed in the runoffs of the 2012 presidential elections (13.2 million).

The campaign recently announced it had amassed the targeted number of endorsements.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75042/Egypt/Politics-/One-dead,-scores-injured-in-political-violence-in-.aspx>

One dead, scores injured in political violence in Egypt's Mansoura

Scores are injured and at least one person is killed in Nile Delta city of Mansoura as supporters of Egypt's embattled president clash with opponents, state television reports
El-Sayed Gamal El-Din , Wednesday 26 Jun 2013



political violence in Egypt's Mansoura (Photo: AO)

Violent clashes between supporters and opponents of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi have led to at least one death and scores of injuries in the Nile Delta city of Mansoura, Egyptian state television reported Wednesday evening.

Egyptian police have used teargas in an attempt to disperse the clashes, in which at least one person was killed and 225 injured, according to a health ministry source.

Khaled El-Khatib, head of the ministry's department for emergency and urgent treatment, said the victim – named Abdel-Hamid Sadek – had succumbed to chest and abdominal injuries after having been shot with birdshot.

According to reports on state television, birdshot, bladed weapons and petrol bombs have been used in the violence. Electricity was also cut in the area in what might have been an attempt by the authorities to end the violence.

Clashes erupted Wednesday afternoon after hundreds of members of the Muslim Brotherhood group, from which Morsi hails, staged a demonstration in support of the presidency outside a local mosque following afternoon prayers.

It remains unclear how the clashes started.

Eyewitness accounts vary on whether the demonstration was attacked by local residents or by "thugs" previously accused by the Brotherhood of attacking group members.

The street fighting in Mansoura broke out hours before an anticipated national address by President Morsi slated for 9:30pm, as the country braces for nationwide anti-government rallies on Sunday.

During the mayhem in the Nile Delta city, several people reportedly looted a local supermarket owned by prominent Brotherhood member Khairat El-Shater, throwing merchandise into the street.

Anti-Brotherhood crowds also set a microbus owned by the group alight.

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/06/26/egypte-deux-morts-dans-des-affrontements-entre-pro-et-anti-morsi_3437221_3212.html

Egypte : un mort dans des affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi

Le Monde.fr avec AFP et Reuters | 26.06.2013 à 19h42 • Mis à jour le 26.06.2013 à 20h05



Des heurts ont opposé mercredi 26 juin des partisans de Mohamed Morsi à des opposants du président islamiste faisant au moins un mort et 237 blessés dans le nord de l'Égypte, selon des sources sécuritaires.

Un rassemblement pro-Morsi dans la ville de Mansoura, qui se trouve dans la région du delta du Nil, a été attaqué par des opposants qui ont jeté des ordures sur les manifestants, selon un responsable de la sécurité, qui ajoute : *"Cela a provoqué des heurts impliquant des tirs de chevrotine qui ont fait sept blessés."*

Des voitures et des bâtiments ont été endommagés à Mansoura et Tanta, deux grandes villes au nord du Caire, alors qu'un discours du chef de l'État est attendu.

Les opposants au président Morsi, qui l'accusent d'avoir détourné au profit de son camp la révolution de 2011 qui a mis fin au régime d'Hosni Moubarak, appellent à une mobilisation massive le 30 juin, jour anniversaire de son investiture.

Des militants du groupe *Tamarod* ("rébellion", en français) affirment avoir rassemblé 15 millions de signatures pour demander une élection présidentielle anticipée, alors qu'un clivage croissant fait redouter de nouvelles violences dans le pays.

http://www.lepoint.fr/monde/egypte-un-mort-et-237-blesses-dans-des-heurts-entre-pro-et-anti-morsi-26-06-2013-1686317_24.php

Égypte : 1 mort et 237 blessés dans des affrontements

Le Point.fr - Publié le 26/06/2013 à 23:12 - Modifié le 27/06/2013 à 07:23

Ces heurts surviennent avant la mobilisation massive contre Mohamed Morsi prévue le 30 juin, jour anniversaire de son investiture.



Manifestations contre le président égyptien Mohamed Morsi. © Mostafa Darwish/AP / Sipa Press

Au moins une personne a été tuée et 237 blessées mercredi lors de heurts entre partisans et opposants du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi en Égypte, dernier épisode en date des troubles dans ce pays profondément divisé, selon le ministère de la Santé. Ces heurts surviennent en pleines tensions dans le pays avant à une mobilisation massive contre Mohamed Morsi prévue le 30 juin, jour anniversaire de son investiture. L'opposition accuse le président islamiste d'accaparer le pouvoir.

Des rassemblements pro et anti-Morsi ont eu lieu dans plusieurs régions du pays, mais les accrochages ont eu lieu seulement à Mansoura dans le delta du Nil (nord). Là, les heurts ont éclaté lorsque des opposants ont lancé des ordures sur un rassemblement pro-Morsi. Des sources médicales à l'Hôpital international de Mansoura ont fait état de victimes atteintes par des balles.

Au Caire, sur la place Tahrir, épice de la révolte de 2011 qui a renversé le régime de Hosni Moubarak, des centaines de manifestants anti-Morsi se sont rassemblés en attendant le discours du président. D'autres se sont regroupés devant le ministère de la Défense scandant des slogans hostiles au président et arborant des drapeaux égyptiens. À Alexandrie et dans d'autres provinces du Delta du Nil, des partisans du président Morsi, premier président civil et islamiste d'Égypte, ont défilé dans les rues.

"Rébellion"

L'Égypte est profondément divisée entre les partisans de Mohamed Morsi, qui estiment qu'il épure les institutions après des décennies de corruption, et ses détracteurs qui l'accusent de concentrer le pouvoir entre les mains des Frères musulmans.

Depuis son élection, Mohamed Morsi a dû se frotter à l'animosité du pouvoir judiciaire, des médias, de la police et plus récemment du monde de la culture. Il est actuellement la cible d'une campagne réclamant son départ, baptisée "Tamarrod" ("rébellion", en arabe), dont les organisateurs affirment avoir rassemblé 15 millions de signatures pour demander une élection présidentielle anticipée.

Ces derniers mois, les dissensions politiques ont dégénéré de façon récurrente en violences parfois meurtrières dans les rues du Caire. Les détracteurs du président ont appelé à une mobilisation massive le 30 juin, jour anniversaire de son investiture.

Des dizaines de milliers de partisans de Mohamed Morsi s'étaient rassemblés la semaine dernière pour une démonstration de force avant la manifestation de l'opposition.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75064/Egypt/0/Morsi-addresses-nation,-accuses-former-regime-figu.aspx>

Morsi addresses nation, accuses former regime figures of destabilizing Egypt

President Morsi's Wednesday night address to nation, featuring seven decisions, is met with derision by Tahrir Square protesters

Ahram Online, Thursday 27 Jun 2013



Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi announced seven decisions on Wednesday, while barely mentioning next week's mass rallies to demand his ouster.

During a lengthy speech televised live from the Cairo International Conference Centre, Morsi commissioned the interior minister to form a unit tasked with combating "thuggery" and terrorism, including the blocking of roads.

He also ordered the formation of a committee to examine proposed constitutional amendments tabled by the opposition, inviting all political parties to submit their proposals from Thursday.

Furthermore, Morsi ordered the formation of a "national reconciliation committee," consisting of representatives of political parties, Egypt's Al-Azhar, the Coptic Orthodox Church, so-called revolutionary forces and NGOs. The committee, he said, shall be charged with promoting "national dialogue" aimed at bridging gaps between the country's various political factions.

Morsi also authorised Egyptian government ministers and regional governors to sack any officials found to have contributed to recent crises or shortages.

In answer to Egypt's acute petrol shortage, which has seen ever longer queues outside the nation's petrol stations, the president also announced a decision to withdraw the licenses of any gas station found to be hoarding fuel.

In a similar vein, Morsi also commissioned the supply ministry to ensure that gas stations were functioning "in the public interest."

Finally, Morsi ordered government ministers and provincial governors to appoint young advisors (below 40 years old) to their respective teams, stressing that Egyptian youth must assume a greater role in the country's affairs.

"The youth were never given a chance to play a role in the country, and for that I am sorry," he said. "I will make sure they do soon."

Also in the speech, delivered to mark his first year in power, Morsi admitted to "making many mistakes."

But he repeated the usual line of the Muslim Brotherhood, the group from which he hails, that the media was tarnishing the image of the presidency and government and inciting violence.

He accused former regime figures, such as Mubarak oligarchs Safwat El-Sherif and Zakaria Azmi, of working to destabilise Egypt.

"Soon Safwat El-Sherif and Zakaria Azmi will be considered 'revolutionaries' as well. Why not? Everyone has been acquitted," he said, noting that Egypt's court system had exonerated most former regime figures implicated in cases of corruption.

He also took a swipe at Ahmed Shafiq, the Mubarak-era's last prime minister and Morsi's nemesis in last year's presidential polls.

"Ahmed Shafiq – is he a 'revolutionary'? He's wanted [by the authorities]," the president said, in reference to the host of corruption charges that Shafiq – currently based in the UAE – faces in Egypt.

"He's based abroad yet continues to call for toppling the [Egyptian] government," Morsi said of Shafiq. "Is that not a crime?"

In terms of his achievements after one year in office, Morsi highlighted his administration's efforts to serve the poor.

"We have increased the monthly minimum wage to LE700 and it will hopefully reach LE1500 in the future... Public-sector salaries have also increased in the state budget from LE96 billion to LE172 billion."

"Also, 52,500 small-scale farmers have been forgiven their outstanding loans," he added, his words often met with applause.

Morsi played down speculation that the military might support opposition demands for his ouster, stressing that he was the commander-in-chief of Egypt's armed forces.

"The armed forces are deployed in several areas to safeguard the public and defend the nation if need be," he said.

Meanwhile, the few thousand protesters arrayed in Cairo's Tahrir Square voiced contempt for Morsi's address, which comes only days before planned mass protests on Sunday to demand he step down.

Friday is expected to see massive counter-rallies by the president's mostly-Islamist supporters, fuelling fears of potential violence.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75053/Egypt/0/In-Cairo-Tahrir-Square-for-Morsi-speech,-proteste.aspx>

In Cairo's Tahrir Square for Morsi speech, protesters divided on army intervention

Demonstrators converge on Tahrir Square for President Morsi's anticipated address, but crowds appear divided on role of armed forces should embattled president step down

Mai Shaheen , Wednesday 26 Jun 2013

Protesters in Tahrir Square waiting for Morsi's speech (Photo: Mai Shaheen)

A few thousand protesters gathered in Cairo's Tahrir Square Wednesday evening in anticipation of a national address by Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi scheduled for 9:30pm.

Opinions in Cairo's flashpoint protest venue varied regarding the prospect of possible military intervention in Egypt's fraught political stage.

According to Ahram Online correspondents at the scene, a number of placards bore pro-army slogans, including the standard 'The people and the army are one hand' – an oft-voiced slogan during and after Egypt's 2011 uprising.

A smaller group of people arrayed in the square, however, repeated chants against the army, rejecting suggestions that the armed forces reassume administration of the nation's affairs in the event that Morsi step down.

Some Egyptians are calling on the army to assume executive authority for a temporary period and to appoint a new 'national unity government' if Morsi is toppled.

Egypt's Supreme Military Council ran the country from former president Hosni Mubarak's February 2011 ouster until Morsi's assumption of the presidency one year ago.

Morsi, who hails from the Muslim Brotherhood group, narrowly defeated Ahmed Shafiq – Mubarak's last prime minister – in Egypt's first-ever free presidential election in June 2012.

Mass protests against Morsi's presidency are planned for next Sunday by Egypt's anti-government 'Rebel' campaign, a signature drive aimed at "withdrawing confidence" from the president and demand snap presidential polls.

As of 9pm Wednesday night, Tahrir Square protesters had erected makeshift checkpoints, blocking traffic through the square.

Meanwhile, hundreds have gathered in front of defence ministry headquarters in the eastern Cairo district of Abbasiya to demand that Defence Minister Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi take over power from President Morsi.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75065/Egypt/Politics-/Further-unrest-across-Egypt-Delta,-Morsi-speech-f.aspx>

Further unrest across Egypt's Delta, Morsi speech fails to placate critics

Clashes in Egypt's Nile Delta leave at least one dead and dozens injured, President Morsi's late-night speech sparks further protests

Ahram Online , Thursday 27 Jun 2013



The clashes in Mansoura (Source : Ahram Gate)

At least one person was killed and 298 injured in violence across Egypt's Nile Delta late on Wednesday, health officials confirmed.

Two hundred and forty-three were injured in Daqahliya governorate, 53 in Sharqiya and two in Gharbiya in clashes between supporters and opponents of President Mohamed Morsi.

In Daqahliya's Mansoura opposition protesters came to blows with hundreds of supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood, the group that propelled Mohamed Morsi to power.

Dozens of Brotherhood supporters are still trapped inside Mansoura's Al-Gamieya Al-Sharaiya Mosque by angry residents who have besieged the building since Wednesday afternoon. Police are at the scene but have failed to disperse the protesters.

Morsi's speech

Similar confrontations took place in Gharbiya and Sharqiya on Wednesday night, hours before the president gave a lengthy televised address reviewing his first year in office.

In the Nile Delta's Menoufiya governorate opposition supporters locked horns with around three thousand pro-Morsi protesters in Shibin Al-Koum city.

Morsi acknowledged failures, offered reforms and listed achievements, but otherwise seemed uncompromising amid mounting demands for his removal.

Thousands of angry protesters went on several mass marches in Kafr El-Sheikh governorate after the president's speech, which lasted almost three hours and ended after midnight.

Morsi's address came just two days before planned nationwide protests to demand his removal.

In the canal city of Suez, hundreds of protesters from youth and revolutionary movements took to the streets in the early hours of Thursday to voice their anger at the speech.

In Cairo, thousands gathered outside the defence ministry and in Tahrir Square where big screens had been set up to broadcast the speech.

Some protesters in Tahrir Square held their shoes aloft in a sign of contempt during the speech, while others held up red cards in reference to mounting demands for the president to step down.

Some protesters in Tahrir Square began a sit-in following the speech, setting the stage for protests on 30 June, state news agency MENA reported.

<http://www.afriqinfos.com/articles/2013/6/27/egypte-morts-moins-blesses-dans-affrontements-dans-delta-224659.asp>

Egypte : 2 morts et au moins 230 blessés dans des affrontements dans le delta du Nil

LE CAIRE (Xinhua) - Des affrontements entre partisans et opposants du président égyptien Mohamed Morsi ont fait 2 morts et plus de 230 blessés dans la ville de Mansoura, dans le delta du Nil, à 90 km de la capitale, a rapporté mercredi le journal officiel en ligne Al-Ahram. Jeudi 27 juin 2013 | 05:33 UTC



CC BY Joshua Paquin. Véhicule ambulance en dotation dans en Egypte

Les heurts ont éclaté non loin du siège des forces de sécurité du gouvernorat de Daqahliya, après la tenue d'une marche des partisans pro-islamiques du président Morsi appelant à soutenir la légitimité du chef de l'exécutif égyptien.

Les blessés, parmi lesquels figurent quatre cas graves, ont été transportés dans les hôpitaux les plus proches, a indiqué Al-Ahram, citant une source médicale à l'appui.

Les deux morts faisaient partie des manifestants pro-islamistes, a indiqué un communiqué émis par la branche politique des Frères musulmans, le Parti Liberté et Justice.

La marche a eu lieu quelques heures avant un discours que M. Morsi doit adresser à la nation, car, selon les affirmations de la présidence lundi, le peuple égyptien "a grandement besoin de transparence et d'une prise de position claire" concernant les derniers événements.

Par ailleurs, des affrontements de rue ont également eu lieu mercredi dans la ville voisine de Tanta, dans le delta du Nil, faisant 80 blessés.

Pendant ce temps, des centaines de personnes se sont rendues sur la place Tahrir, au Caire, théâtre des grands rassemblements ayant entraîné la chute de l'ex-président Hosni Moubarak en 2011, afin de participer à des sit-in. Ces manifestants sont en majorité associés au "Mouvement Rebelle", qui a recueilli plus de 15 millions de signatures contre M. Morsi.

Des milliers de partisans du président Morsi se sont réunis, de leur côté, devant le Centre international des conférences du Caire, où, selon certains médias égyptiens, le chef d'État doit prononcer son discours.

Des rassemblements massifs sont prévus le 30 juin prochain, date anniversaire de la première année de présidence de M. Morsi, afin de pousser le président à convoquer des élections en raison de son "mauvais bilan". Les islamistes ont, pour leur part, appelé à de nouvelles manifestations massives, vendredi prochain.

Quatre morts dans les affrontements en Egypte (nouveau bilan)

AFP | 28/06/2013 | 16h47

Le bilan des affrontements depuis mercredi dans le delta du Nil entre partisans et opposants au président égyptien Mohamed Morsi s'élève désormais à quatre morts, ont affirmé vendredi à l'AFP des médecins et un responsable des services de sécurité.

"Le bilan des heurts à Mansoura est passé à trois morts, après que deux personnes ont succombé à des blessures par chevrotine", a indiqué un médecin à l'hôpital international de Mansoura, dans le Delta du Nil.

Une personne avait été tuée et 237 autres blessées mercredi soir lorsque les affrontements avaient éclaté.

Les Frères musulmans, dont est issu le président Morsi, ont affirmé que les trois victimes étaient membres de la puissante confrérie.

Un autre militant a été tué jeudi soir dans le gouvernorat d'ach-Charqiya (nord), également dans le Delta, lors d'affrontements violents devant le siège du Parti de la liberté et de la justice (PLJ), vitrine politique des Frères musulmans.

Ces heurts surviennent en pleines tensions dans le pays avant une mobilisation massive contre M. Morsi prévue le 30 juin, jour anniversaire de son investiture, l'opposition accusant le président islamiste d'accaparer le pouvoir.

<http://www.france24.com/fr/20130628-egypte-morsi-manifestation-pro-anti-caire-alexandrie-mort-tensions-affrontements>

Dernière modification : 28/06/2013

Affrontements meurtriers entre pro et anti-Morsi à Alexandrie

Un ressortissant américain et un Égyptien ont été tués vendredi à Alexandrie, dans le nord de l'Égypte, lors d'affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi. Plusieurs dizaines de personnes ont également été blessées.

Par Pauline GODART (vidéo)
FRANCE 24 (texte)

La tension monte en Égypte entre les partisans du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi et ses opposants. Vendredi 28 juin, un Américain et un Égyptien ont été tués et 70 autres personnes blessées à Alexandrie, la deuxième ville d'Égypte, lors de deux manifestations rivales, selon plusieurs sources sécuritaires et médicales.

L'ambassade américaine n'a pas confirmé la mort d'un ressortissant américain, mais a assuré mener une enquête pour vérifier l'information. Il s'agirait d'un jeune homme de 21 ans, tué alors qu'il prenait des photos de la manifestation. Selon le chef de la sécurité égyptienne, le général Amin Ezzeddin, il aurait succombé à une blessure à la poitrine. L'autre victime, un Égyptien, aurait été atteint, selon la même source, par des tirs de chevrotine à la tête.

La télévision égyptienne a diffusé des images montrant des scènes de chaos à Alexandrie, des manifestants courant dans tous les sens alors que des tirs retentissaient. Des colonnes de

fumée s'échappant des locaux du siège du Parti de la liberté et de la justice (PLJ), vitrine politique des Frères musulmans, dans le quartier de Sidi Gaber, étaient également visibles.

L'armée et la police avaient pourtant été massivement mobilisées dans plusieurs villes d'Égypte pour protéger les sites stratégiques. Des renforts policiers ont été dépêchés sur place pour disperser les manifestants, selon un responsable de la sécurité.

Dans la ville d'Aga, dans la province de Daqahliya (Delta du Nil), des locaux du PLJ ont également été pillés puis incendiés, selon des responsables.

Mercredi et jeudi, des affrontements entre partisans et opposants de Mohamed Morsi ont fait quatre morts et des centaines de blessés dans le Delta du Nil (nord).

Au Caire en revanche, aucun affrontement n'a été rapporté au cours des manifestations qui ont rassemblé des dizaines de milliers de personnes. Place Tahrir, les anti-Morsi ont défilé sous des drapeaux égyptiens, au cri de l'emblématique "Dégage" qu'ils hurlaient au moment de la révolution début 2011.

Calme relatif au Caire

"Des gens de tous horizons participent au rassemblement, témoigne Gallagher Fenwick, envoyé spécial de FRANCE 24 au Caire. Des gens déçus par la politique du président islamiste, qui estiment qu'il a muselé les libertés [...]. Il y a également beaucoup de gens frustrés par la politique économique de leur président, qui considèrent que l'Égypte est en train de glisser dans un marasme financier, dont elle peine à se sortir."

Parallèlement, plusieurs dizaines de milliers de pro-Morsi se sont rassemblés dans un faubourg du Caire, Rabaa al-Adawiya de Nasr City à l'appel des mouvements islamistes. Ils ont promis d'y rester pour défendre "la légitimité [de l'élection de Mohamed Morsi, NDLR]" qui est "une ligne rouge".

Depuis l'arrivée au pouvoir de l'actuel président, issu des rangs de la confrérie islamiste des Frères musulmans, le pays est profondément divisé entre ses partisans qui estiment que le président élu épure les institutions après des décennies de corruption, et ses détracteurs qui lui reprochent de concentrer le pouvoir entre les mains des islamistes.

Un appel à manifester a été lancé par Tamarrod ("rébellion") pour le 30 juin, jour anniversaire de l'investiture de Mohamed Morsi. Ce mouvement populaire, créé en avril pour demander le départ du président, a affirmé avoir rassemblé 15 millions de signatures demandant la tenue d'une élection présidentielle anticipée.

En prévision de cette mobilisation de dimanche, l'armée a été mise en état d'alerte. Des entreprises ont annoncé qu'elles resteraient fermées ce jour, début de la semaine en Égypte. Au Caire ce vendredi, des habitants retiraient de l'argent et stockaient de la nourriture, tandis que de longues files d'attente se formaient devant les stations d'essence.

Un Américain tué en Egypte dans des affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi

La télévision d'Etat parle d'un "photographe-journaliste". Une autre source évoque un employé du centre culturel américain.



Des opposants au président Mohamed Morsi brûlent des meubles récupérés dans un bureau du parti au pouvoir, le 28 juin 2013 à Alexandrie (Egypte). (AFP)
Par Francetv info avec AFP

Mis à jour le 28/06/2013 | 22:54 , publié le 28/06/2013 | 17:30

Un Américain a été tué vendredi 28 juin à Alexandrie, en Egypte. Selon la télévision d'Etat, il s'agit d'un *"photographe-journaliste"*. Mais le chef de la sécurité de la ville évoque un employé du centre culturel américain.

Selon cette source, il a été poignardé alors qu'ils prenait des photos des heurts entre partisans et opposants de Mohamed Morsi. En effet, des milliers d'Egyptiens défilent à nouveau dans les rues du pays en ce jour de prière. Les uns soutiennent Mohammed Morsi tandis que les autres réclament le départ du président islamiste, témoignant des clivages croissants dans le pays un an après son élection et faisant craindre de nouveaux troubles.

Deux morts à Alexandrie

Redoutant que le climat politique ne se détériore davantage, l'armée a déployé des renforts dans les villes clés pour protéger les établissements vitaux. Mais, déjà, des heurts ont éclaté entre pro et anti-Morsi à Alexandrie, la deuxième ville d'Egypte. Le bilan est de deux morts et 70 blessés. Selon des sources médicales, la deuxième victime est Egyptienne.

Dans les faubourgs du Caire, les partisans de Mohammed Morsi ont entamé un rassemblement à durée illimitée sous le slogan *"la légitimité [de l'élection de Morsi] est une ligne rouge"*, devant la mosquée Rabaa al-Adawiya de Nasr City.

Au même moment, sur la place Tahrir et dans d'autres quartiers de la capitale, des milliers de manifestants anti-Morsi défilaient, criant "*Dégage !*". Les opposants au président islamistes manifestaient également dans le delta du Nil (nord), à Port-Saïd sur le canal de Suez.

(APTN)

<http://rt.com/news/protests-morsi-violence-opposition-366/>

US student among dead as riot-ridden Egypt descends into 'security crisis'

Published time: June 28, 2013 12:05

Edited time: June 29, 2013 14:06

Opponents of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi burn the content of a Freedom and Justice Party office in the coastal city of Alexandria on June 28, 2013. (AFP Photo)

A day of nationwide pro- and anti-Morsi protests in Egypt has spilled into violence as armed rival parties scuffled, leaving three people dead, including an American, and nearly 140 injured. Police had to use tear gas to prevent the violence spreading.

In Alexandria, one man died after being shot in the head. Another, an American student, was reportedly stabbed in the chest with a knife.

"There were two deaths - an Egyptian, and an American who was wounded during the events. He was filming," said General Amin Ezzeddin, a senior Alexandria security official.

According to Minister of Health Mohamed Mostafa Hamed, 88 people were injured in Alexandria, where the Muslim Brotherhood's headquarters was stormed by anti-Morsi demonstrators and reportedly set on fire.

Egyptian officials have confirmed that a US citizen has been identified by Kenyon College, Ohio, as 21-year-old student Andrew Pochter. *"Pochter was an intern at AMIDEAST, an American non-profit organization engaged in international education, training and development activities in the Middle East and North Africa. The AMIDEAST internship is not a Kenyon program. An appreciation of Pochter's life will be shared at a later time,"* the college said on its website.

Following the news the US State Department has warned Americans against all but essential travel to Egypt and said it would allow some nonessential staff and the families of personnel at the US Embassy in Cairo to leave the country.



Supporters of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi and anti-Morsi protesters clash in Sedy Gaber in Alexandria, June 28, 2013. (Reuters)

A third person was killed in an explosion during an anti-Morsi protest in the Suez Canal city of Port Said. The blast that also left 15 injured has been later proved to have been caused by a home-made hand grenade, Reuters reported citing security sources. Traces of an explosive substance were found on the bodies of some of the wounded.

In the capital, thousands of people marched towards Tahrir Square, chanting slogans against President Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood. Marches in Cairo originated from Mostafa Mahmoud Square, Sayeda Zeinab, Al-Azhar Mosque and Shubra, Ahram Online reports.

There have also been reports that a foreign woman was beaten and dragged for several meters at Cairo's Tahrir Square as she was taking pictures and shooting videos of the demonstration there, according to Ahram Online. The scuffle occurred after the woman was asked to leave because she was a foreigner.

Overall, some 139 people got injured across the country, the minister of health said.



A man injured from clashes between supporters of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi and anti-Morsi protesters lies on a stretcher in Sedy Gaber in Alexandria, June 28, 2013. (Reuters)

Millions expected to protest Sunday

While both Morsi's supporters and opponents held their rallies on Friday, the wider opposition coalition is also expected to bring millions out on Sunday, calling for new elections.

"We are confident the Egyptian masses will go out in their millions in Egypt's squares and streets on June 30 to confirm their will to get the January 25 revolution back on track," the liberal opposition coalition said.

RT's correspondent in Egypt Bel Trew reported that *"the country is worried that there will be further violence after several days of clashes between rival groups, demonstrating either in support of the president or against him."*

The army, which helped protesters overthrow previous President Hosni Mubarak, has warned that it could step back in to impose order should violence spin out of control.

"Protest comes amidst a growing security crisis across the country. We've already seen several people die, hundreds injured in the days leading up to the protests. We're seeing an increase of civilians armed and bringing those weapons to protests which has led many to call for the army to step in and secure the nation," Bel Trew added.

In the light of the rallies, local residents have been withdrawing cash, queuing outside petrol stations and stocking up on food, according to AFP. Many companies said they would close on the first day of the working week in Egypt, Sunday, when the large-scale opposition rally is due to take place.

The Arab world's most influential and one of the largest Islamic movements, the Muslim Brotherhood, has slammed activists campaigning to force the fifth president of Egypt, 61-year-old Morsi, to resign as he celebrates his first year in office.

Morsi's critics primarily see him as a Muslim Brotherhood delegate, appointing Islamists in key positions, returning Egypt to authoritarianism.

"I think it goes without saying, and Morsi himself has partially admitted it, that he has disappointed people. As far as those people who helped to bring Mubarak down or a sizable section of them he's changed absolutely nothing since he came to power and these protests are to show that the democratic fig leaf is not enough. So what will happen on Sunday will be quite decisive," author and journalist Tariq Ali told RT.

Ali says Egypt is divided between those who seek an evolution towards democracy, and those who are still in the mind-set of the old regime.

"It's not the case that he [Morsi] is bereft of support, it's just that the country is now very sharply divided between those who want some meaningful change and the government which is maintaining continuity with the previous regime and in some instances getting worse," Ali said.



Islamists, members of the brotherhood, and supporters of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi shout slogans holding the Holy Quran during a protest around the Raba El-Adwya mosque square in the suburb of Nasr City, Cairo, June 28, 2013. (Reuters / Mohamed Abd El Ghany)

Morsi's Islamist supporters emphasize that he derives his authority from the first free presidential election in Egypt's history, and that the challenges he faces, namely corrupt and inefficient institutions, economic woes and religious strife have all been inherited.

In a televised speech on Wednesday, Morsi warned that political polarization threatened to "paralyze" Egypt.

He has also admitted making mistakes and pledged to correct them.

"I have made many mistakes, there is no question. Mistakes can happen, but they need to be corrected," he said.

Morsi threatened legal action against several prominent figures, claiming some judges were obstructing him, and accused liberal media owners of bias and CBC television owner Mohamed Amin of tax evasion.



Supporters of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi and anti-Mursi protesters clash in Sedy Gaber in Alexandria, June 28, 2013. (Reuters)

However, according to Taqadom Al Khatib of the National Association for Change, a member of the opposition, Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood simply seem to lack any solutions for the country's pressing economic and political situation now that they have managed to secure control. More so, the Brotherhood seems to be mimicking some of the autocratic behavior of the Mubarak regime.

"We have an economic problem, and many political and social problems. The Muslim Brotherhood have no solutions for these problems. People in Egypt want social justice, freedom and democracy. The Muslim Brotherhood is building a new dictatorship. The government has sent official letters to TV channels, claiming that they have the power to close

them down, without any court order,” says Al Khatib.

Al Khatib’s group is one of several calling for early elections. According to Al Khatib, both the US and other Western powers are unlikely to offer any support for Morsi’s ouster, in part as they rely on his government to support policy against Iran in the region.



Thousands of Islamists and Muslim Brotherhood supporters perform the Friday prayers as they gather at Rabaa al-Adawiya mosque to start an open-ended sit-in in support of the legitimacy of President Mohamed Morsi in Cairo on June 28, 2013.(AFP Photo / Gianluigi Guercia)



Islamists and Muslim Brotherhood supporters perform Friday prayers at Rabaa El-Adaweya mosque as thousands gather to start an open-ended sit in to show their support for the legitimacy of Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi on June 28, 2013 in the capital Cairo.(AFP Photo / Gianluigi Guercia)

<http://www.985fm.ca/international/nouvelles/gypte-des-affrontements-font-deux-morts-et-85-bl-249237.html>

Égypte: des affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi font deux morts et 85 blessés

Publié par Associated Press le vendredi 28 juin 2013 à 23h25.



LE CAIRE, Égypte - Au moins deux personnes ont été tuées, dont un Américain, et 85 autres blessées vendredi lors d'affrontements entre les partisans et les opposants du président de l'Égypte, Mohamed Morsi, à Alexandrie, a rapporté le ministère égyptien de la Santé.

Des milliers de détracteurs de M. Morsi ont marché jusqu'au siège social des Frères musulmans dans la ville méditerranéenne, où environ 1000 fidèles du groupe politique du président les attendaient.

Les combats ont éclaté lorsque quelqu'un du côté des islamistes a lancé de la grenaille sur les manifestants, selon un caméraman de l'Associated Press présent sur les lieux.

Plus tard, les contestataires ont investi les bureaux des Frères musulmans et y ont mis le feu.

Le ministre de la Santé a annoncé qu'une personne avait péri durant les événements, sans donner de détails. Il n'a pas été possible de déterminer dans l'immédiat à quel camp appartenait la victime.

Au cours des derniers jours, les membres des Frères musulmans se sont battus avec les opposants de M. Morsi dans les rues de plusieurs villes du Delta du Nil, faisant au moins cinq morts, incluant celui de vendredi.

Inquiets à l'idée d'assister à une nouvelle flambée de violence, de nombreux voyageurs ont pris d'assaut l'aéroport international du Caire vendredi afin de quitter le pays, une exode que les autorités ont qualifié de «sans précédent». Les vols en direction de l'Europe, des États-Unis et du golfe Persique étaient tous complets.

Plusieurs familles de responsables et d'hommes d'affaires égyptiens figuraient parmi les passagers, de même que des coptes égyptiens et les proches de diplomates étrangers et de la Ligue arabe, ont précisé les représentants des forces de l'ordre.

Certains craignent que les récents affrontements n'ouvrent la voie à des batailles encore plus sanglantes dimanche, jour de l'anniversaire de l'assermentation de Mohamed Morsi, lorsque l'opposition tiendra des rassemblements d'envergure pour exiger la démission du leader.

<http://www.humanite.fr/monde/egypte-les-affrontements-entre-pro-et-anti-morsi-o-544907>

le 29 Juin 2013

Égypte. Les affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi ont fait trois morts

Trois personnes dont un Américain ont été tuées lors de violents heurts vendredi en Egypte entre partisans et opposants du président Morsi à l'occasion de manifestations rivales qui ont rassemblé des dizaines de milliers de personnes à travers le pays.

Un an après la prise de fonctions de Mohamed Morsi, premier président islamiste et civil d'Égypte, ces rassemblements rivaux témoignent des divisions croissantes dans le pays et les accrochages font craindre une propagation des troubles. Les Frères musulmans, la confrérie dont est issu Morsi, ont averti l'opposition qu'ils ne permettraient pas un "coup d'Etat" contre le président, à deux jours d'une protestation massive attendue dimanche pour réclamer une présidentielle anticipée.

Malgré le déploiement policier et de l'armée pour protéger les installations vitales, de violents heurts ont éclaté entre pro et anti-Morsi à **Alexandrie**, deuxième ville du pays, où un Egyptien et un Américain ont été tués, selon des médias officiels et des sources médicales. Par ailleurs, dans la ville de **Port-Saïd**, sur le canal de Suez, un journaliste égyptien a été tué et plusieurs autres personnes blessées lorsque des inconnus ont lancé un petit engin explosif sur des manifestants anti-Morsi, ont indiqué un responsable des services de sécurité et plusieurs témoins. Ces trois décès portent à sept le nombre de personnes tuées depuis mercredi lors des violences dans le pays. Des heurts entre pro et anti-Morsi ont également éclaté en soirée dans les provinces de **Daqahliya** et **Beheira**, dans le Delta du Nil (nord), selon des responsables qui ont fait état de 130 blessés à travers le pays.

Les Frères musulmans mettent en garde l'opposition

Les locaux du siège du Parti de la liberté et de la justice (PLJ), vitrine politique des Frères musulmans, ont été en outre incendiés à Alexandrie, de même qu'à Agha, dans la province de Daqahliya. A l'appel des mouvements islamistes, des dizaines de milliers de personnes se sont rassemblées devant la mosquée Rabaa al-Adawiya de Nasr City, un faubourg du Caire, et ont promis d'y rester pour défendre "la légitimité (de l'élection de Morsi)" qui est "une ligne rouge". **"Nous ne permettrons pas un coup d'Etat contre le président"**, a déclaré devant la foule Mohamed al-Beltagi, un dirigeant des Frères musulmans.

Dans l'autre camp, des milliers de manifestants anti-Morsi défilaient sous des drapeaux égyptiens et au cri de "Dégage", sur l'emblématique place Tahrir du Caire, ainsi que dans le delta du Nil et à Port-Saïd. L'opposition et le mouvement populaire Tamarrod (rébellion, en arabe) ont appelé à manifester dimanche pour demander le départ de du chef de l'État égyptien, Mohamed Morsi. Tamarrod a dit avoir réuni **15 millions de signatures pour une présidentielle anticipée**.

L'appel au dialogue de Morsi rejeté par l'opposition

Les détracteurs de Morsi l'accusent d'accaparer le pouvoir, de ne pas s'atteler aux revendications démocratiques qui avaient déclenché la révolte de 2011 et de ne pas résoudre une situation économique marquée par le chômage et l'inflation croissants. Les pro-Morsi mettent, eux, en avant son statut de premier président élu démocratiquement en Egypte et arguent que difficultés économiques et tensions religieuses affectaient déjà le pays avant son arrivée au pouvoir. Ils affirment aussi qu'il épure les institutions corrompues. Mercredi, le président Morsi a appelé à la réforme et au dialogue, tout en prévenant que les divisions risquaient de précipiter le pays dans le "chaos". L'opposition a rejeté son appel au dialogue, jugeant qu'il aurait mieux fait de **"reconnaître son échec à administrer les affaires du pays"**.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/News/75134.aspx>

Live updates: Hundreds of thousands attend rival rallies in Cairo; clashes in Alexandria

Hundreds of thousands of pro-President Morsi protesters gather at Nasr City's Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque; thousands of opposition marchers take to the streets in Cairo, Alexandria and many other cities across Egypt
Ahrām Online, Friday 28 Jun 2013

Islamists, members of the brotherhood, and supporters of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi, shout slogans during a protest around the Raba El-Adwyia mosque square in the suburb of Nasr City, Cairo, June 28, 2013. (Photo: Reuters)

18:00 Muslim Brotherhood senior member Abdel-Rahman El-Barr calls for calm after at least four Islamists are killed in clashes across Egypt in recent days.

“The voice of peace is louder than the gun,” he says during a speech at Cairo's pro-Morsi rally.

“We are all one nation... We are all Egyptians and no one can exclude the other.

“We are concerned about this nation... We will not shed blood and we will keep raising the flags of peace... Building a nation can only be accomplished by free people not thugs.

“We will not accept that the democratic choice of the people is overturned... All state institutions, including the army and police, are working to protect the legitimate government,” El-Barr says, playing down claims the security forces are working against the president.

El-Barr criticises the opposition for refusing President Morsi’s offer of talks and then “complaining there is no dialogue.”

He goes on to warn opposition media figures and politicians that “inciting violence is a shameful act that will always haunt you... People will remember those who incited against Islam and stoked violence.”

17:45 Ahram Online's Reem Gehad reports from Tahrir Square.

Tarek Sabry, an accountant at Egypt Bank, believes the Muslim Brotherhood "has no vision or a real plan to develop Egypt... The revolution's demands were not met because the president does not represent the revolution.

"I am calling for early presidential elections where people can freely choose their next president without deception."

Mohamed Allam, a school senior teacher, echoes similar sentiments by saying that the revolution's demands (bread, freedom and social justice) have not been fulfilled under Morsi.

"I will not leave until these demands are met."

Many in Tahrir Square are calling on Defence Minister Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi to replace Morsi as ruler. The standard chants of "the army and the people are one hand" are widely heard.

17:40 The FJP headquarters in Daqahliya’s Aga and Alexandria’s Sidi Gaber have been torched by opposition protesters, Al-Ahram Arabic news website reports.

Ten have been injured, four of whom were hospitalised, during clashes in Aga, eyewitness say.



The FJP headquarters in Alexandria's Sidi Gaber have been torched by opposition protesters (Photo: Asnap shot from Aljazera mubasher masr tv)

17:30 Ahram Online's Sayed Gamal says the Muslim Brotherhood's offices in Gharbiya, Kafr El-Sheikh and Daqahliya have been stormed by anti-Brotherhood protesters.

17:25 Ahram Online's Bel Trew observes a lot of anger towards opposition TV presenters at the pro-Morsi rally, with many protesters carrying posters highlighting which voices they want silenced. President Morsi has been criticised for the number of court cases brought against TV presenters, bloggers and journalists for "insulting the president" during his first year in office.

Pro-Morsi protester Emad Abel Mahmoud, 32, from Assiut, says:

"These so-called commentators or TV personalities are trying to bring Egypt down, they are clearly working for the US. Look at Bassem Youssef, he's touting a Zionist American agenda, making TV programmes for the US.

"There is a big difference between freedom of speech and being disrespectful and saying ugly words, bringing gay guests onto his show and showing people's underwear. They are insulting our dignity and religion, making fun of us. So on my poster I have CBC's Lamees and Amr Adeeb, as well a Youssef."

17:15 Bel Trew of Ahram Online speaks to Omm Ali, a 45 year old mother of two daughters from Shubra, about why she's attending the pro-Morsi rally:

"I'm here because of my religion and to support Morsi. I'm convinced Morsi is going to make everything better. If anyone else was in power, we'd be like Syria by now. Next year we're going to have lots of wheat and rice. The biggest problem we are facing is the media, particularly the TV networks owned by big businessmen.

"Morsi's first year has been brilliant for women, he gave us all the rights and freedoms we need. The criticisms of the constitution in regards to women's right are unfounded. For me as a woman the greatest freedom is the freedom of speech, which is what today is about, me and my daughters expressing our opinions."

17:00 An Ahram Online reporter at the pro-Morsi rally says the crowds are smaller than at last Friday's Islamist rally, which was attended by hundreds of thousands. The energy of the crowd is also lower with chant leaders struggling to energise the crowd, he adds.

16:55 Safwat Abdel-Ghani of Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya's Building and Development Party takes to the stage at Cairo's pro-Morsi rally and says "the whole world knows who the killers are," in reference to the killing of the four Islamists over the past few days.

16:50 Hundreds continue to march from Shubra and Mostafa Mahmoud Square to an anti-Morsi protest in Cairo's Tahrir Square.

Marches from Al-Azhar Mosque and Sayeda Zeinab have already arrived in the square.

16:45 Security forces launch tear gas to break up clashes between rival protesters near Sidi Gabr train station in Alexandria, MENA reports.

More security forces arriving to deal with the violence which has injured 40 so far, according to Ahram Online's Sayed Gamal.

16:35 Heading west to Beheira governorate, around 4,000 anti-Morsi protesters are demonstrating outside the local governor's office in Damanhour, Al-Ahram Arabic news website reports.

A banner reading "Closed until the departure of the Brotherhood" hangs on the building. Police are hovering nearby.

Gunshots are heard in the city centre during an argument between anti-Morsi Rebel campaigners and Brotherhood members. Calm is restored after local residents intervene.

16:25 Clashes in Alexandria



Supporters and opponents of Egypt's Islamist president clash in Alexandria, Egypt, Friday, June 28, 2013. (Photo: AP)

16:20 Ahram Online's Ahmed Abdel-Rasoul speaks to three women supporters of President Morsi, who wish to remain anonymous, at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque.

"The opposition does not want to help the president, in fact it has been fighting him since day one," one woman says.

"The media is fooling the people by telling them lies about bread and fuel shortages," another says.

The third woman prays God will help President Morsi against his opponents.

16:05 All Brotherhood offices in Alexandria are closed and its local leaders have not been seen on the streets or been reachable by phone, Al-Ahram Arabic news website reports.

Large numbers of people from the historically pro-Islamist Wardiyah, Al-Qabary and Al-Ma'wa districts of Alexandria are marching to demand the removal of President Morsi.

15:40 Back in Alexandria, violent clashes are taking place between hundreds of anti-government protesters and members of the Brotherhood outside its local headquarters.

Gunshots can be heard in the vicinity of the clashes, Al-Ahram Arabic news website reports.

15:35 A march has left Sphinx Square in Cairo's Mohandiseen calling on people to protest against President Morsi on 30 June. The march is moving towards Agouza in the presence of security forces and an ambulance. Participants are distributing Egyptian flags and red cards to drivers and chanting against the Muslim Brotherhood.

15:30 Meanwhile, numbers are increasing in Cairo's Tahrir Square as several anti-Morsi marches arrive, including those from Sayeda Zeinab and Al-Azhar Mosque. Protesters carrying Egyptian flags and holding up red cards are chanting, "On 30 June at Ittihadiya, down with Morsi and the Brotherhood."



Anti-Morsi gathering in Tahrir Square 28, June 2011 (Photo: Tarek Shalaby)

15:25 Heading to the Nile Delta's Sharqiya – where a young man was shot dead in street battles between rival demonstrators on Thursday – hundreds of anti-government protesters are taking part in several marches across the city. Protesters are chanting "Leave! Leave!"

15:15 Ahram Online's Ahmed Abdel-Rasoul talks with Abdel-Monsef and Sheikh Hamed from Sohag who came to Cairo to support President Morsi.

"The [anti-Morsi] Tamarod signatures are fake. The president has been fought since his first day in office, despite his efforts to provide enough bread and gas cylinders," Sheikh Hamad says.

"We came to defend Morsi's democratic legitimacy. The opposition is calling for blood and doesn't care if people are killed," he adds. "I took time off from work and I will join the sit-in in Cairo."

"If the opposition can mobilise millions in the streets why can't they participate in parliamentary elections in order to show their opposition to the president and form their own government," Abdel-Monsaf asks.

15:00 Moving north to the Nile Delta's flashpoint city of Mansoura, where three have died in clashes between pro- and anti-Morsi protesters since Wednesday, four anti-regime marches have set out towards Al-Shaheed (Al-Mohafza) Square, Egyptian Popular Current member Abdel-Meguid Rashed tells Ahram Online.

Tents have already been erected in the square, a rallying point for the protests, in preparation for a planned sit-in on 30 June.

"Opposition marchers are everywhere in Mansoura. We demand the overthrow of this regime," Rashed says. "There are no pro-Morsi protests today in Mansoura."

Activist Khaled Abdel-Rahman tells Ahram Online that several thousand protesters are now in the square, and the number is rapidly increasing.

14:55 Yasser Sarhan, tells Ahram Online's Osman El-Sharnoubi that many of the opposition are against Sharia law and don't want it implemented in Egypt.

"They hire thugs to kill protesters," he says. "If the opposition are so strong they should undergo parliamentary elections and form a government of their liking then try to impeach the president through parliament."

14:45 There is a festive atmosphere outside the mosque as national songs continue to play and protesters have picnics in the gardens on the side of the road.

Pro-Morsi protester Osama Eid, a student of Sharia law at Al-Azhar University, tells Ahram Online that not all members of the opposition are remnants of the old regime. Many are actually revolutionaries who have allied themselves with Mubarak loyalists in order to bring down the president.

14:30 Back to the canal city of Suez, hundreds of Islamists from the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party, Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya and other groups left for Cairo in buses this morning to attend the pro-Morsi rallies, MENA reports.

"We are taking part so as to urge everybody to respect the legitimacy of the president," FJP member Abbas Abdel-Aziz told MENA.

14:20 Hossam, a Nasr City local who works for his father's security company, tells Ahram Online's Ahmed Abdel-Rasoul that many protesters from the governorates do not know where they are in Cairo.

"They ask us where they are in Cairo and I tell them to go back to where they came from," Hossam says.

Hossam, who is against President Morsi, says he and other local residents do not want more sit-ins or protests.

Patriotic songs from the 1973 war period are being blasted from speakers near the mosque.

14:10 A number of opposition forces released a statement on Thursday asserting they would not accept the return of Mubarak-era officials to power as an alternative to President Morsi and his regime.

"The revolution will not tolerate any opportunists who aim for personal gain," the statement read. "We will not allow for the return of Mubarak [officials] or the military."

April 6 Youth Movement, Revolutionary Socialists and Strong Egypt Party are among the groups that signed the statement.

13:55 Volunteers armed with sticks are checking people's IDs at checkpoints around Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque. Bearded men with walkie talkies are organising the protesters.

Pro-Morsi protesters from Egypt's governorates begin erecting tents in preparation for a sit-in outside the mosque.

Photos of Muslim Brotherhood members killed during protests over the past week are displayed on the main stage.

Tagarod campaigners are collecting signatures in support of President Morsi. Young people are collecting donations in support of the Syrian revolution.

13:50 Opposition supporters are on their way to Cairo's Tahrir Square. Hundreds have joined marches from Mostafa Mahmoud Square, Sayeda Zeinab, Al-Azhar Mosque and Shubra. The marches were called for by the 30 June Front. Similar protests are expected to take place in other governorates as well. The main opposition marches are planned for Sunday, the anniversary of President Morsi's inauguration.

13:40 Outside the capital, hundreds of opposition supporters are marching from the Al-Qaed Ibrahim Mosque in the centre of Alexandria, and the eastern Dawaran Jihan area towards the upscale Sidi Gaber district.

Dozens of protesters are waving Egyptian flags and anti-Brotherhood placards along the city's corniche. Others are holding up red signs reading "leave."

Dozens of Muslim Brotherhood members, meanwhile, are gathering in the 15 May Square to form committees to protect the group's local headquarters, MENA reports.

13:30 Organisers at the rally announce the main event and speeches will be postponed until 4pm due to the heat. Temperatures in the Egyptian capital will top 35 degrees celsius this afternoon.

13:25 The preacher at Rabaa El-Adawiya Mosque blasts "anti-Islamic" comments by unnamed individuals. These people are "rebellious against legitimacy," he adds.

He also calls on God to guide the opposition to the correct path.

The age of the “sacred rulers” is over because President Morsi admitted his own mistakes during his first year in office, he adds.

13:10 Click on this link for Ahram Online's story on the launch of the pro-Morsi National Alliance for Legitimacy Support.

13:05 In the canal city of Suez, an intense military presence can be seen ahead of several marches planned by Rebel and other opposition movements. Marches will set out from three mosques after Friday prayers towards the iconic El-Arbaeen Square.

The Third Field Army has been deployed at major thoroughfares and around strategic buildings in Suez, including the local governor's office, the court complex and the security directorate.

13:00 The Friday sermon at Rabaa Al-Adawiya mosque began with the preacher urging Egyptians to stay united and condemning the spilling of blood. He also stressed that the recurring fuel shortage, which has plagued the country for weeks, should not divide the nation. He also said that legitimacy is a red line and those who don't respect it today will not have legitimacy tomorrow.

12:55 Regarding the Rebel (Tamarod) campaign Hamdy says, “If they gathered 15 million signatures, the Islamists gathered more and it is enough to see the numbers of protesters at last Friday's pro-Morsi protests, as well today's protests, to realise there are more of us than them.”

12:37 Ahram Online's Osman Osman El-Sharnoubi says there are already thousands of protesters outside the mosque and the numbers are increasing by the minute.

12:35 Hamdy, a teacher from Alexandria in his mid-30s, is joining today's protest.

“I am not speaking about achievements, the president has made mistakes and he's admitted them. But it is unacceptable to get rid of him after one year. It is better that he completes the four years. If the opposition ousts the president today, the Islamists are going to oust the next president and we will not have stability. We have a contract with Mohamed Morsi for four years, he should complete it.”

12:25 Protester Reda Gomaa, a Cairo-based physician, praises the speech delivered by President Morsi on Wednesday evening in which he listed the achievements of his first year in office.

“His speech was complete and appealed to all sections of the public,” Gomaa says. “Anyone who is impartial liked it.”

Gomaa says he decided to join the pro-Morsi rally after watching the speech.

President Morsi had many accomplishments in his first year, Gomaa adds, including pushing the economy forward.

12:20 A large stage has been set up in front of the mosque's main gate by the Legitimacy Support Alliance, a newly-formed umbrella group encompassing 11 Islamic parties. The Alliance is tasked with coordinating the protests and the planned sit-in.



(Photo: Ahmed Abdel-Rasoul)

12:10 Starting in Cairo, FJP Spokesman Nader Omran told Ahram Online's Bel Trew why they are protesting today:

"We're gathering on Friday to send this message: protest all you want in a peaceful way, gather if you want to convince people that the president hasn't done enough or hasn't done anything at all but step over legitimacy and that really is a red line.

We want to send this message and to show that the majority is with the president.

The people who chose the president have the right to protect their choice. They want to keep their president, to have him for four years, to give him the full chance to apply his vision.

If some people are not pleased with his performance, they can go to polling stations and they can change it."

12:00 Good morning, we open our live coverage of today's rallies, for more background on pro-Morsi demonstration please click

Egypt is steeling itself Friday for the first of two rival protests scheduled in the lead up to President Mohamed Morsi's first anniversary in office.

Today's protest entitled "legitimacy is a red line" is called for by the Islamic alliance, a coalition of Islamist parties in support of the president spearhead by the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party (FJP).

Rallying in front of Rabaa Al-Adawiya mosque in Cairo's Nasr City, Morsi's supporters argue that the president was democratically elected and the only way to remove him is through the ballot box at the end of his term.

That argument clashes with nationwide anti-government protests set to take place Sunday, which organisers are hoping will bring millions of Egyptians to the streets. They want nothing less than the president's resignation: grassroots anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaign has collected some 18 million signatures in support of their goal.

The Muslim Brotherhood has suffered from a number of attacks on their offices in the governorates in the lead up to the anniversary.

The night before Friday's rallies the Islamist group's headquarters in Morsi's hometown of Zagazig, in the Nile Delta, was attacked leaving one dead and 26 injured.

Street battles between rival protest groups have erupted in a number of the provinces across the northern region: in Mansoura one died and over 200 were wounded. Fifty-three people were injured in Sharqiya and two in Gharbiya in similar confrontations.

Today's open-ended demonstration is the second such show of strength by Islamist allies of the president within a week.

Last Friday saw hundreds of thousands of Morsi supporters gather at the same location in Cairo to voice support for the president and to 'reject violence.'

At the FJP's Thursday press conference, senior party figure Gehad El-Haddad echoed the president's tone, blaming the violence on "thuggery" encouraged by the opposition. He also accused the anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaign of "joining forces with the former regime." El-Haddad went on to stress that Friday's Islamist rallies would avoid Tahrir Square, where anti-Morsi protesters have already begun to erect tents in advance of a planned open-ended sit-in.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75182/Egypt/Live-updates,-part--Hundreds-of-thousands-at-proMo.aspx>

Live updates, part 2: Hundreds of thousands at pro-Morsi rally in Cairo; 2 dead in Alexandria clashes

Hundreds of thousands turn out to support President Morsi in Cairo, but impromptu opposition rallies in Tahrir Square also draw thousands; fierce clashes in the Nile Delta lead to two deaths, including one American citizen

Hazel Haddon, Randa Ali, Salma Shukrallah, Sherif Tarek, Friday 28 Jun 2013



President Morsi's supporters gather at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in the suburb of Nasr City, Cairo, June 28, 2013 (Photo: Reuters)

24:25 That's all for tonight. Protesters have now largely dispersed in Alexandria, where violence injured over 88 and killed two, including an American, according to official health

ministry figures. There were violent clashes in a number of other governorates, particularly in the Nile Delta, although anti-Morsi rallies were also held in Suez Canal cities and in Aswan.

In Cairo, numbers at the pro-Morsi rally have now decreased a little from their afternoon peak of hundreds of thousands. Many demonstrators are bedding in for the night. An ad hoc decision by anti-Morsi groups to demonstrate in Tahrir Square on Friday saw a turnout of tens of thousands. Those numbers too are now dropping off, although some tents have been set up for a sit-in.

Thank you for following Ahram Online's coverage, and stay tuned for further live updates on Sunday, when nationwide anti-Morsi protests are planned.

24:15 According to Ahram Arabic, the number of injured in the accidental explosion in Port Said has reached 12.

The man who died in the accident was revealed to be Salah Hassan, a 38-year-old journalist for Shaab Masr newspaper.

24:10 At the Islamist rally in Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque, construction engineer Tarek Bayoumy, who is a member of the Muslim Brotherhood's administrative office in Suez, explained to Ahram Online's Eslam Omar his definition of the much used term "the Islamic project."

"It means that we abide by the Islamic doctrine and teachings in every aspect of life. Islam says religion and the state should not be separate," said Bayoumy.

24:05 The mood in Alexandria's Sidi Gaber is now calm, with protesters dispersing after a long day of violent clashes, reports Ahram Arabic.

Islam El-Hadary, an opposition activist, told Ahram that the anti-Morsi groups have no intention of holding a sit-in tonight, to avoid any further clashes.

"The political forces decided to hold the sit-in starting 30 June at Sidi Gaber Square," added El-Hadary.

24:00 There is yet another report of an FJP office attacked by anti-Morsi protesters in the Nile Delta.

The Freedom and Justice Party's headquarters in Al-Khanka in Qalioubiya governorate were raided by locals on Friday evening, reported state-owned news agency MENA.

According to eyewitnesses, the office was empty at the time of the attack.

23:45 Ahram Online's Eslam Omar says that the number of Islamist protesters near Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo is decreasing. "Many have joined the sit-in and are sleeping, while others left and will come back to the open-ended sit-in another time," he reports.

"One group of protesters has decided to jog around the square to stay active."

23:40 A foreign woman was beaten up and dragged for several metres in Tahrir Square after a group of protesters were enraged when they saw her taking photos and shooting videos, according to Ahram Arabic.

According to the report, the woman was asked to leave because she was a foreigner. She was supported by other protesters who argued that she had the right to stay.

A heated verbal argument soon developed into a scuffle, which saw the woman attacked, sustaining several injuries as a result.

The group of protesters who were supporting the woman escorted her towards the Egyptian Museum in the north of the square to protect her from the assaults.

23:35 Minister of Health Mohamed Mostafa Hamed announced that the total number of deaths today stands at 2, and the number of injured has reached 139.

In Alexandria, two were killed, including an Egyptian who died from a bullet to the head, and an American who was reportedly stabbed in his chest. Identities of the two dead have not been confirmed.

The injuries in Alexandria have been estimated to be 88 in total. In Cairo two were injured, in Gharbiya 7, in Beheira 7 and in Daqahliya 35.

The minister did not give any more information on the reports of a third death in Alexandria.

23:30 There are reports coming in of an accidental explosion in Port Said. According to Ahram Online's reporter in the field, the explosion took place during an anti-Morsi rally in Al-Shuhadaa Square, after fireworks hit a butane gas cylinder in a vendor's cart.

At least one was killed and dozens injured in the explosion.

23:25 According to Ahram Online's Sayyed Gamal, the head of the field hospital in Alexandria has said that the death toll in the coastal city has reached three, including the deaths of an Egyptian and an American reported earlier in the day.

23:20 Moving to Upper Egypt, opposition forces in Aswan's Komombo held a meeting to discuss how to protect the anti-Morsi protests on 30 June.

"We will defy any attempt of vandalism or spreading of chaos," Ahmed El-Garfy, secretary general of Karama Party in Komombo told Ahram Arabic, stressing that revolutionary forces are not responsible for protest violence.

El-Garfy further called on security forces to secure the protests.

Earlier in the day, Aswan witnessed rallies by hundreds of pro-Morsi supporters in Martyrs Square.

23:15 In Alexandria, field doctor Tarek Mokhtar tells Ahram Online that he left the clashes at around 9pm, as things were calming down. He estimates that around a hundred people were

injured; three were in critical condition and one died, a death that was reported earlier in the day. Most of the injuries were from birdshot.

23:00 According to Ahram Arabic, numbers of protesters in Port Said Square in Kafr El-Sheikh city are increasing, and those present have started setting up tents in preparation for a sit-in “until the regime falls.”

Several of the protesters were chanting pro-military slogans, demanding that the army takes over until presidential elections take place.

22:50 The Muslim Brotherhood Students have released a statement condemning the killing of member Hossam Shawky in Zagazig. According to the statement, Shawky was shot during the attack on the Muslim Brotherhood headquarters yesterday.

The group say they hold accountable the anti-Morsi Rebel campaign, the Constitution Party and the Egyptian Popular Current “for giving political legitimacy to thuggery and the remnants of the ousted regime.”

The statement demanded that those responsible for the killing are held accountable, that all violence is condemned and not provided with political legitimacy, and that security officials in Sharqiya are questioned for failing to protect citizens.

22:30 At the Cairo pro-Morsi rally, a demonstrator from Mansoura who wanted to remain anonymous told Ahram Online's Eslam Omar that some protesters had bought helmets and uniforms with their own money, and brought sticks to use as weapons for defence against possible attacks, not to attack opponents.

According to the demonstrator, security at the rally has been quite organised. Demonstrators from each governorate are responsible for securing a particular area.

"Each [security] group is deployed in way that give the impression their numbers are bigger, leaving spaces between each individual."

Not everyone at the rally seems to be there for political reasons. Doctor Essam Abdel-Zaher Osman, who is the head of a health ministry medical center in Cairo, tells Ahram Online he is in Sharqiya as part of an official campaign to encourage people to donate blood.

22:15 Other sources are suggesting different names for the American who was killed today; Egyptian news website Al-Masry Al-Youm names him as Andrew Piroso.

22:00 According to security sources, the American citizen killed today in Alexandria was Victor Andrew, a photojournalist. The details have not yet been officially confirmed.

21:50 At the pro-Morsi rally in Cairo, where demonstrators have declared an open-ended sit-in, prominent Muslim Brotherhood member Mohamed El-Beltagy took to the stage to stress that “legitimacy is a red line.”

"Our calls to our brothers of [anti-Morsi campaign] Rebel and those opposing Morsi continue...I'm telling them, join us in the revolution like you did before and wash your hands

of cooperation with the remnants of the old regime...Our fight is with remnants of the former regime and not with you,” he said.

21:40 Friday has seen considerable violence outside the capital; a number of Brotherhood offices have been ransacked, and two people have died so far, both in Alexandria. One is reportedly an American citizen, but the identity and affiliation of either has not been confirmed.

Liberal opposition figure and member of the National Salvation Front Amr Hamzawy responded by condemning violence, saying on his official Twitter account on Friday:

“No one in search of change and democracy can get involved in violence and thuggery, as is happening in more than one governorate now.

“To all those demanding early presidential elections, stay away from violence...all those of you demonstrating peacefully, stay away from the circles of violence and away from thugs.

“I condemn attacks against Muslim Brotherhood and Freedom and Justice Party headquarters and all forms of violence...all victims are Egyptian; there is no difference between a Brotherhood member or anyone else.”

Hamzawy said he had refrained from participating in the Friday demonstrations “to avoid violence and incitement,” but said he would participate “peacefully” in the 30 June mass anti-Morsi rallies.

21:30 Speaking to Al-Jazeera Mubashir Misr, General Amin Ezzeddin, a senior Alexandria security official, said that “all types of weapons” were used in the clashes in Alexandria on Friday, including guns and bladed weapons.

Ezzedin added that most of the injuries were caused by birdshot or bullets.

21:20 In Tahrir, there are mixed feelings about the possible role of the military. Some protesters tore apart a banner reading ‘the military and the people are one hand.’”

Tension about the position of the military has been mounting since the last demonstration in Tahrir on 26 June, when some protesters chanted for military and others against. A decision was announced on stage to limit chants to those against the Muslim Brotherhood, to avoid conflict over the issue.

Disputes repeatedly erupted on Friday when some attempted to chant the old slogan, often heard during the early days of the 2011 revolution, of “the people and the army are one hand,” while others attempted to chant against the military.



A split screen image captures Egypt's polarisation between the two sides: Tahrir Square on the left, and the Islamist protest in Nasr City on the right.

21:10 Anti-American feeling was not just seen in Tahrir Square; in the city of Suez, hundreds of anti-Morsi protesters took to the streets in the afternoon holding banners with slogans against both President Mohamed Morsi and US ambassador Anne Patterson, reported Ahram Arabic.

The protest took place in Al-Arbeen Square and was called for by the anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaign, the National Salvation Front and several youth movements.

According to Ahram, supporters of the Islamist president were absent in the canal city, having largely headed to Cairo earlier in the day to take part in the mass pro-Morsi rallies in Nasr City.

21:00 An American citizen has been killed in Alexandria, bringing the day's death toll to two. Reuters reported that:

"The man died from a stab wound to the chest, said General Amin Ezzeddin, a senior Alexandria security official. The account was confirmed by Ibrahim al-Roubi, head of the emergency unit in the Alexandria health department, and two other security officials."

20:50 According to Ahram Arabic, the number of anti-Morsi protesters gathering outside the presidential palace in Cairo's Heliopolis has reached around a thousand.

20:40 The Muslim Brotherhood have released a statement vowing to take legal action against the National Salvation Front, remnants of the now-defunct National Democratic party, and the Rebel campaign, accusing them of being responsible for the torching of the Freedom and Justice Party's headquarters in Alexandria today.

They also accused members of the Egyptian Popular Current and the Revolutionary Socialists of taking part in the assault.

20:30 Numbers at the Islamist rally in Cairo have increased now that the sun has set. Ahram Online's Eslam Omar reports that there are people there of different ages, both men and women, as well as whole families.

Speaking on the stage around half an hour ago, prominent Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya figure Assem Abdel-Maged, a staunch supporter of President Morsi, said Islamists forces can reconcile with "deceived" [anti-Morsi] protesters, but not "conspirators, who the president must deal harshly with," to rapturous applause from the gathered demonstrators.

20:20 Ahram Online's Reem Gehad is still in Tahrir Square, where she says there is no sign so far of the sexual harassment that often plagues large gatherings in this spot.

Hayat Mohamed, 50, from Cairo's Matareya district, is one of the many women participating in the protest. Mohamed, who used to work in one of the recreation clubs for the armed forces, tells Ahram Online that she no longer trusts the "intellectuals who defended the Muslim Brotherhood" and wants the army back.

"I want [Defence Minister] General Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi to take over power," she says.

In another corner of the square, a banner showing the image of US president Barack Obama reads "Obama funds terrorism."

Volunteers with the anti-Morsi 'Rebel' signature drive are moving around the square urging protesters to sign the petition demanding Morsi step down.

20:15 At the Islamist protest in Nasr City, a television crew was reportedly assaulted by protesters, who tried to destroy their equipment and eject them from the Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque where they were filming.

In the scuffle, one of the worshippers performing dusk prayers was knocked over, and a number of people held aloft copies of the Quran while voicing objections to the assault on the crew, reported Ahram Arabic.

Although crew members apparently told onlookers they work for Al Jazeera, some of the Brotherhood supporters accused them of working for Egyptian channel CBC.

CBC is owned by Mohamed El-Amin, who was mentioned by President Morsi in his last speech, describing him as one of the businessmen who are allegedly trying to deploy his resources to topple the incumbent Islamic regime.

20:10 Over at Cairo's Ittihadiya presidential palace, not far from the mass Islamist rallies, a few dozen anti-Morsi protesters turned up outside Gate 4, holding red cards in reference to their demand that the president step down. The palace is on high alert in anticipation of possible violence over the weekend, with major opposition rallies planned at the site.

MENA state news agency reported that protesters distributed red flyers with the word "leave" emblazoned on them, while chanting similar slogans.



Ahram Online highlights centres where pro-Morsi rallies began marching and the major gathering points (Credits: DigitalGlobe Copyrights 2013 Google ORION-ME)

20:00 Amid accusations from the Brotherhood that it is responsible for violent clashes, the anti-Morsi ‘Rebel’ campaign has released a statement via their official Twitter account, stressing that shedding of any Egyptian blood is wrong, regardless of the person’s religious or political affiliation.

The campaign stated that governorates have witnessed around 420 injuries on Friday, in addition to the arrest of 27 Muslim Brotherhood supporters for possessing guns.

“The Rebel campaign doesn’t call or incite against public or private organisations,” read the statement, stressing that the campaign embraces a peaceful path to democratic change.

Violent clashes caused the death of one person in Alexandria on Friday. Four others have died in similar clashes in cities in the Nile Delta since Wednesday,

19:45 The city of Damietta in the Nile Delta is also seeing large demonstrations against Morsi.

Ahram Arabic reports that the Corniche road and Damietta Freedom Square are filled with around 15,000 protesters who are demanding that the president step down.

19:30 One of the questions on everyone’s mind in Egypt as these protests unfold is, what action will the army take? So far, statements by the military have been ambiguous.

The official armed forces spokesman, Ahmed Ali spoke to MENA state news agency on Friday, saying that the army has deployed troops all over Egypt to protect Egyptian citizens and their property.

“Such measures are taken to avoid the 28 January 2011 scenario,” Ali said.

Over at the defence ministry in Cairo's Abbasiya, about half way between the Nasr City Islamist rally and the anti-Morsi protesters in Tahrir Square, a small sit-in by a few dozen protesters is entering its seventh day. The protesters are calling for Morsi to be dismissed and for the defence minister, Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi, to take power directly.

19:05 Prominent opposition leader Mohamed ElBaradei tweets, denouncing violence.

“I strongly condemn violence in all forms against people irrespective of their beliefs or identity. The more peaceful, the stronger we become,” said ElBaradei, in English.

19:00 Ahram Online’s Reem Gehad reports that one street vendor in Tahrir Square is selling pictures of ousted president Hosni Mubarak, as well as former presidents Gamal Abdel-Nasser and Anwar El-Sadat.

Activist Abdel-Rahman Mansour of the Khaled Said Facebook page has said on Twitter that he left the square after seeing pictures of Mubarak being freely distributed among protesters.

“Came back from Tahrir Sq hour ago, pix of ousted Mubarak r distributed among ppl & many take them gladly. This isnt our revolution,” he wrote.

Other activists have responded denying they have seen the pictures of Mubarak while in Tahrir square.

Ahram Online asked several protesters what they thought of Mubarak’s pictures being sold by the street vendor, but they all denied seeing any pictures.

Brotherhood figures in recent weeks have increasingly stressed allegations that the opposition to Morsi is linked with the former Mubarak regime. Gehad El-Haddad, a leading FJP figure, tweets about the Tahrir Square protest that: “Photo of deceased #Mubarak #NDP leader "Kamal Shazly" carried in #Anti_Morsi protests today.”

18:50 Ahram Online's Eslam Omar reports that two men accused of stealing were assaulted by some of the protesters in Rabaa Al-Adawiya.

"Many other protesters were against using physical aggression against them, but some individuals beat them up," he says.

"They were eventually handed over to organisers wearing helmets, who in turn interrogated them... in general, organisers are maintaining tight security."

18:45 Muslim cleric Safwat Hegazy, known for his staunch support for the Muslim Brotherhood, took the podium at the Nasr City rally to hit out at the opposition for "using deadly force against Islamists and Brotherhood members."

"Who died over the past few days?" he asks, referring to several Islamists who were reported killed in clashes in different governorates recently. "The president must use an iron fist to reply to such attacks."

Hegazy also has stern words for the head of Al-Azhar, Sheikh Ahmed El-Tayyeb, reiterating the allegation that he assumed a high-ranking position in the now-dismantled National Democratic Party, which was led by former president Hosni Mubarak.

"We would never make allies with the remnants of the former regime, unlike the opposition," Hegazy says.

18:40 Back in Cairo's Tahrir Square, it looks like the numbers of anti-Morsi protesters have reached the tens of thousands. Sameh Samir, a 33-year-old designer, tells Ahram Online's Reem Gehad that he thinks the best alternative to President Morsi is a presidential council that has both civilians and military personnel to guarantee consensus.

18:30 One person has died in the Alexandria clashes, reports state-owned agency MENA.

According to Osama Abou El-Sooud, director of Alexandria university's main hospital, the protester was declared dead on his way to the hospital, after he was injured by birdshot.

Another 70 injured people are being treated at the hospital.

Alexandria has been witnessing violent clashes today, with the offices of the FJP in the Alexandrian district of Sidi Gabr being set on fire, leading to 40 reported injuries, according to Ahram Online's Sayyed Gamal.

18:25 Media secretary of the Socialist Popular Alliance Party, Mona Ezzat, has released a statement saying one of the party members was injured by live ammunition during clashes in Alexandria and has been transferred to hospital.

According to Ezzat, two other party members, Hamed El-Borai and Mohamed Refaat, were injured by birdshot in an attack allegedly by members of the Muslim Brotherhood as they were protesting near Sidi Gaber.



Opponents of President Morsi chant slogans as fire rages at the Muslim Brotherhood headquarters in Alexandria, Friday, June 28, 2013 (Photo: AP)

Ahram Online highlights centres where pro-Morsi rallies began marching and the major gathering points

(Credits: DigitalGlobe Copyrights 2013 Google ORION-ME)

18:15 Good afternoon, and welcome to the second part of Ahram Online's live blog covering Friday's protests. You can find the first part [here](#).

Morsi's supporters are out in force for a show of strength in Cairo's Nasr City. The rally at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque, organised by a new Islamic alliance which includes the Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party, has drawn hundreds of thousands.

Meanwhile, opposition protests are underway in Tahrir Square, with several thousand present. There have also been anti-Morsi rallies and protests in a number of governorates outside Cairo, including Alexandria, Sharqiya, Gharbiya, Kafr El-Sheikh and Daqahliya. Clashes have been reported in Alexandria, and we are getting some reports that one person has died.

Violents affrontements en Egypte: trois morts dont un Américain (vidéo)

Mailys Charlier (avec AFP)

Mis en ligne samedi 29 juin 2013, 15h12 | mis à jour il y a 5 heures

De violents heurts entre partisans et opposants de Morsi ont éclaté en Egypte vendredi. Une manifestation anti-Morsi est prévue ce dimanche. Le mouvement a déjà récolté 22 millions de signatures pour le départ du président égyptien.

Trois personnes dont un Américain ont été tuées lors de violents heurts vendredi en Egypte entre partisans et opposants du président Mohamed Morsi à l'occasion de manifestations rivales qui ont rassemblé des dizaines de milliers de personnes à travers le pays. Un an après la prise de fonctions de M. Morsi, premier président islamiste et civil d'Egypte, ces rassemblements rivaux témoignent des divisions croissantes dans le pays et les accrochages font craindre une propagation des troubles.

Malgré le déploiement policier et de l'armée pour protéger les installations vitales, de violents heurts ont éclaté entre pro et anti-Morsi à Alexandrie où un Egyptien et un Américain ont été tués. « *Nous pouvons confirmer qu'un citoyen américain a été tué à Alexandrie, en Egypte* », a indiqué le département d'Etat.

Par ailleurs, dans la ville de Port-Saïd, sur le canal de Suez, un journaliste égyptien a été tué et plusieurs autres personnes blessées lorsque des inconnus ont lancé un petit engin explosif sur des manifestants anti-Morsi. Ces trois décès portent à sept le nombre de personnes tuées depuis mercredi lors des violences dans le pays.

Les anti-Morsi défilent dimanche

Les Frères musulmans, la confrérie dont est issu M. Morsi, ont averti l'opposition qu'ils ne permettraient pas un « coup d'Etat » contre le président, à deux jours d'une protestation massive attendue dimanche pour réclamer une présidentielle anticipée.

Le climat est tendu dans le pays à la veille de cette grande manifestation. Sur Tahrir, où les opposants prônent une « deuxième révolution », des dizaines de tentes ont été dressées. Des militants islamistes ont eux aussi passé la nuit devant la mosquée Rabaa al-Adawiya.

22 millions de signatures pour le départ du président

Les organisateurs de la campagne Tamarrod (rébellion en arabe) qui réclame la démission du président islamiste égyptien Mohamed Morsi, ont affirmé que leur pétition avait recueilli plus de 22 millions de signatures. « *Nous avons recueilli 22.134.465 signatures pour notre pétition* », a déclaré le porte-parole de Tamarrod, Mahmoud Badr.

La pétition demande le départ de Mohamed Morsi et la tenue d'une élection présidentielle anticipée.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75227/Egypt/Politics--Dead,--injured-in--days-of-political-clashes-Egyp.aspx>

7 Dead, 606 injured in 4 days of political clashes: Egypt's health ministry

Egyptian health ministry confirms 7 deaths and over 600 injuries in political violence since Wednesday across 7 governorates

Ahram Online, Saturday 29 Jun 2013

Egyptian health ministry reports seven deaths and 606 injuries Saturday from intermittent clashes between President Morsi's supporters and opponents since Wednesday throughout six governorates in the run-up to the widely-anticipated anti-government mass demonstrations planned for Sunday, 30 June.

The report confirmed the death of an American citizen in clashes that broke out in the coastal city of Alexandria Friday, where the office of the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party was also set on fire.

A US citizen, identified as 21-year-old Andrew Driscoll, died of a stab wound to the chest, while an unidentified Egyptian citizen died from a gunshot to the head.

An Egyptian was also killed Friday night during an anti-Morsi rally in the pivotal city, Port Said.

Regarding clashes that took place in Mansoura in the Delta governorate of Daqahlia, the ministry's report says that three died - one of which had sustained a gunshot wound.

Hundreds of members of the Brotherhood, which fielded Morsi for president, demonstrated in support of the presidency outside a local mosque following afternoon prayers.

Four hundred eighty of the 606 injured were released from hospitals by Friday night, according to the report.

Sunday's protests - planned by opposition-backed 'Rebel' petition drive - will take place on Morsi's first anniversary in power, demanding his resignation and snap presidential elections.

Campaigners accuse the Morsi administration of "failing to implement policies to improve the life of ordinary people."

Hundreds of thousands of Morsi's Islamist supporters staged a mass demonstration Friday in support of the president's "democratic legitimacy" as a response to Sunday's scheduled demonstrations.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75262/Egypt/Politics-/AlWatan-Party-will-not-join-proMorsi-rallies,-aimi.aspx>

Al-Watan Party will not join pro-Morsi rallies, aiming to 'avoid bloodshed'

The Salafist Al-Watan Party, a key ally of the ruling Islamist regime, says it will not join pro-Morsi demonstrations Sunday, in order to avoid violence

Ahram Online, Saturday 29 Jun 2013

Yousry Hammad, deputy head of the Salafist Al-Watan Party, announced Saturday that his party will not be taking part in any rallies in support of President Mohamed Morsi in the coming days, to avoid being dragged into violence.

Hammad further denounced on his Facebook page the violence that took place Friday, claiming that it was been carried by “unknown elements” who are attempting to frame other groups.

He also said that a number of motorcycles were roaming around Alexandria late night, accusing some of the drivers of holding swords and bats while saying that “the mission is done.”

Friday witnessed clashes in several governorates between supporters and opponents of President Morsi. The day also witnessed the killing of three in Alexandria, including one American, in addition to attack on several headquarters of the Freedom and Justice Party.

Cairo witnessed a relatively peaceful mass protest by hundreds of thousands of Islamist sympathisers at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Moque in Nasr City in support of the president, while tens of thousands of opposition protesters marched to iconic Tahrir Square demanding early presidential elections.

On Friday afternoon, Islamists protesting at Rabaa Al-Adawya announced the start of an open-ended sit-in.

Al-Watan Party head Emad Abdel-Ghafour asserted during a press conference Saturday that his party is still calling for complete societal consensus.

Last Wednesday, Al-Watan spearheaded a new national reconciliation initiative aimed at reuniting polarised political forces before mass protests against Morsi 30 June — an attempt to tackle the country's “worsening economic and social malaise.”

Abdel-Ghafour, who is also Morsi’s consultant for "social communication," further called on Egyptians to refrain from participating in any protests, to expose “the subversive elements” that aim to kill.

Al-Watan, a close ally of the Muslim Brotherhood, is one of the founders of the National Alliance for Legitimacy Support, which was launched Thursday by 11 Islamist political parties to protect what they call “the Egyptian people’s democratic gains.”

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/152/75219/Egypt/Morsi,-one-year-on/Ahram-Online-breaks-down-the-playbook-for--June-an.aspx>

Ahram Online breaks down the playbook for 30 June anti-Morsi protests

As Egypt tensely gears up for mass protests that aim to oust the Brotherhood-fielded President Morsi from power, Ahram Online looks at all the chess pieces

Lina El-Wardani , Saturday 29 Jun 2013



Protesters chant anti-President Mohamed Mursi slogans during a protest at Tahrir square in Cairo June 28, 2013 (Photo: Reuters)

Related

- With 30 June rallies around corner, all eyes turn to Egypt armed forces
- Across Cairo, districts brace for 30 June and beyond
- Egypt's Salafist Nour Party to refrain from taking part in 28, 30 June rallies

Egypt is anticipating its biggest wave of protests since the January 25 Revolution, this time calling for Islamist President Morsi to step down and for early presidential elections.

Ahram Online looks at the plans of the opposition, the Brotherhood and the people.

President Morsi became Egypt's first democratically-elected president on 30 June 2012, however, his performance did not please many, including some factions that actually supported him in the final round of the presidential elections against Ahmed Shafiq, Mubarak's last prime minister - who was perceived by revolutionary groups as an extension to the old ousted regime.

Once allies in Tahrir Square for 18 days in 2011, the liberal and leftist parties and groups are preparing for a face-off with the now-ruling Muslim Brotherhood president, his party and a number of Islamist forces who decided to back him in his war for "legitimacy."

Protests have already been breaking out a week in advance of 30 June in Cairo, Alexandria and several Egyptian governorates, including Daqahliya, Sharqiya and Zagazig.

Fierce clashes broke out in Alexandria, Egypt's second city, often ending in clashes between the president's supporters and opponents. This alarmed many activists and politicians who repeatedly called on all parties to remain peaceful.

Islamist forces are currently staging a sit-in at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo's Nasr City that they started on Friday in support of Morsi (see video here). They held a similar rally last week, which numbered in the hundreds of thousands.

Also on Friday, tens of thousands of anti-Morsi protesters gathered in several parts of Cairo and marched on to (see video here) Tahrir Square - the flashpoint of Egypt's revolution.

Tamarod ('Rebel' in English), a signature drive claims to have gathered now over 22 million signatures asking Morsi to step down.

The people

As Sunday approaches, the anticipation is palpable in the eerily empty streets of Cairo, since many Egyptians decide to weather out the future-decisive events at home – either out of fear or inability. After days of the longest gas queues at stations under rumours of shortages, some gave up, parked their cars and stayed at home.

Also after days of long queues in supermarkets, it seems most middle and upper classes have secured their goods for the coming week or two, in case hell breaks loose and supermarkets close or they can't leave their homes.

"I bought everything I need, from pasta, to vegetables, I stocked the house so that we can stay at home and watch the revolution on screen," said Jihan Mohamed (40) who hasn't decided if she will join the protests yet. Mohamed voted for Morsi in the second round, and says: "I regret it, I never thought these people will starve and harm the country the way they did. Where is their religion?" Mohamed asks angrily while buying bread loaves from the crowded bakery in the downtown district of Shubra.

Mohamed's father was stuck in Egypt's Delta Nile area for the past three days until he found gas to fuel his car and return to Cairo.

Security is a main concern for many of the first-time protesters. A retired architect, Hassan Darwish (70) will protest for the first time in his life, along with his family, on 30 June. "I don't feel safe anymore, I almost don't sleep, always worry about my girls and grandsons. I wake up in the middle of the night to check on the locks of doors and windows," Darwish added after a meeting with his fellow first-time protesters, who just ended their prayers in a mosque in the satellite suburb of 6th of October.

"We will meet after the afternoon prayers and drive our cars to Juhayna Square to gather with the rest of the 6th of October residents, then drive to Tahrir or Ittihadiya depending on how the day will go," added Darwish confidently.

Security is tight in many areas with troops deployed in Cairo and elsewhere.

Barbed wire and intense security checking cars and people are present in front of shopping malls, companies and buildings.

Military troops are also deployed in crucial areas.

Most banks, companies, public and private businesses have advised their employees to take 30 June off from their annual leave for their own safety.

The president

In a three-hour-long televised speech on Wednesday, President Morsi failed to give assurances to the opposition. He thanked the military, the police and both thanked and attacked the judiciary. The president defended his performance, admitting errors and promising reforms to address them.

He blamed his failures on Egypt's external and internal enemies and remnants of the old regime, who he accuses of hating to see Egypt on the democratic path.

"I took responsibility for a country mired in corruption and was faced with a war to make me fail," he said.

In Morsi's speech to the nation he also described acts by politicians, judges and journalists – whom he pointed out by name - that he believes want to "turn the clock back" to the Mubarak era.

"Egypt's enemies have spared no effort to sabotage the democratic experience."

President Morsi called on opposition figures to take it to the ballot box if they want a change in government and criticised them for refusing to take part in a national dialogue.

Morsi also warned the media not to abuse free speech.

Within hours, ripples from the Islamist president's speech could be felt across Egyptian media.

A talk show on the Al-Fareen TV channel ended abruptly on Thursday night when the presenter learned he was to be arrested. Host and owner of the channel, Tawfiq Okasha, is accused of spreading false information and the channel has ceased broadcasting.

Another prominent presenter resigned on air on state-run television in protest at what he called "government interference" in the editorial content of his programme.

Owner of Al Nahar and CBC channels, Mohammed El-Amin, was banned from travelling after Morsi referred to him by name in his speech, claiming that he failed to pay his taxes, "that's why his channel is targeting the president and the Brotherhood," said the president to an all Islamist crowd who cheered "purge the media."

El-Amin later denied any wrongdoing.

The opposition

The main opposition coalition on Thursday rejected President Morsi's offer for dialogue.

In a statement, Egypt's largest opposition umbrella group, the National Salvation Front (NSF) said it "remained determined to call for an early presidential election."

"We are confident the Egyptian people will come out in the millions to hold peaceful demonstrations on all of Egypt's squares and streets to realise their aspirations and to put the January 25 Revolution back on track," it added.

The opposition was referring to the popular uprising in January 2011 which ousted President Hosni Mubarak.

"The president's address [to the nation] reinforced Egyptians' belief that Morsi is not capable of filling the position of president," the NSF asserted.

The military

Military forces began deploying nationwide on Tuesday, with Defence Minister Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi saying earlier this week that the army had a "moral responsibility" to "stop Egypt from slipping into a dark tunnel" of political violence.

The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF), headed by former field marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi, assumed power between February 2011 and June 2012 after Hosni Mubarak's ouster from presidency. SCAF rule was followed by the election of Brotherhood-fielded Mohamed Morsi to presidency.

Several protests were held in front of the Ministry of Defence calling for El-Sisi to assume power from Morsi.

The questions buzzing every day on the streets, talk shows, Op-eds and analysis pieces re: Who will the army side with? Will they reassume power? Will they remain neutral?

In his speech – where El-Sisi wore a typical military poker face from his seat in the audience - Morsi asserted that he is the head of the armed forces and thanked the military for their efforts to protect Egypt borders - trying sending a message that the army is on his side.

However, on many occasions the military sent a message that it is not part of any power struggle and that they are only on the side of the people.

A question that should supersede all others, however, is whether military is willing to assume power again if they see uncontrollable violence, especially after all the criticism they got from politicians, activists and human rights organisations when they assumed power after Mubarak's ouster.

The Brotherhood

Meanwhile, the Muslim Brotherhood and its allies staged a mass protest last week to voice support for the president's "democratic legitimacy" and also to "say 'no' to violence."

Brotherhood supporters stress at the Friday rally what they call Morsi's "legitimacy," and reject the opposition's demand for him to resign.

Many Islamist politicians have accused the opposition of giving cover to political violence; others have vowed to respond in kind if Sunday's opposition protests turn violent.

As for Morsi's televised speech; the Brotherhood claims it achieved its goals, despite the wide criticism by opposition.

The Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) Spokesman Nader Omran described the address as "excellent, balanced and badly-needed," in light of Egypt's current political impasse.

No to Mubarak, No to military, No to Morsi

Several opposition forces released a statement on Thursday asserting that they would not accept the return of former Mubarak-era officials to power as an alternative to President Morsi and his regime.

"The revolution will not tolerate any opportunists who aim for personal gain," the statement read, adding "We will not allow for the return of Mubarak [officials] or the military."

The opposition forces, which include the April 6 Youth Movement, the Revolutionary Socialists, and the Strong Egypt Party lead by Islamist Abdel-Moneim Abul-Fotouh, said that the January 25 Revolution did not end when the Egyptian people brought down Mubarak in 2011.

"The struggle did not stop, because we continue to face the same regime, even if it has a military or a religious façade," the statement reads.

The opposition statement described Sunday's protests as a "completion of the revolution and the fulfilment of its goals, from which the president strayed."

"We commit to peaceful and popular means to achieve our goals," the statement concluded.

A number of public figures also signed the statement, including ex-MP Amr Hamzawy, writer Alaa El-Aswany, political scientist Rabab El-Mahdi, and former presidential contender Khaled Ali, among others.

The road map

The Rebel movement, aiming to oust President Morsi via a mass petition, proposed a six-month transitional roadmap where executive powers are assigned to an independent technocratic premier.

The political roadmap proposed by Rebel's 30 June mass protests in a press conference last week suggested the following:

1. Hand power to an independent prime minister who represents the January 25 Revolution on the condition that he does not run in the first upcoming presidential or parliamentary elections.
2. "The independent prime minister will head a technocratic government whose main mission is to put together an urgent economic plan to save the Egyptian economy and to expand social justice policies," said Tamarod co-founder Mohamed Abdel-Aziz. He also hinted that the premier would not be drawn from among well-known politicians.
3. "The head of the High Constitutional Court would be assigned the duties of the president according to protocol, where all executive powers are assigned to the prime minister in a six-month transitional period that ends by presidential elections judicially supervised and monitored internationally, followed by parliamentary elections," the Tamarod co-founder added.
4. Dissolving the Shura Council, suspending the current constitution and drafting a new constitution are steps in the roadmap proposed by the newly founded Front.
5. The prime minister will give the National Defence Council the authority to fulfil its national security responsibility towards the country.

Tamarod activists and speakers stressed that the 30 June Front does not represent all revolutionaries in Egypt, yet it hopes that it will represent all Egyptians on 30 June.

"There will be no flags or banners other than Egyptian flags in the protests as well the photos of Egypt's martyrs, starting with the martyrs of the January 25 Revolution," leaders said in the conference.

Violence

As Sunday approaches fear of violence in an increasingly polarised nation of over 80 million mounts.

Five have already died in clashes across Egypt between the president's supporters and opponents.

Earlier last week a mob of thousands of Salafists killed 5 Shias in a village in Giza - adjacent to Egypt's capital - raising fears of religious violence. The president's failure to mention this in his speech and was widely-criticised.

Fear of violence, chaos, looting and mob attacks are rising but all politicians have asserted the need for peaceful protests and that the only way the revolution is to continue is if massive numbers of peaceful protesters hit the streets and announce an open-ended sit in followed by peaceful escalation methods, including a standstill in factories, companies and transportation.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75308/Egypt/0/Egypt-newspapers--June-headlines-From-judgment-day.aspx>

Egypt newspapers' 30 June headlines: From 'judgment day' to 'leave'

Al-Masry Al-Youm front page reads 'public squares to Morsi: leave'; Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice newspaper calls to 'expose Molotov opposition'

Zeinab El Gundy, Sunday 30 Jun 2013



(Photo: Zeinab el gundy)

Coverage of the upcoming 30 June protests is varied among the front pages of Egypt's major newspapers.

On the front page of Al-Ahram, Egypt's biggest state owned newspaper, the headline read "Egypt in the fist of fear" and coverage highlighted the army and police's heightened security measures.

Al-Akhbar, Egypt's second biggest state owned newspaper, proclaimed "Egypt on volcanic crater" as its front page headline, along with "Tahrir announces the end of Muslim Brotherhood rule while Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square prepares with martial arts training," a reference to the anti-Morsi sit-in in Tahrir Square and the pro-Morsi sit-in at Rabaa Al-Adawiya mosque.

Al-Masry Al-Youm's headline read "Public squares to Morsi: Leave" while Al Watan newspaper described 30 June as the "Judgment day" on its front page.

The front page of Tahrir was all red and featured one word: "Leave." A similar approach was used by Youm 7, whose front page had a red background with a picture of a crying lady and headlines reading "Red card for the president" and "22,000,000 Tamarod petitions."

In the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice newspaper, headlines diverged from the nation's major newspapers, with the front page reading "The people want: to topple the Mubarak's regime remnants, to expose Molotov opposition and to support legitimacy."

Other headlines in Freedom and Justice highlighted the increasing size of the Rabaa Al-Adawiya sit-in, the sexual harassment cases in Tahrir Square, and the prosecutor general's investigation of leading opposition members accused of calling a coup following attacks on Brotherhood HQ's across the country.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75298/Egypt/Politics-/FJP-offices-torched-in-Beni-Suef,-thousands-out-in.aspx>

FJP offices torched in Beni Suef, thousands out in governorates for 30 June

Anti-Morsi protesters torch offices of the Freedom and Justice Party in Beni Suef in the early hours of Sunday

Ahram Online, Sunday 30 Jun 2013

Protesters opposing Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi wave Egyptian flags and shout slogans against him and members of the Muslim Brotherhood at Tahrir square in Cairo, June 30, 2013 (Photo: Reuters)

Protesters in Beni Suef city torched the offices of the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) early Sunday, hours before mass nationwide anti-regime protests are due to take place.

Nasser Saad, the FJP's media spokesman in Beni Suef, which is located in northern Upper Egypt, said that several people threw Molotov cocktails at the main office's balconies at two o'clock in the morning. They then moved to a secretariat office and torched it too.

According to Ahram Arabic news website, further clashes occurred between supporters and opponents of the Brotherhood at the Salafist Call School beside Beni Suef's governorate

headquarters. Hundreds of young men arrived there and attempted to break into the school claiming that FJP uses it as a store for weapons.

Security forces reportedly dispersed the crowds.

Tensions have been building up in Beni Suef over the past week, like in many Egyptian governorates, as the country braces for mass nationwide protests Sunday aimed at forcing President Mohamed Morsi, who hails from the Muslim Brotherhood, to step down.

Anti-Morsi protesters went out in marches on Friday chanting against the president and the FJP. Seven people were injured in Beni Suef in Friday clashes between supporters and opponents of the president.

On Saturday night, thousands took to the streets in Egypt's governorates ahead of Sunday's demonstrations which were called for by Rebel campaign that aimed at collecting signed petitions to withdraw confidence from Morsi.

Thousands went out in anti-Morsi protests, including in Suez, Mahalla in Gharbiya governorate, Port Said, and the Nile Delta's Menoufiya.

In the Nile Delta city of Zagazig in Egypt's Sharqiya governorate, Rebel campaign supporters staged a sit-in in front of Morsi's family home Saturday night.

Tensions have been building between supporters and opponents of the president for several weeks. Clashes broke out in several governorates in recent days, including in Alexandria and across the Nile Delta, leaving at least seven dead and over 600 injured.

In Cairo, opposition forces have already started gathering in Cairo's central Tahrir Square and at the Ittihadeya Palace in Heliopolis hours before anticipated protests take to the streets.

Meanwhile, Morsi's supporters, mainly from Islamist groups, continue their sit-in at Rabaa El-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo's Nasr City district. They staged a rally there Friday asserting Morsi's right to continue his term as president until the next elections, scheduled for 2016.

A three-hour speech by Morsi Wednesday night called for national reconciliation but was not well-received by the opposition.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75341/Egypt/Live-updates--Millions-on-streets-for-antiMorsi-pr.aspx>

Live updates 2: Millions on streets for anti-Morsi protests; 4 dead in Upper Egypt

Four killed in clashes in Upper Egypt while Brotherhood headquarters in Cairo is attacked; huge demonstrations in Cairo at presidential palace and Tahrir Square remain peaceful
Hazel Haddon, Nada Hussein Rashwan, Randa Ali, Sherif Tarek, Salma Shukrallah, Bassem Abo El-Abbas, Osman El-Sharnoubi , Sunday 30 Jun 2013



Protesters opposing Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi gather during a demonstration at Tahrir Square in Cairo June 30, 2013. (Photo: Reuters)

00:20 That's all for tonight. Today saw unprecedented numbers take to the streets all over Egypt, calling for Morsi to resign. It's hard to estimate numbers, but it's clear that 30 June has been bigger than anyone predicted.

There was deadly violence in Beni Suef and Assiut, and there are ongoing clashes at the Brotherhood headquarters in Cairo, as we close. There were also 30 reported cases of sexual harassment in Tahrir Square - although none reported at Ittihadiya or at the ongoing pro-Morsi demonstration at Rabaa Al-Adawiya.

00:15 There are reports of ongoing clashes at the Muslim Brotherhood's headquarters in Mokattam, Cairo, which was earlier attacked by protesters throwing Molotov cocktails. There seem to be clashes between those inside the building and those attacking it, with birdshot and possibly live ammunition. There are a number of injuries reported, but all unconfirmed so far by official sources.



An Egyptian protester attacks Muslim Brotherhood headquarters in Muqattam district in Cairo, Sunday, June 30, 2013. (AP)

00:10 Crowds have thinned a bit but remain defiant and optimistic at the presidential palace, tooting their horns and calling for the president's resignation reports Ahram Online's Bel Trew. There seems to be strong pro-military sentiment at the palace, most of the people interviewed by Ahram Online were keen for some sort of intervention although they were unsure who should replace the president.

"We didn't expect anything from him but what he did was far worse, he made lost of promises but didn't fulfill any," says Om Maha, 53, housewife referring to the Brotherhood's Nahda

(renaissance) project, that was centre piece to Morsi's presidential campaign but was largely dropped. Om Maha added that she didn't like any of the presidential candidates who ran last year such as Amr Moussa and Mohamed ElBaradei, "I don't think any of them are fit for the position, it needs to be someone outside of any existing political movement.

"The elections were a contract between the people and the president, he broke the rules and put himself first," says Ahmed Nagah, a 47-year-old English teacher. "I voted for Amr Moussa in the first elections only," Nagah added saying he didn't bother in the second round as he didn't want Ahmed Shafiq or Morsi.

Meanwhile further into the crowds Engineer Abdel-Rehim Kamal, 43, voicing a popular sentiment expressed both on Tahrir Square and at the palace, slammed Morsi for being "the same as [ousted leader] Mubarak."

Back on Tahrir Square, a little earlier, Fikra Mohamed, 52 director of a company showed Ahram Online his protest art: a tree of notices listing the "achievements, mistakes and economic failures," of the president during his first year in power.

"I voted for Morsi and I think I got fooled. I will not leave until Morsi steps down, my sons are with me - one of them has an exam - but he will not do his exam until Morsi resigns. This is not a second revolution, it is a continuation of the first one, we still haven't finished that battle yet."

"Egyptians don't have their basic needs, we have a massive problem of unemployment particularly within the youth, killing continues under his rule, then there is the breakdown of the state like train accidents and electricity outage," says Mohamed Ramadan Badawy, who had travelled from the Southern governorate of Qena to join Tahrir with a delegation of people from Upper Egypt. "Egyptian poverty is on the rise, to the point where people are eating from the rubbish."

00:00 The president's spokesman has just denied that Hatem Bagato, minister of legal and parliamentary affairs, will submit his resignation, as was reported by Ahram Arabic earlier this evening.

23:55 The 30 June coordinating committee has released a statement.

"Egyptians have shown they are worthy of freedom, democracy and social justice which they have been calling for since the January revolution. We thank the Egyptian people who have revolted in their millions for a free Egypt, free of fascism, tyranny and injustice."

Despite the fact that millions of people peacefully protested, said the statement, "the presidency has released a statement belittling us and our legitimate demands and our million man marches all over Egypt's squares."

The statement added that the 30 June coordinating committee "stand behind the people and their just demands" and calls for continuing the national strike which involves "the use of all democratic means to demonstrate, hold sit-ins and strikes and besiege all state institutions and we demand the trial all those responsible for torture, killing

and announcing edicts inciting against the people and calls for terrorism which was called for by the Muslim Brotherhood.”

The committee includes the Revolutionary Youth Union, the Front’s youth organisation, the Maspero Youth Union, the Socialist Youth Union, the Liberal Youth Front, the Justice and Freedom Youth, the April 6 Democratic Front, the Mina Daniel Movement, and the National Salvation Front member parties - the Democratic Front Party, the Constitution Party, the Wafd Party, the Free Egyptians Party, the Egyptian Communist Party, the Egyptian Socialist Party, the Socialist Popular Alliance Party, the Tagammu Party, the Nasserist Party, the Egyptian Social Democratic Party, the Karama Party, the Egypt Freedom Party, the Egyptian Popular Current and the National Association for Change.

23:50 Pro-Morsi demonstrators are still camping out at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Nasr City, a short distance away from the presidential palace.

Pro-Morsi Demonstration on June 30th

23:45 The president’s office is holding its second press conference of the day. The spokesman stresses the president’s respect for the demands of the street, but says that dialogue is necessary.

"We respect the demands of the streets, and we acknowledge that the political scene in Egypt is continuously changing; however, initiatives are being made constantly and communications are ongoing.

"Those who have demands or visions must sit for dialogue," said spokesman Omar Amer who reminded the audience of the president’s ongoing calls for dialogue which have been repeatedly rejected by much of the opposition.

Amer further stressed that the presidency will continue to protect the peaceful protests in assurance of the right for expression. He also praised the "nationalistic role played by security forces" in protecting the protests.

Asked about reports of police officers joining the anti-Morsi protests, Amer stressed that it is a matter to be judged by the ministry of interior, and not by the presidency.

23:40 The Freedom and Justice Party’s administrative office in Upper Egypt’s Beni Sueif was torched by anti-Morsi protesters, reports Ahram Arabic.

According to Ahram, the empty office was bombarded with Molotov cocktails.

23:35 From Damietta in the north of Egypt, Hatem El-Bayaa of the Socialist Popular Alliance tells Ahram Online that demonstrators in the city, estimated to be several thousand, have taken over the governorate headquarters and the offices of the local education authority. In coordination with employees within the governorate offices, anti-Morsi protesters are planning to occupy other government buildings to prevent Damietta governor Tarek Fathallah Khedr from entering his office.

Khedr is a police general who was appointed on 16 June by the president. He is a member of the liberal Ghad Al-Thawra Party, a rare liberal ally of Morsi.

23:25 Some shots of today's protests here.

23:20 In Assiut, the site of today's most deadly clashes, army and police have been deployed at the governorate headquarters and at the Freedom and Justice Party headquarters, located 100 metres apart, reports Ahram's Osama Sediq.

Police are firing teargas in front of the FJP headquarters, where clashes are still ongoing and sounds of gunshots can be heard.

Clashes started when an anti-Morsi demonstration of several thousand passed by the FJP office. The FJP youth, who were forming a human shield to protect the office, thought protesters were attacking them, so they fired birdshot and live rounds, reports Sediq.

23:10 Sexual harassment seems to be worsening in Tahrir Square. Tahrir Bodyguards, a civil initiative fighting harassment, tweets:

Lots of reported cases of assault & harassment in #Tahrir. We recommend extreme caution in the area, especially for female protesters #EndSH

Another anti-harassment initiative, OpAntiSH, reports that the number of cases reported to them has gone up to 26, and tweets that:

There are men with sticks at the entrance of the metro station across from KFC in #Tahrir who are attacking women. Please avoid.

23:00 Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya's Building and Development Party have released a statement claiming that the protester killed in Beni Suef earlier was a member of their group.

Atef Marzouk, a leading member of the Islamist group in Beni Suef, accused opponents of President Mohamed Morsi of initiating the attack by firing birdshot at a pro-Morsi march.

"We defended ourselves until one of us was martyred," said Marzouk.

Earlier, journalist Shaimaa Mahfouz told us that a thousand-strong anti-Morsi rally in Beni Suef was fired at. She said:

"A number of assailants, accused by protesters of being Islamist supporters of Morsi, attacked the rally...Some clusters of protesters scattered and hid inside the mosques surrounding the square; at the same time the armed forces mobilised to contain the situation. Assailants continued briefly to fire at the mosques where protesters were hiding but they ran away when the army arrived," Mahfouz said.

The Beni Suef office of the Egyptian Popular Current, a leftist group led by opposition leader Hamdeen Sabbahi, also claimed in a statement that 30 members of "the jihadist movement" in Beni Suef were the ones who fired at the protest and that several protesters were injured.

Mahfouz told Ahram Online she saw a child injured with a bullet to the shoulder.

Ahram Online has not been able to independently verify what happened in Beni Suef.

22:50 Political forces protesting in front of Ittihadiya presidential palace have announced from the main stage that they will hold an open ended sit-in until “the fall of the regime”, reports state-owned news agency MENA.

They are further calling on all workers and employees at state institutions to go on a general strike starting Monday until July.

22:40 Thousands of protesters, many of them women, are gathering in front of Qubba presidential palace singing and chanting, reports Ahram Online's Ahmed Abdel-Rasoul.

An anonymous source had earlier told Al-Ahram Arabic news website that President Mohamed Morsi was at Qubba presidential palace, which is around three kilometres away from Ittihadiya.

22:30 Ahram Online’s Bassem Abo El-Abbas reports from the presidential palace where he says that fireworks are lighting up the sky as military helicopters continue to scan the palace perimeter.

Fathi Mabrouk, a 36-year-old bearded man in traditional attire told Abbas he is taking part in the protest because he doesn't believe in political Islam, adding that President Morsi “has been unjust to his people and thus he should be forced out of power for he disobeyed Islamic values.”

"I am also against the return of military rule even for another transitional period. I approve of the scenario of the head of the High Constitutional Court replacing Morsi until new elections are held," Mabrouk added.

22:20 Three protesters have been killed in Upper Egypt’s Assiut, chief of security in the city General Abou El-Qassem Abou El-Deif has said in a press statement.

The three people were part of an anti-Morsi protest of thousands which was attacked by unknown assailants as they were marching near the Freedom and Justice Party’s headquarters in the Upper Egyptian governorate.

According to Ahram Arabic, one of the slain, Abanob Atef, was killed after being shot in the head by gunmen on a motorcycle.

At least eight were injured in the attack, including a police officer.

22:15 A military source told Ahram Arabic that the army helicopters hovering over Cairo aim to secure protesters and make sure everything is peaceful. The same source says Egypt's armed forces are securing the borders.

Ahram Online’s Ayat Al-Tawy was in Tahrir around an hour ago, and she reported that the helicopters flying overhead were welcomed with rapturous applause, flag-waving, and pro-army slogans.

She spoke to protester Wafaa Mohamed, who was wearing the full face veil, about why she was in Tahrir today.

“The people in Rabaa Al-Adawiya are brainwashed. Morsi is a hypocrite, a liar; he’s unjust.”

22:05 Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Judge Hatem Bagato, has written his resignation and will submit it on Monday, sources have told Ahram Arabic website.

22:00 Egyptian Health Minister Mohamed Hamed confirms the death of 25-year-old Ammar Gouda, the protester who was killed in Beni Suef earlier when unknown assailants open-fired on an anti-Morsi protest.

Hamed also said that the injury toll across seven governorates had increased to 228 from 174, with 36 being discharged from hospitals. A lot of the injuries are related to the heat and crowds rather than clashes.

21:50 In Assiut, Aswat Masriya reports, unknown assailants riding a motorcycle shot at an anti-Morsi demonstration, injuring one protester who took a bullet in the head. He was transferred to hospital.

Protesters in Assiut have said that they will start a sit-in.

21:45 The 6 April Youth Movement and the liberal Constitution Party have announced that they will hold a sit-in in front of Abdeen Palace in downtown Cairo.

The announcement said they had received information that Egyptian Prime Minister Hisham Qandil is currently inside.

"Our peaceful assembly in front of Abdeen Palace comes as another instrument of pressure against the government in order to achieve the people's demand of holding snap presidential elections," said spokesman Mohamed Adel in a press statement following the announcement.

21:30 An eyewitness tells Ahram Online that she saw 12 people injured in the ongoing melee at the Muslim Brotherhood's headquarters, saying the number of injuries is likely be higher and is expected to further rise the coming few hours.

The 26-year-old, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said some were injured by birdshot, including a photojournalist who was shot in the eye.

An officer had his back wounded by birdshot, as did a female journalist who sustained a leg injury. According to the witness, the building was first attacked with Molotov cocktails and stones.

The eyewitness also stresses that birdshot is used by both Muslim Brotherhood members and their opponents.

21:20 OpAntiSH, one of the civil society anti-sexual harassment initiatives that is present in Tahrir Square tonight, reports on Twitter that there have been a number of incidents:

The total number of mob assaults in #Tahrir has risen to 13. Three took place near Hardee's, and we were able to intervene.

Tahrir Bodyguards, another such initiative, tweets that the huge crowds in Tahrir are reducing mobility, creating opportunities for sexual harassment and making it difficult for the group's members to rescue victims.

Ahram Online's Ayat Al-Tawy who is in the square says that she has felt a bit uncomfortable at times, and has seen some minor harassment by groups of men surrounding girls and catcalling them.

"One girl screamed and slapped a guy who was approaching her. I don't know what started it, but a number of people surrounded her and asked her if she needed help."

21:15 The Egyptian health ministry reports that hospitals have received 174 injured protesters today in seven different governorates: Cairo, Alexandria, Daqahliya, Gharbiya, Menoufiya, Beni Suef and Beheira.

The ministry said four cases in Gharbiya were from birdshot wounds, with no official confirmation of the Beni Suef anti-Morsi protester who died, according to the city's police chief.

21:10 It's now 9:10pm, and millions are filling squares in Cairo and in other locations all over Egypt, protesting against President Mohamed Morsi.

In addition to Tahrir Square and the vicinity outside the presidential palace, squares in Alexandria, in the Nile Delta and in Upper Egypt are also full of protesters.

There is relatively little violence so far, with the exception of brief clashes in Beni Suef where one person was killed. The army broke up the situation after unknown assailants fired on anti-Morsi protesters, and the situation is now calm, with the protest continuing.

Supporters of the president remain gathered at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Nasr City, where hundreds of thousands are holding their sit-in for the third day.

20:50 It seems that the protest areas in Cairo are so packed, mobile networks are overloaded and it's hard to get through to people in the area.

20:40 Osman El-Sharnoubi, who is still at the presidential palace in Heliopolis, says that protesters are carrying flags bearing the face of revolution's slain protesters, like Mohamed 'Gika' Gabr who was killed during Morsi's rule, Mina Daniel who was killed during the rule of the military council, and Khaled Said who was killed under Mubarak.

20:37 Prominent Sunni cleric Youssef El-Qaradawi, known for his support for the Muslim Brotherhood, has released a video statement calling on Egyptians to stay patient with President Mohamed Morsi, stressing that he is expected to make mistakes as he is a human being.

"If we have waited on the Mubarak's regime for 30 years, and another 30 years before him on the tyrants, why can't we wait on Morsi for a year?" asked El-Qaradawi.

El-Qaradawi further pointed out that President Morsi has been asking for dialogue.

20:35 Thousands of protesters have joined rallies at Al-Shoun Square in key industrial city of Mahalla.

Protesters are chanting against President Mohamed Morsi, repeating slogans such as “Abdel-Nasser has said it before, the Muslim Brotherhood are not to be trusted,” a famous chant referring to former president Gamal Abdel-Nasser whose era witnessed the persecution of several Islamist figures.

20:30 American journalist Kristen Chick is at the headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood in Cairo right now. She reports on her Twitter account that there is a fire in the yard and the sound of shots being fired. She tweets:

"We want to break in" one guy tells me at MB HQ. "why?" "Bc they are choking us" he says."



Headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood (Photo: Al-Ahram)

20:25 Around two hundred protesters are gathering in front of President Mohamed Morsi's house in New Cairo, a wealthy satellite city outside of Cairo, as security forces deploy barriers to keep protesters away from the building.

20:25 An enormous tent made of blankets is being erected near Omar Al-Eslam Mosque in Sidi Gaber for protesters to sleep under, reports Ahram Online's Yasmine Fathi.

One of the protesters in Alexandria, Wael Nabil, tells Yasmine that he is determined to stay until Morsi leaves, even if it means waiting a year.

“Mubarak repressed us, but at least he gave us services; at least he didn't cut the electricity, water and petrol like now.”

“Nothing has changed; my salary didn't increase. My wife is pregnant, how will I provide for my baby?” added Nabil.

20:23 Ahram Online's Osman El-Sharnoubi reports that the vicinity of the Ittihadiya presidential palace is extremely crowded, with moving even small distances taking a long

time. The crowd seems never-ending as one walks away from the palace. Fireworks are being lit from a building overlooking the avenue as the crowds cheer.

According to Osman, it's not possible to see the end of the crowd.

20:20 Reports of violence at the headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood in Cairo.

Around 500 people gathered at headquarters in Cairo's Moqattam district, hurling Molotov cocktails and stones at the building, says state news agency MENA, which quoted eyewitnesses as saying they had heard shots during the melee.

Senior FJP official Gehad El-Haddad says on Twitter:

No police on scene yet in #Moqatam. Security is dealing w/ attacking thugs. They were joined by others wearing blackblock uniform w/ firearms

A number of offices of the Brotherhood and its political arm, the Freedom and Justice Party, have been attacked in recent days.

20:15 Ahram Online's Yasmine Fathi says spirits in Alexandria's Sidi Gaber are high. "People are playing drums, clapping, waving flags," she reports.

Occasionally, helicopters pass over the protests and people cheer and wave, reports Fathi.

20:12 In Gharbiya governorate's Kafr El-Zayat, hundreds are participating in anti-Morsi protests.

Crowds are chanting: "national unity against the Muslim Brotherhood" and "you who rule in the name of religion, where is justice and where is religion?"

20:10 Leading labour activist Kamal El-Fayoumi, currently protesting in front of Ittihadiya palace in Cairo, tells Ahram Online that he will be heading back to the industrial city of Mahalla tomorrow.

"By then, if the regime hasn't been toppled we will join the sit-in and the calls for civil disobedience," added Al-Fayoumi.

Amir Bassam, Shura Council member from the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party, tells Orbit TV that crowds supporting President Morsi around Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo are more than all the anti-Morsi protesters, not only in Tahrir Square, but all across Egypt.

Given the numbers of people reported in Tahrir Square and at the Ittihadiya presidential palace - both packed to overflowing - this seems highly unlikely.

20:05 The main opposition coalition group, the National Salvation Front, has issued a "revolutionary statement."

"In the name of the Egyptian people with all their factions, the National Salvation Front announces public endorsement of the ouster of the regime of Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim

Brotherhood," the statement reads.

"The Egyptian population continue their revolution and will impose their will, which has become unequivocally clear in all Egypt's squares."

"The Salvation Front also trusts that the Egyptian people will protect its revolution until peaceful transition of power is fulfilled...we also call on all political forces and all citizens to remain peaceful...and refrain from dealing with the failed Brotherhood government until the fall of this tyrannical organisation."

20:00 There are reports of deadly violence in Beni Suef in Upper Egypt.

Ibrahim Hodeib, chief of security in Beni Suef, said that one protester was killed and 30 injured following an attack by unknown assailants, in a phone interview with private satellite channel CBC.

Journalist Shaimaa Mafhouz tells Ahram Online that a thousand-strong anti-Morsi rally in El-Modereya Square, the main square in Muslim Brotherhood stronghold Beni Suef, was fired at.

"A number of assailants, accused by protesters of being Islamist supporters of Morsi, attacked the rally...Some clusters of protesters scattered and hid inside the mosques surrounding the square; at the same time the armed forces mobilised to contain the situation. Assailants continued briefly to fire at the mosques where protesters were hiding but they ran away when the army arrived," Mahfouz said.

The Beni Suef office of the Egyptian Popular Current, a leftist group led by opposition leader Hamdeen Sabbahi, claimed in a statement that 30 members of "the jihadist movement" in Beni Suef were the ones who fired at the protest and that several protesters were injured.

Mahfouz told Ahram Online she saw a child injured with a bullet to the shoulder.

Hodeib told Ahram Arabic news website that one suspect behind the violence is Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya leader in the city named Ahmed Youssef.

Ahram Arabic reporter in Beni Suef Emad Abouzeid says the assailants fired birdshot at the protest, although others said that the assailants used live ammunition.

19:55 Members of the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) have gathered in Aswan in front of their party headquarters to secure them, reports Ahram Arabic website.

Aswan, in Upper Egypt has also seen a heavy security presence securing police stations.

19:55 Ayman Masoud, keyboardist for Egyptian band Massar Egbari, tells Ahram Online's Rowan El-Shimi that "there is a lot of energy among people marching to Tahrir," adding that in Alexandria, the hometown of the band, they are used to marching everywhere and not having sit-ins.

"Here everyone is excited and putting their energy into the chants," added Masoud.



Protesters opposing Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi set off fireworks during a protest at Tahrir Square in Cairo June 30, 2013 (Photo: Reuters)

19:50 Solidarity protests have been taking place at a number of locations around the world. Dozens of Palestinians in the West Bank held a small protest in Ramallah in solidarity with Egyptians demanding that President Morsi step down. Protesters held placards saying "No injustice, Egypt is the mother of freedom."

There were also reportedly protests by Egyptian expats in Jordan and in Norway, according to state news agency MENA.

19:45 Heba El-Sayed, a nurse at the field clinic in Omar El-Islam Mosque in Alexandria's Sidi Gaber, tells Ahram Online's Yasmine Fathi that several people have been injured in sporadic scuffles between protesters. So far, however, Alexandria has not seen the kind of violent clashes that have been taking place over the last few days.

19:40 Meanwhile, in Upper Egypt's Luxor, hundreds of boats are reportedly heading down the Nile to voice their opposition to President Mohamed Morsi.

Hundreds of other protesters are marching around the touristic city en route to their rallying-point at the governorate building, where they plan to hold a sit-in until their demands are met.

19:35 "If Morsi or the Brotherhood had any real presence, they would have organised a million-man march either here [Alexandria] or in Cairo, but they could only fill Rabaa Al-Adawiya," Sarah Mamdouh, one of the protesters at Alexandria's Sidi Gaber, tells Ahram Online's Yasmine Fathi.

Mamdouh added that Morsi had lost his legitimacy by "his dictatorial decisions and his inability to listen to other political opinions.

"He made people who were against each other unite against him, even the remnants of the former regime," added Mamdouh.



Anti-Morsi protesters gather in a main square during a massive protest, in the Sidi Gaber area of Alexandria, June 30, 2013. (Reuters)

19:30 From the vicinity of the presidential palace, former MP Mostafa El-Naggar tells Ahram Online that “talks of Morsi’s legitimacy is null and void now and is used by the Brotherhood to scare people off the early elections scenario...there is a revolutionary legitimacy now. The legitimacy of millions in the street trumps the previous electoral legitimacy,”

He adds that the army’s role should be to protect the transitional period.

19:30 Welcome to the second part of Ahram Online's live updates. Today, the anniversary of President Mohamed Morsi's first year in power, we are seeing virtually unprecedented numbers of protesters taking to the streets to demand that the president step down. Both Tahrir Square and the vicinity of the Itihadiya presidential palace in Heliopolis are packed with people.

There are also protests all over Egypt, including Mansoura, Damanhour, Alexandria, Mahalla, Suez, Minya and Sharqiya, and there have been some violent clashes reported in Tanta.

There is also a large demonstration and sit-in taking place in Cairo's Nasr City in support of President Morsi.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75361/Egypt/Politics-/Millions-of-Egyptians-turn-out-nationwide-for-anti.aspx>

Millions of Egyptians turn out nationwide for anti-Morsi rallies; 7 dead in violence

As unprecedented numbers turn out for mass rallies to demand President Morsi's ouster, Muslim Brotherhood finds itself under siege nationwide on day that sees at least seven people fall victim to political violence

Bel Trew, Monday 1 Jul 2013

Protesters opposing Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi wave Egyptian flags and shout slogans against him and members of the Muslim Brotherhood, during a protest in front of El-Thadiya presidential palace in Cairo June 30, 2013 (Photo: Simon Hanaa)

Millions of opposition protesters hit the streets across Egypt to call for the ouster of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi on Sunday (which marked the end of his first year in office), with violence in leaving at least seven dead.

Hundreds of thousands of anti-Morsi protesters gathered outside the presidential palace in Cairo's Heliopolis district and in Tahrir Square, the epicentre of the 2011 revolution and the prime venue of many opposition demonstrations.

There were jubilant but defiant scenes at both protests, with huge crowds of protesters chanting that the beleaguered president "must go" and stressing that they "will not leave" until their demands are fulfilled.

"We're staying put until Morsi resigns," said Hawash Heikel, a 58-year-old lawyer, as he set up camp for the night in Tahrir Square. "I have travelled all the way from [the Nile Delta governorate of] Menoufiya. We've come in a group to say that Egypt made a contract with the president when we went to the ballot box, and he has broken that agreement."

Heikel listed a number of common grievances echoed by protesters in Tahrir Square and across the country, including worsening fuel shortages and electricity cuts.

"Instead of telling us how he is going to fix these issues that are making our daily lives hell, he keeps talking about the big picture, and how Egypt is 'moving forward.' But he doesn't give specifics," he said.

The anti-Morsi Rebel campaign, which spearheaded the nationwide demonstrations, has called on all political parties and movements to leave their banners at home and unite, resulting in a sea of Egyptian flags.

Protesters carried red cards reading "Leave" in a symbolic gesture calling for the president's ouster.

"Look around you," said Ahmed Nagah, a 47-year-old teacher, gesturing to the crowds. "Today is a huge success."

Nagah, who voted for Amr Moussa in last year's presidential polls, explains how Morsi "has broken the rules" and lost his legitimacy. Nagah supports the Rebel campaign's calls for the head of Egypt's High Constitutional Court to take over as interim president until snap elections are held.

Further into the mass of people banging drums and shouting slogans against Morsi, 43-year-old engineer Abdel-Rehim Kamal voiced a common grievance.

"Morsi is exactly the same as [ousted president] Hosni Mubarak. He is following in his footsteps," he said.

More protests nationwide

Similar scenes occurred in Egypt's coastal city of Alexandria, where protester Sarah Mamdouh told Ahram Online that Morsi had lost his legitimacy by "his dictatorial decisions and his inability to listen to other political opinions."

They played out elsewhere across the country – in Gharbiya, Ismailia, Sharqiya and Menoufiya – where anti-Morsi protesters blocked the Cairo-Alexandria agricultural road, declaring it "closed by order of the people."

There was a significant anti-American sentiment in Cairo's Tahrir Square, meanwhile, with US ambassador to Egypt Anne Patterson the butt of numerous jokes by angry posters.

Just a few kilometres across the city from the presidential palace demonstrations, Islamist groups continue their sit-in in support of the president, spear-headed by the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party.

Supporters of the president maintain that Morsi was legitimately elected through democratic elections. Therefore, they say, the only way to remove him from office is through the ballot box.

Nevertheless, those who are currently gathered for the anti-government demonstrations say they will stay put until Morsi leaves.

"The big difference between now and then is that when we first went out in January 2011, we did not start out by calling for the toppling of the president," April 6 Youth Movement founder Ahmed Maher told Ahram Online.

"But now we have a clear demand: We want the president to leave," he said.

Deadly violence in Upper Egypt

At least three protesters have been killed in Upper Egypt's Assiut city, chief of security in the city, General Abou El-Qassem Abou El-Deif, said in a press statement. The three had been part of an anti-Morsi protest of thousands that was attacked by unknown assailants as they were marching near the Freedom and Justice Party's headquarters.

According to Al-Ahram's Arabic-language website, one of the slain, Abanob Atef, was killed after being shot in the head by gunmen on a motorcycle.

Egyptian Health Minister Mohamed Hamed had earlier confirmed the death of 25-year-old Ammar Gouda, a protester killed in Beni Suef when unknown assailants opened fire on an anti-Morsi protest.

Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya's Building and Development Party have released a statement claiming the victim was one of their members.

Atef Marzouk, a leading member of the Islamist group in Beni Suef, accused opponents of President Morsi of initiating the attack by firing birdshot at a pro-Morsi march. "We defended ourselves until one of us was martyred," said Marzouk.

Earlier, journalist Shaimaa Mafhouz told Ahram Online that a thousand-strong anti-Morsi rally in Beni Suef was fired at.

"A number of assailants, accused by protesters of being Islamist supporters of Morsi, attacked the rally...Some clusters of protesters scattered and hid inside the mosques surrounding the square; at the same time the armed forces mobilised to contain the situation," she said.

"Assailants continued briefly to fire at the mosques where protesters were hiding, but they ran away when the army arrived," Mahfouz added.

The Beni Suef office of the Egyptian Popular Current, a leftist group led by opposition leader Hamdeen Sabbahi, also claimed in a statement that 30 members of "the jihadist movement" in Beni Suef had fired at the protest and that several protesters had been injured.

Mahfouz, for her part, told Ahram Online that she saw a child injured with a bullet to the shoulder.

Ahram Online has not been able to independently verify Sunday's events in Beni Suef.

In Fayoum, an 18-year-old teenager was killed after being shot in the head in clashes between the supporters and opponents of Morsi.

The Egyptian health ministry reported that the injury toll across the nation, meanwhile, had reached 613. Cairo, Alexandria, Daqahliya, Gharbiya, Menoufiya, Beni Suef and Beheira are among the governorates that witnessed violence.

Violence also flared between supporters and opponents of the Brotherhood in the Nile Delta city of Tanta, where Al-Ahram's Arabic-language news website reported the use of firearms, birdshot and blunt weapons.

Brotherhood's Cairo HQ attacked

Back in Cairo, at least two were killed when the main headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood in the Moqattam district came under attack in the evening.

Hundreds of people throwing petrol bombs and rocks attacked the building, which caught fire as guards and Brotherhood members inside the building, which has been the target of several similar attacks this year, exchanged gunfire with attackers.

Local TV channels showed civilians being carried away with bloody head wounds.

Eyewitnesses told Ahram Online that assailants and Brotherhood members fired birdshot at each other, resulting in a number of injured, including a police officer. Parts of the building's exterior were burnt in the melee.

Senior FJP official Gehad El-Hadad said via Twitter hinted that the assailants may be linked to the banned 'Black Bloc' group, a term used to refer to young men wearing black masks who often resort to violence during protests.

Several other Brotherhood-affiliated offices were also assaulted.

A number of Brotherhood buildings have come under attack as tensions have mounted in the lead-up to the 30 June demonstrations, with the group's offices in Alexandria and the Nile Delta governorates of Sharqiya, Gharbiya and Beheira being firebombed or ransacked.

At least seven people have been killed since Wednesday in clashes between rival protesters.

Morsi supporters soldier on

At the open-ended sit-in staged outside Cairo's Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque, some five kilometres away from the presidential palace, hundreds of thousands (mainly Islamists) maintained their support for the embattled president despite mass opposition protests nationwide.

Morsi supporters remain gathered outside the mosque in Nasr City, where they held a sit-in for the third consecutive day on Sunday. They continued to chant for Morsi and his democratic legitimacy, and vociferously strike out at his opponents.

"We will give up over our dead bodies," Haj Ali Ahmed Yussif, a Brotherhood member from Daqahliya, told Ahram Online reporter Eslam Omar.

"We are four million at Rabaa Al-Adawiya and we are waiting for another six million to be ten. They will have to kill us all before they violate [Morsi's democratic] legitimacy," Yussif, a merchant, insisted.

Amir Bassam, Shura Council member from the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party, had earlier told Orbit TV that crowds supporting President Morsi around Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo were more than all of Egypt's anti-Morsi protesters combined.

Yet given the numbers of people reported in Tahrir Square and at the presidential palace – both of which remain packed to bursting – this seems highly unlikely.

Another Brotherhood member, Ahmed Shata, a researcher at Mansoura University, expressed indifference regarding the huge number of protesters demanding Morsi's ouster.

"We will stay [at Rabaa Al-Adawiya]. Nobody will dare touch the presidential palace, otherwise we will eat them whole," he said.

"We don't care about our headquarters. Let them burn 50 of them; we'll build another 500," Shata added. "All that matters to us now is the presidency."

Eslam Omar contributed to this report

<http://www.lesechos.fr/economie-politique/monde/actu/reuters-00532308-un-mort-dans-des-affrontements-au-sud-du-caire-581018.php>

Un mort dans des affrontements au sud du Caire

30/06 | 20:19

Des affrontements entre partisans et adversaires du président égyptien Mohamed Morsi ont fait un mort et une trentaine de blessés dimanche à Beni Souef, au sud du Caire, a-t-on appris de source proche des services de sécurité.

Il s'agit du premier décès recensé au cours des manifestations de la journée, juste un an après l'entrée en fonctions du président Morsi.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75394/Egypt/Politics/-/dead,-injured-in-clashes-across-Egypt-since-Sund.aspx>

16 dead, 781 injured in clashes across Egypt since Sunday

8 people died during clashes at the Brotherhood's headquarters in Moqattam, Cairo; there was also deadly violence in Beni Suef, Kafr El-Sheikh, Fayoum, Assiut and Alexandria

Ahram Online , Monday 1 Jul 2013

16 people have been killed and 781 wounded in violence across Egypt since Sunday, according to the health ministry.

Nine of the deaths took place in Cairo and seven in the governorates of Alexandria, Beni Suef, Kafr El-Sheikh, Fayoum and Assiut.

Eight of the nine Cairo deaths happened as violence flared outside the Muslim Brotherhood headquarters in the suburb of Moqattam, when those inside fired at youth hurling petrol bombs and stones at the building.

The four-storey headquarters was overrun and ransacked by dozens of youths on Monday morning following a night of deadly violence which the Islamist group blamed on "thugs."

Also in Cairo, 23-year-old man died "from pneumonia and shortness of breath" outside the Ittihadiya presidential palace, a focal point of Sunday's million-strong rallies against Islamist President Mohamed Morsi.

Millions of Egyptians took to the streets across the country on Sunday to call for Morsi to step down, while tens of thousands of the president's mostly Islamist backers have been camped out for the fourth consecutive day outside a local mosque in Cairo in support of his electoral mandate.

Factional rivalries have triggered street fighting across Egypt over the past week, with mounting fears of further violence over the coming days of demonstrations.

On Sunday, three protesters were shot dead in Upper Egypt's Assiut in clashes between supporters and opponents of the beleaguered president.

One protester was killed in similar deadly clashes in Egypt's second city of Alexandria, one in the Nile Delta's Kafr El-Sheikh, one in Beni Suef and one in Fayoum.

In Alexandria, a woman died on Monday after succumbing to injuries sustained on Friday. She had been accidentally shot by a birdshot pellet while standing on her balcony watching clashes between rival demonstrations in the Mediterranean city.

En Egypte, le bilan des affrontements s'alourdit : 10 morts et plus de 600 blessés

Publié par Youssef le 01 juillet 2013 à 10:50



Des manifestants ont attaqué le QG des Frères musulmans (photo AFP)

En Egypte, les manifestations d'hier au cours desquelles 17 millions de personnes sont descendues dans la rue, selon les chiffres du ministère de l'Intérieur, ont donné lieu à de multiples affrontements qui se sont soldées par le triste bilan (provisoire) de 10 morts et 613 blessés, selon le ministère de la Santé égyptien.

Dix personnes ont été tuées et plus de 600 blessées dans des affrontements qui ont eu lieu principalement dans sept provinces, rapporte Al Arabiya. Cinq personnes ont été tuées dans le Mokattam devant le siège des Frères musulmans au Caire, indique la chaîne d'informations.

Les manifestations ont opposé, durant toute la journée d'hier les opposants et les partisans du président Mohamed Morsi ; les uns appelant à sa destitution à l'occasion d'une journée de colère, les autres appelant à respecter la légitimité électorale.

Des affrontements se sont même poursuivis durant la nuit.

Toute l'Egypte dans la rue pour refuser la dictature islamique

lun, 01/07/2013 - 07:07 Aida Braïk (avec agences)

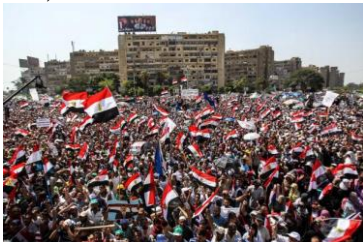


Photo : La place Tahrir redevient le siège de la Révolution... (DR)

Ils sont des millions à battre rageusement le pavé dans toutes les grandes villes d’Egypte, scandant « Dégage ! », « le peuple veut la chute du régime ! » comme aux moments les plus forts de l’insurrection contre le régime de Hosni Moubarak... Les égyptiens rejettent massivement la dictature surnoisement imposée par la confrérie des Frères musulmans.

L’armée estime à "plusieurs millions" le nombre d’égyptiens descendus dans la rue, en famille, pour dire non aux Frère musulmans, un an après l’investiture de Mohamed Morsi. Il s’agit "de la plus grande manifestation dans l’histoire de l’Egypte", a affirmé une source militaire, rapportent les agences de presse. Quatre personnes ont été tuées, dimanche 30 juin dans des affrontements.

Une personne a été tuée et une trentaine d’autres blessées à Beni Suef lors d’affrontements entre partisans et adversaires du président égyptien. Les trois autres victimes ont été tuées dans la province d’Assiout, au sud du Caire, dans des affrontements qui ont aussi fait des dizaines de blessés aux abords de locaux des Frères musulmans, selon l’AFP et autres agences de presse.

Au Caire, le QG de la confrérie islamiste a été attaqué dans la soirée avec des cocktails molotov et des tirs de chevrotine, selon les même sources.

La place Tahrir au Caire est nouvelle fois le siège d’une révolution. Des centaines de milliers de manifestants y sont rassemblés, déterminés à y rester jusqu’au départ de Morsi. Nombreux sont parmi eux des citoyens qui avaient voté pour ce dernier et qui s’estiment à présent « trahis ».

L’armée en état d’alerte reste dans l’observation. Des discussions seraient en cours avec la présidence et l’état major de la confrérie islamiste, qui appelle au dialogue mais sans convaincre.

L’opposition a exprimé fermement sa position, appelant les manifestants à ne pas lâcher. Dans un texte intitulé "*déclaration révolutionnaire numéro 1*", le Front du salut national (FSN) appelle "toutes les forces révolutionnaires et tous les citoyens à maintenir leurs rassemblements pacifiques sur les places, dans les rues, les villages et les hameaux du pays (...) jusqu’à la chute de tous les éléments de ce régime dictatorial".

- See more at: <http://www.mediterranee.com/0112013-toute-legypte-dans-la-rue-pour-refuser-la-dictature-islamique.html#.UdxzAm0ubfI>

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75381/Egypt/0/Egypt-streets-quiet-a-day-after-millionsstrong-an.aspx>

Egypt's streets quiet a day after millions-strong anti-Morsi rallies

Egypt's streets are quiet Monday morning with few camping out in protest hubs after massive rallies Sunday; but people assure they will be in the streets until Morsi 'goes'

Ahram Online , Monday 1 Jul 2013



Opponents of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi rest on concrete blocks outside the presidential palace in Cairo, Egypt, Monday, July 1, 2013 (Photo: AP)

Egyptians poured out onto the streets in the millions on Sunday in a massive nationwide rejection of the Muslim Brotherhood-fielded President Mohamed Morsi, but Monday morning Cairo streets look unusually quiet.

Some say Sunday's protests reached 17 million across the country - greater in number than any event during the 2011 revolution that toppled Mubarak from his 30 years as president.

This time, many protesters have stated their determination to remain on the streets until Morsi "goes."

A few hundred continue to camp out in the iconic Tahrir Square, the cradle of Cairo's protests, but numbers normally swell in the late afternoon.

Tens of protesters, forming human chains and chanting against the Muslim Brotherhood (who fielded President Morsi), block the entrance to Mogamaa, the country's largest administrative building, state news agency MENA said.

Several kilometres away, uneasy calm has also descended at the Ittihidaya presidential palace, where masses simultaneously on Sunday brought their demand for Morsi's ouster. A small number of protesters having joined those settling in since Sunday.

Hundreds of tents have been erected but since most left Sunday night, many are currently empty. Young protesters are playing football Monday morning outside the palace with surrounding streets partially open to traffic.

Resident-manned checkpoints continue to secure streets that lead to the palace, searching people wanting to enter and checking their IDs.

In the nearby Cairo suburb of Nasr City - the scene of rival demonstrations by President Morsi's Islamist backers - protesters have been camped out for the fourth consecutive day to "defend the president's legitimacy."

Many protesters, wearing helmets and wielding sticks and bludgeons, lined up in the early hours of Monday to protect their sit-in from any imminent attack. Others held discussions about backing the president.

The pro-Morsi's camp says most of the challenges the president is blamed for are inherited from the old regime, while his opponents accuse him of failing to fulfil the revolution's ideals and sending the country's economy in free fall.

Other governorates across Egypt have also seen small numbers of anti-regime protesters on the streets early Monday morning.

Street fighting across Egypt on Sunday between supporters and opponents of the president left sixteen dead and 781 injured, a health ministry official said, as factional divisions have heightened tensions and sparked fears of further violent showdown in the coming days

In a late-night address on Sunday, a presidential aide affirmed Morsi's respect for people's demands and lauded the peacefulness of the protests.

He went on to reiterate calls for a national dialogue, calls he says are repeatedly dismissed by the opposition.

<http://www.webdo.tn/2013/07/01/egypte-5-tues-et-235-blesses-dans-les-affrontements-entre-anti-et-pro-morsi/>

Egypte : 5 tués et 235 blessés dans les affrontements entre anti et pro-Morsi

Publié par Youssef le 01 juillet 2013 à 0:28



Un nouveau bilan des vient de tomber en Egypte où le ministère de la Santé annoncé que 5 personnes ont été tuées et 235 personnes ont été blessées dans les affrontements d'aujourd'hui dans sept provinces jusqu'ici, rapporte Al Arabiya.

Des affrontements entre adversaires et partisans du président Morsi on fait un mort et une trentaine de blessés à 100 km au sud de la capitale, à Beni-Saouef lorsque des inconnus ont ouvert le feu sur une manifestation anti-Morsi.

Dans la province d'Assiout devant un local des Frères musulmans les heurts entre anti et pro-Morsi ont fait trois morts dont un a été tué lorsque des hommes armés à bord d'une moto ont ouvert le feu sur des manifestants.

A Minya, où le même type d'incident à eu lieu, un mort a également été relaté par Al Arabiya.

Dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre du plan de sécurité mis au point par l'armée égyptienne, la sécurité a été renforcée en particulier à proximité d'installations sensibles comme le bâtiment de la télévision d'Etat, le canal de Suez, les cabinets ministériels, le Parlement et l'entrée de l'aéroport international du Caire.

<http://www.sudouest.fr/2013/07/01/egypte-16-morts-dans-les-affrontements-quatre-ministres-demissionnent-1102322-4803.php>

Publié le 01/07/2013 à 14h52
Par SudOuest.fr, avec AFP

Egypte : 16 morts dans les affrontements, quatre ministres démissionnent

VIDEO - L'opposition égyptienne a donné jusqu'à mardi au président islamiste Mohamed Morsi pour qu'il quitte le pouvoir



Les adversaires de M. Morsi dénoncent une dérive autoritaire de son pouvoir et une mainmise des Frères musulmans sur le pays (AFP GIANLUIGI GUERCIA)

Au moins **16 personnes ont trouvé la mort** lors des manifestations en Egypte dimanche, dont huit dans des heurts entre partisans et adversaires du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi au Caire, a indiqué ce lundi le ministère de la Santé. **Les affrontements ont fait plus de 600 blessés.**

La foule avait déferlé dimanche au Caire et dans de nombreuses autres villes, conspuant le chef d'Etat aux cris de "Le peuple veut la chute du régime", reprenant ainsi le slogan déjà scandé début 2011 contre le pouvoir autoritaire de Hosni Moubarak.

Le siège du mouvement des Frères musulmans, dont Mohamed Morsi est issu, a été en partie incendié dans la nuit dans le quartier du Moqattam au Caire, avant d'être occupé et pillé lundi matin.

Six personnes ont été tuées dans les provinces de Beni Suef, Assiout (centre), Kafr al-Cheikh et du Fayoum, tandis qu'un manifestant est mort asphyxié devant le palais présidentiel au Caire et un autre à la suite de ses blessures à Alexandrie.

Quatre ministres égyptiens ont présenté ce lundi leur démission, au lendemain de ces manifestations massives.

Les ministres du Tourisme, de l'Environnement, des Communications, et des Affaires juridiques et parlementaires ont remis ensemble leurs lettres de démission au Premier ministre Hicham Qandil.

L'opposition égyptienne a donné jusqu'à mardi au président islamiste Mohamed Morsi pour qu'il quitte le pouvoir, le menaçant en cas de refus d'une campagne de désobéissance civile, au lendemain de manifestations monstres.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75415/Egypt/0/Egypt-military-gives-political-forces--hours-to-re.aspx>

Egypt military gives political forces 48 hours to resolve crisis

If no mutually-acceptable solution to crisis is reached within next 48 hours, military will step in with 'roadmap' for Egypt's political future

Ahram Online, Monday 1 Jul 2013

El Sisi



Defense Minister Abdel Fattah al-Sisi (Photo: Reuters)

The Egyptian Armed Forces issued a televised statement on Monday afternoon giving Egyptian political forces 48 hours to "fulfil the people's demands," otherwise the armed forces would present a political "roadmap" for the country that would include all political currents.

"The Egyptian Armed Forces will not become involved in politics or administration; it is satisfied with its role as is spelt out in line with democratic norms," read the statement, stressing that Egyptian national security was in "great danger" and referring to the armed forces' "responsibility" to step in if national security was threatened.

"The Egyptian Armed Forces have set a deadline, which ended yesterday [Sunday], for all political powers to reconcile and end the current crisis, but no progress has been made. Consequently, the Egyptian people have taken to the streets," the statement read.

"Wasting more time will mean more division and conflict, which is what the armed forces warned of and of which it continues to warn," the statement added.

According to the statement, the absence of national consensus is what led the people to take to the streets in full determination, "which has been praised on the internal, regional and global level."

The statement went on to warn that more time would only lead to greater polarisation, urging all parties to put the public interest first.

"The armed forces reiterates its call that the demands of the people be met," the statement read, giving political factions a 48-hour period "as a last chance to bear the historical burden that the nation is currently facing."

The official Facebook page of the Egyptian presidency published a brief entry on Monday evening, after the army statement was televised, stating that President Mohamed Morsi held a

meeting with Prime Minister Hisham Qandil and Minister of Defence General Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi, although it was not clear if the meeting had concluded or was still taking place at the time of publication.

No details about the discussions at the meeting have been announced.

Upon hearing the news, Egyptian protesters outside the presidential palace and in Tahrir Square cheered, while army helicopters flew over Tahrir as they did the day before.

In Alexandria's sit-in in the Sidi Gaber district, Yasmine Fathi told Ahram Online that protesters "welcomed" the army's statement regarding the ongoing political crisis.

"I'm so proud of our army; it has proven that it will stand by the people always," Aya Hawash, a Sidi Gaber protester said. "I'm not worried if the army rules, because it's obvious that their first priority is the Egyptian people."

Expressing his happiness with the statement, Tarek Fahmy, another protester, said that former head of Egypt's military Hussein Tantawi "was not a good man" because he made a deal with the Muslim Brotherhood allowing them to come to power.

"El-Sisi, however, has proven through his actions that he will support the democratic path," he said.

Several key members of the Egyptian opposition have welcomed the statement issued by the armed forces.

"The statement is telling President Mohamed Morsi to resign," said Mahmoud Badr, spokesman of the anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaign, which claims to have gathered 22 million signatures calling on the president to step down, and which was a key coordinator of the weekend's massive anti-Morsi protests.

Badr added in a statement published on the campaign's official Facebook page that "the army's historic role is to take the side of the people."

However, via Twitter, many activists who frequent the squares expressed their dismay regarding the military's re-intervention in Egyptian politics.

Their concerns stem from the year and a half of military rule following Egypt's January 2011 revolution during which there was a constant struggle between protesters and police and army forces.

At a pro-Morsi rally held by Islamist forces in Cairo's Nasr City district, demonstrators voiced support for the president's "democratic legitimacy," chanting, "Power, will, faith... Morsi is under attack."

The Muslim Brotherhood's Guidance Bureau and the group's political arm, the Freedom and Justice Party (FJP), are holding an emergency meeting on Monday evening to discuss a response to an ultimatum by the military, a high profile Brotherhood source told Ahram Arabic website.

Armed forces spokesman: Egypt military doctrine does not permit coups

Following Monday's armed forces statement, military spokesman asserts that Egyptian army doctrine does not allow for 'military coups'

Monday 1 Jul 2013



Egypt's president Mohamed Morsi, PM, Hisham Qandil and Minister of Defence Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi (Photo: Egypt's presidential Facebook page)

Egyptian Armed Forces spokesman Ahmed Ali issued a statement on Facebook on Monday stating that Egyptian military doctrine did not allow for "military coups."

"Egyptian Armed Forces' doctrines do not include military coups as a policy. The armed forces already deployed on Egypt's streets in 1977, 1987 and 2011 and this did not lead to a coup, but rather [led the army] to stand with the will of the great Egyptian people and their desire for reform and change."

Earlier on Monday, the armed forces issued a statement giving all political powers 48 hours to resolve Egypt's current political standoff or else face a military-imposed "roadmap" for the country's political future.

"The armed forces statement was issued to push all political players to find a solution to the current political crisis and reach national reconciliation in line with the demands of the Egyptian people," Ali said.

The armed forces spokesman added that the military would not take part in politics or accept a role other than that laid down for it by established democratic norms.

Egypt's Salafist Call, Nour Party calls for early presidential polls

Largest Salafist group demands early presidential elections, although they support Morsi's legitimacy, and government of technocrats

Ahram Online, Tuesday 2 Jul 2013

Egypt's Salafist Call and its political arm, the Nour Party, have called on President Mohamed Morsi to set a date for early presidential elections to avoid "civil war."

“Even though we support the legitimacy [of President Morsi], it [Egypt’s interests] should also be taken into consideration ... and work on preventing a civil war,” reads their statement, which was released late on Monday.

Deciding to remain neutral, the Salafist Call and Nour Party refrained from joining the 30 June protests demanding the president’s dismissal, and also the counter rallies supporting Morsi’s “legitimacy.”

But after two days of massive protests against Morsi, they endorsed the opposition’s main demand (early presidential elections), and also called for a government of technocrats and a committee for constitutional amendments.

According to the statement, an “unbiased” government of technocrats should be formed to work on solving the problems of the Egyptian people and monitor parliamentary elections.

The Salafist Call had said last June that it recognises Morsi as the elected president who should remain in office for four years, in accordance to the constitution.

However, it also said that it does not, in principle, oppose holding early presidential elections, saying the president alone should make such a decision.

Sixteen people were killed in violence between the embattled president’s supporters and opponents on Sunday in clashes across the nation.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75447/Egypt/0/Egypt-army-ultimatum-hailed-by-opposition,-sparks-.aspx>

Egypt army ultimatum hailed by opposition, sparks Islamist protests

Opposition forces hail army's 48-hour ultimatum to presidency; embattled Islamist forces step up pro-Morsi protests, decry perceived 'coup'

Ahram Online, Tuesday 2 Jul 2013

Protests

Anti-Morsi protester climbs on top of an electric pole to take a look at military helicopters flying over Al-Itihadiya presidential palace during a protest demanding Mursi to resign in Cairo July 1 (Photo: Reuters)

The military's 48-hour ultimatum to Egypt's rival political camps was condemned by supporters of embattled President Mohamed Morsi, who on late Monday night stepped up their protests and marches in support of Morsi's democratic legitimacy and against a perceived military coup.

Ongoing anti-Morsi demonstrations, meanwhile, generally welcomed the army's announcement, which many protesters saw as another step towards the realisation of their demands for the president's ouster.

Following the military's televised statement on Monday afternoon giving Egyptian political forces 48 hours to "meet the people's demands" – or be presented with a military-imposed "roadmap" for the country's political future –an army spokesman clarified that the statement

was not intended to suggest a military coup, but was merely aimed at fostering reconciliation between the two camps.

Nonetheless, the newly-formed National Coalition for Legitimacy, led by the Muslim Brotherhood group (from whose ranks Morsi hails), denounced the military's statement on Monday night, stressing its "rejection of any attempt to turn the army against [democratic] legitimacy."

Islamists step up protests; Nour backs opposition

On Monday night, hours after the armed forces' statement, tens of thousands of Morsi supporters staged marches in several governorates in support of the president and against a perceived military coup.

As of 10pm, tens of thousands had taken to the streets for several pro-Morsi rallies in and outside the capital, while protesters at the main Islamist sit-in in Cairo's Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square – hundreds of thousands strong – continued to demonstrate for the fourth consecutive day.

In Suez, violent clashes reportedly erupted between Morsi's supporters and opponents, Reuters reported, citing eyewitnesses.

Meanwhile, Egypt's Salafist Nour Party, which had earlier taken a neutral stance vis-à-vis the rival demonstrations, broke from the Islamist camp late Monday night by announcing its support for opposition demands for snap presidential polls.

Anti-Morsi camp hails military statement, activists concerned

Upon hearing the army's statement on Monday afternoon, anti-Morsi protesters arrayed in Tahrir Square and outside the presidential palace, along with those in the governorates, cheered in celebration. Army helicopters hovered over Tahrir Square, throwing flags on the crowds below as they did the day before.

Outside the presidential palace, Ashraf Youssef, a middle-aged protester who works as a construction subcontractor, told Ahram Online that he supports the decision by the 'Rebel' campaign – an anti-Morsi signature drive – to give Morsi until 5pm Tuesday to respond to its demands.

He voiced fear that the Brotherhood would seek to employ violence as a pressure tactic during the 48-hour period set by the military. "The army statement gives the Muslim Brotherhood too much time to create chaos," he said.

Mahmoud Eissa, an anti-Morsi protester in Alexandria's district of Sidi Gaber, told Ahram Online that the army's statement made him "very happy."

"Morsi and his group have to leave; it is too late for any other concessions," he added.

For her part, a protester told Ahram Online she was happy with the statement as it would force President Morsi to make political concessions.

"We don't want to keep changing presidents," she said. "But now he will have to form a new government and give the people what they want."

In the Nile Delta city of Gharbiya, meanwhile, protesters cheered and raised Egyptian flags chanting, "We are with you, [Defence Minister Abdel-Fattah] El-Sisi," "The people and army are one hand" and "Down with Morsi," according to state news agency MENA.

On the streets of Gharbiya, people went out in motorbikes and cars, honking in celebration.

Many activists who frequent the squares, however, expressed dismay over the military's possible re-entry into Egyptian domestic politics.

Their concerns stem from the year and a half of military rule following Egypt's January 2011 revolution, which saw frequent clashes between protesters and army forces.

Opposition welcomes armed forces statement

The political opposition welcomed the army's statement, viewing it as a sign that the army had sided with demands for early presidential elections.

"The statement is telling President Mohamed Morsi to resign," said Mahmoud Badr, spokesman of the anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaign, which claims to have gathered 22 million signatures calling on the president to step down, and which was a key coordinator of the weekend's massive anti-Morsi protests.

Badr added in a statement published on the campaign's official Facebook page that "the army's historic role is to take the side of the people." Founding member of the opposition National Salvation Front umbrella group and ex-presidential candidate Amr Moussa called the statement "a historical opportunity that shouldn't be wasted."

For his part, Ahmed Fawzy, secretary-general of the Egyptian Social Democratic Party, told Ahram Online that the opposition would not accept any concessions.

"Any cabinet reshuffle, change of prosecutor-general, or any decision by President Morsi other than his resignation is unacceptable," Fawzy claimed.

Fawzy refuted the possibility of the army's return to domestic politics, saying it had learnt its lesson during Egypt's post-revolution transitional phase.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75448/Egypt/0/ProMorsi-marches-reported-in-Cairo,-governorates;-.aspx>

Pro-Morsi marches reported in Cairo, governorates; rival marchers clash in Suez

Thousands of supporters of Egypt's beleaguered president stage marches in Giza, Minya, Arish and Port Said; clashes between rival protesters break out in canal city of Suez, Reuters reports

Ahram Online, Tuesday 2 Jul 2013

A TV snapshot shows a pro-Morsi rally in Nahda Square, Giza

Supporters of embattled President Mohamed Morsi staged marches countrywide on Monday night in support of the president's "democratic legitimacy" in the wake of a statement by Egypt's armed forces suggesting that it planned to reassume executive authority.

Thousands of Morsi supporters took to the streets in a march from Giza's Haram Street and Omraniya district to Al-Nahda Square outside Cairo University, the site of previous pro-Morsi rallies.

The march – which included men, women and children – brought traffic on Haram Street to a standstill. Carrying placards depicting President Morsi, protesters chanted: "[The president's democratic] legitimacy is a red line."

Meanwhile, a pro-Morsi rally outside Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo's Nasr City, estimated in the hundreds of thousands, remains in place for the fourth consecutive day.

In the Nile Delta Sharqiya governorate, residents of the village of Abu Kebir also organised a protest march to support the president – who hails from Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood movement – and say "No to military rule."

Protesters reportedly left El-Nasr Mosque after evening prayers, chanting, "Down with military rule," "Egypt's legitimacy is with the president" and "We love you Morsi."

In the northern city of Suez, supporters and opponents of the presidency reportedly exchanged gunfire near the mouth of the Suez Canal Monday night, according to witnesses quoted by Reuters.

"The sound of gunfire is everywhere. Supporters and opponents are going back and forth," Reuters quoted one witness as saying.

The pro-Morsi marches and rallies come against the backdrop of massive, ongoing demonstrations demanding the president's ouster, the largest of which are in Tahrir Square and at Cairo's presidential palace.

On Monday evening, Egypt's armed forces issued a statement giving all political powers 48 hours to resolve the country's ongoing political standoff or else face a military-imposed "roadmap" for the country's political future.

At least 16 people have been killed in clashes between rival protesters since Sunday, when millions of Egyptians flooded the streets to demand Morsi step down.

Pro-Morsi protests have also erupted in the northern Marsa Matrouh governorate and in the Upper Egyptian governorates of Minya and Qena.

The ultra-conservative Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya group, meanwhile, a staunch supporter of the president, has urged Morsi supporters nationwide to hit the streets to peacefully express the need to "respect the constitution and the public will."

Morsi's critics usually cite the country's deteriorating economy and the "incompetence of his administration."

Many of his opponents also believe that the Muslim Brotherhood, from which he hails, is the actual ruling body of Egypt while Morsi is helping the group dominate power.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75461/Egypt/0/Obama-calls-Morsi-to-express-concern-over-Egypt-cr.aspx>

Obama calls Morsi to express concern over Egypt crisis

US president urges his Egyptian counterpart to respond to demonstrators
AFP, Tuesday 2 Jul 2013

US President Barack Obama called President Mohamed Morsi to warn him that the voices of all Egyptians must be heard as a political crisis escalates, the White House said Tuesday.

Obama placed the call from Tanzania, on the final stop of his African tour and told him Washington was committed to "the democratic process in Egypt and does not support any single party or group," the official said.

"He stressed that democracy is about more than elections; it is also about ensuring that the voices of all Egyptians are heard and represented by their government, including the many Egyptians demonstrating throughout the country," the White House said.

The White House's public description of the contents of the call mirrored Obama's own remarks on Monday when he voiced concern in a press conference about Egypt amid mass protests and an apparent threat to Morsi's rule.

"President Obama encouraged President Morsi to take steps to show that he is responsive to their concerns, and underscored that the current crisis can only be resolved through a political process," the statement went on.

"As he has said since the revolution, President Obama reiterated that only Egyptians can make the decisions that will determine their future."

As he did publicly during a press conference in Tanzania on Monday, Obama also used the call to underscore "deep concern" about violence during demonstrations, especially sexual assaults against women, the White House said.

"He reiterated his belief that all Egyptians protesting should express themselves peacefully, and urged President Morsi to make clear to his supporters that all forms of violence are unacceptable.

"Finally, the president noted that he is committed to the safety of US diplomats and citizens in Egypt and stressed his expectation that the government of Egypt continue to protect US diplomatic personnel and facilities."

Obama's call came after the army warned Islamist president Morsi it would intervene if he failed to meet the demands of the people within 48 hours.

In a statement, the Egyptian presidency said the army declaration, which had not been cleared by the presidency, could cause confusion, and the presidency would continue on its own path towards national reconciliation.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75511/Egypt/Live-updates-Millions-on-streets-in-Egypt-as-defia.aspx>

Live updates: Millions on streets in Egypt as defiant Morsi addresses nation

Massive anti-Morsi rallies in Cairo, Alexandria and other governorates, while Morsi's supporters turn out in smaller numbers; figure of 7 deaths in Cairo clashes not confirmed officially

Hazel Haddon, Salma Shukrallah, Osman El-Sharnoubi, Nada Hussein Radwan, Sherif Tarek, Tuesday 2 Jul 2013



Fireworks burst over opponents of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi in Tahrir Square in Cairo, Egypt, Tuesday, July 2, 2013 (Photo: AP)

00:30 It's been another turbulent day in Egypt. We are closing the live updates here; thank you for reading.

00:25 A defiant speech from President **Morsi**. His supporters at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque are celebrating, while massive anti-Morsi crowds at Ittihadiya palace and in Tahrir Square are chanting "Leave!"

00:22 "My iron will is with my people and is unshaken." President Morsi finishes the speech after saluting the nation.

00:19 "Legitimacy and legitimacy alone, the constitution and constitution alone, and the elections and the elections alone."

00:17 "There are many challenges but the biggest is not to fall in the trap and take the country in the wrong direction, and make our enemies happy."

00:15 "To save the nation we need to sacrifice, but not against each other....when we announce jihad that must be against foreign enemies and not against each other. We sacrifice for our country and I am the first to sacrifice. If the cost for legitimacy is my blood I will give it easily."

00:12 "The constitution which we all uphold and respect says that the government that will be chosen by the parliament will have more authorities than the president."

00:10 "We have to prove to the world that we are capable of democracy...peacefully we protect the legitimacy...legitimacy is our only guard from future faults....I do not accept anyone saying anything or taking steps against legitimacy; this is completely rejected."

00:07 "After this I decided there is no alternative for legitimacy and keeping an open channel for dialogue...Legitimacy is the only guarantee against violence.The old regime won't return....If this initiative isn't accepted, the country will go down a dark road and we'll be back to square one."

00:05 "I called for dialogue. An initiative was made to talk with the opposition, form a new government, hasten the elections laws to hold parliamentary elections soon after 6 months, resolve the crisis of the prosecutor-general, empower youth in decision making."

00:02 "There is no problem with peaceful protests."

00:00 "I want to say some clear points...There is no alternative for legitimacy, constitutional legitimacy, legal legitimacy, the legitimacy of elections held before."

23:58 Morsi continues: "We want a strong army; don't ever insult the Egyptian army. Safeguard the army with me because it is our support. Don't ever use violence against it. I'm telling all Egyptians - no violence between each other or towards the army or police."

Violence and bloodshed is a trap, if we fall into it, its the end of us."

23:56 "I will safeguard legitimacy with my life."

23:54 "My message to you all, to the opposition, is that I will stand by this legitimacy. And to the supporters who respect democracy and love legitimacy, safeguard Egypt and the revolution. Don't let the revolution be stolen from you, opponents and supporters."

23:52 President Morsi continues, "I care very much that the blood of Egyptians is not spilt. I will stand firm against any who spill this blood."

23:50 "The old regime don't want democracy. They're used to rigging elections. They don't know what democracy and freedom of expression are. They are using the youth and those suffering from the economic problems to sow chaos and violence. Why doesn't this violence appear until they announce they will change the regime and abort democracy?"

23:48 The speech is sounding fairly similar in tone to Wednesday's speech. It certainly doesn't sound like the beginning of a resignation.

Morsi continues: "It is normal after revolution for there to be opposition and support. We wrote a constitution and it was (passed) via referendum. We had legitimacy afterwards, and this legitimacy is what guarantees for us that there be no infighting between us and no bloodshed if we respect it."

23:45 He accuses the "remnants of the former regime" and the deep state of blocking Egypt's transition.

23:43 President **Morsi** says that " I want for Egypt to own its own will, for no one to dictate what it should do...There are people outside of Egypt who don't want Egypt to own its will. It's easy to just listen to instructions. Egypt's revolution wasn't the revolution of the hungry. It was the revolution for owning our will, freedom and justice."

23:40 He reiterates that he has made mistakes, and that things have become clearer after his first year in office.

23:35 President **Morsi** is speaking on Egyptian state television. He talks about Egypt's transition, stressing that he came to power through the first free presidential elections, and mentioning that the 2011 revolution was peaceful.

23:30 There are a number of ongoing **clashes** being reported on Twitter. It's hard to get confirmation, but so far it looks like there are violent incidents in a number of places in Giza (at Cairo University and at Been Al-Sayarat) and in 6 October, a satellite city outside Cairo.

23:15 Away from all the clashes, the mass rallies at **Ittihadiya** presidential palace are apparently peaceful and celebratory. Ahram Online's Ayat El-Tawy reports from the scene that numbers are greater than on Monday, and spirits are soaring as men and women dance to patriotic music. She notes that "the volunteer-manned checkpoints seem to have been tightened up since yesterday. They are searching car trunks and girls' bags."



Crowds at Ittihadiya presidential palace (Photo: Ayat Al-Tawy)

23:10 AP is reporting a figure of **seven dead in Cairo** according to anonymous security and hospital officials. According to the report, "the officials say the seven were killed in three separate clashes, but had no further details."

23:00 Anti-Brotherhood feeling shows no sign of slacking, even in **Ismailia**, where the organisation was founded over 80 years ago.

Firefighters in the city, which is located on the Suez Canal, have put out a fire in the headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood's FJP in the district of Al-Tal Al-Kebeer, a well-known Brotherhood stronghold in the city.

Hundreds of anti-Morsi protesters reportedly besieged the office and set it alight, according to an Ahram Arabic reporter in the field.

A number of police and army forces were deployed to the area following the fire.

22:55 President Morsi has just issued a tweet on his official account saying that he insists on "holding on to constitutional legitimacy" and rejects any attempt to abort it, and calls on the army to withdraw its "ultimatum," as he rejects any internal or external pressures.

22:45 A security source told Ahram Arabic that bomb disposal experts have successfully disarmed a bomb found at the **Muslim Brotherhood headquarters** in Moqattam, a suburb of Cairo. The source of the bomb remains unknown - security forces were responding to a bomb threat they received. The Moqattam headquarters were torched and ransacked after clashes on Sunday.

22:40 Thousands of President Morsi's supporters are on the streets in Upper Egypt's **Qena**, according to state news agency MENA.

The Freedom and Justice Party, along with their allies the ultra-conservative Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya, the Raya Party (founded by prominent Salafist figure Hazem Salah Abu-Ismael), and the Salafist Watan Party are the organisers of the rally.

Morsi's proponents mainly gathered at Saa Square in the middle of Qena to support the "legitimacy of President Morsi," lamenting what they describe as the "opposition figures' attempt to turn against legitimacy."

22:30 There are ongoing reports of clashes in Giza, around **Cairo University**. The Independent's Alastair Beach is reporting several hundred people fighting in the area.

22:20 The **presidency** has said it is preparing a statement with the military addressing the current political situation. Armed forces spokesman Ahmed Ali has, however, denied any such coordination with the presidency, reported Ahram Arabic.

On Monday, the presidency criticised the army's 48-hour ultimatum, saying it was not consulted before the statement was released.

22:10 The **April 6 Youth Movement** has endorsed Mohamed ElBaradei to negotiate on the behalf of the opposition. ElBaradei has so far been endorsed by the 30 June Front and the Egyptian Popular Current.

22:00 Ahram's Arabic website reports that numbers are increasing at the **Qobba** presidential palace in Heliopolis. At a nearby underground metro station, crowds are so large the station workers have opened the metro barriers to allow people to exit more easily. Groups of people wearing high-visibility jackets are spreading out securing the rally, reports Ahram.

Qobba only became a major location for protests this weekend; previously, anti-Morsi marches headed to Tahrir Square or to Ittihadiya presidential palace (also in Heliopolis), where the president's office is officially based. On 30 June, however, the president moved his office to Qobba, and as a result the palace is becoming a popular destination for rallies and marches.



21:45 More clashes in Upper Egypt. Violence broke out between pro- and anti-Morsi supporters in the city of **Minya** after a number of Morsi supporters reportedly fired at anti-Morsi protesters during rival protests, according to Ahram Arabic.

Thousands of Morsi supporters had gathered in front Al-Rahman mosque, known in the city as an Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya spot, in a march towards the city's Palace Square where hundreds of anti-Morsi protesters had been staging a sit-in against the recently-appointed Islamist affiliated governor, when a number of people from the pro-Morsi protest reportedly fired at protesters in front of the governorate building.

An account of injuries has not yet been provided.

Police fired rounds of teargas in the perimeter of the governorate headquarters to disperse the two camps.

21:40 Clashes erupt in **Luxor** in front of the governorate headquarters after pro-Morsi demonstrators attacked an anti-Morsi protest, reports Ahram Arabic. Several have been reported injured, although the official number is still unconfirmed. Security forces apparently intervened to contain clashes.

In **Beni Suef**, pro-Morsi demonstrators retreated from the main square after anti-Morsi demonstrators approached.

21:30 Ministry of health announces **one dead** in clashes in Giza that took place between opponents and supporters of President Morsi. In total, 72 have been injured during the Tuesday clashes over nine different governorates.

21:05 We should stress that the **injuries and deaths** that are being reported are happening at the margins, not in the main protest sites. Tahrir Square, Ittihadiya, and Qobba are all so far free of any clashes, as is the main Islamist rally in Rabaa Al-Adawiya.

The clashes have been occurring in locations where smaller numbers and marches are taking place. The two reported deaths were in Kit Kat in Giza, which is located on the western side of the Nile river, opposite Cairo.

21:00 The Minister of Health Mostafa Hamed has announced that **39 people** have been injured in clashes in seven governorates: Cairo, Alexandria, Qalioubiya, Giza, Daqahliya, Damietta and Fayoum, which saw the highest number of injuries per governorate at 21.

Hamed said that 17 out of the 39 injured have been discharged from hospitals. The two deaths in Giza have yet to be confirmed officially.

20:50 Thousands of anti-Morsi demonstrators are gathered in El-Horreya Square in the city of **Damietta**, reports Ahram Arabic. Earlier on Tuesday evening, hundreds of Morsi supporters had gathered near the square to demonstrate but retreated when scuffles broke out with residents. Police forces are still deployed around the square to form a buffer between the two camps.

20:45 There have been a number of political **resignations** today, including six ministers, a cabinet spokesperson, and a number of others.



20:40 There are more clashes reported in Beheira governorate, where Damanhour is located.

Violence broke out between opponents and supporters of Morsi in the industrial city of **Kafr Al-Dawar** in Beheira, according to Ahram's Arabic website. Dozens were injured as live rounds were fired, the site reported.

The ultra-conservative Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya had earlier staged a pro-Morsi march, while other protesters chanted slogans against him, prompting minor clashes as each side threw stones at the other.

20:30 More clashes in **El-Agamy** on the Mediterranean, where police are firing teargas at fighting crowds, after violence erupted a few hours ago between Brotherhood supporters and residents, in which both sides exchanged fire and birdshot.

Violence broke out after drivers and residents in the area were angered after a pro-Brotherhood march blocked part of the road. Many were injured, according to the same report, while no deaths were reported.

Police General Nasser El-Abd, head of Alexandria's investigative department, said that 25 people were injured in the clashes. He said they were all injured by stones, stressing that no one was injured by birdshot or live ammunition.

Not far away in the city of **Damanhour**, MENA agency reports clashes between Morsi's supporters and opponents, after the pro-Morsi group had gathered to begin a march. Shots could be heard from the clashes but thus far no injuries have been reported.

20:25 Clashes between pro- and anti-Morsi groups in the Kit Kat district of **Giza** have killed two, according to Ahram Arabic. The two people were killed by "live fire" which also injured another 13 people. The injured have been moved to hospitals in Imbaba and Agouza.

20:20 In the vicinity of **Rabaa Al-Adawiya** Mosque in Nasr City, quite a long walk from Tahrir Square but a fairly short drive when Egypt's streets are clear, the president's supporters gather in their hundreds of thousands, defying the millions of anti-Morsi demonstrators gathered in dozens of squares across Egypt.

It seems the numbers are swelling somewhat. MENA agency reports that a group have left the Rabaa sit-in to form a march to nearby Abbas Al-Akkad avenue, presumably as the space fills up.

MENA also reports that the supporting rally at Cairo University in Egypt's Giza district is growing as many marches, some led by Islamist MPs, make their way to the area.

20:15 Thousands of pro-Morsi demonstrators took over the Thaqafa Square, the main square in Upper Egypt's **Sohag**. Anti-Morsi protesters were pushed to retreat into other streets of the city fearing clashes, reports Ahram Arabic.

20:10 Reports of more clashes are coming in. The Socialist Popular Alliance reports on Twitter that member Mohamed El-Sayyed was shot in the arm during a Brotherhood attack on an opposition in **Helwan**, south of Cairo.

20:05 Thousands of supporters of President Morsi have gathered in the Upper Egyptian governorate of **Assiut** in front of Omar Makram Mosque, reported Ahram Arabic. At the same time, hundreds of opponents have started to gather in a demonstration in front of the governorate headquarters.

20:00 Egypt's state news agency MENA reports two major marches have reached a packed Tahrir Square.

19:50 A US State Department spokesperson speaking at a press conference says that reports that the US has been pressing for early presidential elections in Egypt - the main demand of anti-government protesters - are inaccurate. She seems reluctant to commit to one side or the other, commenting that the US government is in contact with all sides - government, military, opposition - and refusing to speculate about any implications for **American aid** to the country.

19:40 Egyptian television is showing images of **Qobba** presidential palace in Cairo, where hundreds of thousands have gathered. Fireworks are lighting up the sky.

19:35 The headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) in the city of **Banha** in the northern governorate of Qalioubiya was burnt after it was stormed by anti-Morsi protesters. The contents of the headquarters were destroyed and the banner that carries the name of the party was removed, reports Ahram Arabic.

19:27 There are a number of reports coming in of gunfire in Kit Kat Square in **Giza**. Ahram Online's Sherif Tarek reported hearing gunfire in Nile Street in Agouza, in Giza, while

Ahram Arabic website reports clashes using pellets and Molotov cocktails in two separate places: Bein Al-Sarayat district in Giza, and Kit Kat.

19:25 In a statement issued at 4pm, the Islamist **Wasat Party** - one of the Muslim Brotherhood's staunchest allies - talked about the “angry, legitimate mobilisation of the people” and warned against plans by "enemies of the nation" to "hijack" their movement.

The party also acknowledged what they said were failures by the ruling regime to manage economic problems, and blamed the anti-government media for angering Egyptians. The statement called for supporting "constitutional legitimacy" and expressed its reservations about the army's entry into political affairs.

19:20 Anti-Morsi marches are heading to **Tahrir Square** from Shubra district and from Mostafa Mahmoud Square in the district of Mohandeseen.

19:15 The **anti-Morsi Rebel campaign** has released a statement saying that it has nominated three of its members to participate in the negotiations called for by the armed forces to set a new road map. Mahmoud Badr, Hassan Shahin and Mohamed Abdel-Aziz are the three members nominated.

Member of the Rebel's central committee, Mona Selim, announced that 90 percent of the campaign's organising committee have agreed to participate in the negotiations, declaring them “a dialogue for handing over power”.

The campaign's proposed roadmap stipulates that power is handed over to head of the High Constitutional Court (HCC) and a new technocrat government is formed.

19:10 Dozens were reportedly injured in clashes between pro- and anti-Morsi protesters in the seaside town of **El-Agamy**, east of Alexandria, where police forces are attempting to contain the clashes, reports Ahram Arabic news website.

19:00 Welcome to Ahram Online's live updates. We are 24 hours into a 48-hour ultimatum issued by the Egyptian military, which called on political forces in Egypt to "meet the people's demands" or face a military-imposed roadmap.

The ultimatum came after a weekend of massive, unprecedented protests against President Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood group from which he hails.

Anti-Morsi supporters have been flocking onto the streets and celebrating the army's statement in the key focal points of the Ittihadiya palace and Tahrir Square, with many reading it as a sign that Morsi will step-down. Morsi's supporters have also taken to the streets in several parts of Egypt, mainly in Rabaa Al-Adaweya square where hundreds of thousands have been holding a sit-in since Friday, to declare their support for the president.

Key events today so far:

- The 30 June Front, a coalition of a number of key opposition groups, have put forward Mohamed ElBaradei as a spokesman, while the cabinet has selected Prime Minister Hisham Qandil. President Morsi, Qandil and armed forces head Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi reportedly met today.
- Violent clashes since Monday in a number of governorates have led to 152 injuries.

- A Cairo appeal court on Tuesday morning upheld a lower court's decision to dismiss prosecutor-general Talaat Abdullah, appointed by President Morsi, although it is unclear whether the former prosecutor-general, Abdel-Meguid Mahmoud, will take up the position.
- The number of ministerial resignations is up to 6, with the resignation of foreign minister Mohamed Kamal Amr, a career diplomat who was originally appointed in 2011 under military council rule. Two presidential spokesmen also resigned.
- Egypt's Coptic Orthodox Pope Tawadros II issues a statement praising the anti-Morsi Rebel campaign which spearheaded the weekend's protests.
- The April 6 Youth Movement, a key revolutionary group, called on President Morsi to dissolve the Islamist-dominated Shura Council, freeze the constitution and hand over power to the head of the High Constitutional Court who would then set the date for presidential elections within three months.
- The Egyptian stock market reacted very positively, climbing 5 percent on Tuesday. Egyptians are currently on the streets in large numbers.

Anti-Morsi demonstrations:

- In Cairo, there are massive anti-Morsi crowds gathered in Tahrir Square, at Ittihadiya presidential palace, and at Qobba presidential palace.
- There are also anti-Morsi rallies in Alexandria and the governorates of Gharbiya, Sharqiya, Daqahliya, and in the cities of Suez and Port Said.
- There are some smaller protests, directed against new governors appointed by President Morsi earlier this month, being held at governorate headquarters in Gharbiya, Sharqiya, Assiut and Kafr El-Sheikh.

Pro-Morsi demonstrations:

- In Cairo, supporters of the president are still gathered at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Nasr City, and there are smaller demonstrations on the other side of the river in Giza.
- There are demonstrations underway in Ismailiya and Zagazig; both reportedly number in the hundreds.

<http://mediarabe.info/spip.php?breve17362>

Egypte : affrontements entre pro et anti Morsi, 7 morts

mardi 2 juillet 2013 - 22h19

Les manifestations de ce mardi ont fait au moins sept morts en Egypte. Peu avant, Washington et Paris s'étaient inquiétés de la situation égyptienne. Laurent Fabius avait demandé au président Morsi « d'écouter le peuple ». Selon des sources militaires, Mohamed Morsi s'est entretenu avec le chef de l'armée.

Mardi soir, de nouvelles manifestations pro et anti Morsi ont eu lieu en Egypte. Selon des sources médicales, au moins sept personnes sont mortes dans des affrontements entre partisans et opposants du président Morsi au Caire. Les heurts ont eu lieu dans le quartier de Guizeh. (France info).

Nuit de violences en Egypte : au moins 23 morts lors d'affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi

le Mardi 2 Juillet 2013 à 21:03 mis à jour le Mercredi 3 juillet à 05:05
Par Guillaume Gaven



Le rassemblement de mardi soir au Caire © Reuters - Mohamed Abd El Ghany

La tension est à son comble en Egypte. Dans la soirée, Mohamed Morsi a défié l'armée, expliquant, dans un discours à la télévision, ne pas avoir d'autre choix que de poursuivre la tâche qui lui avait été confiée démocratiquement. Peu avant, Washington et Paris s'étaient inquiétés de la situation égyptienne et avaient demandé au président "d'écouter le peuple".

Une nuit de violences en Egypte. Pro et anti-Morsi se sont très violemment opposés, notamment sur le campus de l'université du Caire, où l'on dénombre 16 morts et quelque 200 blessés : des milliers de manifestants islamistes s'y étaient rassemblés.

Plus tôt dans la soirée, des affrontements avaient éclaté dans le quartier de Guizeh, où sept personnes au moins ont été tuées, et des dizaines blessées.

Des heurts ont été aussi signalés à Alexandrie et dans la vile de Kaliouba, au nord du Caire.

Morsi refuse de partir

L'opposition, très remontée, accuse le président Morsi de conduire le pays à la confrontation et à la violence.

Ces déclarations interviennent alors que le président Morsi a rencontré le général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, chef de l'armée. Ce mardi, l'armée a annoncé que si aucun accord n'était trouvé entre le président et les opposants, elle allait dissoudre le parlement et suspendre la Constitution.

"Je n'ai pas d'autre choix que de poursuivre la tâche qui m'a été confiée démocratiquement" (Mohamed Morsi)

En réponse, mardi soir, Mohamed Morsi a demandé à l'armée de retirer son ultimatum. Un tweet de la présidence égyptienne indique que *"le président Mohamed Morsi affirme qu'il détient la légitimité constitutionnelle et rejette toute tentative de s'en éloigner, il appelle les forces armées à retirer leur mise en garde et refuse de se faire dicter sa conduite, que ce soit dans le pays ou à l'étranger"*. L'ultimatum de l'armée se termine mercredi à 17h.

Dans un discours prononcé à la télévision, il a souligné qu'il n'avait *"pas d'autre choix que de poursuivre la tâche qui lui a été confiée démocratiquement"*. Il a rejeté toute possibilité de démission *"le peuple m'a choisi lors d'élections libres et équitables"* et ajouté qu'il *"continuerait à assumer la responsabilité"* du pays. La *"légitimité"* est *"la seule garantie contre l'effusion de sang"*, a-t-il ajouté.

L'opposition dénonce un appel à la guerre civile

Après le discours télévisé du président, l'opposition égyptienne a estimé que Mohamed Morsi avait lancé un appel à la guerre civile. *"C'est un appel public à la guerre civile (...) Le président continue de rejeter les appels à la démission lancés par le peuple égyptien"*, a réagi Khaled Dawoud, porte-parole du Front de salut national (FSN), principal bloc de l'opposition laïque, libérale et de la gauche égyptienne.

Réaction de la France

Peu avant, la France avait réagi à la crise égyptienne. Le ministre des Affaires étrangères a appelé ce mardi Mohamed Morsi au dialogue. *"Quand il y a une telle masse de problèmes et une telle masse de population qui exprime plus qu'un malaise, un refus, une angoisse, il faut que le gouvernement égyptien écoute le peuple. (...) Il faut que le président Morsi entende ce qui se passe"*, a déclaré Laurent Fabius.

"La France demande qu'il y ait un dialogue. On ne peut pas réagir autrement" (Laurent Fabius)

<http://www.lepopulaire.fr/france-monde/actualites/a-la-une/international/2013/07/02/egypte-sept-morts-dans-des-affrontements-entre-pro-et-anti-morsi-1612856.html>

02/07/13 - 22h13

Egypte: Morsi réaffirme sa "légitimité", des heurts meurtriers



Sept personnes ont péri mardi dans des affrontements entre partisans et opposants du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi au Caire, où les deux camps manifestent en masse, ont indiqué des sources médicales à l'AFP. - Khaled Desouki/AFP

Le président égyptien Mohamed Morsi a réaffirmé mardi soir sa "légitimité", et appelé l'armée à retirer l'ultimatum qu'elle lui a posé en lui demandant de "satisfaire les demandes du peuple", qui manifeste en réclamant son départ, avant mercredi soir.

Le chef d'Etat a déclaré lors d'une allocution télévisée que "le peuple m'a choisi lors d'élections libres et équitables" et ajouté qu'il "continuerait à assumer la responsabilité" du pays. La "légitimité" est "la seule garantie contre l'effusion de sang", a-t-il ajouté.

M. Morsi avait auparavant réaffirmé sur son compte Twitter officiel "sa légitimité constitutionnelle" et refusé "toute tentative de passer outre", appelant "les forces armées à retirer leur avertissement et refuse tout diktat" qu'il vienne d'Egypte ou de l'étranger.

Le président islamiste avait déjà rejeté lundi soir la demande du commandement militaire assimilée par ses partisans à un coup de force pour le faire partir.

Il a rencontré mardi le ministre de la Défense et chef de l'armée, le général Abdel Fattah al-Sisi. Rien n'a filtré jusqu'à présent de ces entretiens engagés dans la matinée et qui se poursuivaient en soirée.

L'opposition a salué cet ultimatum, y voyant un appui de poids dans sa volonté de pousser vers la sortie M. Morsi, accusé de vouloir instaurer un régime autoritaire au profit du mouvement des Frères musulmans, la formation dont il est issu.

Les partisans du chef de l'Etat insistent quant à eux sur la "légitimité" du premier président démocratiquement élu de l'histoire du pays.

Sept personnes ont péri mardi dans des affrontements entre partisans et opposants du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi au Caire, où les deux camps manifestent en masse, ont indiqué des sources médicales à l'AFP.

Ces heurts dans le quartier de Guizeh (sud) ont également fait des dizaines de blessés, dont plusieurs ont été grièvement touchés par des tirs, ont indiqué des sources médicales à l'AFP.

Des heurts ont également éclaté dans d'autres quartiers de la périphérie du Caire et dans la province de Beheira.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75520/Egypt/0/The-leadup-to-Egypt-armys-Monday-statement-A-timel.aspx>

The lead-up to Egypt army's Monday statement: A timeline

What prompted the armed forces' 48-hour ultimatum on Monday, and what will come next? Ahram Online provides a brief timeline culled from reports by informed sources from both sides

Dina Ezzat , Tuesday 2 Jul 2013

Minister of Defence Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi (Photo: Ahram Online archive)

Tuesday, 25 June: A group of activists and opposition figures notify the minister of defence that momentum for planned 30 June demonstrations calling for early presidential elections

were picking up "unprecedented support," assessed at no less than six million demonstrators for the day by intelligence. They go on to voice concern over potential confrontations with Islamists.

The meeting comes against the backdrop of an ultimatum issued by the armed forces in line with its constitutional capacity as the guarantor of national security. The military calls on all political parties to reach a settlement that would save the nation from serious political conflict in language sympathetic to opposition demands for change, which are supported by both Al-Azhar and the Coptic-Orthodox Church.

Wednesday, 26 June: A group of opposition leaders meet with leaders of the Salafist Nour Party and share concerns over extended political turmoil should the Muslim Brotherhood and President Mohamed Morsi decline to bow to opposition demands for early presidential elections in view of the expected huge crowds set to join anti-Morsi marches and the unmistakable deterioration of living conditions.

Nour Party leadership communicates the message to the leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood and offers last-ditch mediation that would include meeting key demands of the opposition. These include the appointment of a new government, a new prosecutor-general and a committee tasked with revisiting controversial articles of the constitution, within the context of a phased reconciliation scheme to be followed by a national dialogue meeting and agreement on a date for early presidential elections.

The mediation scheme is offered the support of the army, which begins visible deployment without prior coordination with the president. An extended meeting between the president and defence minister fails to reverse the deployment, as Muslim Brotherhood attempts to find support for removing the minister of defence fail.

President Morsi makes a speech that shocks the opposition as extremely out of touch and non-reconciliatory, if not outright provocative. Morsi reiterates calls for national dialogue, which is ignored by the opposition that has zero faith in the presidential offer due to discouraging past experiences.

Thursday, 27 June: The leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood decides shrugs off the offer on the basis that reconciliation before the 30 June demonstrations would prompt political greed on the part of the opposition. The president calls on his prime minister to work with the cabinet to try and fix the signs of economic malaise. Leaders of militant Islamist groups show solidarity with the Muslim Brotherhood, along with some but not all of the leaders of Salafist parties and movements.

Mobilisation is ordered by leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood. The defence minister consults with army commanders on the prospects of a showdown in view of the Brotherhood's lack of willingness to show interest in any compromise deals, including one offered by the Salafist Nour Party and others offered by independent Islamist figures.

Official information indicates growing mobilisation for the 30 June protests, not just by activists and supporters of the regime of Hosni Mubarak, but by many individuals. The army begins a more visible deployment, with vehicles carrying stickers expressing the army's support for opposition demands.

Friday, 28 June: Islamist figures and followers of the Muslim Brotherhood gather for Friday prayers around Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Nasr City in the thousands. Preachers and speakers announce plans for a sit-in in solidarity with the elected president and his legitimacy. The speakers vow unconditional support for Morsi.

Meanwhile, thousands gather at Tahrir Square and around the Ittihadiyah presidential palace in a prelude to the 30 June demonstrations. Army, police and intelligence leadership make a unified decision to bow to the "will of the people." The Muslim Brotherhood leadership contacts key Western capitals with a message of certainty that the turnout for the 30 June demonstrations would not exceed one million people who would not stay for long.

Activists and opposition leaders step up preparations for 30 June and communicate confidence to their rank and file. Opposition figures meet with army representatives to discuss transition beyond Morsi.

Saturday, 29 June: An anxious Muslim Brotherhood leadership calls on supporters to join the Nasr City crowd. Activists make an unprecedented show of anti-Morsi sentiment and call on citizens to join calls for Morsi to step down.

The army imposes tough security monitoring on senior Muslim Brotherhood figures and continues deliberations amid assessments of huge demonstrations on Sunday. Western capitals call on all parties to reach a compromise.

Sunday, 30 June: Millions take to the streets to call on Morsi to step down. The president fails to convince police to protect the Muslim Brotherhood's headquarters in Cairo's Moqattam district. Nationwide demonstrations persist in the face of alarmist calls suggesting violent confrontations between Islamists and non-Islamists. Clerics at the Nasr City gathering switch from threats to appeals for reconciliation.

The army leadership decides that time is running out for Morsi. The Salafist leadership again tries to extract a compromise from the Muslim Brotherhood leadership, as several cabinet members offer resignations. Spokesmen for the president hold press conferences to convey a message of resilience in the face of the demonstrations. The president is kept under the eyes of the intelligence apparatus.

Pressure is ratcheted up by the president to agree to bow to the opposition's demands. Western capitals adopt more accommodating language regarding demonstrators' demands, but stress the need to observe the rules of the democratic process. The president unsuccessfully tries to lobby the support of some army leaders.

Monday, 1 July: The Muslim Brotherhood insists that it is not bowing to the demands of the street and insists on the democratic right of the elected president to continue his term in office. The prime minister and minister of defence meet with the president in search of a way out of the crisis, but no agreement is made.

The minister of defence consults with political advisors and issues a statement from the central command of the army – a roughly 50-member body made up of top brass – that basically offers a 48-hour ultimatum to the president to bow to the demands of the opposition.

Massive numbers of demonstrators take to the streets to celebrate. The president and Muslim Brotherhood decline to give way. Calls for a wider show of support for the president are made by the leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood.

The minister of defence and president meet extensively, but no compromise is reached. Pro-Morsi marches start to assemble, but offer no match to the massive public show of support for the army.

The Muslim Brotherhood vows defiance and communicates a message of resilience to concerned Western capitals, which in turn call for an agreed upon exit. The presidency announces it had received support from the White House, but the White House denies the assertion.

Western capitals receive calls from the Muslim Brotherhood to counter any possible support for a "coup d'etat." An army spokesman issues a statement insisting that it is not executing a coup against the president, but is only acting upon the "will of the people."

Tuesday, 2 July: The country braces for a post-Morsi Egypt with parallel and intense meetings between opposition, military, intelligence, police and judiciary in search of a semi-constitutional exit. The cabinet of Hisham Qandil offers its resignation to the president as the army calls on the president to transfer its authorities to a new prime minister, who would then assemble a bureaucratic cabinet that would take over the launch of a transitional phase for one year to 18 months.

The army assures all concerned capitals that it is not planning to rule. Army and police are on high alert amid speculation of possible bloody confrontations. The army sends a message to the Muslim Brotherhood leadership to come to terms on an agreement to avoid confrontation and threatens to arrest anyone involved in speculated paramilitary activities.

The army awaits the president to either agree to make a televised statement to the nation to announce the transfer of power to a new prime minister or to decline and give room for the army to announce details of the transition. Large masses take to the streets to re-emphasise demands for Morsi to step down and for a new beginning of transition.

http://www.romandie.com/news/n/_Dix_morts_dans_des_affrontements_au_Caire_41030720130248.asp

Dix morts dans des affrontements au Caire

LE CAIRE - Dix personnes ont péri mardi dans des affrontements au Caire, où partisans et opposants du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi manifestent en masse, ont indiqué des sources médicales.

Sept personnes ont été tuées lors de heurts dans le quartier de Guizeh (sud) qui ont également fait des dizaines de blessés, dont plusieurs ont été grièvement touchés par des tirs, ont rapporté des sources médicales à l'AFP.

Dans un autre quartier de la capitale, trois personnes ont trouvé la mort dans la nuit et 90 autres ont été blessées aux abords de l'université lorsque des hommes non identifiés ont tiré sur un rassemblement de partisans de M. Morsi, ont rapporté les médias officiels, citant le ministère de la Santé.

Des assaillants nous ont attaqués avec des armes à feu. J'ai moi-même porté un homme qui avait reçu une balle dans la tête, a déclaré à l'AFP un partisan du président, Mostafa Abdelnasser.

Pro et anti-Morsi ont à nouveau mobilisé mardi d'importantes foules au cours de démonstrations de force rivales, à la veille de l'expiration d'un ultimatum de l'armée au chef d'Etat islamiste.

Des heurts ont également éclaté dans d'autres quartiers de la périphérie du Caire et dans la province de Beheira.

Les militaires ont donné lundi soir 48 heures à M. Morsi pour satisfaire les revendications du peuple, faute de quoi ils présenteraient une feuille de route visant à sortir de la crise. Le chef d'Etat a rejeté une nouvelle fois cet ultimatum dans une allocution télévisée mardi soir.

L'opposition a salué cet ultimatum, y voyant un appui de poids dans sa volonté de pousser vers la sortie M. Morsi, accusé de vouloir instaurer un régime autoritaire au profit du mouvement des Frères musulmans, la formation dont il est issu.

Les partisans du chef de l'Etat insistent quant à eux sur la légitimité du premier président démocratiquement élu de l'histoire du pays, et dénoncent une tentative de coup de force pour le démettre.

(©AFP / 03 juillet 2013 02h47)

<http://mediarabe.info/spip.php?breve17384>

Egypte : nouveau bilan des affrontements au Caire, 18 morts et 619 blessés

mercredi 3 juillet 2013 - 16h02

Au moins 18 personnes sont mortes et 619 ont été blessées dans les affrontements des dernières heures entre partisans et opposants du président égyptien Mohamed Morsi. Cela a été rapporté par le ministère de la Santé, cité par l'agence officielle Mena. Les 18 personnes qui sont mortes ont été tuées dans les environs de l'Université du Caire, où les manifestants islamistes ont organisé une manifestation en faveur du président Morsi. Parmi les blessés, 201 sont encore hospitalisés. (AGI).

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75546/Egypt/Politics-/Egypt-remains-in-political-deadlock-as-military-de.aspx>

Egypt remains in political deadlock as military deadline looms

Nationwide protests continue for third consecutive day as President Morsi defies opposition calls to step down; at least 20 die in clashes between president's supporters, opponents on Tuesday and early hours of Wednesday

Sherif Tarek , Wednesday 3 Jul 2013



Protesters opposed to Egypt's President Mohammed Morsi surround an injured man, center, following clashes in the Kit Kat neighborhood of Giza, Egypt, where Tuesday, July 2, 2013 (Photo: AP)

Tensions reached a boiling point in Egypt on Tuesday night, with President Mohamed Morsi and his supporters still holding on tight to his "democratic legitimacy" while larger opposition forces continue to demand his ouster.

For the third day, millions of anti-Morsi demonstrators hit the streets across the nation to demand the removal of Morsi from power. A celebratory atmosphere was obvious most of the day in Cairo's Tahrir Square and at the Qubba and Ittihadeya presidential palaces.

Meanwhile, Islamist supporters of Morsi have also carried on their massive sit-in in the vicinity of Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo's Nasr City district. Additional thousands have also been gathering at Cairo University in support of the elected president.

Clashes

With pro-Morsi marches in different cities since Monday, more clashes erupted between the two camps. Cairo, Alexandria, Qalioubiya, Giza, Daqahliya, Damietta and Fayoum, among other governorates, have all witnessed violence.

Gunfights occurred in Cairo's Kit Kat Square, located in the Imbaba district, with mayhem extending to Nile Street in the nearby Agouza district.

Pellets, live fire and Molotov cocktails were also reported during the clashes, while the nearby Bein Al-Sarayyat district of Giza witnessed similar fighting. Intermittent clashes also took place near Cairo University, leaving at least 16 dead and 200 injured as of the early hours of Wednesday.

Another five were killed during the melee in Giza and over 100 injured, according to a security source who said that three of the victims belonged to the Muslim Brotherhood, the group from which Morsi hails.

Apart from rival rallies and clashes, political representatives of both camps refused to back down.

The anti-Morsi 'Rebel' signature campaign said it had nominated three of its members to participate in negotiations called for by the armed forces aimed at drawing up a political "roadmap" for the country.

On Monday, the Egyptian Armed Forces gave all parties involved in the ongoing political impasse until Wednesday 17:00 (Cairo time) to end their differences.

Should they fail to do so, the armed forces warned that it would issue its own "roadmap" for Egypt's political future.

The Rebel campaign, whose protest calls have been endorsed by most opposition forces, proposed its own roadmap, calling for power to be handed over to the head of Egypt's High Constitutional Court (HCC) and the formation of a new technocrat government.

A member of the Rebel campaign's central committee, Mona Selim, announced that 90 percent of the campaign's organising committee had agreed to participate in negotiations, describing them as "a dialogue for handing over power."

Meanwhile, the April 6 Youth Movement has endorsed leading opposition figure Mohamed ElBaradei to negotiate on behalf of the opposition. ElBaradei, generally disliked by Morsi supporters, has also been endorsed by the newly-formed 30 June Front, and the leftist Egyptian Popular Current.

President defiant

Morsi, meanwhile, delivered a speech Tuesday night in which he defied opposition calls to step down.

Shortly after he called on the army to withdraw its 48-hour ultimatum, President Morsi addressed the nation, saying: "Democratic legitimacy is what is preventing bloodshed between the rival camps."

"We sacrifice for our country and I am the first to sacrifice. If the cost of legitimacy is my life, I will pay it gladly," he said, before renewing his longstanding invitation to all political forces to participate in national dialogue.

He also stressed his position as Egypt's first freely elected president, saying he could only be replaced via upcoming polls.

In the same speech, Morsi said he was ready to form a new government, reiterating his readiness to make concessions to bring about national reconciliation. These include forming a committee to amend contentious constitutional articles and appointing young Egyptians to important government posts.

His offers did little to appease the opposition, however, although they were warmly greeted by his supporters.

Opposition digs in

In response to Morsi's speech, the masses in Tahrir Square and at the Qobba and Ittihadeya presidential palaces chanted loudly, "Leave, leave," with demonstrators declaring that sit-ins would continue nationwide until demands for early elections were met.

Talking to state television, Khaled Daoud, official spokesperson for the National Salvation Front (NSF), Egypt's largest umbrella opposition group, said that the speech was an "incitement to civil war" as it had only escalated matters more.

Ahmed Maher, founder of the April 6 Youth Movement, for his part, said via Twitter: "Unfortunately, your [Morsi's] speech came too late. It would have worked months ago, but now you have to resign if you really love Egypt."

Conversely, at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque, where the bulk of Morsi supporters have been gathering, crowds greeted the speech with fireworks and pro-Morsi chants. "With our blood and souls, we will defend [the president's democratic] legitimacy," they shouted in unison.

Gamal Samak, prominent member of Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya's Building and Development Party, told state television that the president's speech offered a solution to the crisis, as was requested by the armed forces on Monday.

President Morsi, Samak said, had called on all opposition forces to participate in dialogue and offered to form a new government. He urged opposition figures to respond positively to the president's initiative.

Morsi was elected one year ago in Egypt's first-ever free presidential polls. He was fielded in the elections by the Muslim Brotherhood, the group that has staunchly supported him, along with other Islamist parties and groups, most notable of which are Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya and the moderate-Islamist Wasat Party.

Late Tuesday night, the military-affiliated Facebook page known as "the Administrator of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces official page" issued a statement in which it vowed to "sacrifice lives to combat terrorists."

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75538/Egypt/0/Egypt-Morsi-defies-calls-to-step-down,-offers-opp.aspx>

Egypt's Morsi defies calls to step down, offers opposition partial concessions

In televised speech late Tuesday night, President Morsi defies opposition demands for his resignation but offers handful of limited concessions – including new government and parliamentary polls within six months

Osman El Sharnoubi, Wednesday 3 Jul 2013



This image made from video broadcast on Egyptian State Television shows President Mohammed Morsi addressing the nation in a televised speech on Tuesday, July 2, 2013 (Photo: AP)

In a televised address on Tuesday, Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi called for dialogue, saying he was engaged with members of the opposition – without mentioning which groups – for an initiative aimed at resolving the current political crisis.

He said the initiative included forming a new government, hastening the passage of parliamentary elections laws so as to hold elections within six months, forming a committee to review proposed constitutional amendments, resolving disagreements over Egypt's prosecutor-general, and promoting the inclusion of youth in government.

After blaming the ousted Mubarak regime for most of Egypt's ills, which he said had led to a degree of anger among the opposition, Morsi repeatedly stated that he would safeguard the "legitimacy" of the democratic process that brought him to office one year ago.

"I will protect [democratic] legitimacy with my life," the president asserted firmly.

"We have to prove to the world that we are capable of democracy...peacefully, we protect [democratic] legitimacy...legitimacy is our only safeguard from future faults....I do not accept anyone saying anything or taking any steps against legitimacy; this is completely out of the question," Morsi said.

Morsi also mentioned that upcoming parliamentary elections would usher in a new government that would yield greater authority than that of the president. He also said he was willing to "turn a new page" with the media, which he had previously accused of bias.

Earlier, Morsi insisted via Twitter that he would "hold on to constitutional legitimacy," stressing his rejection of any attempt to abort it.

More importantly, he called on the army to withdraw its "warning," in reference to a bombshell statement by Egypt's armed forces on Monday that gave political forces 48 hours to resolve the deadlock or face an army-imposed "roadmap" for Egypt's political future.

The president also stressed his rejection of any internal or external "directives."

In his Tuesday night speech, Morsi hailed Egypt's "powerful" armed forces, warning against any attacks against it, whether verbal or physical. He also rejected domestic calls for "jihad," saying that holy war should be reserved for fighting foreign enemies, not fellow Egyptians.

"Violence and bloodshed are a trap; if we fall into it, it will be the end of us all," he said.

Political tensions have soared in Egypt since millions of opposition protesters flocked to squares across Egypt on Sunday to call for snap presidential polls.

The presidency responded to the army's Monday statement by issuing its own late Monday night, in which he said that the army statement might "confuse" Egypt's fraught political scene. He went on to note that the army had not consulted the president before issuing the statement.

The military's announcement brought a celebratory air to the anti-Morsi protests that had gathered for the second day in a row on Monday. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of the president's supporters gathered for a counter-demonstration northeast of Cairo.

The US State Department, meanwhile, denied reports at a Tuesday press conference that it had urged Morsi to call for early presidential elections. However, it stressed that Morsi should listen to the demands of his people, saying that democracy did not only revolve around elections.

Statements and denials between Egypt's presidency and army were exchanged over the past two days, highlighting the standoff between both institutions.

On Monday, the presidency announced that Morsi and Prime Minister Hisham Qandil had met Defence Minister Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi, a meeting later denied by the president. The presidency later published a picture showing a meeting between the three men.

Again on Tuesday, a claim by the presidency that a statement would soon be issued in coordination with the military was refuted by army spokesman Ahmed Ali.

Tuesday saw stepped-up mobilisation by the president's supporters, who congregated in many locations throughout the city while maintaining their primary sit-ins near the Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Nasr City and near Cairo University's Nahda Square. Pro-Morsi rallies also erupted in several governorates.

Clashes – which have broken out in several provinces between supporters and opponents of the president over the last week – reached Cairo on Tuesday, breaking out in Giza close to Cairo University and in Giza's Imbaba district.

At least 11 people have been killed over the past week nationwide, raising fears of further street fighting if the crisis escalates.

The army's 48-hour deadline ends Wednesday afternoon. Meanwhile, millions of opposition protesters remain in the streets pressing their demand – supported by the main opposition groups – for early presidential elections.

The Muslim Brotherhood and President Morsi's supporters, however, also remain in the streets with the stated aim of defending Egypt's "legitimate president."

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75546/Egypt/0/Egypt-remains-in-political-deadlock-as-military-de.aspx>

Egypt remains in political deadlock as military deadline looms

Nationwide protests continue for third consecutive day as President Morsi defies opposition calls to step down; at least 20 die in clashes between president's supporters, opponents on Tuesday and early hours of Wednesday

Sherif Tarek , Wednesday 3 Jul 2013



Protesters opposed to Egypt's President Mohammed Morsi surround an injured man, center, following clashes in the Kit Kat neighborhood of Giza, Egypt, where Tuesday, July 2, 2013 (Photo: AP)

Tensions reached a boiling point in Egypt on Tuesday night, with President Mohamed Morsi and his supporters still holding on tight to his "democratic legitimacy" while larger opposition forces continue to demand his ouster.

For the third day, millions of anti-Morsi demonstrators hit the streets across the nation to demand the removal of Morsi from power. A celebratory atmosphere was obvious most of the day in Cairo's Tahrir Square and at the Qubba and Ittihadeya presidential palaces.

Meanwhile, Islamist supporters of Morsi have also carried on their massive sit-in in the vicinity of Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo's Nasr City district. Additional thousands have also been gathering at Cairo University in support of the elected president.

Clashes

With pro-Morsi marches in different cities since Monday, more clashes erupted between the two camps. Cairo, Alexandria, Qalioubiya, Giza, Daqahliya, Damietta and Fayoum, among other governorates, have all witnessed violence.

Gunfights occurred in Cairo's Kit Kat Square, located in the Imbaba district, with mayhem extending to Nile Street in the nearby Agouza district.

Pellets, live fire and Molotov cocktails were also reported during the clashes, while the nearby Bein Al-Sarayat district of Giza witnessed similar fighting. Intermittent clashes also took place near Cairo University, leaving at least 16 dead and 200 injured as of the early hours of Wednesday.

Another five were killed during the melee in Giza and over 100 injured, according to a security source who said that three of the victims belonged to the Muslim Brotherhood, the group from which Morsi hails.

Apart from rival rallies and clashes, political representatives of both camps refused to back down.

The anti-Morsi 'Rebel' signature campaign said it had nominated three of its members to participate in negotiations called for by the armed forces aimed at drawing up a political "roadmap" for the country.

On Monday, the Egyptian Armed Forces gave all parties involved in the ongoing political impasse until Wednesday 17:00 (Cairo time) to end their differences.

Should they fail to do so, the armed forces warned that it would issue its own "roadmap" for Egypt's political future.

The Rebel campaign, whose protest calls have been endorsed by most opposition forces, proposed its own roadmap, calling for power to be handed over to the head of Egypt's High Constitutional Court (HCC) and the formation of a new technocrat government.

A member of the Rebel campaign's central committee, Mona Selim, announced that 90 percent of the campaign's organising committee had agreed to participate in negotiations, describing them as "a dialogue for handing over power."

Meanwhile, the April 6 Youth Movement has endorsed leading opposition figure Mohamed ElBaradei to negotiate on behalf of the opposition. ElBaradei, generally disliked by Morsi supporters, has also been endorsed by the newly-formed 30 June Front, and the leftist Egyptian Popular Current.

President defiant

Morsi, meanwhile, delivered a speech Tuesday night in which he defied opposition calls to step down.

Shortly after he called on the army to withdraw its 48-hour ultimatum, President Morsi addressed the nation, saying: "Democratic legitimacy is what is preventing bloodshed between the rival camps."

"We sacrifice for our country and I am the first to sacrifice. If the cost of legitimacy is my life, I will pay it gladly," he said, before renewing his longstanding invitation to all political forces to participate in national dialogue.

He also stressed his position as Egypt's first freely elected president, saying he could only be replaced via upcoming polls.

In the same speech, Morsi said he was ready to form a new government, reiterating his readiness to make concessions to bring about national reconciliation. These include forming a committee to amend contentious constitutional articles and appointing young Egyptians to important government posts.

His offers did little to appease the opposition, however, although they were warmly greeted by his supporters.

Opposition digs in

In response to Morsi's speech, the masses in Tahrir Square and at the Qobba and Ittihadeya presidential palaces chanted loudly, "Leave, leave," with demonstrators declaring that sit-ins would continue nationwide until demands for early elections were met.

Talking to state television, Khaled Daoud, official spokesperson for the National Salvation Front (NSF), Egypt's largest umbrella opposition group, said that the speech was an "incitement to civil war" as it had only escalated matters more.

Ahmed Maher, founder of the April 6 Youth Movement, for his part, said via Twitter: "Unfortunately, your [Morsi's] speech came too late. It would have worked months ago, but now you have to resign if you really love Egypt."

Conversely, at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque, where the bulk of Morsi supporters have been gathering, crowds greeted the speech with fireworks and pro-Morsi chants. "With our blood and souls, we will defend [the president's democratic] legitimacy," they shouted in unison.

Gamal Samak, prominent member of Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya's Building and Development Party, told state television that the president's speech offered a solution to the crisis, as was requested by the armed forces on Monday.

President Morsi, Samak said, had called on all opposition forces to participate in dialogue and offered to form a new government. He urged opposition figures to respond positively to the president's initiative.

Morsi was elected one year ago in Egypt's first-ever free presidential polls. He was fielded in the elections by the Muslim Brotherhood, the group that has staunchly supported him, along with other Islamist parties and groups, most notable of which are Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya and the moderate-Islamist Wasat Party.

Late Tuesday night, the military-affiliated Facebook page known as "the Administrator of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces official page" issued a statement in which it vowed to "sacrifice lives to combat terrorists."

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75583/Egypt/Politics-/Tamarod-and-NSF-condemn-violence,-demand-army-prot.aspx>

Tamarod and NSF condemn violence, demand army protects citizens

In a statement rejecting as "tittle tattle" talk of a military coup, the Tamarod campaign and National Salvation Front call on the army to protect the people against threats and terror

Ahram Online, Wednesday 3 Jul 2013

Rebel group Tamarod and opposition coalition group the National Salvation Front have released a joint statement Wednesday offering their condolences to the victims of Tuesday's violence at Cairo University and appealing to the armed forces to protect citizens from further "brute" attacks.

On Tuesday, anti and pro-Morsi supporters clashed in Giza leaving at least 18 dead.

The statement also asked the armed forces to fulfill its national duty and ensure the stability and security of the nation against those who "terrorise and threaten" its peaceful people.

The statement also said that those who accuse the army's protection of Egyptians as an attempt at a military coup are just "tittle tattles who do not understand the danger of the situation."

The statement comes after the 48-hour deadline given by the military is due to end.

On Monday, the military released a statement giving Egypt's political forces a two-day deadline to resolve the current crisis. The statement said that if they fail to do so, the armed forces would enforce a military drafted roadmap for the coming period.

It is not yet clear what the roadmap would entail, but a military source revealed that political, social and economic figures would meet with the military to discuss the details.

On 30 June, millions of Egyptians hit the street to demand the removal of President Morsi one year into his four-year scheduled term in power.

On Tuesday evening, a defiant Morsi gave a speech in which he offered some concessions but demanded that the military withdraw its ultimatum.

The deadline of that ultimatum ends on Wednesday at 4:30pm Cairo local time.

https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/07/03/en-egypte-ce-n-est-pas-encore-un-coup-d-etat-mais-cela-y-ressemble-de-plus-en-plus_3441453_3212.html

Egypte : "Depuis le début de la crise, Morsi a toujours un temps de retard sur les événements"

Christophe Ayad, journaliste au "Monde", analyse les derniers développements de la crise égyptienne après l'expiration de l'ultimatum fixé par l'armée au président Mohamed Morsi.

Par Christophe Ayad

Le Monde.fr Le 03.07.2013 à 20h14 • Mis à jour le 03.07.2013 à 23h09

Les forces spéciales de l'armée égyptienne entourent les partisans du président Morsi, au Caire, mercredi soir.

Après l'expiration de l'ultimatum fixé par l'armée à Mohamed Morsi, la tension est encore montée d'un cran mercredi soir en Egypte, où une foule toujours plus dense se masse sur la place Tahrir du Caire pour demander le départ du président. Christophe Ayad, journaliste au Monde, analyse les derniers développements de la crise égyptienne

Comment cette interdiction de quitter le territoire émise contre Mohamed Morsi et plusieurs responsables des Frères Musulmans s'explique-t-elle ?

L'interdiction de voyager décrétée contre les principaux dirigeants des Frères musulmans, dont le guide suprême, Mohamed Badie, son numéro 2, Khaïrat Al-Chater, et le président Morsi, semble justifiée par l'armée par une affaire d'évasion de prison remontant à 2011.

A la fin de janvier 2011, en plein soulèvement contre Hosni Mubarak, les gardiens des principales prisons du pays avaient pris la fuite en raison de mutineries, laissant les prisonniers s'échapper. C'est comme cela que Khaïrat Al-Chater, le cerveau de la confrérie, qui dirigeait l'organisation de sa cellule, avait recouvré la liberté alors qu'il purgeait une peine de sept ans de réclusion, prononcée en 2008 par un tribunal militaire, pour blanchiment d'argent et financement des Frères musulmans, alors interdits.

Avant même que Hosni Moubarak ne tombe, la confrérie avait négocié avec Omar Suleiman, le vice-président et chef des services de renseignement, une "grâce" officielle pour son mentor. Mais la condamnation n'a jamais été effacée.

C'est déjà sous ce prétexte qu'il avait été empêché de se présenter à la présidentielle de juin 2012. Mohamed Morsi, surnommé "la roue de secours", avait été choisi pour le remplacer en catastrophe. Cette affaire de condamnation pendante et d'"évasion libération" est opportunément ressortie par l'armée aujourd'hui. On comprend aussi mieux l'acharnement que les Frères musulmans avaient mis à purger la justice pendant leur première année au pouvoir.

Que penser de la proposition de Mohamed Morsi de former "un gouvernement de consensus"... ?

Au moment où expirait l'ultimatum de l'armée, le président Mohamed Morsi a tenté une ultime ouverture avec cette proposition. Mais c'était trop tard, une fois de plus, alors que la foule massée place Tahrir n'attend plus que son départ. Depuis le début de la crise, le président Morsi a un temps de retard sur les événements.

Au lendemain de la manifestation monstre du 30 juin, Mohamed Morsi avait proposé une révision de la Constitution, tentant de réparer sa première grande erreur, qui remonte à novembre-décembre 2012, lorsqu'il avait suspendu tous les recours judiciaires pour imposer une Loi fondamentale écrite par un comité constitutionnel exclusivement islamiste.

Et au moment où il semble avoir perdu le pouvoir, le président islamiste propose un gouvernement de consensus, alors que les Frères musulmans n'ont cessé de raffermir leur emprise sur les services de l'Etat depuis leur arrivée au pouvoir, il y a un an. Alors que M. Morsi a été élu en juin 2012 grâce aux voix de la gauche et des révolutionnaires, qui le préféraient à un retour de l'ancien régime incarné par Ahmed Chafik, un général à la retraite, il n'a eu de cesse d'ignorer ses soutiens non islamistes.

Assiste-t-on à un coup d'Etat ?

Presque. Ce n'est pas encore un coup d'Etat, mais cela y ressemble de plus en plus. L'armée est en train de se positionner aux principaux carrefours du Caire, elle encercle les rassemblements des supporters du président Morsi.

Les principaux dirigeants des Frères musulmans sont interdits de voyager à l'étranger, tout comme le président lui-même, dont personne ne sait où il se trouve exactement. Enfin, l'armée aurait demandé aux employés non essentiels de la radio-télévision de quitter les locaux.

Mais tant que l'armée n'a pas annoncé avoir dépouillé le président et le gouvernement de leurs fonctions exécutives, il ne s'agit pas d'un coup d'Etat au sens plein du terme. C'est pour cela que tout le monde attend avec impatience une intervention télévisée du ministre de la défense, Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi.

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/jul/03/egypt-coup-ruinous-army>

Egypt's coup: a ruinous intervention

Jonathan Steele

Those who believe the Egyptian army's priority is to preserve freedom will soon be disappointed

Wed 3 Jul 2013 21.50 BST First published on Wed 3 Jul 2013 21.50 BST

Egyptians in a Cairo tea house celebrate the announcement that Egypt's military has suspended the constitution and President Mohamed Morsi will be replaced. Photograph: Hiro Komae/AP

Whether the Egyptian army's actions today and over the previous two days amount to a full-scale military coup can be debated. But what is clear beyond doubt is that they amount to a ruinous intervention in the politics of a country that had breathed the air of democracy for the first time for decades.

An army that appeared to be retreating from politics after the departure of Hosni Mubarak in February 2011 has stepped back into the arena again, first by issuing an ultimatum to an elected president to obey it or resign, and then by going through with its threat and laying out a road map that deposes him and suspends the constitution.

Rejecting the results of elections that were widely deemed to be free and fair and setting aside a country's basic law is a step that no army should ever take. The fact that the army's move has been welcomed by many of the revolutionaries who first had the courage to go into the streets against Mubarak in 2011 is a desperate commentary on their political naivety and shortsightedness.

This is not to say that President Mohamed Morsi is blameless. The political charge sheet against him is long and detailed, the worst offence being his issuance last November of high-handed decrees to extend his powers. But he quickly rescinded them after protests. During the latest turmoil on the streets, in spite of his defiant words about being ready to die, he again showed a willingness to compromise by offering to form a government of national unity and accelerate elections to a new parliament. But to make him entirely responsible for the disappointments of the past two years is absurd. It was not he but the supreme administrative court that dissolved the people's assembly, the lower house of parliament. It is not he but the leaders of the opposition parties who produced a government that was largely dominated by the Muslim Brotherhood. Morsi invited them to join the cabinet but they refused.

It certainly isn't the president who should be blamed for the failure of the Egyptian economy to provide enough jobs for tens of thousands of young people who are graduating every year, let alone for an older generation that is out of work. Morsi went along with the International Monetary Fund's plans for an end to subsidies on food and utility prices that would only create more austerity, but so did most of the established opposition leaders who are now clamouring for power. As for the failure of the tourism sector to revive, the main reason for the chaos and instability that put off outsiders rests with the constant street provocations of demonstrators.

Much has rightly been made of the threat to Egyptian democracy that comes from the so-called deep state: the still entrenched bureaucracy made up of officials of Mubarak's National Democratic party, elitist entrepreneurs who were his cronies, and an army hierarchy that exploited state assets or profited from newly privatised industries and trading companies. Some accused Morsi of joining the ranks of this authoritarian elite. But the real charge was

that he did too little to challenge them or their footsoldiers, a corrupt and brutal police force. The irony of the events of the past few days is that those who are so energetically denouncing the president in Tahrir Square and the streets of other cities are falling into the trap made by the very elite they want to bring under control.

It is true that the Muslim Brotherhood and its supporters are social conservatives who may pose a threat to some Egyptians' civil rights. But the biggest and most immediate danger to the country is to the political rights that all Egyptians won with the overthrow of Mubarak. The abolition of one-party rule, the right of all kinds of political groups to organise freely, the lifting of media censorship, and the virtual curtailment of imprisonment for dissent are benefits that should not be abandoned lightly.

Those who believe that the military's main objective is to preserve the new freedoms will soon be disappointed. From Chile in 1973 to Pakistan in 1999 (and several times before that), long is the history of military takeovers that were welcomed in their first hours and days but regretted in the years of despair that followed. For Egypt to follow in that tradition is a disaster.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75594/Egypt/0/Live-updates-Morsi-ousted;-head-of-constitutional-.aspx>

Live updates: Morsi ousted; head of constitutional court to take over Egypt presidency

Military statement suspends constitution, puts in place new caretaker government; Egyptian army deploy around Cairo, Alexandria

Hazel Haddon, Salma Shukrallah, Mina Adel, Ayat Al-Tawy, Nada Rashwan, Randa Ali,
Wednesday 3 Jul 2013



Ittihadiya presidential palace erupts in fireworks and cheering after the announcement that President Morsi has been ousted (Photo: Bel Trew)

23:30 That's it from the live updates today. Some sporadic violence is being reported in Egyptian governorates, with four people confirmed dead, but in Cairo things are still peaceful. The mood in Tahrir Square and at Ittihadiya presidential palace is jubilant - although the campaigns against sexual harassment are warning on Twitter that sexual assaults are taking place in Tahrir.

23:25 More clashes being reported outside Cairo.

There is violence in **Kafr El-Sheikh** in the Nile Delta, which has led to 118 injured so far, Ahram Arabic reported two hours ago.

Clashes between opposition and Morsi supporters started at 7pm. Forty-three Morsi supporters taking part in the clashes were arrested for illegal possession of weapons. Despite the clashes, cheering crowds flooded the streets of Kafr El-Sheikh immediately after El-Sisi's statement.

23:20 The clashes in **Marsa Matrouh** seem to have worsened. The city, on the western part of Egypt's Mediterranean coast, is known to be an Islamist stronghold. Health ministry officials confirmed that **4 people have died** in the violence and 13 are injured. According to an Ahram correspondent based in the city, Morsi supporters attacked the governorate headquarters after El-Sisi's statement, leading to clashes.

23:10 Ahram Online's Bassem Abou El-Abbas is at the **Rabaa Al-Adawiya** pro-Morsi sit-in in Cairo. He says the mood is angry but not violent; the area is surrounded by troops who are not allowing anyone to enter or leave the sit-in. Eyewitnesses told El-Abbas that after the military's announcement, three cars' windows were smashed, but that seems to be the extent of the violence. He says that the army which is surrounding the protest is not allowing anyone to enter or leave the sit-in.

23:00 A celebratory statement has been released by revolutionary group the **April 6 Youth Movement** which hails the role of the military.

The statement said that ousting Morsi is a continuation of the January 25 revolution.

"Today the demands of the people have been met...the statement of the armed forces coincided with the demands of the people, and the proposal of the political forces and that of April 6, which it had put forward in July," it read.

The youth group called on everyone to "recognise the importance of cooperation for the sake of the country and to avoid the mistakes of the past such as monopolising decision making." It also called on people to maintain peacefulness and avoid any bloodshed or incitement.

The group also highlighted the importance of the role of the armed forces in keeping Egypt united and hailed it for not involving itself in political life.

22:50 We're getting reports of some violence in governorates outside Egypt. MENA reports that there are clashes between pro-Morsi groups and army forces in the governorate of **Marsa Matrouh** on the north coast.

22:40 Bashar Al-Assad, president of Syria, has said that events in Egypt are "the fall of what is called political Islam," reports Reuters. Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood had been vocal opponents of the Syrian president, calling for foreign intervention against him.

22:35 Head of the High Constitutional Court **Adly Mansour** will take the oath of office on Thursday, becoming Egypt's new president.

22:30 The '**Rebel**' campaign, the anti-Morsi signature drive that called for the nationwide protests that led to his ouster, invited the youth of the Muslim Brotherhood in a Facebook statement, to "rejoin to the lines of the people and not to be driven by calls for violence or terrorism."

22:15 Live footage shows thousands of Morsi's supporters gathered in front of **Cairo University** to protest the army's announcement.

Yasser Soliman, a supporter of Morsi, said the military's announcement is an implicit call for civil war.

"The army chose to appease one part of the population against the other. They [the military] are basically setting the streets on fire, calling for civil war. These people [Morsi's supporters] are willing to sacrifice their life in this situation," Soliman said in a live interview with Al Jazeera International, speaking from in front of Cairo University.

"No other president could have solved the economy's problems in one year. His opponents used violence to pressure him; why didn't they just wait for next elections?" he continued.

22:10 Nader Bakkar, spokesperson of the Salafist **Nour Party**, says on his official Twitter account that his party has taken part in setting the new transition roadmap which removed Morsi from the presidency.

Leading Freedom and Justice Party member Islam Abdel-Fattah responded to Bakkar's statement calling the Salafist Party "traitors."

The Nour Party, formerly allies of Morsi and the Brotherhood, have distanced themselves in recent months.

22:00 The **interior ministry** has released a statement upholding the army's announcement. The statement says that the army's roadmap fulfills "the people's will and their interests" and stressed that the police stand by the armed forces in efforts to achieve the country's security and stability.

There has clearly been a lot of coordination between the military and the police over recent days, as shown in supportive statements like these.

21:55 The Islamist-run **television channels** that were taken off air were apparently also evacuated by police, reports Ahram Arabic.

Police forces went to the Media Production City in Cairo's 6 October satellite city, where the offices and studios of these channels are located, and evacuated them. The police also arrested some of the staff working for these channels.

21:52 Mohamed Morsi has announced on the official Facebook page of the presidency that the announcement made by the armed forces is a coup and that he rejects it. He said that as president and head of the armed forces he calls on all civil and military citizens to abide by constitution and law and not respond to the coup.

21:50 The official website of the **Muslim Brotherhood**, Ikhwan Online, writes that the military's announcement is a "conspiracy against legitimacy, a military coup that wastes popular will and brings Egypt back to despotism."

The statement continued: "Religious scholars condemn the coup and affirm the necessity of upholding the elected president. Symbols of the defunct regime are coming back to the scene at the expense of the blood of the martyrs of the 25 January."

The statement also claimed that "millions in many squares in Egypt have started a sit-in in support of legitimacy."

The website also reported that armed forces, deployed a few hours ago around Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque, are personally searching everyone getting into the pro-Morsi sit-in and preventing people from chanting in support of Morsi except after they're inside the square.

21:34 The head of Egypt's High Constitutional Court, the most senior Egyptian court, is **Adly Mansour**. He was promoted to the position in June.



The head of Egypt's High Constitutional Court and the next president of Egypt, Adly Mansour

21:32 Attendees at the press conference where El-Sisi gave his speech included a number of top military and police officials who sat in two rows on either side of the podium; the Coptic Orthodox patriarch Tawadros II; the grand imam of Al-Azhar, Ahmed El-Tayyeb; ElBaradei; a representative of Nour Party; Mohamed Abdel-Aziz, one of the anti-Morsi Rebel campaign's founders; and a senior judicial figure.

21:30 Liberal politician **Mohamed ElBaradei** spoke at the army-held press conference. He says the roadmap drawn up by the military will guarantee the fulfillment of Egyptians' main demand – early presidential elections.

"I hope that will mark the beginning of a new era for the 2011 January revolution," he added.

21:28 The grand sheikh of **Al-Azhar** said that he supported the call for early presidential elections based on an Islamic precept that the better of two evils is a religious duty,. Accordingly, those gathered decided to hold early presidential elections, their fairness guaranteed by the judiciary, the armed forces and the police.

21:25 The Brotherhood's **FJP** just tweeted "history will tell that the first decision of the military coup, in which the advocates of democracy participated, is putting off air all opposition channels," a reference to the Brotherhood's channel and other Islamist owned channels being blacked out after El-Sisi's announcement.

21:22 At the press conference where El-Sisi spoke a few moments ago, **Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Ahmed El-Tayyeb**, is speaking, followed by **Coptic Orthodox Patriarch Tawadros II**.

21:20 It looks like several other **Islamist-run channels** including Hafez and Al-Nas are off air.

21:18 The Morsi supporters in their thousands at **Rabaa Al-Adawiya** are defiant.

21:15 El-Sisi's **speech** specified that the constitution will be suspended temporarily; the head of the High Constitutional Court will take over the presidency and have power until early presidential elections, that will be followed by parliamentary elections - dates as yet unspecified - and there will be a national technocratic cabinet formed. A parliamentary elections law will be reviewed by the HCC to stage parliamentary elections; there will be a committee formed to amend controversial articles in the temporarily suspended constitution; there will be a media code of ethics to guarantee the media's professionalism; and a committee for national reconciliation will be formed.

21:12 It looks like **Misr 25**, the Egyptian Brotherhood-run television channel, is off air.

21:10 The speech is over. There are massive celebrations going on at anti-Morsi rallies in Tahrir Square and Ittihadiya presidential palace in Cairo.

21:06 El-Sisi continues:

We have made many proposals to get out of the current crisis.

We met with the Egyptian president on 30 June, 2013, during which we rejected any threat to the Egyptian people.

We were hoping for reconciliation that would fulfill the aspirations of the people.

However, the president's address did not live up to the expectations of the Egyptian people.

So we called for a meeting involving different parties, without excluding anyone.

Our roadmap consists of: 1- Suspending the constitution.

2-Holding early presidential elections. The High Constitutional Court head will be in charge of the country until then.

3-Forming a national coalition government.

4-Forming a committee to look into amendments of the constitution.

Taking measures to include the Egyptian youth in the decision-making process.

The armed forces call on the great Egyptian people to abstain from violence and resort to peaceful protest.

We salute the armed forces for their repeated sacrifices for the sake of the county.



This image made from video shows Gen. Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi addressing the nation on Egyptian State Television Wednesday, July 3, 2013 (Photo: AP)

21:04 Some initial quotes from the speech by the head of Egypt's **military**:

The armed forces would never turn a blind eye towards the aspirations of the Egyptian people.

The armed forces will always be out of politics. The Egyptian people called on the armed forces to fulfill the goals of the revolution.

The armed forces understood the demands of the Egyptian people. We are committed to fulfilling our responsibility.

Since November 2012, we have called for a national dialogue, which was accepted by all parties except the presidency.

21:02 Here we go. **Chief of Egyptian armed forces, Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi, is speaking live on Egyptian television.**

20:55 Another statement by an opposition group, clearly anticipating an announcement that meets their demands.

The **30 June Coordinating Committee**, a coalition of anti-Morsi groups, releases a statement refusing any foreign pressures exerted on the armed forces to pull it away from the popular movement and portray its stance as a coup. It also rejects attempts by the Muslim Brotherhood and its allies to abort the “popular revolution” which went to the streets in the millions.

The statement declared its rejection of what it describes as the US "standing by the Muslim Brotherhood for its own interests."

The current unprecedented popular movement is a continuation of the January 25 revolution, the statement asserted, and “will achieve its goals of justice and dignity by the struggle of its people”.

“We call on national forces to remain united in its path in the face of any attempt to divide” the statement read.

20:50 A presidential source tells Ahram Arabic that President Mohamed **Morsi** was informed by the army at 7pm that he is no longer president.

20:45 The **Watan Party**, a Salafist grouping which is part of the pro-Morsi National Alliance for Supporting Legitimacy, seem to be sticking with the president. The Brotherhood's news site, Ikhwan Online, reports that head of the Watan Party and Morsi aide Emad Abdel-Ghafour has said that the people "will not allow any coup against the legitimacy of the president."

20:40 The moderate Islamist grouping the **Strong Egypt Party**, led by former Muslim Brotherhood figure Abdel-Moneim Abu-Fotouh, said on its official Twitter page that it rejects any attempts by the army to interfere in managing the political process and that it also rejects the exclusion of any political faction from public life.

20:35 Several **rights organisations** in Egypt have released a statement on Wednesday declaring their respect for the 30 June uprising and urging that the law must be the basis for resolving the current political situation.

The organisations hailed the "overwhelming uprising of the Egyptian people who on 30 June set out to boldly challenge the political despotism which had taken on a religious guise, in the same way they challenged Mubarak's regime and his police state."

The statement criticised the Muslim Brotherhood for undermining rights and liberties, and said that the organisation's speech had "inflamed political and ideological polarisation, stigmatised opponents of their political project as 'infidels' and made them the targets for violence."

The statement also criticised the violence used against the Brotherhood over recent days, including the attacks on their supporters and offices, but said that these violent acts would not have been committed if the Brotherhood and their allies had not attempted to "suppress their political opponents" and maintained "an utter lack of accountability for acts of violence, torture, and murder committed by Muslim Brotherhood supporters."

The statement also called on security forces, including the military, to protect demonstrators and "act decisively" with any person attacking demonstrations regardless of political affiliation.

Finally, the groups demanded that any new political roadmap should guarantee civil liberties, and should lead to constitutional amendments.

The statement's signatories include the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, the Arabic Network for Human Rights Information, the Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights, the Hisham Mubarak Law Center, and a number of others.

20:30 Maha Abou Bakr, a senior member of the anti-Morsi '**Rebel**' campaign, tells Ahram Arabic that the group has suggested Mohamed Ghoneim, a founding member of the Egyptian Social Democratic Party, to head the national coalition government that they expect to be formed following Morsi's ouster.

Bakr further added that the movement has nominated leftist politician Hossam Eissa to be one of two deputy prime ministers, suggesting that the second deputy be a member of the Islamist current.

20:20 Egypt's **military** spokesman Ahmed Ali has said on his official Facebook page that the meeting between the army's commander-in-chief Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi and the religious and national groups has ended. A statement revealing meeting's outcome will be coming within the hour.

20:15 Fireworks are lighting up the sky in the streets near to **Ittihadiya** presidential palace, reports Ahram Online's Bel Trew.

"People are singing and dancing, and some are holding posters of military figures chanting 'the heroes are here,' " adds Trew.

20:10 Mohamed El-Beltagy, deputy head of the **Freedom and Justice Party**, gave an angry statement to Al Jazeera English from the pro-Morsi rally Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square.

"This is nothing short of a coup. A coup against legitimacy, against the will of the people, against the ballot box, and the democratically approved constitution. Everyone knows that we have never initiated violence. Our offices and our leaders were attacked; many of our supporters were killed amid silence from army and police."

El-Beltagy condemned the military's statement and rejected the army's interference in the political crisis.

"These masses [in Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square] are not seeking a confrontation with the army, but they refuse to see the army siding with one faction of the people against another, re-entering the political arena and being part of this division. We will not seek violence but we will not surrender our right to fight attempts of subverting people's will."

19:50 More on the **US**: AFP reports that US Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel spoke to Egyptian defence minister and head of the armed forces, Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi, yesterday. AFP says that:

"Pentagon press secretary George Little is refusing to release any details about the content of the calls. He says U.S. officials at various levels of government have been very clear that America remains committed to the democratic process in Egypt and hopes the tensions there can be resolved peacefully."

The US State Department press conference is still ongoing. Spokesperson Jen Psaki says that the US is "on the side of the Egyptian people" and that Morsi should call for an end to violence.

19:40 At a press conference, a **US** State Department spokesperson says that the United States is "very concerned" about the situation in Egypt.

The situation in Egypt remains fluid, and the United States cannot confirm whether a military coup is underway, department spokesperson Jen Psaki told reporters.

"We do ... remain very concerned about what we're seeing on the ground," Psaki said.

19:30 The military are not just deploying in Cairo; Ahram Arabic reports 20 armoured vehicles and soldier carriers have been deployed in the vicinity of a local mosque in **Suez** where Morsi's supporters are rallying. A number of military helicopters are hovering over the city and the Suez Canal

In **Sinai**, Egyptian security forces have been on high alert along the borders since the morning, according to Ahram Arabic.

Security measures have also been tightened up near the tunnels into Gaza and around security installations in the deserted peninsula.

19:24 Ninety-three Egyptian **diplomats**, some based in the ministry of foreign affairs headquarters in Cairo and some based abroad, have declared a strike, reports state agency MENA. The diplomats object to the "failure of the president to meet the people's demands."

The minister of foreign affairs resigned yesterday.

19:20 The pro-Morsi coalition, the **National Alliance to Support Legitimacy**, will hold a press conference on the latest developments tonight at 10pm in Al-Rabaa Al-Adawiya, according to the Muslim Brotherhood's Twitter account @Ikhwanweb.

19:10 The official spokesman of the **armed forces**, Colonel Ahmed Ali, vehemently denies that the troops currently deployed in Cairo have attacked pro-Morsi protesters, who are camping out at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo's Nasr City district. He said that some people had claimed that the army had attacked the rally in phonecalls to CNN.

"Our army is seeking to secure all Egyptians, regardless of their affiliations. We call on local and international media not to spread any inaccurate information that may drive a wedge between the army and the people," he said on his Facebook page.

19:00 At least ten people have been injured in clashes between supporters and opponents to President Morsi in Al-Shohada Square in the Nile delta governorate of **Kafr El-Sheikh**, reports Ahram Arabic.

The injuries were reportedly caused by bird shot and bladed weapons. The injured have been transferred to local hospitals.

18:55 Military sources have told Ahram Arabic that a large number of **military armoured vehicles** are now deployed in the vicinity of the Ittihadiya presidential palace, the nearby Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque, and the iconic Tahrir Square, where rallies are being staged.

The interior ministry's Central Security Forces are also stepping up their presence around Tahrir Square and at key state institutions.

18:50 Lots of reports of army deployments around **Cairo** now. Alastair Beach of UK daily the Independent is tweeting pictures of troops being deployed close to Cairo University in Giza, the site of yesterday's clashes, including along the Nile Bridge connecting Giza and

Cairo. There are also now reportedly troops deployed in Tahrir Square and at the Rabaa Al-Adawiya pro-Morsi rally.

18:45 Military sources have told Ahram Online that the meeting being held between the leaders of the armed forces and political, religious and national groups is over and a statement will be released shortly.

18:40 Around a hundred Turkish protesters have gathered in **Istanbul** to voice their support for Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi, reported state-owned news agency MENA.

The protest was reportedly led by the Özgür-Der, a Turkish rights group.

18:35 Protests in the Nile Delta are still going strong, with hundreds of thousands rallying in iconic Thawra Square in the city of **Mansoura** in Daqahliya, Ahram Arabic reports.

"The people already brought down the regime," protesters chanted. "Mansoura will turn you back into a banned group," went another in reference to the fact that the Muslim Brotherhood was forced to operate underground under former president Hosni Mubarak.

Protesters across the town continue to blockade a number of state institutions, in the fourth consecutive day of their civil disobedience campaign.

18:30 An article on Ahram Arabic website quotes an anonymous source saying that the **armed forces** have extended their deadline in an effort to reach consensus and prevent further violence. The source explained that military leaders offered to postpone their statement for a few hours in order to cooperate on containing bloodshed and to guarantee the president's safety.

The source denied that Morsi had been arrested or placed on house arrest, contrary to circulating rumours, stating that the Republican Guard is still protecting the president at the Republican Guard headquarters. According to the source, head of the military Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi told President Morsi: "treachery is not part of the doctrine of the armed forces."

18:20 The **military** are being deployed to separate the pro-Morsi protesters at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque and the anti-Morsi demonstrators in front of the headquarters of the Ittihadiya presidential guard, reports Ahram Arabic.



Army forces near Rabba Al-Adawiya Mosque, site of pro-Morsi protests (Photo: Al-Ahram)

18:15 Egyptian security forces have imposed a **travel ban** on President Morsi, Muslim Brotherhood chief Mohammed Badie and his deputy Khairat Al-Shater over their involvement in prison escapes in 2011, security officials have told AFP news agency.

18:10 In anticipation of the military's statement, anti-Morsi protesters are crowding **Tahrir Square** and **Ittihadiya** presidential palace. Both spaces look full.

There are also hundreds of thousands of Morsi's supporters at **Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque** in Nasr City. Everyone is waiting for the statement.



Supporters of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi shout slogans during a demonstration at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square in Cairo July 3, 2013. (Photo: Reuters)

18:00 There is a report on Ahram Arabic website that the army is beginning to deploy in **Giza** from the Dahshour barracks. There are lots of rumours circulating and it's hard to verify sources, although it's true that Giza was the site of deadly clashes yesterday.

17:50 The anti-Morsi **Rebel** petition campaign has called on people to take the streets before the army announces its statement, expected soon.

Ahram Arabic reports that the campaign called on people to have faith in God, the people and the army, stressing that the military does not seek to get involved in politics. The campaign expressed its faith in the expected military statement saying it believed it will reflect the demands of the people.

'Rebel' reiterated the army warning against any possible killing of civilians saying that anyone caught involved would stand trial and would be held accountable by the people.

The campaign also added that it would stand against any foreign pressure, especially from the US, to leave Morsi in power.

The campaign organisers call on people to "go to the streets now and save your revolution."

17:38 A key **Morsi** aide has released a statement in English calling recent events "a military coup." Essam El-Haddad, presidential assistant on Foreign Relations & International Cooperation, writes on his official Facebook page:

"Hundreds of thousands of them have gathered in support of democracy and the Presidency. And they will not leave in the face of this attack. To move them, there will have to be violence. It will either come from the army, the police, or the hired mercenaries. Either way there will be considerable bloodshed."

"Yesterday, the President received an initiative from an alliance of parties supporting constitutional legitimacy. He discussed it with the Prime Minister and the Minister of Defense and all three of them agreed that it presented an excellent path for Egypt out of its current impasse. The initiative called for a full change of cabinet, a prime minister acceptable to all, changing the public prosecutor, agreement on constitutional amendments, and a reconciliation commission."

"And let us also be clear. The President did not have to offer all these concessions. In a democracy, there are simple consequences for the situation we see in Egypt: the President loses the next election or his party gets penalized in the upcoming parliamentary elections. Anything else is mob rule."

17:36 More anti-Morsi protests in the Nile Delta. In **Sharqiya**, President Morsi's hometown, crowds of protesters are congregating outside the president's residence there, chanting anti-regime slogans. Protesters say they will begin an open-ended sit-in until their demands are met, threatening to bring the whole city to a halt.

Other demonstrators continue to shut down entrances to the municipal governor's office, banning employees from entering.

17:35 Twenty people were injured after clashes between pro- and anti-Morsi protesters in the northern Delta governorate of **Damietta** near Souq Al-Hassaba Square, reports **Ahram Arabic**.

17:30 Opposition leader Hamdeen **Sabbahi** has called on all Egyptians to rally in the streets as an expression of the "success of the revolution," via his official Twitter account, in anticipation of the military's statement.

17:25 State news agency MENA reports that the police are handing out juice and water to anti-Morsi protesters in **Tahrir Square**.



Opponents of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi shout slogans during a protest in Tahrir Square in Cairo, Egypt, Wednesday, July 3, 2013 (Photo: AP)

17:20 Still no army statement, although some local television channels are broadcasting rumours that President **Morsi** has been put under house arrest, causing crowds in Tahrir to celebrate.

17:00 In **Alexandria**, the site of major clashes over the last week between pro- and anti-Morsi groups, thousands are now flocking to Al-Qaed Ibrahim Square in the city centre and to Sidi

Gaber district to hold anti-Morsi rallies. There are also big crowds marching along the seafront. Police forces are hovering across several streets and squares to ensure security.

16:50 The president's office issued a statement reaffirming **Morsi's** commitment to the roadmap announced in his speech yesterday, which includes the forming of a coalition government and a committee to amend the constitution.

16:45 Tahrir Square is starting to fill up with anti-Morsi demonstrators, with the central square partially full while surrounding streets are still relatively empty. Thousands are also starting to flock to Alexandria's Sidi Gaber train station to demonstrate.

There are also reports of anti-Morsi demonstrators gathering in Sharqiya, Menoufiya, Port Said and Mansoura.

16:40 The rhetoric of the **Islamist** supporters at the Rabaa Al-Adawiya press conference was largely defiant, like President Morsi's speech last night.

"We call upon all Egyptians to take to the streets and stand against the attempt to overthrow legitimacy," Islamist politician Magdy Hussein stated.

He further asked protesters to raise their national identity cards as proof of them being Egyptian, claiming police chose not to protect them during the clashes on Tuesday night because they were told "you were not Egyptians".

16:30 The **military's** 48 hour deadline has now expired. The armed forces have said that they are meeting with religious, national, political and youth leaders now, and we're expecting a statement soon.

16:25 The National Association for Change (NAC), a pro-democracy umbrella group of liberal, leftists and Brotherhood activists formed in 2010 to coordinate opposition against Hosni Mubarak's rule, has issued a statement warning all "foreign states, entities and institutes" against interfering in Egypt's internal matters asserting that any attempts of intervention would be a de facto declaration of war on Egypt.

In their statement, the NAC addressed the **US** in particular, criticising its ongoing interference "obviously reflected in their recent actions and statements."

The NAC also called on Hamas and other Arab groups to understand "the danger of interfering in internal matters, or the involvement in the complicated struggle between the people and the groups of local and global terrorism."

Anti-Americanism has been a feature of some of the anti-Morsi protests recently, with some protesters arguing that the US is too close to the Muslim Brotherhood. A statement released this evening by Coptic rights group the Maspero Youth Union also warned the American people that their president and US ambassador to Egypt Anne Patterson support "a fascist group [the Brotherhood] that oppresses minorities."

16:25 Several miles away from the Ittihadiya presidential palace, a focal point of mass opposition rallies since Sunday, anti-regime protesters have started to congregate outside

Egypt's **defence ministry** as the deadline of the military ultimatum draws nearer. The group of pro-army protesters have been holding a sit-in at the location for 12 days.

16:20 A press conference is underway by the **Islamist** supporters of President Morsi, the National Alliance to Support Legitimacy, at Rabaa Al-Adawiya mosque.

"The president spoke to the people last night and explained the situation and outlined his road map for resolving the current crisis in Egypt," a statement read by Magdy Hussein of the Islamic Labour Party said.

"We are the constitution, we are legitimacy, we are freedom, we are revolution...Thirty years and the army didn't challenge Mubarak, it didn't go to war with Israel; but it challenges the legitimacy of the democratic president.... If the army enters politics it's the end of the constitution" said Hussein.

16:10 Ahram Arabic website reports that in a number of governorates, protesters are blocking roads and besieging governorate buildings in the run up to the military's anticipated statement.

In the city of **Kafr El-Sheikh**, protesters who have besieged the governorate headquarters announced they will keep doing so until Morsi resigns, announcing their rejection of recently-appointed Muslim Brotherhood governor Saad El-Husseini.

In the Gharbiya city of **Tanta** in the Delta, members of youth protest groups shut the gate to the Gharbiya governorate headquarters with metal chains and prevented employees from entering the building in response to the call for **civil disobedience** by 'Rebel' campaign.

In **Menoufiya**, hometown of former president Mubarak, a group of protesters blocked one of the city's main roads.

16:00 Welcome to Ahram Online's live updates. On Monday, the Egyptian supreme council of the armed forces responded to mass protests by issuing an ultimatum to political forces, saying that unless "the people's demands are met" within 48 hours, the army would impose its own roadmap. The 48-hour deadline will be up today at 4:30pm Cairo time.

Today's key developments so far:

- The army has said that there is no time set for its statement.
- President Mohamed Morsi and the group which he hails from, the Muslim Brotherhood seem entrenched in their position and reluctant to make any concessions.
- The opposition, including the anti-Morsi 'Rebel' campaign that spearheaded the 30 June protests, and the coalition group the National Salvation Front also show no sign of backing down. Rebel has nominated three of its organisers to negotiate on its behalf, while the rest of the opposition have put forward liberal politician Mohamed ElBaradei. Negotiations are currently going on between ElBaradei and different political factions. Head of the Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party Saad El-Katatni refused an invitation by the military to meet with ElBaradei.
- The Islamist supporters of the president are expected to hold a press conference soon. There were initial reports that key Morsi allies Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya were calling on

President Morsi to hold a referendum on early presidential elections, but the group has denied this.

- The interior ministry released a statement saying that it will stand "side by side" with the army, and will address any violence.
- There are still tens of thousands of Morsi supporters camped out at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo's Nasr City, and a similar number of anti-Morsi protesters in Tahrir Square. There is also an anti-Morsi gathering at Ittihadiya presidential palace in Heliopolis.

http://www.atlasinfo.fr/Quatre-partisans-de-Morsi-tues-dans-les-affrontements_a43871.html

Quatre partisans de Morsi tués dans les affrontements

Mercredi 3 Juillet 2013 modifié le Jeudi 4 Juillet 2013 - 00:01

Quatre partisans du président égyptien Mohamed Morsi, déposé mercredi par l'armée, ont été tués dans des affrontements avec militaires et policiers dans la ville de Marsa Matrouh (nord-ouest), selon les services de sécurité. Dix autres personnes ont été blessées lors de cette attaque par un groupe de partisans armés de M. Morsi contre le siège des services de sécurité de cette ville sur la côte méditerranéenne, proche de la frontière libyenne.



Le président de la Haute cour constitutionnelle égyptienne va par ailleurs prêter serment jeudi pour devenir chef de l'Etat par intérim, indiquent des sources militaires et judiciaires.

Les Etats-Unis ont ordonné, quant à eux, l'évacuation de leur ambassade au Caire en Egypte quelques heures après le renversement du président Morsi par l'armée, a indiqué un responsable américain sous couvert d'anonymat.

Il y a quelques jours, le département d'Etat avait autorisé le personnel diplomatique non essentiel à quitter le pays.

https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/07/03/l-armee-colonne-vertebrale-de-la-nation-egyptienne_3441494_3212.html

L'armée, colonne vertébrale de la nation égyptienne

L'armée reste, dans l'imaginaire d'une majorité d'Egyptiens, la "fille du peuple" et le seul vecteur de changement politique.

Par Christophe Ayad

Le Monde.fr Le 03.07.2013 à 22h41 • Mis à jour le 04.07.2013 à 07h47

Des soldats égyptiens prennent position aux abords du siège de la Garde républicaine au Caire, mercredi 3 juillet.

Décidément, Nasser n'est pas mort. Soixante et un ans presque jour pour jour après la révolution de juillet 1952, lorsque les "officiers libres" ont mis fin au règne du roi Farouk, un militaire – le chef d'état-major Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi – écarte le premier président démocratiquement élu de l'histoire de l'Égypte – Mohamed Morsi – sous les applaudissements d'une majorité de la population.

De 1952 à 2013, l'armée égyptienne est restée la colonne vertébrale de la nation égyptienne. Peu importe la paix signée avec Israël dans les années 1970, peu importe l'enrichissement des hauts gradés dans les années 1980-1990 et 2000 ou la répression menée après la révolution de février 2011, une fois Hosni Moubarak tombé et durant la transition sous l'égide du maréchal Tantaoui, à la tête du SCAF, l'acronyme du Conseil suprême des forces armées.

Peu importent les tests de virginité pratiqués de force sur les manifestantes, les 12 000 procès militaires, la complaisance révélée tardivement lors de la mémorable bataille des chameaux place Tahrir, l'armée reste, dans l'imaginaire de la majorité des Égyptiens, la "fille du peuple" et le seul vecteur du changement politique. Le chemin vers la démocratie est encore long en Égypte...

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/75644/Egypt/0/France-takes-note-of-new-election-promise-in-Egypt.aspx>

France 'takes note' of new election promise in Egypt

AFP, Wednesday 3 Jul 2013

French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said Wednesday Paris took note that elections had been announced in Egypt following a transition period after the army ousted president Mohamed Morsi.

"In a situation that has worsened seriously and with extreme tension in Egypt, new elections have finally been announced, after a transition period," Fabius said in a statement. "France takes note of it."

France hoped a timetable would be drawn up respecting "civil peace, pluralism, individual liberties and the achievements of the democratic transition, so that the Egyptian people can freely choose their leaders and their future", he added.

The Egyptian army said Wednesday it was transferring political power to the head of the Supreme Constitutional Court, Adly Mansour, until early presidential elections were held after an unspecified transition period.

https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/07/03/egypte-le-president-reaffirme-sa-legitimite-face-a-l-armee_3440841_3212.html

Égypte : le jour où Mohamed Morsi a été destitué

L'armée égyptienne a apporté son soutien à un plan qui prévoit une brève période de transition politique, suivie par une élection présidentielle et des élections législatives.

La place Tahrir au Caire, le 3 juillet.

Klaxons, feux d'artifice, tambours, pétards, sifflets et cris de joie. La bande son de la deuxième révolution égyptienne, c'est tout ça à la fois. Une cacophonie hilare, une sarabande jubilatoire, qui ont commencé dès les premiers mots, à la télévision, du général Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi, le ministre de la défense. Quelques minutes plus tard, il mettait un point final à la présidence Morsi.

Mais Esra Ahmed, une comptable de 35 ans, n'a même pas attendu la fin de son discours pour filer sur le pont Kasr El-Nil, en direction de la place Tahrir, une main dans celle de son mari, l'autre dans celle de sa meilleure amie. "C'est un nouveau début, un recommencement, on va corriger tout ce qui a été raté après la chute de Moubarak, a-t-elle confié à l'envoyé spécial du Monde, Benjamin Barthe, en zigzaguant entre les roulottes de patates douces et les vendeurs de fanions rouge-blanc-noir, aux couleurs de l'Egypte. Le peuple a repris le pouvoir. On va reconstruire le pays tous ensemble et on fera une place aux Frères musulmans, qui sont une composante de la société [...]. Ce que l'on a fait en trois jours, c'est un modèle pour le monde arabe et un modèle aussi pour l'Occident. La BBC n'a-t-elle pas dit qu'il s'agissait des plus grosses manifestations de l'histoire de l'humanité ?"

Depuis dimanche 30 juin, ils étaient des centaines de milliers à demander le départ du président Mohamed Morsi, un an après son arrivée au pouvoir. La journée de mercredi s'annonçait alors sous tension : l'ultimatum de quarante-huit heures qu'avait fixé l'armée à ce dernier pour "satisfaire les revendications du peuple", sous peine de se voir imposer une "feuille de route", expirait à 16 h 30.

>> Relire notre récit en direct de la soirée en Egypte : "Mohamed Morsi dénonce un 'coup d'Etat complet'"

Morsi destitué, la Constitution suspendue

A 19 heures mercredi 3 juillet, l'armée égyptienne a signifié au président islamiste qu'il n'était plus président.

A 19 heures, l'armée égyptienne a signifié au président islamiste qu'il n'était plus président. Vers 21 heures, dans une allocution télévisée, le chef d'état-major Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi, béret vissé sur la tête, entouré des principaux chefs religieux du pays et du représentant de l'opposition Mohamed El-Baradei, annonçait que la Constitution était suspendue et que M. Morsi était remplacé par le président de la Haute Cour constitutionnelle, Adli Mansour. Ce dernier prêtera serment jeudi.

>> Lire l'analyse : "La revanche du chef d'état-major Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi"

L'armée a évoqué peu après la tenue d'une élection présidentielle anticipée et la mise à l'écart de fait de Mohamed Morsi, une annonce accueillie par une explosion de joie par ses opposants qui manifestaient en masse à travers le pays. "Un comité chargé d'examiner les propositions d'amendements constitutionnels sera formé", a précisé le général. Un gouvernement regroupant "toutes les forces nationales" et "doté des pleins pouvoirs" sera

chargé de "gérer la période actuelle". Ce plan a été discuté durant la journée entre l'armée, les responsables de l'opposition et les chefs religieux.

L'opposant et ex-candidat à la présidentielle Amr Moussa, à la tête du parti libéral du Congrès, a annoncé dans la nuit de mercredi à jeudi que "les consultations commençaient maintenant pour un gouvernement et la réconciliation".

Morsi appelle à résister au "coup d'Etat" : "Je suis le président élu d'Egypte"

D'abord placé en résidence surveillée au Club de la garde républicaine et présidentielle, Mohamed Morsi a finalement été transféré seul au ministère de la défense, a annoncé jeudi à l'aube Gehad Al-Haddad, un haut responsable des Frères musulmans.

Après avoir rejeté l'ultimatum mardi et mis en avant la "légitimité" que lui conférait son élection démocratique, M. Morsi a jusqu'au dernier moment tenté de régler la crise mercredi en proposant "un gouvernement de coalition et de consensus afin d'organiser des législatives à venir". Mais comme depuis le début de la crise, le président avait encore un temps de retard sur les événements.

>> Lire l'analyse : "Depuis le début de la crise, Morsi a toujours un temps de retard sur les événements"

Réagissant à son éviction, il a appelé les Egyptiens à résister "pacifiquement" à ce qu'il a qualifié de "coup d'Etat", a déclaré un de ses proches collaborateurs sous couvert de l'anonymat. "Ce qu'ils ont fait est illégal, ils n'ont pas autorité pour le faire", a-t-il ajouté.

Pres. Morsy urges everyone to adhere to peacefulness and avoid shedding blood of fellow countrymen.

— Egyptian Presidency (@EgyPresidency)

Pres. Morsy urges civilians and military members to uphold the law & the Constitution not to accept that coup which turns #Egypt backwards

— Egyptian Presidency (@EgyPresidency)

Dans un enregistrement vidéo diffusé en fin de soirée, il rappelait : "Je suis le président élu d'Egypte." Il a également "demandé au peuple de défendre [sa] légitimité" faisant planer le risque de la poursuite du bras de fer.

Interdiction de quitter le pays

En fin de journée mercredi, le président et plusieurs dirigeants de la confrérie s'étaient vu signifier une interdiction de quitter l'Egypte, l'armée justifiant cette décision dans le cadre d'une enquête sur "l'affaire des évasions de la prison de Wadi Natroun en 2011", ont indiqué des sources de sécurité.

A la fin de janvier 2011, en plein soulèvement contre Hosni Moubarak, les gardiens des principales prisons du pays avaient pris la fuite en raison de mutineries, laissant les prisonniers s'échapper. C'est notamment comme cela que Khairat Al-Chater, le cerveau de la confrérie, qui dirigeait l'organisation de sa cellule, avait recouvré la liberté alors qu'il purgeait

une peine de sept ans de réclusion, prononcée en 2008 par un tribunal militaire, pour blanchiment d'argent et financement des Frères musulmans, alors interdits.

L'armée se déploie

Des barrières ont été dressées et des fils de fer barbelés installés autour de la caserne où est censé se trouver le président Mohamed Morsi au Caire. Des blindés et des véhicules de transport de troupes ont par ailleurs été déployés autour du site où se tenait mercredi soir le principal rassemblement des partisans du chef de l'Etat pour les empêcher de marcher sur le palais présidentiel. Dans un communiqué, les militaires affirmaient ne pas avoir l'intention de s'en prendre aux manifestants et expliquaient que leur but est seulement de sécuriser la zone. "L'armée égyptienne appartient à tous les Egyptiens", indiquait le communiqué.

>> Lire l'analyse : "L'armée, colonne vertébrale de la nation égyptienne"

Un journaliste de Reuters a vu des soldats prendre position aux abords de la mosquée Babaa Adaoueya où plusieurs dizaines de milliers de militants des Frères musulmans se sont rassemblés pour demander le respect de l'ordre constitutionnel.

D'après les services de sécurité, quatre partisans de Mohamed Morsi ont été tués et dix autres personnes blessées dans des affrontements avec militaires et policiers dans la ville de Marsa Matrouh, sur la côte méditerranéenne, près de la frontière libyenne. Un autre homme a péri dans des affrontements similaires à Alexandrie, la deuxième ville du pays.

300 Frères musulmans visés par des mandats d'arrêt

Les forces de sécurité égyptiennes ont arrêté le chef du Parti justice et liberté (PJL), émanation politique de la confrérie islamiste, Saad El-Katatni, et un de ses adjoints. D'après le quotidien Al-Ahram, quelque 300 membres du mouvement dont est issu Mohamed Morsi sont également poursuivis. L'agence Mena, qui ne confirme pas ce chiffre, indique cependant que la police entend interpeller "un certain nombre de membres des Frères musulmans accusés d'incitation à la violence et de troubles à la sécurité et à la paix générales".

Des employés de la filiale égyptienne de la chaîne qatarie Al-Jazira, Al-Jazira Mobasher, ont également été arrêtés après la diffusion par la station de l'enregistrement d'un discours du président déchu.

http://www.liberation.fr/planete/2013/07/03/un-coup-au-caire_915808

Un coup au Caire

Par Luc Mathieu, Envoyé spécial au Caire — 3 juillet 2013 à 23:06

Les opposants au président déchu Mohamed Morsi tirent des feux d'artifice sur la place Tahrir, le 3 juillet au Caire. Photo Steve Crisp. Reuters

Le président Morsi a été renversé hier par l'armée qui a suspendu la Constitution et promis une nouvelle élection. Le leader islamiste appelle ses partisans à résister «pacifiquement».

A 19 heures, hier, Mohamed Morsi s'est vu signifier par l'armée égyptienne qu'il n'était plus président, selon le quotidien officiel *Al Ahram*. Soit deux heures et demi après la fin de

l'ultimatum posé lundi par le chef d'état-major, le général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, qui lui avait imposé de «répondre aux demandes du peuple». Le futur de l'Egypte sera désormais fixé par une «feuille de route», qui passera par une période de transition sous la direction d'un gouvernement intérimaire, l'élaboration d'une nouvelle Constitution et l'organisation d'une nouvelle élection présidentielle.

Les modalités de cette feuille de route ont été finalisées dans l'après-midi d'hier, lors d'une réunion organisée par le général Al-Sissi à laquelle participaient Mohamed el-Baradei - désormais représentant officiel de l'opposition (*lire page 5*) -, des membres du mouvement Tamarodd - principal organisateur des dernières manifestations -, ainsi que Tawadros II (le patriarche copte) et le cheikh Ahmed al-Tayeb, (l'imam d'Al-Azhar), principale autorité des musulmans sunnites d'Egypte. Egalement conviés, des représentants de la formation salafiste Al-Nour et du Parti Justice et Liberté, la branche politique des Frères musulmans, ont décliné l'invitation.

Barbelés. Signe que les militaires ne veulent pas apparaître comme les nouveaux maîtres de l'Egypte, l'annonce officielle de la feuille de route a été effectuée par El-Baradei et des responsables religieux. C'est pourtant bien l'armée qui a destitué Mohamed Morsi. Elle l'a fait de manière progressive, sans déferlement, en encerclant progressivement les bastions des partisans du chef de l'Etat. Acclamés par les badauds, des militaires et leurs blindés se sont positionnés en fin d'après-midi sur le pont menant à l'université du Caire, un point de rassemblement des pro-Morsi depuis le début, dimanche, des manifestations massives d'opposants. Des barbelés étaient également posés autour de la caserne où s'était réfugié le président égyptien ainsi que dans le quartier Al-Nasr, où les membres des Frères musulmans s'étaient massés. En milieu d'après-midi, Morsi et plusieurs responsables des Frères musulmans, dont le Guide suprême Mohammed Badie et son «numéro 2», Khairat al-Chater, ont reçu l'interdiction de quitter le pays.

AIDE. Alors que la présidence et le porte-parole des Frères musulmans dénonçaient un coup d'Etat, le général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi s'entretenait par téléphone avec le secrétaire américain à la Défense, Chuck Hagel. Les Etats-Unis, qui versent 1 milliard de dollars d'aide militaire à l'Egypte chaque année, se disaient dans l'après-midi «très inquiets», estimant que Morsi «devrait en faire plus» pour répondre aux demandes des manifestants. Il a finalement été destitué et remplacé par le chef de la Cour constitutionnelle. Muet toute la journée, Mohamed Morsi a appelé ses partisans à résister «pacifiquement» au «coup d'Etat».

Luc Mathieu Envoyé spécial au Caire

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/2/0/75725/World/0/International-reactions-to-Morsis-removal-range-fr.aspx>

International reactions to Morsi's removal range from glee to censure

World capitals' reactions to Egyptian president's removal range from condemnation of 'military coup' to cautious optimism to outright glee

Nadeen Shaker , Thursday 4 Jul 2013

Egypt

Anti-Morsi protesters walk with their flags as they celebrate in Tahrir square after the announcement of the removal from office of Egypt's deposed President Mohamed Morsi (Photo: Reuters)

International capitals that had strained relations with Egypt during former President Mohamed Morsi's tumultuous one-year rule have hailed his removal by the Egyptian army following mass demonstrations.

UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahayan said that he had followed developments in Egypt with "much consideration and satisfaction," lauding Egypt's army for its timely intervention, AFP reported.

Relations between Abu Dhabi and Egypt have been strained since Morsi's victory in Egypt's first-ever free presidential election one year ago. Abu Dhabi has since arrested scores of pro-reform Egyptian voices, meanwhile, accusing them of establishing illegal Muslim Brotherhood "cells" in the oil-rich emirate.

Syrian government television portrayed Morsi's ouster as a "great achievement." Egypt's and Syria's leaders had been at loggerheads over the crisis in Syria, with each calling for the other's removal.

The New York Times stated that Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad, in an interview with a state-run newspaper, had equated Morsi's overthrow with the "end of political Islam."

Kuwaiti ruler Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and Saudi King Abdullah both congratulated Egypt's interim president, according to Reuters.

Saudi Arabian King Abdulla, for his part, sent Adli Mansour, Egypt's new interim president, a message of congratulations Wednesday night, Reuters reported.

The only Gulf Arab state that had backed the Muslim Brotherhood, Qatar, also hailed the news of Morsi's ouster. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Qatar's new emir, sent a "congratulatory communique" to Egypt's new interim president upon the latter's being sworn into office on Thursday.

On the other hand, Tunisia's ruling Islamist party, Ennahda, loosely affiliated with Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, issued a Thursday statement condemning what it described as a "coup against [democratic] legitimacy," Reuters quoted him as saying.

"We view what the leadership of the army has done as a setback on the path of the Egyptian revolution and an attempt to reinstall the old regime," the statement said.

Turkey, which grappled with its own anti-government demonstrations last month, also condemned the Egyptian military's intervention, describing it as "undemocratic."

"The power change in Egypt was not a result of the will of the people. The change was not in compliance with democracy and law," AFP quoted Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Bekir Bozdag as saying.

Egypt's case is of particular relevance for Turkey, which has a long history of military coups against democratically-elected Islamist governments.

Fearing an upsurge of violence in the region, Russia's foreign ministry called on Egyptian political groups to "exercise restraint" and refrain from using violence in the aftermath of Morsi's army-imposed ouster.

Though a staunch supporter of the principle of state sovereignty, China voiced support for the "choice of the Egyptian people" but called for engaging in national dialogue.

AFP reported that Germany viewed the military intervention in Egypt as a "major setback to democracy."

Ikhwan Online, the website of the Muslim Brotherhood, posted a message conveying Brazil's disapproval of the military coup. "Brazil refuses to acknowledge the military takeover in Egypt," the message read.

UK Foreign Secretary William Hague, for his part, said his country would back whoever was in power in Cairo, while branding what happened in Egypt as "popular intervention."

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas offered praise for the Egyptian army and sent his congratulations to Mansour.

Israel, meanwhile, remains cautious about the changes in Egypt.

Although its prime minister has refrained from releasing a statement, many MPs and Likud party members have expressed optimism regarding the resumption of ties – including economic ones – with Egypt.

Giora Eiland, a retired general and former Israeli national security adviser, when asked if most Israeli officials supported the military coup against Egypt's elected president, said: "I think so. Of course, they cannot say so," Reuters reported.

Similarly, Iran gave a guarded response, warning against "foreign and enemy opportunism during the difficult conditions that follow," Iranian Fars new agency quoted foreign ministry spokesman Abbas Araqchi as saying.

https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/07/04/egypte-les-reactions-internationales-entre-embarras-felicitations-et-condamnation_3442526_3212.html

Egypte : les réactions internationales, entre embarras, félicitations et condamnation

Le renversement du président égyptien a provoqué un certain inconfort à l'étranger, même si de nombreux pays se sont dit prêts à travailler avec le nouveau pouvoir.

Le Monde.fr avec AFP et Reuters Le 04.07.2013 à 16h53 • Mis à jour le 05.07.2013 à 13h23

Un char et un vélo dans les rues du Caire, jeudi 4 juillet.

Révolution ou coup d'Etat ? Les réactions de la communauté internationale au renversement du président Mohamed Morsi par l'armée traduisent un certain inconfort, voire de l'inquiétude, même si de nombreux pays se sont dit prêts à travailler avec le nouveau pouvoir en Egypte.

Aucune grande puissance occidentale n'a employé l'expression de "coup d'Etat" contre le dirigeant islamiste élu démocratiquement il y a un an, un événement que les démocraties seraient obligées de condamner. De nombreux pays occidentaux ont néanmoins appelé à un retour rapide au processus démocratique. Plusieurs pays arabes ont adressé leurs félicitations au président par intérim, Adli Mansour, saluant même le rôle de l'armée. Des régimes où les islamistes sont au pouvoir, comme la Tunisie ou la Turquie, dénoncent eux un "coup d'Etat" militaire.

RÉACTIONS MESURÉES EN OCCIDENT

Allemagne

Une des plus vives réactions est venue d'Allemagne, dont le ministre des affaires étrangères, Guido Westerwelle, a évoqué "un échec majeur pour la démocratie en Egypte". "Il est urgent que l'Egypte retourne aussi vite que possible à un ordre constitutionnel", a-t-il ajouté, se faisant l'écho du message envoyé par plusieurs dirigeants occidentaux.

Etats-Unis

Le président américain, Barack Obama, s'est dit "profondément inquiet" de l'évolution de la situation dans le plus grand des pays arabes, auquel les Etats-Unis apportent une aide militaire essentielle. "J'appelle maintenant le pouvoir militaire égyptien à rendre toute l'autorité rapidement et de manière responsable à un gouvernement civil démocratiquement élu selon un processus ouvert et transparent", a dit M. Obama.

Sans qualifier le coup de force contre M. Morsi, le président Obama a seulement annoncé qu'il allait demander aux agences et aux ministères concernés d'étudier les "implications" légales de la nouvelle situation pour l'aide que Washington verse annuellement à l'Egypte – et qui, en vertu de la loi américaine, ne peut aller à un pays où un coup d'Etat a eu lieu.

Grande-Bretagne

Son allié britannique a annoncé d'emblée qu'il coopérerait avec le nouveau pouvoir. "Nous ne soutenons pas les interventions militaires dans un système démocratique, a déclaré le chef de la diplomatie britannique, William Hague. Mais nous travaillerons avec les autorités en place en Egypte." M. Hague a estimé que le renversement du gouvernement du président Morsi était un "dangereux précédent". Mais "nous devons comprendre que cette intervention est populaire", a-t-il ajouté.

France

Le président Hollande a appelé jeudi à "tout faire" pour relancer le processus démocratique en Egypte. "Nous devons tout faire pour que [le processus] puisse reprendre sur la base du pluralisme et du rassemblement", a jugé M. Hollande lors d'une visite en Tunisie.

"Nous avons pris acte des évolutions intervenues hier dans la situation très dégradée et d'extrême tension de l'Egypte, ainsi que de l'annonce de nouvelles élections après une période de transition, a réagi le Quai d'Orsay. Ce qui importe maintenant, c'est que les prochaines échéances soient préparées dans le respect de la paix civile, du pluralisme, des libertés

individuelles et des acquis de la transition démocratique, afin que le peuple égyptien puisse choisir librement ses dirigeants et son avenir."

ONU

Le secrétaire général de l'Organisation des Nations unies, Ban Ki-moon, a demandé jeudi qu'"un gouvernement civil soit remis en place aussi vite que possible, reflétant les aspirations du peuple". Il a estimé qu'une solution devait unir l'ensemble des forces politiques.

La Haut-Commissaire aux droits de l'Homme des Nations Unies, Navi Pillay, a appelé quant à elle vendredi au respect des libertés fondamentales en Egypte et s'est déclarée préoccupée par les informations sur des arrestations en masse de dirigeants de la confrérie des Frères Musulmans. Dans sa première réaction après la destitution et l'arrestation du président Mohamed Morsi, Mme Pillay affirme qu'il "ne doit pas y avoir d'autres violences, de détentions arbitraires, d'actes illégaux de vengeance".

LES PAYS QUI DÉNONCENT UN "COUP D'ÉTAT"

Tunisie

Le parti islamiste Ennahda, est sorti de son silence attentiste jeudi en fin d'après-midi, pour dénoncer un "putsch". Pour la direction d'Ennahda, seul le président Morsi est légitime et nul autre ne peut le remplacer.

Le parti du président tunisien, Moncef Marzouki, avait condamné un peu plus tôt l'éviction de Mohamed Morsi. Il s'agissait de la première réaction en Tunisie, berceau du "printemps arabe", à la destitution du chef de l'Etat en Egypte.

"Le parti condamne le coup d'Etat militaire contre le processus démocratique", écrit le Congrès pour la République dans un communiqué. "Nous considérons ce qu'a fait l'état-major de l'armée comme un retour en arrière sur le chemin de la révolution égyptienne et comme une tentative de restauration de l'ancien régime", ajoute le CPR, classé au centre-gauche.

Turquie

La Turquie a jugé jeudi antidémocratique la destitution du président Morsi. "Le changement de pouvoir en Egypte n'est pas résultat de la volonté du peuple. Il ne s'inscrit pas dans le respect de la démocratie et de la loi", a déclaré à Ankara le vice-premier ministre, Recep Bozdog.

"Dans tous les pays démocratiques, les élections sont le seul moyen d'arriver au pouvoir (...) Cette situation est inacceptable", a-t-il dit, espérant que "l'Egypte retourne à la démocratie, à une structure où la volonté du peuple l'emporte".

Le gouvernement islamo-conservateur qui est au pouvoir depuis plus de dix ans en Turquie était un important soutien du président déchu et des Frères musulmans en Egypte.

LE SOUTIEN DE CERTAINS PAYS ARABES

Qatar

Le Qatar, seul pays ayant apporté un soutien officiel aux Frères musulmans, est resté circonspect, mais a affirmé jeudi continuer à soutenir l'Égypte, et son émir a félicité le nouveau président intérimaire, Adli Mansour.

"Le Qatar continuera à soutenir l'Égypte dans son rôle de leader des mondes arabe et musulman", a déclaré un porte-parole du ministère des affaires étrangères, à Doha. "Le Qatar continuera à respecter la volonté et les choix du peuple d'Égypte", tout en souhaitant "un renforcement de l'unité nationale des Égyptiens (...) dans le respect de l'esprit de la révolution du 25 janvier 2011", qui avait renversé le régime de Hosni Moubarak, a-t-il ajouté.

Le groupe de télévision qatari Al-Jazira, qui avait été la boîte de résonance des révoltes arabes, a annoncé que les services de sécurité égyptiens avaient fait irruption mercredi soir dans ses bureaux du Caire et interrompu la transmission de sa chaîne exclusivement consacrée à l'Égypte. Le directeur d'Al-Jazira au Caire a été interpellé avec d'autres membres du personnel, a indiqué la télévision, demandant leur libération.

Arabie saoudite

Les termes mesurés de la réaction du Qatar contrastent avec le ton plus chaleureux et direct de la réaction de l'Arabie saoudite, dont le roi a été le premier chef d'État à féliciter M. Mansour, qualifié de "président de la République arabe d'Égypte sœur", avant même sa prestation de serment.

"Au nom du peuple de l'Arabie saoudite et en mon nom, nous vous félicitons pour votre arrivée au pouvoir en Égypte à ce stade crucial de son histoire. Nous prions Dieu pour qu'il vous aide à assumer la responsabilité qui vous incombe afin d'accomplir les ambitions de notre peuple frère d'Égypte", a déclaré le roi Abdallah dans un message de félicitations à Adli Mansour.

Koweït, Emirats arabes unis, Bahreïn...

Les dirigeants du Koweït, des Emirats arabes unis et de Bahreïn ont emboîté le pas au roi Abdallah, se disant prêts à collaborer avec la nouvelle administration égyptienne et saluant le rôle de l'armée de ce pays.

Pour sa part, le roi Abdallah II de Jordanie a assuré M. Mansour dans un message de félicitations du "soutien de la Jordanie à la volonté du grand peuple d'Égypte et à ses choix nationaux", tandis que son ministre des affaires étrangères, Nasser Jawdeh, a souhaité dans un communiqué que l'Égypte retrouve "la stabilité, la concorde et la prospérité".

Syrie

La Syrie, avec laquelle le président Morsi avait rompu les relations diplomatiques, a estimé que sa chute représentait un "grand accomplissement".

L'embarras de l'Iran

L'Iran, qui défendait encore mardi la légitimité de Mohamed Morsi, a réagi avec prudence jeudi à sa destitution, soulignant "les revendications légitimes" du peuple, tout en mettant en garde Le Caire contre "l'opportunisme des ennemis et de l'étranger".

La déclaration de Téhéran est beaucoup plus nuancée que celle faite lors de la chute de Hosni Moubarak, en 2011, saluée par Téhéran comme "le réveil de l'islam". Elle contraste aussi avec celle d'un responsable iranien mardi, qui insistait sur le fait que Mohamed Morsi avait été légitimement élu et appelait les forces armées égyptiennes à "bien tenir compte du vote du peuple".

Territoires palestiniens

Coté palestinien, le président Mahmoud Abbas a félicité le nouveau président égyptien "dans cette phase transitoire" et a "rendu hommage au rôle joué par les forces armées pour (...) empêcher [l'Égypte] de basculer vers un destin inconnu".

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75654/Egypt/Politics-/Ten-dead-in-Egypt-as-Morsi-opponents-and-supporter.aspx>

Ten dead in Egypt as Morsi opponents and supporters clash

Ten people killed in clashes in Alexandria, Marsa Matrouh and Minya after Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi was deposed by the army

Reuters, Thursday 4 Jul 2013

Related

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Four killed in Egypt's Matrouh following Morsi ouster

At least 10 people were killed when opponents and supporters of Egypt's deposed president, Mohamed Morsi, clashed after the army announced his removal on Wednesday, state media and officials said.

Gunfire broke out as rocks and bricks flew during fighting in Alexandria, witnesses said.

At least three people were killed in the Mediterranean city, state news agency MENA reported. An earlier report said at least 50 people were wounded.

One of the dead was a woman stabbed in the stomach, MENA said. The other two were men hit by birdshot.

"We are dealing with the situation. ... We have called for security reinforcements in the area," said senior police officer Sherif Abdelhamid.

Four people were also killed in clashes in the northern city of Marsa Matrouh, the state governor said.

Governor Badr Tantawi told Reuters by telephone from the Mediterranean city close to the Libyan border that the dead were Morsi supporters.

Three people were also killed in the southern Egyptian city of Minya, including two police, MENA said. It said 14 people were wounded.

Dozens more were wounded in Fayoum, south of Cairo, where unidentified assailants broke into the local offices of the Freedom and Justice Party, the Brotherhood's political wing, MENA said.

The attackers looted the headquarters and set them on fire, it said.

<http://www.lesechos.fr/economie-politique/monde/actu/reuters-00533274-dix-morts-lors-d-affrontements-en-egypte-582632.php>

Dix morts lors d'affrontements en Egypte

04/07 | 02:03

Dix personnes au moins ont été tuées mercredi soir en Egypte lors d'affrontements entre partisans et adversaires de Mohamed Morsi qui ont éclaté après la destitution du président égyptien par l'armée.

A Alexandrie, la deuxième ville du pays, adversaires et partisans de Morsi se sont affrontés à coups de pierres et de briques. Des coups de feu ont également été entendus.

L'agence officielle de presse Mena fait état de trois morts, dont une femme poignardée au ventre. Les deux autres, des hommes, ont été victimes de tirs de chevrotine. Plus tôt dans la soirée, l'agence Mena parlait également d'une cinquantaine de blessés.

"Nous gérons la situation. Nous avons appelé des renforts de sécurité", a dit un haut responsable de la police.

A Marsa Matrouh, également sur la côte méditerranéenne, les violences ont fait quatre morts, tous partisans du président évincé, a précisé le gouverneur Badr Tantaoui, joint par téléphone.

De violents incidents ont également été signalés à Minya, à 250 km environ au sud du Caire, où trois personnes, dont deux policiers, ont été tuées et quatorze autres blessées, toujours selon l'agence Mena.

On compte également des dizaines de blessés à Fayoum, plus près de la capitale, où des inconnus ont fait irruption dans les locaux du Parti liberté et justice (PLJ), l'émanation politique des Frères musulmans, selon Mena. Les locaux ont été pillés et incendiés.

Dans une banlieue du Caire, des partisans du président issu des Frères musulmans ont laissé éclater leur colère à l'annonce de sa destitution par l'armée. Des pavés ont été descellés de la chaussée et empilés sous la garde d'agents de sécurité de la confrérie islamiste.

Mais Mohamed Morsi, qui est détenu par les autorités, a appelé ses partisans à résister pacifiquement "au coup d'Etat militaire" et à ne pas avoir recours à la violence contre les soldats.

Un haut responsable de la confrérie islamiste a déclaré que les Frères n'avaient aucune intention de recourir à la violence.



<http://www.lesechos.fr/entreprises-secteurs/auto-transport/actu/reuters-00533261-cinq-morts-dans-le-nord-de-l-egypte-lors-d-affrontements-582630.php>

Cinq morts dans le nord de l'Egypte lors d'affrontements

04/07 | 00:19

Cinq personnes au moins ont été tuées mercredi à Alexandrie et Marsa Matrouh, dans le nord de l'Egypte, lors d'affrontements entre partisans et adversaires de Mohamed Morsi, déposé par l'armée.

A Marsa Matrouh, sur la côte méditerranéenne, les violences ont fait quatre morts, tous partisans du président évincé du pouvoir, a précisé le gouverneur de l'Etat, Badr Tantaoui, joint par téléphone.

A Alexandrie, deuxième ville du pays, où des coups de feu ont été tirés, adversaires et partisans de Morsi se sont également affrontés à coups de pierres et de briques. L'agence officielle de presse Mena fait état d'un mort et une cinquantaine de blessés.



<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/jul/04/coup-egypt-mohamed-morsi-people>

This is not a coup, but the will of Egypt's people

Amira Nowaira

After an excruciating year under Mohamed Morsi, Egyptians have risen in full force against a regime that held them hostage

Thu 4 Jul 2013 16.09 BST

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Egyptians protest in Cairo

'Millions of Egyptians ... went out on the streets for four days in a row, raising Egyptian flags and chanting one word directed at him: 'Erhal', meaning, 'leave, depart'.' Photograph: Hamid Daraman/EPA

The overthrow of President Morsi may seem like a military coup. But to all intents and purposes it is not. The call for Morsi's ousting was made by millions of Egyptians who went out on the streets for four days in a row, raising Egyptian flags and chanting one word directed at him: "Erhal", meaning, "leave, depart". Without the presence of those millions on the streets and their determination to get rid of Mohamed Morsi and his Muslim Brotherhood, the military would certainly not have intervened.

The military has acted on a clear popular mandate, as was the case with the overthrow of Hosni Mubarak. It is true that the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces made huge mistakes when they assumed power after Mubarak. But with the appointment today of the head of the supreme constitutional court, Adli Mansour, as an interim president until proper elections take place, the military has given a strong signal that a different path would be followed this time. It is up to the Egyptian people to oversee the new transition and make sure it does not deviate from the right path envisaged by the millions.

Egypt made a huge mistake in electing a Muslim Brotherhood president. This is what most ordinary Egyptians now realise. Within one short year, Morsi has managed to alienate the larger part of the population, with the exception of Brotherhood members and supporters. Not only did he fail to deliver on the economy, but he also made enemies of almost everyone: the judiciary, the media, the religious authorities of the leading al-Azhar mosque, the Coptic church and ordinary Egyptians whose way of life and livelihood seemed to come under threat.

The most dangerous aspect of Brotherhood rule was probably its discourse of fear and loathing. In fact, Morsi wagging menacing fingers against Egyptians has become emblematic of his brief rule. Incitement against Copts, Shias and anyone who dared oppose him was rampant and unchecked. On the platform of a pro-Morsi rally, Egyptians were threatened with doom and gloom. "There will be a sea of blood if people dare challenge Morsi's presidency," vowed one of his supporters.

After an excruciating year of mismanagement, sectarian rhetoric and state violence, it is understandable that Egyptians should rise in full force against a regime that seemed to hold them hostage. Morsi has shown himself to be incapable of governing or even understanding the fundamentals of managing a modern state. What he succeeded in doing was to dispel any illusions that Egyptians might have had about the Muslim Brotherhood as a morally and spiritually superior faction, a myth the party has relentlessly propagated for decades. Morsi reneged on all the promises he made during his election campaign and never shied away from producing yet more lies. His pledge to respect the law of the land proved to be no more than meaningless words as he went on the rampage against the judiciary and appointed a public prosecutor that people nicknamed the "private prosecutor".

Morsi and his supporters have argued that his overthrow was a violation of the legitimacy of the ballot box. In his last speech as president, Morsi repeated the word legitimacy over and over again. What he did not realise, however, was that the legitimacy of a ruler springs from popular consent. Falling back on the legitimacy of the ballot box is not much different from the husband who rapes his wife but insists that she is compelled by the legality of the marriage contract to accept his abuse.

Morsi and his Brotherhood have been wrecking Egypt for a whole year, and are now screaming blue murder because they are not allowed to continue to do so with impunity.

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/jul/04/egypt-coup-military-morsi-democracy>

Egypt coup: the military has not just ousted Morsi. It has ousted democracy
Fawaz Gerges

Future governments in Cairo will not now dare defy the army. A political-ideological clash could become a life-and-death one

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Soldiers in a Cairo street celebrate the ousting of President Mohamed Morsi on 4 July.
Photograph: ITAR-TASS/Barcroft Media/ITAR-TASS / Barcroft Media

While millions of Mohamed Morsi's opponents continue to celebrate his ousting, they ignore the long term fallout of the army's intervention on state and society.

The soft coup is fraught with risks and widens the ideological divide between Islamists and secularists. It does not resolve the fierce social and political struggles that have unfolded in Egypt in the two years since the removal of Mubarak. Instead, this latest turn is likely to further polarise Egyptians, already bitterly divided over the identity of the state and the role of the sacred in the political. And it undermines respect for both the peaceful transfer of power and for institutional procedures and rules. Trust among competing groups will be difficult to revive.

Furthermore, the successful coup returns the military to centre stage in Egyptian politics and consolidates its role as a kingmaker and powerbroker. One of the major challenges that faced Egypt and other Arab countries in the wake of their popular uprisings was to subordinate the will of military leaders to civilian rule. This has now been undone. Future governments in Cairo will not dare to defy the military nor try to limit its authority, a serious handicap to democratisation. Ironically, the same protesters who cheered Morsi's ouster by force were often the same ones who opposed the ruling generals (Scaf – the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces) in the post-Mubarak transition period.

The opposition asserts that the military had no choice but to respond to the popular will of millions of citizens, whose peaceful demands for Morsi to step down were met with defiance. The opposition ignores the fact, however, that there were other choices available to them. The military could have introduced political checks and balances that would have fettered Morsi's hands, using its immense influence to force the secular-leaning opposition and the Islamist-led administration to sit down and negotiate a peaceful compromise.

This could have included appointing a new competent prime minister palatable to the opposition; an independent attorney general to replace Morsi's loyalist; and redrafting the constitution to make it more inclusive and tolerant. In fact, these were the initial major demands of the opposition, which only later began to insist that Morsi had to go.

There is no denying that Morsi was his own worst enemy, deaf and blind to the gathering storm that ultimately swept him away. He mastered the art of making enemies and blunders, and turned millions of ordinary Egyptians who voted for him into bitter enemies. He was the wrong man to lead Egypt, the most populous Arab state, at this critical revolutionary juncture.

Morsi does not have the sensibility, the vision or the political acumen to tackle Egypt's complex structural challenges. Instead of delivering on his promises, such as more jobs, greater inclusiveness and *al-nahda*, or renaissance, he went to great lengths to monopolise power and to entrench his Islamist movement in state institutions. There exists a widespread

belief among Egyptians of all walks of life that Morsi subordinated the presidency to the Muslim Brotherhood, a fatal error, to a proud nation that calls Egypt *Umm al-Dunya* (the mother of the world).

More than a year after they won commanding parliamentary and presidential victories, the Islamists have proved to be as incompetent as the old secular regime at managing the economy and society.

Morsi did indeed inherit a country that was politically polarised and financially bankrupt. These problems, however, grew under his watch; social and economic conditions worsened and political divisions deepened. Far from improving the economy, the Islamists' muddled style of governance has exacerbated a structural crisis and caused more hardship and suffering among the poor and the dwindling middle class.

What is unfolding in Egypt is a political-ideological struggle over the country's future. It is not about good and evil, as some would have it. Morsi was too ambitious for his own good, and his movement incompetent, but not evil-incarnate. There is a real danger though that the military's ousting of Morsi will transform this political-ideological clash into a life-and-death struggle.

The challenge now is to avoid a repeat of past errors, such as micromanaging the political process from the top down, or persecuting the Muslim Brothers and excluding them from the political arena. Such a course will only reinforce a long-held sense of injustice and victimhood among the Islamists, a recipe for further polarisation, instability, and a potentially violent end to Egypt's democratic experiment.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jul/04/egypt-revolution-coup-military-intervention-analysis>

Egypt's revolution and diplomacy: when a coup is a 'military intervention'

Allies wary of Mohamed Morsi-led Muslim Brotherhood offer cautious welcome to 'popular' ouster of Egypt's president

Ian Black, Middle East editor

Thu 4 Jul 2013 17.47 BST First published on Thu 4 Jul 2013 17.47 BST

People dance and cheer at Tahrir Square the day after President Mohamed Morsi was ousted. Diplomats, however, are showing more mixed and nuanced reactions to the Egyptian military's move. Photograph: Spencer Platt/Getty Images

Foreign governments reacting to the Egyptian military's move against Mohamed Morsi have been getting into semantic knots about the difference between a "coup" and a "military intervention" – though no-one disputes that a democratically elected president, albeit an unpopular one, has been overthrown.

Statements from Washington, London and elsewhere reflected the awkwardness of the issue, with President Barack Obama avoiding use of the C-word to stave off the risk that US financial aid to a strategically important Middle Eastern ally might be cut off by Congress.

Egypt's crisis has been testing for its western friends. Anne Patterson, the US ambassador to Cairo, has become a hate figure for the anti-Morsi opposition. Britain's envoy, James Watt, has also been vilified by liberal and secular Egyptians for being too close to the Muslim Brotherhood since its political fortunes rose after Hosni Mubarak's demise in February 2011.

William Hague, the foreign secretary, came up with a formula that decried military "intervention" while pragmatically urging that the transition be fast and inclusive. But it was, Hague added, a "popular" move. "We have to recognise the enormous dissatisfaction in Egypt with what the president had done and the conduct of the government over the past year."

US officials signalled that they want to use \$1.3bn (£860m) in annual aid as a carrot to encourage the army to ensure a smooth return to civilian rule – symbolised by the swearing-in on Thursday of Adli Mansour, head of the constitutional court, as interim president. Ties between the Pentagon and the Egyptian military are already close.

Closer to Cairo, reactions were less nuanced. Formal congratulations from Saudi Arabia could barely disguise what must be delight at the blow to the Brotherhood – a bogeyman for the conservative Gulf monarchies. Saudi and Emirati cash will be vital to help the interim government keep the rickety Egyptian economy afloat. The UAE, obsessed by Islamist subversion, is also home to the exiled Ahmed Shafiq, the Mubarak-era air force commander who Morsi narrowly defeated last year.

Qatar, which has championed Islamists in the Arab uprisings while resisting significant change at home, said it would "respect the wishes of the Egyptian people". Still, Morsi's departure is likely to be galling. The fabulously wealthy Gulf state has invested \$8bn in Egypt while the Qatari-owned al-Jazeera satellite TV has been openly partisan in favour of the Brotherhood.

Syria's president, Bashar al-Assad, fighting rebels he routinely excoriates as Islamic extremists, said on Wednesday that Morsi's ouster represented the "fall of political Islam". State TV also quoted an official as saying: "Syria's people and leadership and army express their deep appreciation for the national, populist movement in Egypt which has yielded a great achievement."

Morsi's recent public support for "jihad" in Syria and sectarian language attacking both Shia Muslims and domestic opponents as "infidels" is said to have been one of the main reasons the army finally moved against him.

In Tunisia the head of the ruling Islamist an-Nahda party, Rached Ghannouchi, condemned Morsi's removal as "a flagrant coup against democratic legitimacy".

Turkey, where ruling Islamist AK party has been challenged by massive street protests, was also openly unhappy at the loss of a valued ally. Ahmet Davutoğlu, the foreign minister, said emphatically that it was "unacceptable" that the Egyptian president had been toppled by a "military coup". Morsi was close to the prime minister, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, and even attended the AK congress last year.

Iran, which tried to forge ties of Islamic solidarity with Egypt, responded cautiously, calling for the people's "legitimate demands" to be fulfilled and warning of "foreign and enemy opportunism".

Muted satisfaction could be discerned in reactions from Israel, which regretted the overthrow of Mubarak – keeper of the 1979 peace treaty with the Jewish state – and has long seen the Arab spring as "an Islamist winter". Its concerns are focused on security in the Sinai peninsula and the border with Gaza. Morsi's departure may mean a cooling of Egypt's relations with Hamas, the Islamist movement that controls the coastal enclave.

Ban Ki-moon, the UN secretary-general, managed to combine two contradictory international responses – noting the "legitimate concerns" of Egyptian protestors" while adding that military interference was always "of concern".

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jul/03/mohamed-morsi-egypt-second-revolution>

Mohamed Morsi ousted in Egypt's second revolution in two years

- President ousted as army suspends constitution
- Deposed leader 'being held by authorities in unknown location'
- At least 14 people killed in clashes after announcement

Live updates on day two of Egypt's revolution

Patrick Kingsley and Martin Chulov in Cairo

Thu 4 Jul 2013 06.00 BST First published on Thu 4 Jul 2013 06.00 BST

A polarised Egypt is facing the most critical phase of its post-revolutionary life after Egypt's army ousted the country's elected president, Mohamed Morsi, and scheduled fresh elections in a what was labelled by the presidency as a "full coup".

The chief of the armed forces, General Abdel-Fatah al-Sisi, announced that he had suspended the constitution and would nominate the head of the constitutional court, Adli Mansour, as interim president on Thursday. Both presidential and parliamentary elections would follow shortly afterwards and a transitional cabinet would be named.

A statement on the former president's Twitter and Facebook accounts labelled the military move a "full coup", after Morsi was officially deposed from office at 7pm.

In the early evening, a presidential aide told the Guardian Morsi was still free, but late on Wednesday night a Muslim Brotherhood spokesman said Morsi was being held by the authorities in an unknown location.

A security official said the head of the Muslim Brotherhood's political party and the Brotherhood's deputy chief had been arrested. State media said authorities had issued arrest warrants for 300 other Brotherhood members.

At least 14 people were killed when Morsi opponents and supporters clashed after the army's announcement, state media and officials said. Eight of those reported dead were in the northern city of Marsa Matrouh Three people were killed and at least 50 wounded in Alexandria, state news agency MENA reported. A further three died in the southern city of Minya, it said.

Sisi strove to paint the coup as the fulfilment of the popular will, following days of vast protests against Morsi's rule.

"We will build an Egyptian society that is strong and stable, that will not exclude any one of its sons," he said.

He spoke of his "historic responsibility" in front of a panel of Egyptians representing what was intended to be full spectrum of Egyptian life, including the Coptic pope, the country's most senior Muslim cleric, and leading secular politician Mohamed ElBaradei.

Symbolically, the panel also included a representative of the Tamarod campaign, the mass movement that inspired the millions-strong protests on Sunday that prompted Morsi's departure.

Sisi's televised statement was met by rapturous applause and a spectacular fireworks display at the centre of the anti-Morsi revolt in Cairo's Tahrir Square. The streets of downtown Cairo became a raucous carnival that lasted into the small hours, with many waving flags, blasting horns, and dancing. One or two could be seen drinking in the same streets that four days ago were jammed with frustrated drivers queuing for hours for petrol.

But five miles in east Cairo, the mood could not have differed more. A rally of Morsi supporters booed Sisi's speech, chanting "Down with military rule" – in scenes that epitomised Egypt's divisions. While secular Egyptians blame Morsi for autocratic policies that have failed to build consensus, Islamists are furious that Egypt's first democratically elected president should have been deposed after just a year in office.

Fireworks burst over opponents of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi in Tahrir Square in Cairo, Egypt, Tuesday, July 2, 2013. Photograph: Amr Nabil/AP

Sisi's statement came several hours after his ultimatum for Morsi to solve the political crisis had passed without agreement. The delay confused all parties, who wondered whether a coup would actually take place. But the creeping presence of the military who set up barricades in parts of the capital where pro-Morsi supporters had gathered, followed by the release of a strongly-worded statement by Morsi's national security adviser, Essam Haddad, seemed to confirm to both camps that the military was taking a new role in post-revolutionary Egypt. "For the sake of Egypt and for historical accuracy, let's call what is happening by its real name: military coup," said Haddad.

The momentous events capped a harrowing week for Morsi and his key support base, the Muslim Brotherhood, which had won the presidency in a democratic election held a year ago. Morsi's support had been steadily whittled away over the past four days, first being abandoned by the military, then the powerful police force, and yesterday the state media.

Earlier in the week, police failed to intervene after the headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood in east Cairo was besieged for 12 hours and later burnt down. Yesterday, the interior ministry, which runs the police force, confirmed it was backing the military.

While many on the street saw Morsi's removal as the continuation of Egypt's 2011 revolution, the ex-president's Islamist allies viewed it as a coup, and a betrayal of democracy. Thousands of Morsi supporters gathered in the streets to back him, many fearing that his departure would mark a return to the repressive treatment of Islamists under Mubarak.

Last night, the army shut down five Islamist TV channels, while there was factional fighting in Alexandria. State media said last night that three people had been killed in Alexandria. Police also raided the offices of the pan-Arab TV network al-Jazeera in Cairo.

Opponents of Egypt's Islamist leader Mohammed Morsi celebrate outside the presidential palace in Cairo. Photograph: Hassan Ammar/AP

Sisi had spent much of Wednesday locked in meetings with his key generals and with senior religious and opposition figures, including the opposition leader Mohamed ElBaradei, the country's leading Sunni cleric, Sheikh Ahmed Tayeb, and the Coptic pope, Tawadros II. He did not meet Morsi, but had spent four hours with him on Tuesday discussing a power-sharing plan.

The opposition has long maintained that Morsi was never interested in consensus. But in recent days, Morsi repeatedly claimed he was willing to share power with his opponents and, after Sisi's deadline had passed, again reiterated that he would agree to a national unity government and parliamentary elections within months. But Haddad, Morsi's chief aide, made clear that the president was in the process of being ousted, and warned of its dire consequences.

"Today only one thing matters," he wrote in a dramatic Facebook post that he noted would probably be his last in office. "In this day and age no military coup can succeed in the face of sizeable popular force without considerable bloodshed. Who among you is ready to shoulder that blame?" He added: "There are still people in Egypt who believe in their right to make a democratic choice. Hundreds of thousands of them have gathered in support of democracy and the presidency. And they will not leave in the face of this attack.

"To move them, there will have to be violence. It will either come from the army, the police, or the hired mercenaries. Either way there will be considerable bloodshed. And the message will resonate throughout the Muslim world loud and clear: democracy is not for Muslims."

The gradual nature of Sisi's actions seemed to confirm the army's desire to be seen to be answering the will of the people, rather than enacting a unilateral coup.

Events indicated a rehabilitation of not just the army – whose chequered 15-month tenure in office between February 2011 and June 2012 prompted unprecedented criticism of the military – but the police, whose reputation took a battering in the aftermath of the 2011 uprising. The police piggybacked on the popularity of the protests, releasing two statements backing the protests against the president.

Islamists saw Morsi's removal as a betrayal of democracy. But for many in Tahrir it was a victory for people power. Opposition to Morsi had floundered until the founding of the Tamarod campaign in April. But the leaderless Tamarod, which gathered millions of signatures calling for Morsi's removal in recent weeks, built momentum for 30 June's street protests, setting the stage for Morsi's departure.

On Wednesday evening Barack Obama urged Egypt's military to hand back control to a democratic, civilian government without delay, but stopped short of calling Morsi's ouster a coup. In a carefully worded statement, Obama said he was "deeply concerned" by the military's move to topple Morsi's government and suspend Egypt's constitution. He said he

was ordering the US government to assess what the military's actions meant for US foreign aid to Egypt \$1.5bn a year in military and economic assistance.

http://www.letelegramme.fr/fil_info/egypte-au-moins-trois-morts-dans-les-affrontements-entre-l-armee-et-les-pro-morsi-05-07-2013-2162072.php

Egypte. Au moins trois morts dans les affrontements entre l'armée et les pro-Morsi

5 juillet 2013 à 15h55 -

Au moins trois manifestants favorables au président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi ont été tués et plusieurs autres blessés dans des échanges de tirs avec des soldats vendredi au Caire.

Les tirs ont eu lieu aux abords d'un bâtiment de la Garde républicaine, une unité militaire chargée de protéger la présidence égyptienne. Le journaliste a vu deux corps sans vie qui ont été recouverts d'un drap blanc, et un troisième gisant, la tête fracassée par une balle.

Partis d'une mosquée de Nasr City, un faubourg du Caire, où ils campaient depuis plusieurs jours, des milliers de manifestants islamistes ont scandé "Morsi est notre président" et "Traîtres !" devant la Garde républicaine.

Ils ont ensuite essayé d'accrocher sur les barbelés entourant le bâtiment une photo de l'ex-chef d'Etat, bravant à deux reprises les avertissements des soldats. Des échanges de tirs meurtriers ont ensuite éclaté.

Les troubles en Egypte ont déjà fait une cinquantaine de morts depuis le 26 juin dernier.

<http://mediarabe.info/spip.php?breve17496>

Egypte : les manifestants pro-Morsi se dirigent vers la TV d'Etat au Caire

vendredi 5 juillet 2013 - 19h32

Des milliers de partisans du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi se dirigeaient vendredi en soirée vers le bâtiment de la télévision d'Etat, a constaté un photographe de l'AFP. Le cortège passait ainsi à proximité de la place Tahrir où étaient rassemblés des milliers de manifestants hostiles au président déchu renversé mercredi soir, faisant craindre de nouveaux affrontements. (AFP).

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/75806/Egypt/Politics-/Egypts-Rebel,-NSF-urge-protesters-to-protect-revol.aspx>

Egypt's Rebel, NSF urge protesters to protect revolution as clashes erupt near Cairo's Tahrir

Egypt's Rebel campaign and National Salvation Front warn of factions seeking foreign intervention in Egypt, call on people to stand against 'counter-revolution'

Ahram Online, Friday 5 Jul 2013



Supporters and opponents of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi clash on the 6 October bridge, near Maspero, where Egypt's state tv and radio station is located, in Cairo, Egypt, Friday, July 5, 2013. (Photo: AP)

Clashes have taken place between opponents and supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood near Cairo's Tahrir Square after anti-Morsi demonstrators quickly filled the square, following reports of violence in its vicinity.

The clashes on Cairo's 6 of October Bridge have left three killed and 199 injured during which pellets and rocks have been reportedly used.

Central Security Forces (CSF) and armoured personnel carriers (APC) intervened by firing teargas.

In Alexandria, political rivals are also clashing in the Sidi Gaber district, leaving 12 dead and more than 200 injured.

The Ministry of Health has reported 30 deaths in clashes nationwide, leaving over 400 injured. Five of the 30 were killed during an attack on police by unknown gunmen in the Sinai town of El-Arish in front of a government building.

Egypt's Rebel campaign released a statement on Friday calling on Egyptians to converge on the squares and main streets of Egypt to protect the popular legitimacy and protect the revolution's gains.

"The Egyptian people will not hesitate to protect their revolutionary legitimacy that has reflected the people's will against the tyrants who do not want stability in Egypt," read the statement. The Rebel statement also warned against "foreign powers" that attempt to divide Egypt.

The campaign, which is widely credited for its role in mobilising the anti-Morsi mass protests that led to his removal on Wednesday, is asking for people to continue protesting until Sunday, which is scheduled to be "the greatest rally" nationwide.

"We affirm that there are clear attempts to smear our glorious revolution, attempts that seek to portray the people's will as a military coup, which may lead to intervention by foreign forces in Egypt's internal matters and which we won't accept," read the statement.

Following the removal of Mohamed Morsi from the presidency, as demanded by millions on the street, a number of foreign states and entities accused the move of being a "coup d'état."

The National Salvation Front (NSF), Egypt's main opposition bloc, called on people to take to the streets for what he described as the Muslim Brotherhood's plot to "portray the situation as if there is a fight over legitimacy and pave the way for foreign intervention, like that which took place in Libya and Syria"

"The Egyptian people should defend the legitimacy of the people and its will to end the oppressive rule. They need to support the democratic transition that started with the statement read out by the armed forces in response to the people's will to start a transition period guided by a civil institution that reflects all forces. The people need to aid the armed forces to guard this achievement."

"We will not accept any foreign intervention in our internal affairs. We would sacrifice our souls for our freedom and that of our children."

The NSF called on all Egyptians to take to the streets to protest against what the statement described as the "counter-revolution."

Millions filled Egypt's streets last week demanding Mohamed Morsi to step down as president and for early elections.

In a televised conference attended by several political and religious figures on Wednesday, the General Commander of the Armed Forces Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi dismissed Mohamed Morsi from his post as president and proposed a new 'road map' for Egypt.

Hundreds of thousands of pro-Morsi supporters held rallies across Egypt on Friday to protest what they label a "coup d'état" against the country's first democratically elected leader. While the main crowd is gathered at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square in Cairo's Nasr City others demonstrated at the Republican Guards headquarters in Cairo's Heliopolis district where they believe Morsi is detained. Clashes erupted with the military, leaving at least four dead.

Brotherhood leader Mohamed Badie, who has been chased with media reports of his arrest, visited Cairo's Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square in Nasr City where Morsi supporters have been holding their sit-in for over a week.

Speaking to the masses in the square, Badie called on Egypt's military to return back to its barrack, asserting that they [Islamists] are defending the freedoms of Egyptians and not just one individual Mohamed Morsi.

"Protests in support of former president Mohamed Morsi are designed to increase the pressure for a political solution to the current crisis," Ahmed Sobei of the Muslim Brotherhood told Ahram Online.

Egypt's Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya Islamist group, a key ally of the Muslim Brotherhood and ousted president Mohamed Morsi, announced a proposal on Friday that includes holding a referendum on Morsi's return to power.

The hardline Islamist group, which strongly rejected Morsi's removal by the military, issued a statement with an initiative dubbed "protection for all the nation's sons" that entails holding a referendum to choose between Morsi's return to power and the army-sponsored post-Morsi roadmap.

The initiative also calls for reconciliation and rejects arbitrary punitive measures against "any faction, regardless of its affiliations."

Meanwhile, President Adly Mansour issued a presidential declaration dissolving the Islamist-dominated Shura Council and appointed General Mohamed Ahmed Fareed as head of General Intelligence.

Raafat Shehata, who had been appointed head of General Intelligence by Mohamed Morsi in September 2012, was given the role of presidential advisor for security affairs.

<http://www.lapresse.ca/international/dossiers/legypte-apres-moubarak/201307/05/01-4667891-les-affrontements-en-egypte-font-25-morts.php>

Publié le 05 juillet 2013 à 05h25 | Mis à jour le 06 juillet 2013 à 07h26

Les affrontements en Égypte font 25 morts

Agence France-Presse
Le Caire, Égypte

Les islamistes ont appelé tôt samedi à de nouvelles manifestations «pacifiques» en soutien au président Mohamed Morsi renversé par l'armée, au lendemain d'une journée de violences en Égypte au cours de laquelle 25 personnes ont péri, dont 19 en marge de manifestations.

Alors que la tension est extrême entre pro et anti-Morsi, cinq policiers et un soldat ont été tués dans la péninsule du Sinaï (nord), dans des attaques de militants islamistes qui n'ont pas été revendiquées. Dans la nuit, des islamistes ont attaqué le gouvernorat du Nord-Sinaï et y ont hissé leur drapeau.

Trois jours après que les militaires ont déposé M. Morsi, sa confrérie, les Frères musulmans, ont appelé à de nouvelles manifestations, faisant craindre de nouveaux débordements à l'issue d'une journée d'affrontements, notamment au Caire et à Alexandrie (nord), les plus grandes villes du pays.

Galvanisés par leur Guide suprême Mohamed Badie, les partisans de l'ex-chef d'État islamiste ont multiplié les manifestations vendredi.

Devant le siège de la Garde républicaine, ils ont tenté d'accrocher la photo de M. Morsi sur les fils barbelés qui entourent le bâtiment proche du palais présidentiel, bravant les avertissements des forces de l'ordre.

Quatre de leurs militants sont morts, de source officielle, dans les échanges de tirs qui ont suivi et déclenché des scènes de panique. Une partie des islamistes est restée sur place pour un sit-in illimité devant le bâtiment militaire.

Plus tard, d'autres pro-Morsi se sont dirigés vers la télévision d'État, passant à proximité de l'emblématique place Tahrir, où les opposants au président déchu avaient appelé à une manifestation rivale pour «défendre la révolution du 30 juin», allusion à la journée ayant vu les plus importantes manifestations contre le président déchu.

Des affrontements violents, durant lesquels des tirs ont été entendus, ont alors éclaté, faisant deux morts, avant que l'armée n'envoie ses blindés s'interposer.

Dans la ville côtière d'Alexandrie (nord), des heurts similaires ont fait 12 morts et 460 blessés, selon l'agence officielle Mena.

Le bilan de ce «vendredi du refus» du «coup d'État militaire» et de «l'État policier» déclaré par les islamistes est de 25 morts - six membres des forces de l'ordre dans le Nord-Sinaï et 19 manifestants.

Les Frères musulmans, dont l'influent numéro 2, Khairat al-Chater, a été arrêté dans la nuit, entendent rester «dans les rues par millions jusqu'à ce que» le président déchu retrouve son poste, a prévenu M. Badie devant une foule de ses partisans.

«Nous avons déjà vécu sous un régime militaire et nous ne l'accepterons pas une nouvelle fois», a-t-il lancé, faisant référence à l'intérim controversé assuré par l'armée entre la chute de Hosni Moubarak en février 2011 et l'élection de M. Morsi en juin 2012.

Les nouvelles autorités mises en place par l'armée, après l'éviction de M. Morsi mercredi, semblaient toutefois tout aussi déterminées à mettre en place rapidement de nouveaux rouages dans le pays et mener à bien leur «feuille de route» qui doit aboutir à des élections anticipées.

POLITIQUE DE «REPRÉSAILLES»

Le président intérimaire Adly Mansour, nommé par l'armée, a dans son premier décret dissous la chambre haute dominée par les islamistes, qui assure l'intégralité du pouvoir législatif, et nommé un nouveau chef des renseignements.

En outre, le procureur général a annoncé que des poursuites seraient engagées contre neuf dirigeants du mouvement islamiste - dont M. Badie - dans le cadre d'une enquête pour «incitation au meurtre» de manifestants. M. Morsi est quant à lui toujours détenu par l'armée.

Reflétant l'embarras international face à ce coup militaire qui a le soutien d'une importante partie de la population, le secrétaire général de l'ONU Ban Ki-moon a mis en garde contre une politique de «représailles».

Les États-Unis ont condamné vendredi les affrontements meurtriers et demandé instamment aux responsables du pays y compris ceux de l'armée d'arrêter les violences.

«Nous condamnons la violence survenue aujourd'hui en Égypte. Nous lançons un appel à tous les responsables égyptiens pour qu'ils condamnent l'usage de la force et empêchent de nouvelles violences de leurs partisans», a déclaré la porte-parole du Département d'État Jen Psaki.

L'Union africaine a, elle, suspendu l'Égypte.

Ces décisions pourraient faire monter encore davantage la tension, déjà alimentée par les accrochages qui ont fait plus de 80 morts dans le pays depuis le 26 juin.

APPELS À L'«UNITÉ»

Après la destitution de M. Morsi, l'armée avait appelé à oeuvrer en vue de «la réconciliation nationale», tandis que M. Mansour exhortait à oeuvrer pour l'«unité» dans le pays plus que jamais divisé.

Elu en juin 2012, M. Morsi était accusé de tous les maux - administrations corrompues, dysfonctionnements économiques, tensions confessionnelles - par ses adversaires qui voyaient en lui un apparatchik islamiste inexpérimenté et avide de pouvoir. Il a été évincé par l'armée après des manifestations d'une ampleur inédite réclamant sa chute.

Le coup de l'armée, annoncé aux côtés de figures religieuses et de l'opposition, ouvre la voie à une nouvelle et délicate période de transition dans le plus peuplé des pays arabes.

Pour le représentant de l'opposition Mohamed ElBaradei, l'intervention de l'armée pour faire partir M. Morsi a été une «mesure douloureuse» mais nécessaire pour «éviter une guerre civile».

http://www.liberation.fr/monde/2013/07/05/les-pro-morsi-se-preparent-a-defiler-au-caire_916173

Journée d'affrontements en Egypte, huit morts

5 juillet 2013 à 10:42 (Mis à jour: 22:55)



Des affichettes de soutien au président déchu Mohamed Morsi près de l'université du Caire, le 4 juillet. (Photo Suhaib Salem. Reuters)

Partisans et des opposants de l'ex-président islamiste Mohamed Morsi se sont mobilisés ce vendredi au Caire et dans divers endroits du pays.

Par AFP



Huit personnes ont péri vendredi dans des affrontements entre partisans et opposants du président Mohamed Morsi, renversé mercredi soir par l'armée, et entre pro-Morsi et forces de l'ordre, ont rapporté les médias officiels.

Deux personnes ont trouvé la mort vendredi soir et 70 ont été blessées aux abords de la place Tahrir au Caire où s'affrontaient pro et anti-Morsi, a annoncé la télévision d'Etat. La chaîne de télévision a précisé que leurs corps avaient été emmenés dans un hôpital de campagne sur la place emblématique de la capitale égyptienne.

L'armée égyptienne a annoncé qu'elle allait intervenir pour séparer les protestataires près de la place Tahrir. «*Nous ne prenons pas parti. Notre mission est de protéger la vie des manifestants*», a affirmé le colonel Ahmed Ali. «*L'armée va intervenir pour séparer*» les deux camps, a-t-il ajouté.

Par ailleurs, l'agence officielle Mena a indiqué qu'une personne avait trouvé la mort et 120 avaient été blessées dans des heurts à Alexandrie entre pro-Morsi d'une part et anti-Morsi et forces de l'ordre d'autre part. A Assiout (sud), une quatrième personne a perdu la vie dans des heurts entre des partisans de l'ex-chef d'Etat et les forces de l'ordre qui ont également fait 19 blessés, de même source.

Plus tôt dans la journée, quatre manifestants pro-Morsi ont été tués lors d'échanges de tirs avec les forces de l'ordre devant le siège de la Garde républicaine, près du palais présidentiel, selon l'agence. Un journaliste de l'AFP sur place a vu deux corps sans vie qui ont été recouverts d'un drap blanc et un troisième gisant, la tête fracassée par une balle.

Mobilisés pour un «*vendredi du refus*» du «*coup d'Etat militaire*» et «*l'Etat policier*», les pro-Morsi s'étaient dirigés vers la télévision d'Etat après s'être rassemblés dans un faubourg du Caire. Auparavant, le Guide suprême des Frères musulmans, Mohammed Badie, s'était présenté devant la foule pour l'encourager à rester «*dans les rues par millions jusqu'à ce que*» le président déchu soit revenu au pouvoir.

«*Nous avons déjà vécu sous un régime militaire et nous ne l'accepterons pas une nouvelle fois*», a-t-il prévenu, faisant référence à l'intérim controversé assuré par l'armée entre la chute de Hosni Moubarak en février 2011 et l'élection de Morsi en juin 2012. Pendant son discours, des hélicoptères militaires survolaient la foule à basse altitude.

Les nouvelles autorités mises en place par l'armée, après l'éviction de Morsi mercredi, semblaient tout aussi déterminées à mettre en place rapidement de nouveaux rouages dans le pays et mener à bien leur «*feuille de route*» qui doit aboutir à des élections anticipées.

Le président intérimaire Adly Mansour, nommé par l'armée, a dans son premier décret dissous la chambre haute dominée par les islamistes, qui assure l'intégralité du pouvoir législatif, et nommé un nouveau chef des renseignements. Mais ces décisions pourraient faire monter encore davantage la tension, déjà alimentée par les accrochages qui ont fait plus de 50 morts dans le pays depuis le 26 juin.

Après une vague d'arrestations lancée contre les dirigeants des Frères musulmans, dont est issu Morsi, le procureur général a annoncé que des poursuites seraient engagées contre neuf d'entre eux -dont Mohamed Badie- dans le cadre d'une enquête pour incitation au meurtre de manifestants.

Dans l'après-midi, des milliers de partisans de Mohamed Morsi sont partis d'une mosquée de Nasr City, un faubourg du Caire, scandant «*Mohamed Morsi est notre président*» et

«*Traîtres !*», pour se rendre devant la Garde républicaine située non loin du palais présidentiel.

Ils ont ensuite essayé d'accrocher sur les barbelés entourant le bâtiment une photo de l'ex-chef d'Etat, toujours détenu par l'armée, bravant à deux reprises les avertissements des soldats, avant que des tirs n'éclatent, faisant trois morts.

L'opposition à Morsi a appelé pour sa part à des manifestations massives, en particulier dimanche, pour «*défendre la révolution du 30 juin*», allusion à la journée ayant vu les plus importantes manifestations contre le président déchu.

Inquiétude des Occidentaux

Après la destitution de Morsi, l'armée a appelé à rejeter la «*vengeance*» et à oeuvrer en vue de «*la réconciliation nationale*», tandis que Mansour a exhorté sur la chaîne britannique Channel 4 à l'«*unité*».

Embarrassé après la destitution du premier président démocratiquement élu d'Egypte, même s'il était contesté, l'Occident a encore exprimé son inquiétude, Washington demandant au pouvoir de ne pas procéder à des «*arrestations arbitraires*».

L'Union africaine a de son côté suspendu l'Egypte, en rejetant «*toute prise illégale du pouvoir*», ce que le ministère égyptien des Affaires étrangères a dit regretter «*profondément*».

Elu en juin 2012, Morsi était accusé de tous les maux-administrations corrompues, dysfonctionnements économiques, tensions confessionnelles- par ses adversaires qui voyaient en lui un apparatchik islamiste inexpérimenté et avide de pouvoir. Il a été évincé par l'armée après des manifestations d'une ampleur inédite réclamant sa chute.

Le coup de l'armée, soutenu par une grande partie de la population, par l'opposition et par de hauts responsables religieux, ouvre la voie à une nouvelle et délicate période de transition dans le plus peuplé des pays arabes.

Pour le représentant de l'opposition Mohamed El-Baradei, l'intervention de l'armée pour faire partir Morsi a été une «*mesure douloureuse*» mais nécessaire pour «*éviter une guerre civile*». Parallèlement, de nouvelles violences ont éclaté vendredi dans la péninsule du Sinaï (nord), où cinq policiers et un soldat ont été tués dans des attaques de militants islamistes.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jul/05/mohamed-morsi-downfall-egypt-rebels>

Mohamed Morsi's downfall determined by coffee shop rebels rather than army

A born-again opposition and a president who consistently failed to see his errors were key elements of the 3 July coup d'etat

Martin Chulov and Patrick Kingsley in Cairo

Fri 5 Jul 2013 20.18 BST First published on Fri 5 Jul 2013 20.18 BST

Egypt's problems had been piling up since November, little more than three months into the four-year term of Mohamed Morsi's government. Photograph: Zuma/Rex Features

On Wednesday morning, as Mohamed Morsi sat discussing his plight with a small coterie of aides at a base in the east of Cairo, a senior adviser reassured him that the presidential guard would protect him no matter what.

But, as the Egyptian troops moved in on the base following the orders of army chief Abdul Fattah al-Sissi, even this elite unit slipped away, so Morsi could be easily detained. As with so many of the political errors that dogged his presidency, Morsi hadn't seen it coming.

The 3 July coup may have been executed by the military, but its roots lie in a civilian movement.

On the evening of 15 April, Mohammed Abdul Aziz and five other friends sat down in Borsa coffee shop in central Cairo to plot ways to invigorate Egypt's tired civil opposition.

According to Aziz, the group's aims were simple at first; to reignite support for a movement that had ground to a halt almost a year into the increasingly unpopular presidency of Morsi.

"In the beginning all we wanted to do was gather petitions to renounce Morsi," he said. But the group soon got a name, Tamarod (Rebel). Within weeks it had also gained a momentum that propelled it to centre stage of a defining period in Egypt's modern history – the ousting of the country's first democratically elected leader.

"I was sure by the number of petitions flowing that Tamarod was going to transform the Egyptian political scene," said Aziz.

The means seemed simple enough, not dissimilar to the campaign that led to the toppling of the previous president, Hosni Mubarak, 30 months ago. Smartphones, Facebook and other forms of social media were critical organising tools, but this time the boot leather of volunteers and old fashioned petitions also played a pivotal role.

"We had a website with an electronic petition and a space for people to put their name down and fill the form out," said Aziz. "They would then print the form out and give it to a volunteer."

By mid-May, he said, there were 8,000 volunteers in 15 of Egypt's 22 governorates.

"That's when it became a popular movement. That's when the idea became a reality."

Egypt's problems had been piling up since November, little more than three months into the four-year term of Morsi's government. Morsi had enjoyed the briefest of political honeymoons. The economy was in torpor, the body politic barely functioning and society deeply polarised.

On one side of a by now gaping divide was the Muslim Brotherhood, the powerful Islamic group that had largely been responsible for sweeping Morsi to power in elections last June.

On the other was the rest of the country — about 48% of voters, according to the poll, which gave Morsi the presidency with close to 52% of the popular vote.

The disaffected included a band of unlikely allies, who sit uneasily even now; at one end were the leftists and secularists, who had been squeezed in January 2011 by the Islamists, at the other those who resented the toppling of Mubarak.

The latter had been a formidable foe-in-waiting. Away from the sweeping scenes of Tahrir Square in January 2011, many millions of Egyptians were uncomfortable with Mubarak's demise. They had been safe under the dictator and some of them had prospered.

The 17 months after his ignominious exit had been unsettling for the Mubarak faithful. But the year since Morsi's inauguration had been even worse.

"It was becoming clear that everything that the state had built, everything that it had stood on, was coming crumbling down," said Ahmed Badawi, a mid-ranking police officer who was unhappy to see Mubarak go. "It was a case of 'my enemy's enemy is my friend, so we joined them in Tahrir Square this time'," he said of this week's revolts.

A senior western diplomat who had spent time with Morsi, his inner court and Brotherhood leaders said the writing was on the wall for his presidency by early this year.

"We had noticed particularly in the past nine months that they had become increasingly disconnected from reality. The army had become more and more worried by the [Brotherhood].

"The economy was being wrecked by the movement. They were spending at least \$1.5bn per month more than they should have. They were using months and months of reserves at a critical level. You couldn't deny the underlying trend that the government was heading for bankruptcy.

"Whatever mess they had created was going to lead to civil revolt. Soon they wouldn't have been able to pay for civil servants' salaries."

By March, serious diplomatic efforts had started to convince Morsi to form a government of national unity.

"We were trying to convince them to broaden the base of political participation," said the diplomat. "After much negotiation, they declined and then went about making it even worse by maintaining a technocratic government run by newly promoted lower-grade officials with bad ideas. What did it for me was the appointment of the culture minister."

The nomination of Alaa Abdul Aziz led to the sacking of five key cultural figures, including the head of the opera house and the National Library and Archives, and a view that he was trying to impose an Islamist agenda on cultural institutions which had always been avowedly secular.

From every angle, Morsi was increasingly being seen as, a captive of his constituency. "By that time, the Tamarod movement was really becoming something," said the diplomat. "And that added a dynamism and sheer scope to what had been taking place."

By mid-June, with other state institutions now sharing the military's alarm, the tide was clearly turning against Morsi. Tamarod claimed to have received more than 20m petition signatures.

Within a week, citizens experienced shortages of essentials, especially food and fuel. Long queues for fuel are rare in Egypt, where the military has a significant stake in the gas and oil sector and is usually a guarantor of supply. But in the leadup to the first anniversary of Morsi's swearing in – June 30 – the date chosen by Tamarod for a march en masse to the place where it all began, Tahrir Square, the shortages seemed specially severe.

By then, the army had given Morsi the first ultimatum: find ways to end the crisis within a week. Unable to deliver, Morsi watched as the large crowds hoped for by the born-again opposition materialised.

The army posted statements on its Facebook site acknowledging "huge crowds of protesters" on the streets. Things were moving quickly now; when the first deadline expired, the Egyptian military chief, Abdul Fattah al-Sissi gave Morsi another deadline, this time 48 hours. It was to be his last as leader.

Last Saturday, with his political legacy crumbling, Morsi cut a serene figure when the Guardian met him in his office in Quba Palace, Cairo.

The streets of the capital were tense, but Morsi appeared cocooned, even oblivious to what had begun to take shape.

"How confident are you in the army?" the Guardian asked him. "Very," he replied. How wrong he was.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jul/05/obama-egypt-violence-white-house>

Obama silent over Egypt in muted Washington response to violence

Three killed in Cairo as situation deteriorates, prompting condemnation of US silence at home and abroad

Spencer Ackerman in Washington

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Supporters of the ousted Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi carry a protester who was shot during clashes next to the headquarters of the Republican Guard in Cairo. Photograph: Khaled Elfiqi/EPA

Violence in Cairo was met with silence from Washington on Friday, as the Obama administration appeared to weigh its response to the evolving Egyptian crisis.

Egypt's new military regime clashed with pro-Muslim Brotherhood protesters during a series of demonstrations, leaving at least three people dead according to reports. The violence came as the army declared a state of emergency in Suez and southern Sinai and dissolved the upper house of the Egyptian parliament.

But criticism from Washington over the violence was, pointedly, muted. President Barack Obama did not issue a statement on Friday. Neither the State Department nor the Pentagon held briefings and Congress was out of session following the Fourth of July holiday.

Behind the scenes, Obama administration officials worked the phones to temper the volatile Egyptian situation. General Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, spoke with his Israeli counterpart, Lieutenant General Benny Gantz, on Friday, after speaking the day before to the Egyptian chief of staff, Lieutenant General Sedki Sobhi. Administration officials spoke on Thursday to representatives from Egypt, Israel and Turkey as well.

But the lack of any public statement in Washington stood in contrast to denunciations by regional leaders. The Turkish prime minister, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, said "those who rely on the guns in their hands, those who rely on the power of the media cannot build democracy" and blasted the west for "double standards". The African Union suspended Egypt's membership.

The Obama administration's reluctance to wade deeper into the Egyptian crisis is partially explained by the extent of US interests in the crucial Arab country. The Egyptian military is a bulwark against violence and weapons shipments spreading northeast into Gaza and south into Sudan and eastern Africa. Egypt is the recipient of nearly \$1.5bn in annual US aid, eclipsed only by Israel as a financial client of Washington.

That money is not supposed to flow in the event of a coup. But those interests, more than any semantic distinction the White House or the State Department draws to describe the military overthrow of Mohammed Morsi's elected government, appear to create hesitation in Washington to cutting off aid to the new military regime in Cairo.

"I wouldn't cut it off," a former chairman of the House foreign affairs committee, Howard Berman, told the New York Times. The Republican senator Ted Cruz wrote a Wednesday op-ed for the magazine Foreign Policy in which he blasted Obama for not demanding Morsi's ouster himself.

An editorial in the Wall Street Journal urged the White House to continue funding Cairo, suggesting that Egyptians would be "lucky" if their new ruling generals turned out to be like the late Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet. Pinochet, a man reviled by human-rights advocates, "took power amid chaos but hired free-market reformers", the newspaper explained.

The White House and the State Department declined to warn the Egyptian military publicly against it seizing power, having delivered a public ultimatum to Morsi on Monday. Obama's most expansive comments came after the military ousted Morsi, in which he said the "best foundation for lasting stability is a democratic political order" that included "secular and religious, civilian and military".

The comments were notable in that Obama did not criticize the military for taking power, instead urging it to hand it over to a "democratically elected civilian government". He did not pledge an aid cut-off, instead saying his administration would "review" its aid disbursements, a statement that was interpreted as a warning to the Egyptian military.

John Bellinger, a State Department legal adviser in the Bush administration, said there are steps the department can take to avoid the awkward designation of a coup in Egypt.

"The legal adviser's office may examine whether there is an argument that a military coup has not taken place because of the popular opposition to Morsi and because a new civilian president has been sworn in," said Bellinger, now a partner at Arnold & Porter, a law firm with influence in Washington.

"A more straightforward approach would be for Secretary Kerry to conclude that a military coup had taken place but to ask Congress to pass legislation to allow the president to waive the sanctions, as Congress did after the 9/11 attacks to allow President Bush to waive the sanctions against Pakistan."

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jul/05/morsi-final-days-egypt-president>

Mohamed Morsi's final days – the inside story

Egypt's first freely elected president found himself isolated and abandoned by allies as even his guards simply stepped away

Hamza Hendawi and Maggie Michael, Associated Press

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Mohamed Morsi had been at odds with virtually every institution in the country in recent months. Photograph: AFP/Getty Images

The army chief came to President Mohammed Morsi with a simple demand: Step down on your own.

"Over my dead body!" Morsi replied to General Abdel Fatah al-Sisi on Monday, two days before the army eventually ousted him after a year in office.

In the end, Egypt's first freely elected president found himself isolated, abandoned by allies and no one in the army or police willing to support him.

Even his Republican Guards simply stepped away as army commandos came to take him to an undisclosed defence ministry facility, according to army, security and Muslim Brotherhood officials, who gave the Associated Press an account of Morsi's final hours in office.

The Muslim Brotherhood officials said they saw the end coming for Morsi as early as 23 June – a week before the opposition planned its first big protest. The military gave the president seven days to work out his differences with the opposition.

In recent months, Morsi had been at odds with virtually every institution in the country, including leading Muslim and Christian clerics, the judiciary, the armed forces, the police and intelligence agencies. His political opponents fuelled popular anger that Morsi was giving too much power to the Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamists, and had failed to tackle Egypt's mounting economic problems.

There was such distrust between Morsi and the security agencies that they began withholding information from him – deploying troops and armour in cities without his knowledge.

Police also refused to protect Muslim Brotherhood offices that came under attack in the latest wave of protests.

Therefore, when Morsi was fighting for his survival, there was no one to turn to, except calling for outside help through western ambassadors and a small coterie of aides from the Brotherhood who could do little more than help him record two last-minute speeches.

In those remarks, he emotionally emphasised his electoral legitimacy – a topic that Morsi repeatedly raised in the talks with Sisi.

Early this week, during two meetings in as many days, Morsi, Sisi and Hesham Kandil, the prime minister, sat down to discuss ways out of the crisis.

But Morsi kept returning to the mandate he won in the June 2012 balloting, according to one of the officials. He said Morsi wouldn't address the mass protests or any of the country's most pressing problems – tenuous security, rising prices, unemployment, power cuts and traffic congestion.

A Brotherhood spokesman, Murad Ali, said the military had already decided that Morsi had to go, and Sisi would not entertain any of the concessions that the president was prepared to make.

"We were naive ... We didn't imagine betrayal would go this far," Ali said.

"It was like, 'either we put you in jail, or you come out and announce you are resigning,'" Ali added.

Brotherhood officials said they saw the end coming.

"We knew it was over on 23 June. Western ambassadors told us that," said another Brotherhood spokesman. US ambassador Anne Patterson was one of the envoys, he added.

Morsi searched for allies in the army, ordering two top aides – Asaad el-Sheikh and Rifaah el-Tahtawy – to establish contact with potentially sympathetic officers in the 2nd Field Army based in Port Said and Ismailia on the Suez Canal.

The objective was to find a bargaining chip to use with Sisi, security officials with firsthand knowledge of the contacts said.

There were no signs that Morsi's overtures had any effect, but Sisi, on learning of the contacts, took no chances. He issued directives to all unit commanders not to engage in any contacts with the presidential palace and, as a precaution, dispatched elite troops to units whose commanders had been contacted by Morsi's aides.

The end nears

On the surface, Morsi wanted to give the impression that the government was conducting business as usual.

His offices released statements about meetings with cabinet ministers to discuss issues such as the availability of basic food items during Ramadan when Muslims feast on food after a day of dawn-to-dusk fasting. He had four cabinet ministers talk to TV reporters in the presidential palace about fuel shortages and power cuts.

The opposition had set its first mass protest for 30 June, the anniversary of his inauguration, but the demonstrations began early, and Morsi had to stop working at Ittihadiya palace on 26 June.

The next day, he and his family moved into the Cairo headquarters of the Republican Guards, an army branch that protects the president.

Morsi worked at the Qasr El Qouba palace and continued to do so until 30 June, when the Republican Guards advised him to stay put at their headquarters.

His foreign policy aide, Essam el-Haddad, telephoned western governments to put an optimistic spin on events, according to a military official. Haddad was also issuing statements in English to the foreign media, saying that the millions out on the streets did not represent all Egyptians, and that the military intervention amounted to a textbook coup.

According to the usually authoritative newspaper Al-Ahram, Morsi was offered safe passage to Turkey, Libya or elsewhere, but he declined. He also was offered immunity from prosecution if he voluntarily stepped down.

Morsi gave a speech late on Tuesday in which he vowed to stay in power and urged supporters to fight to protect his legitimacy.

Soon after, Sisi placed him under "confinement" in the Republican Guard headquarters. The next day the military's deadline to Morsi expired. At 5am troops began deploying across major cities and the military posted videos of the movements to its Facebook page in a bid to reassure the public. Republican Guards assigned to the president and his aides walked away at midday and army commandos arrived.

There was no commotion and Morsi went quietly. That evening, Sisi announced Morsi's removal.

http://www.rfi.fr/moyen-orient/20130705-egypte-affrontements-meurtriers-pro-anti-morsi-principales-villes-egyptiennes?ns_campaign=google_choix_redactions&ns_mchannel=editors_picks&ns_source=google_actualite&ns_linkname=moyen-orient.20130705-egypte-affrontements-meurtriers-pro-anti-morsi-principales-villes-egyptiennes&ns_fee=0

Egypte -

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Egypte: affrontements meurtriers entre pro et anti-Morsi dans les principales villes égyptiennes



Des manifestants anti-Morsi jettent des pierres à leurs opposants aux abords de la place Tahrir, au Caire, le 5 juillet 2013.

REUTERS/Asmaa Waguih

Par RFI

A l'issue d'une journée de manifestations des deux camps, des affrontements ont éclaté dans la soirée au Caire vendredi 5 juillet aux abords de la place Tahrir entre pro et anti-Morsi. Ces heurts auraient fait 26 morts selon un dernier bilan. De tels accrochages se sont également déroulés dans d'autres villes égyptiennes jusque dans la soirée. Les islamistes ont appelé à de nouvelles manifestations « pacifiques », ce samedi, en soutien au président déchu Mohamed Morsi.

Avec notre correspondant et nos envoyés spéciaux,

Répondant à l'appel à un « vendredi du refus », des sympathisants de Mohamed Morsi se sont rassemblés, après la grande prière, dans différents endroits du Caire. Et notamment devant un bâtiment de la garde républicaine, où l'ancien président serait toujours détenu. C'est là que les premières victimes sont tombées. Selon plusieurs témoins, les forces de l'ordre ont ouvert le feu sur des manifestants qui s'approchaient du bâtiment. L'armée dément toutefois avoir tiré sur la foule.

D'autres heurts meurtriers ont éclaté en début de soirée vendredi, juste à côté de la place Tahrir. Pro et anti-Morsi se sont affrontés autour de l'immeuble de la télévision publique et sur le pont du 6 octobre, à coups de jets de pierres et de feux d'artifices. Des tirs ont également été entendus, alors que des hélicoptères continuaient à survoler les lieux.

« Nous occuperons les places jusqu'au retour du président Mohamed Morsi »

A Alexandrie, les pro-Morsi ont attaqué les opposants au président destitué place Sidi Gaber. Des coups de feu ont été entendus sur la place. Les blessés sont nombreux. L'intervention de la police à coups de gaz lacrymogène n'a pas permis de restaurer le calme et les combats se sont poursuivis dans la soirée. Le calme n'est revenu qu'après l'intervention de l'armée. Des événements qui se sont répétés dans plusieurs villes du Delta et à Suez.

Plus tôt en fin d'après-midi, Mohamed Badie, le Guide suprême des Frères musulmans, avait fait une allocution. « *Nous occuperons les places jusqu'au retour du président Mohamed Morsi (...) et serons prêts à sacrifier nos vies pour la légitimité* », a-t-il déclaré.

Dénonçant le coup d'Etat militaire, Mohamed Badie a toutefois indiqué être prêt à s'entendre avec l'armée une fois Morsi redevenu président.

Les violences s'étendent au Sinaï

Des partisans armés du président déchu Mohamed Morsi ont attaqué, vendredi 5 juillet dans la soirée, le siège du gouvernorat du nord du Sinaï, à el-Arich, avant de hisser leur drapeau sur le bâtiment, selon l'Agence France-Presse. Le bâtiment avait été abandonné après des échanges de tirs.

Plus tôt dans la journée, toujours à el-Arich, cinq policiers avaient été assassinés par balles au cours d'une attaque à moto. Un soldat a également été tué lors d'une attaque à la roquette contre un bâtiment du génie militaire et un poste de police, au niveau du passage de Rafah. Le passage a été fermé par les forces de l'ordre égyptiennes.

Le nouveau président par intérim Adly Mansour a décrété le couvre-feu dans la région où, selon de bonnes sources, se trouveraient quelque trois mille djihadistes égyptiens, palestiniens et étrangers.

Reportage sur la place Tahrir

Avec nos envoyés spéciaux,

Les affrontements auront duré plus de deux heures aux abords de la place Tahrir, hier soir vendredi. Tout a débuté lorsque des militants islamistes se sont approchés de la place emblématique de la révolution égyptienne.

« C'était des partisans de Morsi, ils voulaient aller au siège de la télévision nationale, explique un anti-Morsi. Et nous on était là, à Tahrir, ils ont commencé à nous défier, alors les hommes de Tahrir ont voulu se défendre ».

Les militants islamistes et les jeunes de la place Tahrir s'affrontent à coups de pierres, de pétards et de cocktails molotov, mais il y a également des tirs à l'arme automatique.

« C'est sûr que c'est l'ancien pouvoir et Mohammed Morsi qui est derrière tout ça parce qu'ils étaient bien armés ! Commente un homme. Ils veulent nous faire peur ! C'est leur dernière option : ils veulent nous terroriser ».

Après deux heures de bataille, l'armée finit par intervenir. L'apparition des blindés entraîne aussitôt la dispersion des militants pro-Morsi. Les jeunes de la place Tahrir se lancent dans un défilé de victoire. Sur le pont du 6 octobre, plusieurs véhicules incendiés témoignent encore de la violence des affrontements.

<http://journalmetro.com/monde/340892/bain-de-sang-au-caire-au-moins-54-morts/>

05/07/2013 **Mise à jour:** 6 juillet 2013 | 1:23

Égypte: des affrontements font 30 morts

Par Maggie Michael, Sarah El Deeb et Lee Keath The Associated Press



Hassan Ammar Hassan Ammar / The Associated Press

LE CAIRE, Égypte – Les islamistes égyptiens ont répliqué vendredi à la destitution de Mohamed Morsi alors que des dizaines de milliers de partisans du président déchu ont manifesté au Caire afin de demander son retour et attaqué ses opposants. Des affrontements entre les deux camps ont éclaté en fin de journée, obligeant l'armée à envoyer des véhicules blindés pour repousser les fidèles de M. Morsi.

Les troubles ont fait au moins 30 morts et quelque 210 blessés à travers l'Égypte. Les islamistes ont pris d'assaut de nombreux édifices gouvernementaux et juré de renverser la décision de l'armée de déposer le premier président égyptien élu démocratiquement. Quatre des victimes ont perdu la vie lorsque les militaires ont ouvert le feu sur des manifestants pro-Morsi qui se dirigeaient vers le quartier général de la Garde républicaine.

Dans le cadre de sa première apparition publique depuis le départ de Mohamed Morsi, le guide général des Frères musulmans a promis de remettre le président au pouvoir. Prenant la parole sur une scène devant une mosquée du Caire, Mohammed Badie a déclaré que Dieu avait accordé la victoire à M. Morsi et le ramènerait au palais présidentiel. Il a ajouté que ses fidèles étaient ses soldats et qu'ils le défendraient au prix de leur vie.

Les circonstances entourant le discours de M. Badie demeurent toutefois un mystère. Les forces de sécurité avaient précédemment affirmé l'avoir arrêté mercredi soir à une villa située sur la côte méditerranéenne et envoyé au Caire par avion dans le cadre d'un coup de filet ayant mené à l'arrestation d'au moins cinq hauts dirigeants des Frères musulmans.

Quelques heures plus tard, par ailleurs, un porte-parole du ministère de l'Intérieur a annoncé que le numéro 2 des Frères musulmans, Khairat al-Chater, avait été arrêté en compagnie de son frère, tard vendredi, dans un appartement de l'est du Caire, en lien avec des allégations de violence à l'endroit de manifestants au cours des derniers jours.

Quelques minutes avant le discours du guide général vendredi, le parti politique des Frères musulmans avait annoncé sur son site Web que Mohammed Badie avait été libéré. Sur scène, le principal intéressé a pour sa part soutenu n'avoir jamais été arrêté. Les autorités n'ont pas fourni d'explications à ce sujet.

Après l'allocution de M. Badie, un important groupe d'islamistes a traversé le pont du 6-octobre qui enjambe le Nil en direction de la place Tahrir, occupée depuis le début de la journée par des opposants de Mohamed Morsi. Les pro et les anti-Morsi ont commencé à se battre près du bâtiment abritant la télévision d'État avec des fusils et des pierres.

Des soldats ont été déployés sur un autre pont menant à la place, bloquant la structure avec des fils barbelés et des véhicules blindés. Plus tard, au moins sept véhicules ont traversé le pont pour chasser les partisans de M. Morsi.

Les islamistes ont juré de prouver à l'armée qu'elle avait fait une erreur en écartant le président Mohamed Morsi du pouvoir mercredi après que des millions d'Égyptiens eurent manifesté dans les rues durant quatre jours pour réclamer son départ.

<http://www.parismatch.com/Actu/International/Au-moins-24-morts-dans-les-affrontements-politiques-520973>

Égypte

Au moins 24 morts dans les affrontements politiques



Des anti-Morsi lors des affrontements près de la place Tahrir © REUTERS/Amr Abdallah Dalsh

Le 06 juillet 2013 | Mise à jour le 06 juillet 2013

MC avec l'agence Reuters

Au moins 24 personnes ont été tuées vendredi, où les islamistes manifestaient leur colère contre l'éviction et l'arrestation du président Mohamed Morsi, victime de ce qu'ils considèrent comme un «coup d'Etat militaire».

La plus tragique des confusions règne toujours en Egypte. Au moins 24 personnes ont été tuées vendredi, où les islamistes manifestaient leur colère contre l'éviction et l'arrestation du président Mohamed Morsi, victime de ce qu'ils considèrent comme un «coup d'Etat militaire». Deux jours après le renversement du premier président démocratiquement élu de l'histoire du pays, les libéraux du Front de salut national (FSN) avaient également appelé leurs militants à descendre dans les rues pour «protéger la révolution du 30 juin».

Les affrontements les plus meurtriers se sont produits à Alexandrie, la deuxième ville du pays, où douze personnes ont été tuées et 200 autres blessées, selon le chef des services d'urgence de la ville. Au Caire, cinq personnes ont été tuées tandis que des affrontements ont opposé des centaines de partisans et d'adversaires de Morsi à la tombée de la nuit dans le centre de la capitale. Dans l'après-midi, trois manifestants islamistes avaient été tués par balle devant la caserne de la Garde républicaine où est détenu Mohamed Morsi depuis sa destitution par

l'armée, mercredi soir. L'armée a pour sa part affirmé que les soldats n'avaient tiré que des balles à blanc et des grenades lacrymogènes pour maîtriser la foule. Le calme est revenu en fin de soirée lorsque l'armée a déployé des blindés et des véhicules de transport de troupes en fin de soirée.

Des manifestations ont également rassemblé des milliers de personnes à Alexandrie, Assiout, Suez, El Arish et des affrontements ont éclaté avec l'armée à Suez et Ismaïlia, sur le canal de Suez, selon des témoins et des sources de sécurité. Des dizaines de milliers de partisans des Frères musulmans se sont rassemblés vendredi aux abords d'une mosquée de la banlieue du Caire pour entendre Mohamed Badie, le guide suprême des Frères musulmans dont la rumeur avait couru qu'il était lui aussi aux arrêts. Badie s'est dit prêt à un accord avec l'armée à condition que Morsi soit au préalable rétabli dans ses fonctions de président. «Nos poitrines sont plus fortes que leurs balles», a-t-il dit tout en appelant à «achever la révolution», alors qu'un hélicoptère militaire survolait le rassemblement.

Flou politique

En destituant mercredi le chef de l'Etat, un peu plus d'un an après sa prise de fonction, l'armée a annoncé la mise en place prochaine d'un gouvernement provisoire soutenu par les groupes libéraux avant la tenue de nouvelles élections. Mais plus de quarante-huit heures après l'intervention des militaires, le calendrier de la transition demeure flou. Un nouveau Premier ministre pourrait être nommé ce samedi. Il pourrait s'agir de Mohamed ElBaradeï, désigné par le Front de salut national comme son interlocuteur principal. Dans l'intervalle, la Chambre haute du parlement, le Conseil de la Choura, a été dissoute vendredi et un nouveau chef des services de renseignement, Mohamed Ahmed Farid, a été nommé.

Et la répression qui s'est abattue dès la destitution de Morsi sur le camp islamiste s'est poursuivie. Après le prédicateur salafiste Hazem Salah Abou Ismaïl, accusé d'incitation à la violence, c'est un des plus hauts responsables des Frères musulmans, Khaïrat al Chater, qui était arrêté à son tour, a-t-on appris dans la nuit de vendredi à samedi auprès de son parti et de sources sécuritaires. Homme d'affaires, considéré comme le principal architecte de la stratégie politique de la confrérie, Chater avait brigué l'an dernier la présidence. L'invalidation de sa candidature avait poussé les Frères à présenter la candidature de Morsi. Pour le porte-parole de la confrérie islamiste Gehad El-Haddad, «c'est le retour du vieil Etat policier de Moubarak avec tous les ingrédients et le cauchemar que nous vivions avant la révolution du 25 janvier (2011)».

<http://tempsreel.nouvelobs.com/monde/20130706.OBS8335/egypte-autopsie-de-deux-affrontements-meurtriers.html>

EGYPTE. Autopsie de deux affrontements meurtriers

EGYPTE. Autopsie de deux affrontements meurtriers

Créé le 06-07-2013 à 14h58 - Mis à jour à 16h42

Par Le Nouvel Observateur

Vendredi soir au Caire, une trentaine de personnes ont péri et plus de mille autres ont été blessées. S'il est trop tôt et trop alarmiste pour parler de guerre civile, ces violences ont de quoi inquiéter. De notre correspondant au Caire.



Près de la place Tahrir au Caire dans la nuit de vendredi 5 à samedi 6 juillet Manu Brabo/AP/SIPA

Aux abords de la place Tahrir, une violente bagarre a opposé vendredi 5 juillet trois heures durant pro et anti Morsi. Vers 18h30, l'information se répand sur Twitter, les Frères Musulmans du camp de Giza traversent le Nil et se dirigent vers la place Tahrir. Des sources évoquent une centaine de manifestants, d'autres des milliers. Tous s'accordent à dire qu'ils sont armés. Par centaines, les activistes de la place vont à leur rencontre, sur le pont du 6 octobre. A l'arrière du front, on se prépare, en déchaussant les terres-plain avoisinant la place de leurs pavés. Les gamins aident à les concasser, les costauds les transportent, en les enroulant dans des draps selon une mécanique bien huilée. Depuis le mois de novembre et les affrontements meurtriers devant le palais présidentiel, ces face à face brutaux sont monnaie courante. On voit aussi des ados courir, un revolver à la ceinture.

Les clashes sont violents. Au sol, sont retrouvées des cartouches de carabines mais aussi des douilles d'armes automatiques. Toutes les deux minutes, des blessés sur des motos, coincés entre deux passagers. Certains n'ont que des éclats de pistolets à grenaille ou ont reçu des pierres sur le crâne. D'autres saignent abondamment. Les munitions épuisées, on s'affronte avec ce qu'on trouve en s'aveuglant à coup de lasers, ou en se jetant des feux d'artifice à la figure. Pendant ce temps, les hélicoptères de l'armée survolent toujours plus bas les belligérants. "Ils foutent quoi ? Pourquoi ils interviennent pas les militaires ?", s'énerve un anti-Frère depuis le pont, où avec de nombreux autres spectateurs il "profite" de la vue imprenable sur la bagarre. Poussés par les gens de la place, les Frères ont été contraints de reculer vers le bâtiment de Maspero, le centre des médias protégé par des soldats et des blindés. Après plus de 3 heures de bagarre, les Frères Musulmans parviennent à reprendre le pont mais à l'arrière, ils sont pris en chasse par les habitants des quartiers pauvres environnant qui les contraignent à fuir. Le bilan, encore provisoire, fait état de 3 morts et 200 blessés.

Mitrailleuse soviétique

Sur l'île de Manyal, dans un quartier plutôt résidentiel, ont eu lieu des affrontements peu communs et très meurtriers. Tout a également commencé vers 19 heures, lorsque une centaine de militants des Frères de Giza auraient cherché à traverser l'île pour, eux aussi, rejoindre le centre-ville. Selon aAhmed, un résident, ils se seraient accrochés avec les clients d'un café qui les auraient accueillis en insultant Mohammed Morsi. S'en serait suivi une bagarre générale. Une demi-heure plus tard, d'autres militants islamistes seraient arrivés et, selon un officier, auraient tiré dans la foule à l'arme automatique de type Goryunov, une mitrailleuse soviétique. Les habitants du quartier seraient alors descendus en nombre, armés de revolvers artisanaux, de machettes ou de bâtons afin d'engager un face à face avec les islamistes retranchés sur le pont.

A presque tous les coins de rue de l'île, des groupes d'hommes armés, sorte de milices improvisées, fouillaient les passants. Vers 2h30 du matin, les forces spéciales de police étaient sur place, du côté des résidents, "pour empêcher les violences", selon un des officiers affirmant qu'ils n'interviendraient qu'en cas d'attaque des Frères. Selon ce responsable policier, au moins six personnes seraient décédés et plusieurs dizaines d'autres blessés. Deux

coups de fusils à pompe résonnaient dans la nuit, sans que la provenance soit identifiable. "Les flics ne peuvent pas intervenir, s'ils tuent des Frères, le monde entier va encore dire qu'on a fait un coup d'État. Les islamistes se disent démocrates, la vérité est que ce soir, ils montrent leur vraie nature, ce sont des terroristes", s'énervait un homme.

Marwan Chahine - Le Nouvel Observateur

http://www.elwatan.com/international/climat-d-inquietude-en-egypte-06-07-2013-220113_112.php

Des morts et des blessés dans des affrontements

Climat d'inquiétude en Egypte

le 06.07.13 | 10h00



© Photo : AFP

Le coup d'Etat de l'armée égyptienne contre le président Morsi, soutenu par une grande partie de la population, par l'opposition et par de hauts responsables religieux, ouvre la voie à une nouvelle et délicate période de transition.

Dans l'espoir d'écarter tout risque de dérapage, les militaires égyptiens, après la destitution de Mohamed Morsi, actuellement détenu, et le lancement d'une vague d'arrestations contre les Frères musulmans, ont décidé de jouer la carte de l'apaisement et de titiller la fibre patriotique des islamistes. Ils ont ainsi appelé hier à «rejeter la vengeance» et à œuvrer pour «la réconciliation nationale» pour le bien de l'Egypte. Le président de la Haute Cour constitutionnelle, Adly Mansour, désigné dirigeant intérimaire du pays par l'armée, a lui aussi appelé à l'«unité», affirmant qu'il y avait eu «assez de divisions».

Ces appels au «calme» et à l'«unité» n'ont toutefois pas été entendus puisqu'au moins trois manifestants ont été tués hier au Caire dans des échanges de tirs entre partisans de Mohamed Morsi et soldats, au cours d'une journée de forte mobilisation en faveur du président islamiste déchu. Les tirs, qui ont eu lieu aux abords d'un bâtiment de la Garde républicaine, une unité militaire notamment chargée de protéger la présidence, ont aussi fait de nombreux blessés. Partis d'une mosquée de Nasr City, un faubourg du Caire, où ils campent depuis plusieurs jours, des milliers de manifestants islamistes ont scandé «Morsi est notre président» et «Traîtres !» devant la Garde républicaine. Ils ont ensuite essayé d'accrocher sur les barbelés entourant le bâtiment une photo de l'ex-chef d'Etat, bravant à deux reprises les avertissements des soldats, avant que les tirs n'éclatent.

Des violences éclatent au Sinaï

Les pro-Morsi avaient appelé à manifester en masse «pacifiquement» pour cette journée intitulée «vendredi du refus», afin de défendre «la légitimité» de l'ex-chef d'Etat et dénoncer l'«Etat policier» qui a arrêté de nombreux dirigeants des Frères musulmans. Des affrontements entre partisans et opposants du président déchu Mohamed Morsi et entre pro-Morsi et forces de l'ordre ont éclaté à travers l'Egypte, a indiqué l'agence officielle Mena. Avant l'aube, des violences ont eu lieu dans la péninsule du Sinaï, où un soldat et deux policiers ont été tués dans des attaques simultanées de militants islamistes contre des postes de police et militaires. Visiblement, des islamistes radicaux veulent mettre à profit le climat de tension politique qui règne actuellement dans le pays pour tenter de faire basculer l'Egypte dans la guerre civile. A en croire, le guide suprême des Frères musulmans, Mohamed Badie, la protesta se poursuivra durant les prochains jours. En tout cas, il a affirmé hier que les partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi, issu de sa confrérie, resteraient mobilisés «par millions» et ne reconnaissent pas «le coup d'Etat militaire» qui l'a renversé. «Nous resterons dans les rues par millions jusqu'à ce que nous portions en triomphe notre président élu», a-t-il lancé devant un rassemblement d'islamistes, après que son mouvement a démenti son arrestation annoncée la veille par les services de sécurité.

«Le coup d'Etat militaire n'est pas valide», a-t-il ajouté, un slogan repris par une foule d'islamistes. Embarrassé après le renversement du premier président démocratiquement élu d'Egypte même s'il était contesté par une grande partie du peuple, l'Occident a encore exprimé son inquiétude, Washington demandant au pouvoir de ne pas procéder à des «arrestations arbitraires» dans le camp islamiste. Dans un témoignage posté hier sur sa page facebook, le correspondant dans la capitale égyptienne du site internet algérien d'information «Maghreb Emergent», Yassine Tamlali, parle d'une «insoutenable tension au Caire». «Depuis la destitution de Morsi, plus de coupures de courant, comme par miracle. Mais à la place, nous avons maintenant du plomb, des balles et des appels à la violence de part et d'autre de la ligne de front, qui divise, depuis quelques semaines, l'Egypte en deux», écrit-il non sans émettre par ailleurs des craintes de voir l'Egypte sombrer dans la violence. Le camp adverse (anti-Morsi) a réagi en appelant à des manifestations massives pour «défendre la révolution du 30 juin», allusion à la journée ayant vu les plus importantes manifestations contre le président déchu.

Les assurances d'El Baradei

Des avions de combat survolaient Le Caire où de nombreux blindés étaient déployés, après que le ministère de l'Intérieur a prévenu qu'il répondrait «fermement» à tout trouble. Pour le représentant de l'opposition, Mohamed El Baradei, l'intervention de l'armée pour faire partir M. Morsi a été une «mesure douloureuse», mais nécessaire pour «éviter une guerre civile». L'armée n'a pas l'intention de diriger le pays, a-t-il affirmé à la BBC, promettant «un gouvernement civil sous une semaine». La feuille de route sur la transition politique, rédigée par l'armée et négociée avec l'opposition et les principaux dignitaires religieux musulmans et chrétiens du pays, prévoit un cabinet «doté de pleins pouvoirs». Elu en juin 2012, M. Morsi était accusé de tous les maux politiques, sociaux et économiques du pays par ses adversaires qui dénonçaient une volonté des Frères musulmans de monopoliser le pouvoir et de restaurer un système autoritaire.

Ses partisans, eux, soulignent que les problèmes du pays existaient avant son arrivée. Dans le but de faire oublier l'ère Morsi, Adly Mansour a décidé hier de commencer par dissoudre la

Chambre haute du Parlement (choura) et de nommer un nouveau chef des services de renseignement. La Chambre haute, qui assumait la totalité du pouvoir législatif après la dissolution l'an dernier de la Chambre des députés, était acquise au président Morsi. M. Mansour a aussi nommé un nouveau chef du renseignement, Mohammed Ahmed Farid, a indiqué l'agence officielle Mena.

Outre l'éviction de M. Morsi, l'armée égyptienne a, rappelle-t-on, annoncé la suspension de la Constitution, et la tenue d'élections législatives et présidentielle à une date indéterminée. Mais tout le monde pense que plus vite auront lieu ces élections... mieux ce sera !

L'Union africaine suspend l'égypte :

Le Conseil de paix et de sécurité (CPS) de l'Union africaine (UA) a suspendu hier la participation de l'Égypte à l'organisation panafricaine, après le renversement par l'armée du président égyptien, Mohamed Morsi, selon un communiqué officiel. L'UA a pour politique de suspendre tout Etat-membre où se produit un «changement inconstitutionnel de pouvoir», généralement jusqu'au retour à l'ordre constitutionnel.

«Le Conseil a décidé de suspendre la participation de l'Égypte aux activités de l'UA», a déclaré à la presse le secrétaire du Conseil de paix et de sécurité, Admore Kambudzi, lisant ce communiqué, à l'issue de plus de trois heures de réunion du CPS. «Le Conseil réitère la condamnation et le rejet par l'UA de toute prise illégale du pouvoir», a poursuivi M. Kambudzi, «le renversement du président (Morsi) démocratiquement élu n'obéit pas aux dispositions pertinentes de la Constitution égyptienne et correspond donc à la définition du changement inconstitutionnel du pouvoir».

Au début de la réunion hier, l'ambassadeur égyptien auprès de l'UA, Mohamed Edrees, avait tenté de convaincre le CPS de ne pas suspendre son pays, arguant que l'armée n'avait fait que répondre à l'appel du peuple égyptien et que le renversement de M. Morsi n'était que le prolongement de la révolution populaire ayant chassé Hosni Moubarak du pouvoir en février 2011.

L'Égypte n'avait alors pas été suspendue de l'UA. La présidente de la Commission de l'UA, Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, a réagi en indiquant que «personne ne s'assiera derrière le drapeau (égyptien à l'UA), ni le précédent gouvernement ni le gouvernement provisoire, jusqu'à ce qu'il y ait une élection qui soit évidemment l'expression de la volonté du peuple égyptien». **R. I.**

<http://fr.euronews.com/2013/07/06/affrontements-en-egypte-sanglante-alexandrie/>

Affrontements en Égypte : sanglante Alexandrie

06/07 04:26 CET

En Égypte, la réponse des islamistes à l'éviction du président Morsi a été meurtrière. Les affrontements les plus sanglants se sont produits à Alexandrie, la deuxième ville du pays. Ils ont fait douze morts et 460 blessés. Les victimes ont pour l'essentiel été tuées par balles.

Au total il y a eu une trentaine de morts, quand des dizaines de milliers de sympathisants de l'ex-président sont descendus dans toute l'Égypte hier. Un peu plus tard dans la nuit, le numéro 2 des frères musulmans a été arrêté .

Fait majeur à souligner aussi, dans la soirée l'un des plus importants leaders religieux du pays a appelé le peuple égyptien à trouver une solution pour sortir de cette situation. Un ton qui tranche avec celui des Frères musulmans, pourtant proches de ce grand mufti.

Alors que le calme revenait au Caire, des islamistes ont attaqué dans la soirée le gouvernorat du Nord-Sinaï, hissant leur drapeau sur le bâtiment. Le Sinaï où hier les islamistes ont déjà tué cinq policiers et un soldat.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jul/06/mohamed-elbaradei-interim-pm-opposition>

Mohamed ElBaradei's appointment as Egypt's interim PM thrown into doubt

President's office contradicts earlier statement that leading liberal would head administration alongside Adly Mansour

Josh Layton

Sun 7 Jul 2013 00.44 BST First published on Sun 7 Jul 2013 00.44 BST

Mohamed ElBaradei has been widely tipped to take up the post in the wake of Morsi's ousting. Photograph: Peter Schneider/EPA

Egypt's presidential office has not appointed Mohamed ElBaradei as interim prime minister despite an earlier announcement that he would be sworn in on Saturday night.

The former head of the International Atomic Energy Agency had been widely expected to take up his post three days after the ousting of president Mohamed Morsi.

Speculation had been rife for several days that ElBaradei would head the transitional government alongside the acting president, Adly Mansour.

But the presidential office backed away from an earlier announcement that the pro-reform leader would be installed.

Ahmed el-Musilamani, a spokesman for Mansour, told the media that consultations were continuing, denying that the appointment of the Nobel Peace laureate was ever certain.

However, reporters gathered at the presidential palace were ushered into a room where they were told by officials to wait for the president who would arrive shortly to announce ElBaradei's appointment.

A senior opposition official, Munir Fakhry Abdelnur, said that the reversal was because the ultra-conservative Salafi al-Nour party objected to the appointment and mediation was underway.

ElBaradei, who leads the National Salvation Front, an alliance of liberal and leftwing parties, had been expected to be formally sworn in at the presidential palace.

The politician, who has lived in the west for decades, had been widely tipped to take up the position following the ousting of Morsi.

He has played a key role in the background of the current turmoil, meeting General Abdel Fatah al-Sisi on Wednesday.

"ElBaradei is our first choice," a source close to the army said earlier this week.

"He's an international figure, popular with young people and believes in a democracy that would include all political forces. He is also popular among some Islamist groups."

ElBaradei, who won the Nobel peace prize for his work with the nuclear agency, has used his Twitter feed to renounce violence "of all forms".

However his appointment is unlikely to appease Islamists who have regarded him as too liberal and have resolved to stay on the streets until Morsi is returned to power.

ElBaradei, 71, has also defended the army's takeover and supported the temporary arrest of senior members of the Muslim Brotherhood.

In an interview with the BBC, he said: "It is not the army who took over, it is the army who acted on behalf of the people."

ElBaradei has said the Muslim Brotherhood should be part of the political process but has supported the arrest of senior figures belonging to the movement, saying they had been "plotting".

ENDS

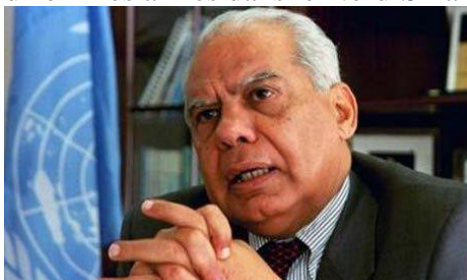
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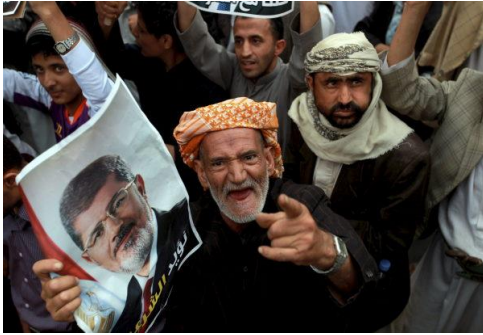
Crise en Egypte

06 juillet 2013 17:57; Act: 06.07.2013 19:03

Nouvel appel à manifester: déjà 37 morts

Trente-sept personnes ont péri ces dernières 24 heures en Egypte, dans des affrontements entre partisans et opposants au président Mohamed Morsi renversé par l'armée et des attaques d'hommes armés dans le Nord-Sinaï.





1|398

09.07 L'économiste Hazem al-Beblawi, un ancien ministre des Finances, a été nommé mardi Premier ministre d'Égypte, a annoncé le porte-parole de la présidence, Ahmed al-Muslimani.

De nombreux islamistes égyptiens se sont regroupés samedi pour une démonstration de force face à l'armée qui a renversé le président Mohamed Morsi, issu de leurs rangs.

Diaporama Le QG saccagé des frères musulmans

La mobilisation s'est déroulée dans un climat alourdi par les violences ayant fait 37 morts en 24 heures.

Les partisans des Frères musulmans se sont à nouveau rassemblés par milliers, notamment aux abords d'une mosquée de Nasr City, un faubourg du nord-est du Caire, qu'ils occupent depuis une dizaine de jours. Ils ont organisé des funérailles pour quatre d'entre eux tués la veille dans une fusillade dans la capitale égyptienne.

Dans ce contexte tendu, le président civil par intérim, le magistrat Adly Mansour, a eu des entretiens avec le général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, chef de l'armée et nouvel homme fort du pays, qui l'a nommé mercredi.

M. Mansour a également rencontré diverses personnalités politiques ainsi que le groupe Tamarrod (rébellion). Ce dernier avait organisé d'importantes manifestations contre M. Morsi le 30 juin, et appelle à de nouveaux rassemblements dimanche pour soutenir son éviction.

La puissante confrérie des Frères musulmans a quant à elle demandé à ses partisans de se mobiliser «par millions» jusqu'au retour au pouvoir de M. Morsi.

Hauts dirigeants interrogés

La justice égyptienne a entamé les interrogatoires de plusieurs hauts dirigeants des Frères musulmans dans le cadre d'une enquête pour «incitation au meurtre» de manifestants, a indiqué l'agence officielle Mena.

Celle-ci a précisé que la justice a interrogé samedi Mehdi Akef (ancien Guide suprême de la confrérie), Khairat al-Chater, son actuel numéro 2 arrêté la nuit précédente, Saad al-Katatni, chef du Parti de la liberté et de la justice, vitrine politique des Frères musulmans et Rached Bayoumi, adjoint du Guide.

Trente morts

Sur le terrain, dans le quartier de Manial, sur une île au milieu du Nil, des habitants ont fait état de combats à l'arme automatique et à l'arme blanche, et de tireurs embusqués. Dans divers endroits de la capitale, des barricades et des rues jonchées de pierres et de pneus calcinés témoignaient des violences des accrochages nocturnes.

Les accès à la place Tahrir étaient contrôlés par des anti-Morsi armés de bâtons. Des groupes de manifestants y ont passé la nuit dans un village de tentes.

Vendredi, des affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi, mais aussi entre pro-Morsi et soldats, ont fait 30 morts et plus d'un millier de blessés, essentiellement au Caire et à Alexandrie (nord), les deux plus grandes villes du pays.

Dans la péninsule instable du Sinaï (nord-est), cinq policiers et un soldat ont été tués dans des attaques menées par des militants islamistes. Samedi, un prêtre chrétien a été tué par des hommes armés non identifiés, selon des sources de sécurité.

Reflétant l'embarras international face à ce coup militaire qui a le soutien d'une importante partie de la population, le secrétaire général de l'ONU Ban Ki-moon a mis en garde contre une politique de «représailles». Les Etats-Unis ont condamné les affrontements meurtriers.

Moubarak «non coupable»

Les opposants à M. Morsi lui reprochaient une volonté d'accaparer le pouvoir au profit des Frères musulmans et de vouloir instaurer un nouveau régime autoritaire. Ses partisans évoquaient la nécessité de débarrasser le pays d'une bureaucratie hostile et corrompue héritée du règne Moubarak.

Ce dernier, âgé de 85 ans, a comparu lors d'une nouvelle audience de son procès pour corruption et complicité dans le meurtre de manifestants durant la révolte de 2011. Ses avocats ont plaidé non-coupable. Ce procès en appel a ensuite été suspendu jusqu'au 17 août.

Blogueur libéré

Selon l'agence Mena, un blogueur égyptien condamné et emprisonné pour insultes envers le président déchu a été remis en liberté samedi. Il avait été condamné à six mois de prison pour avoir qualifié l'ex-chef de l'Etat de criminel et d'assassin.

Le blogueur reste cependant poursuivi pour incitation à la violence et doit comparaître dimanche devant un tribunal, avec douze autres prévenus, pour ce chef d'inculpation.

(ats/afp)

<http://www.mondialnews.com/2013/07/07/le-bilan-des-morts-dans-les-affrontements-en-egypte-slve-32>

Le bilan des morts dans les affrontements en Egypte s'élève à 32

Au moins 32 personnes ont été tuées et 1,100 autres blessées dans la nuit de vendredi en Egypte lors des affrontements à travers le pays entre les opposants et les partisans du président islamiste égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi, a déclaré samedi un haut fonctionnaire du ministère de la Santé.

« 32 personnes ont été tuées et 1,138 autres blessées durant les affrontements de vendredi ayant eu lieu dans 19 gouvernorats. Parmi elles, 1,076 personnes ont été transportées à l'hôpital le plus proche, tandis que 62 ont été soignées sur place, a déclaré à Xinhua Mohamed Sultan, chef de l'organisme Ambulance égyptien.

Source : Casafree

07 juil 2013 | Catégorie : Actualités |

<http://journalmetro.com/monde/340892/bain-de-sang-au-caire-au-moins-54-morts/>

08/07/2013 **Mise à jour:** 8 juillet 2013 | 22:27

Ajuster la taille du texte

Bain de sang au Caire: au moins 54 morts

Par Sarah El Deeb et Maggie Michael The Associated Press



Manu Brabo / The Associated Press

LE CAIRE, Égypte – Des soldats et des policiers égyptiens ont affronté, lundi au Caire, des islamistes qui manifestaient contre la destitution du président Mohammed Morsi, un véritable bain de sang qui a fait au moins 54 morts, ont déclaré les autorités et des témoins.

Au moins 51 manifestants et trois membres des forces de sécurité ont été tués. Les autorités ont également rapporté plus de 400 blessés, la plupart par des tirs de balles réelles ou de chevrotine. Ce nouvel affrontement menace d'aggraver la crise en Égypte, le parti des Frères musulmans ayant appelé ses partisans à se rebeller contre l'armée.

Le carnage devant le siège de la garde républicaine au Caire, où l'ex-président a d'abord été détenu la semaine dernière, est l'incident le plus grave depuis les grandes manifestations qui ont mené à la destitution du gouvernement Morsi, mercredi.

Le président par intérim désigné par l'armée a annoncé un échéancier serré qui mènerait à des élections dans environ sept mois.

Selon cet échéancier, deux comités seraient désignés afin d'amender la constitution islamiste adoptée sous le régime de Mohammed Morsi. Un référendum sur ces modifications aurait lieu d'ici quatre mois et demi. Des élections parlementaires se tiendraient dans un délai de deux

mois. Une fois le nouveau Parlement élu, il aurait une semaine pour déterminer la date du scrutin présidentiel.

Avant même que le bilan final des victimes ait été établi, des informations contradictoires circulaient sur la façon dont l'affrontement a commencé. Les manifestants pro-Morsi affirment que les forces de l'ordre ont attaqué leur campement sans provocation après la prière du matin. L'armée affirme pour sa part avoir été attaquée par des hommes armés, qui ont tué un militaire et deux policiers.

Des témoins qui ne participaient pas à la manifestation ont déclaré avoir vu les forces de l'ordre avancer dans une apparente volonté de démanteler le camp des manifestants, tirant des gaz lacrymogènes. C'est alors que les tirs à balles réelles ont commencé. Une femme a déclaré que les tirs semblaient provenir du côté des manifestants, mais d'autres témoins n'étaient pas en mesure de dire d'où ils venaient.

L'affrontement s'est poursuivi pendant trois heures. Les manifestants lançaient des pierres et des cocktails Molotov du haut des édifices, tandis que des tirs pouvaient être entendus. Les cliniques improvisées mises sur pied par des partisans des Frères musulmans ont été submergées de blessés.

L'affrontement sanglant risque de creuser davantage le fossé entre les Frères musulmans, qui estiment que l'armée a mené un coup d'État contre un président démocratiquement élu, et leurs opposants, qui affirment que Mohammed Morsi a gâché sa victoire électorale de 2012 et menaçait la démocratie en renforçant l'emprise des islamistes sur l'État.

Le plus haut chef religieux musulman de l'Égypte, qui a soutenu la destitution de M. Morsi, a déclaré qu'une «guerre civile» menaçait le pays et a annoncé qu'il resterait reclus jusqu'à ce que la violence cesse.

Le cheikh Ahmed el-Tayeb, imam de la mosquée Al-Azar, a déclaré qu'il n'avait «pas d'autre choix» que de rester confiné dans sa résidence «jusqu'à ce que tout le monde assume la responsabilité de faire cesser le bain de sang plutôt que d'entraîner le pays dans la guerre civile». Il a demandé la mise sur pied immédiate d'un processus de réconciliation qui comprendrait la libération des membres des Frères musulmans détenus.

Peu après l'attaque, le parti salafiste Al-Nour, qui avait indiqué son intention de participer à la transition politique, a annoncé qu'il retirait son appui au plan de transition en réponse au «massacre».

Le bras politique des Frères musulmans, le Parti de la liberté et de la justice, a appelé les Égyptiens à se soulever contre l'armée.

Le parti a aussi appelé la communauté internationale à faire cesser les «massacres» en Égypte et a accusé l'armée de pousser le pays vers la guerre civile, affirmant que l'Égypte risquait de devenir «une nouvelle Syrie».

Egypte : dernier bilan des affrontements au Caire, 51 morts. Les services d'urgence, "attaque terroriste"

lundi 8 juillet 2013 - 16h50

Selon TGCOM 24, le dernier bilan des violences de ce matin devant le siège de la Garde républicaine au Caire, fait état de cinquante et un morts et 435 blessés.

Dans un communiqué de presse des services d'urgence Egyptiens, ces derniers pointent du doigt un « groupe terroriste » qui a tenté de prendre d'assaut le bâtiment. D'après une estimation antérieure des Frères musulmans, les victimes de ces affrontements seraient au nombre de 77.

<http://www.radio-canada.ca/nouvelles/International/2013/07/08/002-egypte-freres-musulmans-premier-ministre.shtml>

Égypte : des élections organisées d'ici le début de 2014

Mise à jour le lundi 8 juillet 2013 à 22 h 00 HAE

Radio-Canada avec Agence France-Presse, Associated Press et Reuters

Le récit d'Azeb Wolde-Giorghis

Le président intérimaire de l'Égypte, Adly Mansour, a décrété lundi soir l'organisation d'élections législatives d'ici début 2014, rapporte le quotidien Al Ahram cité par l'AFP. Le même quotidien indique que le président a ordonné la constitution d'une commission d'enquête sur les affrontements qui ont opposé des partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi aux forces de l'ordre près du bâtiment de La Garde républicaine lundi matin.

Les heurts ont fait au moins 51 morts et 435 blessés selon des sources médicales.

Les Frères musulmans appellent à de nouvelles manifestations.

Les récits sur la façon dont la violence a commencé sont contradictoires. Un porte-parole militaire a affirmé que des hommes armés avaient tenté de prendre d'assaut le bâtiment de la Garde républicaine à l'aube, provoquant des affrontements. C'est à cet endroit qu'est détenu Mohamed Morsi. L'armée égyptienne a aussi appelé les partisans du président déchu à lever leurs sit-in, en assurant qu'elle ne tolérerait aucune « menace à la sécurité nationale ».

Les Frères musulmans accusent quant à eux les militaires d'avoir violemment réprimé un rassemblement pacifique devant le site. Le porte-parole des Frères musulmans, Gehad El-Haddad, a affirmé que les tirs avaient éclaté alors que des islamistes étaient assis en prière. Ils demandent à la population de manifester son indignation.

« En réaction au coup d'Etat militaire suivi par des actions répressives, culminant par le massacre de la Garde républicaine qui s'est produit à l'aube, nous appelons tous les citoyens et honorables personnes à protester mardi à travers toute l'Égypte », a déclaré Hatem Azam, porte-parole d'une coalition dirigée par les Frères musulmans, lors d'une conférence de presse.



Photo : AFP/MAHMUD HAMS

À la suite des affrontements, le Parti de la liberté et de la justice (PLJ), la branche politique des Frères musulmans, avait aussi appelé au soulèvement. « [Le PLJ] appelle le grand peuple égyptien à se lever contre ceux qui veulent leur voler la révolution avec des tanks et des véhicules blindés, même sur les cadavres du peuple », a déclaré le parti politique sur sa page Facebook.

Le président par intérim, Adli Mansour, a lancé un appel au calme et ordonné la tenue d'une enquête sur l'incident. Le communiqué publié par son bureau reflétait toutefois la version de l'armée, disant que les victimes avaient perdu la vie à la suite d'une attaque contre le quartier général de la Garde républicaine.

L'affrontement de lundi intervient à la veille du début du mois de jeûne du ramadan.

Devant les événements, les États-Unis ont appelé l'armée égyptienne à faire preuve du « maximum de retenue ». « La stabilité et le fonctionnement démocratique de l'Égypte sont en jeu », a déclaré la porte-parole du département d'État, Jennifer Psaki.

Le porte-parole de la Maison-Blanche, Jay Carney, a de son côté condamné les « appels explicites à la violence des Frères musulmans ». M. Carney a toutefois précisé que Washington excluait des coupes immédiates dans l'aide financière américaine à l'armée égyptienne, affirmant que ce « ne serait pas dans l'intérêt » des États-Unis.

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2013/07/egypt-damning-evidence-points-security-forces-failures/>

Egypt: Damning evidence points to security forces' failures

10 July 2013, 00:00 UTC

Evidence gathered by Amnesty International suggests that the security forces have used excessive force against supporters of deposed President Mohamed Morsi. Since last Friday at least 88 people have lost their lives in protests and political violence, including three members of the security forces, with around 1,500 wounded.

At least 51 Morsi supporters were killed yesterday during clashes outside the Republican guard headquarters.

“Despite claims by the military that protesters attacked first during clashes on Monday and that no women and children were injured, first hand accounts collected by Amnesty International paint a very different picture. Even if some protesters used violence, the response was disproportionate and led to the loss of life and injury among peaceful protesters,” said Hassiba Hadj Sahraoui, Deputy Director of Amnesty International’s Middle East and North Africa Programme.

The army and Interior Ministry said yesterday that the violence followed an attack by protesters around the Republican Guard Club, and announced that a military officer and two members of the security forces were killed.

However, accounts collected from eyewitnesses contradict this version of events. Amnesty International has visited morgues, hospitals and sites of violence in Cairo and Alexandria to gather testimonies from injured protesters and relatives of victims. Its findings suggest the use of disproportionate force by the security forces, including intentional lethal force. Many of those killed and injured had been shot in the head and upper body with shotgun pellets and live ammunition.

“The Egyptian authorities must end the military and police’s use of grossly disproportionate force. Even when individual protesters use violence, the army must respond proportionately, without killing and injuring those not endangering the lives of the security forces or others. They must ensure an investigation which all sides see as independent and impartial is promptly conducted to ensure any alleged army abuses are not covered up”.

“The Egyptian authorities must also ensure that proper autopsy and medical reports are issued to facilitate thorough investigations and ensure access to justice and reparations.”

Amnesty International’s fears of further bloodshed are heightened by statements by Muslim Brotherhood leaders vowing to continue protesting until the former President is reinstated, calling on their supporters to “rise up” and “resist”, despite the ongoing deaths and injuries.

“As politicians squabble over who started the violence, it’s clear that unless the security forces are reined-in and clear orders given on the use of force we’re looking at a recipe for disaster.”

A woman in her forties who was wounded on Monday said the violence began at as she finished prayers beside a tent housing women and children.

“I saw men running towards us, then the teargas started falling. I did not know what to do or where to take the children. I couldn’t go back to the tents because we would suffocate, and I didn’t know where to run because of the shooting... There were shots and teargas coming from all directions... There were men lying on the ground in pools of blood in front of me, I just stayed there under the tree praying... I thought that was it,” she said. Eventually, she managed to escape down a side street.

Amnesty International interviewed several other women who had shotgun pellet wounds in the upper body including the back, and a child at a Cairo hospital with wounds in his head, face and legs.

The deaths yesterday followed shootings on 5 July, when security forces shot dead four people during protests in front of the Republican Guard.

The organization also found that security forces had intervened too late or not at all during clashes between pro and anti Morsi supporters in Cairo and Alexandria on 5 July leading to a loss of life on both sides.

At least eight people died during clashes between rival camps that lasted around five hours in Tahrir Square and the district of al-Manial in Cairo on Friday, with the security forces absent from the scene.

In Alexandria on Friday, at least 17 were killed in the Sidi Gaber area. Security forces arrived on the scene after some people had already been killed. Mohamed Badr al-Din, a local resident, was stabbed and thrown from a roof by Morsi supporters.

A survivor described how he escaped shortly before Mohamed Badr al-Din was thrown from the roof:

“I was chased by a big bearded guy with a huge knife and black flag ... He started beating me, and raised a knife saying ‘God is Great’. I escaped from him by jumping down an airshaft, an opening in the middle of the building’s roof,” he told Amnesty International.

Local residents said calls for the police to intervene were ignored.

“It is the responsibility of the security forces to maintain security and protect lives. However, instead of preventing further bloodshed they appear to have contributed to it by using excessive force and ignoring the people’s pleas for help,” Hassiba Hadj Sahraoui said. “Those who violently attack their political opponents should be held to account, whatever their political affiliation.”

https://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/11/world/middleeast/improvements-in-egypt-suggest-a-campaign-that-undermined-morsi.html?smid=fb-share&_r=0

Sudden Improvements in Egypt Suggest a Campaign to Undermine Morsi

By BEN HUBBARD and DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK
JULY 10, 2013

A supporter of former President Morsi read the Koran in Cairo. Many say sudden improvements prove that opponents conspired against Mr. Morsi. Credit Narciso Contreras for The New York Times

CAIRO — The streets seethe with protests and government ministers are on the run or in jail, but since the military ousted President Mohamed Morsi, life has somehow gotten better for many people across Egypt: Gas lines have disappeared, power cuts have stopped and the police have returned to the street.

The apparently miraculous end to the crippling energy shortages, and the re-emergence of the police, seems to show that the legions of personnel left in place after former President Hosni Mubarak was ousted in 2011 played a significant role — intentionally or not — in undermining the overall quality of life under the Islamist administration of Mr. Morsi.

And as the interim government struggles to unite a divided nation, the Muslim Brotherhood and Mr. Morsi’s supporters say the sudden turnaround proves that their opponents conspired to make Mr. Morsi fail. Not only did police officers seem to disappear, but the state agencies responsible for providing electricity and ensuring gas supplies failed so fundamentally that gas lines and rolling blackouts fed widespread anger and frustration.

“This was preparing for the coup,” said Naser el-Farash, who served as the spokesman for the Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade under Mr. Morsi. “Different circles in the state, from the storage facilities to the cars that transport petrol products to the gas stations, all participated in creating the crisis.”

Working behind the scenes, members of the old establishment, some of them close to Mr. Mubarak and the country’s top generals, also helped finance, advise and organize those determined to topple the Islamist leadership, including Naguib Sawiris, a billionaire and an outspoken foe of the Brotherhood; Tahani el-Gebali, a former judge on the Supreme Constitutional Court who is close to the ruling generals; and Shawki al-Sayed, a legal adviser to Ahmed Shafik, Mr. Mubarak’s last prime minister, who lost the presidential race to Mr. Morsi.

But it is the police returning to the streets that offers the most blatant sign that the institutions once loyal to Mr. Mubarak held back while Mr. Morsi was in power. Throughout his one-year tenure, Mr. Morsi struggled to appease the police, even alienating his own supporters rather than trying to overhaul the Interior Ministry. But as crime increased and traffic clogged roads — undermining not only the quality of life, but the economy — the police refused to deploy fully.

Until now.

White-clad officers have returned to Cairo’s streets, and security forces — widely despised before and after the revolution — intervened with tear gas and shotguns against Islamists during widespread street clashes last week, leading anti-Morsi rioters to laud them as heroes. Posters have gone up around town showing a police officer surrounded by smiling children over the words “Your security is our mission, your safety our goal.”

“You had officers and individuals who were working under a specific policy that was against Islamic extremists and Islamists in general,” said Ihab Youssef, a retired police officer who runs a professional association for the security forces. “Then all of a sudden the regime flips and there is an Islamic regime ruling. They could never psychologically accept that.”

When Mr. Mubarak was removed after nearly 30 years in office in 2011, the bureaucracy he built stayed largely in place. Many business leaders, also a pillar of the old government, retained their wealth and influence.

Despite coming to power through the freest elections in Egyptian history, Mr. Morsi was unable to extend his authority over the sprawling state apparatus, and his allies complained that what they called the “deep state” was undermining their efforts at governing.

As crime and traffic worsened under President Mohamed Morsi, the police refused to respond, hurting the quality of life and the economy. Since his ouster last week, officers have returned to patrols. Credit Yusuf Sayman for The New York Times

While he failed to broaden his appeal and build any kind of national consensus, he also faced an active campaign by those hostile to his leadership, including some of the wealthiest and most powerful pillars of the Mubarak era.

Mr. Sawiris, one of Egypt's richest men and a titan of the old establishment, said Wednesday that he had supported an upstart group called "tamarrod," Arabic for "rebellion," that led a petition drive seeking Mr. Morsi's ouster. He donated use of the nationwide offices and infrastructure of the political party he built, the Free Egyptians. He provided publicity through a popular television network he founded and his major interest in Egypt's largest private newspaper. He even commissioned the production of a popular music video that played heavily on the network.

"Tamarrod did not even know it was me!" he said. "I am not ashamed of it."

He said he had publicly predicted that ousting Mr. Morsi would bolster Egypt's sputtering economy because it would bring in billions of dollars in aid from oil-rich monarchies afraid that the Islamist movement might spread to their shores. By Wednesday, a total of \$12 billion had flowed in from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. "That will take us for 12 months with no problem," Mr. Sawiris said.

Ms. Gebali, the former judge, said in a telephone interview on Wednesday that she and other legal experts helped tamarrod create its strategy to appeal directly to the military to oust Mr. Morsi and pass the interim presidency to the chief of the constitutional court.

"We saw that there was movement and popular creativity, so we wanted to see if it would have an effect and a constitutional basis," Ms. Gebali said.

Mr. Farash, the trade ministry spokesman under Mr. Morsi, attributed the fuel shortages to black marketers linked to Mr. Mubarak, who diverted shipments of state-subsidized fuel to sell for a profit abroad. Corrupt officials torpedoed Mr. Morsi's introduction of a smart card system to track fuel shipments by refusing to use the devices, he said.

But not everyone agreed with that interpretation, as supporters of the interim government said the improvements in recent days were a reflection of Mr. Morsi's incompetence, not a conspiracy. State news media said energy shortages occurred because consumers bought extra fuel out of fear, which appeared to evaporate after Mr. Morsi's fall. On Wednesday, Al Ahram, the flagship newspaper, said the energy grid had had a surplus in the past week for the first time in months, thanks to "energy-saving measures by the public."

"I feel like Egypt is back," Ayman Abdel-Hakam, a criminal court judge from a Cairo suburb, said after waiting only a few minutes to fill up his car at a downtown gas station. He accused Mr. Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood of trying to seize all state power and accused them of creating the fuel crisis by exporting gasoline to Hamas, the militant Islamic group in the Gaza Strip.

"We had a disease, and we got rid of it," Mr. Abdel-Hakam said.

Ahmed Nabawi, a gas station manager, said he had heard several reasons for the gas crisis: technical glitches at a storage facility, a shipment of low-quality gas from abroad and unnecessary stockpiling by the public. Still, he was amazed at how quickly the crisis disappeared.

"We went to sleep one night, woke up the next day, and the crisis was gone," he said, casually sipping tea in his office with his colleagues.

Regardless of the reasons behind the crisis, he said, Mr. Morsi's rule had not helped.

"No one wanted to cooperate with his people because they didn't accept him," he said. "Now that he is gone, they are working like they're supposed to."

Correction: July 12, 2013

Because of editing errors, an article on Thursday about suspicions among some Egyptians that the end of gas and electricity shortages since the ouster of President Mohamed Morsi was evidence of a conspiracy to undermine him rendered incorrectly a description of the military's transition plan for Egypt given by Tahani el-Gebali, a former judge on the Supreme Constitutional Court; misidentified the interim president; and misstated his position before being appointed. Ms. Gebali discussed the plan only in broad terms and said that whoever was chief of the constitutional court would become interim president; she did not name a specific individual. The interim president is Adli Mansour, not Hazem el-Beblawi, and when he was named he was chief of the constitutional court, not the former chief. (Mr. Beblawi is the interim prime minister.)

The article also included an outdated reference to a television network that publicized the drive to oust Mr. Morsi. The network was founded by an Egyptian billionaire, Naguib Sawiris, but he no longer owns it; it is not "his" network.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-23312656>

Counting crowds: Was Egypt's uprising the biggest ever?

By Ruth Alexander BBC News
16 July 2013

It has been claimed that Egyptians staged the biggest uprising in history in the last few weeks. The nationwide anti-government demonstrations were certainly a massive show of people power. But were the crowds really as large as reported, and how would you try to find out?

Protesters against the government of Islamist Mohammed Morsi, Egypt's first democratically-elected president, took to the streets of Cairo and beyond in huge numbers, before the army then removed the leader on 3 July.

It has been claimed that 30 million people took to the streets.

"I think that's a gross exaggeration," says Middle East correspondent Wyre Davies, from Cairo.

"It doesn't feel any bigger than it did in 2011 when we had the revolution. About half a million people can fit in Tahrir Square. So it's impossible to say when there's a big protest in Tahrir Square, that there are millions of people there.

"I think nationwide there were millions of people this time protesting against the rule of the Muslim Brotherhood, but nothing like the 30 or 40 million people some people quoted. That's 45% of the population - that's impossible; there are too many young people in Egypt for the maths to work."

He's right. A fifth of Egypt's 80m-strong population is made up of children aged under 10.

More or Less: Behind the stats

So where has the figure of 30 million protesters come from? It's difficult to find a source for it, or for any of the other estimates for that matter.

"One figure that comes up a lot is 17m," says Chris Greenway, from BBC Monitoring, a team which watches the world's media. "However I've not really been able to pin down the source for that, better than people quoting 'experts'.

"The state-owned Mena news agency reported the interior ministry as denying that it had given any estimate, so it doesn't appear to have come from them.

Media caption The workers paid to count crowds in Times Square

"We have Reuters quoting an unnamed military source that evening as saying as many as 14m. And then we have subsequent reports, saying there was another estimate of 33m."

There's a numbers game in play, as both sides try to claim they have popular support, Wyre Davies says.

"What we saw last week was a military coup - there's no two ways about it," he says. "And therefore the only justification for that logically is that this was a popularly-backed military coup. So it's in the interests of the people who supported the overthrow of the president to say that they had these millions of people supporting them."

Since President Morsi was removed from power, both sides have been claiming ever-increasing numbers of supporters on the streets, Wyre says.

And this is so often the case.

Image caption How many tried to get a glimpse of William and Kate on their wedding day?

You have to take every crowd estimation with a huge heap of salt, according to Hannah Fry, a mathematician from University College London.

More on crowds

There's an estimated 1.2 billion Catholics worldwide. But how did the Vatican arrive at that figure? Wesley Stephenson investigates.

How do you count Catholics?

"It's very rare that you have the report of a crowd size where there isn't some incentive to exaggerate one way or the other," she says.

"So if you take the London Stop the War protest in February 2007, the police claimed that there were 10,000 protesters - meanwhile the organisers' estimate was 60,000, six times the amount."

Even when there's no political agenda, crowd estimates can be quite variable, according to Prof Paul Yip from the University of Hong Kong.

Estimates of the size of the crowd at the royal wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton ranged from 500,000 to a million, he says. While at the Obama inauguration ceremony, unofficial government estimates put the crowd at 1.8 million. Others, gave estimates closer to one million.

There are several ways to count a crowd, but none of them is perfect.

Image caption Aerial images, like this one of crowds in St Peter's Square, can help calculations

A simple way to estimate the size of a mass of people is to take a satellite image of the event and then draw a grid on it. You can then count the people in one of the grids - to get a measure of crowd density - and multiply that number by the total number of grids.

Estimates of crowds

- **30 million** Hindu pilgrims reported to have taken part in India's 2013 Kumbh Mela festival (pictured)
- **5-7 million** mourners attended Ayatollah Khomeini's funeral in Iran 1989
- **4.2 million** turned out to see Rod Stewart sing in Brazil in 1996
- **1.25 million** heard Pope John Paul II say mass in Phoenix Park, Dublin in 1979

But crowd boundaries are often not clearly defined, and people do not scatter uniformly, so it is difficult to get an accurate measure of the density of the crowd.

"So the estimation can be a more of a guesstimate," says Prof Yip.

Counting a moving crowd poses even more of a challenge.

Sometimes surveys are done after the event, but people's responses cannot always be trusted, he says.

Another approach is to physically count the number of people moving past a particular point along the moving crowd's route - but how do you account for the people who join the procession at a later location, or for the people who pass by on more than one occasion?

For the past 10 years, Yip has been monitoring the number of people taking part in the annual Hong Kong 1 July protests, which mark the handover of sovereignty from Britain to China.

Image caption A numbers game: This year's 1 July protests in Hong Kong

The counting method he favours is to physically count the crowd at two points - A and B. At the second point, B, he also surveys the people passing by, asking them if they walked past point A. In that way, he minimises the problem of double-counting.

Over the past 10 years, he says, the gap between an organisers' estimate and the police's has been getting wider and wider. This year, the police claimed 66,000 took to the streets. The organisers say it was 420,000. Yip estimates it was more like 100,000.

The organisers tend to exaggerate the number to try to get more political force, he says but, in his opinion, this damages their cause.

One hundred thousand people on the street already sends a strong message to the Hong Kong government that people want change, he says.

"But what happens is the organisers come up with such a huge estimate which makes a lot of people not very happy and not very comfortable with the number. So this huge number itself has become a very negative thing to the organisers."

Counting crowds has become so much more about public relations and point-scoring than a quest for the truth, he observes.

<http://www.20min.ch/ro/news/dossier/tunisie/story/17142116>

Egypte

16 juillet 2013 08:47; Act: 16.07.2013 11:55 Print

Des heurts nocturnes font 261 blessés et 7 morts

Environ 250 personnes ont été blessées et 7 sont mortes dans des heurts nocturnes entre manifestants favorables au président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi et les forces de l'ordre au Caire.

23.07 Au moins six Egyptiens ont été tués et une quinzaine de personnes blessées mardi lors d'une attaque contre une manifestation de soutien au président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi.

Photo: Keystone/AP/Hussein Malla

Les affrontements de la nuit au Caire, en marge de manifestations de partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi, ont fait sept morts et 261 blessés, ont affirmé mardi des responsables des services de santé égyptiens.

Cinq personnes ont été tuées dans le quartier de Guizeh (sud-ouest du Caire), et deux autres dans le secteur de Ramses, proche d'un des principaux ponts sur le Nil et de la place Tahrir, a indiqué à l'AFP le chef des services des urgences, Mohammed Soltan. Les heurts ont fait sept morts, a confirmé un haut responsable du ministère de la Santé, le Dr Khaled al-Khatib, cité par l'agence Mena.

Déjà une centaine de blessés

Les partisans comme les adversaires de M. Morsi restent mobilisés depuis son renversement par l'armée le 3 juillet dernier, les premiers pour dénoncer un «coup d'Etat militaire», les autres pour assurer que l'armée n'a fait que répondre à la forte mobilisation populaire contre le président issu des Frères musulmans.

Une centaine de personnes sont mortes dans des affrontements depuis le renversement de M. Morsi, dont une cinquantaine, en majorité des manifestants pro-Morsi, il y a une semaine devant le quartier général de la Garde républicaine au Caire.

(afp)

<http://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/2013/07/15/97001-20130715FILWWW00472-egypte-nouveaux-affrontements-au-caire.php>

Egypte: nouveaux affrontements au Caire

Par Le Figaro.fr avec Reuters
Mis à jour le 15/07/2013 à 21:47
Publié le 15/07/2013 à 21:45

Les forces de l'ordre ont tiré des grenades lacrymogènes ce soir dans le centre du Caire pour mettre fin à des accrochages entre partisans de l'ancien président islamiste Mohammed Morsi et habitants du quartier de la rue Ramsès au Caire, rapportent des témoins.

Il s'agit de la première confrontation violente impliquant des pro-Morsi depuis une semaine.

<http://www.20min.ch/ro/news/dossier/tunisie/story/Plus-de-400-interpelles-apres-la-nuit-de-violences-29347873>
Emeutes en Egypte

16 juillet 2013 14:30; Act: 16.07.2013 14:53

Plus de 400 interpellés après la nuit de violences

Au moins 400 personnes ont été interpellées à la suite des violences de la nuit au Caire, qui ont fait sept morts en marge de manifestations de partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi.



1|405

23.07 Au moins six Egyptiens ont été tués et une quinzaine de personnes blessées mardi lors d'une attaque contre une manifestation de soutien au président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi.

Photo: Keystone/AP/Hussein Malla

Ces arrestations d'«émeutiers», au nombre de 401, concernent le seul secteur de Ramses, dans le centre de la capitale, où deux personnes sont mortes dans les affrontements de la nuit, a précisé cette source, citée par l'agence officielle Mena. Cinq autres personnes ont trouvé la mort à Gizeh, un autre quartier du Caire, d'après les services d'urgence.

L'Egypte a exprimé mardi son «fort ressentiment» après des déclarations du Premier ministre turc Recep Tayyip Erdogan soutenant le président déchu Mohamed Morsi. L'ancien chef de

l'Etat a été victime selon lui d'un «coup d'Etat». «Il existe un fort ressentiment concernant les remarques répétées de responsables turcs au sujet de la situation intérieure en Egypte», a dit le porte-parole du ministère des Affaires étrangères, Badr Abdelatty, dans un communiqué.

Le dossier est entre les mains du procureur général, qui supervisera l'enquête, a ajouté Mena.

Quelque 650 personnes avaient été interrogées la semaine dernière dans la foulée des violences ayant fait au moins 53 morts le 8 juillet lors d'une manifestation pro-Morsi devant la Garde républicaine. La plupart a par la suite été libérée.

Plus d'une centaine de personnes sont mortes en Egypte depuis le renversement par l'armée, le 3 juillet, du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi, à la suite de manifestations massives réclamant son départ.

(afp)

<http://french.cri.cn/621/2013/07/16/445s333085.htm>

7 morts et 261 blessés dans la dernière vague d'affrontements en Egypte

2013-07-16 19:48:55 xinhua

Sept personnes ont été tuées et 261 autres blessées dans de nouveaux affrontements qui ont éclaté lundi soir dans la capitale égyptienne entre les partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi et les forces de sécurité, d'après les informations rapportées mardi par l'agence officielle MENA.

Les affrontements ont éclaté sur la place Ramses et sur le pont du 6 octobre lorsque les partisans de l'ancien président tentaient d'emprunter le pont qui mène à la place Tahrir où les opposants de Mohamed Morsi se rassemblaient.

La foule pro-Morsi a incendié les voitures qui se trouvaient sur le pont et s'est mise à jeter des pierres sur les véhicules. La circulation a été interrompue dans les deux sens et les boutiques avoisinantes ont dû fermer.

Les forces de sécurité ont employé du gaz lacrymogène pour disperser la foule de manifestants et sont parvenues à bloquer les accès au pont.

Des témoins ont vu des hélicoptères de l'armée survoler la place Tahrir et la place Ramses après les affrontements.

Au même moment, d'autres affrontements ont éclaté entre les partisans de Mohamed Morsi et ses opposants dans la rue al-Bahr al-Azam à Gizeh (ville située sur la rive gauche du Nil, face à la vieille ville du Caire).

Le ministère de l'Intérieur a appelé tous les citoyens à exprimer leurs opinions de façon pacifique dans le respect de la loi, et d'éviter de bloquer la circulation.

Le conseiller médiatique du président, Ahmed el-Meslimani, a annoncé que la présidence avait commencé à préparer l'organisation d'un événement de réconciliation nationale, notant

que les violences commises par certains groupes n'allaient ni changer la situation actuelle ni parvenir à imposer de nouvelles conditions sur le terrain.

<http://www.jeuneafrique.com/Article/ARTJAWEB20130716121117/freres-musulmans-gypte-islamiste-manifestationsgypte-sept-morts-dans-des-affrontements-nocturnes-au-caire.html>

Égypte : sept morts dans des affrontements nocturnes au Caire

16/07/2013 à 12h:34 Par Jeune Afrique



Un partisan du président déchu Mohamed Morsi, le 16 juillet 2013 au Caire. © AFP

Dans la nuit du 15 au 16 juillet, au Caire, des affrontements ont eu lieu en marge de manifestations de partisans de l'ex-président égyptien Mohamed Morsi. Les violences ont fait sept morts et 261 blessés.

Les violences meurtrières se poursuivent en Égypte, près de deux semaines après la destitution de Mohamed Morsi. Dans la nuit de lundi à mardi, des affrontements, en marge de manifestations de partisans de l'ancien président islamiste, ont fait sept morts et 261 blessés.

D'après le chef des services des urgences, Mohamed Soltan, cinq personnes ont été tuées dans le quartier de Guizeh (sud-ouest du Caire) et deux autres dans le secteur de Ramses, proche d'un des principaux ponts sur le Nil et de la place Tahrir. Un haut responsable du ministère de la Santé, le Dr Khaled al-Khatib, cité par l'agence officielle Mena, a de son côté confirmé que sept personnes avaient péri dans des affrontements entre manifestants et forces de l'ordre.

D'après Mohamed Soltan, les heurts survenus dans le secteur de Ramses ont fait au moins 125 blessés. 130 personnes ont aussi été touchées à Guizeh, a-t-il ajouté. De même source, six personnes ont également été blessées aux abords de la mosquée Rabaa al-Adawiya, où des dizaines de milliers de partisans de Mohamed Morsi ont à nouveau manifesté lundi soir pour exiger son retour au pouvoir.

Selon un décompte de l'AFP, les violences au Caire et dans le reste de l'Égypte ont fait plus de 100 morts depuis le renversement de Mohamed Morsi par l'armée le 3 juillet, à la suite de manifestations massives réclamant son départ.

(Avec AFP)

Les islamistes exclus du nouveau gouvernement égyptien

Publié par Associated Press le mardi 16 juillet 2013 à 18h10.



LE CAIRE, Égypte - Le président intérimaire de l'Égypte a assermenté mardi un nouveau cabinet, le premier depuis la destitution du président islamiste par les militaires, il y a deux semaines.

Des membres du mouvement libéral ont obtenu des postes importants et le cabinet compte trois femmes sur un total de 33 ministres, en plus du premier ministre.

Le nouveau gouvernement sera dirigé par le premier ministre Hazem el-Beblawi, un économiste. Le ministre de la Défense, le général Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, qui a destitué le président Mohammed Morsi le 3 juillet, conserve son poste à la défense et devient également vice-premier ministre, un titre additionnel donné aux ministres de la Défense dans le passé.

Le ministre de l'Intérieur nommé par M. Morsi, Mohammed Ibrahim, conserve son poste et reste responsable de la police. Nabil Fahmy, qui a été ambassadeur de l'Égypte aux États-Unis de 1999 à 2008, a été nommé ministre des Affaires étrangères.

Soulignant l'approche relativement libérale du nouveau gouvernement, le président Adly Mansour a aussi nommé trois femmes dans son cabinet. Elles dirigeront les puissants ministères de l'Information et de la Santé, ainsi que le ministère de l'Environnement.

La plupart des gouvernements égyptiens des dernières décennies ne comptaient pas plus de deux femmes.

Le président intérimaire a par ailleurs nommé une vedette du soccer égyptien en tant que ministre de la Jeunesse, une première dans le pays. Taher Abu Zeid a joué pour le club El-Ahly du Caire dans les années 1980.

Le cabinet ne comprend aucune personnalité issue des partis islamistes. Le porte-parole du président intérimaire a cependant déclaré que des postes seraient offerts aux Frères musulmans, le groupe islamiste dont Mohammed Morsi est issu.

Le groupe a refusé l'offre, affirmant qu'il ne participerait pas à la transition politique soutenue par les militaires et qu'il continuerait de manifester pour réclamer le retour au pouvoir de M. Morsi. Les partisans du président destitué accusent l'armée d'avoir mené un coup d'État qui a détruit la démocratie égyptienne.

La nomination du nouveau gouvernement survient après une nouvelle nuit de violences dans la capitale égyptienne. Au moins sept personnes ont perdu la vie dans les affrontements entre la police et des partisans de M. Morsi, selon les autorités.

La semaine dernière, un affrontement similaire avait fait plus de 50 morts au Caire.

Le chef du département des urgences au ministère de la Santé, Khaled el-Khateeb, a indiqué que les manifestations survenues dans la nuit de lundi à mardi dans quatre endroits différents de la capitale avaient également fait 261 blessés.

L'agence de presse officielle égyptienne a déclaré que 17 policiers avaient été blessés dans les violences, et que 401 personnes avaient été arrêtées.

Les autorités n'ont pas expliqué comment les sept personnes ont été tuées, mais selon des responsables de la sécurité, quatre d'entre elles ont perdu la vie dans un affrontement entre des partisans de Mohammed Morsi qui tenaient un « sit-in » près du principal campus de l'université du Caire et des résidents du quartier. Ces responsables ont réclamé l'anonymat parce qu'ils n'étaient pas autorisés à s'adresser aux médias.

Les affrontements ont commencé après les manifestations de lundi soir réclamant le retour au pouvoir de Mohammed Morsi. Les rassemblements ont pris une tournure violente quand la police a tiré des gaz lacrymogènes sur des manifestants qui brûlaient des pneus, lançaient des pierres et bloquaient la circulation sur la principale artère qui traverse le centre du Caire.

Les Frères musulmans ont affirmé que les policiers avaient tiré à balles réelles sur les manifestants.

http://archives.lesechos.fr/archives/cercle/2013/07/17/cercle_77041.htm

Le nécessaire retour d'un gouvernement égyptien élu par le peuple

Jeffrey D. Sachs | Le 17/07/2013

La possibilité de mettre un terme à une polarisation égyptienne de plus en plus accentuée, ainsi qu'à la montée des violences, exige le franchissement d'une première étape urgente : le rétablissement de Mohamed Morsi au poste de président dûment élu par le peuple égyptien. Son renversement, causé par un coup d'État militaire, constitue en effet une injustice.

NEW YORK – Bien que des millions de protestataires se soient opposés à la présidence de Morsi, les manifestations de rue, aussi massives soient-elles, ne sauraient valablement justifier un coup d'État militaire censé représenter la voix du « peuple, » lorsque les résultats des élections indiquent précisément à plusieurs reprises une volonté toute autre.

Nul ne saurait nier la profonde division d'une société égyptienne fracturée par des failles sectaires, idéologiques, ou encore liées à la diversité des classes et des régions. Et pourtant, le peuple s'est rendu aux urnes à maintes reprises depuis ce mois de février 2011 marqué par la désintégration d'un règne de Moubarak qui aura duré 30 ans. Les résultats ont depuis lors révélé un fort soutien populaire en faveur des partis et des positions islamistes, ayant néanmoins également mis en évidence les divisions du pays.

Vers la fin 2011 et le début de l'année 2012, l'Égypte a procédé à des élections parlementaires. Le parti Liberté et Justice de Morsi, créé par les Frères musulmans, a sécurisé une majorité relative, les deux principaux blocs islamistes ayant ensemble réuni environ deux tiers des voix. En juin 2012, Morsi l'a emporté sur son rival Ahmed Shafik, dernier Premier ministre de Moubarak, remportant la présidence avec une marge de 52-48%. À l'issue d'un référendum national organisé en décembre 2012, une majorité de 64% des votants a approuvé

un projet de Constitution appuyé par les Frères musulmans (le taux de participation ayant certes été faible).

L'argument laïc selon lequel la soif de pouvoir de Morsi aurait mis à mal une démocratie égyptienne naissante ne saurait convaincre. Partisans de l'ère Moubarak, ennemis séculiers et militaires des Frères musulmans ont utilisé tous les leviers à leur disposition, démocratiques ou non, pour faire entrave à un exercice démocratique du pouvoir par les partis islamistes. Ceci s'est inscrit dans la continuité d'une tendance vieille de plusieurs décennies dans l'histoire égyptienne, qui a vu les Frères – ainsi que les forces islamistes en général – mis sur la touche de la légalité, leurs membres ayant été emprisonnés, torturés et exilés.

Les allégations en direction d'une gouvernance de Morsi qui trahirait la démocratie découlent de tentatives répétées de sa part destinées à extirper un Parlement et une présidence, élus par le peuple, d'un certain nombre de pièges antidémocratiques mis en place par l'armée. Après l'immense victoire des partis islamistes aux élections parlementaires de 2011-2012, le leadership militaire ainsi que la Cour suprême (et ses nombreux magistrats de l'ère Moubarak) ont redoublé d'efforts pour faire dérailler le nouveau gouvernement, et l'empêcher d'instaurer une assemblée chargée de rédiger une nouvelle Constitution.

Les événements clés se sont produits en juin 2012, lorsque la Cour suprême, entièrement composée de rescapés de l'ère Moubarak, a invalidé les résultats des élections parlementaires sur la base de motifs fallacieux. L'armée a ainsi été en situation de réaffirmer ses pleins pouvoirs législatifs.

La victoire de Morsi aux élections présidentielles qui a suivi a ainsi déclenché une lutte acharnée sur la question de l'avenir du Parlement et de la Constitution, Morsi ayant œuvré pour préserver un Parlement élu démocratiquement, tandis que l'armée s'efforçait de le dissoudre. Finalement, Morsi a insisté pour que le Parlement élu établisse une assemblée constituante, laquelle a rédigé le projet de Constitution approuvé par référendum en décembre 2012.

Comme c'est souvent le cas au moment des révolutions politiques, la situation économique de l'Égypte s'est détériorée en parallèle de ces luttes de pouvoir. Les révolutions ont tendance à confronter les nouveaux gouvernements à une montée des revendications sociales (en faveur par exemple d'une augmentation des salaires ou encore des dépenses de solidarité) dans un contexte de fuite des capitaux, de turbulences financières, et de profondes perturbations de la production. Dans le cas de l'Égypte, l'indispensable secteur touristique a en effet connu une forte contraction après la révolution. Le chômage a grimpé en flèche, la monnaie s'est dépréciée, et les prix des denrées alimentaires ont dangereusement augmenté.

Rien de tout cela n'est surprenant, et une telle situation peut difficilement être gérée par un nouveau gouvernement manquant d'expérience, d'assurance sur les marchés, et de contrôle sur l'ensemble des leviers du pouvoir. Historiquement, les acteurs extérieurs ont ainsi souvent joué un rôle décisif. Les gouvernements étrangers et le Fonds monétaire international soutiendront-ils les finances du nouveau gouvernement, ou le laisseront-ils stagner et se noyer sous le tsunami de la dépréciation monétaire et de l'inflation ?

Le monde occidental – déchiré entre son discours démocratique et son aversion à l'endroit des islamistes – s'est ici illustré par son inefficacité. Plus qu'à une démarche d'engagement et d'assistance, nous avons davantage assisté à nombre de tergiversations et de reports. Depuis le

renversement de Moubarak il y a deux ans et demi, le FMI est en conversation avec le gouvernement égyptien sans pour autant lui avoir prêté le moindre centime, scellant ainsi le sort de l'économie égyptienne, tout en ayant contribué à l'agitation civile ainsi qu'au récent coup d'État.

Un certain nombre de rapports de presse laissent à penser que l'Occident aurait finalement donné le feu vert à l'armée égyptienne pour renverser Morsi, neutraliser le leadership des Frères musulmans, et réprimer les rangs islamistes. La réticence du président américain Barack Obama à soutenir les dirigeants élus d'Égypte, voire tout juste à qualifier leur renversement de « coup d'État » (préservant ainsi la continuité des flux de fonds américains en direction de l'armée égyptienne), a démontré que face à une situation de plus en plus tendue, le monde occidental s'est rangé aux côtés des anti-islamistes dans une démarche de sabotage de la démocratie. Bien entendu, dans la pensée orwellienne classique, l'Occident a agi au nom de la démocratie.

Le coup d'État qui s'est récemment produit, ainsi que la complaisance de l'Occident (si ce n'est sa complicité) à cet égard, pourrait bien dévaster l'Égypte. Les islamistes ne sont ni un groupe politique marginal, ni un acteur terroriste. Ils représentent un large pan de la population égyptienne, peut-être la moitié ou un peu plus, et constituent certainement la force politique la mieux organisée du pays. Les tentatives destinées à refouler les Frères musulmans et à refuser à Morsi la présidence à laquelle il a pourtant été élu conduiront très probablement à une violence en masse ainsi qu'à l'étouffement de la démocratie, malgré la ferveur avec laquelle l'Occident et les anti-islamistes égyptiens s'efforcent de justifier leurs actes.

À ce stade, la bonne démarche consisterait pour la communauté occidentale à appeler l'armée égyptienne à un rétablissement de Morsi au pouvoir ; à fournir rapidement une aide financière afin de stabiliser l'économie égyptienne ; ainsi qu'à soutenir une véritable règle de la majorité, et non un exercice consistant à recourir au coup d'État militaire lorsque les élections aboutissent à des résultats inconfortables.

Le vrai pluralisme consiste à accepter l'essor des forces politiques islamistes dans la nouvelle Égypte ainsi que dans les autres États de la région. Faute de quoi l'Occident finira par se rendre complice de la plongée continue de l'Égypte vers la violence et l'effondrement économique.

Traduit de l'anglais par Martin Morel

<https://nawaat.org/portail/2013/08/10/la-grande-arnaque-comment-le-coup-detat-militaire-en-egypte-a-ete-ficele/>

La grande arnaque : comment le coup d'Etat militaire en Egypte a été ficelé 10 Aug 2013

Chaque coup d'état dans l'histoire commence par un général de l'Armée annonçant le renversement et l'arrestation du leader du pays, la suspension de la constitution et la dissolution de l'organe législatif. Si les gens résistent, cela dégénère en bain de sang. L'Égypte n'est pas une exception.

Le présent texte est une traduction de l'article "*The Grand Scam : Spinning Egypt's Military Coup*" de Esam AL-Amin*, paru le **19 juillet 2013** sur le site CounterPunch. Traduit pour Nawaat par Anonymous.

Chaque coup d'Etat dans l'histoire commence par un général de l'armée annonçant le renversement et l'arrestation du leader du pays, la suspension de la constitution et la dissolution de l'organe législatif. Si les gens résistent, cela dégénère en bain de sang. L'Egypte n'est pas une exception.

Alors que la poussière qui s'installe retombe et que le brouillard se dissipe au dessus de l'Egypte, dévoilant ainsi les événements, la scène politique devient beaucoup plus claire. Indépendamment de la façon dont chacun voit la situation, la bataille politique et idéologique qui avait fait rage pendant plus d'une année entre les partis islamistes et les partis libéraux et laïcs a été tranchée en raison d'un facteur décisif et simple : une intervention militaire par les généraux de l'Egypte au nom de ces derniers.

Comme je l'ai déjà avancé dans mes précédents articles, il n'y a aucun doute que le président Mohamed Morsi et la confrérie des Frères musulmans ont fait de mauvais calculs politiques et ont commis de nombreuses erreurs, particulièrement en ignorant les revendications de plusieurs groupes de jeunes révolutionnaires et en abandonnant leurs premiers partenaires de l'opposition. Ils se sont souvent comportés de façon naïve et arrogante. Mais dans n'importe quelle société civilisée et démocratique, le prix de l'incompétence ou du narcissisme est sanctionné politiquement par les urnes.

Élections et obstructionnisme : les élections important-elles ?

Frustrée, l'opposition libérale et laïque a échoué maintes fois à gagner la confiance du peuple dans la mesure où l'électorat égyptien a exercé son libre arbitre lorsque des dizaines de millions d'Egyptiens sont allés aux urnes six fois en deux ans. Un mois plus tôt, en mars 2011, juste après le renversement du régime Moubarak, les Egyptiens ont voté par 77 % pour un référendum, préférant les islamistes qui ont mis en place la future feuille de route politique. Entre novembre 2011 et janvier 2012, ils ont voté pour les partis islamistes à une majorité écrasante dans la Chambre basse (73 %) et la Chambre haute (80 %) du Parlement. En juin 2012, pour la première fois de leur histoire, le candidat civil des Frères musulmans était élu, mais de justesse, en tant que président dans des élections libres et équitables. Enfin, en décembre dernier le peuple égyptien a ratifié par une majorité de 64 % la nouvelle constitution du pays. Les prochaines élections législatives étaient prévues pour cet été si la Cour suprême constitutionnelle (CSC) nommée par Moubarak n'était pas intervenue encore une fois pour invalider les nouvelles lois électorales.

Du point de vue des Frères musulmans et de leurs alliés islamistes, la CSC a joué un rôle d'obstruction tout au long de ce processus. A leur grande consternation, en juin 2012, le tribunal a dissous la Chambre basse du Parlement dans les quatre mois suivant son élection pour des raisons techniques. La CSC avait également pour objectif de dissoudre la Chambre haute du Parlement, ainsi que l'Assemblée constituante constitutionnelle (CCA) — l'organisme chargé de rédiger la nouvelle constitution — quelques jours avant qu'elle ne finisse son travail. Ceci força Morsi à intervenir et à émettre son malheureux décret constitutionnel, le 22 novembre 2012, afin de protéger la CCA de l'annulation judiciaire. Dans une tentative pour forcer sa dissolution, tous les membres laïques de la CCA ont démissionné en masse, bien que sa formation et les conditions de ce processus ont été convenus à l'avance, comme en témoigne les déclarations d'un membre de l'opposition en avril 2012.

Toutefois, la déclaration de Morsi s'est avérée être un moment décisif qui a galvanisé l'opposition qui, de façon prévisible, l'accusa d'une prise de pouvoir autoritaire. En réponse, Morsi a fait valoir que son décret était nécessaire afin de construire les institutions démocratiques de l'État qui étaient en train d'être démantelées par la CSC, unes par unes. Sous une pression publique immense, il fit marche arrière et annula le décret trois semaines après, mais seulement après avoir veillé à ce que la nouvelle constitution soit soumise à un référendum.

Après une campagne publique vigoureuse de l'opposition pour rejeter la constitution, elle a été approuvée par le peuple par près de deux pour un. La prochaine étape constitutionnelle aurait dû être l'organisation d'élections législatives dans les soixante jours. Mais bien que les lois électorales fussent les mêmes que celles convenues par toutes les parties lors des élections de 2012, l'opposition s'est plainte du fait que les lois favorisaient les partis islamistes et a menacé de boycotter les élections. En quatre mois, la CSC a rejeté et arrêté à deux reprises les élections pour des raisons techniques, ce qui a confirmé davantage la perception aux yeux des islamistes que la Cour suprême constitutionnelle nommée par Moubarak continuait à contrecarrer les institutions démocratiques naissantes du pays.

Amis étranges : la trinité non sainte des Emirats du Golfe, des foulouls et de l'opposition laïque en Egypte

Le 22 avril 2011, le prince héritier Mohammed Bin Zayed des EAU a ramené ses services de renseignements et responsables de la sécurité pour rencontrer le roi Abdallah d'Arabie saoudite pour discuter des répercussions du printemps arabe. Bin Zayed a averti que si les pays du CCG (Conseil de coopération du Golfe) ne développaient pas une politique volontariste d'anticipation de la vague de soulèvements populaires qui balayaient le monde arabe à l'époque, aucun des monarques de la région n'allait survivre. Trois semaines plus tard, lors d'une réunion d'urgence au sommet à Riyad, il a délivré le même message à tous les chefs d'État du CCG. Tandis que le Qatar est resté indifférent à son message, les cinq autres pays se sont montrés réceptifs. Bin Zayed et le prince Bandar Bin Sultan, le chef du renseignement saoudien, ont été chargés de présenter un plan efficace pour contrer le phénomène du printemps arabe dans la région. Par la suite, le roi Abdallah a sollicité et obtenu l'aide du roi Abdallah II de Jordanie pour se joindre à cet effort tandis que le Qatar a été exclu de toutes les réunions futures.

Pendant des décennies, les Emirats arabes unis avaient été très proches de Moubarak et de ses acolytes. Des milliards de dollars de biens mal acquis pillés dans le pays ont été déposés dans des banques à Abu Dhabi et à Dubaï. Après le renversement de Moubarak, des dizaines de responsables de la sécurité et hommes d'affaires corrompus ont tranquillement quitté l'Egypte et se sont installés aux Emirats. Lorsque le dernier Premier ministre de Moubarak, Ahmad Shafiq, a perdu les élections présidentielles contre Morsi en juin 2012, il s'est également installé aux Emirats arabes unis. À l'automne de 2012, il est devenu évident que les EAU ont organisé un réseau de personnes qui complotaient sur le renversement de Morsi et des Frères musulmans.

Au bout de quelques semaines après la formation du nouveau gouvernement, Ahmad Shafiq et le défenseur et porte-parole de son parti politique, Mohammad Abu Hamid, ont annoncé le 21 août 2012, l'aboutissement de quinze demandes dont l'objectif est de renverser les « Frères musulmans ou le gouvernement des Frères ». Il a mis en garde contre la « frémisation » de l'État, à savoir la nomination de membres des Frères musulmans à des postes stratégiques et

cruciaux, et leur reproche le manque de fourniture de services de base à la population. Abu Hamid a également appelé à des manifestations massives à la place Tahrir accusant ainsi Morsi de prise de pouvoir, de dictature et d'ingérence dans les tribunaux, bien avant que le président ait publié son malheureux décret constitutionnel trois mois plus tard. Il a en outre demandé l'interdiction des Frères musulmans et de leur filiale politique, ainsi que l'arrestation de ses dirigeants, qu'il a accusés de trahison. Toutes ses demandes sont ensuite devenues les points de discussion de tous les partis de l'opposition et des médias anti-Morsi.

Même si Morsi a pris les rênes du pouvoir dans le pays et a été en mesure de forcer le départ à la retraite des généraux de l'armée les plus anciens début août, son autorité était faible. Au lieu de purger les éléments les plus enracinés des centres de pouvoirs de Moubarak, à savoir l'armée, les services de renseignement, les services de sécurité et la police, il a cru naïvement qu'il pouvait les apaiser. Il a été berné en pensant qu'il avait gagné leur loyauté. En fait, ces agences, ainsi que le pouvoir judiciaire, les médias séculiers publics et privés, ainsi que la plupart de la bureaucratie, représentaient les intérêts de l'« Etat profond », un réseaux vieux de plusieurs décennies de corruption et d'intérêts particuliers ancrés dans les institutions de l'Etat.

Une corruption qui a proliféré pendant les jours de Moubarak qui apaisait chaque segment critique de la société, comme la justice ou la police, par la distribution de vastes parcelles de terres à des prix extrêmement réduits à ces électeurs, qui à leur tour les revendaient au public pour des millions de livres. Par exemple, lorsque Ahmed Shafiq était responsable de l'Association des pilotes militaires dans les années 1990, il a vendu aux fils de Moubarak plus de 40 000 acres de terres dans le delta du Nil pour un dollar l'acre, tandis que la valeur réelle pour chaque acre était de dizaines de milliers de dollars. Cette vente a ensuite été appelée le « scandale des terres des pilotes » ; après avoir été exposée l'année dernière, Shafiq a été accusé de détournement de fonds publics et de corruption dans le cadre du scandale. Mais malgré les preuves accablantes, le système judiciaire corrompu innocent au début de cette année Shafiq de tout acte répréhensible.

Lentement mais sûrement, les vestiges du régime Moubarak et des hommes d'affaires corrompus, mieux connus sous le nom de foulouls, se sont regroupés et ont fusionné autour des éléments de l'Etat profond. Pendant ce temps, l'opposition laïque, qui était en plein désarroi, forma pour la première fois un mouvement uni du nom de Front de salut national (FSN) après que Morsi ait publié son décret à la fin novembre. Il comprenait la plupart des candidats à la présidentielle qui ont échoué et plusieurs dizaines de partis laïcs, qui, ensemble, n'ont pas reçu plus de 25 % des voix lors des élections législatives. Ses dirigeants comprennent Amr Moussa, Hamdein Sabbahi, Elsayed Albadawi, Mohammad Abul Ghar, et le milliardaire Naguib Sawiris. Le Front de salut national choisit l'ancien chef de l'AIEA, Mohammed El Baradei, pour être son porte-parole.

En novembre 2012, le prince Bandar a présenté deux plans détaillés pour les Américains à travers la CIA. Le plan A était un complot pour renverser rapidement Morsi au début du mois de décembre alors que plan B est un plan à long terme qui comportait deux pistes. Une piste comprenait une série de protestations et de déstabilisations qui aboutirait à l'éviction de Morsi, tandis qu'une autre piste incluait l'union de l'opposition pour former une coalition pour défaire les Frères musulmans par les urnes si la première piste échouait. Alors que la CIA était parfaitement au courant du plan, elle ne l'a ni approuvé ni refusé dans la mesure où l'administration Obama, jouant sur les deux bords, poursuivait également le dialogue avec le gouvernement Morsi.

Le plan visant à renverser les Frères musulmans a été construit autour d'un complot visant à assassiner Morsi dans sa résidence le 5 décembre. Cependant, il a été révélé par un fidèle de niveau intermédiaire de la garde présidentielle quelques heures avant qu'il ne devait avoir lieu. Avec l'aide des Frères musulmans, Morsi réussit à déjouer le complot, mais il refusa d'exposer ou de discuter publiquement de cela.

En mars 2013, le chef du FSN, El Baradei, a rencontré Shafiq et Bin Zayed aux Émirats arabes unis. Ils ont tous convenu que la seule façon de déloger Morsi et les Frères musulmans du pouvoir étaient de saper leur autorité et de jouer sur la déstabilisation du pays à l'intérieur et de convaincre les gouvernements occidentaux, notamment les États-Unis, le Royaume-Uni, la France et l'Allemagne, de soutenir un coup d'État militaire. Selon un récent rapport du WSJ, une série de réunions a eu lieu à la Naval Officers Club entre officiers supérieurs militaires, des représentants des foudouls y compris l'avocat du milliardaire et copain de Moubarak, Ahmed Ezz, l'architecte des élections législatives frauduleuses de 2010, et les leaders de l'opposition, y compris El Baradei. Selon ce rapport, qui n'a été ni nié ni réfuté par aucune partie, les généraux de l'armée ont dit à l'opposition qu'ils ne feraient rien pour évincer Morsi, à moins que des millions de personnes ne descendent dans les rues de leur côté.

Le complot s'alourdit

Alors que l'opposition a envoyé des messages contradictoires quant à savoir si oui ou non elle participerait aux prochaines élections législatives, les Frères musulmans et leurs alliés islamistes se préparaient pour les contestations imminentes. Pendant ce temps, la plupart des jeunes et des groupes révolutionnaires, fer de lance du soulèvement de 2011, ont été frustrés par la scène politique : un régime qui a ignoré leurs revendications et une opposition inefficace penchant pour l'obstructionnisme. Soudain, un nouveau mouvement de la jeunesse s'est imposé à la fin avril 2013. Ses premiers leaders obscurs l'ont appelé Tamarrod ou rébellion. La raison première invoquée pour lancer le mouvement était de recueillir 15 millions de signatures auprès du public, un million de plus que ce qu'a reçu Morsi lors des présidentielles, pour réclamer des élections présidentielles anticipées.

Les groupes d'opposition ont immédiatement embrassé Tamarrod et ont promis de les aider à atteindre leur objectif. L'homme d'affaires milliardaire et très critique des Frères musulmans, Sawiris, a revendiqué début juillet avoir donné des millions de dollars de publicité et de soutien au groupe. En outre, la machine de l'ancien Parti national démocratique (NPD), le parti politique de Moubarak, était en plein élan ; beaucoup de ses anciens fonctionnaires ont conduit les efforts nécessaires pour fournir les ressources nécessaires à la collecte de signatures dans toute l'Égypte. Pendant ce temps, les médias privés ont commencé une campagne de dénigrement vicieuse contre Morsi et les Frères musulmans. Depuis plusieurs mois, plus d'une douzaine de chaînes satellitaires ont été consacrées à la diabolisation de Morsi et de son groupe. Les Frères musulmans ont été accusés de tous les crimes et blâmés pour chaque problème auquel le pays était confronté. Parfois, même les médias publics, qui sont censés être neutres, se sont joints à cette campagne. En outre, la chaîne satellitaire pan-arabe, financée par l'Arabie, et dont le siège est aux Émirats Arabes Unis, Al-Arabiya, a rejoint la campagne en promouvant plusieurs activités de Tamarrod et en laissant place aux figures de l'opposition. Dans un cas, un présentateur célèbre a été enregistré par inadvertance, tenant un papier avec les réponses à ses questions alors qu'il interviewait un porte-parole de Tamarrod.

Étonnamment, non seulement les FM étaient mal équipés pour faire face à cette propagande de guerre, mais à leur détriment, ils ne l'ont pas prise au sérieux. Même lorsque leurs alliés islamistes ont averti la direction des Frères musulmans de la possibilité imminente d'un renversement une semaine avant que Morsi ne soit renversé, ils ont dédaigneusement répondu que « *ils (l'opposition) avaient déjà eu vingt-cinq manifestations faibles, et celle-ci ne serait tout simplement que leur vingt-sixième* ».

Il y a deux principales raisons pour lesquelles Morsi et les Frères musulmans n'étaient pas préoccupés par les manifestations imminentes. Tout d'abord, le chef de l'armée le général Abdel Fattah Sissi a assuré à plusieurs reprises à Morsi que l'armée ne renverserait pas le gouvernement et resterait fidèle au processus démocratique. Même quand Sissi a publié un compromis une semaine avant la date fatidique du 30 juin, il a dit au président qu'il n'avait rien à craindre et qu'il devait émettre cet avertissement afin de calmer certains de ses généraux militaires. La deuxième raison est que Morsi et les Frères musulmans ont été régulièrement assurés par l'ambassadrice américaine, Anne Patterson, que les États-Unis ne soutiendraient pas un mouvement mené par les militaires pour destituer un président démocratiquement élu.

Pendant ce temps, M. El Baradei a été pleinement engagé à contacter les dirigeants du monde pour les convaincre que la seule façon de s'en sortir pour l'Égypte était le renversement de Morsi. Début juillet, il a fièrement admis: « J'ai largement parlé avec deux d'entre eux (Obama et Kerry) et j'ai essayé de les convaincre de la nécessité de déposer Morsi ». En outre, les dirigeants de l'Arabie saoudite, les Émirats arabes unis et le Koweït ont pressé les États-Unis de soutenir l'intervention militaire imminente en Égypte. Ironie du sort, en mai et juin, les dirigeants occidentaux, y compris Obama et Kerry, faisaient pression sur Morsi et les dirigeants des Frères musulmans afin de nommer M. El Baradei comme Premier Ministre alors que ce dernier plaidait pour le renversement de Morsi.

Dans le cadre de la campagne de diabolisation pour convaincre l'Occident que la popularité des Frères musulmans diminuait, l'Arab American Institute (AAI) à Washington DC a été mandaté pour mener un sondage sur la baisse de popularité de Morsi et des Frères musulmans. Le président de l'AAI et laquais des EAU, James Zogby, a appelé à une conférence de presse le 28 juin pour annoncer que « Morsi dirige un gouvernement minoritaire dont le soutien public est désormais limité à son propre parti », et que « les Égyptiens ont perdu confiance dans le président Morsi et la capacité des Frères musulmans à gouverner ». Il a prédit que « des millions d'Égyptiens manifesteront dans les rues contre Morsi et le gouvernement des FM ». Personne dans la conférence de presse n'a pris la peine de demander qui a réellement commandité et payé pour l'enquête qui prétendait interroger plus de cinq mille personnes à travers l'Égypte.

Déballage de mensonges

Toutes les démocraties font cela : l'Amérique, la France, l'Argentine, le Brésil

À la mi-juin, la campagne était pleinement en vigueur. Beaucoup de professeurs de sciences politiques et d'intellectuels de l'opposition, y compris Waheed Abdelmagid et Hasan Naf'ah, ainsi que des professeurs de droit constitutionnel comme Noor Farahat et Husam Issa, argumentaient à travers plusieurs réseaux de télévision que l'appel à « une élection présidentielle anticipée » n'était pas seulement un mécanisme accepté et disponible dans toutes les démocraties, mais qu'il avait été utilisé de nombreuses fois auparavant. A titre

d'exemple, ils ont cité la démission de Nixon en 1974, Charles de Gaulle en France en 1969, Raúl Alfonsín en Argentine en 1989, et Fernando Collor de Mello au Brésil en 1992.

La malhonnêteté intellectuelle de ces élites libérales est épouvantable, car aucun des exemples cités n'étaient des appels réels pour des « élections présidentielles anticipées », sans parler de la destitution d'un président élu démocratiquement par un coup d'Etat militaire. Nixon a démissionné de la présidence à la veille de sa destitution par le Congrès. Gerald Ford, son vice-président a prêté serment en tant que président. Pas d'élections anticipées. De Gaulle a volontairement démissionné de la présidence après plus de 10 ans au pouvoir après avoir promis qu'il le ferait si le peuple ne suivait pas ses réformes du Sénat et des collectivités locales. Lorsque le peuple a rejeté son référendum, il a tenu sa promesse, bien qu'il n'était pas obligé de le faire selon la constitution. Après six ans de pouvoir, Alfonsín n'était même pas sur le bulletin de vote pour les élections présidentielles de 1989. Toutefois, des élections législatives et présidentielles se sont déroulées simultanément à l'été 1989. Le nouveau président devait être annoncé cinq mois plus tard, mais quand le candidat de son parti fut défait par l'opposition, Alfonsín a quitté son poste plus tôt pour permettre au nouveau président de l'opposition d'assumer le pouvoir. Pas d'élections anticipées. Après deux ans de pouvoir, De Mello a été mis en accusation par le législateur pour corruption dans une procédure constitutionnelle et a démissionné. Le fait qu'il n'existe aucun mécanisme constitutionnel dans le monde permettant une destitution par des manifestations populaires ne dérangeait pas ces figures libérales qui avaient l'intention de destituer un président librement élu par les militaires quel que soit le précédent dangereux qu'ils mettaient en place.

Le fameux auteur Alaa Al Aswani a non seulement cité quelques-uns des exemples ci-dessus comme des précédents valables pour déposer et renverser Morsi, mais il n'a pas vu l'ironie quand il a salué les militaires avec des accolades avant de terminer sa chronique hebdomadaire par sa déclaration habituelle : « La démocratie est la solution ». Il est un fait que certaines démocraties disposent d'un mécanisme constitutionnel pour révoquer un chef d'Etat. Bien qu'il n'existe pas de mécanisme pour le président américain, de nombreuses constitutions dans le monde permettent de révoquer leurs gouverneurs. En 2003, le peuple de Californie a révoqué le gouverneur Gray Davis. Mais cette révocation n'était pas le résultat de manifestations de rue ni de l'intervention de la Garde nationale. Il s'agissait plutôt d'un processus constitutionnel qui a impliqué la signature et l'authentification de millions de requêtes par la Cour suprême de l'Etat qui a autorisé le processus de révocation. Bien que la constitution égyptienne de 2012 permette la destitution du président par le Parlement, elle n'a pas permis la révocation.

Assez, c'est assez : Fin des coupures d'électricité et des pénuries de carburant

Tout au long du mois de juin, les médias ont continué leur assaut contre le gouvernement de Morsi, le blâmant de tous les maux qui affligent la société égyptienne, et cela a été intensifié par l'insistance sur trois problèmes particuliers : la détérioration de la sécurité, des pannes d'électricité fréquentes qui ont duré des heures ayant affecté non seulement des zones résidentielles, mais aussi industrielles, et des pénuries de carburant, provoquant de longues queues d'attente durant des heures aux stations-service.

L'Egypte possède 2 480 stations-service, avec environ 400 stations gérées par le gouvernement. Les 2 000 autres stations sont des propriétés privées appartenant à des magnats des affaires qui ont reçu des licences sous l'ère Moubarak parce qu'ils étaient proches du régime et étaient considérés comme très fidèles. Le gouvernement de Morsi a affirmé que

chaque station avait reçu sa part et qu'il n'y avait aucune raison aux pénuries. En fait, quelques jours avant qu'il ne soit renversé, Morsi a mis en garde les propriétaires de ces stations de gaz qu'il allait révoquer leurs licences s'ils refusaient de fournir à leurs clients du carburant. Khalid Al-Shami, un jeune militant qui était dans l'opposition jusqu'au coup d'Etat militaire, a révélé le complot quand il a annoncé en public que la poignée de propriétaires privés des stations d'essence avaient conspiré pour créer la crise de la pénurie de carburant afin de provoquer le mécontentement du peuple contre Morsi. La meilleure preuve de la fabrication de ce problème de pénurie de carburant, c'est qu'il a disparu du jour au lendemain. Dès que Morsi a été renversé, il n'y avait plus de pénurie de carburant.

Quant à la détérioration du climat de sécurité et des coupures d'électricité, la conspiration était encore plus importante. Les policiers qui ont refusé de protéger des quartiers entiers sous le règne de Morsi, sont revenus en force. Les criminels et les voyous qui terrorisaient les gens dans la rue étaient de nouveau sous contrôle par le même appareil de sécurité de l'ère Moubarak, à l'exception des zones où les partisans de Morsi manifestent. Des pannes d'électricité qui ont duré des heures chaque jour dans presque tous les quartiers ont cessé du jour au lendemain. Le mystère de la résolution de ces deux problèmes insolubles a été révélé cette semaine. Sur les trente-cinq membres du cabinet sélectionnés par l'armée, huit ont été retenus dont le ministre de l'Intérieur en charge de la police et le ministre de l'Electricité. On aurait pu supposer que les premiers ministres à être limogés par le gouvernement post-coup d'Etat seraient au contraire ceux-là même dont le peuple s'est plaint de leur incompétence. L'opposition qui a appelé à rejeter ces ministres, les saluait et acclamait désormais leur maintien. En bref, beaucoup de fonctionnaires qui ont professé loyauté envers le malheureux président ont effectivement miné son autorité tout au long de son exercice, alors que l'opposition l'a accusé de placer des loyalistes des Frères musulmans au gouvernement.

Jeu de chiffres : Si vous dites un mensonge fort et assez longtemps, les gens finiront par le croire

Dès la deuxième semaine de juin, Tamarrod a annoncé qu'elle avait recueilli plus de 10 millions de signatures en six semaines. Dix jours plus tard, ce nombre était passé à 22 millions de signatures. Peu de temps après, le porte-parole de Tamarrod, Mahmoud Badr, a annoncé que l'objectif de la manifestation du 30 juin avait changé. Il n'était plus question d'appeler à des élections présidentielles anticipées, mais maintenant il était question d'exiger le renversement de Morsi, son remplacement par le président de la Cour constitutionnelle suprême, l'annulation de la constitution, l'interdiction des Frères musulmans, l'arrestation et le procès de ses dirigeants. Les jours qui sont suivis, les médias ont martelé le message jusqu'au jour fatidique.

Au 30 juin, chaque acteur connaissait son rôle. En milieu d'après-midi, Tamarrod a annoncé que le nombre de manifestants dans les rues étaient plus de 10 millions. Très vite, les chiffres se sont élevés à plus de 14 puis 17 puis 22 millions. Finalement, les médias ont affirmé que la manifestation du 30 juin à travers toute l'Egypte était la plus grande de toute l'histoire de l'humanité, avec pas moins de 33 millions de personnes dans les rues. Des avions militaires ont survolé ces formations pour divertir les foules dans les cieux au-dessus la place Tahrir, jetant des drapeaux égyptiens, de l'eau en bouteille et des dessins en forme de cœurs comme manifestation d'amour et d'affection pour les manifestants. L'armée a même fourni un hélicoptère militaire à Khalid Youssef, un célèbre réalisateur de cinéma connu pour son soutien à l'opposition et son hostilité aux Frères musulmans. Khalid Youssef a filmé la foule et a produit un film qui a été immédiatement diffusé non seulement dans tous les réseaux de

télévision anti-Morsi à travers l’Egypte, mais aussi à la télévision d’Etat. En quelques heures, tous les médias affirmaient que les chiffres s’élevaient à des dizaines de millions de personnes avec entre 5 et 8 millions seulement sur la place. Le jour du coup d’Etat, feux d’artifice, shows, lasers et festivités étaient dans tous les écrans.

Comme je l’ai dit précédemment, il n’y a aucun doute qu’il y a eu une grande protestation et colère contre Morsi et les Frères musulmans. Mais le nombre était-il aussi élevé que celui revendiqué ? En octobre 1995, des centaines de milliers de personnes sont descendues sur le National Mall à Washington DC pour ce qui a été décrit comme la Marche des millions d’hommes, qui a rempli toute la place. Les organisateurs ont affirmé avoir atteint un million alors que la police a estimé la foule à quatre cent mille. La zone de la galerie nationale est d’environ 146 acres. Ainsi, il y avait entre 2 750 personnes (estimation de la police) et 6 750 personnes par acre (estimation des organisateurs). En d’autres termes, il y avait entre 0,7 à 1,7 personnes par mètre carré.

Au contraire, le secteur de la place Tahrir est de 12,3 acres. Amjad Almonzer, un ingénieur en communication et expert en Google Earth, l’a prouvé de façon concluante : même si toutes les rues adjacentes à la place Tahrir étaient incluses, l’espace ne devrait pas dépasser 25 acres. Même si l’on comptait quatre personnes par mètre carré et des dizaines de bâtiments environnants supprimés, il n’y aurait pas plus de 400 000 personnes ce jour-là. Si l’on retient le nombre 5 à 6 millions revendiqués par les partisans du coup d’Etat militaire, cela signifie qu’il y avait 50 à 60 personnes par mètre carré, ce qui est clairement une impossibilité physique. Même si l’on retient le chiffre de un million de personnes sur chaque pouce de la place Tahrir et des rues environnantes, cela signifie 10 personnes par mètre carré, une autre impossibilité. Même BBC a finalement remis en question ces chiffres gonflés.

Donc, au mieux, il y avait moins d’un demi-million de personnes sur la place Tahrir au sommet de la manifestation et probablement un nombre similaire à travers toute l’Egypte. Par conséquent, le choix de l’électorat égyptien a été sacrifié quand un ou deux millions de personnes ont protesté pendant un jour ou deux.

Pouvez-vous garder un secret ? Les médias Anti-Morsi l’ont épilé

Avant même qu’un seul manifestant ne soit allé sur la place Tahrir, Okaz, un quotidien saoudien, a publié en avance les détails du scénario qui s’est déroulé trois jours plus tard lorsque l’armée a renversé Morsi.

Le lendemain, Al-Ahram, le journal officiel le plus distribué de l’Egypte, a titré “démissionner ou être renversé.” Ce rapport a prêté dans les détails les plus effrayants la façon dont les événements se sont déroulés, y compris l’ultimatum militaire, le renversement de Morsi, l’arrestation des leaders des Frères musulmans et la suspension de la Constitution. A la tombée de la nuit du 3 juillet, le général Sisi a annoncé le renversement de Morsi, la suspension de la constitution, et le début d’une feuille de route politique. C’était exactement la même feuille de route que le président Morsi avait annoncé plus tôt, mais l’opposition l’a rejetée. La seule différence était son renversement.

Les Américains croisent les bras

Tout au long de la crise, l’ambassadrice américaine Patterson a joué le rôle de défenseur du processus démocratique et de la primauté du droit. Lorsque le général Sissi a publié son

ultimatum au président le 1er juillet, l'administration américaine a montré son vrai visage. La conseillère à la sécurité nationale, Susan Rice, a dit au conseiller en politique étrangère de Morsi, Essam al-Haddad, que c'était fini : soit Morsi démissionne soit il est renversé. Elle a indiqué qu'il devait démissionner, ce que Morsi a sommairement rejeté.

Une fois informé par Susan Rice du coup d'Etat imminent, Morsi a filmé un discours de 22 minutes sur un smartphone jurant de ne pas démissionner ni de se soumettre au coup d'Etat imminent. Ses soutiens ont rapidement envoyé par courriel le discours impromptu à ses partisans. Dans l'heure qui a suivi, il a été placé en garde à vue pour ne pas être vu ni entendu de nouveau.

Pendant ce temps, le secrétaire à la Défense Chuck Hagel a parlé au chef du putsch, le général Sissi, au moins cinq fois au cours de la crise. Il lui a conseillé d'annoncer la tenue d'élections dès que possible. En outre, il a assuré Sissi que l'administration américaine maintiendrait son aide militaire. Quelques jours plus tard, le secrétaire d'Etat adjoint, William Burns, s'est rendu en Egypte et a rencontré les putschistes et leurs facilitateurs civils. Pendant qu'au Caire, il a ignoré tous les faits entourant le renversement d'un président élu. En substance, son message était de soutenir le coup d'Etat et ses conséquences ; comme il le dit, « *les États-Unis sont fermement engagés à aider l'Egypte à réussir dans cette deuxième chance de réaliser les objectifs de la révolution* ».

Déjà en mars 2012, William Burns avait rencontré le Guide général des Frères musulmans, Mohammad Badie et son adjoint Khayrat Al-Chater. Il a proposé, si les Frères musulmans maintiennent le traité de paix avec Israël, de garantir 20 milliards de dollars de la part des pays du CCG pour aider l'économie égyptienne. Mais l'Arabie saoudite, les Émirats arabes unis et le Koweït ont refusé de fournir une quelconque aide lorsque Morsi était au pouvoir. Cependant, dans les deux jours qui ont suivi le coup d'Etat militaire, la promesse de William Burns a été remplie, mais avec les putschistes. Les dirigeants des trois pays ont félicité le général Sissi (et non le président fantoche installé par les militaires) pour avoir renversé Morsi et ont promis d'envoyer un don de 12 milliards de dollars pour aider à stabiliser l'économie.

En outre, William Burns a promis au chef du coup d'Etat que l'aide militaire américaine se poursuivra et que le prêt du FMI qui a traîné pendant plus de deux ans serait approuvé rapidement. En refusant de qualifier le renversement d'un président librement élu par un coup d'Etat de l'armée, l'administration américaine a démontré, une fois encore, que les nobles idéaux et la rhétorique ont été sacrifiés sur l'autel des intérêts nationaux de court terme. Une des mesures pour évaluer les ramifications régionales des derniers événements est probablement la réaction d'Israël et des Palestiniens. Quand Mubarak a été renversé le 11 février 2011, les Palestiniens étaient en liesse et dansaient dans les rues, alors qu'Israël était en deuil. Mais quand Morsi a été renversé par les militaires le 3 juillet, les rôles étaient inversés.

Rappelez-vous : Droits de l'Homme ? Liberté d'expression ? Liberté de réunion ?

Au moment où les voix rassemblées derrière le général Sissi et dirigées par M. El Baradei, le grand imam d'Al-Azhar et le pape copte ont terminé leurs bénédictions pour le coup d'Etat militaire, les forces de sécurité étaient en force alors que des centaines de partisans des Frères musulmans y compris les hauts dirigeants étaient encerclés et accusés d'avoir fomenté la violence. Leurs avoirs ont été gelés et leurs immeubles saisis. Morsi a été détenu, étant donné que le procureur sous l'ère Mubarak a menacé de l'accuser de s'être "échappé de prison"

quand il a été illégalement arrêté par des agents de sécurité de Moubarak le 27 janvier 2011, pendant les premiers jours de la révolution de 2011. De façon surprenante, les procureurs ont également annoncé qu'ils allaient enquêter sur le président pour « prise de contact et communication avec des corps étrangers », comme les dirigeants occidentaux durant son mandat.

Plus d'une dizaine de médias pro-Morsi, notamment les chaînes de télévision, des sites Web et des journaux ont été perquisitionnés et fermés. Le 8 juillet, l'armée a tué plus de 80 manifestants pro-Morsi et en a blessé plus de 1000 quand ils priaient et protestaient pacifiquement devant le Club de la Garde présidentielle, où Morsi était censé être détenu. Jusqu'à présent, plus de 270 personnes ont été tuées et des milliers blessées par l'armée et les forces de sécurité à travers l'Égypte.

Avec des preuves accablantes du contraire, l'armée a affirmé que ses soldats ont été attaqués. Les élites libérales et les défenseurs des droits de l'Homme ainsi que les porte-parole des médias ont fait écho aux propos des militaires et accusé les manifestants d'être proche d'une installation militaire. Cependant c'est loin d'être le cas. Bien qu'il appartienne à la Garde présidentielle, c'est un club social et sportif, où les officiers et leurs familles vont pour se divertir. Depuis le coup d'Etat militaire, le peuple égyptien a été soumis à une propagande militaire sans précédent depuis l'ère Nasser. Alors que Morsi n'a pas fermé un seul média malgré la campagne de diabolisation contre lui, tous les canaux pro-Morsi et sites web ont été fermés ou sévèrement restreints.

Deux poids, deux mesures : Non au décret de Morsi et de son procureur, mais oui à celui des militaires

L'opposition libérale a été outrée et s'est emballée quand Morsi a publié sa déclaration constitutionnelle de novembre 2012 et a limogé le procureur général corrompu nommé par Moubarak, une des revendications majeures des groupes révolutionnaires et de la jeunesse. En dépit de ses bonnes intentions pour accélérer la mise en place des institutions démocratiques qui ont été démantelées par la Cour suprême constitutionnelle, Morsi a été accusé d'autoritarisme et de vouloir mettre la main sur les institutions. Or, la plupart des libéraux et laïcs ont salué le décret constitutionnel du président fantoche qui a été installé par l'armée peu après le coup d'Etat. Je vais discuter les détails de ce décret dans un article ultérieur, mais il suffit de dire qu'il a accordé à un président choisi par les forces militaires des pouvoirs dont Morsi, le président démocratiquement élu, ne disposait pas, puisqu'une grande partie de ses pouvoirs ont été transférés au Premier ministre dans la constitution de 2012.

Par ailleurs, l'opposition libérale était en émoi lorsque Morsi avait unilatéralement nommé un procureur général à l'intégrité tellement incontestable que les juges et les procureurs corrompus l'ont harcelé et ont encerclé son bureau pendant des jours pour exiger sa démission. Pourtant, quand un nouveau procureur a également été unilatéralement nommé par le nouveau président par intérim, pas un seul juge, procureur ou chef de l'opposition ne s'y est opposé. En prenant ses fonctions, le premier ordre de ce nouveau procureur général était de geler les avoirs des dirigeants islamistes et d'ordonner leur arrestation.

S'il marche comme un canard et cancale comme un canard, vous ne devriez pas appeler cela un poulet

El Baradei, qui n'a été en rien élu, est maintenant vice-président de l'Égypte, tandis que Morsi, qui a été librement et démocratiquement élu par le peuple égyptien, est détenu et son lieu de détention est inconnu. Ces deux résultantes ont été déterminées par la volonté des généraux de l'armée et encouragés par leurs facilitateurs civils. La tromperie et le mensonge qu'on manifestés les élites libérales et laïques égyptiennes sont étonnants. Pendant des années, ils raillaient le refus des islamistes de respecter les principes démocratiques, l'État de droit, et de se soumettre à la volonté du peuple. Ils ont mis en garde contre les dictatures, les régimes militaires, et appelé à ne pas sacrifier les principes démocratiques, les droits de l'Homme, les libertés personnelles et la protection des minorités. Croire en des principes démocratiques, des droits de l'Homme et à la primauté du droit est un engagement à vie. On ne peut pas dire : « Je vais seulement avoir ces valeurs, les lundis, mardis, et mercredis. Mais pour le reste de la semaine, j'irai voir ailleurs. » C'est ce qu'on appelle l'hypocrisie.

Esam Al-Amin est l'auteur de « Le réveil arabe dévoilé : Comprendre les transformations et révolutions au Moyen-Orient ». Il peut être contacté sur alamin1919@gmail.com

<http://www.radio-canada.ca/nouvelles/International/2013/07/19/003-egypte-manifs-morsi-transition.shtml>

Trois femmes meurent dans des affrontements en Égypte

Mise à jour le vendredi 19 juillet 2013 à 22 h 23 HAE



Des soldats gardent le palais présidentiel au Caire, en Égypte. Photo : AFP/KHALED DESOUKI

L'engagement des partisans du président égyptien renversé, Mohamed Morsi, ne faiblit pas. Ils étaient des dizaines de milliers à réclamer son retour, vendredi, dans plusieurs villes du pays. L'un de ces rassemblements a d'ailleurs dégénéré en affrontements avec des partisans du nouveau régime, provoquant la mort de trois femmes, à Mansoura, dans le delta du Nil.

Des cortèges partis de 18 mosquées du Caire à l'appel des Frères musulmans ont convergé dans l'après-midi vers deux sites que les islamistes occupent depuis près de trois semaines : la mosquée Rabiâa Al-Adawiya, dans un faubourg de la capitale, et les abords de l'Université du Caire, plus proche du centre-ville.

Comme c'est la tradition en Égypte depuis deux ans, les manifestations portent des noms. Cette journée de manifestation a été dénommée « briser le coup d'État », allusion au renversement de M. Morsi par l'armée le 3 juillet.

Des manifestants se sont dirigés vers le ministère de la Défense et le quartier général de la Garde républicaine, mais ont été empêchés d'y accéder par l'armée. Le 8 juillet, une cinquantaine de personnes avaient été tuées devant le siège de la Garde.

Durant l'après-midi, des avions de chasse et des hélicoptères militaires ont survolé Le Caire.

D'autres manifestations ont eu lieu en province, à Al-Arich (nord Sinaï), Marsa Matrouh (nord-ouest), Beni Sueif et Minya (Moyenne Égypte), ainsi qu'à Alexandrie (nord, la deuxième ville du pays), selon la télévision publique.

Les adversaires de M. Morsi se sont également rassemblés à la place Tahrir, au Caire, mais ils étaient moins nombreux que les partisans de M. Morsi. Selon l'AFP, ils étaient environ 2000.

Près du palais de la présidence, plusieurs centaines d'anti-Morsi ont entonné des chansons patriotiques en agitant des drapeaux pour saluer la chute du président qu'ils accusaient de gouverner au seul profit de son clan et de laisser le pays plonger dans la récession économique.

Mise en garde

« Quiconque a recours à la violence dans les manifestations de vendredi mettra sa vie en danger », a averti de son côté l'armée dans un communiqué diffusé dès jeudi, qui précise que l'appel s'adresse aux « divers groupes politiques ».

Le président par intérim Adli Mansour, désigné par l'armée, a prévenu jeudi qu'il mènerait « la bataille pour la sécurité jusqu'au bout » face à la volonté des islamistes de continuer à mobiliser dans la rue.

Les violences depuis le renversement de M. Morsi ont fait plus d'une centaine de morts.

La haute-commissaire de l'ONU chargée des droits de l'homme, Navi Pillay, a pour sa part demandé aux nouvelles autorités égyptiennes des explications concernant les arrestations après le renversement de M. Morsi, dont celle de l'ancien président.

Outre ces manifestations à répétition, le pouvoir est confronté à une nette détérioration de la sécurité dans la péninsule du Sinaï, dans l'est du pays, où sont implantés des groupes islamistes radicaux.

Les attaques contre la police et l'armée, mais aussi des civils se sont multipliées depuis le 3 juillet dans cette région, où l'armée a renforcé sa présence.

Quatre policiers et deux civils y ont été tués en moins de 48 heures, selon des sources médicales.

L'agence officielle Mena a indiqué jeudi que dix jihadistes avaient été tués en deux jours lors d'une opération de l'armée contre des combattants islamistes du Sinaï.

<http://www.afriquinfos.com/articles/2013/7/20/egypte-morts-dans-affrontements-entre-partisans-opposants-morsi-227196.asp>

Egypte : 4 morts dans les affrontements entre partisans et opposants à Morsi

LE CAIRE (Xinhua) - Quatre femmes ont été tuées et de nombreuses autres personnes ont été blessées dans les affrontements survenus dans la nuit de vendredi à samedi entre les partisans

et les opposants au président déchu Mohamed Morsi dans la ville de Mansoura, située dans le delta du Nil, a confirmé samedi un communiqué du ministère de la Santé.
Samedi 20 juillet 2013 | 19:15 UTC

Les pro-Morsi sont descendus dans les ruelles de la ville du nord du pays et ont affronté des centaines de personnes munies de couteaux et autres armes, a précisé le communiqué.

Vendredi, des dizaines de milliers de partisans de M. Morsi ont afflué vers les grandes places à travers le pays afin de réclamer sa réintégration, qualifiant sa destitution de "coup d'Etat militaire". En parallèle, les opposants au régime Morsi ont exprimé leur soutien à l'armée et à sa feuille de route en célébrant la victoire de la guerre de Kippour 1973 qui avait mené à la libération de la péninsule du Sinaï occupée par Israël.

Le ministre égyptien de l'Intérieur Mohamed Ibrahim a réitéré vendredi son engagement à protéger les manifestants pacifiques en coordination avec les forces armées et a mis la population en garde contre les actes de violence et de vandalisme.

<http://mediarabe.info/spip.php?breve17927>

Egypte : affrontements entre pro et anti Morsi, un mort

lundi 22 juillet 2013 - 18h38

Des affrontements entre partisans et adversaires du président déchu Mohamed Morsi ont fait un mort et sept blessés lundi dans le centre du Caire, rapporte la télévision nationale égyptienne.

Les deux camps se sont jetés des pierres et des fusées d'artifice et les forces de l'ordre ont tiré des cartouches de gaz lacrymogène pour tenter de les disperser, racontent des témoins.

Les partisans des Frères musulmans essayaient apparemment de rejoindre la place Tahrir, épice de manifestations massives contre le président islamiste qui ont abouti à sa destitution par l'armée le 3 juillet dernier. (Reuters).

http://www.romandie.com/news/n/_ALERTE___Un_mort_dans_les_affrontements_pres_de_la_place_Tahrir_au_Caire_83220720131912.asp

ALERTE - Un mort dans les affrontements près de la place Tahrir au Caire

LE CAIRE (Qahirah) - Les affrontements entre partisans et adversaires du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi aux abords de la place Tahrir au Caire ont fait un mort lundi après-midi, a-t-on appris auprès des services d'urgences.

IL a été blessé par balle puis a succombé après son hospitalisation, a déclaré à l'AFP Mohamed Soltan, chef adjoint des services d'urgence au ministère de la Santé.

(©AFP / 22 juillet 2013 19h09)

Égypte : quatre morts dans des affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi

Mise à jour le lundi 22 juillet 2013 à 17 h 40 HAE

Radio-Canada avec Agence France-Presse et Reuters



Des partisans de Mohamed Morsi, dont un blessé à la jambe Photo : AFP/FAYEZ NURELDINE

Quatre Égyptiens sont morts lundi dans des affrontements entre les partisans du président renversé Mohamed Morsi et ses adversaires.

Deux personnes ont été tuées à Qalioub, à la périphérie nord du Caire, tandis qu'un troisième a été écrasé par un train en tentant de s'enfuir, selon des sources de sécurité.

Ces décès s'ajoutent à celui d'un homme de 20 ans qui a succombé à ses blessures par balle dans des affrontements aux abords de la place Tahrir, dans le centre du Caire, selon des sources hospitalières.

Toujours à la place Tahrir, 26 personnes ont été blessées dans les heurts, selon le ministère de la Santé.

Des groupes de partisans des deux camps se sont affrontés par jets de pierres, et, selon les services de secours, des tirs de chevrotine. La police est intervenue en tirant des grenades lacrymogènes à partir de fourgons blindés.

Plainte contre l'armée

La famille de Mohamed Morsi a l'intention de porter plainte contre l'armée égyptienne, qu'elle accuse de l'avoir enlevé.

L'armée affirme que Mohamed Morsi est détenu dans un lieu tenu secret afin de protéger sa propre sécurité. M. Morsi n'a pas été vu en public depuis le 3 juillet.

« Il n'y a aucune base juridique ou constitutionnelle [...] permettant de détenir pour sa propre sécurité un individu qui n'est accusé d'aucun crime », a déclaré au cours d'une conférence Oussama Morsi, fils de l'ancien chef de l'État.

Oussama Morsi a annoncé que des plaintes allaient être déposées « en Égypte et au niveau international », contre Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi, commandant en chef de l'armée et ministre de la Défense.

La famille de M. Morsi affirme qu'elle n'avait eu aucun contact avec lui depuis sa destitution.

L'ONG Human Rights Watch (HRW) a de son côté jugé que l'armée n'avait pas le droit de détenir Mohamed Morsi plus de 48 heures, en l'absence d'ordre du parquet. « L'arrestation [de Morsi] et de certains de ses conseillers est complètement illégale », a estimé Heba Morayef, directrice de HRW en Égypte.

<http://www.radio-canada.ca/nouvelles/International/2013/07/23/003-egypte-morts-affrontements.shtml>

Égypte : 6 morts et 33 blessés, selon des sources officielles

Mise à jour le mardi 23 juillet 2013 à 5 h 20 HAE

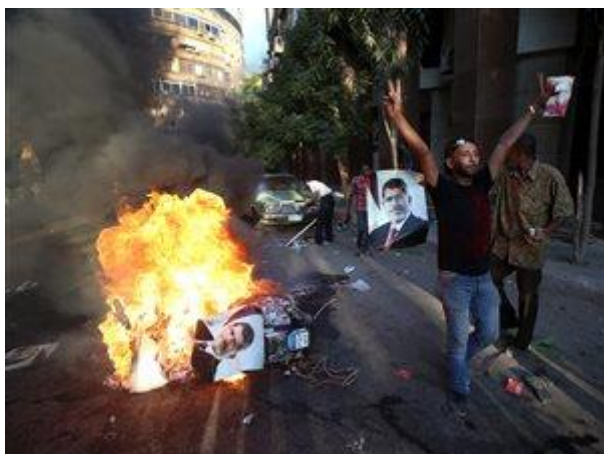


Affrontements entre partisans et opposants de Mohamed Morsi, au Caire Photo : PC/Hussein Malla

Le bilan des heurts qui ont eu lieu mardi matin au Caire, à l'occasion d'une manifestation de soutien au président égyptien destitué Mohamed Morsi, se porte désormais à six tués, a annoncé le site du journal *Al-Ahram*.

Le site, qui cite un responsable du ministère de la Santé, précise que 33 autres personnes ont été blessées. La police aurait lancé des gaz lacrymogènes pour réprimer les violences. Plusieurs voitures dans le secteur ont été réduites en bouillie ou incendiées.

Selon la police, des heurts se sont produits entre partisans de Mohamed Morsi, au nombre de plusieurs centaines, et des habitants d'un quartier proche du principal campus de l'Université du Caire, dans la province de Gizeh, au sud du Caire. Les pierres ont volé et des coups de feu ont été tirés.



Un opposant de Mohamed Morsi fait le signe de la victoire. Photo : PC/Hussein Malla

Un opposant de Mohamed Morsi fait le signe

Lundi, dans le centre du Caire, une personne a été tuée et une vingtaine ont été blessées dans des affrontements entre partisans et opposants de Mohamed Morsi.

Depuis la destitution par l'armée, le 3 juillet, du président démocratiquement élu, on recense une centaine de morts.

« Les leaders du coup d'État militaire continuent à terroriser les manifestants pacifiques en Égypte », déclare le parti Liberté et Justice (FJP), dans un communiqué publié en anglais. Ce parti est la vitrine politique des Frères musulmans, que Mohamed Morsi dirigeait avant d'être élu président en juin 2012.

Sans répit

Les ministres de la Défense et de l'Intérieur, que le parti Liberté et Justice appelle « les leaders du coup d'État », seront tenus responsables d'éventuelles tentatives d'évacuer les zones où les Frères ont choisi de manifester, affirme le FJP.

Les partisans de Mohamed Morsi se relaient 24 heures sur 24 dans un quartier du Caire. Ils disent qu'ils continueront jusqu'au retour au pouvoir de leur président qui est détenu par l'armée dans un lieu secret depuis son éviction.

Des habitants proches du principal secteur où protestent les Frères, Madinat Nasr, disent avoir déposé une plainte auprès des services du procureur pour réclamer le départ des manifestants, qu'ils accusent de perturber leurs vies.

De source proche des services de sécurité, on indique que cette affaire devrait bientôt être réglée par la justice « pour donner à l'armée une base légale pour mettre fin aux manifestations ».

<http://www.rmc.fr/editorial/402550/neuf-morts-dans-les-violences-au-caire-deux-tues-au-sinai/>

Neuf morts dans les violences au Caire, deux tués au Sinaï

par Tom Perry et Asma Alsharif LE CAIRE (Reuters) - Neuf personnes ont été tuées tôt au Caire mardi lors d'affrontements entre partisans et...

REUTERS | RMC.fr | 23/07/2013



© Reuters Neuf personnes ont été tuées tôt au Caire mardi lors d'affrontements entre partisans et adversaires de Mohamed Morsi, non loin d'un lieu où les Frères musulmans maintiennent une veille depuis la destitution du président le 3 juillet, selon des médias gouv

Par Tom Perry et Asma Alsharif

LE CAIRE (Reuters) - Neuf personnes ont été tuées tôt au Caire mardi lors d'affrontements entre partisans et adversaires de Mohamed Morsi, non loin d'un lieu où les Frères musulmans maintiennent une veille depuis la destitution du président le 3 juillet, rapportent des médias gouvernementaux égyptiens.

Les partisans de Morsi, proches pour bon nombre des Frères musulmans, le mouvement du président déchu, campent à l'université de la capitale pour appuyer leur demande de rétablissement du chef de l'Etat dans ses fonctions.

Les Frères musulmans ont parlé d'une attaque qui visait des manifestants pacifiques.

De source policière, on affirme en revanche que des heurts ont opposé plusieurs centaines de partisans de Mohamed Morsi à des habitants du quartier, des petits vendeurs et autres personnes non loin des lieux du sit-in. Des coups de feu ont été tirés et des pierres lancées, ajoute-t-on de même source.

Neuf personnes ont péri et 33 autres ont été blessées, ce qui porte à 14 le nombre de tués dans les violences politiques des dernières 48 heures, rapporte le journal Al Ahram, qui cite un fonctionnaire du ministère de la Santé. Deux personnes blessées lundi dans des échauffourées sont décédées mardi.

Les épaves d'une quinzaine de véhicules incendiés gisent dans le quartier universitaire où ont eu lieu les affrontements. Des taches de sang maculent le sol, que jonchent des bris de verre, près de la zone commerçante où un poste de police a été incendié.

Des membres des Frères musulmans, armés de gourdins, gardaient l'entrée de la zone où les pro-Morsi observent un sit-in, après les affrontements du petit matin. Des habitants arrêtaient et fouillaient les voitures se rendant vers l'université, en quête d'armes.

SEPT "MARTYRS"

Une centaine de personnes ont péri dans les violences depuis que l'armée a déposé Mohamed Morsi et l'a remplacé par une administration dirigée par un chef de l'Etat par intérim, Adli Mansour, président de la Cour constitutionnelle. Les Frères musulmans accusent l'armée d'avoir mené un coup d'Etat le 3 juillet, ce que démentent les militaires.

Sur le site internet des Frères musulmans, on peut lire que sept "martyrs" ont péri dans la nuit lors de deux attaques menées contre les partisans de Mohamed Morsi -l'une à l'université du Caire et une autre au cours d'une marche près d'un autre lieu de sit-in, dans le nord de la capitale.

Les Frères musulmans assurent qu'ils maintiendront leurs sit-in jusqu'à ce que Mohamed Morsi, premier président démocratiquement élu de l'Égypte, qui est détenu dans un lieu secret par l'armée, soit rétabli dans ses fonctions.

"Les responsables du coup d'Etat militaire continuent de terroriser les manifestants pacifiques d'Égypte", déclare le Parti de la Liberté et de la Justice (PLJ), la formation politique des Frères musulmans.

ACTION EN JUSTICE

La famille du président déchu a annoncé lundi qu'elle comptait engager une action en justice contre l'armée pour enlèvement et détention sans inculpation. Les États-Unis, qui accordent une aide militaire annuelle de 1,3 milliard de dollars à l'Égypte, ont réclamé la libération de Mohamed Morsi et la fin de "toutes les arrestations et détentions politiques".

Certains habitants, près du principal point de manifestation des Frères, dans le quartier de Nasr City, ont déposé plainte auprès du parquet de la république en demandant le départ des protestataires. La justice devrait se prononcer prochainement sur l'affaire, "afin de donner à l'armée un mandat pour en finir avec les protestations", a-t-on déclaré mardi de source proche des services de sécurité.

Le Front de salut national, alliance de partis libéraux et de gauche qui ont soutenu l'éviction de Mohamed Morsi, ont condamné ce qu'ils considèrent comme les attaques dont sont victimes depuis trois semaines certains manifestants de la part de partisans des Frères musulmans.

Un civil et un policier ont par ailleurs été tués dans la région du nord du Sinaï, près des frontières avec Israël et la bande de Gaza, où des intégristes ont intensifié leurs attaques contre les forces de sécurité égyptiennes.

Le vide en matière de sécurité consécutif à la chute de Hosni Moubarak au début 2011 a eu pour conséquence une flambée de violences dans le Nord-Sinaï. Au moins 20 personnes ont été tuées dans cette région depuis la destitution de Mohamed Morsi.

Les autorités israéliennes ont annoncé avoir renforcé les défenses anti-roquettes le long de la frontière avec le Sinaï, de crainte que des islamistes ne pointent leurs armes vers l'État hébreu.

Eric Faye pour le service français, édité par Gilles Trequesser

<http://www.chretiente.info/201307232500/egypte-9-morts-et-86-blesses-dans-des-affrontements-au-caire-ministere/>

Égypte: 9 morts et 86 blessés dans des affrontements au Caire (ministère)

RIA Novosti , le 23 juillet 2013 à 9:25

Les affrontements entre partisans et adversaires du président égyptien déchu Mohammed Morsi qui ont éclaté au Caire lundi soir et se sont poursuivis pendant la nuit, ont fait neuf morts et 86 blessés, annonce mardi le ministère égyptien de la Santé.

Selon la chaîne télévisée Sky News Arabia, les affrontements se sont produits aux abords des places Tahrir, Al-Nahda et Al-Giza. Les deux parties opposées ont eu recours à des armes à feu.

Les tensions politiques en Egypte depuis la fin du mois de juin, avec des manifestations monstres pour exiger le départ de M. Morsi, puis son renversement par l'armée, se sont traduites par de nombreux affrontements qui ont fait quelque 150 morts.

<http://www.icilome.com/nouvelles/news.asp?id=888&idnews=758944>

Affrontements entre pro et anti Morsi : le bilan s'alourdit, 12 morts

[7/24/2013 1:03:57 AM] | APANEWS | Lu :44 fois | Commenter

Égypte - Le bilan des affrontements de lundi soir entre les partisans et les opposants du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi, renversé par l'Armée le 3 juillet courant, a atteint 12 tués après le décès mardi de 3 blessés, a-t-on appris de sources concordantes au Caire.

86 autres personnes ont été blessées, selon les autorités égyptiennes qui ont également fait état de l'arrestation de 66 auteurs de troubles en possession d'armes à feu.

La plupart des victimes sont tombées dans la Place Nahdat-Masr, en face de l'Université du Caire, où se trouve un sit-in des Frères musulmans auxquels appartient M. Morsi.

Les sympathisants du président déchu ont affirmé avoir été visés par des tirs de feu provenant de snippers positionnés sur les toits de maisons avoisinantes du lieu du sit-in. Ils ont ajouté que de tels snippers sont protégés par les forces de sécurité.

Dans un communiqué officiel mardi, le ministère de l'intérieur égyptien a indiqué que certaines des marches organisées par les Frères musulmans sont « sorties du cadre pacifique et ont dérapé vers la violence, notamment dans les zones entourant la Place Tahrir, la Place Djiza, l'autoroute agricole le Caire – Alexandrie à Ghalioubiya et la ville de Fayoum ».

Pour le communiqué, ces marches ont « conduit au blocage des routes, à la paralysie du trafic routier et à l'éclatement d'accrochages » avec les participants au sit-in Place Tahrir et les habitants de ces zones, avec l'utilisation des armes à feu et des armes blanches.

Mais ces accusations ont été rejetées par les Frères musulmans qui insistent sur le caractère pacifique de leurs mouvements de protestation.

Une centaine de personnes ont été tuées dans des violences en relation avec la destitution de M. Morsi, détenu lui-même par les Forces armées égyptiennes dans un lieu tenu secret depuis son renversement.

L'Union européenne et de nombreux pays dont les Etats-Unis d'Amérique ont réclamé la remise en liberté du rais déchu.

- See more at: <http://apanews.net/news/fr/article.php?id=204662#sthash.uaWq3gLN.dpuf>
Source : | APANEWS

http://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/egypte/video-egypte-explosion-a-mansoura-et-affrontements-au-caire_376384.html

Egypte : explosion à Mansoura et affrontements au Caire

Une bombe posée dans un commissariat a fait un mort et 17 blessés. Des affrontements entre partisans et adversaires du président Morsi ont fait deux nouveaux morts.

(Francetv info) Par Francetv info

Mis à jour le 24/07/2013 | 08:34 , publié le 24/07/2013 | 08:12

Une bombe a explosé, mercredi 24 juillet tôt dans la matinée, dans un commissariat de police d'une province au nord du Caire (Egypte) faisant un mort et 17 blessés. L'engin a été lancé d'une voiture qui passait devant le bâtiment, à Mansoura. L'explosion s'est produite après une journée d'affrontements entre opposants et partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi, qui ont fait neuf morts mardi au Caire.

Mercredi matin également, deux manifestants ont été tués lors d'un défilé de supporters de Mohamed Morsi, selon un communiqué des Frères musulmans publié sur leur site web. La confrérie, qui a porté Mohamed Morsi au pouvoir en 2012 à l'issue d'une élection démocratique, accuse l'armée d'avoir orchestré un coup d'Etat.

Les partisans du président déchu, détenu dans un lieu tenu secret depuis sa destitution par l'armée le 3 juillet, ont promis de rester dans la rue jusqu'à son rétablissement au pouvoir. Les violences entre pro et anti-Morsi ont fait une centaine de morts depuis le début du mois de juillet.

<http://tempsreel.nouvelobs.com/monde/20130726.OBS1107/egypte-nouvelle-epreuve-de-force-entre-pro-et-anti-morsi.html>

EGYPTE. 5 morts dans des affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi

Créé le 26-07-2013 à 06h35 - Mis à jour à 22h18

Le Nouvel Observateur

Par Le Nouvel Observateur

Les Frères musulmans dénoncent un retour à l'ère Mubarak. Les islamistes et les nouvelles autorités se font face dans la rue, dans une nouvelle épreuve de force.

Des partisans des Frères musulmans et du président déchu Mohamed Morsi lors d'une manifestation devant la mosquée al-Noor, au Caire, le 22 juillet 2013. (APAIMAGES / Rex Feature/REX/SIPA)

Des accrochages ont éclaté vendredi 26 juillet au Caire et à Alexandrie entre partisans et adversaires du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi, qui se regroupaient pour une

journée de manifestations rivales à travers le pays à l'appel des Frères musulmans et de l'armée.

En début d'après-midi, des manifestants des deux camps ont échangé des jets de pierres et de bouteilles dans le quartier de Choubra dans l'est du Caire, après que des anti-Morsi ont brûlé des portraits du président renversé. A Alexandrie, cinq personnes sont mortes et 72 blessés dans des affrontements entre pro et anti, selon des sources médicales. La plupart des victimes ont été touchées par des tirs de chevrotine, a-t-on indiqué.

Des sources médicales ont fait état par ailleurs d'une dizaine de blessés dans le quartier de Choubra, au Caire et d'un nombre équivalent à Damiette, dans le delta du Nil dans le nord du pays.

Plus tôt dans la journée, un tribunal du Caire a ordonné le placement en détention du président destitué Mohamed Morsi pour liens avec le Hamas palestinien lors d'attaques contre la police et une évasion de prison début 2011, a rapporté vendredi 26 juillet l'agence officielle Mena.

Mohamed Morsi, détenu par l'armée avec certains de ses collaborateurs dans un lieu tenu secret depuis sa destitution le 3 juillet, a été formellement placé en détention pour une durée maximale de 15 jours dans le cadre de cette procédure concernant son implication présumée dans des attaques contre la police, imputées au Hamas, sous son prédécesseur Hosni Moubarak, et son évasion de la prison de Wadi Natroun à la même époque, a précisé l'agence.

"Retour à l'ère Moubarak"

La décision de justice a immédiatement été dénoncée par les Frères musulmans, la formation dont est issu l'ex-président, qui évoquent un "retour à l'ère Moubarak". Les accusations contre Mohamed Morsi pour des faits remontant aux derniers jours du régime de Hosni Moubarak "sonnent comme une vengeance de l'ancien régime, qui indique qu'il fait un retour en force", a déclaré un porte-parole du mouvement, Gehad el-Haddad.

Le Hamas, au pouvoir à Gaza, a de son côté pointé du doigt une décision "basée sur le postulat que le mouvement Hamas est hostile". "C'est un développement dangereux qui confirme que le pouvoir actuel en Egypte renonce aux causes nationales [...] dont la cause palestinienne", a déclaré un porte-parole.

Un tribunal égyptien avait statué le 23 juin que le Hamas, au pouvoir dans la bande de Gaza, et le Hezbollah chiite libanais étaient impliqués dans l'évasion de prisonniers, dont l'actuel président Mohamed Morsi, pendant la révolte contre Hosni Moubarak début 2011.

Manifestations rivales

La placement formel en détention de Mohamed Morsi a de quoi mettre le feu aux poudres, alors que les islamistes et les nouvelles autorités se font face dans une nouvelle épreuve de force dans la rue. Les Egyptiens se sont en effet rassemblés vendredi pour des manifestations rivales à l'appel de l'armée et des Frères musulmans, décidés à compter leurs forces dans la confrontation engagée depuis la destitution de Mohamed Morsi.

Les autorités ont renforcé la sécurité au Caire et à travers le reste du pays pour cette journée à hauts risques, alors que les violences liées aux troubles politiques ont déjà fait plus de 200 morts depuis un mois.

Les islamistes dans la rue pour dénoncer le "coup d'Etat"

Les islamistes devaient commencer à manifester en début d'après-midi, après la traditionnelle prière musulmane du vendredi.

Au Caire, des cortèges devaient partir d'une trentaine de mosquées pour se rendre sur deux sites où les partisans du président renversé Morsi ont établi des campements, près de l'Université du Caire et devant la mosquée Rabaa al-Adawiya, dans le nord-est de la capitale.

Les Frères musulmans, dont est issu Mohamed Morsi, dénoncent sans relâche le "coup d'Etat" par lequel l'armée a déposé le 3 juillet le premier président démocratiquement élu d'Egypte, après des manifestations massives d'une partie de la population fin juin pour réclamer son départ.

"Je suis ici pour soutenir le vrai président d'Egypte. Nous n'acceptons personne d'autre que Mohamed Morsi, et nous allons manifester pacifiquement", affirmait El-Baz Abou Maati, un habitant de Mansoura, dans le delta du Nil (nord), venu au Caire pour participer aux rassemblements.

Ultimatum de l'armée

Le camp adverse devait se retrouver plus tard dans l'après-midi sur la place Tahrir, site traditionnel des grandes manifestations au Caire, et devant le palais présidentiel, dans le quartier d'Héliopolis (est de la ville).

Le chef de l'armée, le général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, artisan du renversement de Mohamed Morsi et nouvel homme fort du pays, a appelé mercredi les Egyptiens à descendre en masse dans la rue pour lui donner un "mandat" afin d'en "finir avec le terrorisme et la violence".

Les médias gouvernementaux et privés, massivement hostiles à Mohamed Morsi, ont multiplié les appels à se joindre aux manifestations réclamées par l'armée. "Sissi attend la parole du peuple" titrait le journal gouvernemental Al-Akhbar.

L'armée a depuis jeudi fait alterner déclarations apaisantes et plus menaçantes. Elle a ainsi assuré que les propos du général Sissi ne visaient pas les Frères musulmans en particulier, mais a dans le même temps, dans une déclaration officieuse relayée sur internet, donné 48 heures pour renoncer à toute violence et accepter le processus de transition politique.

Après les rassemblements de vendredi, les forces armées ont laissé entendre qu'elles pourraient "changer de stratégie face à violence et au terrorisme".

Inquiétudes

Le guide suprême de la confrérie islamiste, Mohamed Badie, a quant à lui appelé à des manifestations "pacifiques", tout en exhortant ses partisans à ne pas baisser la garde face au "coup d'Etat sanglant".

A l'étranger, le secrétaire général de l'ONU Ban Ki-moon a appelé "toutes les parties à faire preuve d'un maximum de retenue", et Washington a exprimé son "inquiétude" après les déclarations du général Sissi.

Pour Amnesty International, "l'appel du général Sissi fait redouter que les forces de sécurité ne se préparent à utiliser la force pour mettre fin aux manifestations des pro-Morsi".

Ban Ki-moon a également appelé l'armée à libérer Mohamed Morsi et d'autres dirigeants des Frères musulmans, ou "que leurs dossiers soient examinés de façon transparente sans plus attendre".

Plus de 200 morts en un mois

Arguant que Mohamed Morsi ne pouvait régler la grave crise politique secouant le pays, l'armée l'a déposé le 3 juillet et a nommé un président civil intérimaire pour gérer la transition avant la tenue à une date indéterminée d'élections générales.

Elu en juin 2012, le premier président islamiste et civil d'Egypte était contesté par une partie de la population et l'opposition qui l'accusaient d'accaparer le pouvoir au profit des Frères musulmans.

Les violences, déclenchées fin juin, ont fait plus de 200 morts, dont une quarantaine dans des attaques dans le Sinaï, selon un décompte de l'AFP à partir de sources médicales et de sécurité.

Le Nouvel Observateur (avec agences)

http://actu.orange.fr/une/egypte-deux-morts-a-alexandrie-dans-des-affrontements-entre-pro-et-anti-morsi-afp-s_2481414.html

26/07/2013 à 18:52

Egypte : deux morts à Alexandrie dans des affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi

Pas de retour au calme en Egypte puisque des manifestations ont tourné au drame.



photo : -, AFP

Deux Égyptiens ont été tués vendredi à Alexandrie dans des affrontements entre partisans et adversaires du président islamiste destitué Mohamed Morsi, a-t-on appris de sources médicales.

Outre ces deux morts, une vingtaine de personnes ont été blessées à Alexandrie, dans le nord de l'Egypte, a-t-on ajouté.

Ces accrochages ont éclaté vendredi entre partisans et adversaires du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi, qui se regroupaient pour une journée de manifestations rivales à travers le pays à l'appel des Frères musulmans et de l'armée. En début d'après-midi, des manifestants des deux camps ont échangé des jets de pierres et de bouteilles dans le quartier de Choubra dans l'est du Caire, après que des anti-Morsi ont brûlé des portraits du président renversé.

http://french.china.org.cn/foreign/txt/2013-07/27/content_29547529.htm

Egypte : 139 morts dans les affrontements

French.china.org.cn|Mis à jour le 27. 07. 2013|Mots clés : Egypte; affrontements; France



Le bilan des victimes dans les affrontements ayant eu lieu vendredi soir entre les opposants et les partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi s'est élevé samedi à au moins 139 morts et plus de 5 200 blessés à travers le pays, ont indiqué les Frères musulmans.

Au moins 120 personnes ont été tuées et plus de 4 500 autres blessées, dans des affrontements survenus dans la rue Naser, près de la mosquée Rabaa al-Adaweya à Nasr City, un quartier du Caire, lit-on dans un communiqué publié samedi par les Frères musulmans sur leur site internet officiel.

Citant Hisham Ibrahim, un responsable médical travaillant près de la mosquée, le communiqué explique que la plupart des victimes ont été touchées à la tête, au cou et à la poitrine, et que le personnel médical fait face à une pénurie de médicaments en raison du nombre élevé de blessés.

Les forces de police ont commencé à tirer sur les manifestants pro-Morsi vers 14h00 heure locale (00h00 GMT), afin de disperser la foule qui avait installé des tentes autour de la mosquée, a constaté un correspondant de Xinhua sur place.

<http://www.maghrebemergent.com/actualite/breves/fil-maghreb/item/27342-egypte-cinq-morts-dans-des-affrontements-a-alexandrie.html>

AFP

samedi 27 juillet 2013 02:13

Egypte - cinq morts dans des affrontements à Alexandrie

Cinq personnes ont été tuées vendredi à Alexandrie, dans le nord de l'Égypte, et 72 blessées dans des affrontements entre partisans et adversaires du président islamiste destitué Mohamed Morsi, a indiqué une source de sécurité citée par l'agence officielle Mena.

Un précédent bilan de sources médicales faisait état de trois tués et 50 blessés à Alexandrie.

Des sources médicales ont fait état par ailleurs d'une dizaine de blessés dans le quartier de Choubra, au Caire et d'un nombre équivalent à Damiette, dans le delta du Nil(nord).

Des centaines de milliers de personnes manifestaient vendredi à travers l'Égypte, les unes à l'appel de l'armée contre le terrorisme, les autres en faveur du rétablissement dans ses fonctions de M. Morsi, renversé le 3 juillet.

AFP

<http://french.peopledaily.com.cn/96852/8343456.html>

Egypte : 19 morts dans les affrontements entre opposants et partisans de Morsi

(Xinhua)

27.07.2013 à 15h21

Les affrontements de vendredi entre partisans et opposants au président déchu Mohamed Morsi ont fait au moins 19 morts et plus de 700 blessés à travers le pays, et les violences se poursuivaient tôt dans la matinée de samedi.

La police a arrêté 53 partisans de Morsi qui portaient des armes à feu, des cocktails Molotov et d'autres armes, a rapporté l'agence de presse officielle MENA.

Au Caire, la capitale, des dizaines de milliers d'Égyptiens se sont rassemblés sur la place Tahrir dans le centre-ville et autour du palais présidentiel à Héliopolis pour témoigner leur soutien à l'armée qui a joué un rôle vital dans la destitution du président Morsi.

Des rassemblements similaires d'opposants à Morsi ont également été organisés dans de nombreuses villes du pays.

De leur côté, les partisans du président déchu se sont rassemblés sur la place Rabia al-Adawiya à Nasr City, un quartier du Caire, sur la place Nahda près de l'Université du Caire à Gizeh et dans d'autres provinces.

Le nombre de manifestants pro-armée à travers le pays a été estimé à 29 millions, selon des données collectées par des satellites et hélicoptères militaires, a rapporté MENA en citant une source sécuritaire.

Par contraste avec le calme relatif au Caire, Alexandrie a été le théâtre d'affrontements plus violents entre les deux groupes rivaux. Au moins cinq personnes ont été tuées et plus de 100 autres blessés, par des balles et par des tirs de pistolets à grenaille pour la plupart, selon un cadre de hôpital local.

Des affrontements similaires ont éclaté dans les gouvernorats de Luxor et de Fayoum et se sont poursuivis pendant la nuit de vendredi à samedi jusqu'à l'aube, blessant au moins 16 personnes. Deux véhicules appartenant aux Frères musulmans ont été incendiés.

Plus tôt vendredi, un juge a ordonné la détention pendant 15 jours de M. Morsi, accusé d'espionnage et d'évasion de prison en 2011, au cours du soulèvement populaire qui a débouché sur le renversement de l'ancien président Hosni Moubarak.

Le président égyptien par intérim Adli Mansour a appelé vendredi les partisans du président islamiste destitué Mohamed Morsi à mettre fin à leur sit-in et à rentrer chez eux.

"Rentrez chez vous et je promets personnellement que personne ne va vous poursuivre en justice", a déclaré M. Mansour vendredi soir dans une interview téléphonique avec une chaîne de télévision locale, s'adressant aux partisans de Morsi, et plus particulièrement aux foules sur la place Rabia al-Adawiya au Caire et sur la place Nahda à proximité de l'Université du Caire à Gizeh.

<http://www.985fm.ca/international/nouvelles/affrontements-sanglants-en-gypte-au-moins-38-mor-255402.html>

De nouveaux heurts en Égypte font 65 morts entre policiers et islamistes

Publié par Associated Press le samedi 27 juillet 2013 à 13h43.

LE CAIRE, Égypte - Les forces de sécurité ont affronté des partisans du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi, tôt samedi, tuant 65 personnes, a annoncé le ministre de la Santé.

Cette une explosion de violence a repoussé l'espoir d'une réconciliation politique dans ce pays profondément divisé.

Dans des tableaux chaotiques, des mares de sang ont taché le sol et les corps étaient alignés sous des draps blancs dans un hôpital de fortune situé près du lieu des heurts, dans l'est du Caire, alors que des médecins peinaient à gérer l'afflux de dizaines de blessés.

L'étendue des dégâts souligne la détermination de la police à faire usage de la force contre toute expansion des manifestations menées par les islamistes visant le retour en poste de M. Morsi. Les autorités, appuyées par l'armée, s'estiment légitimées après que des millions de personnes eurent participé vendredi à des regroupements à l'échelle nationale réclamé par le chef des militaires pour appuyer une politique musclée contre le «terrorisme».

Le bain de sang rappelle également la volonté des islamistes de contester les forces de sécurité, alors que les partisans de M. Morsi tentent de convaincre la population.

Les combats, qui ont débuté avant l'aube et ont perduré pendant des heures, comptaient parmi les plus graves affrontements depuis le renversement du président, le 3 juillet, dans la foulée d'importantes manifestations réclamant son départ. Peu de temps après la chute du président, plus de 50 partisans de celui-ci ont été tués lors d'une poussée de violence survenue près d'un quartier général de la Garde républicaine.

Un important leader des Frères musulmans de M. Morsi, Mohammed el-Beltagy, a attribué la violence aux appels à manifester du général Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi.

«Voilà le mandat adopté par [M.] el-Sissi la nuit dernière; commettre des massacres et des bains de sang contre des manifestants pacifiques dénonçant le coup d'État militaire», a dit M. el-Beltagy dans une déclaration sur sa page Facebook.

Les heurts ont débuté après qu'une foule de partisans de M. Morsi eurent quitté leur principal camp où ils se trouvaient depuis près de trois semaines, en avant de la mosquée Rabaah al-Adawiyah.

La police est intervenue en tirant des gaz lacrymogènes pour disperser la foule, vers 2h, et les protestataires ont riposté en lançant des pierres.

Selon un photographe pigiste sur place, Mosa'ab Elshamy, des coups de feu ont été entendus des deux côtés, bien qu'il ne soit pas possible de savoir qui a ouvert le feu en premier.

Des résidants armés ont également rejoint les rangs de la police, en compagnie d'agents en civils portant des armes de poing, a-t-il dit.

Le ministre de la Santé a fait état de 750 blessés à l'échelle nationale, et près de 270 uniquement au Caire.

<http://www.chretiente.info/201307272100/egypte-120-morts-dans-des-affrontements-au-caire-freres-musulmans/>

Egypte: 120 morts dans des affrontements au Caire (Frères musulmans)

RIA Novosti , le 27 juillet 2013 à 8:21

Des affrontements opposant les manifestants aux policiers égyptiens sur la place Rabia al-Adawiya du Caire ont fait environ 120 morts et près de 4.500 blessés dans la nuit de vendredi à samedi, a annoncé le site internet des Frères musulmans se référant au médecin en chef de l'hôpital déployé sur place.

Le mouvement islamiste a qualifié de massacre les événements de la place Rabia al-Adawiya, lieu de rassemblement permanent des partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi. Selon les Frères musulmans, les réseaux Internet et de téléphonie étaient dans les quartiers attenants à la place de Rabia al-Adawiya, il était impossible d'appeler les secours.

Des manifestations importantes d'adversaires et partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi se sont tenues vendredi dans plusieurs villes égyptiennes. Selon les militaires, près de 35 millions de personnes sont descendues dans la rue. Des affrontements ont éclaté tard dans la nuit. Des combats de rue les plus acharnés ont opposé manifestants et policiers à Alexandrie et au Caire.

Le ministère égyptien de l'Intérieur affirme n'avoir utilisé que des gaz lacrymogènes et rejette la responsabilité de l'emploi des armes à feu sur des civils.

Ces derniers jours, l’Egypte traverse une profonde crise politique. Le président Mohamed Morsi a été écarté du pouvoir le 3 juillet par l’armée après des manifestations de grande ampleur réclamant son départ. Il a été placé en résidence surveillée dans un site militaire sans aucune décision judiciaire. Le parquet général du pays examine plusieurs plaintes de particuliers contre Mohammed Morsi pour « espionnage », « incitation au meurtre de manifestants » et « mauvaise gestion économique ».

http://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/egypte/egypte-10-pro-morsi-tues-dans-des-affrontements-selon-les-islamistes_378594.html

Egypte : au moins 20 morts dans des affrontements au Caire

177 personnes sont blessées. Il s'agit du bilan du ministère de la Santé. Les médecins des Frères musulmans, eux, font état de 75 morts.



Des partisans de l'ex-président égyptien Mohamed Morsi affrontent la police, le 27 juillet 2013 au Caire (Egypte). (ASMAA WAGUIH / REUTERS) Par Francetv info avec AFP

Mis à jour le 27/07/2013 | 11:14 , publié le 27/07/2013 | 08:05

Des islamistes partisans du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi et des forces de l'ordre s'affrontent samedi 27 juillet depuis l'aube. Manifestants et policiers échangent jets de pierres et tirs de gaz lacrymogènes sur la route de l'aéroport du Caire, la capitale égyptienne, selon l'agence officielle égyptienne Mena. Des dizaines de personnes sont mortes, mais chaque partie dresse son propre bilan. Francetv info fait le point sur les différents chiffres.

20 personnes tuées selon le ministère de la Santé

Vingt personnes tuées et 177 blessés ont été admis dans un hôpital d'Etat, a annoncé le ministère de la Santé, cité par l'agence Mena. Ces victimes se trouvent dans l'hôpital de l'assurance-maladie au Caire, a précisé le Dr Khaled Al-Khatib, un directeur des urgences au ministère de la Santé. Il s'agit du premier bilan officiel des violences.



Des membres des Frères musulmans portent un manifestant blessé lors de heurts avec la police, le 27 juillet 2013 à l'est du Caire (Egypte). (ASMAA WAGUIH / REUTERS)

37 cadavres à l'hôpital de campagne des pro-Morsi

De son côté, un journaliste de l'AFP a constaté que trente-sept cadavres étaient alignés samedi matin dans la morgue improvisée d'un hôpital de campagne tenu par les Frères musulmans. Des sources médicales sur place ont précisé qu'un nombre indéterminé d'autres corps ont été acheminés vers d'autres établissements.

Ces personnes ont été tuées par des tirs à balles réelles, selon les médecins de cet hôpital. Le journaliste de l'AFP a constaté que quatre d'entre eux au moins portaient effectivement des blessures mortelles à la tête. Les corps étaient recouverts d'un drap blanc, sur lequel leur nom était écrit.

Au moins 75 morts selon les Frères musulmans

Mais les Frères musulmans ne dressent pas le même bilan. Au moins 75 partisans du président égyptien destitué Mohamed Morsi ont été tués, selon eux. 1 000 sont blessés, selon les dirigeants de leur hôpital de campagne installé à la mosquée Rabaa al-Adawiya, dans le faubourg de Nasr City.

Une vidéo diffusée par les partisans de Mohamed Morsi montre un groupe d'hommes, majoritairement habillés en civil, qui s'affrontent à coups de pierres avec des personnes hors du champ de la caméra. Parmi les hommes filmés, deux sont en uniforme de police.

Ces affrontements se sont produits après une journée de manifestations rivales massives vendredi, à l'appel des partisans et adversaires de Mohamed Morsi. Au cours de ces manifestations, sept personnes ont été tuées à Alexandrie.

<http://tempsreel.nouvelobs.com/monde/20130727.OBS1233/egypte-23-pro-morsi-tues-dans-des-heurts-selon-les-islamistes.html>

EGYPTE. 75 morts dans les heurts selon les Frères musulmans

Créé le 27-07-2013 à 09h21 - Mis à jour à 20h35

Par Le Nouvel Observateur avec AFP

Le ministère de la Santé compte au moins 65 victimes. Responsable égyptiens et chancelleries dénoncent le recours abusif et disproportionné de la force.



Les affrontements ont fait des dizaines de morts parmi les manifestants. (Khalil Hamra/AP/SIPA)

Pas de trêve. De nouveaux affrontements ont éclaté samedi 27 juillet au matin en Egypte entre forces de l'ordre et islamistes, faisant des dizaines de morts et des centaines de blessés près du Caire, potentiellement l'un des pires bilans depuis le renversement de Mohamed Morsi.

Les affrontements ont repris samedi dès l'aube sur la route de l'aéroport du Caire, lorsque la police est intervenue pour empêcher des manifestants pro-Morsi de bloquer un pont routier, selon les autorités.

Depuis l'hôpital de campagne mis en place après les heurts, un médecin des Frères musulmans fait état de 75 morts parmi les fidèles du président déchu. L'agence officielle Mena, qui cite des sources au sein du même hôpital, fait elle aussi état de 75 morts et un millier de blessés.

Le ministère de la Santé a indiqué en soirée que 65 personnes au moins ont été tuées et 269 ont été blessées dans les affrontements le matin. Ces victimes se trouvaient dans l'hôpital de l'assurance-maladie au Caire, précise le Dr Khaled al-Khatib, un directeur des urgences au ministère de la Santé, alors qu'un journaliste de l'AFP a compté 37 cadavres dans l'hôpital de campagne des pro-Morsi.

Ces 29 morts s'ajouteraient donc apparemment aux 37, portant le bilan de ces violences à au moins 66, des sources médicales à l'hôpital de campagne ayant précisé qu'un nombre indéterminé d'autres corps avaient été acheminés vers d'autres établissements.

"Tous ont été tués par des tirs de balles réelles", a déclaré à l'AFP un médecin de l'hôpital de campagne sur le site de la mosquée Rabaa al-Adawiya, où campent depuis près de trois semaines les fidèles de Morsi, le Dr Amal Ahmad Ibrahim.

Un journaliste de l'AFP a constaté que quatre d'entre eux au moins portaient des blessures mortelles à la tête.

Tués par des habitants ?

Le ministère égyptien de l'Intérieur rejette pour sa part sur les islamistes la responsabilité des affrontements, et assure que la police n'a pas tiré à balles réelles sur eux.

"Les Frères musulmans ont refusé que la journée se déroule pacifiquement et ont cherché à la gâcher dans plusieurs gouvernorats en particulier au Caire et à Alexandrie", a déclaré le porte-parole du ministère, Hani Abdellatif, en référence aux manifestations massives de vendredi.

Le vice-président Mohamed ElBaradeï, qui fut une figure de l'opposition au président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi, a condamné "avec force" samedi la mort de dizaines de manifestants islamistes lors de heurts avec la police au Caire.

Sur son compte twitter, Mohamed ElBaradeï a "condamné fermement le recours à la force excessive et les morts" lors des heurts qui ont fait des dizaines de victimes parmi les partisans de Mohamed Morsi manifestant contre l'armée qui l'a renversé.

"Enquête judiciaire urgente"

Le grand imam d'Al-Azhar, la principale autorité sunnite d'Egypte, a également condamné la mort de dizaines de manifestants.

Le grand imam, Ahmed Al-Tayeb, "déploire et condamne la mort d'un certain nombre de martyrs qui ont été victimes des événements du jour", et demande "une enquête judiciaire urgente" afin que les responsables soient punis "quelle que soit leur affiliation", indique un communiqué de la grande institution islamique.

Des manifestants pro-Morsi ont tenté tôt samedi matin de bloquer un pont routier sur la route de l'aéroport du Caire et se sont heurtés aux riverains d'un quartier voisin, a-t-il affirmé, ajoutant que "les forces de sécurité sont intervenues pour les séparer et empêcher la fermeture du pont".

La police "n'a pas utilisé plus que du gaz lacrymogène" contre les manifestants, a assuré le porte-parole, laissant entendre que les dizaines de morts déplorés par les islamistes avaient été tués par des habitants des environs.

Les sit-in en passe d'être dispersés

Huit policiers ont été blessés, essuyant des jets de pierres et des tirs de chevrotine, selon l'agence Mena. Les abords de cette mosquée dans le faubourg de Nasr City (nord-est du Caire), sont depuis un mois le principal site de rassemblement des partisans de Morsi, renversé par l'armée le 3 juillet.

En réaction à ces heurts, le ministre de l'Intérieur Mohamed Ibrahim prévient également qu'il va disperser "très prochainement" les deux sites.

Les Egyptiens avaient manifesté massivement vendredi dans tout le pays, les uns à l'appel de l'armée contre le "terrorisme", les autres en faveur du rétablissement dans ses fonctions de Morsi, des rassemblements antagonistes qui ont fait sept morts lors de heurts à Alexandrie, selon un dernier bilan.

Les pro-Morsi ont souligné que ces heurts sanglants faisaient suite au discours du chef de l'armée, le général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, qui a déposé le président islamiste, demandant aux Egyptiens de descendre massivement dans la rue vendredi pour lui donner "mandat d'en finir

avec le terrorisme". "De telles déclarations de Sissi incitent à la violence et à la haine et servent à couvrir les crimes haineux de l'armée et de la police", accusent-ils.

La France appelle au calme

La France appelle de son côté "toutes les parties, et notamment l'armée, à la plus grande retenue" en Egypte, après ces nouvelles violences, a indiqué le ministère des Affaires étrangères.

"La France déplore le bilan déjà très lourd des heurts en Egypte. Elle appelle toutes les parties, et notamment l'armée, à faire preuve de la plus grande retenue", a déclaré le porte-parole du Quai d'Orsay Philippe Lalliot.

"Tout doit être mis en oeuvre pour éviter l'escalade de la violence", a-t-il ajouté dans sa déclaration, avant d'inviter "toutes les parties au calme et à la recherche du compromis pour qu'une solution politique se dégage pacifiquement et que des élections soient organisées dans les meilleurs délais, conformément aux engagements pris par les autorités de transition".

Le ministre britannique des Affaires étrangères William Hague a lui "condamné l'usage de la force contre les manifestants" et appelé les deux camps à mettre fin aux violences.

Le ministère turc des Affaires étrangères a condamné les violences et a appelé à un transfert du pouvoir à une "direction démocratique". "Ouvrir le feu sur des manifestants qui affirment leur opinion et leur attachement à la démocratie est une situation que la conscience humaine ne peut accepter", a-t-il ajouté.

Morsi en détention préventive

Ces nouvelles violences interviennent alors que les autorités égyptiennes de transition ont ordonné la mise en détention préventive de Mohamed Morsi, issu des Frères musulmans, renversé le 3 juillet par l'armée. Le président déchu est déjà gardé au secret par l'armée depuis sa chute, pour complicité présumée avec des opérations meurtrières contre les forces de sécurité lors de la révolte contre le président Hosni Moubarak en 2011, imputées au Hamas palestinien.

Alors qu'il était jusqu'à présent retenu sans charges, un tribunal a ordonné sa mise en détention préventive pour 15 jours renouvelables.

Les charges portent en particulier sur une aide que lui aurait apportée le Hamas, branche palestinienne des Frères musulmans, pour s'évader d'une prison où le régime Moubarak l'avait incarcéré, peu avant d'être emporté par une révolte populaire.

L'ONU, les Etats-Unis et l'Union européenne ont appelé à la fin de la détention par l'armée du président déchu et de plusieurs de ses conseillers.

Les adversaires de Morsi justifient sa destitution en l'accusant de n'avoir gouverné qu'au profit des islamistes et d'avoir enfoncé le pays dans la crise économique.

Ses partisans dénoncent inlassablement le "coup d'Etat sanglant" contre le premier président démocratiquement élu d'Egypte, après des manifestations massives fin juin pour réclamer son départ.

http://www.liberation.fr/monde/2013/07/27/au-caire-ce-sang-a-l-odeur-de-la-victoire_921245

En Egypte, «le sang a l'odeur de la victoire»

27 juillet 2013 à 19:08



Des corps de partisans de Morsi tués dans les affrontements de samedi matin, au Caire. (Photo Florian Plaucheur. AFP)

De notre envoyé spécial Reportage sur le lieu des affrontements avec la police qui ont fait 75 morts et 4500 blessés dans les rangs des partisans du président déchu Mohammed Morsi, samedi.

Par **MARWAN CHAHINE** De notre correspondant au Caire

Dans une petite maison qui sert d'hôpital de campagne, à l'intérieur d'une chambre froide pas froide du tout, ils sont là, posés à même le sol, recouverts par des draps blancs maculés de sang. 37 cadavres, 37 sympathisants de Mohammed Morsi, tués cette nuit lors d'affrontements avec la police, à quelque 500 mètres du campement de Rabaa, principal lieu de rassemblement islamiste depuis un mois. Une foule hétéroclite de photographes, de médecins ou de proches des victimes est massée dans l'entrée de la maison, en attendant l'évacuation des corps. Les bénévoles, gilets orange sur le dos, ont bien du mal à contenir la foule qui crie ou pousse de tous les côtés.

Champ de ruines et barricades

Après avoir tenu cinq bonnes minutes, ils finissent par céder face à un homme qui, à coups d'épaule, a réussi à enfoncer la porte d'entrée de l'hôpital. Celui-ci a une carrure imposante, il porte une longue barbe brune, il est très agité, il hurle, il veut voir un médecin, savoir si son frère fait partie des victimes. Le docteur Yehia Makeya a besoin d'un haut-parleur pour pouvoir être entendu et remettre un peu d'ordre. Ce généraliste est présent depuis ce matin. Sans laisser transparaître d'émotions, il détaille le bilan de la sinistre nuit : 75 morts dont 37 ont été transférés dans cet hôpital, 4500 blessés dont la plupart du fait des gaz lacrymogènes, environ 300 blessés par des tirs de grenaille dont 5 qui ont perdu un œil, 200 autres par des coups de bâtons ou de couteaux. La plupart des personnes décédées ont été touchées par des balles d'armes automatiques.

Pour accéder au lieu de l'affrontement, il faut traverser les longues Allées de la victoire. Hier, elles étaient pleines de familles venues de toute l'Égypte pour soutenir la légitimité de Mohammed Morsi. Ce matin, c'est un champ de ruines avec tous les cent mètres, des barricades de briques. Au sol, fument encore les feux allumés pour disperser les gaz lacrymogène dont l'odeur reste vive. Ici et là, sont dessinés des rectangles à partir de cailloux et de roses entrelacés. Au milieu, on y voit des flaques de sang pas encore bien séché malgré la chaleur étouffante. Une de ces sépultures de fortune porte une inscription à la craie : « *Ce sang a l'odeur de la victoire* ». Tout près du monument aux morts où a été abattu le président Sadate, le 6 octobre 1981, une autre encadre un épais filet d'au moins 15 mètres, qui laisse deviner que la victime a été traînée. Selon des gens qui disent avoir assisté à la scène, c'est un garçon de 16 ans qui aurait été touché par les tirs d'un sniper posté sur un immeuble de l'école Azhar, de l'autre côté de la rue. Vers midi, il est difficile d'accéder au pont sous lequel ont éclaté les clashes, une rangée de civils bloque toujours le passage et plusieurs des journalistes qui s'y sont aventurés ont été directement remis à la police.

Huit heures d'affrontements

« *Ce sont des baltaguis (des voyous, ndlr) qui ont aidé les policiers* », explique le juge Walid al-Sharaby, un de ceux qui sont aujourd'hui poursuivis pour avoir pris parti pour le président Morsi. Les circonstances ayant conduit à ces heurts meurtriers restent floues. Selon le magistrat, les forces de l'ordre ont commencé à asperger les manifestants de gaz lacrymogène, sans raison, alors que ces derniers avançaient pacifiquement en direction du pont du 6 octobre, pour rejoindre une autre marche aux alentours de minuit et demi. La police assure de son côté que des partisans de Mohammed Morsi ont cherché à bloquer la route et que cela a entraîné des bagarres avec les automobilistes et les riverains, avec lesquels les relations sont souvent tendues, les gaz n'auraient ainsi été employés que pour y mettre fin et disperser la foule. Plusieurs témoins racontent que les affrontements ont duré au moins huit heures et que c'est à partir de 2 heures du matin que des balles réelles auraient été utilisées. Si l'armée semble n'avoir pas directement pris part aux violences, certains pro-Morsi accusent les militaires d'avoir ravitaillé les policiers en armes et en munitions.

Le fait troublant est que ce nouveau massacre (après celui de la garde républicaine) est survenu le soir même du grand rassemblement à l'appel du général Al-Sissi qui, mercredi dernier, avait demandé aux Égyptiens de descendre en nombre dans la rue pour lui donner « *un mandat contre la violence et le terrorisme* ». Sur la place Tahrir et devant le palais présidentiel à Héliopolis, des centaines de milliers de personnes ont répondu présent, agitant des drapeaux rouge, blanc et noir ou brandissant des portraits du nouvel homme fort de l'Égypte. Jeudi, l'armée avait par ailleurs lancé un ultimatum aux islamistes, leur laissant quarante-huit heures pour quitter leurs bases sans quoi, les militaires seraient contraints de « *changer de stratégie* ». Une intimidation qui était restée sans effet : des dizaines de milliers de personnes ont de nouveau défilé ce vendredi pour demander le retour du président déchu. Les termes de ce « *mandat* » ou de cet « *ultimatum* » paraissaient obscurs, leur sens est sans doute en train d'être révélé. En fin de matinée samedi, le ministre de l'Intérieur a dit que les campements islamistes seraient « *évacués très prochainement* », « *dans le cadre de la loi* ».

Sanglots de détresse, cris de rage

Devant la porte de l'hôpital, un tout jeune homme tient un petit sac en plastique dans lequel il a récupéré différents types de cartouches qu'il montre aux journalistes comme pour prouver que la version de la police est erronée. Les morts commencent à être évacués, un à un, pour

être transférés dans des ambulances. Leurs visages tuméfiés sont à découvert. Dans l'assemblée, les hurlements redoublent, sanglots de détresse, cris de rage. Un slogan s'impose : «*Le peuple veut la mort du bourreau Sissi*».

<http://blogs.aljazeera.com/blog/middle-east/egypt-moderation-hard-come>

In Egypt, moderation is hard to come by

Egypt's dramatic descent into chaos underlines the danger of the media's inability to maintain objectivity.

Last modified: 27 Jul 2013 04:54

Rawya Rageh

Rawya Rageh has covered the Middle East extensively for the Associated Press news agency and Al Jazeera English since



On the eve of the protests called for by Defense Minister Abdel Fattah El Sisi, who asked Egyptians to give him a mandate to 'crackdown on terrorism,' the narrative on state TV was clear: deposed president Mohammed Morsi and his supporters are the enemy, and the military is the country's ultimate savior.

For days, private TV stations joined ranks with state-run media in an apparent campaign to whip up sentiments against the Muslim Brotherhood and its supporters. A documentary was aired Thursday night shedding light on Morsi's failures, showing long fuel and bread lines during his time in office, detailing his unfulfilled promises, and even mocking some of his unflattering mishaps in various speeches.

Morsi is now being referred to on state TV as 'El Ma'azoul' or "The Deposed One," and even though state TV also changed colors after Hosni Mubarak was removed from office, it's safe to say the tone by which Morsi is being ridiculed now surpasses any criticism Mubarak received.

The rhetoric used by presenters and their guests, particularly on private stations – who Morsi had come at loggerheads with particularly during his last days in office – has gone beyond trying to isolate the Brotherhood and veered into the more serious territory of demonizing and dehumanizing them. Pro-Morsi sit-ins in the eastern and southern part of the capital have been repeatedly described as pools of filth covered in human excrement, and occupied by lice-ridden people with skin disease.

Meanwhile, El Sisi is being described, literally, as ‘Lion-heart,’ with flattering posters of him with the slogan “The military and the people are against terrorism” – a promo released on private and state TV stations after he issued the call for protest. Also appearing on state TV in recent days, a medley featuring a singing group called ‘Bless the hands’ extolling the military and its leader. The video clip shows the singers in a studio, some draped in the Egyptian flag, and cuts to scenes of army formations and shots of El Sisi, including one where he’s jogging at the head of a group of special forces soldiers Putin-style.

A permanent logo has also been emblazoned on the corner of most TV stations’ screens reading: “Egypt against terrorism.” It’s the use of the word ‘terrorism’ without qualification in the official discourse that has been a particular cause for concern. Analysts interviewed on state and private TV stations have repeatedly linked the Brotherhood to a history of violence and terror attacks. It’s not clear if the current use of the word and accusation refers to acts of violence against security forces in the Sinai, or if it’s a reference to gatherings and rallies supportive of Morsi across the country.

Newspapers headlines, too, have been supportive of the military message with banners using larger-than-life fonts to tell people: “Go down.” On Friday, the headline of the anti-Brotherhood Al Masry Al Youm daily read “Terrorism (crushed) in the fist of the revolution today,” while the notoriously anti-Morsi Al Watan’s read: “ Today, the people sentence the Brotherhood.”

To encourage people to heed El Sisi’s call to take to the streets, state and private TV stations suspended their special Ramadan programming. The holy month paradoxically is actually known as a primetime period, with TV series and shows specially produced for the 30 days. But on Friday, people did not have to worry about missing an episode of any of their favorite shows, with all stations focusing on the pro-military rallies in Tahrir and outside the presidential palace.

The state press center even sent media outlets an email announcing that a frequency has been set on Nilesat to transmit footage of Friday’s protests logo and charge free. State TV maintains it has been unable to broadcast from the pro-Morsi rallies in the eastern district of Nasr City because their crew was expelled by the protesters there after Morsi’s removal from office. The state broadcaster also says the protesters there took over the official satellite trucks to broadcast the protests to channels sympathetic to them.

The Muslim Brotherhood’s channel Misr 25 and other TV stations backing Morsi were promptly shut down the day he was removed from office. They, too, had been engaged in a similar campaign of demonizing Morsi’s opposition for months ahead of the June 30 protests. The group is now making its voice heard primarily through social media and their newspaper “Freedom and Justice” – its headline on Friday read: “Today, the million man protest to reverse the coup.”

Speakers at the pro-Morsi sit-ins have also been fomenting anger against the military. Some Brotherhood figures have gone as far as telling their supporters to prepare for Jihad, or a holy war, and clerics preaching to the crowds have been repeatedly heard incurring God’s wrath against those who caused them to be in this peril. In the build-up to June 30, several hardline clerics repeatedly referred to Morsi’s opposition as ‘infidels,’ including even at a public rally attended by the deposed president.

What some in the Egyptian media are doing now is falling into the same mistakes the Brotherhood and its supporters did when they were in power – dismiss their rivals, label them as irrelevant and place themselves as the sole authority of what constitutes the ‘right’ way going forward.

Egypt’s latest crisis and the way the media has been handling it is yet another proof that moderation is a virtue hard to come by in this country.

<http://www.elmoudjahid.com/fr/actualites/44027>

Heurts entre la police et pro-Morsi (Egypte) : Au moins 75 morts et 1.000 blessés

Au moins 75 personnes ont été tuées et plus de 1.000 autres blessées, hier, dans des affrontements entre partisans du président égyptien destitué Mohamed Morsi et forces de l'ordre sur la route de l'aéroport du Caire, a-t-on indiqué de sources hospitalières.

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D.R

Au moins 75 personnes ont été tuées et plus de 1.000 autres blessées, hier, dans des affrontements entre partisans du président égyptien destitué Mohamed Morsi et forces de l'ordre sur la route de l'aéroport du Caire, a-t-on indiqué de sources hospitalières.

Les affrontements, survenus sur la route de l'aéroport du Caire, ont fait "75 morts et 1.000 blessés", a affirmé l'hôpital de campagne géré par les Frères musulmans, cité par l'agence égyptienne Mena. Selon Hicham Ibrahim, directeur de cet hôpital de campagne, installé à la mosquée Rabea al-Adawiya, dans le faubourg de Nasr City, dans le nord-est du Caire, "la majorité des morts avaient été atteints par balles à la tête et à la poitrine". Les heurts ont éclaté à l'aube entre manifestants tentant de bloquer un pont routier et policiers qui ont échangé jets de pierres et tirs de gaz lacrymogènes, a précisé Mena. Les Frères musulmans ont affirmé dans un communiqué que "les forces de sécurité et l'armée ont commis un nouveau crime samedi aux premières heures devant le mémorial de l'autoroute" menant à l'aéroport. Or, un haut responsable de sécurité cité par Mena a démenti toute utilisation par les forces de l'ordre "de tout autre moyen que les gaz lacrymogènes" pour disperser les manifestants, en faisant état de "huit policiers blessés par jets de pierres et des tirs de chevrotine". Ces affrontements se sont produits après une journée de manifestations rivales massives vendredi à l'appel des

partisans et adversaires de M. Morsi, au cours desquelles 15 personnes ont été tuées à Alexandrie (nord).

<http://www.985fm.ca/international/nouvelles/affrontements-egyptiens-72-morts-et-792-blesses-d-255534.html>

Affrontements violents en Égypte: 72 morts et 792 blessés

Publié par Associated Press le dimanche 28 juillet 2013 à 05h36. Modifié par Magalie Chauvin à 11h38.



Presse Canadienne

LE CAIRE - Le bilan des victimes des affrontements qui ont opposé depuis vendredi au Caire, en Égypte, les forces de l'ordre aux militants islamistes des Frères musulmans fait maintenant état de 72 morts.

Mis en ligne le dimanche 28 juillet 2013 dans Que le Québec se lève! avec Mathieu Beaumont

Selon le ministère égyptien de la Santé, 792 personnes ont par ailleurs été blessées.

La confrontation a débuté lorsque des partisans du président destitué Mohammed Morsi ont tenté d'étendre leur campement de protestation sur un boulevard du Caire. La police est alors intervenue.

Des centaines de militants islamistes pro-Morsi tiennent toujours un siège dans une mosquée de la capitale.

Intervention politique

Le président intérimaire de l'Égypte a donné au premier ministre le pouvoir de permettre à l'armée d'arrêter des civils après cette fin de semaine de violences entre les partisans du président déchu et les forces de sécurité du pays.

Selon des responsables gouvernementaux, cette décision pourrait être le prélude à une vaste action contre les partisans de Mohammed Morsi et les extrémistes qui ont multiplié les attaques contre les forces de sécurité dans la Péninsule du Sinaï.

Le décret d'Adly Mansour a été publié dans la Gazette officielle dimanche.

Le bilan des victimes des plus récents heurts entre pro-Morsi et forces de sécurité s'établit

désormais à 72 morts. Les protestataires réclamant le retour de l'ex-président ont voté pour continuer un vaste sit-in.

<http://www.radio-canada.ca/nouvelles/International/2013/07/28/004-affrontements-egypte-morsi-transition.shtml>

Affrontements en Égypte : le bilan grimpe à 72 morts

Mise à jour le dimanche 28 juillet 2013 à 11 h 08 HAE

Radio-Canada avec Agence France-Presse et Associated Press



Ces dépouilles sont celles de militants pro-Morsi morts dans des affrontements avec l'armée en fin de semaine. Photo : AFP/FLORIAN PLAUCHEUR

Le bilan des victimes des affrontements qui ont opposé l'armée égyptienne aux militants islamistes des Frères musulmans, ce week-end, au Caire, fait maintenant état de 72 morts.

Selon le ministère égyptien de la Santé, 792 personnes ont par ailleurs été blessées.

La confrontation a débuté lorsque des partisans du président destitué Mohammed Morsi ont tenté d'étendre leur campement de protestation sur un boulevard du Caire. La police est alors intervenue.

Des centaines de militants islamistes pro-Morsi tiennent toujours un siège dans une mosquée de la capitale.

Au total plus de 300 personnes ont perdu la vie dans des troubles liés à la situation politique depuis un mois à travers le pays.

Malaise

Le malaise semble gagner le sommet du pouvoir intérimaire égyptien.

Le ministre de l'Intérieur, Mohamed Ibrahim, a annoncé la dispersion « très prochaine » des campements au Caire où se sont installés des milliers de partisans de M. Morsi depuis son renversement.

A contrario, le vice-président Mohamed ElBaradeï, qui fut une figure de l'opposition au président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi et partisan de son éviction par l'armée, a condamné « avec force » la mort des manifestants islamistes lors de heurts avec la police au Caire.

Les forces de sécurité égyptiennes ont tué dix « terroristes » armés et en ont capturé vingt autres dans la péninsule du Sinaï au cours des 48 dernières heures, a indiqué dimanche l'agence de presse officielle Mena.

Condamnations

Les derniers affrontements ont suscité des réactions jusqu'à Washington et aux Nations-Unies. Le secrétaire d'État américain, John Kerry, s'est dit « très inquiet » par cette dernière « explosion de violences ». Il a rappelé aux autorités leur « obligation morale et légale de respecter le droit de manifester de manière pacifique. »

Le secrétaire général des Nations unies, Ban Ki-moon, a condamné les violences survenues au Caire et a demandé aux forces de sécurité égyptiennes de respecter la liberté d'expression et de rassemblement. M. Ban a réitéré que Mohamed Morsi et les dirigeants des Frères musulmans actuellement en détention « doivent être libérés ou voir leurs cas réexaminés en toute transparence ».

L'Union européenne, le Royaume-Uni et la Turquie avaient déjà exprimé leurs inquiétudes.

D'autres troubles à Port-Saïd

Des affrontements entre partisans et opposants du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi ont fait un mort, un jeune de 17 ans, et 29 blessés à Port-Saïd dans le nord-est de l'Égypte, selon des sources proches des services de sécurité. Ces affrontements ont commencé dans la nuit de samedi à dimanche et se sont poursuivis dans la journée.

Les accrochages ont eu lieu après les obsèques d'un jeune partisan du président renversé par l'armée le 3 juillet.

Port-Saïd, à l'entrée nord du canal de Suez, est l'un des endroits les plus instables d'Égypte depuis qu'un match de football dans un stade de la ville a dégénéré en affrontements entre partisans, début 2012, faisant quelque 70 morts et provoquant d'importantes tensions avec le pouvoir militaire.

La condamnation à mort de 21 personnes, principalement des partisans du club local, un an plus tard, avait entraîné une nouvelle flambée de violence qui avait fait plusieurs dizaines de morts et provoqué de nouvelles tensions, cette fois avec le pouvoir du président Morsi et son mouvement, les Frères musulmans.

<http://www.capital.fr/a-la-une/actualites/de-nouveaux-affrontements-ont-eclate-a-port-said-en-egypte-861709>

De nouveaux affrontements ont éclaté à Port-Saïd en Egypte

Source : Reuters

28/07/2013 à 13:01 / Mis à jour le 28/07/2013 à 13:05



Un partisan de Mohamed Morsi, au Caire. es affrontements ont éclaté très tôt dimanche à Port-Saïd, à l'embouchure du canal de Suez, entre partisans et opposants du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi, faisant quinze blessés. Les troubles ont commencé samedi soir tard lorsque des hommes armés ont ouvert le feu sur une église de Port-Saïd, où se déroulaient les funérailles d'une des victimes des violences du Caire. /Photo prise le 27 juillet 2013/REUTERS/Mohamed Abd El Ghany

Des affrontements ont éclaté très tôt dimanche à Port-Saïd, à l'embouchure du canal de Suez, entre partisans et opposants du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi, faisant quinze blessés, ont annoncé des sources de sécurité.

Les troubles ont commencé samedi soir tard lorsque des hommes armés ont ouvert le feu sur une église de Port-Saïd, où se déroulaient les funérailles d'une des victimes des violences du Caire, selon ces mêmes sources.

Les opposants ont échangé des tirs de grenaille avant d'être séparés par l'armée.

Soixante-cinq personnes ont été tuées samedi à l'aube dans les violences au Caire, et neuf autres ont péri dans des affrontements à Alexandrie dans la nuit de vendredi à samedi, selon un bilan rendu public samedi soir par le ministère égyptien de la Santé.

Selon les Frères musulmans, ces personnes ont péri lors de l'intervention des forces de sécurité égyptiennes contre les campements installés dans le nord du Caire par des partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi.

L'organisation Human Rights Watch (HRW) a estimé que ces assassinats traduisaient une "volonté choquante" de la police et de certains hommes politiques d'augmenter le niveau de violence à l'encontre de leurs ennemis.

"Il est presque impossible d'imaginer qu'autant de meurtres aient pu avoir lieu sans intention de tuer ou du moins sans mépris criminel pour la vie des gens", a déclaré Nadim Houry, directeur adjoint du secteur Proche-Orient et Afrique du Nord à HRW.

Des milliers de partisans des Frères musulmans se trouvaient toujours près de la mosquée Rabaa al Adaouia dimanche, dans le nord du Caire, où ils poursuivent le sit-in entamé depuis le 3 juillet, jour du renversement de Mohamed Morsi.

"L'Egypte se trouve à un moment pivot", a déclaré samedi le secrétaire d'Etat américain John Kerry. "À cette croisée des chemins, il est essentiel que les forces de sécurité et le gouvernement de transition respectent le droit de manifester dans le calme, y compris sous la forme de sit-in", a-t-il estimé.

Le secrétaire américain à la Défense, Chuck Hagel, s'est par ailleurs entretenu par téléphone avec le chef d'état-major de l'armée égyptienne, le général Abdel Fattah al Sissi, également premier vice-Premier ministre du gouvernement égyptien par intérim.

Mohamed Badie, guide suprême des Frères musulmans, a accusé les responsables politiques égyptiens de ne pas avoir condamné les meurtres de samedi.

"Malheureusement et honteusement, la responsabilité incombe à ceux qui ont participé à la dissimulation", a-t-il déclaré dans un communiqué.

Matt Robinson et Maggie Fick; Hélène Duvigneau pour le service français

<http://www.hrw.org/fr/news/2013/07/28/egypte-de-nombreux-manifestants-ont-ete-tues-par-des-coups-de-feu-portes-la-tete-ou->

Égypte : De nombreux manifestants ont été tués par des coups de feu portés à la tête ou à la poitrine

De nouveaux risques mortels sont à craindre suite aux menace des responsables de la sécurité de recourir à la force pour réprimer des sit-ins

28 juillet 2013



Les corps de partisans du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi, tués lors d'affrontements avec la police le 27 juillet 2013.

© 2013 Reuters



Des bénévoles médicaux soutiennent un homme dont un proche a été tué par la police lors d'affrontements entre les forces de l'ordre et des partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi au Caire, le 27 juillet 2013.

© 2013 Reuters

The use of deadly fire on such a scale so soon after the interim president announced the need to impose order by force suggests a shocking willingness by the police and by certain politicians to ratchet up violence against pro-Morsi protesters.
Nadim Houry, deputy Middle East and North Africa director

(Londres, le 28 juillet 2013) - Au moins 74 manifestants pro-Morsi ont été tués lors d'affrontements avec la police anti-émeutes égyptienne et des hommes en tenue civile, dont de nombreux manifestants ayant reçu des coups de feu mortels à la tête ou à la poitrine, a déclaré Human Rights Watch aujourd'hui. Ils ont été tués le 27 juillet lors d'affrontements ayant duré plusieurs heures sur une route à proximité d'un sit-in des Frères musulmans devant la mosquée Rabaa al-Adawiya, dans l'est du Caire.

Human Rights Watch a mené des entretiens avec sept témoins des violences, et examiné plusieurs vidéos montrant les incidents. Des membres du personnel médical d'un hôpital de campagne où de nombreuses victimes ont été transportées ont indiqué à Human Rights Watch que certains décès s'apparentaient à des meurtres ciblés, compte tenu de l'emplacement des blessures dues à des coups de feu dont l'angle allait selon toute probabilité causer la mort.

Les violences ont eu lieu quelques heures après l'annonce par le président intérimaire Adly Mansour que « *l'État doit imposer l'ordre avec toute la force et la détermination [requis]* ». Le même jour, le ministre de l'Intérieur, le général Mohammed Ibrahim, a averti que les forces de sécurité allaient « *bientôt* » disperser les sit-ins pro-Morsi sur les places Rabaa al-Adawiya et Al-Nahda.

« *Le recours à des tirs mortels à une telle échelle, survenu si peu de temps après les propos tenus par le président par intérim sur la nécessité d'imposer l'ordre par la force, reflète une volonté choquante de la part de la police et de certains dirigeants politiques d'utiliser toujours plus de violence contre les manifestants pro-Morsi* », a déclaré Nadim Houry, directeur adjoint de la division Moyen-Orient et Afrique du Nord à Human Rights Watch. « *Il est presque impossible d'imaginer un tel nombre de morts en l'absence d'une intention de tuer, ou au moins d'un mépris criminel pour les vies humaines.* »

Les dirigeants militaires et civils à la tête du gouvernement intérimaire de l'Égypte devraient ordonner immédiatement un terme à l'utilisation de balles réelles, sauf lorsque cela est strictement nécessaire pour protéger des vies humaines, selon Human Rights Watch.

En vertu des normes internationales relatives aux droits humains applicables en Égypte comme dans d'autres pays à tout moment, les responsables de l'application des lois doivent prendre toutes les mesures raisonnables pour protéger des vies, surtout quand ils sont conscients de menaces spécifiques. Ils ne sont autorisés à recourir intentionnellement à la force létale « *que si cela est absolument inévitable pour protéger des vies humaines* ».

L'usage excessif de la force meurtrière dans le passé ainsi que le manquement de la police à son devoir de minimiser les pertes lors des récentes manifestations soulignent le besoin pressant de réformer le secteur de la sécurité en Égypte, ainsi que d'exiger des comptes pour les abus perpétrés par la police et par l'armée.

Le Point.fr - Publié le 28/07/2013 à 15:15 - Modifié le 28/07/2013 à 16:01

Un précédent bilan faisait déjà état de 15 blessés dimanche à Port-Saïd (nord) dans des heurts entre partisans et adversaires du président déchu Mohamed Morsi.



Manifestation à Port-Saïd. La ville est l'un des endroits les plus instables d'Égypte depuis un match de football début 2012 qui avait dégénéré en affrontements entre supporters, faisant quelque 70 morts (image d'illustration). © Sipa / dr

Deux partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi ont été tués par balle et une trentaine d'autres personnes ont été blessées dans la nuit de samedi à dimanche dans le nord de l'Égypte, a-t-on appris de sources de sécurité. Un précédent bilan faisait état de 15 blessés à Port-Saïd, à l'entrée nord du canal de Suez.

Mohamed Atteya, 18 ans a été tué par balle, et 28 autres personnes ont été blessées, dont deux très grièvement, a-t-on précisé. Les accrochages ont éclaté après les obsèques d'un jeune partisan du président renversé par l'armée le 3 juillet. Des batailles rangées ont eu lieu dans une grande artère proche de la gare ferroviaire. Selon des témoins, des coups de feu ont été

tirés en direction d'une église copte orthodoxe, et des vitrines de magasins affichant des portraits du chef de l'armée, le général Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi, ont été brisées.

Par ailleurs, dans la ville de Kafr el-Zayat (nord), Mohamed Gad, 30 ans, un partisan de président déchu, a été tué par balle à la poitrine lors des funérailles de l'un de ses camarades tué samedi au Caire, selon des sources de la sécurité.

Les heurts ont éclaté après que les participants ont scandé des slogans hostiles au général Sissi, nouvel homme fort du pays, a-t-on précisé.

L'Égypte sous tension

Les violences politiques se sont multipliées en Égypte depuis le renversement de Mohamed Morsi. Soixante-cinq personnes ont été tuées samedi à l'aube dans les violences au Caire, et neuf autres ont péri dans des affrontements à Alexandrie dans la nuit de vendredi à samedi, selon un bilan rendu public samedi soir par le ministère égyptien de la Santé.

Port-Saïd, à l'entrée nord du canal de Suez, est l'un des endroits les plus instables d'Égypte depuis un match de football début 2012 dans un stade de la ville qui avait dégénéré en affrontements entre supporters, faisant quelque 70 morts et provoquant des troubles graves sur fond de tensions avec le pouvoir militaire de transition de l'époque dans les jours suivants. La condamnation à mort de 21 personnes, principalement des supporters du club local, un an plus tard avait entraîné une nouvelle flambée de violence qui avait fait plusieurs dizaines de morts et provoqué des tensions cette fois avec le pouvoir du président Morsi et son mouvement, les Frères musulmans.

<http://www.boursier.com/actualites/reuters/affrontements-a-port-said-un-mort-et-29-blesses-139958.html>

Affrontements à Port-Saïd, un mort et 29 blessés

Le 28/07/2013 à 17h21

LE CAIRE (Reuters) - Des affrontements ont éclaté très tôt dimanche à Port-Saïd, à l'embouchure du canal de Suez, entre partisans et opposants du président égyptien déchu Mohamed Morsi, faisant un mort et une trentaine de blessés, ont annoncé des sources de sécurité.

Les troubles ont commencé samedi soir tard lorsque des hommes armés ont ouvert le feu sur une église de Port-Saïd, où se déroulaient les funérailles d'une des victimes des violences du Caire, selon ces mêmes sources.

Les opposants ont échangé des tirs de grenaille avant d'être séparés par l'armée.

Si Le Caire était calme dimanche, les violences qui ont ébranlé Port-Saïd ont fait un mort, un jeune de 17 ans, et 29 blessés, a-t-on déclaré de source proche des services de sécurité.

Soixante-cinq personnes ont été tuées samedi à l'aube dans les violences au Caire, et neuf autres ont péri dans des affrontements à Alexandrie dans la nuit de vendredi à samedi, selon un bilan rendu public samedi soir par le ministère égyptien de la Santé.

Selon les Frères musulmans, ces personnes ont péri lors de l'intervention des forces de sécurité égyptiennes contre les campements installés dans le nord du Caire par des partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi.

L'organisation Human Rights Watch (HRW) a estimé que ces assassinats traduisaient une "volonté choquante" de la police et de certains hommes politiques d'augmenter le niveau de violence à l'encontre de leurs ennemis.

"Il est presque impossible d'imaginer qu'autant de meurtres aient pu avoir lieu sans intention de tuer ou du moins sans mépris criminel pour la vie des gens", a déclaré Nadim Houry, directeur adjoint du secteur Proche-Orient et Afrique du Nord à HRW.

Des milliers de partisans des Frères musulmans se trouvaient toujours près de la mosquée Rabaa al Adaouia dimanche, dans le nord du Caire, où ils poursuivent le sit-in entamé depuis le 3 juillet, jour du renversement de Mohamed Morsi.

"L'Egypte se trouve à un moment pivot", a déclaré samedi le secrétaire d'Etat américain John Kerry. "A cette croisée des chemins, il est essentiel que les forces de sécurité et le gouvernement de transition respectent le droit de manifester dans le calme, y compris sous la forme de sit-in", a-t-il estimé.

Le secrétaire américain à la Défense, Chuck Hagel, s'est par ailleurs entretenu par téléphone avec le chef d'état-major de l'armée égyptienne, le général Abdel Fattah al Sissi, également premier vice-Premier ministre du gouvernement égyptien par intérim.

Mohamed Badie, guide suprême des Frères musulmans, a accusé les responsables politiques égyptiens de ne pas avoir condamné les meurtres de samedi.

"Malheureusement et honteusement, la responsabilité incombe à ceux qui ont participé à la dissimulation, a-t-il déclaré dans un communiqué.

Signe de premiers craquements au sein du gouvernement de transition mise en place après la chute de Mohamed Morsi, le vice-Premier ministre chargé des questions économiques, Ziad Bahaa El Din a estimé que le nouveau pouvoir ne devait pas copier "les méthodes d'oppression et d'exclusion" de ses ennemis.

"Notre position ne doit pas varier quant à la nécessité de fournir des garanties juridiques non seulement aux membres des Frères musulmans, mais à tous les Egyptiens. Le recours excessif à la force ne doit pas être autorisé", a écrit El Din sur Facebook.

Autre signe de malaise après les violences, le mouvement de protestation Tamarod (Rebelle), qui avait mobilisé des millions de personnes contre Mohamed Morsi et a pleinement soutenu l'action de l'armée le 3 juillet, a tiré la sonnette d'alarme après l'annonce selon laquelle le ministre de l'Intérieur, Mohamed Ibrahim, relancerait la police politique secrète de l'ère Mubarak.

Matt Robinson et Maggie Fick; Hélène Duvigneau pour le service français

17 injured in Ismailia clashes

Pro-Morsi demonstrators and their opponents clashed in Canal city of Ismailia late Monday, leaving 17 wounded

Ahram Online, Tuesday 30 Jul 2013



Pro-Morsi march in Ismailia 29 July 2013 (Photo: Al-Ahram Arabic-language news portal)
At least 17 people were injured late on Monday when clashes erupted between supporters of deposed president Mohamed Morsi and opponents in the Suez Canal city of Ismailia.

Clashes erupted in Ismailia when a march of Morsi supporters approached the security directorate headquarters. The protesters and their opponents clashed using gunshots and stones leaving 17 people injured, including seven with birdshot wounds.

The police fired teargas in an attempt to end the clash.

Morsi supporters, led by the Muslim Brotherhood, marched to security directorates in governorates nationwide to protest what they describe as "police brutality" during Cairo's Nasr City clashes on Saturday that left at least 80 dead and hundreds injured.

These marches ended violently in a number of governorates.

In the Nile Delta City of Mansoura violence broke out after police forces prevented the pro-Morsi march from reaching the security directorate.

According to Al-Ahram Arabic news website, there were around 5,000 protesters chanting against Defence Minister Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, calling for the reinstatement of Morsi as president. Police also fired teargas when the violence erupted. Two cars were destroyed in the melee.

Morsi supporters and opponents have frequently faced off since his removal by the army on 3 July amid mass protests against him. At least 200 dead and hundreds were injured as a result in the past few weeks.

Both camps have used firearms against one other, among other weapons, on numerous occasions.

Violence follows protests in Mansoura and Ismailia

Daily News Egypt / July 30, 2013

One dead and several injured in Mansoura

By Rawan Ezzat

Clashes erupted in Mansoura on Tuesday morning, after the death of teenager Islam Rashad, causing at least 17 injuries.

Rashad, 14, died on Tuesday morning from a severe beating after attending a demonstration in support of the armed forces.

Hamdy Kenawy, a local resident and a member of Al-Dostour Party said: “the Muslim Brotherhood held a march that headed towards the police station, while passing by a group of young people who chanted in support of the armed forces.”

Mansoura residents blocked the march and threw rocks at the demonstrators, who fired back using live bullets, he said, adding: “Everyone was running everywhere for about 20 minutes, until two police vehicles arrived.”

Spokesman of the Freedom and Justice Party, Tarek Al-Morsi, said: “policemen should stop paying thugs to fight peaceful protests, we will never give up.”

Meanwhile, clashes in Ismailia resulted in 25 injuries.

Amr Warwary, a member of Al-Dostour Party and a resident said: “clashes broke out after pro-Morsi protesters organised marches to police stations across Egypt, in protest to police brutality.”

He said a march in support of the ousted president headed to an Ismailia Police station, and residents and political activists took the streets to protect the station. “Both sides chanted slogans, when out of nowhere rocks were thrown and live bullets were shot by both sides,” said Warwary.

Pro-Morsi marches end violently in Mansoura, Ismailia

Supporters of Morsi organise marches to security directorates across Egypt, in protest at what they describe as police brutality in the early hours of Saturday in Cairo

Ahram Online, Tuesday 30 Jul 2013

Clashes erupted between supporters of deposed president Mohamed Morsi and opponents in Egypt's Nile Delta Mansoura and the Canal city of Ismailia on Monday.

Supporters of Morsi organised marches to a number of security directorates across Egypt, in protest at what they describe 'police brutality' during Saturday's clashes that left at least 80 dead and hundreds injured.

In Mansoura, violence broke out after police forces prevented a pro-Morsi march from reaching the security directorate as planned.

Police fired teargas when violence erupted, according to Al-Ahram's Arabic site. There were around 5,000 protesters chanting against Defence Minister Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and calling for the reinstatement of Morsi as president.

The marchers, some of whom carried symbolic empty coffins in reference to victims, set out from the Mansoura University Stadium to reach the security directorate.

Last week, an explosive device went off at a police station near the security directorate in Mansoura, the capital of Daqahliya governorate in the Nile Delta, killing at least one conscript and injuring 19.

In Ismailia, similar clashes erupted that saw pro-Morsi supporters, also marching to the security directorate, and opponents exchange birdshot and stones. The police also fired teargas in an attempt to end the clash.

No death or injury tolls were reported from both incidents.

Morsi's supporters and opponents have frequently faced off since his overthrow, leading to at least 200 dead and hundreds injured in the past few weeks.

Both camps have used firearms against one other, among other weapons, on numerous occasions.

The Ministry of Health said at least 80 had been killed in violence in Cairo's Nasr City district on Saturday, further enraging the Islamists who denounced the "massacre" and vowed to continue their protests.

After one year in office, Morsi was ousted on 3 July after mass nationwide protests against the former elected president.

Morsi has been held incommunicado ever since.

<http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2013/07/30/violence-follows-protests-in-mansoura-and-ismailia/>

Violence follows protests in Mansoura and Ismailia

Daily News Egypt / July 30, 2013 / 0 Comments / 381 Views

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Rashad, 14, died on Tuesday morning from a severe beating after attending a demonstration in support of the armed forces.

Hamdy Kenawy, a local resident and a member of Al-Dostour Party said: “the Muslim Brotherhood held a march that headed towards the police station, while passing by a group of young people who chanted in support of the armed forces.”

Mansoura residents blocked the march and threw rocks at the demonstrators, who fired back using live bullets, he said, adding: “Everyone was running everywhere for about 20 minutes, until two police vehicles arrived.”

Spokesman of the Freedom and Justice Party, Tarek Al-Morsi, said: “policemen should stop paying thugs to fight peaceful protests, we will never give up.”

Meanwhile, clashes in Ismailia resulted in 25 injuries.

Amr Warwary, a member of Al-Dostour Party and a resident said: “clashes broke out after pro-Morsi protesters organised marches to police stations across Egypt, in protest to police brutality.”

He said a march in support of the ousted president headed to an Ismailia Police station, and residents and political activists took the streets to protect the station. “Both sides chanted slogans, when out of nowhere rocks were thrown and live bullets were shot by both sides,” said Warwary.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2013/07/2013729182834978685.html>

Analysis: Egypt's disenfranchised moderates

The country's "critical bloc" is already growing tired of the interim administration.

Alaa Bayoumi Last Modified: 30 Jul 2013 13:21

Interim President Adli Mansour (L) and his deputy, Mohamed ElBaradei, may lose support from moderates [Reuters]

Looking from afar, Egypt may seem to many as a country deeply divided between two entrenched political camps, with no political forces in between.

The escalating political tension and growing conflict between Egypt's strong religious and secularist political forces is indeed overwhelming. Yet, like any other country, Egypt has its own critical bloc that tries to avoid polarisation, focusing on non-partisan interests, while shifting between major political camps in a search for common ground.

Spotlight

Follow our ongoing coverage of the political crisis in Egypt

And, in a deeply divided country such as Egypt, staying politically neutral can be both difficult and costly. Deep polarisation makes it hard for any voice to deviate from either side of the dominant political rhetoric, as critical voices become vilified by all groups.

Egypt's moderates

Still, Egypt's critical voices could be credited for major political shifts in the country before and since the January 2011 revolution. They were at the nucleus of the youth groups that triggered the uprising and went to the streets long before groups such as the Muslim Brotherhood, Salafis, and traditional secularist parties joined. They were the ones who first called on the Supreme Council of Armed Forces (SCAF) - which seized power from long-time leader President Hosni Mubarak - to retreat from politics and hand power to a civilian government, providing moral and political cover for the protests that helped end overt military rule.

They also supported Mohamed Morsi in his presidential campaign against Ahmed Shafiq, who was seen as a remnant of the old regime. Their support may even have been enough to win the presidential poll for Morsi, who won with just 51 percent of the vote. They later became disenchanted with Morsi's rule after he failed to achieve many of the major demands of the revolution, such as the reforming of Egypt's police. Their withdrawal of support for Morsi was critical to his eventual ousting.

The group revolves around youth movements such as April 6 and "We are all Khalid Said" - and around former Muslim Brotherhood youth leaders, who resigned from the group complaining of its rigid leadership and partisan politics. These former Brotherhood youths have rallied around Al Tayar Al Masry ["The Egyptian Current"], a political party still under construction, and the Strong Egypt Party, led by former presidential candidate and Muslim Brotherhood leader, Abdel Moen Aboul Fotouh.

The bloc also has a leftist component, represented by "the socialist revolutionaries", a group of young socialist activists who focus on labour rights and social justice, but distance themselves from the hardline secular attitudes taken by old socialist elites, who often found it impossible to co-operate with religious groups for ideological rather than political reasons.

Disenchantment and calls for resignation

Such critical voices are also represented by several intellectuals, increasingly disenchanted with the role of the military after either tacitly or vocally supporting Morsi's overthrow.

Moataz Abdel Fatah, a political science professor at Cairo University, could be seen as one such intellectual. He worked as an adviser to the first prime minister after the revolution and was a member of the committee that wrote Egypt's 2012 constitution. His independent voice won him both praise and criticism.

But his lambasting of Morsi in recent months has put him firmly in the firing line of the religious camp.

Still, he wrote on July 28 in El-Watan, warning of "a new revolutionary wave".

"The June 30 revolution cannot go back on the goals of the January 25 revolution, including criminalising the police state, holding those politically corrupt accountable, rejecting the misuse of authority and power, and respecting basic human rights and freedoms," he wrote. "If we don't see before us strict commitment to the goals of the January 25 revolution, we will

most probably witness a new revolutionary wave against the outcome of the June 30 revolution.”

The deaths of pro-Morsi protesters in Cairo on Friday night may have played a role in turning the tide of opinion in favour of the growing disenchantment with the interim administration. The killings brought wide-ranging condemnation and raised concerns about the direction of the country's new leadership, forcing some of its defenders to rethink their positions.

Hassan Nafeah, a political science professor at Cairo University, is a former supporter of President Morsi who came out in defence of his ousting - citing Morsi's political failures.

He wrote that he "welcomed" the call made by Abdul Fatah El-Sisi, Egypt's military chief, for people to give him a popular mandate to combat possible "violence and terrorism". Yet, Nafeah warned that support for military leader El-Sisi "is not a mandate to kill or to break the law”.

“The responsibility of protecting the security of the nation and citizens lies on the shoulders of the executive authority," he wrote. "When a large number of deaths takes place in political violence, as has happened, it is natural to consider it clear evidence of the failure of the government to fulfill its most important job.”

Belal Fadel, a political commentator known for his criticism of the Muslim Brotherhood, has called on General Abdel Fattah El-Sisi to resign - along with Interim President Adly Mansour and Prime Minister Hazem Beblawi - over the killing of protesters.

"Whoever is in the seats of power should resign or courageously face his responsibilities and refer those responsible for the massacre to justice, regardless of who they are," he wrote. "Everyone should know that if he is lax in doing that, he will not escape justice - no matter what his position is - once the balance of power turns against him, as it turned against those who thought they were shielded from punishment."

Distortion and dehumanisation

Yet the deadly events of Friday and Saturday may not be the only reason behind growing criticism of the interim administration.

Amr Hamzawy, a leading member of the National Salvation Front, Egypt's main secular opposition group, has been complaining of “exclusivist fascism and dehumanisation of the Muslim Brotherhood and their religious allies... and militarisation of Egyptians' collective imagination”.

He fears an influential group within the anti-Muslim Brotherhood camp has gone too far in its campaign against the Brotherhood.

“Over the past few weeks, they have demonised and cursed any voice that demanded to hold accountable those who shed blood and engaged in corruption and authoritarianism," he wrote. Such people should face "a transitional justice mechanism" that would not differentiate between members of Mubarak's regime, Egypt's military, Morsi's administration or those of the current interim leadership, he said.

"The voices demanding accountability, transitional justice, and reconciliation have been distorted and portrayed as Muslim Brotherhood sleeper-cells, and as suspicious groups who are agents of an American project working against the national interest." Hamzaway wrote.

Other analysts have also complained that the interim government seems too partisan and weak, fearing the powerful military is still "pulling the strings" behind the scenes.

"We have a prime minister who seems to be [too focused on] protocol," wrote political science professor Ahmed Abd Rabuh. "He delegated his authorities and powers to three deputies at the same time; A deputy for economic affairs, another for political matters, and a third for defence and national security issues. But, the third man is the one who carved the current path. He manages a powerful institution [the military], owned by the people - but that has wide economic independence and controls, in reality, the country's destiny - as its men are spread all over Egypt."

New movement

In response, some activists have been organising people on the ground around a new movement - neither aligned with the Muslim Brotherhood nor with the interim administration. They named it "The Third Square".

A flyer used by the group to call for protests states that "Egyptian people are not and will not be one bloc. [Egyptian people are] diverse, pluralistic, and include different and contradicting groups. [The Third Square] is against excluding any bloc in favour of others for any reason."

Abdel Moneim Mahmoud, a journalist and online activist who has so far attended two protests organised by the group, told Al Jazeera that a "very few people attended. A few dozen. And they were cursed and insulted by people passing by".

"It reminded me of the early days of protests that led to the ousting of Mubarak," he said. "We were a very small minority belittled by the people, and we are back to the same situation again."

Mahmoud said the difficult political transition that Egypt has been going through, coupled with the many mistakes of those in power - including the Muslim Brotherhood - along with ongoing social polarisation, has pushed many to give up on the revolution and its ideals.

"Many want stability," he said. "They want to live without political problems, crises, or even stands."

Still, Mahmoud remains cautiously optimistic for the future.

"Change will come," he said. "Revolutions are like snowballs. They start with a few people speaking up - when everyone else is silent and sees them as crazy."

Follow Alaa Bayoumi on Twitter: @Alaabayoumi

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/08/201381361620338.html>

Egypt police told to break up rallies

Interim leadership says "gradual steps" will be taken to disperse crowds amid continuing pro-Morsi protests.

Last Modified: 01 Aug 2013 09:47

Egypt's interim government has authorised police to break up protests which have been continuing since Mohamed Morsi was removed from power, saying that officers will take "gradual steps" to disperse crowds.

Weeks-long rallies in support of the deposed president extended in Rabaa al-Adawiya and Nahda squares in Cairo early on Thursday morning, despite the interim leadership's warning.

"The continuation of the dangerous situation in Rabaa al-Adawiya and Nahda squares, and consequent terrorism and road blockages are no longer acceptable given the threat to national security," a statement from the interim government said on Wednesday, adding that it has told police to take "all necessary measures" to disperse crowds.

Elsewhere on Thursday, Germany's Guido Westerwelle, the first foreign minister to visit Egypt since Morsi was deposed, urged authorities to avoid "the appearance of selective justice".

Speaking alongside his Egyptian counterpart Nabil Fahmy, he said: "There is no justice of vengeance and no selective justice. There is law and it applies to everyone."

Earlier, authorities said they had referred the leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, Mohammed Badie, and two other senior movement officials to a court on charges of inciting violence.

Following the warning against rallies, the US State Department urged Egypt to respect the right of peaceful assembly.

"We have continued to urge the interim government, officials and security forces, to respect the right of peaceful assembly," deputy spokeswoman Marie Harf told a news briefing. "That obviously includes sit-ins."

Morsi's supporters have been camped out in both squares demanding his reinstatement since July 3 when he was removed from power by the military.

"The government has decided to take all necessary measures to confront and end these dangers, and tasks the interior minister to do all that is necessary in this regard, in accordance with the constitution and law," the interim leadership's statement read, without giving a timeline.

Al Jazeera's Dorothy Parvaz, reporting from Cairo, said the announcement did not deter the protesters.

"Despite the Cabinet decision to clear the sit-ins, a steady stream of people is pouring into the already crowded Rabaa vigil in Nasr City," she said.

'Gradual steps'

The interior ministry later clarified the statement, saying that police would take "gradual steps" to clear protesters.

Amnesty International said the decision to mandate security forces to end the pro-Morsi rallies is a "recipe for further bloodshed".

"Given the Egyptian security forces' record of policing demonstrations with the routine use of excessive and unwarranted lethal force, this latest announcement gives a seal of approval to further abuse," said Hassiba Hadj Sahraoui, deputy director for the Middle East and North Africa at Amnesty.

"The authorities as well as the security forces should start with an approach that avoids the use of force and is based on 'methods of persuasion, negotiation and mediation', as recommended by international standards," she added.

More than 200 people have been killed in weeks of violence since the army deposed Morsi.

EU envoy Bernadino Leon was in Cairo on Wednesday to press the mediation effort.

US Republican senators John McCain and Lindsey Graham said on Wednesday that they would also visit Egypt to help quell violence and press for elections.

Source: Al Jazeera and agencies

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2013/08/201381123759244126.html>

Cairo suffers sit-in fatigue

Local residents of Nasr City are tired of constant protests but they also fear a violent crackdown by authorities.

D. Parvaz Last Modified: 01 Aug 2013 15:22

Cairo, Egypt - News that Egypt's cabinet has tasked police to take "all necessary measures" to end the sit-in held by supporters of ousted president Mohamed Morsi has set the city on edge.

The statement, issued on Wednesday, warned those participating in the sit-ins at Nasr City's Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque and outside Cairo University in Giza that their demonstrations were "dangerous" in light of the "threat to national security".

It's been over a month since the vigils started, with organisers saying they plan to remain in both locations in Cairo until Morsi's reinstatement.

Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim reiterated an earlier statement on Saturday when he said that the sit-ins would be cleared, but did not say when and how.

"I want to talk about the situation that I live, not about the cabinet decision - that's something between the government and the protesters," said Noha Yousry, 30, a Nasr City resident who lives in an apartment building engulfed by the sit-in.

"I'm a resident and I'm suffering," said Yousry, who works in online marketing.
Little sympathy for Brotherhood

She said that buses can no longer enter the area, leaving those without cars stranded. Furthermore, participants in the sit-in are "living in our private areas - they are sleeping, eating, going to the toilet and taking showers in our garden, our garage, our building".

It's hard to estimate how many are at the camp - possibly tens of thousands are camping out in every nook and cranny of what feels like a cross between a refugee camp and a neglected concert fairground. The smell of garbage is pungent in parts, and piles of trash build up in corridors of tents and at entrances.

Yousry - and other residents in the area who have set up a Facebook page to air their complaints - bristle at the checkpoints set up in the area by the Muslim Brotherhood, where anyone passing through is required to show identification, answer questions, get frisked and have their belongings searched.

"They are making checkpoints under my home - every time I come home, they ask me for my ID, and I tell them 'I don't know you - why would I show you my ID?' and then they say 'Let me search your car' - this is unacceptable!" said Yousry, who added that two of her neighbours were beaten for refusing to comply with the checkpoint procedure.

Still, news that the sit-in will be cleared spells fear of more violence and clashes.

"I am worried. We are just victims. And we don't know what's going to happen," said Yousry.

A neighbourhood under siege

But for some living with the constant din and traffic of the vigils, the clearing can't come soon enough.

Basma Ezzat, 27, lives less than a block away from the north entrance of the Nasr City vigil and says she feels hemmed in by both the sit-in and the security road blocks that have at times made it impossible for residents and workers in the area to move about.

And that's not taking into account the noise.

"The speakers are very loud so we can't sleep before 6 am," said Ezzat.

"The escalation [of tensions] has increased the use of the speakers. Also, the fireworks are still going off at night, especially when the military helicopters are around," said Ezzat, adding that she does not feel safe going out in the neighbourhood.

"I can't go out normally anymore. I haven't seen my brothers and sisters this Ramadan because it's so difficult to get in and out," she said.

Ezzat is in fact affected by both Muslim Brotherhood sit-ins, as she is also a teaching assistant and is currently working on her PhD in computer science at Cairo University in Giza, where another vigil is in play.

Due to clashes between residents and protesters in Giza, the dean of her faculty has advised that students and staff only go to the campus when absolutely necessary.

Ezzat, therefore, is anxious for the sit-ins to be dispersed peacefully and gradually. She thinks security forces should perhaps prevent more people joining protests, or prevent food from being taken in.

Ezzat is also concerned about the sit-in's encroachment onto several side streets, and feels the "the army should prevent them from expanding the vigil area".

Lost wages

Of course, it's not simply the sit-ins that have caused a disruption in normal life - as normal as things could have been after the January 2011 uprising that saw the ouster of long-time dictator Hosni Mubarak.

Tahrir Square, the focal point of the revolution, has remained a flashpoint of protests and running street battles in the neighbourhoods surrounding it.

Hassan Abdelsattar, 53, says his automotive painting shop has "suffered a lot of losses" since the start of the revolution.

"The low flow of work affects us because the continuous clashes make people afraid to bring their cars here - they worry they will be vandalised," said Abdelsattar. "I hire some youths, but I can't pay them anymore, and it's become difficult for me to bring in the tools I need for work."

Abdelsattar said people in Cairo are tired of sit-ins, starting with the October 2011 Maspero protest held by Coptic Christians that ended violently, with 28 dead.

"They weren't attacked because they were Christians, and the people in Rabaa weren't attacked because they are Muslims," said Abdelsattar, referring to the clash that left at least 72 people dead on Saturday morning.

"It's not sectarian. Residents in these areas don't like protests and marches because it affects their lives."

But despite traffic snarls that prevent almost anything from getting done on time in the capital, some here feel the right to protest is more important than any of the inconveniences they must deal with.

Taxi driver Mohamad Abdelhakem has been among those navigating the worse-than-usual Cairo traffic, clogged up more than ever due to ongoing marches and security roadblocks that have become part of daily life since protests toppled Morsi on July 3.

"The people in Rabaa are righteous," said Abdelhakem, 42, who shrugs off the protest-snarled traffic with, "Cairo has always had traffic."

"If the sit-in or protest is for the public interest, then I don't care if I lose a lot of money or if I lose my job," he said.

"I've lost some of my assets, but I can take it until Morsi is back."

Delicate negotiations

The organisers of the sit-in might realise that their presence is a hardship to Nasr City residents, but they say their right to protest supersedes all else.

"The right to hold a sit-in is a legal, constitutional right," said Wafaa Hefny, who works at the sit-in's media centre.

She said that organisers have made arrangements with the affected buildings to use the space around them and that, in fact, some residents support the sit-in, and issued a statement welcoming protesters to use their homes as needed.

On the Facebook page set up by Nasr City residents, it is claimed that vigil members had asked if they could use building rooftops for "security" purposes - a claim Hefny flatly denies.

"No, they never, never did that," she said, pointing out that many of the surrounding buildings in the area were built to house military personnel and that most are currently occupied by ex-military members.

Still, Hefny acknowledges, "you can't please everyone - it's normal that some people will be mad about it."

"But this is a constitutional right. If they had a problem and they went in the street, I would support their right," said Hefny, who added that organisers respond to complaints by neighbours on issues such as noise and littering.

But Noha Yousry, who lives in the area, said this hasn't been the case.

"They said that the organisers of the protesters would do anything if you complain, but they haven't done anything," said Yousry.

"They have a right to protest in the public space, but not in our garden, but not in our garage, and not in our private building," she said.

"We are not with them or against them - we just want our rights."

Follow @dparvaz on Twitter
Source: Al Jazeera

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201308030013.html>

Egypt: Six Copts Injured in Clashes With Mursi Supporters in Minya 2 August 2013

Six Copts were injured in a Minya village after clashes with pro-Mursi demonstrators on Thursday evening.

The clashes left six injured.

Several Minya residents filed official complaints accusing supporters of deposed president Mohamed Mursi of attacking them and destroying their cars as they go to work in the morning and return back home.

Eyewitnesses said that Mursi's supporters forced the Copts of Nazlet Abid Village to suspend work in more than 400 white brick factories where most village residents work.

In Delga Village south of Minya, the houses of several Copts and village churches were attacked by stones during a pro-Mursi march Thursday night.

Father Ayoub Youssef, the patron of Mar Guirguis Church for Catholics, urged security bodies to intervene in order to put an end to the attacks on Copts.

In preparation for Friday's pro-Mursi demonstrations, security forces in Minya intensified their presence at vital facilities such as the governorate's security headquarters, police stations, and banks.

http://edition.cnn.com/2013/08/02/world/africa/egypt-unrest/?hpt=wo_c2

Another night of unrest in Egypt: Protesters, security forces clash

By Arwa Damon and Hamdi Alkhshali, CNN
August 2, 2013 -- Updated 2117 GMT (0517 HKT)

Threat of crackdown looms over Egypt

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

NEW: Authorities arrest 31 "rioters" outside media complex, state-run media reports
Morsy supporters attempt to storm a media complex, state-run TV reports
Egypt's interior minister has urged pro-Morsy protesters to leave the squares
U.S. secretary of state is criticized for comment on "restoring democracy"

Cairo (CNN) -- Supporters of deposed Egyptian President Mohamed Morsy attempted Friday to storm a media compound outside Cairo, burning tires and firing bird shot at security forces who responded by firing tear gas.

The clash came as the new military-backed government called for an end to two massive pro-Morsy sit-ins in Cairo that have drawn tens of thousands of protesters -- primarily Muslim Brotherhood supporters -- since the military ousted Morsy from office.

Egypt's military toppled Morsy, the country's first democratically elected president, on July 3 and quickly rounded up some of his top supporters. Morsy was just over a year into his presidency. He has not been seen publicly since being detained last month.

Morsy supporters have vowed not to end the protests until Morsy is returned to office, and they have been gearing up in recent days for a possible confrontation with the military after the government's warning.

As tensions rise across the country, so do fears of possible further violence in a country facing its worst crisis since the popular uprising that toppled Hosni Mubarak in 2011. Hundreds have been killed and thousands more wounded in clashes between Morsy's supporters and those opposed to his rule.

Read more: Who is Mohamed Morsy?
Pro-Morsy protesters bracing for worst
Cairo's tent city

Upwards of 600 Morsy supporters targeted the Media Production City, a complex that contains multiple media outlets and production studios, because of what they called biased coverage of the coup.

On Nile TV, thick smoke could be seen rising from the complex, where some protesters had gathered near the front gate. Nile TV reported protesters were throwing Molotov cocktails at security forces, but a policeman at the clash told CNN he did not see anyone throwing Molotovs.

At least 31 people, described by authorities as "rioters," were arrested in the Media Production City melee, state-run media reported.

Ministry of Interior spokesman Gen. Hani Abdellatif said police had fired tear gas at pro-Morsy protesters outside the Media Production City.

As dusk fell Friday, cameras captured how packed the streets were in Cairo's Rabaa al-Adawiya and Nahda Masr squares as people shouted and waved flags. Egyptian state TV reported that security forces would cordon off the squares so people could only exit and not enter.

But Farida Mustafa, a spokeswoman for the Anti-Coup Prodemocracy Alliance, which organized the protests, told CNN that the group had seen no signs of the perimeter of Rabaa al-Adawiya being cordoned off.

Ministry of Interior spokesman Abdellatif also said there was no cordon and refused to confirm the state TV report.

Read more: The rapid rise and fall of Morsy

Before the protests began, Morsy's defenders called for a million-man march from 33 mosques, but it's unclear whether the protest materialized.

In the hours leading to the protests, Egypt's Interior Ministry urged pro-Morsy protesters to leave the squares.

The demonstrations represent a threat to national security and traffic congestion, Information Minister Durriya Sharaf el-Din said Wednesday.

Interim Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim was authorized to take "all necessary measures to face these dangers and end them," el-Din said.

While protesters rallied in Cairo beneath a banner Friday that read, "Egypt against the coup," the U.S. State Department announced that Deputy Secretary of State Bill Burns is visiting the Egyptian capital.

Secretary of State John Kerry asked Burns to discuss with Egyptian leaders "the importance of avoiding violence and helping to facilitate a peaceful and inclusive political process," a release said.

Burns was in Egypt in mid-July visiting with interim government leaders.

The United States is concerned by reports that government critics in Egypt are being denied the right to peaceful protest, State Department deputy spokeswoman Marie Harf said Thursday.

"It's essential that the security forces in the interim government respect the right of peaceful protest, including the ongoing sit-in demonstrations," she said.

But Kerry's remarks Thursday in an interview with CNN's Pakistan affiliate, GEO TV, angered some Morsy supporters.

Asked why the United States is "not taking a clear position" on Morsy being deposed, Kerry replied, "The military was asked to intervene by millions and millions of people, all of whom were afraid of a descent into chaos, into violence.

"And the military did not take over, to the best of our judgment so -- so far. To run the country, there's a civilian government," he said. "In effect, they were restoring democracy."

Muslim Brotherhood spokesman Gehad El-Haddad denounced Kerry's words and accused the Obama administration of being "complicit in the military coup."

"Is it the job of the army to restore democracy?" he asked.

He then asked whether Kerry would accept the removal of the U.S. government by the military if large protests took place there.

"Such rhetoric is very alarming. The American people should stand against an administration that is corrupting their values in supporting tyranny and dictatorship," he said.

Opinion: How to rescue the Arab Spring

A visiting African Union delegation went to the Rabaa al-Adawiya sit-in Thursday night.

Earlier, the group Human Rights Watch urged the government to order a halt to any immediate plans to break up the Muslim Brotherhood sit-ins by force and "deal peacefully with any problems arising."

"To avoid another bloodbath, Egypt's civilian rulers need to ensure the ongoing right of protesters to assemble peacefully, and seek alternatives to a forcible dispersal of the crowds," said Nadim Houry, deputy Middle East director at Human Rights Watch.

Houry warned that the number of protesters packed together in the squares means "hundreds of lives could be lost if the sit-in is forcibly dispersed."

Opinion: Morsy holds key to Egypt's future

The warning from Human Rights Watch echoed one issued by fellow rights group Amnesty International that warned any attempt by the government to break up the sit-ins was a "recipe for a bloodbath."

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/08/20138345711260334.html>

Morsi supporters defy orders to end sit-ins

Rallies continue and clashes with police erupt in Egypt's capital even as foreign pressure to solve crisis mounts.

Last Modified: 03 Aug 2013 08:48

Backers of Egypt's deposed President Mohamed Morsi have staged defiant rallies and clashed with police in Cairo, after the government ordered their protest camps to be broken up.

Police reportedly fired tear gas and birdshot at roughly 1,000 protesters on Friday who tried to set up a new camp outside Media Production City, where satellite television channels are based.

The US stepped up its diplomatic efforts, meanwhile, sending its top Middle East official to Cairo for a second time.

William Burns, US undersecretary of state, is the latest international envoy on a mission to press Morsi's backers and the interim government to resolve the stand-off peacefully.

Elsewhere, Ayman al-Zawahiri, the Egyptian-born head of al-Qaeda, accused the US of "plotting" Morsi's overthrow with the Egyptian military and the country's Christian minority.

"Crusaders and secularists and the Americanised army have converged ... with Gulf money and American plotting to topple Mohamed Morsi's government," he said in a 15-minute audio recording posted online.

In his first comments since July 3 - when Morsi was removed from power, Zawahiri also attacked Morsi's secular opposition and Coptic Christians, who he said wanted a secessionist state in Egypt, and called for a mass movement to install Islamic law.

Dispersing rallies

In Cairo, Morsi supporters went on marches after Friday prayers, pouring out of several mosques in the capital.

The early evening protest outside Media Production City saw at least one protester wounded by birdshot.

The demonstrators said police fired tear gas when they tried to camp outside the compound.

However, the interior ministry accused the protesters of firing birdshot, wounding a conscript, and said police made 31 arrests.

Morsi's supporters have remained defiant even after the interim government warned this week that police would be authorised to disperse crowds in "gradual steps".

In particular, the interior ministry urged those at protest sites in Rabaa al-Adawiya and Nahda squares "to let reason and the national interest prevail, and to quickly leave".

The state-owned Al-Ahram newspaper reported on Friday that police had a plan to disperse the sit-ins but were holding out for a peaceful resolution.

More than 250 people have been killed since Morsi's removal from power on July 3 and diplomatic efforts to avoid further bloodshed have picked up pace this week.

Foreign pressure grows

Burns' arrival in Cairo on Friday night was preceded by trips by the EU's foreign policy chief, Catherine Ashton, and Middle East envoy, Bernardino Leon; Guido Westerwelle, the German foreign minister; and Alpha Oumar Konare, an African Union delegate.

Ashton and Konare both met Morsi, who is detained, and reported that he was in good health.

A senior member of the Freedom and Justice Party, the political arm of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood, said the European envoys had asked them to end their sit-ins.

They have also been angered by comments from John Kerry, the US secretary of state, who told Pakistani television that Egypt's military was "restoring democracy".

Rights group Amnesty International meanwhile demanded an investigation into allegations that Morsi's supporters tortured opponents in Cairo near their protest camps.

It said opponents of Morsi reported being "captured, beaten, subjected to electric shocks or stabbed by individuals loyal to the former President."

Morsi has been formally remanded in custody on suspicion of offences when he broke out of prison during the 2011 revolt that toppled former president Hosni Mubarak.

Prosecutors have also referred three top Muslim Brotherhood leaders, including supreme guide Mohamed Badie, for prosecution on allegations of inciting the deaths of demonstrators.
Source: Al Jazeera and agencies

http://www.lexpress.fr/actualite/monde/proche-orient/egypte-les-coptes-pris-dans-la-toumente_1270470.html

Egypte: les coptes pris dans la toumente

De notre correspondante Nina Hubinet, publié le 03/08/2013 à 09:44

Depuis le coup de force de l'armée qui a chassé du pouvoir Mohamed Morsi, les attaques contre la communauté chrétienne se multiplient. Car certains extrémistes musulmans désignent les coptes comme responsables de la chute de l'ex-président.

Une dizaine de familles chrétiennes ont trouvé refuge dans l'église Mar Yohanna, à Nagaa Hassan, en Haute-Egypte, où 30 maisons coptes ont été attaquées le 5 juillet dernier.

VIRGINIE NGUYEN HOANG/HANSLUCAS

Des vendeurs de mangues ont installé leurs étals le long du canal de Nagaa Hassan. Une rangée de palmiers et d'eucalyptus leur offre une ombre salutaire. Un vieil homme, juché sur son âne, lance un salut chaleureux à l'un des marchands, vêtu d'une galabiya blanche, la robe masculine traditionnelle en Egypte. Il lui répond par une boutade, et l'un et l'autre font entendre un rire sonore, pendant que le vieil homme s'éloigne au rythme lent du pas de son âne, indifférent aux voitures qui le dépassent.

Dans la chaleur écrasante de ce début de ramadan, Nagaa Hassan, un village situé sur la rive occidentale du Nil, en face de Louxor, semble incarner la tranquillité immuable de la campagne égyptienne. Sauf qu'ici aussi les coups de théâtre de la transition politique viennent écorner la carte postale. Lorsqu'on franchit le haut portail de l'église Mar Yohanna, on découvre des regards de douleur mêlée de rage.

Etude de la Bible à Louxor. C'est dans le sud du pays que les chrétiens sont le plus nombreux.

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Des hommes et des femmes sont assis à l'ombre, immobiles, hagards, alors que des enfants se chamaillent en riant dans la cour du sanctuaire. Dans une sorte de cuisine improvisée, deux femmes découpent des légumes pour le repas du soir, un homme fait cuire des oignons sur un réchaud tandis qu'un autre distribue des galettes de pain. "Dix familles sont toujours réfugiées ici, car leurs maisons ont été complètement détruites", explique El Hassan Refaat, chargé des enquêtes de terrain au sein de l'Initiative égyptienne pour les droits de la personne (EIPR), une organisation de défense des droits de l'homme. Le 5 juillet dernier, deux jours après le coup de force de l'armée égyptienne contre l'ex-président Mohamed Morsi, les coptes de Nagaa Hassan ont été attaqués. Les chrétiens étaient alors pris pour cible dans plusieurs régions du pays. Dans ce village de Haute-Egypte, quatre d'entre eux ont été tués, et plus de 30 maisons appartenant à des coptes ont été saccagées, pillées et parfois incendiées.

Les agresseurs: de jeunes voisins

Dans le bureau du père Vassilios Naïm, trois femmes en noir attendent le prêtre de l'église, assises sous un portrait de Chenouda III, l'ancien patriarche copte, décédé en mars 2012. De larges cernes creusent les yeux de Madeline Abdel Nour et de ses filles. Lorsque le religieux entre dans la pièce, elles lui baisent la main avec dévotion. Madeline, la quarantaine, ajuste son voile noir et commence son récit.

"Mon mari, Ghassem, était fonctionnaire. Il n'a jamais eu de problème avec les voisins ou ses collègues de travail. Il était généreux avec chacun, chrétien comme musulman. Tout le monde l'aimait." Elle marque une pause, inspire longuement. "Quand les attaques ont commencé, vers 11 heures, on s'est réfugiés chez ma voisine, Oum Mohareb, parce que l'entrée de sa maison est protégée par un rideau métallique. Six autres familles nous ont rejoints. Puis des

centaines d'hommes se sont massés devant la maison, en criant des slogans antichrétiens... A l'intérieur, on ne faisait plus un bruit. Ils ont commencé à frapper très fort à la porte."

Ses mains malaxent son mouchoir. Elle dit que les familles prises au piège ont appelé la police à plusieurs reprises, sans succès. "Vers 19 h 30, ils se sont mis à lancer des cocktails Molotov contre la maison. Un voisin musulman a essayé de nous faire sortir par la porte de derrière, mais c'était trop risqué, on a renoncé. On étouffait à cause de la fumée, les femmes criaient... C'était horrible." Après des heures d'attente, les policiers arrivent enfin devant la maison assiégée, avec deux véhicules blindés. "Ils ont demandé aux femmes de sortir... On refusait d'abandonner nos fils et nos maris", raconte Madeline. Finalement, les policiers évacuent les femmes et les enfants et promettent de revenir pour secourir les quatre hommes restés dans la maison. Mais quelques minutes après le départ des blindés, les assaillants s'engouffrent dans le bâtiment, et tuent les quatre coptes à l'arme blanche. "Est-ce que ce n'est pas haram [illégal, selon l'islam], ce qu'ils ont fait?" s'écrie soudain Madeline, les yeux rougis par les larmes. L'une de ses filles, une adolescente au visage poupin, prend la parole. "Ceux qui nous ont attaqués, ce sont des jeunes d'ici, pas des extrémistes. On les croise tous les jours dans la rue... Pourquoi s'en sont-ils pris à tous les chrétiens du village? Ils auraient pu prendre les deux hommes qui étaient impliqués dans le meurtre, et laisser les autres en paix."

Comme souvent lors des violences entre chrétiens et musulmans en Egypte, une affaire privée est à l'origine de l'embrasement à Nagaa Hassan. "Le corps d'un musulman du village a été retrouvé jeudi dans le Nil, pieds et poings liés, la veille des attaques contre les chrétiens, rapporte El Hassan Refaat. On raconte qu'il s'est disputé avec un ami copte et que ça aurait mal tourné, ou qu'il était l'amant d'une chrétienne... Personne ne sait vraiment." En Haute-Egypte, le tar régit toujours les rapports sociaux : d'après ce code d'honneur, si un homme est tué, sa famille doit le venger en tuant un membre de la famille du meurtrier. Lorsque le crime implique des chrétiens, la vengeance ciblée se transforme souvent en punition collective. "On vit plus côte à côte qu'ensemble"

Depuis la fin des années 1990, la violence contre les coptes, qui représentent environ 8 % des 85 millions d'Egyptiens, soit la plus importante communauté chrétienne du Moyen-Orient, a changé de nature. Ils ne sont plus pris pour cible par les groupes islamistes armés, en guerre contre l'Etat égyptien, comme c'était le cas dans les années 1980 et 1990. En revanche, les affrontements entre "citoyens ordinaires", coptes et musulmans, sont de plus en plus fréquents. Une conséquence de la réislamisation de la société égyptienne et du repli sur soi, par réaction, des coptes.

Dans les décombres de la demeure d'Oum Mohareb, où quatre hommes, dont Emile Nassim, farouche opposant aux Frères musulmans, ont été tués à l'arme blanche.

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"Cette évolution est liée à la séparation croissante des deux communautés, souligne Laure Guirguis, spécialiste, à l'université de Montréal, des rapports entre l'Etat et les communautés au Moyen-Orient. On va moins les uns chez les autres, on vit plus côte à côte qu'ensemble." Dans ce climat d'incompréhension et de méfiance, la moindre querelle entre chrétiens et musulmans peut dégénérer. Les attaques sont globalement moins meurtrières, mais plus imprévisibles, puisqu'un voisin, jusque-là cordial, peut se transformer du jour au lendemain en assaillant.

Cette séparation est encore plus flagrante dans le sud de l'Égypte, où les chrétiens sont proportionnellement plus nombreux que dans le reste du pays. C'est aussi en Haute-Égypte que les groupes islamistes armés des décennies 1980 et 1990, tels que la Gamaa Islamiya, avaient leurs bases. S'ils ont officiellement renoncé à la violence, leur idéologie radicale reste présente. Le Parti de la construction et du développement, créé par la Gamaa Islamiya après la révolution, a ainsi remporté un nombre important de voix dans la région lors des législatives de la fin 2011.

Dans le cas de Nagaa Hassan, cependant, il ne s'agit pas seulement d'une querelle personnelle qui a mal tourné. Car le soir même de la chute de Mohamed Morsi, les chrétiens ont été attaqués aux quatre coins du pays. A Marsa Matrouh, un bastion salafiste proche de la frontière avec la Libye, des cocktails Molotov ont été lancés contre une église. A Delga, près de la ville de Minya, également en Haute-Égypte, des centaines d'hommes ont saccagé une église, pillé et incendié plusieurs maisons appartenant à des coptes. Le 6 juillet, à Al-Arish, dans le Nord-Sinaï, un prêtre a été tué par balle, en plein jour, dans un marché de la ville. Cinq jours plus tard, un autre copte a été retrouvé décapité dans la même région, où des groupes islamistes armés attaquent quotidiennement les soldats et la police depuis la destitution de Mohamed Morsi. "A chaque fois, on ne connaît pas l'identité exacte des assaillants, mais il semble clair que ce sont des partisans de Morsi, furieux de son éviction", avance Ishak Ibrahim, responsable des questions de liberté religieuse au sein de l'EIPR.

Pourquoi se venger sur les coptes du coup de force des militaires? Une partie de ceux qui soutiennent Mohamed Morsi pensent en fait que les chrétiens ont joué un rôle central dans la fronde contre le président islamiste.

Sherine Michel, impliquée dans la campagne Tamarod à Louxor, estime que l'engagement politique des coptes ne faiblira pas, en dépit des violences.

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Ils savent que l'Occident est très sensible aux attaques contre les chrétiens

"La majorité des manifestants du 30 juin étaient des chrétiens", assure ainsi Adel Shalaby, un membre des Frères musulmans présent au sit-in des pro-Morsi, autour de la mosquée Rabaa El Adawiya, au Caire. "Les coptes ont peur du projet islamiste. C'est pour cela qu'ils se sont alliés avec l'ancien régime et l'armée pour fomenter ce complot contre le président Morsi." Un discours que plusieurs dirigeants des Frères musulmans tiennent depuis le lancement, début mai, de la campagne Tamarod ("rébellion", en arabe), qui réclamait la démission du président. Et l'apparition du pape copte, Tawadros II, lors de l'annonce de la destitution de Mohamed Morsi, aux côtés du chef des forces armées, Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, et du grand imam d'al-Azhar, a apporté de l'eau au moulin des tenants de la théorie du complot. "Lors d'une crise, les minorités deviennent des outils de pression sur le pouvoir, souligne Ishak Ibrahim. Les partisans les plus extrémistes de Morsi peuvent utiliser la carte des violences confessionnelles pour menacer de semer le chaos dans le pays. Ils savent aussi que l'Occident est très sensible aux attaques contre les chrétiens."

"Ils l'ont tué parce qu'il parlait librement"

Qu'il s'agisse ou non d'une stratégie, cette dernière vague d'attaques confessionnelles a été fatale à Emile Nassim. Ce commerçant de 41 ans est l'un des quatre coptes tués à Nagaa Hassan, lorsque la foule a fait irruption dans la maison d'Oum Mohareb. C'était un notable du

village, engagé en politique depuis des années, ardent défenseur des droits des coptes et pourfendeur des Frères musulmans. "Ils l'ont tué parce qu'il parlait librement", estime sa veuve, Marsa, en pleurs. Dans sa maison saccagée, des feuilles estampillées "Tamarod" traînent parmi les débris calcinés: Emile Nassim avait fait signer la pétition à tout le monde dans son village. "Ceux qui soutiennent Morsi ont pris prétexte de l'histoire du musulman tué par des chrétiens pour assassiner cet activiste", croit savoir Ehab, jeune barbier copte de Nagaa Hassan. "Il avait déjà reçu des menaces par téléphone, et sa voiture avait été brûlée à deux reprises", précise Sherine Michel, militante de la campagne Tamarod à Louxor, qui connaissait bien Emile Nassim. "A la campagne, les gens acceptent mal qu'un chrétien ait un rôle politique important", souligne la jeune femme, elle-même chrétienne. "Il avait une approche assez communautariste de la politique, reconnaît-elle. Il répétait toujours : "L'Egypte est un pays copte"... C'est peut-être ça, aussi, qui a causé des problèmes."
"Vrais" Egyptiens et majorité musulmane

De nombreux chrétiens se perçoivent en effet comme les "vrais" Egyptiens: ils aiment à rappeler que le mot "copte" veut dire "égyptien" en grec, et que l'islam n'est arrivé qu'au VIIe siècle en Egypte, alors que le pays était presque entièrement chrétien. De là à considérer que la majorité musulmane est moins légitime sur le sol égyptien que la minorité copte, il n'y a qu'un pas, que certains mouvements coptes communautaristes et parfois islamophobes, devenus populaires à partir des années 2000, n'hésitent pas à franchir.

L'engagement dans la campagne Tamarod était aisé puisque l'Eglise y avait donné son approbation tacite, à l'inverse du soulèvement de janvier 2011

Pourtant, Sherine Michel reste persuadée que les violences de Nagaa Hassan ne vont pas dissuader les chrétiens de s'engager en politique aux côtés de leurs concitoyens musulmans: "Depuis la révolution, les coptes participent de plus en plus à la vie politique, et ce n'est pas près de s'arrêter. "Une vision optimiste que Laure Guirguis tient à nuancer: "La majorité des chrétiens ne se sont pas encore affranchis de l'influence de l'Eglise. L'engagement dans la campagne Tamarod était plus aisé, de ce point de vue, puisque l'Eglise y avait donné son approbation tacite, à l'inverse du soulèvement de janvier 2011, souligne-t-elle. La révolution a exacerbé les antagonismes au sein de la société égyptienne: il y a une recrudescence de discours de haine, d'un côté comme de l'autre. Les choses ne peuvent pas changer du jour au lendemain: depuis une trentaine d'années, chaque communauté s'est repliée sur elle-même, des imaginaires distincts se sont construits, et il n'est pas facile d'aller contre cette tendance de fond."

Malgré le discours de façade, omniprésent en Egypte, qui clame que chrétiens et musulmans sont "une seule main", le fossé est bien réel. A l'heure où les soutiens les plus radicaux de Mohamed Morsi voudraient que le conflit politique en cours prenne une tournure confessionnelle, cette fracture risque fort de persister.

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2013/08/05/317236/clashes-reported-in-egypts-nile-delta/>

Clashes reported in Egypt's Nile Delta city of Tanta



Supporters of Egypt's ousted President Mohamed Morsi take part in a demonstration in the Mediterranean city of Alexandria, July 26, 2013.

Mon Aug 5, 2013 3:8AM GMT

LAST UPDATE

More than one month after the ouster of Egypt's President Mohamed Morsi, his supporters say they will not give up the sit-ins until he is reinstated.

Related Interviews:



'Egypt military serves as conduit for US'



'MB lost its chances in political scene'

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Dozens of people have been injured in Egypt's Nile Delta city of Tanta in an incident where police used tear gas to end clashes between rival groups, Press TV reports.

The clashes during the late hours of Sunday erupted between supporters of ousted President Mohamed Morsi and thugs who are said to have besieged a mosque and hospital close to the scene of the skirmishes.

Pro-Morsi protesters were also attacked in the northern province of Damietta with live gunfire and birdshots. Some 50 people were wounded in the assault while clashes were also reported in Beheira Province, also in the north.

Tension has intensified in Egypt since the head of the Egyptian armed forces, General Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi, announced on July 3 that Morsi was no longer in office. Sisi also suspended the constitution and dissolved the parliament.

Supporters of Morsi on Sunday held their ground in the capital, Cairo, despite the army's deadline to end the sit-ins.

On August 2, Egypt's state TV said in an announcement that within the following 48 hours security forces would impose a blockade on the two main protest sites of Cairo - where demonstrators have camped out - permitting people to leave but not to enter.

More than one month after the ouster of Morsi, his supporters say they will not give up the sit-ins until he is reinstated.

On Sunday, Egypt's army spokesman Colonel Ahmed Aly said in a statement that Sisi had met with several representatives of Islamic movements and "stressed that there are opportunities for a peaceful solution to the crisis provided all sides reject violence."

MI/MR/HSN

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2013/08/20138618858415814.html>

Cairo: City of rumours and paranoia

With rampant distrust in politicians, the military and the media, how do Egyptians separate truth from fiction?

D. Parvaz Last Modified: 06 Aug 2013 18:52

One paper suggests the Muslim Brotherhood smuggled chemical weapons to pro-Morsi sit-ins [D.Parvaz/Al Jazeera]

Cairo, Egypt - This hectic capital, home to 18 million people, is a city of rumours - a place where a man can't trust his own shadow, let alone what he's told by politicians or the media.

The push for restoring democracy here - either by reinstating deposed president Mohamed Morsi, or by holding fresh elections - faces a huge obstacle in the lack of trust from all sides towards politicians, the media and each other.

Since the 2011 uprising that toppled Hosni Mubarak and the periods of chaos that have followed, a heightened state of tension - at times marked with paranoia - has become the norm.

Among other entirely unfounded rumours, the following claims have been swirling upon the streets: That the military used a special type of tear gas on pro-Morsi protesters on the

morning of July 27, during the deadly clashes. Also that the pro-Morsi supporters have planted landmines in the botanical gardens in Giza. And that the Muslim Brotherhood is stashing chemical weapons procured from the Free Syrian Army at the sit-ins.

Maher Abdelfattah said he doesn't believe most of what he reads or sees on television.

"I think maybe they [politicians and the military] try to use news and rumours as a test balloon," said the 53-year-old carpenter, pointing to the Maspero media building.

Like many, he's left to his own devices to verify information, and says he has very few trusted sources in the current atmosphere of distrust.

Abdelfattah's interview with Al Jazeera was interrupted by a man who, suspicious of the conversation, demanded this reporter's identification, and said he wanted to call the police - until his friends stepped in to calm him down.

But in today's Egypt, this level of paranoia has become alarmingly common.

Seeing is (almost) believing

Mahmud Ali, of the Egyptian Association for Supporting Democracy, said that the current atmosphere of gossip and hearsay could be attributed to the massive polarisation in society, which has been starkly reflected in the nation's press.

"The media is being used to distribute the government line, rather than committing to objective values" said Ali, explaining that, in this tense atmosphere, the facts can be hard to find.

"Even objective news agencies struggle because of the contradictory messages often coming out of the same government agency," said Ali.

If people whose training and livelihoods are based on finding and verifying information still struggle to find certainty, the general public is going to have an even harder time deciphering fact from fiction.

"The public, in the end, is the victim," said Ali. "It becomes impossible to verify the information or news that they are presented with."

Still, some try.

"I trust the army, so when I hear that they're shooting people, I don't believe it," said Magdy Yusef.

"If I hear there are some clashes, I go down to see what's happening. Not to get involved, just to see for myself," said the 23-year-old waiter.

And if that fails?

"I use Google to try to verify it."

Reports and denials

These days, almost as soon as something is reported, it is denied - often times by the very people quoted in the story denounced. One must be prepared to totally abandon any piece of information as false at whiplash-inducing speed.

For example, a local newspaper reported on Sunday that Morsi's supporters felt defeated and were on the verge of negotiating a deal and sending him into exile - a claim vehemently denied by the Muslim Brotherhood hours later.

On Monday, a news agency, quoting an unnamed military source, reported that the military had offered the Muslim Brotherhood a deal that would free its detained leaders, unfreeze their assets and give them three cabinet positions in the new government.

A military spokesman immediately denied the report.

Safwat el-Alem, a professor in the mass communications department at Cairo University said that the media wasn't only manipulating the public - it too has been "manipulated for political agendas".

And even that message can seem unclear, because "the political performance of the interim government is confused - and this is reflected in the media as well", he added.

The denial of reports, then the retraction of those denials - as was the case with the Ministry of Interior and the delegation of envoys who visited Khairat el-Shater, the deputy leader of the Muslim Brotherhood - are proof "the incompetent performance of the government is reflected in the media", said el-Alem.

The problem - with the media, at least - is the result of a historic legacy that stretches way beyond the current situation, or even the 2011 revolution.

"It's easy to criticise the media for its biases, but the root of the problem is that there is no independent organising body that documents, analyses and evaluates Egyptian media," said el-Alem. Media regulating mechanisms in Egypt "are obsolete", he said.

This allows outlets to be used for "advocacy or propaganda for the military and the government, presenting one point of view," he said.

"News that doesn't support that agenda gets very short play in the media here."

But some, such as Ayman Wagih, don't even believe the news when it agrees with their political views.

For example, 34-year-old Wagih believes there are "terrorists" in Egypt - he considers the Muslim Brotherhood to be a terrorist organisation. Yet, when he read in a local newspaper that the police had managed to defuse three bombs in Nasr Hospital, he remains sceptical.

"I just don't believe it - how do they always manage to defuse these bombs?"

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Source: Al Jazeera

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2013/08/20138511724271643.html>

In Orwellian Egypt, a state of denial rules

Behind the bloody conflict in Egypt is a state of denial among competing actors of each other's place in society.

Last Modified: 06 Aug 2013 10:17

Deepak Tripathi

Deepak Tripathi, fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, is a British historian of the Middle East, the Cold War and America in the post-Soviet world.

US Secretary of State John Kerry recently described the military coup in Egypt as "restoring democracy" [AP]

A society in which important actors live in denial of each other's interests and legitimacy is a society threatened by the abyss. There is ample evidence of this destructive phenomenon through the history of the Middle East, as elsewhere.

One of the biggest casualties of the phenomenon of Arab awakening was Egypt's ruler Hosni Mubarak, whose fall in February 2011 looked like a pivotal event strong enough to accelerate democratic change across the region. Two years on, the prospects are bleak. After the recent military coup, Egypt is in the midst of a civil conflict which is bloodier and more repressive. The continuing violence and schism are more depressing than the final weeks and months of the Mubarak regime.

Authoritarian rule, rebellion and repression have shaped mindsets throughout Egypt's social hierarchy. The collapse of Mubarak's autocratic rule had sparked new hopes of an open and enlightened era, free of corruption and mismanagement. But those with power to control and coerce have a strong instinct to reassert themselves when they see their grip weakening. An essential feature of that instinct is to dismiss the legitimate existence and interests of others. It is by denying the legitimacy of the others that powerful actors' claim their own legitimacy. Egyptian anti-coup protesters continue sit-in

When General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi announced the removal of a freely elected president and suspension of the constitution, the army chief's assertion was unmistakable, and his choice of words strange in the light of recent events. The army acted, according to General al-Sisi, because Morsi "had failed to meet the demands of the Egyptian people". This despite the fact that Mohamed Morsi had won the presidential election a year before; and a constitution had been approved. There had been complaints that the document was too Islamist and vested too much power in the presidency, but it was supported by almost a two-thirds majority of Egyptians who voted.

The constitution, no doubt, was controversial and divisive, pushed through in a rush against a vocal opposition - a minority as the referendum result showed. However, a military coup was definitely not a remedy. For when mistakes are made in a democracy, the perpetrators must be punished through the ballot box, and decisions should be altered likewise.

A military coup which deposes an elected leader and repression mean the very antithesis of democracy and the rule of law founded on popular consent. Both holders and contenders of power are responsible for the crisis in Egypt.

ElBaradei and expedient alliances with the army

Morsi lived in denial of forces pitted against him, to his peril. The regime entrenched now in Cairo is dismissive of Morsi, his party, his supporters and independent Egyptians who disapprove of the military coup. Crowds of protesters are treated harshly. Orders of the new regime that opposition crowds must disperse face defiance despite heavy-handed tactics. Protesters are accused of threatening security. Media outlets have been forced to close. General al-Sisi has all but declared his own "war on terror" and the interior ministry has announced the resurrection of the Mubarak-era state security services.

The army has been empowered to arrest citizens, thus assuming the role of internal policing. General al-Sisi may formally be defence minister and army chief under a civilian president and a civilian prime minister. In truth, it is he who rules Egypt with an iron fist. The rest is a facade, giving cover to the new draconian order.

Erstwhile champions of democracy, identified with Egypt's liberal and secular forces, find themselves on the spot, not least Mohamed ElBaradei, occupying the post of vice president following the Morsi government's overthrow. Few would have thought that ElBaradei, ex-chief of the UN's Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and, to many, a symbol of the conscience of Egyptians involved in a painful struggle for democratic freedoms, would be sitting at the pinnacle of power, installed at the military's pleasure. But the bizarre has happened. Egypt's political shades of grey

The future of civilian politicians making accommodations with military dictators is seldom promising. In Egypt, the masses have despised officials of past dictatorial regimes. The schism in the wake of the recent coup is evidence of something similar. It has happened elsewhere, perhaps most notably in Pakistan under General Ziaul Haq, who was killed when his plane was bombed in 1988, and more recently General Pervez Musharraf, who is in detention and facing multiple charges.

The armed forces have ruled Egypt for six decades and still look invincible. It is nonetheless difficult to predict the future when a country is so polarised. Suggestions that Egyptian society is split between the pro- and anti-Morsi camps, or between supporters of Morsi and the military, are too simplistic. The conflict is far more complex and multi-layered. Many opponents of the deposed president are protesting now that the military is back in power.

Orwellian Egypt

Paradoxes are many in Egypt. President Morsi won the election and the Muslim Brotherhood gained legitimacy under the law, but then persisted with constitutional manoeuvres which, to many, looked like a creeping power grab. Morsi concluded, unwisely, that the Egyptian military establishment had been tamed after some top military officers were removed.

The Brotherhood in government failed to realise that the army was down but by no means out. The articulate minority of liberals and secularists was not going to be silent. Egypt had just

stepped out of a totalitarian era, but still was prone to slipping back in. An important Arab country such as Egypt in a region of great strategic interest for foreign powers was unlikely to be left to its people to make choices. For there is evidence that the military coup happened under America's close watch.

The Obama administration was in discomfort at Egypt's elections, and can barely contain its relief mixed with delight at the overthrow of Morsi by the military. Ensuring that Egypt remained under US influence, by keeping the army on its side, was far more important than democracy. The primacy of Egypt's usefulness over what was morally right or wrong was all important. So the notion of a "democratic" coup was born, and hailed by the American Secretary of State John Kerry, who claimed that the soldiers were "restoring democracy" when they overthrew Morsi. Kerry's statement was an exercise in absurdity.

One is reminded of George Orwell, author of the dystopian novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, who said, "It is almost universally felt that when we call a country democratic we are praising it. Consequently, the defenders of every kind of regime claim that it is a democracy." Orwell's words have a strange resemblance with Egypt in 2013.

Deepak Tripathi, fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, is a British historian of the Middle East, the Cold War and America in the world.

Follow him on Twitter: @Deepak_Tripathi

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<http://english.ahram.org.eg/News/78494.aspx>

One killed in Alexandria clashes between supporters, opponents of Morsi Ahram Online, Wednesday 7 Aug 2013

One person died and at least 35 were wounded during clashes between the supporters and opponents of ousted President Mohamed Morsi in Alexandria, Egypt's second-largest city.

Demonstrators in a march supporting Morsi were involved in scuffles with army supporters in the Alexandria neighborhood of El-Mansheya in the late hours of Tuesday. Birdshots and live rounds were reportedly fired by protesters in the clashes.

"One person was killed and dozens were injured. The hospital is ready to receive the wounded and treat them immediately," Osama Aboul-Saoud, head of Alexandria's University hospital, told state-run news agency MENA.

A bus was torched and windows of many restaurants and shops were smashed in the clashes, according to Ahram's Arabic-language news website.

Around 300 people have been killed since the army overthrew Morsi on 3 July, incurring the wrath of Islamists who have held numerous marches and protests since then to demand his reinstatement.

Protesters clash with residents in Rabaa Al-Adaweya

Manar Mohsen / August 7, 2013 / 2 Comments / 918 Views

Residents face violence after attempting to remove a blockade belonging to the Rabaa sit-in

Egyptian supporters of the deposed president Mohamed Morsi carry a giant poster bearing his portrait during a demonstration against the government in Cairo on August 2, 2013.
(AFP Photo)

Violence broke out between Nasr City residents and supporters of ousted president Mohammed Morsi near the Rabaa Al-Adaweya sit-in on Tuesday night. The fighting, which lasted for several hours, started after residents attempted to dismantle a blockade made out of rocks by the protesters on Youssef Abbas Street.

Protesters said they constructed the blockade as a security measure to fend off attacks against the sit-in, however residents argue that it hinders their freedom of movement

The call to remove the blockade was made by the Facebook group, SOS Rabaa Al-Adaweya Residents, and was answered by over ten residents who set out at 10.30pm on Tuesday to take apart the road obstruction.

According to accounts published on the Facebook page, when residents insisted on the removal of the blockade hundreds of protesters rushed to push them back, attacking them with sticks and throwing bottles and stones. The residents also alleged that they retreated once protesters fired gunshots in their direction.

The group added that several residents were badly injured during the fighting; one suffered from a skull fracture after protesters attacked him with wooden sticks.

The clashes ended with a failed attempt at negotiating the removal of the barrier. SOS Rabaa Al-Adaweya Residents has criticised security forces for failing to ensure their safety and freedom of movement.

“The situation is no longer safe for us, for we are not as armed as them,” the group said.

Defiant Morsi supporters march in Cairo

Supporters of deposed Egyptian leader take to streets despite warning from interim PM of imminent crackdown.

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Supporters of Egypt's deposed President Mohamed Morsi are continuing to stage rallies, with some clashes reported, despite a warning from the interim prime minister of an imminent crackdown on their protest camps.

Morsi supporters called for marches to begin after Friday afternoon prayers as the nation rested on the second day of the Eid al-Fitr holiday.

"The Egyptian people are continuing, and the days will only increase their determination to persist in their peaceful struggle until the country returns to the democratic path, until the coup is completely ended," the Anti-Coup Alliance said in a statement.

The pro-Morsi group called on the marchers to set off from mosques in Cairo.

Twenty-eight pro-Morsi protesters and one police officer were injured when clashes broke out between the demonstrators and police as crowds gathered outside the security directorate in Fayoum, police said.

Reuters news agency later quoted security sources saying that the clashes had taken place between several hundred supporters and opponents of Morsi.

Some of the injured suffered the effects of teargas inhalation, while birdshot wounds were also reported by the health ministry.

In separate incidents in the Nile Delta province of Gharbiya, four people were injured in fights between pro-Morsi protesters and residents near an army base, state-run Al-Ahram newspaper said. Thirteen Morsi supporters were arrested, according to Reuters.

Al Jazeera's Rawya Rageh, reporting from Cairo, said that UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon on Saturday urged both sides of the divide in Egypt to show restraint and to favour dialogue over confrontation.

"(Such statements) keep up the international pressure on both sides (and) urge them to come to the negotiating table because, of course, the alternative could be a potentially ugly confrontation, something that no-one wants to see," our correspondent said.

Celebratory mood

Al Jazeera's Rory Challands, reporting from Cairo, said that demonstrations at the 28 marches called by the Anti-Coup Alliance had been largely incident-free and demonstrators were largely in a celebratory mood.

The government has said it held off from breaking up the protest camps in Cairo out of respect for the holy month of Ramadan, which ended on Wednesday night, and to give foreign mediators to find a peaceful solution.

But the interim prime minister, Hazem al-Beblawi, warned late on Thursday "that the situation is approaching the moment we would rather avoid".

"The government wants to give the protesters, especially the reasonable ones among them, a chance to reconcile and heed the voice of reason," he said.

Pro-Morsi protesters had set up two protest camps in Cairo days before his overthrow on July 3 in a popularly backed military coup. They insist that they will disperse only when Morsi is reinstated.

More than 100 people, mostly Morsi loyalists, were killed in previous confrontations with police and soldiers.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/08/2013811143443668695.html>

Egypt confirms deaths in Sinai air raid

Twenty-five armed fighters killed and injured in overnight raid, as army vows to restore order across country.

Last Modified: 11 Aug 2013 16:03

The Egyptian military has said that 25 armed fighters have been killed and injured during an overnight raid in its northern Sinai peninsula.

Ahmed Ali, a spokesman for Egypt's military, said on Sunday that a weapons depot was also destroyed during the helicopter assault, south of Touma village in Sheikh Zuwaid city in North Sinai.

Ali said that the depot "was being used for terrorist acts against the armed forces and police, terrorising the innocent citizens of North Sinai".

He did not offer a breakdown of casualties, but sources said at least 12 people were killed.

He said that the military and police forces would continue to chase the fighters until security and stability was restored in North Sinai and all around Egypt.

Security sources told Al Jazeera on Sunday that six people were arrested during the raid.

The assault follows an air strike by the Egyptian military on Friday, which killed four people.

The armed group, Ansar Beit al-Maqdis, had earlier said Israeli drones were behind the attack and accused the Egyptian army of co-ordinating it with the Israelis.

Escalated attacks

A funeral was held for the four killed fighters on Saturday, with their bodies being driven through several border towns in Sinai.

Dozens of men on pick-up trucks flying their black flag paraded through the towns, in an act of defiance to the army, witnesses said.

"Our heroes became martyrs during their jihadi duties against the Jews in a rocket attack on occupied lands," Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis said on its website.

Fighters based mainly in the northern Sinai near Israel's border have escalated attacks on security forces and other targets since July 3, when the army ousted President Mohamed Morsi and installed a new government in Cairo.

But the army has been reluctant to confront the fighters inside towns in order not to provoke the tight-knit tribes, military sources said.

Egypt and Israel have co-operated in tackling armed groups in Sinai in the past.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2013/08/20138128533439421.html>

Trapped inside the fear bubble of the Egyptian military

Human rights activists show caution in criticising the Egyptian military, fearful of the uncertain political climate.

Last Modified: 12 Aug 2013 11:25

Mark LeVine

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"The far more important debate concerns whether in the wake of Morsi's removal it is pragmatic or even morally and politically legitimate to condemn both the military and the Brotherhood and Morsi," writes Mark LeVine [EPA]

"Can you imagine how much the Brotherhood screwed things up that only a year after chanting in Tahrir against the military and police the same people were dancing with them?"

So explained one of Cairo's most seasoned human rights activists, wondering in amazement at how the Ikhwan blew their chances to cement their hold over Egyptian political life for years to come.

However the Muslim Brotherhood sit-ins at Raba'a al-Adawiyya and al-Nahda end, it is undeniable that this disaster is one that the Brotherhood has largely brought upon itself. Whether attempting to govern by alienating most every constituency outside the military, or establishing sit-ins in crowded residential zones with little room for escape should government forces attack, the Brotherhood's leadership has shown a remarkable level of strategic myopia during the last two years that could well cost the movement dearly in blood and social standing for years to come.

Extreme schadenfreude

Indeed, whether or not one considers the events of the last month a continuation of the revolution, a coup or even a "people's coup" (*inqilab ash-sha'bi* , as one Egyptian TV presenter creatively described it), it's impossible to miss the incredible level of anger that has developed against (former) President Morsi, the Freedom and Justice Party, and the Brotherhood more broadly during the last year. Hossam Baghat, head of the Egyptian

Initiative on Personal Rights, best captured the spirit of this sentiment when he tweeted on July 4: "Sad it had to happen this way, concerned for the future, but very happy to see brotherhood defeated, humiliated after all they did to us."

If a well-known human rights campaigner can express publicly this level of schadenfreude, it speaks volumes to how the Brotherhood alienated pretty much every sector of society during its short time in power. As one of Egypt's leading scholars of the country's Islamist movements explained it over a late night tea near Tahrir only hours before Eid al-Fitr began, "They turned every one into an enemy. The amazing thing is that they thought they could alienate everyone and still win."

Things didn't have to turn out this way. Instead of making patently impossible promises to solve a huge chunk of the country's long-interminable problems in his first 100 days, the President could have gone before the Egyptian public and declared honestly the nature of the forces he faced and the need to continue the revolution through comprehensive reforms that would take on the deep state and economic elite.

Crackdown on Cairo protests reportedly imminent

Of course, he would have faced enormous opposition from those forces had he done so. And to have any chance at even modest success, he would have had to put aside divisive social issues and increasing grabs for power in favour of building a powerful coalition with liberal and revolutionary parties to institute systematic economic and political reforms. Such a move would likely have failed; but the reality was that whoever first took the reins of government in the post-Mubarak era was likely doomed to failure. So entrenched remains the country's still dominant power elites that it will likely take years and many failed attempts at reform before the balance of power shifts towards a truly revolutionary change in Egypt's political economy.

What was most important in such a political environment was to set a standard for honest governance, open politics, and addressing the massive structural problems Egypt faces that could be a benchmark for subsequent governments.

But instead of working to advance the revolution it was late to join, from the moment Mubarak was removed from power the Brotherhood and its soon-to-be-established Freedom and Justice Party strengthened a relationship with the military and deep state that it had been building for years. Ironically, this strategy facilitated both its assumption of, and ultimately removal from, power precisely because with the military as its patron (however half-hearted), it could follow its most authoritarian, patriarchal and chauvinistic instincts rather than laying the foundation for an inclusive and progressive political culture in the long term.

The Brotherhood isn't alone to blame in this process. As Sally Toma, one of the central figures of the January 25 (2011) uprising and co-founder of the newly established Manifesto Masr (Egypt) project, explains, "We became extras to our own revolution that the Muslim Brotherhood and army negotiated. We allowed it to happen, that was our mistake."

The human rights test

Morsi and his supporters naturally dispute this description of his brief tenure, pointing to a number of examples of his working to bring Egyptians together, deal honestly and soundly with the country's numerous problems, and increase the government's respect and protection

of basic human rights as evidence of a good-faith attempt to change the country's political culture which deserved more time to unfold.

Yet to the extent there were attempts to address these issues either rhetorically or through official policies, these moves were overwhelmed by a stream of actions that belied attempts at greater transparency, the rule of law, and respect for human rights. As twenty human rights organisations declared on June 27, one year into its rule the Morsi government was responsible for "manifold abuses and the systematic undermining of the rule of law." Egypt protests defy army chief's call

I don't know a single human rights campaigner or activist who didn't believe the human rights situation under Morsi deteriorated. Bahey al-Din Hassan, Director of the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies explained with sadness, "We have spent twenty years defending the Brotherhood and Islamists when no one else would. But as soon as they had power, they turned their back on human rights. The question is, have they finally learned that human rights are important and have to be extended to everyone at all times?"

If one had to describe the general mood of the country's human rights community a year into Morsi's term (in fact, already by December 2012, when I last met with them) it would be a combination of exhaustion and despair. And that was before June 30 forced them into an even higher gear of overdrive.

I also cannot think of a single revolutionary figure - by which I mean a figure that actually played a role in the revolution and not merely after February 11, 2011 - who didn't think Morsi's removal wasn't both necessary and welcome. However one wants to critique the manner of Morsi's removal and whether it can be considered meaningful or democratic or revolutionary, the fact that almost the entirety of Egypt's liberal and progressive political and activist figures, as well as tens of millions of citizens, turned so viscerally against him reveals a profound betrayal of public trust by a movement long famed for its abundance of precisely this commodity.

Can you fight two enemies at one time?

While most of the local and Western media remain concerned with whether what happened was a coup (nqilab) or a continuation of the revolution (thawra - never mind that historically the two terms have been conflated and confused in Arabic), the far more important debate on the ground now concerns whether in the wake of Morsi's removal it is pragmatic or even morally and politically legitimate to condemn both the military and the Brotherhood and Morsi.

Pro-Morsi supporters brace for crackdown

Here there is no specific logic to who adopts which position. I've sat with anarchists on different days who've held diametrically opposed position, liberals like April 6 Movement co-founder Ahmed Maher who admit their willingness to speak out against the military ("If we assume it's not a coup, and I tell people it's not a coup, when they screw us again like they did in 2011, what would I tell people?" he tweeted to a fellow activist) has cost their membership dearly, revolutionary rappers like Arabian Knightz expressing strong support for the June 30 "revolutionary" while good friend Ramy Essam, continue the now lonely call for the "downfall of the military rule" with increasing stridency.

Even some human rights activists have told me that "now is not the time to take on the military," although the majority believes it has an obligation to condemn all abuses and violence, no matter the perpetrator.

The Tamarrod movement's wholehearted support of the military-led transition is not surprising, as several of its leaders are known for Nasserist sympathies that naturally ally them to the military. For most activists, however, the argument is at heart strategic rather than ideological or moral. There is a sharp divide of opinion about whether anything can be achieved by taking on the military when it is in the midst of an "existential struggle" against the Brotherhood (as several activists described it) and enjoys, at least for the moment, extremely broad public support.

On the one hand, activists opposed to criticising the military believe that the public will simply not accept such criticisms now, and thus doing so is not only a waste of time but will cost revolutionaries support later on.

More important in my view is the belief expressed by almost half a dozen activists in the course of a week of conversations that the revolutionary movement was never going to be able to defeat both the Brotherhood and the military in a struggle for Egypt's future. And so to have the army hand such an epic defeat to the Brotherhood is a gift whose value is hard to overestimate - which is precisely why so many Leftists are loathe to turn it down.

"Let them fight each other," is a common refrain one hears among activists of various stripes, with the assumption that once the military finishes the Brotherhood off but has failed to achieve any of its promised changes, the revolutionaries will be in a much stronger position to continue the revolution than they would have otherwise been.

There is a strong logic to this view. But it is, first, a calculation that could well be wrong - the military could well emerge much stronger from its defeat of the Brotherhood, and through its control of the economic levers improves the lives of ordinary Egyptians enough to delay the much anticipated day of reckoning by years.

As important, however, is the moral dimension of such a calculus. Just as leftists have rightly argued that the Morsi/Brotherhood rule was characterised by increasing incitement against Christians and repression and violence against activists, the military's return to open power has been accompanied by an unprecedented level of incitement against the Brotherhood that is meeting with willing ears, so much so that Egyptians are expressing increasingly little reserve about the massacres perpetrated by the military against members.

For human rights and progressive political activists this is a disaster in the making, not just on its own terms but because it is inevitable that the same political logic and rationality used to demonise the Brotherhood will most certainly be used against other opponents of the new/old regime (as it's already being used against Palestinians and Syrians). Indeed, activists like Alaa Abdel Fattah, Ahmed Maher, Ramy Essam and many human rights activists have all told me that they face increasing marginalisation from the government-controlled and aligned media, as well as slander, and threats of attacks and even rape.

Many expect direct state repression to return against them in the near future. Will the masses of Egyptians express any more anger against their ostracisation (or worse) than they have at the Brotherhood's? It's a question to which few expect a positive answer.

Willful amnesia

The competing narratives of various sides in the present conflict are all apparent when you enter the Raba'a al-Adawiyya sit-in, a parallel reality to the hegemonic discourse surrounding the removal of Morsi and the events leading up to it. Or rather, it's to enter a surreal space, a highly contrived mix of contradictory impulses in which slogans such as "viva revolucion," "ath-thawra mutamirra" (the revolution continues), "silmiyya" (peaceful), children playing on specially brought-in swing sets, comedic video take-downs of as-Sissi, and photos of martyrs from the massacres of the last month all clash with the violence perpetrated by the Brotherhood against alleged opposition activists, mistreatment of neighborhood residents who've grown weary of the sit-in, and a history of incitement against Copts, Shi'a, and now anyone who refuses to accept the ongoing legitimacy of the now ex-President.

This is coupled what El Nedim Centre for the Rehabilitation of Torture Victims director Aida Seif ad-Dawla describes as the "willful amnesia" exhibited by Brotherhood members towards the realities of the many failures and violence associated with Morsi's time in power. Of course, Seif ad-Dawla points out, this amnesia is suffered no less by supporters of Morsi's removal, who have thrown aside the harsh history of violence and oppression by the military state and its various security and police services to embrace a renewed transition process led by the very forces who were arresting and even shooting anti-Morsi protesters only months ago.

The problem, as she and other human rights activists argue, is that there can be little hope for substantive political, social and economic change in Egypt until such memories, and their continuation into the present, are fully confronted, processed, and transcended by Egyptians as a political community write large as well as at the level of the individual citizen. Of course, few countries have succeeded in achieving such a level of political maturity, whether advanced democracies like the United States or still authoritarian societies like Egypt.

New spaces, new manifestos

In this context, initiatives such as the widely reported upon "3rd Square" movement and the newly established "Manifesto Masr" (Egypt) are among the slowly but steadily growing instances of groups attempting to encourage such a process by holding both the Brotherhood and the military to the same standard. While the 3rd Square has won at least unofficial support from more radical groups, like the Revolutionary Socialists, the movement is held with strong suspicion by many activists because of the presence of the Ahrar movement associated with the Salafi politician and former presidential candidate Hazem Abu-Ismael, whose politics are not known for their tolerance towards difference and more liberal views on most issues.

Rivals rally in Egypt on Eid holiday

Manifesto Masr emerges out of the same group of creative activists behind the successful "Kazeboon" (Liars) campaign, whose videos did much to show up the inconsistencies and lies of the SCAF and then Morsi regimes. This new iteration seeks to place itself in slightly different position. At a lovely Iftar last week along the banks of Zamalek, just across from Tahrir at the Qasr an-Nil bridge, about 60 activists from various liberal and progressive trends listened to Sally Toma and activist blogger Wael Eskandar do a "soft launch" of the project.

After the meal they explained how their new initiative will not merely remind Egyptians of the radical nature of the revolution's original claims to "bread, freedom and social justice," but offer all political trends advice on how to specify these broad demands in ways that can attract Egyptians who are presently enamored with al-Sissi back to revolutionary action. In a context where, despite the seemingly renewed power of the military and deep state, the Egyptian system is becoming increasingly factionalised or "sectificied" [Ar.] a la Lebanon's fractious political system, a savvy and well run series of campaigns that seeks to re-infiltrate the radical message of the January 25 revolution into mainstream media could well play an important role in ensuring that the radical impulse of the 2011 revolution helps guide its present, extremely ambivalent phase.

"We are many but we feel alone," Sally Toma told me before we parted as she considered the number of people who, while presently silent, still believe that the day of reckoning between the people and the military/deep state will arrive sooner or later. As the military and Egyptian power elite's true colours inevitably return to view, the now lonely voices advocating for the revolution's original and inevitable trajectory of radical and systematic change will likely find themselves in increasingly good company.

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The views expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect Al Jazeera's editorial policy.

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/08/12/au-caire-le-compte-a-rebours-a-commence-pour-les-freres-musulmans_3460216_3212.html

Au Caire, le compte à rebours a commencé pour les Frères musulmans

LE MONDE | 12.08.2013 à 10h11 • Mis à jour le 12.08.2013 à 11h12 | Par Serge Michel



Une question d'heures ou de jours ? Au Caire, l'aube du lundi 12 août a marqué la fin de la fête et le début du compte à rebours pour les partisans islamistes du président déchu Mohamed Morsi, retranchés dans l'immense camp improvisé de Rabiya Al-Adawiya, dans l'est de la capitale égyptienne, non loin de la tombe du président Anouar El-Sadate, assassiné là en octobre 1981. Les quatre jours fériés après l'Aïd-el-Fitr, la fête de fin du ramadan, se sont écoulés sans qu'apparaisse de solution à cette crise. Et l'intervention des forces armées semble désormais imminente, pour disperser ce

rassemblement de plusieurs dizaines de milliers de personnes qui défient le nouveau pouvoir depuis plus d'un mois en exigeant le retour de M. Morsi, ainsi que celui, plus modeste mais aussi plus déterminé, de la place Al-Nahda, près de l'université du Caire.

Toute la nuit de dimanche à lundi, le centre de presse installé dans une annexe de la mosquée de Rabiya a diffusé des messages, tour à tour bravaches et alarmés. *"De nouvelles marches arrivent à Rabiya pour nous renforcer"*, a-t-il fait savoir à 4 heures du matin, une heure après avoir annoncé que trente-quatre bataillons de l'armée étaient en mouvement sur la route entre Alexandrie et Le Caire pour venir les déloger. Cette information n'a pas été confirmée.

De fait, ce ne sont pas les maigres barricades de sacs de sable et de pavés, à chaque entrée du camp, qui devraient protéger les Frères musulmans et leurs alliés politiques, mais bien leur nombre, la présence de femmes et d'enfants, et surtout les craintes d'un nouveau massacre, exprimées par les émissaires occidentaux qui se sont succédé en vain début août au Caire. Les heurts entre les Frères musulmans et les forces armées ont déjà fait près de 250 victimes. Certaines ont droit à un petit monument de pavés empilés sur lequel leur visage a été peint, à l'endroit où leur corps a été retrouvé, sur l'immense avenue Al-Nasr désormais fermée à la circulation.

TENTATIVE DE MÉDIATION SÈCHEMENT REFUSÉE

"Il y aura une série d'actions graduelles, que nous annoncerons au fur et à mesure", a expliqué à l'AFP un général du ministère de l'intérieur ayant requis l'anonymat. *"La police va d'abord encercler les manifestants. Ils recevront plusieurs sommations pour quitter les lieux et personne ne sera autorisé à entrer"*, a-t-il détaillé, ajoutant : *"Cela va durer deux ou trois jours avant que la police se mette en mouvement pour disperser les manifestants."*

Dimanche, peu avant l'aube, c'est une coupure d'électricité dans le quartier qui a sonné l'alarme dans le camp islamiste. Les Frères, très bien organisés, ont alors démarré leurs groupes électrogènes, sans dévoiler de quelles réserves de carburant ils disposaient. Le courant est pourtant revenu en milieu de journée, aussi mystérieusement qu'il avait été coupé.

Plus tard, dimanche, les Frères musulmans ont sèchement refusé la tentative de médiation lancée par Ahmed Al-Tayyeb, le grand imam de la mosquée et de l'université d'Al-Azhar au Caire. Il avait appelé à la réconciliation nationale et invité toutes les parties à négocier un compromis lundi. La confrérie lui reproche d'avoir cautionné ce qu'elle appelle un *"coup d'Etat"*, en apparaissant à la télévision aux côtés du chef d'état-major, Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi, au soir du 3 juillet.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/08/2013812135921813183.html>

Egypt postpones dispersing pro-Morsi camps

Security forces delay move on protesters to "avoid bloodshed", as judiciary extends deposed president's detention.

Last Modified: 12 Aug 2013 18:58

Egyptian security forces are preparing to besiege the supporters of deposed president Morsi [Reuters]

Egyptian authorities have postponed a move to disperse two Cairo sit-ins by supporters of the country's deposed president Mohamed Morsi, to "avoid bloodshed," security sources said, as Morsi's detention was extended by 15 days.

Al Jazeera's Rawya Rageh, reporting from Cairo, said that the decision not to disperse the protesters on Monday came after there were some leaks to the media about the possible intervention of security forces and larger groups started to attend those pro- Morsi sit-ins.

"A security source said that with the number of protesters swelling, armed forces decided to not move in the direction of these camps" our correspondent said.

"The dispersal did not happen arguably because of the international pressure. Now what security forces are doing is essentially measuring their every step".

As protests continue, Egypt's interim Prime Minister Hazem el-Beblawi, Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim and Defense Minister Abdel Fattah al-Sisi are meeting with interim President Adly Mansour.

Al Jazeera's Bernard Smith, reporting from Cairo, said the ongoing meeting of interim leaders is probably focusing on three major issues in the political agenda; plans to disperse pro-Morsi sit-in camps, crisis in Sinai peninsula, and replacement of 17 governors appointed by Morsi on Tuesday.

Egyptian security forces have been preparing to besiege the supporters of Morsi as protesters braced for a security crackdown, some of them joining marches heading to Rabaa al-Adawiya, one of the main protest sites.

Detention extended

Meanwhile, Egypt's judiciary said it was extending Morsi's detention for a further 15 days pending an investigation into his collaboration with the Palestinian Hamas movement.

Judge Hassan Samir, handling investigations against Morsi, renewed his detention pending charges of conspiring with Hamas to break into prisons and attack state institutions during the January 25 revolt that toppled former president Hosni Mubarak.

Morsi, overthrown by the military on July 3, was placed in detention on July 26 over his links with the Palestinian movement that rules the Gaza Strip.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2013/08/2013813165041132580.html>

Can Cairo's vigils be dispersed peacefully?

Despite the potential for bloodshed, Egypt's government vows to clear the pro-Morsi sit-ins.

D. Parvaz Last Modified: 13 Aug 2013 17:22

The Egyptian cabinet ordered the evacuation of the sit-ins by "all necessary measures" [Getty]

Cairo, Egypt - The clock is ticking on the two sit-ins in Cairo - a small protest outside Cairo University and a massive gathering based around Nasr City's Rabaa al-Adawiya mosque, where tens of thousands of supporters of deposed president Mohamed Morsi say they will continue their vigil until he is reinstated.

The Egyptian cabinet ordered the evacuation of the sit-ins by "all necessary measures" on August 1; Prime Minister Hazem el-Beblawi said last week that anyone who did not leave the sit-ins was putting themselves at risk, and a 48-hour ultimatum issued by the Ministry of Interior to voluntarily evacuate the sit-ins passed on Monday.

Rights groups such as Amnesty International have already issued statements against a forced evacuation, saying that doing so would be a "recipe for further bloodshed".
Military supporters call for eviction of sit-in camps

The tense situation with the protests and the promise of their imminent clearing dominates the news in Egypt, with almost daily reports on what the government and security forces have planned for the vigils. These reports - often attributed to "unnamed sources" - further serve to put people on edge.

Gamal Eid, head of the Cairo Arab Network for Human Rights Information, said that that reports of the interior ministry's plans are likely not real, and that "most of what's published is a form of psychological warfare".

Cairo police are not known for peacefully clearing sit-ins - their attempts often yielding violent, deadly results. One of the more infamous was the Mohamed Mahmoud sit-in, which police tried to clear in November 2011.

Their attack on the protesters led to several days of violent clashes in the neighbourhood.

'Reasonable losses'

Mohamed Qadri Saeed, head of the security studies unit at Al-Ahram Centre for Strategic Studies, said that "police are getting ready for a confrontation" but that "some political parties are pushing for more patience and that any confrontation should be postponed in order to give people time to leave or, perhaps, for a political solution".

Saeed, a former military general, said he felt police were "capable of dispersing people with good results", and the army, he said, was likely offering all forms of indirect strategic support.

"But the army wouldn't intervene in a direct way, because this would complicate the situation," he added.

In case there are casualties, it will be contained

-Abdul-Monem al-Mashat, national security expert

There will be "certain action" this week by police to end the sit-ins, he said, as allowing them to continue would worsen the country's political crisis.

Saeed told Al Jazeera that "there will most probably be deaths and injuries, but I think that these [will be] reasonable losses that people will accept to overcome the political crises".

Egyptian media has reported that a violent crackdown on the sit-ins might result in the death of as many as ten percent of protesters. This number, said Saeed, was "reasonable", and that the deaths would not have an impact on Egypt's stability.

"But these percentages are all speculation," said Saeed.

Abdul-Monem al-Mashat, national security expert and dean of the faculty of economic and political science Future University in Egypt, agreed that the losses would be "minimal".

"They will do their best to do it in a peaceful way or, at least, with less casualties," said al-Mashat.

"In case there are casualties, it will be contained as the laymen start to have a very negative attitude toward the MB [Muslim Brotherhood]," said al-Mashat.

"They are losing any popular support. Even the demonstrators will go away once their source of money is depleted."

Attack might happen 'at any time'

Security at the Raaba sit-in has been on heightened alert since Sunday night, when a power cutleft most of the vigil in total darkness, testing the organisers' ability to hook up power generators and maintain basic services.

They might attack at any time, but it's almost impossible to disperse the sit-in... we are defending this sit-in with our souls.

Ahmed Abu Ouf, protester

"The situation is open to all possibilities," said Ahmed Abu Ouf, one of the hard-hatted, baton-wielding men guarding the sit-in.

"They might attack at any time, but it's almost impossible to disperse the sit-in," said the 43-year-old, an accountant by trade.

"They would actually have to throw thousands of people out... and we are defending this sit-in with our souls."

Still, there seems to be a cognitive dissonance at work in Rabaa, where the threat of police action is seen as a possibility, but viewed as an improbability.

"I think all of what's been said for the past few days are rumours - we can't think that they're being serious," said 30-year-old Mohamed Ahmed, standing guard at the western El-Nasr Street exit.

"They can't attack the sit-in because there would be a lot of bloodshed, a lot of martyrs. Even if they killed tens or hundreds, here are still thousands of people who don't want to leave this place," said Ahmed, who owns a dry cleaning business.

"I think the cause is worth it. The country is being destroyed - it's heading to a dark future." Ahmed said the legitimacy not only of Morsi's presidency, but of the democratic process itself was at stake.

"Even if they have new elections, what is the guarantee that the military won't do the same thing again?"

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<http://www.informador.com.mx/internacional/2013/478437/6/un-muerto-en-manifestaciones-en-egipto.htm>

Un muerto en manifestaciones en Egipto

Mohamed Morsi



Estados Unidos pide que las autoridades egipcias permitan que los partidarios del depuesto presidente se manifiesten libremente. AP

Al menos otras diez personas resultaron heridas en el enfrentamiento

Los enfrentamientos entre partidarios del derrocado presidente egipcio Mohamed Morsi y opositores continúan

EL CAIRO, EGIPTO (13/AGO/2013).- Una persona murió en El Cairo el martes en enfrentamientos entre partidarios del derrocado presidente egipcio Mohamed Morsi y opositores, dijeron fuentes de seguridad.

Al menos otras diez personas resultaron heridas en estos hechos que se produjeron en el barrio de Giza, donde los dos bandos se enfrentaron.

Washington pide a gobierno egipcio permitir manifestaciones pro Morsi

Estados Unidos pidió este martes a las autoridades egipcias instaladas por el Ejército permitir que los partidarios del depuesto presidente Mohamed Morsi manifiesten libremente, mostrando su preocupación por la posibilidad de una nueva ola de violencia.

"Alentamos al gobierno interino a que deje que el pueblo manifieste, es un elemento fundamental para que el proceso democrático progrese", dijo la portavoz adjunta del Departamento de Estado Marie Harf.

Los partidarios de Morsi desfilaron este martes en las cercanías de los ministerios, desafiando a las autoridades, que amenazan con dispersar en cualquier momento a las miles de personas favorables al exmandatario destituido, que ocupan dos plazas de El Cairo.

Una de las marchas, que tuvo lugar en los alrededores del ministerio de Bienes Religiosos, derivó en breves enfrentamientos entre partidarios de Morsi y habitantes de la zona céntrica de la capital. La policía hizo uso de gases lacrimógenos.

Washington asegura que no ha tomado partido en la crisis desatada en Egipto tras la destitución, el tres de julio, del presidente islamista Morsi, electo en la primavera boreal de 2012.

"Teníamos algunas reservas sobre la manera en que gobernaba Morsi. Cuando tengamos preocupaciones similares sobre la forma de proceder del gobierno interino también se las comunicaremos claramente", aseguró Harf.

El secretario de Estado John Kerry pareció apoyar, a comienzos de agosto, el golpe contra Morsi, al afirmar que el ejército había intervenido para "restablecer la democracia" en Egipto.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/08/2013813123647742511.html>

One killed at pro-Morsi march in Egypt

Violence comes one day after security officials postpone plan to crack down on Muslim Brotherhood sit-ins.

Last Modified: 14 Aug 2013 00:39

At least one person has been killed and many others injured in clashes between supporters and opponents of Egypt's ousted president, Mohamed Morsi, in the capital, Cairo.

Clashes broke out when Morsi supporters came under attack as they marched towards the interior ministry.

Spotlight

Follow our ongoing coverage of the political crisis in Egypt

Supporters of the new military-installed government hurled stones at the marchers and threw bottles at them from balconies on Tuesday, witnesses said. Police then fired tear gas to disperse the crowds.

Al Jazeera's Rawya Rageh, reporting from Cairo, said Morsi supporters had taken their protests to key government buildings in the centre of the capital.

"There were scuffles at least at three different points between protester groups after Morsi supporters surrounded some of the government buildings. They have been throwing bottles and rocks to each other," our correspondent said.

The Muslim Brotherhood said that Egyptian policemen dressed in plain clothes had opened fire with live rounds at one of its marches in Cairo, wounding five people.

A security source said seven protesters had been wounded but added that it was not immediately clear who had opened fire.

A few thousand pro-Morsi protesters were taking part in the march when the scuffles began.

'Terrorists'

Local residents taunted them, calling them "terrorists" and saying they were not welcome before throwing stones at them, the Reuters news agency reported. Morsi's supporters also responded by hurling rocks.

Women and children fled the scene in panic, and two men wielding machetes were seen chasing marchers, Reuters said.

Ten people were injured in fighting in front of the ministry of endowment between local residents and pro-Morsi Muslim scholars working in the ministry, according to the field hospital at Rabaa al-Adaweya, where Morsi supporters are camped out.

According to reports, 12 Morsi supporters were also arrested during the fighting at the ministry. They were accused of trying to break into the building and attacking the ministry's security and government employees.

Morsi supporters also protested in front of several ministries including the ministries of labour and electricity.

Supporters of the deposed president called for more mass demonstrations on Tuesday.

The so-called "Anti-Coup Alliance," which supports Morsi, called for a "million-man demonstration" after the judiciary said on Monday that it was extending his detention for a further 15 days, pending an investigation into his alleged collaboration with the Palestinian group Hamas.

The ongoing standoff with the army-backed interim government, which has threatened to disperse the two Cairo sit-ins where thousands of pro-Morsi protesters have been camped out for over a month, has caused worry among the international community.

Egyptian authorities postponed a move to disperse two Cairo sit-ins on Monday to "avoid bloodshed," security sources said.

The protesters are calling for the reinstatement of Morsi, who was overthrown by the military on July 3 and is now being held at an undisclosed location.

<http://www.trust.org/item/20130814103827-e9m3k/?source=hpbreaking>

Egyptian forces open fire, move in to clear Cairo protests

Source: Reuters - Wed, 14 Aug 2013 10:43 AM

Author: Reuters



Riot police fire tear gas at members of the Muslim Brotherhood and supporters of deposed Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi around Cairo University and Nahdet Misr Square, where they are camping in Giza, south of Cairo August 14, 2013. REUTERS/Mohamed Abd El Ghany

By Yasmine Saleh and Tom Finn

CAIRO, Aug 14 (Reuters) - Egyptian security forces killed at least 30 people on Wednesday when they moved in to clear a camp of Cairo protesters demanding the reinstatement of deposed President Mohamed Mursi, his Muslim Brotherhood movement said.

There was no official confirmation of the death toll at Rabaa al-Adawiya, in northeast Cairo, where thousands of Mursi supporters have staged a six-week sit-in that caused the army acute embarrassment since it ousted the elected leader.

A second camp near Cairo University was swiftly cleared in the early morning.

The operation, which suggested that the powerful military had lost patience with persistent protests that were crippling parts of the capital and slowing the political process, began just after dawn with helicopters hovering over the camps.

Gunfire rang out as protesters, among them women and children, fled Rabaa, and clouds of black smoke rose into the air. Armoured vehicles moved in beside bulldozers which began clearing tents. One witness saw 15 bodies at a field hospital.

The Health Ministry said 13 people were killed near Rabaa during the crackdown, including five police and eight civilians. The official death toll could well rise.

The government issued a statement saying security forces had showed the "utmost degree of self-restraint", reflected in low casualties compared to the number of people "and the volume of weapons and violence directed against the security forces".

A Reuters witness saw soldiers fire at protesters as they tried to enter the besieged Rabaa camp in solidarity with other Mursi supporters. At least 20 were shot in the legs. Television pictures showed security forces shooting from nearby rooftops.

"Tear gas (canisters) were falling from the sky like rain. There are no ambulances inside. They closed every entrance," said protester Khaled Ahmed, 20, a university student wearing a hard hat with tears streaming down his face.

"There are women and children in there. God help them. This is a siege, a military attack on a civilian protest camp."

A Reuters correspondent saw dozens of people lying in the street with bullet and birdshot wounds. Pools of blood were everywhere.

"At 7 a.m. they came. Helicopters from the top and bulldozers from below. They smashed through our walls. Police and soldiers, they fired tear gas at children," said teacher Saleh Abdulaziz, 39, clutching a bleeding wound on his head.

"They continued to fire at protesters even when we begged them to stop."

The operation came after international efforts failed to mediate an end to the political standoff between Mursi's supporters and the army-backed government which took power after his ouster on July 3.

With the Brotherhood calling on supporters to take to the streets, the violence risked further destabilising the most populous Arab nation and endangering hopes for democracy.

VIOLENCE SPREADS

More than 300 people have already died in political violence since Mursi's overthrow, including dozens of supporters killed by security forces in two separate earlier incidents in Cairo.

The unrest spread beyond the capital on Wednesday, with the Nile Delta cities of Minya and Assiut also rocked by violence.

Security forces fired tear gas at thousands of Mursi supporters who had set part of a church on fire in Minya. In Assiut, about 3,000 pro-Mursi protesters clashed with police.

In the coastal town of Marsa Matruh, police fired tear gas to break up hundreds of stone-throwing protesters in front of the governorate headquarters.

Egypt has been convulsed by political and economic turmoil since a 2011 uprising that ended 30 years of autocratic rule by U.S.-backed President Hosni Mubarak, and the country is now more polarised than any time for many years.

Mursi became Egypt's first freely elected leader in June 2012, but failed to tackle deep economic malaise and worried many Egyptians with apparent efforts to tighten Islamist rule.

Liberals and young Egyptians staged huge rallies demanding that he resign, and the army said it removed him in response to the will of the people.

Mursi's Brotherhood movement, suppressed for decades under Mubarak, staged sit-in protests and mass marches across Egypt in response, and said they would continue until the deposed leader was reinstated.

Wednesday's events indicated that the armed forces, led by General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, had had enough.

The military has installed a temporary government to implement what it calls a "road map" to democracy, which envisages holding fresh elections in around six months.

But its plans have been overshadowed by dissent and violence in a country that has a peace treaty with close U.S. ally Israel and controls the Suez Canal, a waterway vital for global trade.

The West, notably the United States which gives the Egyptian military \$1.3 billion in aid each year, has expressed alarm at the violence, and on Wednesday the European Union urged authorities to show "utmost restraint".

After Mursi's removal, Gulf Arab oil producers promised Egypt aid packages worth \$12 billion, throwing the country a lifeline at a time of dwindling reserves and food stocks.

ENDGAME FOR BROTHERHOOD?

The attempt to break up the camps appeared to dash any remaining hopes of bringing the Brotherhood back into the political mainstream, and underlined the impression many Egyptians share that the military is tightening its grip.

On Tuesday, interim President Adli Mansour named at least 18 new provincial governors, half of them retired generals, in a shake-up that pushed out Brotherhood members and restored the influence of men from army and police backgrounds.

Wednesday's crackdown could strip the Brotherhood of its main leverage against the government. Some of the group's leaders have been arrested or are wanted and their assets frozen in one of the toughest crackdowns it has ever faced.

Mursi remains detained in an unknown location. (additional reporting by Michael Georgy, Tom Perry, Shadia Nasralla, Omar Fahmy and Ashraf Fahim in Cairo and Adrian Croft in Brussels; Writing by Mike Collett-White)

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/78982/Egypt/Politics-/UPDATED-Egypt-police-attack-Muslim-Brotherhood-sit.aspx>

Egypt police attack Muslim Brotherhood sit-ins in Cairo

Egyptian police clear out one of the two Muslim Brotherhood camps in Cairo in the early hours of Wednesday, attempt to disperse the other

Ahram Online, Wednesday 14 Aug 2013



In this image made from video by AP video, Egyptian security forces move towards supporters of ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi at a sit-in in Cairo, Egypt, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013. (AP video)

Egyptian police broke up a Muslim Brotherhood sit-in near the Giza zoo and attempted to clear the other at Rabaa El-Adawiya square shortly after dawn on Wednesday, making good on pledge to disperse thousands of Islamists in both venues.

The ambulance authority said 13 were killed and at least 94 wounded but the Brotherhood put the death toll at 121, citing a makeshift hospital at the Rabaa sit-in. An AFP correspondent said he had counted 43 dead bodies.

Egypt's state television said two police personnel, an officer and a conscript, were killed and six wounded during the attempt to clear out the two sit-ins.

Two hundred Brotherhood protesters at both camps were arrested for possessing firearms, bladed weapons and gas canisters, state news agency MENA reported.

The railway authority said it had stopped all train services in and out of Cairo "for security reasons and to prevent people from mobilising".

"In accordance with government instructions to take necessary measures towards the sit-ins at Rabaa Al-Adawiya and Nahda, and for the safety of the country, security forces started taking measures to disperse the sit-ins early Wednesday," the interior ministry said in a statement.

"There are paths available for those who are present in the sit-in from which they can safely exit."

Live television footage showed riot police firing tear gas at protesters at one of the entrances of Rabaa El-Adawiya mosque in northern Cairo, where tens of thousands have been camping for six weeks to demand the reinstatement of ousted President Mohamed Morsi.

All entrances to Rabaa were later blocked by security forces. Brotherhood spokesman Gehad El-Haddad accused police snipers of firing at Rabaa protesters from the rooftop of surrounding buildings.

Al-Nahar and ONTV satellite channels said their cameras were confiscated by police forces while covering the attempt to disperse the Rabaa sit-in.

At the Nahda camp, centred round a traffic circle and extending down a palm tree-lined boulevard next to the Cairo zoo in Giza, greater Cairo, police used loudspeakers to urge protesters to leave as sounds of gunfire rang out.

"Armed men in both camps fired at police forces once they started dispersing the sit-ins ... police were able to control Nahda and are still combing the surrounding area," the interior ministry said in another statement on its official Facebook page.

"The police forces only used tear gas despite being attacked by live ammunition [from protesters]."

Police officers were videoed brandishing bullets they said had been captured from the Rabaa sit-in.

Around 300 have been killed in clashes pitting the supporters of Morsi against his opponents and security forces since the army ousted Egypt's first freely elected president on 3 July.

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/08/14/au-caire-les-forces-de-securite-dispersent-dans-le-sang-les-sit-in-pro-morsi_3461466_3212.html

Au Caire, les forces de sécurité dispersent dans le sang les sit-in pro-Morsi

LE MONDE | 14.08.2013 à 11h56 | Par Serge Michel (Le Caire, envoyé spécial) et Hélène Sallon



Au lieu des sommations et de l'approche graduelle promises, les forces de sécurité égyptiennes ont choisi la surprise et un dispositif massif. Vers six heures du matin, mercredi 14 août, elles ont donné l'assaut contre les deux campements installés au Caire par les partisans du président Mohamed Morsi depuis sa destitution, le 3 juillet, par l'armée.

Les premiers bilans provisoires de cette opération d'envergure semblaient confirmer les craintes d'un bain de sang annoncé. Une heure après le début de l'opération, 43 cadavres étaient alignés dans l'hôpital de campagne du campement de Rabiya Al-Adawiya, dont plusieurs manifestement tués par balles.

A 10 heures, les Frères musulmans qui animent ces sit-in ont annoncé au moins 100 morts et plus de 2 000 blessés. Le ministère de l'intérieur quant à lui, qui a affirmé que les manifestants avaient ouvert le feu sur la police, a annoncé la mort de deux agents. Les trains entrant et sortant du Caire ont été bloqués pour empêcher que les manifestations ne se reforment hors de la capitale.

UNE NORIA D'AMBULANCES ORANGE



Au petit matin, des chars et des troupes ont commencé à sécuriser un périmètre très large autour de la mosquée de Rabiya Al-Adawiya, dans le quartier de Medinat Nasr dans l'est du Caire, et de la place Al-Nahda, près de l'université du Caire.

Les journalistes et photographes ont été empêchés d'accéder aux lieux. A 200 m de la place Al-Nahda, une noria d'ambulances orange donne une idée de l'ampleur de l'opération qui se joue derrière les cordons de sécurité.

Deux hélicoptères survolent le campement plongé dans la fumée des gaz lacrymogènes, dont les manifestants tentent de dissiper les effets en brûlant des pneus.

A 9 HEURES DU MATIN, LE CAMPEMENT ÉTAIT TOTALEMENT DISPERSÉ

Chaque passage d'hélicoptère est applaudi par les habitants du quartier, massés devant le dernier barrage. *"L'armée et la police main dans la main et maudits soient les Frères"*, scandent les habitants du quartier de l'université.

A 9 heures du matin, le campement a été totalement dispersé au moyen de gaz lacrymogènes uniquement, a annoncé le ministère de l'intérieur. Selon un responsable des forces de sécurité, les occupants d'Al-Nahda ont tous été arrêtés et chargés dans des bus de la police. Soudain, un militant pro-Morsi est vu en train de s'enfuir par les jardins du zoo adjacent. Les soldats arment leurs fusils et se mettent à le poursuivre, accompagnés de jeunes habitants du quartier surexcités. D'autres sont affairés à retirer les banderoles marquant l'entrée du camp, désormais jonché de palmiers abattus et de sacs de sable des barricades renversées.

Autour du sit-in de la mosquée de Rabiya Al-Adawiya, des bulldozers ont commencé dès 6 heures du matin à enfoncer les barricades de fortune faites de pavés et de sacs de sable, derrière lesquelles s'étaient retranchés des milliers de partisans du président déchu, avec femmes et enfants.

CRAINTES D'UN VÉRITABLE MASSACRE



"Il y a 60 morts confirmés. Des tireurs embusqués sont postés sur les toits des immeubles. Les blindés roulent sur les gens. Des tirs proviennent des hélicoptères", assure au Monde Abderrahman Daoud, l'un des responsables médias du sit-in de Rabiya Al-Adawiya vers 9 h 30 du matin.

La dispersion de ce sit-in attise les craintes d'un véritable massacre. Le 27 juillet, des affrontements entre forces de police et manifestants devant l'une des entrées du site avait déjà causé la mort de 81 personnes, portant le bilan total des affrontements entre manifestants et forces de sécurité à plus de 250 morts depuis le 3 juillet.

La crainte des répercussions, notamment internationales, d'un massacre contre les partisans des Frères musulmans et de leurs alliés islamistes a retardé cette intervention annoncée par les nouvelles autorités de transition depuis plusieurs semaines.

AFFRONTEMENTS ENTRE PRO-MORSI ET RÉSIDENTS

Les heurts qui ont opposé mardi des manifestants pro-Morsi aux anti-Morsi et aux forces de sécurité, faisant un mort, ont précipité l'intervention des forces de sécurité face à de nouvelles craintes de guerre civile. Une marche organisée par les manifestants de la place Al-Nahda en direction du ministère de l'intérieur a dégénéré dans l'après-midi de mardi. Les forces de sécurité ont dû intervenir après des affrontements qui opposaient manifestants pro-Morsi et résidents, appuyés par des anti-Morsi, les deux camps s'échangeant jets de pierre et tirs de chevrotine.

Dans la soirée, rien ne semblait pourtant annoncer l'opération qui se préparait. Sur le sit-in de Rabiya Al-Adawiya, aux allures de Luna Parc islamique, les familles mangeaient tranquillement. Un match de football était organisé entre des équipes d'Al-Nahda et de Rabiya dans un stade bien construit, avec des planches et des gradins. *"Ils ne peuvent pas y aller aux gaz lacrymogènes, à cause des femmes et des enfants. Vous et moi pouvons supporter les gaz, mais les bébés vont mourir, ce serait un crime mondial !"*, assurait, très confiant un responsable du sit-in.

<http://fr.news.yahoo.com/la-police-%C3%A9gyptienne-intervient-contre-les-campements-pro-055937245.html>

Assaut policier contre les campements pro-Morsi au Caire

 **REUTERS** Reuters – mer. 14 août 2013

par Yasmine Saleh et Tom Finn

LE CAIRE (Reuters) - Les forces de sécurité égyptiennes sont intervenues mercredi pour vider les campements des partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi au Caire, et les Frères musulmans, dont est issu l'ancien chef d'Etat, ont fait état d'au moins trente morts, tandis que les violences s'étendaient au reste du pays.

L'assaut, lancé vers 07h00 locales (05h00 GMT), intervient après l'échec de plusieurs tentatives de médiation pour mettre fin au bras de fer engagé entre les pro-Morsi et le gouvernement provisoire soutenu par l'armée depuis la destitution du président islamiste par les militaires le 3 juillet.

Les Frères musulmans ont appelé leurs partisans à descendre dans les rues face à l'intervention policière, et ont annoncé trente décès au moins sur le seul campement installé autour de la mosquée Rabaa al Adaouia, dans le nord-est de la capitale.

Le ministère de la Santé a lui annoncé la mort de 13 personnes, dont cinq policiers et huit civils, lors de l'assaut contre Rabaa al Adaouia, où des milliers de sympathisants islamistes, rassemblés depuis six semaines, se sont réveillés dans un nuage de gaz lacrymogène et le bruit des hélicoptères de la police survolant leur site.

Le ministère de l'Intérieur parle de son côté de six policiers tués et 66 autres blessés.

Un deuxième campement, plus petit, établi sur la place Al Nahda, près de l'Université du Caire sur la rive gauche du Nil, a été rapidement vidé par les policiers aux premières heures.

D'épais nuages de fumée noire s'élevaient mercredi au-dessus des deux camps. Des coups de feu ont été entendus à Rabaa pendant que les protestataires évacuaient les lieux et que des bulldozers des forces de l'ordre arrivaient pour détruire les tentes.

LES TROUBLES S'ÉTENDENT

Un correspondant de Reuters a vu des dizaines de personnes allongées sur la chaussée et blessées par balles, au milieu de flaques de sang omniprésentes.

"Ils sont venus à sept heures du matin", a raconté Saleh Abdoulaziz, un témoin blessé à la tête. "Des hélicoptères en haut et des bulldozers en bas. Ils ont abattu nos murs. Des policiers et des soldats. Ils ont tiré des gaz lacrymogènes contre des enfants. Ils ont continué à tirer contre les manifestants même quand nous les avons suppliés d'arrêter", a-t-il ajouté.

Dans un communiqué, le gouvernement a demandé aux partisans de Mohamed Morsi d'"entendre la voix de la raison" et a prévenu que les cadres des Frères musulmans seraient tenus responsables de "toutes les émeutes et les violences".

Les troubles se sont étendus hors du Caire, en particulier dans la province centrale du Fayoum, où au moins neuf personnes ont été tuées dans des affrontements près de postes de police entre partisans de Mohamed Morsi et les forces de sécurité, selon une source médicale.

Dans le delta du Nil, à Minya, les forces de sécurité ont tiré des gaz lacrymogènes contre des milliers de manifestants islamistes, qui avaient incendié une église copte. À Assiout, dans la même région, la police a affronté environ 3.000 manifestants.

Dans la ville de Marsa Matrouh, sur les bords de la mer Méditerranée, la police a dispersé des centaines de personnes qui jetaient des pierres contre le siège du gouvernorat.

NOUVELLES ARRESTATIONS

La dispersion des sit-in de protestation enlève aux Frères musulmans l'un de leurs derniers moyens de pression sur le nouveau pouvoir. Les dirigeants de la confrérie ont été arrêtés ou sont recherchés et leurs avoirs ont été gelés.

Le ministère de l'Intérieur a annoncé plusieurs arrestations mercredi au sein des Frères musulmans, sans donner de noms. Des responsables des forces de sécurité ont précisé que Mohamed El-Beltagi, un cadre du Parti de la liberté et de la justice (PLJ), la branche politique de la confrérie, avait été interpellé.

Sur le plan international, l'Union européenne (UE) a invité les autorités à faire preuve de retenue, tandis que la France a mis en garde contre "un usage disproportionné de la force".

Le Premier ministre turc Recep Tayyip Erdogan, issu de la mouvance islamiste, a lui exhorté le Conseil de sécurité des Nations unies et la Ligue arabe à intervenir pour mettre fin à un "massacre".

Le Qatar, soutien régional de l'ancien gouvernement de Mohamed Morsi, a condamné les assauts contre les manifestants, et l'Iran a estimé que l'Egypte courait le risque d'une "guerre civile".

Depuis la chute de Mohamed Morsi, et avant l'assaut lancé mercredi, plus de 300 personnes sont mortes dans les violences politiques dans le pays, parmi lesquelles des dizaines de partisans des Frères musulmans tués par les forces de sécurité lors de deux interventions les 8 et 27 juillet.

Avec Michael Georgy, Tom Perry, Shadia Nasralla, Omar Fahmy et Ashraf Fahim; Jean-Stéphane Brosse et Julien Dury pour le service français

<http://fr.euronews.com/2013/08/14/plus-de-100-manifestants-pro-morsi-tues-selon-les-freres-musulmans/>

Infos

Au moins 149 morts en Égypte, l'état d'urgence décrété

14/08 08:37 CET

Les forces de sécurité égyptiennes ont donné l'assaut mercredi contre les rassemblements des partisans de l'ancien président islamiste Mohamed Morsi au Caire, déclenchant des violences à l'origine d'une plus de 149 morts dans l'ensemble du pays.

La présidence a proclamé l'état d'urgence dans toute l'Égypte, pour une durée d'au moins un mois, et ordonné à l'armée d'apporter son soutien aux forces du ministère de l'Intérieur.

Les troubles, qui se sont entre autres étendus à Alexandrie, deuxième ville du pays, ont fait au moins 149 morts et près de 1400 blessés à travers l'Égypte, selon le dernier bilan du ministère de la Santé.

Le gouvernement égyptien a aussi imposé des couvre-feux au Caire et dans 13 autres provinces. "Après que la présidence a annoncé l'état d'urgence, des couvre-feux seront imposés de 19H00 (17H00 GMT) à 06H00 (04H00 GMT) jusqu'à nouvel ordre", a indiqué un porte-parole du gouvernement installé par l'armée après la déposition de M. Morsi. Ces mesures s'appliquent pour un mois au Caire et aux provinces de Guizeh, d'Alexandrie, de Beni Sueif, de Minya, d'Assiout, de Sohag, de Quena, de Fayoum, de Beheira, du Nord et du Sud-Sinaï, Suez et Ismailia.

Des affrontements meurtriers ont notamment eu lieu dans la province centrale du Fayoum, et dans le port de Suez. L'assaut du Caire, lancé vers 07h00 locales (05h00 GMT), intervient après l'échec de plusieurs tentatives de médiation pour mettre fin au bras de fer engagé entre les partisans de Mohamed Morsi, souvent issus comme lui des Frères musulmans, et le

gouvernement provisoire soutenu par l'armée, depuis la destitution du président islamiste par les militaires le 3 juillet.

“Ils sont venus à sept heures du matin”, a raconté Saleh Abdoulaziz, un témoin blessé à la tête. “Ils ont tiré des gaz lacrymogènes contre des enfants. Ils ont continué à tirer contre les manifestants même quand nous les avons suppliés d'arrêter.” Des policiers anti-émeutes s'abritaient mercredi après-midi derrière des véhicules blindés et l'air était envahi de gaz lacrymogènes dans les rues qui environnent la mosquée de Rabaa al Adaouia, dans le nord-est de la capitale, où des milliers de partisans de Morsi campaient depuis sa destitution.

Sept heures après le début de l'assaut, des groupes de manifestants continuaient à bloquer la chaussée, en scandant des slogans et en agitant des drapeaux, alors que les forces de sécurité tentaient d'empêcher les rassemblements. Un correspondant de Reuters a vu des dizaines de personnes allongées sur la chaussée et blessées par balles, au milieu de flaques de sang omniprésentes.

Une source médicale a rapporté que soixante morts étaient recensés dans un seul hôpital du Caire, et que le bilan allait probablement s'alourdir. La plupart des victimes ont été blessées par balles. Un deuxième campement, plus petit, établi sur la place Al Nahda, près de l'Université du Caire sur la rive gauche du Nil, a été rapidement vidé par les policiers aux premières heures.

Dans un communiqué, le gouvernement a demandé aux partisans de Mohamed Morsi d'“entendre la voix de la raison” et a prévenu que les cadres des Frères musulmans seraient tenus responsables de “toutes les émeutes et les violences”. La dispersion des sit-in de protestation enlève aux Frères musulmans l'un de leurs derniers moyens de pression sur le nouveau pouvoir. Les dirigeants de la confrérie ont été arrêtés ou sont recherchés et leurs avoirs ont été gelés.

Le ministère de l'Intérieur a annoncé plusieurs arrestations mercredi au sein des Frères musulmans, sans donner de noms. Des responsables des forces de sécurité ont précisé que Mohamed El-Beltagi, un cadre du Parti de la liberté et de la justice (PLJ), la branche politique de la confrérie, avait été interpellé.

Les affrontements affectent aussi le gouvernement en place. Le vice-président égyptien, le prix Nobel de la paix Mohamed ElBaradei, a annoncé avoir présenté sa démission au président par intérim, après l'intervention sanglante des forces de l'ordre pour déloger les manifestants islamistes pro-Morsi de deux places du Caire. “Il m'est devenu difficile de continuer à assumer la responsabilité de décisions avec lesquelles je ne suis pas d'accord”, écrit-il notamment dans sa lettre au président Adly Mansour.

La communauté internationale condamne les violences

Sur le plan international, le Premier ministre turc Recep Tayyip Erdogan, issu de la mouvance islamiste, a exhorté le Conseil de sécurité des Nations unies et la Ligue arabe à intervenir pour mettre fin à un “massacre” et a dénoncé le “silence” de la communauté internationale. Le Qatar, soutien régional de l'ancien gouvernement de Mohamed Morsi, a condamné les assauts contre les manifestants, et l'Iran a estimé que l'Egypte courait le risque d'une “guerre civile”.

Les Etats-Unis, eux, se sont fermement opposés à la proclamation de l'état d'urgence par les autorités égyptiennes à la suite des heurts meurtriers entre forces de sécurité et partisans de l'ancien président Mohamed Morsi. Josh Earnest, porte-parole de la Maison blanche, a condamné l'usage de la force par les autorités, et a pressé l'armée égyptienne de respecter les droits élémentaires des citoyens.

L'Union européenne a invité les autorités à faire preuve de retenue, tandis que la France a mis en garde contre "un usage disproportionné de la force". Le secrétaire général des Nations unies, Ban Ki-moon, a également regretté "que les autorités égyptiennes aient utilisées la force" et a condamné "dans les termes les plus forts" la violence de l'intervention des forces de sécurité égyptiennes.

Deux journalistes tués, plusieurs blessés

Un caméraman de Sky News a été tué par balle au Caire, où plusieurs autres journalistes ont été arrêtés ou agressés. "C'est avec un immense regret que Sky News annonce la mort de Mick Deane, un caméraman expérimenté, alors qu'il travaillait au Caire ce matin (mercredi)", a annoncé la chaîne britannique d'informations en continu, ajoutant que ce journaliste, un Britannique âgé de 61 ans, marié et père de deux enfants, "travaillait depuis quinze ans" pour la chaîne. "Il a été blessé par balle, et en dépit des soins reçus, il est décédé peu après", a précisé Sky, soulignant que le reste de son équipe sur place était indemne.

Une autre journaliste, qui ne participait toutefois pas à la couverture des événements, a été tuée par balle mercredi au Caire. Il s'agit de Habiba Ahmad Abdel Aziz, 26 ans, correspondante du supplément hebdomadaire de Gulf News, Xpress, qui était en vacances dans son pays natal. Selon Reporters sans frontières, elle "participait au sit-in" et a trouvé la mort dans l'intervention contre les Frères Musulmans sur la place Rabaa al-Adawiya. Son père est un conseiller du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi, selon Dureik Al Beik, rédacteur en chef à Gulf News.

Au moins quatre journalistes, tous de nationalité égyptienne, ont par ailleurs été blessés et hospitalisés lors de l'évacuation des deux campements des partisans de Mohammed Morsi au Caire, a rapporté Reporters sans frontières.

Depuis la chute de Mohamed Morsi, et avant l'assaut lancé mercredi, plus de 300 personnes sont mortes dans les violences politiques dans le pays, parmi lesquelles des dizaines de partisans des Frères musulmans tués par les forces de sécurité lors de deux interventions les 8 et 27 juillet.

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/08/14/hors-du-caire-les-heurts-et-les-incendies-se-multiplient_3461479_3212.html

Hors du Caire, des heurts se multiplient et des églises coptes prises pour cible

Le Monde.fr avec AFP et Reuters | 14.08.2013 à 13h19 • Mis à jour le 15.08.2013 à 08h44



Sur cette carte sont représentés les rassemblements (en blanc), les affrontements avec les forces de sécurité (en rouge) et les incendies d'églises (flammes rouges).

L'assaut des forces de police contre les camps des partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi au Caire a provoqué des réactions en chaîne dans le reste du pays, mercredi 14 août.

Cinq personnes au moins ont été tuées à Suez, où des pro-Morsi ont tenté de prendre des bâtiments publics, selon des sources médicales. Des témoins précisent que les manifestants ont attaqué les bureaux du gouverneur provincial et un véhicule blindé a été incendié dans les affrontements qui ont suivi. A Ismaïlia, quinze personnes au moins ont été tuées dans des affrontements entre les forces de police et des partisans du président destitué Mohamed Morsi, selon une source médicale.

A Minia et à Assiout, deux villes au sud de la capitale, des affrontements entre police et militants ont été rapportés par les services de sécurité. Dans la région, plusieurs routes auraient été bloquées par les islamistes avec des pneus brûlés. Dans la province du Fayoum, le bilan s'est alourdi à 35 morts, selon un responsable du ministère de la santé. Un précédent bilan, diffusé par l'agence officielle de presse Mena, faisait état de 17 morts.

Le correspondant de la chaîne américaine ABC Jon Williams fait également état de manifestations "massives" à Alexandrie, à Assouan et à Beni Suef :

LES COPTES VISÉS

La communauté copte, qui avait contribué à la destitution de M. Morsi, est notamment prise pour cible dans plusieurs villes du pays. A Sohag, l'église Saint-George a ainsi été incendiée à l'aide de cocktails Molotov, comme le montrent ces photos publiées sur les réseaux sociaux par des témoins :



A Suez, l'église anglicane du Saint-Sauveur est également prise pour cible. Deux autres églises auraient été attaquées et en partie incendiées dans les mêmes conditions à El Nazla et à Minia. Le responsable allemand de l'ONG Human Rights Watch fait même état d'un total de six églises incendiées. La Youth Maspero Union, un mouvement de la jeunesse copte, a confirmé ces faits, accusant les Frères musulmans de "*mener une guerre de représailles contre les coptes*".

Pour prévenir une contagion des manifestations du Caire au reste du pays, le gouvernement avait bloqué l'ensemble des trains entrant et sortant de la capitale en milieu de matinée.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/08/20138141715620312.html>

Death toll soars in Egypt protest crackdown

At least 278 people killed and month-long state of emergency imposed after security forces storm pro-Morsi camps.

Last Modified: 14 Aug 2013 20:51

The official death toll in Egypt has reached 278, after security forces stormed protest sites in Cairo and clashed with supporters of deposed president Mohamed Morsi elsewhere in the country.

A curfew was imposed in 14 provinces across the country on Wednesday, along with a month-long state of emergency.

The death toll continued to rise throughout the day, with Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood saying the actual number of dead was much higher than the number reported by the Health Ministry.

Forty-three members of Egypt's police force were among those killed, the ministry said.

Thousands of Morsi's supporters had been camped at two major sites in Cairo since before he was toppled by the army on July 3, and had vowed not leave the streets until he was returned to power.

Sniper fire

Security forces moved in on the camps early in the morning, firing bird shots and tear gas. Snipers fired on the square from surrounding buildings while helicopters hovered overhead and armoured bulldozers ploughed over the protesters' makeshift defences.

Masked police tore down tents and set them ablaze.

"They smashed through our walls. Police and soldiers, they fired tear gas at children," said Saleh Abdulaziz, 39, a secondary school teacher clutching a bleeding wound on his head.

Police took full control of the Rabaa al-Adawiya camp on Wednesday afternoon, the state news agency reported.

Al Jazeera's Jane Ferguson, said smaller groups had been congregating in squares and streets after the protest camp was cleared out.

"Just because they're leaving Rabaa Square doesn't mean that they're leaving protests altogether," she said.

Earlier in the day, security forces took control of Nahda Square, the smaller of the two sit-ins, using tear gas and bird shots.

Violence spread beyond Cairo, with deadly clashes in the cities of Alexandria, Fayoum and Suez.

'Spread of anarchy'

Egypt's army-backed interim prime minister defended the government's decision to order the crushing of the protest camps, saying the authorities had no choice but to act.

"We found that matters had reached a point that no self-respecting state could accept," Hazem el-Beblawi said, citing what he described as "the spread of anarchy and attacks on hospitals and police stations".

The curfew took effect at 9pm local time (19:00 GMT) and was set to last until 6am (04:00 GMT).

The presidential office said the exceptional measures were taken as "the security and order of the nation face danger due to deliberate sabotage, and attacks on public and private buildings and the loss of life by extremist groups".

In response to the violence, Mohamed ElBaradei, interim vice president and former UN diplomat, resigned, saying in a letter to the country's leadership that the conflict could have been resolved by peaceful means.

"The beneficiaries of what happened today are those call for violence, terrorism and the most extreme groups," he wrote.

Two journalists were killed while covering the violence. Mick Deane, a cameraman for the UK-based Sky News channel, and Habiba Abd Elaziz, a reporter for the UAE-based Xpress newspaper, died from bullet wounds.

International condemnation of the violence was swift, with the US Secretary of State John Kerry calling it "deplorable".

EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton called on security forces to "exercise utmost restraint".

<http://www.journaldemontreal.com/2013/08/14/au-moins-43-morts-dans-la-dispersion-des-pro-morsi-au-caire>

Affrontements

Au moins 278 morts dans la dispersion des pro-Morsi au Caire

Samer AL-ATRUSH / AFP

Publié le: mercredi 14 août 2013, 5H50 | Mise à jour: mercredi 14 août 2013, 19H38

Nouveaux affrontements en Égypte

AFP PHOTO /MOHAMMED ABDEL MONEIM

Mohamed El-Baradei



AFP

Le vice-président égyptien, Mohamed El-Baradei, a remis sa démission mercredi.

LE CAIRE - Près de 280 personnes ont été tuées mercredi en Égypte dans la dispersion sanglante au Caire des manifestations réclamant le retour du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi destitué par l'armée et dans les violences qui ont vite gagné l'ensemble du pays.

Les autorités ont indiqué que 235 civils et 43 policiers avaient péri à travers le pays. Mais le bilan est probablement bien plus élevé, un journaliste de l'AFP ayant décompté 124 cadavres sur la seule place Rabaa al-Adawiya, QG des manifestants pro-Morsi au Caire, où le ministère de la Santé a fait état de 61 morts.

Alors que le prix Nobel de la paix Mohamed ElBaradei a démissionné de son poste de vice-président, refusant «d'assumer les conséquences de décisions avec lesquelles il n'était pas

d'accord», le Premier ministre nommé par l'armée Hazem Beblawi a, lui, salué la police pour «sa très grande retenue».

À l'issue d'une journée de heurts meurtriers, les autorités ont décrété l'état d'urgence et un couvre-feu dans la moitié des provinces, dont celles du Caire et d'Alexandrie. Une heure après l'entrée en vigueur de ce couvre-feu, des responsables de la sécurité ont indiqué à l'AFP que le calme était revenu dans l'ensemble du pays.

Calme précaire

Un calme qui pourrait toutefois n'être que temporaire, la tension restant à son comble dans le pays où les islamistes ont appelé à de nouvelles manifestations tandis que les forces de l'ordre prévenaient qu'elles n'accepteraient aucun nouveau sit-in, après avoir pris le contrôle des deux places du Caire où des pro-Morsi campaient depuis un mois et demi.

La communauté internationale, qui avait tenté une médiation pour éviter une issue dramatique au bras de fer entre pro-Morsi et nouveau pouvoir, a condamné l'usage de la violence pour disperser les deux rassemblements de milliers d'islamistes venus avec femmes et enfants réclamer le retour au pouvoir du premier président élu démocratiquement du pays.

M. Beblawi est apparu à la télévision pour assurer qu'«aucun État qui se respecte n'aurait toléré» ces sit-in qui duraient depuis un mois et demi, s'engageant dans le même temps à poursuivre la mise en oeuvre du processus qui doit conduire à des élections début 2014.

À Washington, le secrétaire d'État américain John Kerry a exhorté à organiser ces scrutins, condamnant un bain de sang «lamentable». La chef de la diplomatie européenne, Catherine Ashton qui, la première, avait tenté une médiation au Caire, a réclaté la levée de l'état d'urgence «dès que possible».

Sur la place Rabaa, un journaliste de l'AFP a compté 124 cadavres - dont plusieurs atteints par balles - dans une morgue de fortune. En outre, un caméraman de la chaîne britannique Sky News y a été tué par balle.

Les Frères musulmans ont de leur côté annoncé que la fille de 17 ans d'un de leurs principaux dirigeants, Mohammed al-Beltagui, avait également été tuée par balle. Au total, les Frères parlent de 2200 morts et plus de 10 000 blessés.

«Les instructions étaient de n'utiliser que les gaz lacrymogènes, pas d'armes à feu», a assuré le ministre de l'Intérieur. «Mais quand les forces de sécurité sont arrivées, elles ont été surprises par des tirs nourris».

Condamnations internationales

Après la dispersion, des heurts avaient eu lieu dans différents quartiers du Caire et fait plusieurs morts dans d'autres villes du pays.

À Alexandrie, deuxième ville du pays, un journaliste de l'AFP a fait état d'échanges de tirs nourris à l'arme automatique.

En outre, au moins quatre églises ont été attaquées, les militants accusant les pro-Morsi de mener «une guerre de représailles» contre les coptes, dont le patriarche avait lui aussi soutenu la décision de l'armée de destituer M. Morsi, toujours retenu au secret.

Face aux violences meurtrières, M. ElBaradei, qui avait apporté sa caution morale à la destitution de M. Morsi le 3 juillet par les militaires, a démissionné, mettant au jour les profondes divisions au sein des autorités de transition installées par la toute-puissante armée.

Il avait à plusieurs reprises plaidé pour une solution politique à la crise, répétant que les Frères musulmans devaient participer à la transition.

Dans la matinée, une autre figure morale s'était désolidarisée de l'opération meurtrière des forces de l'ordre: l'imam d'Al-Azhar, plus haute autorité de l'islam sunnite, qui avait expliqué n'avoir pas eu connaissance des méthodes que les forces de l'ordre comptaient employer.

Paris a appelé à «l'arrêt immédiat de la répression» et saisi l'ONU «pour qu'en urgence une position internationale soit prise en ce sens». Son secrétaire général Ban Ki-moon a, lui, «condamné dans les termes les plus fermes les violences».

Ankara, qui s'était opposé à la destitution de M. Morsi, l'Iran et le Hamas palestinien ont dénoncé un «massacre».

Le Qatar, principal soutien des Frères musulmans, a dénoncé «la méthode utilisée contre des manifestants pacifiques», tandis que Berlin lançait un appel au calme dans le pays où les violences entre pro et anti-Morsi et entre pro-Morsi et forces de l'ordre avaient auparavant fait plus de 250 morts depuis fin juin, essentiellement des manifestants islamistes.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/79076/Egypt/Politics-/Egypt-clashes-leave--security-personnel-killed-MOI.aspx>

Egypt clashes leave 43 security personnel killed: MOI

Egypt's interior minister says security forces clearing pro-Morsi sit-ins acted with utmost restraint; accuses pro-Morsi protesters of raiding 21 police stations
Ahram Online, Wednesday 14 Aug 2013

Related

Four journalists killed, others injured, detained in Cairo clashes

Egypt army vows strict curfew enforcement

Egypt violence kills 41 in Minya province

Kerry urges Egypt to hold elections

Police clear main Cairo pro-Morsi sit-in, arrest 8 Brotherhood leaders

Updated: Curfew in 14 Egypt governorates amid state of emergency

Egyptian Minister of Interior Mohamed Ibrahim held a press conference Wednesday after the main sit-ins of supporters of deposed president Mohamed Morsi in Cairo and Giza were cleared.

According to Ibrahim, violence nationwide left at least 43 members of the police killed - 18 officers and 25 soldiers - and 211 injured. He added that 21 police stations were raided by supporters of the Brotherhood Wednesday.

Kerdasa police station in Giza was attacked using rocket-propelled grenades and two police officers were killed.

"Many protesters fired excessively from roof tops [at Rabaa sit-in in Nasr City] on security forces," said Ibrahim, claiming that security forces "only used tear gas to disperse the protests."

Ibrahim, who described pro-Morsi protesters as an "armed gang," said scores of weapons were confiscated during the dispersal, including grenades, guns and bullet-proof vests.

He added that at least seven churches were destroyed or torched Wednesday by suspected Islamists.

When asked about newly established sit-ins by the Brotherhood, Ibrahim said that both the police and army would disperse any new assemblies in accordance with the law.

Following the dispersal, several pro-Morsi protesters camped in front of Mostafa Mahmoud Mosque in Giza's Mohandiseen district.

Ibrahim also denied media reports of the arrest of eight Muslim Brotherhood leaders, including Mohamed El-Beltagy and Safwat Hegazy.

He further criticised "the exaggerated numbers of those slain announced by some media," affirming that security forces were determined to keep the casualties as low as possible.

At least 150 civilians were been killed in Wednesday's violence, according to the Ministry of Health. The Muslim Brotherhood has claimed the death toll has exceeded 2000.

<http://www.diariocritico.com/internacional/egipto/mohamed-mursi/440629>

Mueren 15 personas en Ismailia, al norte de Egipto, por más enfrentamientos

Diariocrítico/Agencias 14/08/2013

Al menos 15 personas han perdido la vida este miércoles en la ciudad egipcia de Ismailia, en el noreste del país, por enfrentamientos entre simpatizantes del depuesto presidente Mohamed Mursi y las fuerzas de seguridad, según han informado fuentes de los servicios médicos. Los choques se produjeron cerca de un edificio del Gobierno y, según las fuentes consultadas, la mayoría de los fallecidos presentaban heridas de bala. El resto habían sido alcanzados por disparos de perdigón, sin que inicialmente esté claro cuántas de las víctimas son civiles y cuántas policías.

El último balance oficial de víctimas confirmado por el Ministerio de Sanidad cifra en 149 los muertos y en 1.403 los heridos en los choques originados en distintos puntos de Egipto a raíz del desalojo de dos campamentos de protesta levantados por islamistas en El Cairo.

Al menos 35 personas han fallecido sólo en la provincia de Fayum --al sur de El Cairo--, según una información previa proporcionada también por un portavoz del Ministerio de Sanidad.

Por otra parte, la televisión estatal ha informado de que cuatro policías han muerto por disparos efectuados por seguidores de Mursi en un barrio del oeste de El Cairo. Los medios oficiales también han denunciado ataques y asaltos contra numerosos edificios del Gobierno y de la Policía en todo el país.

El Gobierno ha decretado el estado de emergencia en todo el país durante un mes y ha ordenado un toque de queda nocturno --de siete de la tarde a seis de la mañana-- en once provincias, incluidas las principales ciudades, para tratar de contener la violencia.

<http://www.diariocritico.com/internacional/egipto/alejandria/440634>

Los choques entre islamistas y policías en Alejandría dejan al menos 10 muertos

Diariocrítico/Agencias 14/08/2013

Al menos diez personas han muerto este miércoles en la ciudad egipcia de Alejandría, situada en la costa mediterránea, por los choques entre fuerzas de seguridad y simpatizantes del expresidente Mohamed Mursi, expulsado del poder el pasado 3 de julio en un golpe militar.



Un portavoz del Ministerio de Sanidad, **Mohamed Abu Suleiman**, ha cifrado en diez los fallecidos y en 148 los heridos por estos enfrentamientos, ocurridos en varios barrios de Alejandría.

Estas víctimas se suman a las decenas confirmadas ya en varias ciudades del país. El último balance oficial difundido por el Ministerio de Sanidad cifra en 149 los muertos y en 1.403 los heridos en los choques originados en distintos puntos de Egipto a raíz del desalojo de dos campamentos de protesta levantados por islamistas en El Cairo.

Al menos 15 personas han perdido la vida en la ciudad egipcia de Ismailia, en el noreste del país, mientras que otras 35 han muerto en la provincia de Fayum --al sur de El Cairo--, según informaciones de fuentes médicas y el Gobierno.

Por otra parte, la televisión estatal ha informado de que cuatro policías han muerto por disparos efectuados por seguidores de **Mursi** en un barrio del oeste de El Cairo. Los medios oficiales también han denunciado ataques y asaltos contra numerosos edificios del Gobierno y de la Policía en todo el país.

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ordenado un toque de queda nocturno --de siete de la tarde a seis de la mañana-- en once provincias, incluidas las principales ciudades, para tratar de contener la violencia.

<http://www.lesoir.be/298709/article/actualite/monde/2013-08-14/plus-280-morts-l-egypte-en-etat-d-urgence>

Plus de 280 morts, l'Égypte en état d'urgence

Mailys Charlier, Célestine Lecocq, Aurélia D'Hollander (st.) (avec agences)

Mis en ligne mercredi 14 août 2013, 23h48 | mis à jour lundi 19 août 2013, 20h09

La police a commencé à disperser les rassemblements pro-Morsi en Égypte. Il y a plus de 280 morts dont 40 policiers selon un dernier bilan. Le vice-président Mohammed El-Baradei a démissionné. Le couvre-feu est entré en vigueur à 19h.



La Belgique ferme son ambassade au Caire

La Belgique a fermé son ambassade au Caire par mesure de sécurité au vu des dernières manifestations dans la ville, rapporte le SPF Affaires étrangères. L'avis concernant les voyages vers l'Égypte «*reste très négatif*». «*On déconseille aux Belges de voyager en Égypte, sauf dans les régions de la mer Rouge et du Golfe d'Aqaba*», précise le porte-parole du SPF Affaires étrangères, Joren Vandeweyer. Il est conseillé aux Belges se trouvant actuellement dans le pays, en dehors des deux régions touristiques pré-citées, «*d'évaluer si leur présence sur place est réellement indispensable et d'envisager de rentrer*». Pour les régions touristiques, il n'y a pas d'obligation de quitter le territoire égyptien même si les Affaires étrangères le conseille.

«*Nous conseillons également aux Belges résidant au Caire et aux alentours de rester chez eux mercredi et de suivre l'actualité*». Selon le porte-parole, l'ambassade est fermée, mais opérationnelle : le personnel travaille de chez lui, et peut donc répondre aux questions par mails.

La police égyptienne a commencé à disperser par la force les manifestations des partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi en tirant des grenades lacrymogènes sur les deux

places qu'ils occupent au Caire ce mercredi matin. « *C'est le début de l'opération pour déloger les manifestants* », a confirmé un haut responsable des forces de sécurité, sous couvert de l'anonymat.

En début de soirée, la place Rabaa al-Adawiya, la plus importante des deux places occupées au Caire par les partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi, était « *totalelement sous contrôle* » des autorités, a affirmé un responsable de la sécurité.

L'ESSENTIEL

Plus de 120 partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi ont été tués mercredi lorsque l'armée et la police ont lancé un assaut sur leurs campements au Caire, provoquant des violences à travers toute l'Égypte et des condamnations internationales. Les Frères musulmans ont appelé « les Égyptiens » à descendre dans la rue pour « *arrêter le massacre* ». « *Ce n'est pas une tentative de dispersion mais une tentative d'écraser d'une façon sanglante toute voix opposée au coup d'Etat militaire*. Rabaa appelle les Égyptiens à descendre dans la rue pour arrêter le massacre », a lancé Gehad el-Haddad, porte-parole des Frères musulmans, sur Twitter.

Les forces de l'ordre avaient promis une opération « *graduelle* » et des « *sommations* » mais leurs bulldozers ont pris les manifestants par surprise à l'aube, avant que la dispersion des milliers d'entre eux venus avec femmes et enfants réclamer le retour du premier président démocratiquement élu ne tourne au bain de sang. En début d'après-midi, un journaliste de l'AFP a compté 124 cadavres – dont plusieurs manifestement tués par balles – dans la morgue de fortune de l'un des deux rassemblements pro-Morsi, celui de la place Rabaa al-Adawiya au Caire. Parmi les victimes, un journaliste de Sky News, Mick Deane, cameraman depuis 15 ans, a été tué.

Peu avant 16h, la présidence a décrété l'état d'urgence pour un mois. Le précédent état d'urgence en vigueur en Égypte a duré 31 ans, de 1981 à 2012. L'Etat d'urgence permet un certain nombre de restrictions des libertés publiques, et restreint notamment la liberté de la presse. Elle donne également des pouvoirs élargis à la police en matière d'arrestation et de détention, des droits similaires à l'armée et autorise le renvoi devant des tribunaux d'exception. L'état d'urgence avait été décrété pendant trente jours dans les villes de Suez, Ismaïlia et Port-Saïd **en janvier dernier**.

LE MINUTE PAR MINUTE

21h50 : les violences à travers l'Égypte ont fait mercredi 278 morts, en grande majorité des civils, a annoncé le ministère de la Santé.

21h35 : Washington brandit la menace d'une aide financière révisée. Les Etats-Unis fournissent une aide de 1,55 milliard de dollars au pays, en majeure partie destinée à l'armée.

21h15 : Les camps mis en place par les protestataires ne seront plus tolérés, a annoncé le ministère de l'Intérieur.

21h00 : Selon le ministère de l'Intérieur, 43 policiers ont été tués dans l'intervention contre les pro-Morsi. Le Premier ministre Hazem Beblawi a quant à lui assuré que la police avait agi avec « *la plus grande retenue* ».

20h00 : Le secrétaire d'État américain **John Kerry** affirme que les États-Unis condamnent vivement les violences, qualifiant le bain de sang de « lamentable ». Il appelle l'armée égyptienne à organiser des élections.

19h34 : La coalition pro-Morsi appelle à des nouvelles manifestations

19h15 : Deux hauts dirigeants des Frères musulmans arrêtés

19h08 : **La France** « *condamne avec la plus grande fermeté les violences sanglantes intervenues en Egypte et demande un arrêt immédiat de la répression* », a indiqué Laurent Fabius dans une déclaration. Le ministre « *saisit le Secrétaire général des Nations unies Ban Ki-moon ainsi que nos principaux partenaires pour qu'en urgence une position internationale soit prise en ce sens* ».

19h00 : Le **couvre-feu** entre en vigueur.

18h08 : Nouveau bilan de 149 morts dans toute l'Egypte selon le gouvernement

17h57 : Mohamed ElBaradei a annoncé avoir présenté sa démission au président par intérim : « Il m'est devenu difficile de continuer à assumer la responsabilité de décisions avec lesquelles je ne suis pas d'accord », écrit-il notamment dans sa lettre au président Adly Mansour

17h46 : Le **vice-président égyptien Mohamed El Baradei**, prix nobel de la paix en 2005, vient d'annoncer sa démission selon l'AFP.

17h29 : Selon le site internet du quotidien Al-Ahram, des milliers de manifestants pro-Morsi marchent sur le pont du 6 octobre en direction de Medinet Nasr et du sit-in de Rabiya Al-Adawiya pour tenter d'y accéder. Des véhicules blindés de l'armée sont postés sur le pont.

17h21 : Communiqué de la Maison Blanche : « *Les Etats-Unis condamnent l'usage de la violence à l'encontre des manifestants et adresse ses condoléances aux familles des victimes. Le gouvernement américain a appelé de manière répétée à la retenue et au respect par le gouvernement des droits universels de ses citoyens. La violence ne rendra que plus difficile le chemin vers plus de stabilité et de démocratie. Nous nous opposons fermement au retour à l'état d'urgence. Le gouvernement doit respecter les droits fondamentaux de ses citoyens, notamment le droit à la manifestation pacifique. Nous appelons le gouvernement égyptien et toutes les parties à se détourner de la violence.* »

17h18 : Les USA condamnent le recours à la violence contre les manifestants.

16h59 : Le couvre-feu vient d'être décrété au Caire et dans plusieurs provinces de 7h du soir à 6h du matin. Ces mesures s'appliquent au Caire et aux provinces de Guizeh, d'Alexandrie, de Beni Sueif, de Minya, d'Assiout, de Sohag, de Beheira, du Nord et du Sud-Sinaï, Suez et Ismailia.

16h55 : Le ministère de l'intérieur égyptien a annoncé avoir arrêté 543 personnes impliquées dans les affrontements et les émeutes au Caire et dans d'autres gouvernorats. Il a précisé que les personnes arrêtées avaient des « *armes automatiques, des carabines et des munitions* ».

16h45 : Violences dans les autres gouvernorats selon les informations du site de Al-Ahram : à Sharqiya (Delta), A Louxor (Haute-Egypte), à Beni Suef (100 km du Caire) et à Assiout

16h25 : La journaliste Habiba Ahmed Abd Elaziz, de XPress, s'est fait tuer, **d'après Le Monde.**

16h : **pour la Belgique**, l'avis de voyage est très négatif. Tous les voyages à destination de l'Egypte sont déconseillés, sauf pour les zones touristiques dans la région de la Mer Rouge. En raison de l'instabilité du pays, l'avis de voyage peut changer à tout moment, selon le porte-parole adjoint aux Affaires étrangères. Tous les belges se trouvant en Egypte doivent quitter le territoire (sauf zones touristiques, même si c'est conseillé). L'ambassade est fermée, mais opérationnelle : le personnel travaille de chez lui, et peut donc répondre aux questions par mails.

15h45 : la présidence annonce l'état d'urgence pour un mois en Egypte.

15h42 : le secrétaire général de l'ONU Ban Ki-moon « *condamne dans les termes les plus fermes les violences* » au Caire et « *déplore que les autorités égyptiennes aient choisi d'utiliser la force* », a indiqué son porte-parole. Ban Ki-moon « *demande instamment à tous les Egyptiens de concentrer leurs efforts sur la promotion d'une réconciliation authentique et sans exclusive* ».

15h30 : selon les Frères musulmans, la fille d'un de leurs chefs a été tuée dans l'intervention de ce matin.

15h07 : David Cameron exprime sa tristesse face à l'annonce du décès du cameraman Mick Deane, via son compte twitter.

14h45 : selon l'agence Reuters, le général Abdel Fattah Othman, un responsable au sein du ministre de l'intérieur, a déclaré à la chaîne CBC que « plusieurs chefs des Frères musulmans ont été arrêtés mais il est trop tôt pour citer leurs noms ».

14h39 : les manifestants et l'armée se font face sur le pont du 6 octobre.

14h12 : **SKY TV confirme qu'un de ses journalistes anglais s'est fait tuer, Mick Deane, caméraman depuis 15 ans.**

14h07 : Le dernier bilan AFP fait état d'au moins au moins 124 manifestants pro-Morsi tués.

14h09 : Le Qatar, principal soutien des Frères musulmans, a dénoncé avec force l'intervention de la police égyptienne : « Le Qatar dénonce avec force la méthode utilisée contre les manifestants pacifiques (...) qui a coûté la vie à un certain nombre d'innocents sans armes »

14h02 : Le ministère britannique des Affaires étrangères a condamné « l'utilisation de la force pour disperser les manifestations » pro-Morsi au Caire et appelé « les forces de sécurité à agir avec retenue »

13h47 : selon l'agence Reuters citant une source médicale, les affrontements entre partisans de Morsi et les forces de sécurité ont fait au moins neuf morts dans la province du Fayoum.

13h34 : le Qatar, la Suède et l'Iran déplorent eux-aussi les violences.

13h23 : selon l'AFP, le président turc Abdullah Gül a dénoncé une opération « inacceptable » de la police

13h02 : la plus grande autorité sunnite, la mosquée Al-Azhar au Caire, s'est désolidarisée de l'opération policière. « Al-Azhar veut dire aux Egyptiens qu'elle n'avait pas eu connaissance des méthodes utilisées pour disperser les manifestations, sauf à travers la presse », a assuré sur une chaîne de la télévision publique le grand imam de la mosquée, Ahmed al-Tayyeb.

13h01 : la France déplore très vivement les violences survenues au Caire et présente ses condoléances aux familles des victimes d'après le site de la diplomatie française.

12h59 : les tours-opérateurs ne modifient pas pour l'instant leurs offres de séjours vers l'Égypte. « Nous avons respecté l'avis du ministère des Affaires étrangères concernant ce pays » depuis le début de la crise et « nous n'y envoyons plus de clients sauf dans les régions de la mer Rouge et du Golfe d'Aqaba », a indiqué mercredi le président de l'association des tours-opérateurs belges (ABTO), Claude Perignon.

12h43 : les pro-Morsi établissent des barricades sur une troisième place du Caire, selon les informations du correspondant du Monde.

12h40 : l'Union européenne a jugé « extrêmement préoccupantes » les informations faisant état de la mort de nombreux manifestants au Caire. L'UE invite les autorités égyptiennes à faire preuve de retenue.

12h36 : la mosquée Al-Azhar au Caire, la plus haute autorité sunnite dans le monde, s'est désolidarisée de l'opération policière qui a fait des dizaines de morts parmi les partisans de Mohamed Morsi, après avoir pourtant soutenu la destitution du président islamiste.

12h06 : la Belgique a fermé son ambassade au Caire par mesure de sécurité au vu des dernières manifestations dans la ville, rapporte le SPF Affaires étrangères. L'avis concernant les voyages vers l'Égypte « reste très négatif ». « On déconseille aux Belges de voyager en Égypte, sauf dans les régions de la mer Rouge et du Golfe d'Aqaba », précise le porte-parole du SPF Affaires étrangères.

12h00 : le ministre allemand des Affaires étrangères, Guido Westerwelle, a appelé « toutes les forces politiques » en Égypte « à empêcher une escalade de la violence ».

11h55 : deux autres églises ont été attaquées et en partie incendiées par des pro-Morsi dans la province d'el-Menia.

11h47 : selon un correspondant du Monde, les Frères musulmans auraient tenté d'incendier une université, place Al-Nahda.

11h29 : selon le correspondant de Sky News, Tom Rayner, des tirs provenant de snipers, forces armées de fusils d'assaut et d'hélicoptères font de nombreux morts. « Les hôpitaux débordent de corps et de blessés graves », rapporte-t-il sur Twitter.

11h20 : l'armée et la police égyptiennes ont placé des barrages sur les routes autour de l'aéroport international du Caire. « Il s'agit d'une mesure de précaution », a expliqué un porte-parole de l'exploitant de l'aéroport.

11h18 : des partisans du président Mohamed Morsi ont incendié une église copte à Sohag, dans le centre de l'Égypte.

10h52 : le correspondant du Guardian, Patrick Kingsley, confirme que les forces de sécurité tirent sur les manifestants. Sur son compte Twitter, il affirme que des tirs de gaz lacrymogène ont démarré.

10h10 : au moins 43 pro-Morsi tués dans l'opération de dispersion selon une information de l'AFP.

09h50 : de nombreuses ambulances arrivent à Rabaa, l'une des places occupées par les pro-Morsi, selon une agence de presse australienne.

09h40 : selon le site du Guardian, de nombreux journalistes et photographes se font confisquer leurs matériels et sont victimes de violences.

09h30 : les trains entrant et sortant du Caire ont été bloqués afin d'éviter que des manifestations se reforment hors de la capitale.

09h15 : Les Frères musulmans affirment que plus de 100 manifestants ont été tués et plus de 2.000 autres blessés.

09h00 : la plus petite des deux places occupées, Nahad, est totalement « sous contrôle » des forces de sécurité, selon le ministère de l'Intérieur. Les deux places, survolées très tôt le matin par des hélicoptères, ont été littéralement noyées sous les fumées des gaz lacrymogènes.

08h10 : le ministère de l'Intérieur a annoncé qu'au moins deux membres des forces de l'ordre avaient été tués et que ces forces avaient essuyé des tirs d'armes automatiques lors de l'assaut.

08h00 : au moins 17 personnes ont été tuées, dont plusieurs manifestement par balles.

07h45 : au moins dix manifestants ont été blessés lors des heurts qui se sont notamment produits à proximité du quartier de Gizeh.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/08/20138147553170355.html>

Deadly clashes erupt in Egypt provinces

From Alexandria to Sharqiya, supporters of deposed President Morsi vent anger over security crackdown on sit-ins.

Last Modified: 14 Aug 2013 20:39

A curfew was enforced from 9pm on Wednesday along with the state of emergency in several provinces [AFP]

Supporters of deposed Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi, angry over a security crackdown on sit-ins in Cairo, have clashed with security forces in several provinces besides the capital.

Interior Minister Mohammed Ibrahim said Morsi supporters attacked 21 police stations and seven Coptic Christian churches across the nation on Wednesday.

The Health Ministry said 278 people were killed nationwide as a result of Wednesday's violence and another 2,001 people were injured.

Spotlight

Follow our ongoing coverage of the political crisis in Egypt

The largest number of dead was reported in the province of Minya, south of Cairo, where Health Ministry officials said 41 people were killed.

Six of the dead were policemen, according to Mohamed Abdo, head of the ambulance department.

Elsewhere, Reuters news agency quoted medical sources saying that 15 people were killed in Ismailia in clashes between Morsi supporters and the police.

The Health Ministry said 35 people were also killed in Fayoum, southwest of Cairo, in clashes with security forces.

Another five people were killed in Suez after protesters tried to storm a provincial government office.

Police cars burned

The Interior Ministry said several police cars were burned in Beni Suef, a province south of Cairo, and that protesters also set fire to the courthouse.

Police fired tear gas in the Nile Delta province of Sharqiya in clashes with protesters outside of a mosque.

In Aswan, in southern Egypt, hundreds of pro-Morsi demonstrators attacked the local government offices, throwing stones and attempting to break in, according to local media.

Local media reported that the main Coptic Christian church in Sohag, in southern Egypt, was burned, and a church in Minya was also set on fire.

There has been a great deal of sectarian rhetoric directed at Copts in recent weeks during pro-Morsi protests, leading to several incidents of churches burned and Christian-owned businesses attacked.

The Health Ministry said at least 10 people were killed in violence in Alexandria. Hundreds of angry Morsi supporters marched through Egypt's second city, rioting and armed with wooden clubs, an AFP reporter said.

Chanting "Morsi is my president", the protesters set fire to car tyres and tore down pictures of General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, the army chief who was behind the Morsi's July 3 overthrow.

At one cafe where Sisi's picture was hanging, they smashed the doors and beat up the patrons as they shouted "Sisi is a killer".

Furniture looted

In the Ibrahimiya district, they stormed a police station and looted furniture and equipment inside, an AFP reporter said.

Earlier, in another part of Alexandria, tear-gas canisters rained down on a pro-Morsi march in the Sharq neighbourhood, amid repeated bursts of automatic gunfire.

Hundreds of Morsi loyalists had marched through the city when police fired tear gas to disperse them.

Residents, armed with clubs, came out of their homes and shops to help the police, detaining Morsi supporters and handing them over to officers at Sharq police station.

Morsi supporters, carrying Egyptian flags and pictures of the deposed leader, then clashed with his opponents on a road carpeted with rocks.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/79075/Egypt/Politics-/Egypt-PM-Beblawi-The-Morsi-sitins-had-to-be-disper.aspx>

Egypt PM Beblawi: The Morsi sit-ins had to be dispersed

After a day of heavy clashes, Hazem Beblawi defends the intervention of the state to end pro-Morsi sit-ins; says security had to be restored

Wednesday 14 Aug 2013



Interim Prime Minister Hazem El-Beblawi (Photo: AP)

Egypt's interim premier, Hazem El-Beblawi, addressed the Egyptian nation Wednesday evening in what he called "a word from the heart," describing the decision to disperse the two

main sit-ins held by supporters of ousted president Mohamed Morsi in Cairo and Giza as a difficult one.

"As a government, we respect the right of peaceful protesting. But in all countries of the world those, rights are respected as long as there is a respect for others' rights, and this is achieved through a state of law," said El-Beblawi.

"As a state, we reached a level in which we can not accept this method of protesting. Still we gave a chance for reconciliation, and even for international mediation, in order to have democracy in the future. But there was no respect for the right of peaceful protest," said El-Beblawi, adding that Pro-Morsi protesters abused this right by blocking roads and attacking people.

"We respected the feelings of the Egyptians in Ramadan and Eid, but then the state had to intervene in order to restore the security of Egyptians," said El-Beblawi. "The dispersing of the sit-ins had to happen," he added.

During the month of Ramadan, the Cabinet authorised the interior ministry to disperse the pro-Morsi sit-in accordance with the law.

"We demanded the police restrain itself to the maximum level," said the premier, praising the interior ministry.

"The first phase is achieved, but now with the current chaos the state has to intervene with exceptional procedures," he said, referring to the state of emergency imposed for a month starting Wednesday 4pm.

El-Beblawi further stated that the interim government was moving forward in the roadmap and wishes to accomplish the drafting of a constitution that would bring about a state that was neither religious nor military-based.

On Wednesday, the interior ministry started dispersing the two main pro-Morsi sit-ins at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Mosque in Nasr City and Al-Nahda Square in Giza. Clashes erupted nationwide leaving at least 149 civilians and, according to the interior ministry, 43 security personnel killed in addition to many more injured.

In addition to clashes at the sit-in venues, confrontations also erupted between pro-Morsi demonstrators and security forces in several governorates around the country. A number of churches and Coptic shops were also torched by Morsi supporters.

Vice President for International Affairs Mohamed ElBaradei resigned following the violence, stating that a political solution could have been reached instead.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/0/79000/Egypt/0/Egyptian-president-declares-state-of-emergency,-cu.aspx>

Egyptian president declares state of emergency, curfew amid deadly violence

Police clear two major pro-Morsi sit-ins in Cairo; violent clashes erupt nationwide leaving dozens dead



Egyptian security forces inspect the sit-in camp set up by supporters of ousted Islamist president Mohamed Morsi in Nasr City on Wednesday morning (Photo: AP)

18:45 Ahram Online will close its live updates of the day's events here.

18:30 Sources have told Ahram Online that Egypt's two deputy prime ministers, **Hossam Eissa** and **Ziad Bahaa El-Din**, will both offer their resignations as well.

18:15 Cairo's underground metro will be closed from 7pm due to the **curfew**, an official told Egyptian television. It will reopen the next morning at 6am when the curfew is lifted.

18:10 The Coptic Orthodox Church has condemned the continued attacks on **churches** and Christian properties on Wednesday.

Angry mobs attacked and torched tens of Christian properties including churches, monasteries, schools and shops, in a number of locations in Egypt including Alexandria, Suez, and a number of cities in Upper Egypt.

In a statement, the church called on the Egyptian armed forces to help the police in maintaining security.

18:00 The **US** has condemned the violent crackdown on protesters and strongly opposed the declaration of a state of emergency announced by Egypt's military-backed government.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest urged Egypt's military leaders to respect the basic human rights of the Egyptian people.

Earnest said the violence will only make it more difficult for the parties involved to return to the path of peace and democracy.

17:50 **Mohamed ElBaradei**, vice president for foreign affairs, has offered his resignation, sources confirm to Ahram Online. There are ongoing negotiations to try to convince the one-time Nobel peace laureate to withdraw his resignation, which has not yet been officially announced.

17:45 More details about the **curfew**. It has been imposed on 12 out of 27 governorates - Cairo, Giza, Alexandria, Suez, Ismailia, Assiut, Sohag, Beni Suef, Minya, Beheira, South Sinai, and North Sinai. It will last for a month, and those who do not abide by the curfew will be imprisoned, according to the cabinet's statement.

17:40 The leftist group the **Egyptian Popular Current**, led by ex-presidential candidate Hamdeen Sabbahi, holds the Muslim Brotherhood responsible for Wednesday's violence on the grounds that the Islamist group has "chosen a standoff scenario with the state."

"We reject the Brotherhood's attempt to enlarge the circle of violence in Cairo and the governorates, as well as their targeting of churches and police stations," said the group's statement, released on Wednesday evening.

The Popular Current further called on the Egyptian people to support the police and the army in "confronting terrorism and upholding popular will."

17:35 State television and private channel ONTV are showing pictures of a steady stream of supporters of Mohamed Morsi leaving the **Rabaa** sit-in with their hands in the air. State television reports that they have been offered a safe exit by the interior ministry.

17:10 In **Sohag**, two have been reported killed and eight injured, including three CSF conscripts, by live fire from pro-Morsi demonstrators in Thaqafa Square, according to Ahram Arabic.

Morsi supporters set ablaze several shops in the square's vicinity and in front of the main Coptic Orthodox church. The fire has been successfully put out.

17:00 Thousands of pro-Morsi protesters are marching on the 6 October Bridge – blocked by armoured police vehicles – trying to find their way to the main **Rabaa Al-Adawiya** protest camp. There are still hundreds of people at the site, and more trying to enter.

16:55 The cabinet has declared a **curfew** from 7pm tonight until 6am tomorrow morning.

16:45 Scuffles are ongoing in Al-Haram Street in **Giza**, near Al-Nahda Square, as protesters move to set up a stage at Nasr Al-Din street in an effort to establish a sit-in. Police fired teargas to disperse the crowds. Ahram Arabic reports that police also prevented an attempt to break into the nearby Al-Talebeya police station.

16:40 Islamist politician **Mohamed Selim El-Awa** has urged army chief Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi to order police to stop killing pro-Morsi protesters and to immediately start dialogue with the pro-Morsi camp.

El-Awa, in a phone interview with Al Jazeera Mubasher Misr, said that Egypt's military-backed government has ignored calls for negotiations on political proposals which the Muslim Brotherhood and its allies had agreed to discuss.

El-Awa described the attack on pro-Morsi vigils by police as an "inhumane crime by legal and constitutional standards around the world" and warned of the dangerous ramifications if violence, which has spread to several governorates, continues between both parties.

“If the situation remains the same, by tonight either legitimacy or the regime will fall forever.”

16:20 The interior ministry announced it has **arrested 543 people** allegedly involved in clashes and riots in Cairo and several governorates nationwide.

In a statement the interior ministry said that those arrested had "automatic weapons, birdshot and ammunition."

16:15 Supporters of Morsi set fire to a military building in **Marsa Matrouh** in western Egypt, reported Ahram Arabic news website. Clashes have been ongoing between supporters of Morsi and security forces since this morning.

16:05 Egypt's health ministry has raised the casualty toll from today's events to **95 deaths** and 874 injuries nationwide, ministry spokesman Mohamed Fathallah announced.

16:00 Gamal Eid, human rights lawyer and director of the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), told Ahram Online that declaring a **state of emergency** was required to justify the army's deployment to restore order.

A state of emergency gives the police greater powers to arrest and detain people without a court order.

Eid says the move gives legal cover for ordering the army to restore security and added that a detailed decree will be issued later stipulating the state of emergency, which he said may be coupled with a curfew.

A state of emergency was in place in Egypt from 1967 to 2012.

15:55 Violence continues in governorates all over Egypt this afternoon.

In **Sharqiya** governorate, one person is confirmed dead and three injured during an attempt to storm the Abu-Kebir police station, a health official told Ahram Arabic website.

In **Luxor**, three were injured during clashes between supporters and opponents of Morsi. Pro-Morsi supporters torched a hotel and several shops owned by Egyptian Christians.

In **Beni Suef**, Morsi supporters took over a police station in Al-Wasty district seizing weapons, reported Ahram Arabic website. Supporters of Morsi and security forces have been exchanging gunfire, leaving at least seven confirmed injured.

In **Assiut**, Morsi supporters torched a court building, throwing Molotov cocktails after they failed to storm the building, reported Ahram Arabic website.

A church was also set ablaze in the city of Assiut.

In **Daqahliya** governorate's Mansoura, residents clashed with supporters of Morsi when attempting to build a wall to block the Al-Geish road, reported Ahram Arabic.

15:50 Leading Brotherhood member **Mohamed El-Beltagi** has confirmed earlier reports that his 17-year-old daughter was killed during clashes at Rabaa. Asmaa El-Beltagi succumbed to her injuries after being shot at Rabaa Al-Adawiya.

El-Beltagi described the events to Al-Jazeera's Mubasher Misr channel as a "massacre," saying that "all squares in Egypt are now revolutionary squares that will hold sit-ins" in protest.

15:50 The **EGX30** stock market index closed Wednesday trading on a 1.7 percent drop, at 5,549 points. Turnover reached LE350 million (\$50 million).

15:45 In the city of **Tanta** in Gharbiya governorate, locals formed a human shield around the Mar Girgis church to protect it after Morsi supporters attacked it with stones, reported Ahram Arabic.

15:43 Egypt's **presidency** has declared a state of emergency in Egypt, to last for one month. The president ordered the army to take all necessary measures to preserve security.

15:40 There have been a number of reports of **violence against the media** in Cairo today. As well as the death of Sky News cameraman Mick Deane, the death of Habiba Ahmed Abd El-Aziz, a reporter for UAE's Gulf News, has been confirmed. Both were killed at Rabaa.

Egypt's Journalists Syndicate issued condolences on El-Aziz's passing, and called for urgent investigations into the incident.

MENA reports that a number of other journalists were injured while covering the violence, including Al-Masry Al-Youm photographer Ahmed El-Naggar and Al-Watan reporter Tarek Abbas.

15:35 The total **death toll** across Egypt has reached 60, with 874 injured, according to health ministry officials.

15:30 In **Fayoum**, south of Cairo, the death toll has climbed to 17 following clashes at police stations between Morsi supporters and security forces, MENA said, quoting a provincial hospital official.

Seventy others have been wounded in the clashes in the governorate.

15:25 In **Kafr El-Sheikh** city, north of Cairo, a 25-year-old pregnant woman from the city of Hamoul was shot dead and 12 others were injured by gunshot wounds during clashes with security. Several security personnel were injured during the clashes at Nasr Square where thousands of pro-Morsi protesters had gathered. The security personnel were transported to hospital.

15:20 Salafist **Nour Party** spokesperson Sherif Taha told Ahram's Arabic news website that dispersing the pro-Morsi sit-ins will complicate matters and spread unrest, warning against the danger of dispersing sit-ins by force.

Taha called on protesters to avoid violence for the good of Egypt and called on them to stop attacking churches and public institutions, saying civil war will happen if the situation isn't contained.

15:10 The UK's Sky News TV channel confirmed the **death of its cameraman** Mick Deane in the Cairo as he was covering the dispersal of a pro-Morsi sit-in in Rabaa. In an official statement the news network said, "Mick was part of a Sky News team reporting on the disturbances in the city with Middle East Correspondent Sam Kiley when he was shot and wounded. Despite receiving medical treatment for his injuries, he died shortly afterwards." According to the statement, Deane, 61, had worked with Sky News as a camera operator for 15 years and was married with two sons.

15:00 The latest updates on the **death toll** vary widely. Egypt's health ministry says there are 15 deaths so far from clashes at both sit-ins in Cairo and Giza, and 203 injuries. The Muslim Brotherhood says the Rabaa Al-Adawiya sit-in field hospital alone has recorded 2,200 deaths and over 10,000 injuries. However, Mohamed El-Beltagi, senior Brotherhood figure, announced that there were at least 300 dead in Rabaa.

A death tally by AFP says 124 were killed at the Rabaa Al-Adawiya sit-in alone. The news agency said many seem to have died of gunshot wounds.

14:55 The **EU** has issued a statement urging all sides to exercise maximum restraint.

"Confrontation and violence are not the way forward," said Peter Stano, spokesman for EU foreign affairs chief Catherine Ashton. "Reports about deaths and injuries in this respect are extremely worrying."

14:50 In **Luxor**, a hotel has been torched by Morsi's supporters in addition to some shops owned by Egyptian Christians on Karnak Temple street, according to Ahram's reporter in Luxor, Iman El-Hawary.

14:45 Major **roads** leading into Cairo have been closed off, some by police forces and some by the Egyptian military.

The military closed down the Cairo-Alexandria agricultural highway near Qaliyoubia city.

The police and the military also closed down the Cairo-Belbeis agricultural road leading to Cairo.

14:40 Clashes in **Suez** governorate - east of Cairo - left five people dead and 40 injured according to health officials, MENA reported.

14:35 Further attacks on Egyptian **churches** are being reported. In **Al-Arish** in North Sinai, unknown assailants have torched the Mar Girgis church, reports Ahram Arabic.

In **Minya** governorate, Morsi supporters have torched two more churches, Deir Mina and El-Agayby, both located in the city of Minya itself, reports Ahram Arabic. Ahram Arabic reports three churches torched today in the governorate, while Asway Masriya says that four churches were set on fire and another three others attacked.

14:25 The **Brotherhood**'s official spokesperson Gehad El-Haddad announced that Asmaa Mohamed El-Beltagi, the 17-year-old daughter of Brotherhood figure Mohamed El-Beltagi, has been killed during the security crackdown on the Rabaa Al-Adawiya sit-in.

14:20 Ahram Online's Sam Kimball was in **Mohandiseen** around an hour ago, where a sit-in is now underway by hundreds of protesters.



Sheikh Mohamed Hassan and Sheikh Mohamed Yakoob in Mostafa Mahmoud Square
(Photo: Sam Kimball)

Kimball reports that birdshot and teargas was being fired by security forces into the Mohandiseen sit-in which is located next Mostafa Mahmoud Mosque. Kimball reports hearing sounds of gunfire but was unable to confirm whether they were live rounds.

The Morsi supporters have constructed makeshift barriers using benches torn up from nearby streets to partially block traffic in Gamat El-Dowal Street, protecting the sit-in. Burning tyres have been put around the perimeter.

Protester Hassam told Kimball: "I'm with the January 25 revolution. But 75 percent of the people who were in it have abandoned us. They've cut us into two groups, so the counterrevolution is beating us."

His message to police: "If you break up our sit-in, we'll make another one - no problem."

14:15 Six security personnel –three officers and three conscripts – have been killed by gunfire while breaking up the **Rabaa Al-Adawiya** camp, a security source told state news agency MENA.



A riot police officer assists a woman as they cleared the area of members of the Muslim Brotherhood and supporters of deposed Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi, at Rabaa Adawiya square, where they are camping, in Cairo August 14, 2013. (Reuters)

Sixty-six others were injured in the process.

There are some more official figures for injuries in various governorates. Seven people have been killed and 96 injured in clashes in **Beheira, Beni Suef, Suez and Minya** governorates, according to official health ministry figures.

14:10 Journalists in Egypt are reportedly encountering difficulties when they try to cover the violence.

Correspondent for the Daily Beast Mike Giglio writes on Twitter that he was “arrested, beaten by security forces and then held at a local arena.” He writes that his laptop, wallet and mobile phone were confiscated and not returned, and that freelance Egyptian photojournalist Mahmoud Abou Zeid was detained with him and is yet to be released.

“Authorities knew full well that I’m a journalist while arresting me today. It actually seemed to get me some extra punches,” Giglio writes.

14:00 At least 9 people have been killed in **Fayoum** following fighting at police stations between protesters and security forces, Reuters reports.

Morsi supporters had attacked two police stations in the city. which lies 130km south of Cairo.

13:45 There have been further international statements of concern about the dispersal of the sit-ins.

The **Qatar** foreign ministry reportedly called on Egyptian authorities to "refrain from the security option in dealing with peaceful protests, and to preserve the lives of Egyptians at protest sites."

Turkey's President Abdullah Gul said that "armed intervention on civilians, on people demonstrating" is "completely unacceptable."

Both Qatar and Turkey were strong backers of Mohamed Morsi's government.

Iran, meanwhile, has condemned the "massacre" in Egypt.

13:30 A security source told Egyptian state television that reports that Brotherhood figure **Mohamed El-Beltagi** has been arrested are incorrect.

Sources who talked to Ahram's Arabic news website said that El-Beltagi and Islamist preacher Safwat Hegazy, who is close to the Brotherhood, were being besieged by security forces in a house close to the Rabaa sit-in.

El-Beltagi and Hegazy both face charges of incitement of violence and attempted murder, but have avoided arrest by staying within the Cairo sit-in, often appearing on the sit-in's stage addressing the crowds or speaking in press conferences.

13:20 In **Suez** there have been two confirmed deaths by live fire, a health official told Ahram Arabic. Fifty-three injuries have been reported.

13:15 Protests in **Alexandria** are ongoing; Ahram reports that protesters set fire to a government building in the suburb of Kom El-Deka and clashed with security forces at El-Raml train station located nearby. The demonstrators stormed the government building and set parts on fire.

13:10 UAE media outlet Xpress is reporting on Twitter that its **reporter** Habiba Ahmed Abd Elaziz has been "shot dead in Cairo." No further details have been released yet.

13:05 Alastair Beach, a reporter with the UK daily the Independent, is at **Rabaa** field hospital, where he reports seeing 42 bodies. "Pro-Morsi protesters have barricaded themselves inside upper floors of field clinic as live fire crackles outside" he tweets.

13:00 In **Luxor**, clashes have been going on since Morsi supporters staged a protest in Abu Haggag Square. During this time the protesters burned a police car, attacked a policeman stealing his weapon and uniform in addition to attacking a number of shops, according to Ahram's reporter in Luxor, Iman El-Hawary.

Pro-Morsi supporters have also attacked four police stations in the governorate of **Giza**.

12:55 **Al-Azhar**, Egypt's leading Islamic institution, said that it was not aware of plans to disperse the sit-ins and that it had learned about them through the media.

Al-Azhar's grand imam Ahmed El-Tayyeb said in a spoken statement broadcast on Egyptian television that Al-Azhar should not be dragged into political conflicts.

He called for "self-restraint" and giving priority to "the national interest", condemning violence and bloodshed.

12:50 In **Fayoum** in Upper Egypt, pro-Morsi supporters set fire to a Christian youth centre located next to the Muslim youth centre where they had been protesting, reported Ahram Arabic.

The protesters also set fire to a rest house located near the Fayoum-Cairo highway, while security forces blocked roads leading to government headquarters and blocked off the highway.

In **Aswan**, three people have been confirmed dead at the university hospital, with 22 injured, after clashes between protesters and security forces. Morsi supporters have torched 5 Central Security Forces vehicles and took guns and teargas canisters from inside the trucks, **Ahram Arabic** reported.

12:45 In a brief televised statement, Egypt's **interim government** said it would react sternly to any acts of sabotage and attacks on state institutions. The government vowed to safeguard the right to political expression as long as it remains peaceful and stays within the domain of the law.

“The government insists on moving forward with the future roadmap in a way that guarantees that no faction will be excluded from participating in the political process which will achieve a democratic transition,” the statement read.

12:40 The stock market has, unsurprisingly, not reacted well to today’s violence.

The **EGX30**, the main index of the Egyptian stock exchange, dropped 1.68 percent by 12:40pm to sit at 5,550 points. Trading volume floats at around LE230 million. The market had neared a six-month high on Tuesday.

12:35 The international community has expressed concerns about the dispersals of the demonstrations.

An **European Union** spokesman has said that reports that protesters had been killed in a security force crackdown were "extremely worrying" and called for restraint from Egyptian authorities.

The **German** foreign minister has also called on all sides to "return immediately to negotiations and avert an escalation of violence."

Alistair Burt, the **UK** foreign minister, wrote on Twitter several hours ago that he was "deeply concerned at events continuing today in #Cairo leading to deaths and injury. Restraint and dialogue more urgent than ever."

12:30 There have been a number of reported attacks by protesters on **police stations** around Egypt.

An attack on the Abu Kurkas police station in **Minya** left eight dead and at least 30 injured according to a medical source, reported **Ahram Arabic**.

Members of the Muslim Brotherhood have also attacked police stations in **Fayoum**, **Assiut**, **Helwan**, and **Sharqiya** while a police car was set on fire in **Luxor**.

12:25 Egyptian state television is reporting that protesters at **Rabaa Al-Adawiya** threw a Central Security Forces (CSF) vehicle off the nearby 6 October Bridge. The vehicle had five police conscripts inside. The report is unconfirmed.

12:20 The **Al-Gamaa Al-Islamiya** ultra-conservative movement called on supporters of toppled president Morsi to take to the streets to condemn what it termed "coup crimes."

The statement by the hardline Islamist group – a close ally of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood – also urged its loyalists “enraged by police attacks on the Rabaa and Nahda sit-ins,” not to assault “Christians or their religious buildings.”

There have been a number of attacks on churches around Egypt this morning, including in Minya and Sohag.

12:15 Violence continues in the cities on the Suez Canal.

Reports of violence against Christian targets in **Suez**. Ahram Arabic reports that pro-Morsi supporters threw Molotov cocktails at the Al-Raey Al-Saleh Church and set three military vehicles on fire. Clashes are ongoing between protesters and military forces.

In **Ismailiya**, a military officer and a conscript were shot dead on the highway connecting the city with Cairo, by unknown assailants reported to have fired from a car. Two other officers were injured, reported Ahram Arabic.

12:10 A BBC reporter has said that **gunfire** is currently being exchanged between both sides at Al-Nahda Square in Giza after the dispersal of the pro-Morsi sit-in.

Ahram Online reporter Mai Shaheen, who was at the sit-in earlier, confirmed that automatic weapons were being fired by Morsi supporters at police from within Al-Orman Gardens adjacent to the square.

12:05 According to Ahram Arabic, Mohamed El-Zaki, a **photographer** for Al Jazeera Mubasher news network was injured during clashes at Rabaa. Zaki was shot in the hand while covering the clashes. A **reporter** for Sky News Arabic was also reportedly shot by live ammunition and is being transported to hospital.

12:00 In a **cabinet** statement earlier this morning, the government reiterated the interior ministry's claims that the police have been demonstrating "restraint" and using only teargas and water cannon. There have been many reports to the contrary, including an Ahram Online reporter who was caught in the crossfire between protesters and police at Al-Nahda, with live fire being used on both sides.

11:55 Senior **health ministry** official Mohamed Sultan said in a statement to state news agency MENA that the death toll from the sit-in dispersals had reached 13, five of which were security forces – two officers and three conscripts.

Sultan said the injury toll had reached 98, including many from live fire, shotgun pellets and teargas.

The Muslim Brotherhood's **Freedom and Justice Party** said in their latest statement that the Rabaa Al-Adawiya field hospital has over 500 dead and 9,000 injured.

All figures are impossible to verify at the moment, especially as security forces are making it hard for reporters to access the sit-ins. However, an AFP reporter earlier counted 43 bodies at the morgue at the Rabaa Al-Adawiya field hospital.

11:45 The **interior ministry** says that security monitoring has revealed that leaders of Muslim Brotherhood have "given orders to their members in the governorates to attack police stations."

In a statement published by state news agency MENA, the ministry said that the Brotherhood has already started "implementing the plan in Cairo, Beni Suef, Minya, Assiut and Sohag." The ministry's forces are combating these attempts, it said, and warned citizens against approaching "any police facilities."

11:40 There are reports of ongoing protests and clashes all over Egypt.

In **Alexandria**, hundreds of members of the Muslim Brotherhood are reportedly clashing with security forces on the corniche, the main sea-front road. Brotherhood members have attacked security forces with stones and pellet fire, while the police respond with teargas. Several public buses have also been set on fire by protesters.

In **Suez**, pro-Morsi protesters fired at an army truck during a march headed to the governorate headquarters and the local security directorate. According to Ahram Arabic, Morsi supporters also set on fire a Franciscan school as well as a number of shops and cars, all located on Al-Geish Street.

In **Ismailiya**, Ahram's Khaled Lotfy says that pro-Morsi protesters have been throwing Molotov cocktails at court buildings while security forces attempt to control the fire and secure other governmental buildings in the area.

In Upper Egypt, clashes between protesters and the police continue in **Assiut** with pro-Morsi protesters throwing rocks and setting a police car on fire in Mahata Square, according to Islam Radwan, Ahram's reporter in the city.

In **Wadi El-Gedid** governorate in Egypt's Western Desert, dozens of pro-Morsi supporters headed to the local post office to close it down and attack security forces there, according to Mahmoud Abbas, a post office manager. He told Ahram's Khaled Karish that locals in the area stopped the attack and the protesters headed on to the governorate building.

11:35 The **Strong Egypt Party** has said that it holds the Egyptian authorities responsible for the "deaths of the victims" today. Spokesman Ahmed Imam said that the dispersal of the sit-ins is a "crime" that will lead to more violence. The party, which is Islamist-oriented, took part in the 30 June protests against Morsi but rejected his ouster by the military, describing it as a "coup."

The April 6 Youth Movement blames "the army, interior ministry and the Muslim Brotherhood" for today's bloodshed, saying on its Facebook page that the interior ministry does not mind if people die so long as it "consolidates its control" and that the Brotherhood also do not care about lives but only about "reclaiming power."

11:30 Clashes continue at **Rabaa** where security forces are inside the camp, with the sounds of gunfire echoing in the area.

Egypt's interior ministry said protesters on nearby rooftops and inside the camp had opened fire at security forces who continued to take down tents and makeshift barriers erected by pro-Morsi protesters, Aswat Masriya reported

11:20 A priest named as Ihab told Ahram's Haggag El-Husseini that the Dalga **church** in Deir Mawat located in Upper Egypt's **Minya** governorate is under attack.

The main Coptic Orthodox Church in **Sohag** city, also in Upper Egypt, has been set ablaze by pro-Morsi protesters, reports Aswat Masriya. It is located close to Thaqafa Square, where thousands are protesting against the sit-ins' dispersal.

11:15 Egyptian police on Wednesday morning attacked two large sit-ins being held by supporters of Mohamed Morsi in Greater Cairo.

The smaller sit-in at Al-Nahda Square in Giza was completely dispersed according to the interior ministry, while the larger demonstration at Rabaa Al-Adawiya mosque, across the river in east Cairo, is surrounded by police and under heavy fire. Many key highways around Cairo are blocked off by security forces, particularly those leading to the sit-ins.

The railway authority said it had stopped all train services in and out of Cairo "for security reasons and to prevent people from mobilising".

The death toll from the attacks is hard to ascertain; the health ministry has reported ten dead across Cairo in the incidents, but their reports are based on figures from public hospitals, and do not include those bodies that have yet to reach official healthcare facilities.

At the Rabaa field hospital, an AFP correspondent reported seeing 43 dead bodies.

Egyptian state television has said that two police personnel, an officer and a conscript, were killed and six wounded during the attempt to clear out the two sit-ins.

There are also reports of violence in the middle-class Giza district of Mohandeseen and in Maydan Al-Giza, in the Giza district, between Morsi supporters and police.

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/08/14/avec-les-freres-musulmans-l-armee-a-aussi-ecrase-la-democratie-naissante-en-egypte_3461731_3212.html

Egypte : l'armée a aussi écrasé la démocratie naissante

LE MONDE | 14.08.2013 à 22h09 • Mis à jour le 16.08.2013 à 13h43 | Par Christophe Ayad

L'attaque de l'armée contre les pro-Morsi a fait au moins 149 morts, mercredi, et provoqué la démission du vice-président et Prix Nobel de la paix, Mohamed El-Baradei.

Les islamistes ne sont pas les seules victimes de l'assaut donné mercredi par les forces de sécurité contre les deux "sit-in" de militants pro-Morsi, au prix, semble-t-il, de plus de 230 morts selon des bilans encore provisoires à l'échelle nationale. Les libéraux ont été

politiquement laminés par le choix du tout-sécuritaire qui a prévalu. Mohamed El-Baradei l'a bien compris, en donnant sa démission mercredi, en milieu d'après-midi.

Jusqu'au bout, le Prix Nobel de la paix 2005 a lutté pour arracher une solution pacifique au sein du gouvernement de transition installé après la destitution par l'armée du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi. Mais les "sécuritaires", dont la ligne est incarnée par le chef d'état-major et ministre de la défense, Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi, l'ont emporté.

RETOUR EN ARRIÈRE

C'est un terrible retour en arrière, à commencer par la mise en place du pire symbole des années Moubarak : l'état d'urgence, en vigueur pendant les trente ans de règne de l'ex-raïs, qui a été réinstauré pour une durée d'un mois. Il donne le droit à l'armée d'arrêter et de juger des civils. C'est une négation de tous les acquis de la révolution de janvier 2011.

Lire aussi Hors du Caire, des heurts et des incendies se multiplient

A la suite de M. El-Baradei, la plupart des libéraux du gouvernement vont devoir partir, sous peine de cautionner une répression aveugle et cynique. Et, s'ils restent, ils savent désormais que leur voix ne comptera pas. Pour avoir cautionné, voire contribué à provoquer le retour au pouvoir de l'armée, ils sont exécrés par les islamistes, et le grand public, chauffé à blanc par la propagande nationaliste et anti-Frères des médias, les tient au mieux pour des "lâches", au pire pour des "traîtres".

Avec la vague de violences sans précédent qui a été soulevée par l'assaut contre les camps de Rabiya Al-Adawiya et de la place Al-Nahda – attaques d'églises, de citoyens coptes, de commissariats –, l'état d'urgence n'est pas près d'être levé. L'Égypte s'apprête à entrer dans un cycle de violences au moins comparable à celui des années 1990, lorsque le pouvoir a mis six ans (1992-1998) à écraser une insurrection de bien moindre ampleur des Gamaat al-islamiya, qui s'en prenaient quotidiennement aux policiers, aux coptes ou aux touristes, d'abord au Caire, puis en Haute-Égypte. Le retour au calme s'était fait au prix de la détention de quelque 90 000 personnes, de violations massives des droits de l'homme et d'une absence totale de démocratie.

http://www.trivalleycentral.com/eloy_enterprise/news/world-news-riot-police-storm-protest-camps-dead-across-egypt/article_ada8dbe2-0529-11e3-999c-001a4bcf887a.html

World News: Riot police storm protest camps; 149 dead across Egypt



AP Photos/Ahmed Gomaa

Egypt violence

Injured supporters of ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi lie on the ground after Egyptian security forces clear a sit-in camp set up by supporters of Morsi in Nasr City district, Cairo, Egypt, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013. Egyptian security forces, backed by armored cars and bulldozers, moved on Wednesday to clear two sit-in camps by supporters of the country's ousted President Mohammed Morsi, showering protesters with tear gas as the sound of gunfire rang out at both sites.

Posted: Thursday, August 15, 2013 1:00 am

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Riot police swept in with armored vehicles, bulldozers and helicopters Wednesday to clear two sprawling encampments of supporters of ousted President Mohammed Morsi, sparking running street battles elsewhere in Cairo and other Egyptian cities. At least 149 people were killed nationwide, many of them in the assaults on the protest vigils.

The military-backed interim government declared a monthlong state of emergency, ordering the armed forces to support the police in efforts to restore law and order and protect state facilities. A nighttime curfew for Cairo and 10 provinces also was put into effect.

Clashes also broke out elsewhere in the capital and other provinces, injuring more than 1,400 people nationwide, as Islamist anger spread over the crackdown on the 6-week-old sit-ins of Morsi supporters that divided the country. Police stations, government buildings and Coptic Christian churches were attacked or set ablaze.

Smoke clogged the sky above Cairo and fires smoldered on the streets, which were lined with charred poles and tarps after several tents were burned. The smaller camp was cleared relatively quickly, but it took hours for police to take control of the main sit-in site, which is near a mosque that has served as the epicenter of the pro-Morsi campaign.

The assault came after days of warnings by the interim administration that replaced Morsi after he was ousted in a July 3 coup. The two sit-in camps at two major intersections on opposite sides of the Egyptian capital began in late June to show support for Morsi. Protesters — many from Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood — have demanded his reinstatement.

The violence drew condemnation from other predominantly Muslim countries, but also from the U.N. and the United States, which said the crackdown will only make it more difficult for Egypt to move forward.

Vice President Mohamed ElBaradei, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate and pro-reform leader in the interim government, resigned in protest over the crackdown. He wrote that he is not prepared to be held responsible for a "single drop of blood," and that only more violence will result, according to a copy of his letter to interim President Adly Mansour that was emailed to The Associated Press.

The Egyptian Central Bank instructed commercial banks to close branches in areas affected by the chaos, a sign of alarm that the violence could spiral out of control. The landmark Giza Pyramids and the Egyptian Museum also were closed to visitors for the day as a precaution, according to the Ministry of Antiquities.

The turmoil was the latest chapter a bitter standoff between Morsi's supporters and the interim leadership took over the Arab world's most populous country. The military ousted Morsi after millions of Egyptians massed in the streets to call for him to step down, accusing him of giving the Brotherhood undue influence and failing to implement vital reforms or bolster the ailing economy.

The coup provoked similar protests by Morsi's backers after he and other Brotherhood leaders were detained as divisions have deepened, dealing a major blow to hopes of a return to stability after the 2011 revolution that toppled autocratic ruler Hosni Mubarak.

The deposed president has been held at an undisclosed location. Other Brotherhood leaders have been charged with inciting violence or conspiring in the killing of protesters.

"The world cannot sit back and watch while innocent men, women and children are being indiscriminately slaughtered. The world must stand up to the military junta's crime before it is too late," said a statement by the Brotherhood's media office in London emailed to The Associated Press.

The smaller of the two camps was cleared of protesters by late morning, with most of them taking refuge in the nearby Orman botanical gardens on the campus of Cairo University and the zoo.

An AP reporter at the scene said security forces were chasing protesters in the zoo. At one point, a dozen protesters, mostly men with beards wearing traditional Islamist garb, were seen handcuffed and sitting on a sidewalk under guard outside the university campus. The private ONTV network showed firearms and rounds of ammunition allegedly seized from protesters there.

Security forces later stormed the larger camp in the Cairo district of Nasr City and were closing in on the Rabaah al-Adawiya Mosque that has served as the epicenter of pro-Morsi campaign. Several wanted Brotherhood leaders were believed to be hiding in the mosque.

The pro-Morsi Anti-Coup alliance claimed that security forces used live ammunition, but the Interior Ministry, which is in charge of the police, said its forces only used tear gas and that they came under fire from the camp.

The Interior Ministry statement also warned that forces would deal firmly with protesters who were acting "irresponsibly," suggesting that it would respond in kind if its men are fired upon. It said it would guarantee safe passage to all who want to leave the Nasr City site but would arrest those wanted for questioning by prosecutors.

Army troops did not take part in the two operations, but provided security at the locations. Police and army helicopters hovered over both sites as smoke rose over the skyline hours after the police launched the simultaneous actions shortly after 7 a.m. (0500 GMT).

The Health Ministry said 149 people were killed and 1,403 injured across Egypt, but it did not immediately provide a breakdown.

Separately, an alliance of pro-Morsi groups says the 17-year-old daughter of senior Muslim Brotherhood Mohammed el-Beltagy was killed. Asmaa Mohammed el-Beltagy was shot to death in the larger of the two vigils stormed by police. Her brother, Ammar, confirmed her death on his Twitter account.

Two journalists were among the dead — Mick Deane, 61, a cameraman for British broadcaster Sky News, and Habiba Ahmed Abd Elaziz, 26, a reporter for the Gulf News, a state-backed newspaper in the United Arab Emirates, the news organizations reported. Both had been reported to be shot.

A security official said 200 protesters were arrested at both sites. Several detained men could be seen walking with their hands up as they were led away by black-clad policemen.

The Muslim Brotherhood's political arm claimed that more than 500 protesters were killed and some 9,000 wounded in the two camps, but those figures could not be confirmed and nothing in the video from AP or local TV networks suggested such a high death toll.

Mohammed el-Beltagy earlier put the death toll at more than 300 and urged police and army troops to mutiny against their commanders. He also said Egyptians should take to the streets to show their disapproval of Wednesday's raids.

“Oh, Egyptian people, your brothers are in the square. ... Are you going to remain silent until the genocide is completed?” said el-Beltagy, who is wanted by authorities to answer allegations of inciting violence.

Police fired tear gas elsewhere in Cairo to disperse Morsi supporters who wanted to join the Nasr City camp after it came under attack. State TV also reported that a police captain had been abducted by Morsi supporters in the area, but there was no official statement about that.

Islam Tawfiq, a Brotherhood member at the Nasr City sit-in, said the camp's medical center was filled with dead and that the injured included children.

“No one can leave and those who do are either arrested or beaten up,” he told AP.

Security officials said train services between northern and southern Egypt have been suspended in a bid to prevent Morsi supporters from traveling from other provinces to Cairo. Clashes erupted on two roads in Cairo's upscale Mohandiseen district when Morsi supporters opened fire on passing cars and pedestrians. Police used tear gas to chase them away.

The security officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to media.

Churches belonging to Egypt's minority Coptic Christians were torched in four provinces south of Cairo — Minya, Assiut, Sohag and the desert oasis Fayoum. In the city of Bani Suef south of Cairo, protesters set three police cars on fire. Farther south in the Islamist stronghold of Assiut, police used tear gas to disperse pro-Morsi crowds in the city center.

Morsi supporters want him reinstated and are boycotting the military-sponsored political process, which includes amending the Islamist-backed constitution adopted last year and holding parliamentary and presidential elections early next year.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest, speaking at Martha's Vineyard, Mass., where President Barack Obama is vacationing, said the crackdown ran counter to the pledges made by Egypt's interim government.

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's office called the crackdown "a serious blow to the hopes of a return to democracy," and Iran warned that the violence "strengthens the possibility of civil war."

British Prime Minister David Cameron, who also condemned the violence, called for "a genuine transition to a genuine democracy. That means compromise from all sides — the President Morsi supporters but also the military — that's what needs to happen."

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said he regretted that Egyptian authorities chose to use force and urged all Egyptians to focus on reconciliation.

At least 250 people have died in previous clashes since the coup.

Morsi, Egypt's first freely elected president, had just completed a year in office when he was toppled. He has largely been held incommunicado but was visited by the European Union's foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton and an African delegation. Ashton reported that he was well and had access to TV and newspapers.

Several bids by the U.S., the European Union and Gulf Arab states to reconcile the two sides in Egypt in an inclusive political process have failed, with the Brotherhood insisting that Morsi must first be freed along with several of the group's leaders who have been detained in connection with incitement of violence.

The trial of the Brotherhood's leader, Mohammed Badie, and his powerful deputy, Khairat el-Shater, on charges of conspiring to kill protesters is due to start later this month. Badie is on the run, but el-Shater is in detention. Four others are standing trial with them on the same charges.

Associated Press reporters Tony G. Gabriel in Cairo and Mamdouh Thabet in Assiut contributed to this report.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/79104/Egypt/Politics-/Nour-Party,-April--Youth-and-Revolutionary-Sociali.aspx>

Nour Party, April 6 Youth and Revolutionary Socialists condemn pro-Morsi sit-in dispersals

Following a day of nationwide violence, dubbed 'Black Wednesday' by April 6 Youth Movement, some political currents reject both the Brotherhood and present government

Ahram Online , Thursday 15 Aug 2013



People carry debris from a campsite outside the burnt annex building of Rabaa Adawiya mosque after the clearing of a protest which was held around the mosque, in Cairo, August 15, 2013 (Photo: Reuters)

While major political parties and groups hailed the dispersal Wednesday of pro-Mohamed Morsi sit-ins in Cairo, describing the move as an “inevitable evil,” police action did not go without criticism by some political forces.

The Salafist Call and its political arm, the Nour Party, issued a statement late Wednesday condemning the use of force to disperse the sit-ins. “We warned a long time ago against the danger of bloodshed and against mobilisation and counter-mobilisation and its effect on the unity of the country that should not be a subject to compromises,” reads the statement.

The Nour Party and the Salafist Call demand that “those who belong to the Islamist trend” are assured against the domination of liberals and leftists over the government and the committee amending the constitution.

The statement came after a bloody day that left more than 500 dead as clashes erupted between the police and Muslim Brotherhood supporters across the country amid moves to disperse pro-Morsi sit-ins underway for six weeks.

The Nour Party was the only Islamist group that endorsed the roadmap announced by the army after massive protests demanding early presidential elections 30 June.

The statement also warned against “the extremist face of secularism” reflected throughout the media, leading many to believe that “there is a war against Islam,” in turn undermining reconciliation efforts.

The Salafist Call and the Nour Party held the government accountable for the bloodshed, demanding that it puts an end to the current crisis through “another solution other than bloodshed.”

Meanwhile, the April 6 Youth Movement (Ahmed Maher front) has condemned the dispersal of the pro-Morsi sit-ins by force, as well as attacks on churches in Upper Egypt on what it called “Black Wednesday,” saying not only is Egyptian blood cheap despite the great January revolution — it is going for free.

“It has become clear that all the parties fighting over power do not care for Egyptians [or] making their dead bodies a path to their goals. The Muslim Brotherhood's leaders sacrificed

its members for the sake of the power while the security forces did not stop from attacking violently those members," said a statement issued by the movement early Thursday.

"Muslim Brotherhood leading figures and the interim government preferred bloody confrontation in order to achieve [their] goals; the regime wanted to enforce its rule and the Muslim Brotherhood wanted to use the blood of the victims to make political gains," said the movement, adding that all parties agreed to choose violence over peaceful solutions.

The revolutionary group also condemned attacks on police stations in several governorates.

"The only way to end the current crisis and to put the country on the democratic path is through a political solution that allows achievement of the goals of the revolution — the solution that was expressed by resigned Vice President Mohamed ElBaradei," said the movement, adding that violence will lead to more violence.

The Revolutionary Socialists also issued a statement condemning the clearing of the Rabaa Al-Adawiya and Al-Nahda Square sit-ins, describing their dispersal as a "massacre prepared in advance" and holding General Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi, commander-in-chief of the armed forces, responsible for what happened.

"We have to put the events of today in their context, which is the use of the military to smash up workers' strikes. We also see the appointment of new provincial governors — largely drawn from the ranks of the remnants of the old regime, the police and military generals. Then there are the policies of General Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi's government. It has adopted a roadmap clearly hostile to the goals and demands of the Egyptian revolution, which are freedom, dignity and social justice."

The statement insisted, nonetheless, that the Revolutionary Socialists are resoundly against the Muslim Brotherhood and its policies.

"This is the context for the brutal massacre the army and police are committing. It is a bloody dress rehearsal for the liquidation of the Egyptian revolution. It aims to break the revolutionary will of all Egyptians who are claiming their rights, whether workers, poor, or revolutionary youth, by creating a state of terror," the statement added.

The Revolutionary Socialists also condemned attacks against churches in Upper Egypt.

"However, the reaction by the Muslim Brotherhood and the Salafists in attacking Christians and their churches is a sectarian crime which only serves the forces of counter-revolution. The filthy attempt to create a civil war, in which Egyptian Christians will fall victims to the reactionary Muslim Brotherhood, is one in which Mubarak's state and El-Sisi are complicit, who have never for a single day defended the Copts and their churches," said the statement.

Both the April 6 Youth Movement and the Revolutionary Socialists were among groups that participated in the buildup to the 30 June protests against Morsi, demanding his ouster.

Egypte : mercredi 14 août, 7 heures, Le Caire devient zone de guerre

LE MONDE | 15.08.2013 à 11h09 • Mis à jour le 15.08.2013 à 13h10 | Par Serge Michel (Le Caire, envoyé spécial)



Un jeune homme hagard supplie les gardiens de le laisser entrer dans cette école de Rabiya Al-Adawiya. On est dans une petite rue à 100 m à peine de la mosquée qui, jusqu'à l'assaut des forces de sécurité, mercredi 14 août au matin, était le coeur du vaste camp monté à Nasr City, dans la banlieue ouest du Caire, par les Frères musulmans et les partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi. Les balles sifflent, des manifestants courent, pliés en deux et des bouffées de gaz lacrymogènes font pleurer tout le monde.

Le jeune homme, grand, maigre, tout habillé de noir, finit par s'engouffrer dans la cour, son téléphone collé contre l'oreille et criant de terreur. Il appelle un de ses amis. Il y a bien un téléphone qui sonne, mais c'est dans la poche d'un des corps en sang tout juste arrivé, emballé à la hâte dans une couverture. Un volontaire du Croissant-Rouge agenouillé tourne et retourne la tête du blessé, qui a vomi du sang. C'est déjà un cadavre. Le jeune homme en noir pousse une lamentation et tombe à genoux. Le médecin referme la couverture.

ENTRE STUPEUR ET HYSTÉRIE

Il est 15 h 40 mercredi et les tirs ne faiblissent pas. Trois hélicoptères vrombissent. En trente minutes, deux blessés vont mourir dans cette clinique improvisée, au rez-de-chaussée d'une école primaire, malgré les efforts de quatre médecins qui leur font du bouche-à-bouche et des massages cardiaques. Il y a des litres de sang par terre. Quatre autres arriveront déjà morts.

A deux rues de là, plusieurs dizaines de manifestants s'éloignent lentement de la zone des combats. Ils ont abaissé leurs masques à gaz. Nombreux sont ceux qui ont les habits tachés de sang, le leur ou celui des blessés qu'ils ont secourus. Certains explosent d'hystérie, la plupart sont frappés de stupeur. *"On avait levé les mains en l'air, raconte un homme. Mais ils tiraient quand même !"*

Soudain, cinq balles frappent la façade d'un immeuble et tout le monde se met à courir. Sans doute un tireur embusqué sur le toit d'un des immeubles de la rue Al-Nasr très proche. Les manifestants tournent à la première rue à gauche pour s'abriter et y dévalisent un marchand de boissons.

"On était dans un immeuble en construction, témoigne un jeune homme portant un masque à gaz et un tee-shirt moultant, cheveux mi-long, très loin du look Frère musulman. On était quelques dizaines. On jetait des cocktails Molotov sur les blindés qui avançaient vers la mosquée. Ils ont tiré. Leurs balles traversaient les murs ! Puis ils ont lancé des lacrymogènes

par les fenêtres. On a dû partir, il y en avait trop. Quand on est arrivés en bas, dans la rue, on a pris la fuite. Mais ils ont continué à tirer. Plusieurs de mes camarades sont tombés."

Son compagnon, chemise et jeans pleins de sang, enchaîne : *"J'en ai porté trois, deux étaient déjà morts."* L'un et l'autre semblent épuisés. Ils baissent la tête et rentrent chez eux, à Al-Nozha, sept kilomètres de là.

Un homme se met à crier au rassemblement et un groupe se masse immédiatement devant lui. *"On ne fuit pas, on y retourne, Allah Akbar"*, hurle-t-il. *"Allah Akbar"*, répond la foule. Ils marchent d'un bon pas vers la rue d'où émanent des gaz et des claquements d'armes à feu, en chantant des slogans contre l'armée.

Le quartier au sud de Rabiya Al-Adawiya n'a pas été fermé par l'armée et de nouveaux partisans du président déchu continuent d'arriver, habillés de frais. *"J'y vais pour soutenir les Frères, confie l'un d'eux, un ingénieur barbu habitant Héliopolis. Non, la bataille n'est pas perdue, j'y vais !"* Les marcheurs sont pourtant rapidement bloqués par les tirs. Deux blocs en contrebas, on aperçoit l'école primaire, désormais inaccessible, noyée dans les gaz lacrymogènes. *"Tous les blessés ont dû être évacués il y a quelques minutes"*, note un homme aperçu dans l'école et qui maintenant se cache entre deux voitures, la tête entre les mains.

VÉHICULES INCENDIÉS ET BARRICADES

Le Caire, ce mercredi, a pris des allures de zone de guerre. L'assaut donné sur les deux camps pro-Morsi a démarré à 7 heures. Deux heures plus tard, le premier, Al-Nahda, près du zoo de Giza et de l'université du Caire, était vidé de ses occupants. Seuls une dizaine d'acharnés résistaient, pris en chasse par la police dans les allées du zoo. Sous ce qui reste des tentes des protestataires, les soldats se reposent et appellent leurs proches. A deux pas de là, trois corps ont été retrouvés calcinés dans leur campement incendié.

Mais les Frères musulmans avaient préparé leur affaire et avant midi, un grand nombre d'entre eux s'étaient rassemblés devant la mosquée Mustapha Mahmoud, dans le quartier central de Mohandessine. Lorsque la police est arrivée, en fin de matinée, avec d'abord deux véhicules blindés, elle s'est retrouvée au milieu d'une bataille rangée entre les islamistes et des habitants du quartier. Les Frères semblent l'avoir rapidement emporté. Ils ont incendié un des véhicules de police et ont arraché les pavés et les bornes des trottoirs pour ériger des barricades aux quatre extrémités de la place.

En fin de journée, ils avaient ainsi conquis un autre territoire provisoirement sécurisé. On pouvait voir des centaines d'entre eux allongés sur le gazon central de la place Mustapha Mahmoud ou sous l'auvent de la mosquée, pendant qu'un petit groupe érigeait une scène et y installait des haut-parleurs. Le docteur Imad Abdul Azim, responsable d'un hôpital de campagne improvisé derrière la mosquée, assure avoir reçu 22 cadavres dans la journée et 150 blessés graves. *"La plupart avaient reçu des coups de feu tirés de très près, détaille-t-il. Les balles avaient traversé leur corps."*

Deux cents mètres plus loin, les habitants du quartier, furieux, s'en prenaient à la presse étrangère. *"Soyez maudits, journalistes ! C'est vous qui avez créé tout ce problème en faisant de la publicité pour ces terroristes !"*, hurlait l'un d'eux, sur une barricade à l'entrée de la rue Goal Gamal, armé d'un fusil à canon scié flambant neuf. Derrière lui, une armurerie pillée semblait indiquer l'origine de l'équipement de cet homme et de ses voisins.

LES HÔPITAUX DE FORTUNE SUBMERGÉS

Toute la journée, des pro et des anti-Morsi se sont battus en de multiples lieux de la capitale, le plus souvent sans présence policière. Autour de la gare Ramsès, une heure avant le couvre-feu, des habitants du quartier poursuivaient un rassemblement de Frères musulmans à coups de pierres. Plus tôt dans l'après-midi, des partisans du président déchu ont renversé et mis le feu à plusieurs véhicules sur le pont du 6-October. La police, dans des véhicules blindés, et des civils ont réussi à les repousser pour rétablir cet axe de communication vital de la capitale.

Cependant, le quartier ayant donné le plus de mal aux forces de sécurité est sans conteste celui de Rabiya Al-Adawiya. Au moment où les forces de sécurité ont donné l'assaut, à 7 heures, il y avait 40 000 à 60 000 partisans de Mohamed Morsi. Plusieurs témoins affirment que les sommations n'ont duré que quelques minutes avant que les véhicules blindés ne défoncent les barricades érigées ces six dernières semaines et commencent à tirer. Les blessés ont immédiatement submergé l'hôpital de fortune proche équipé de 40 lits. Cet hôpital a lui-même été investi par les forces de sécurité, dans l'après-midi.

Jeudi matin, un bilan officiel faisait état de 113 morts à Rabiya pour un total de 134 au Caire. Ces chiffres pourraient être sous-évalués, si l'on considère que le ministère de l'intérieur a indiqué pour sa part que 43 policiers étaient morts dans les opérations de la journée. Un photographe de l'AFP assure avoir compté 124 corps dans une morgue improvisée sur la place devant la mosquée, auxquels il faut ajouter 20 cadavres trouvés plus tard sous le podium de la scène et tous les morts de la dizaine de cliniques installées d'urgence dans les rues alentour, comme celle de l'école primaire de Rabiya.

"C'est fini et sans une goutte de sang !", triomphe le soir venu un gradé responsable des soldats qui gardent les hôtels de Zamalek, où logent les journalistes étrangers. On lui montre les cadavres ensanglantés de Rabiya. *"Ça ? Ce n'est pas en Egypte, c'est en Syrie"*, rigole-t-il en s'éloignant.

Serge Michel (Le Caire, envoyé spécial)
Journaliste au Monde

http://www.thonline.com/news/national_world/article_c935e079-eb49-5eb2-8791-8d21eaba2f2b.html

Hundreds reported killed as Egypt smashes protests

Riot police barrel into protest camps, sparking violence that leaves at least 235 civilians and 43 policemen dead.



Manu Brabo

Supporters of ousted Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi take cover from Egyptian security forces fire during clashes Wednesday in Cairo. Egyptian police in riot gear swept in with armored vehicles and bulldozers to clear two sprawling encampments of supporters of the country's ousted Islamist president in Cairo, showering protesters with tear gas as the sound of gunfire rang out.



Posted: Thursday, August 15, 2013 12:00 am

Associated Press

CAIRO -- In Egypt's bloodiest day since the Arab Spring began, riot police Wednesday smashed two protest camps of supporters of the deposed Islamist president, touching off street violence that officials said killed nearly 300 people and forced the military-backed interim leaders to impose a state of emergency and curfew.

The crackdown drew widespread condemnation from the Muslim world and the West, including the U.S., and Nobel Peace Prize winner Mohamed ElBaradei resigned as the interim vice president in protest -- a blow to the new leadership's credibility with the pro-reform movement.

"Today was a difficult day," interim Prime Minister Hazem el-Beblawi said in a televised address to the nation. While he regretted the bloodshed, he offered no apologies for moving

against the supporters of ousted President Mohammed Morsi, saying they were given ample warnings to leave and he had tried foreign mediation efforts.

The leaders of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood called it a "massacre." Several of them were detained as police swept through the two sit-in sites, scores of other Islamists were taken into custody, and the future of the once-banned movement was uncertain.

Backed by helicopters, police fired tear gas and used armored bulldozers to plow into the barricades at the two protest camps in different sections of Cairo where the Morsi supporters had been camped since before he was ousted by the military July 3.

Army troops did not take part in the two operations, which began shortly after 7 a.m., although they provided security at the locations.

It took about 12 hours for police to take control of the main sit-in site near the Rabaah al-Adawiya Mosque in Nasr City that has served as the epicenter of the pro-Morsi campaign.

Street battles then broke out in Cairo and across Egypt. Government buildings and police stations were attacked, roads were blocked, and Christian churches were torched.

At one point, protesters trapped a police Humvee on an overpass near the Nasr City camp and pushed it off, according to images posted on social networking sites that showed an injured policeman on the ground below, near a pool of blood and the overturned vehicle.

The Health Ministry said 235 civilians were killed and more than 2,000 injured, while Ibrahim said 43 policemen died in the violence. The death toll was expected to rise.

Three journalists were among the dead: Mick Deane, 61, a cameraman for British broadcaster Sky News; Habiba Ahmed Abd Elaziz, 26, a reporter for the Gulf News, a state-backed newspaper in the United Arab Emirates; and Ahmed Abdel Gawad, who wrote for Egypt's state-run newspaper Al Akhbar. Deane and Elaziz were shot to death, their employers said, while the Egyptian Press Syndicate, a journalists' union, said it had no information on how Gawad was killed.

For much of the afternoon, thousands of Morsi supporters chanting "God is great!" tried to join those besieged by the security forces inside the Nasr City camp. They were driven away when police fired tear gas.

Smoke clogged the sky above Cairo and fires smoldered on the streets, which were lined with charred poles and tarps after several tents were burned.

The Great Pyramids just west of Cairo were closed to visitors for the day together with the Egyptian museum in the heart of the city. The Central Bank instructed commercial banks to close branches in areas affected by the chaos.

"Egypt has never witnessed such genocide," Brotherhood spokesman Ahmed Aref told The Associated Press from the larger of the two protest camps before it was cleared.

The pro-Morsi Anti-Coup alliance alleged security forces used live ammunition, but the Interior Ministry, which is in charge of the police, said its forces only used tear gas and that they came under fire from the camp.

Police dismantled the main stage near the mosque in the eastern Cairo district of Nasr City, the official MENA news agency said. An AP reporter saw hundreds of protesters leaving the sit-in site carrying their personal belongings.

"I already wrote my will and gave my wife the number of my bank account and told her who owes us money and who we owe money to," said 28-year-old chemist Ahmed Shaker during a brief break in fighting with security forces at the Nasr City camp.

"If I have to die, I will die," said the father of one child carrying several bottles of beer he said he intended to use as firebombs.

Security officials said train services between northern and southern Egypt were suspended to prevent Morsi supporters from traveling to Cairo. Clashes erupted on two roads in the capital's upscale Mohandiseen district when Morsi supporters opened fire on passing cars and pedestrians. Police used tear gas to chase them away.

The security officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to media.

The government declared a monthlong nationwide state of emergency and imposed a nighttime curfew on Cairo, Alexandria on the Mediterranean and 12 other provinces where violence broke out following the simultaneous raids.

It also ordered the armed forces to support the police in restoring law and order and protect state facilities. Egypt was under emergency law for most of Mubarak's 29 years in power.

Despite the curfew, sporadic clashes continued in Cairo through the evening.

In the city of Assiut, south of Cairo, a police station was hit by two mortar shells Wednesday night fired by suspected Morsi supporters, according to officers there who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters.

Anger over Morsi's ouster already has led to an increase in Islamic militant violence in the northern half of the Sinai Peninsula that borders Israel and Gaza, and many fear growing anger over the crackdown and deaths of civilians could be exploited by extremists.

The turmoil was the latest chapter in a bitter standoff between Morsi's supporters and the interim leadership that took over the Arab world's most populous country. The military ousted Morsi after millions of Egyptians massed in the streets at the end of June to call for him to step down, accusing him of giving the Brotherhood undue influence and failing to implement vital reforms or bolster the ailing economy.

Several senior leaders of the Brotherhood who were wanted by police were detained after the camps were stormed, according to security officials and state television. Among those seized were Brotherhood leaders Mohammed el-Beltagy and Essam el-Erian, and hard-line cleric

Safwat Hegazy -- all wanted by prosecutors to answer allegations of inciting violence and conspiring to kill anti-Morsi protesters.

Morsi himself has been held at an undisclosed location. Other Brotherhood leaders have been charged with inciting violence or conspiring in the killing of protesters.

A security official said 200 protesters were arrested at both camps. Several men could be seen walking with their hands up as they were led away by black-clad police.

Islam Tawfiq, a Brotherhood member at the Nasr City sit-in, said the camp's medical center was filled with dead and that the injured included children.

"No one can leave and those who do are either arrested or beaten up," he told AP.

The Muslim Brotherhood's political arm claimed that more than 500 protesters were killed and some 9,000 wounded in the two camps, but those figures could not be confirmed and nothing in the video from AP or local TV networks suggested such a high death toll.

The Brotherhood has spent most of the 85 years since its creation as an outlawed group or enduring crackdowns by successive governments. The latest developments could provide authorities with the grounds to once again declare it an illegal group and consign it to the political wilderness.

In his televised address, el-Beblawi said the government could not indefinitely tolerate a challenge to authority that the 6-week-old protests represented.

"We want to see a civilian state in Egypt, not a military state and not a religious state," he said.

But the resignation of ElBaradei, the former head of the U.N. nuclear agency and a figure widely respected by Western governments, was the first crack to emerge in the government as a result of the violence.

ElBaradei had made it clear in recent weeks that he was against the use of force to end the protests. At least 250 people have died in previous clashes since the coup that ousted Morsi, Egypt's first freely elected president.

On Wednesday, his letter of resignation to interim President Adly Mansour carried an ominous message to a nation already torn by more than two years of turmoil.

"It has become difficult for me to continue to take responsibility for decisions I disapprove of, and I fear their consequences," he said in the letter that was emailed to the AP. "I cannot take responsibility before God, my conscience and country for a single drop of blood, especially because I know it was possible to spare it.

"I regret that those who benefited today are the proponents of violence, terror and the more extreme groups, and you will remember my words to you," ElBaradei added.

The National Salvation front, the main opposition grouping that he headed during Morsi's year in office, said it regretted his departure and complained that it was not consulted beforehand.

Tamarod, the youth group behind the mass anti-Morsi protests that preceded the coup, said ElBaradei was dodging his responsibility at a time when his services were needed.

Sheik Ahmed el-Tayeb, the powerful head of Al-Azhar mosque, Sunni Islam's main seat of learning, also sought to distance himself from the violence. He said in a statement he had no prior knowledge of the action.

The violence drew condemnation from other predominantly Muslim countries, but also from the West, with Secretary of State John Kerry saying it had dealt a "serious blow" to Egypt's political reconciliation efforts.

Kerry gave a stern warning to Egypt's leaders.

"This is a pivotal moment for all Egyptians," said Kerry, who spoke by phone with the foreign minister. "The path toward violence leads only to greater instability, economic disaster and suffering."

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's office called it "a serious blow to the hopes of a return to democracy," while Iran warned that the violence "strengthens the possibility of civil war." Erdogan, an Islamist, was one of Morsi's main foreign backers.

British Prime Minister David Cameron, who also condemned the violence, called for "a genuine transition to a genuine democracy. That means compromise from all sides -- the President Morsi supporters but also the military."

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged all Egyptians to focus on reconciliation, while European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said dialogue should be encouraged through "peaceful protest, protecting all citizens and enabling full political participation."

<http://noticias.terra.com/internacional/medio-oriente/al-menos-4-muertos-en-choques-en-la-ciudad-egipcia-de-alejandria,a34b4fac1bf70410VgnCLD2000000dc6eb0aRCRD.html>

15 de agosto de 2013•10:51 AM

Al menos 4 muertos en choques en la ciudad egipcia de Alejandría

Al menos cuatro personas murieron hoy en choques entre partidarios y opositores del depuesto presidente egipcio Mohamed Mursi en la ciudad de Alejandría, en el norte del país, informó la televisión estatal.

El canal señaló que los enfrentamientos se producen en distintos puntos de la ciudad.

Los disturbios comenzaron en el barrio de Victoria, hacia donde se dirigió una marcha organizada por los Hermanos Musulmanes desde la mezquita del distrito de Sidi Bishr, después del rezo del mediodía.

Según la agencia de noticias estatal Mena, en los choques los contendientes emplearon piedras y hubo un tiroteo. Los opositores a Mursi llevaban fotografías del jefe del Ejército, Abdel Fatah al Sisi.

Los islamistas también intentaron alcanzar la iglesia de los Dos Santos, que en la Nochevieja de 2011 fue objetivo de un atentado, en el que una veintena de personas falleció, aunque los partidarios del Ejército se lo impidieron.

Entretanto, se celebraron los funerales de 25 personas que perdieron la vida en los disturbios ayer en la ciudad.

La televisión agregó que en estos momentos hay miles de seguidores de la Hermandad en el paseo marítimo de la ciudad, donde claman venganza por las muertes de ayer.

Por otro lado, en la provincia de Kafr Sheij, en el norte del país, miembros de los Hermanos Musulmanes cortaron la carretera de la costa y se enfrentaron a algunos conductores, señaló Mena.

El Ministerio de Sanidad informó hoy de que al menos 525 personas perecieron y 3.717 resultaron heridas en todo Egipto en los disturbios del miércoles desencadenados tras la operación policial lanzada para dismantelar las acampadas de los islamistas.

<http://www.am.com.mx/leon/mundo/masacran-a-278-en-egipto-39557.html>

León | Mundo

Masacran a 278 en Egipto

AGENCIA REFORMA / REDACCIÓN / Publicada el 15/08/2013



Decenas de cadáveres fueron trasladados a una mezquita que se improvisó como morgue. FOTO: AP

Al menos 278 personas murieron en Egipto luego que las Fuerzas de Seguridad abrieron fuego en los campamentos donde estaban atrincherados manifestantes partidarios del derrocado presidente Mohamed Morsi, reportó el Gobierno.

Entre los fallecidos habría 43 policías, en la jornada más violenta que ha tenido el país árabe en décadas.

Al detallar el balance de víctimas, el portavoz del Ministerio de Salud, Mohamed Fathalá, precisó que 61 personas perecieron en la plaza Rabaa al Adawiya, principal congregación de los partidarios de Morsi, y 21 en la plaza Nahda.

“Las instrucciones eran utilizar únicamente los gases lacrimógenos y no las armas de fuego”, aseguró el ministro del Interior, Mohamed Ibrahim.

“Pero cuando las Fuerzas de Seguridad llegaron, fueron sorprendidas por nutridos disparos”, explicaron.

Varios líderes de los Hermanos Musulmanes que eran buscados por las autoridades fueron arrestados en los campamentos de protesta que fueron desmantelados, informaron autoridades.

Poco antes, un alto jefe de seguridad declaró que la Policía estaba dejando salir a todos los que lo quisieran, pero otros seguían atrincherados en plazas.

Las autoridades habían prometido un desalojo gradual de las plazas de Rabaa al Adawiya y Al Nahda, ocupadas desde hace un mes y medio por miles de partidarios de Morsi, derrocado el 3 de julio por los militares y detenido desde entonces.

“La situación en Rabaa al Adawiya está ahora totalmente bajo control. No hay más enfrentamientos”, dijo una fuente de seguridad.

El movimiento de los Hermanos Musulmanes, partido al que pertenece Morsi, dijo que el número de víctimas era mucho mayor y describió la acción de los militares como una “masacre”.

Mientras cadáveres envueltos en alfombras eran trasladados a una morgue improvisada en la mezquita de Rabaa al-Adawiya, el Gobierno egipcio respaldado por las Fuerzas Armadas declaró un estado de emergencia de un mes, restaurando la autoridad militar que mantuvo por décadas antes de la revolución a favor de la democracia en 2011.

La violencia se extendió más allá de El Cairo y los partidarios de Morsi y las Fuerzas de Seguridad se enfrentaron en las ciudades de Alejandría, Minya, Assiut, Fayoum y Suez, además de en las provincias de Buhayra y Beni.

Con el operativo sobre los campamentos de protesta, las autoridades pusieron fin a una manifestación de seis semanas con una muestra del poderío que desafió los llamados a la paz.

Insta Kerry

a convocar elecciones

En tanto, el secretario de Estado estadounidense John Kerry urgió a los militares egipcios a convocar elecciones y a todas las partes a evitar más violencia.

Kerry consideró “deplorable” la represión de los seguidores del derrocado Presidente y urgió a una salida pacífica y democrática.

LAS REACCIONES

A VIOLENCIA EN EGIPTO

TURQUÍA

Turquía, quien siempre ha sido crítico del derrocamiento de Morsi, fustigó la acción tomada por el nuevo gobierno, respaldado por los militares. La oficina del primer ministro Recep Tayyip Erdogan calificó lo sucedido como “un golpe severo a las esperanzas de un retorno a la democracia”.

ONU

El secretario general de las Naciones Unidas Ban Ki-moon condenó “de la manera más enérgica” la violencia usada por las Fuerzas de Seguridad egipcias al dismantelar campamentos de partidarios del derrocado presidente Mohamed Morsi.

La declaración es un inusual reproche del titular de la ONU al Gobierno de un estado miembro. “En vista de la violencia ocurrida hoy, el secretario general le implora a todos los egipcios a concentrar esfuerzos en promover una reconciliación genuina”, dijo del Buey.

ALEMANIA

El ministro de relaciones exteriores de Alemania, Guido Westerwelle, expresó la “suma consternación” del Gobierno por la “muy peligrosa” situación en Egipto, y pidió el fin de la violencia.

“Esperamos que el Gobierno de transición y las autoridades de Egipto permitan las manifestaciones pacíficas, así como esperamos que los otros grupos políticos se distancien de la violencia, que no exijan la violencia y que no actúen violentamente”, dijo el ministro.

ESTADOS UNIDOS

El Gobierno estadounidense condenó también la violencia en Egipto, advirtiendo que ahora le será más difícil al país avanzar hacia una genuina democracia.

Josh Earnest, portavoz de la Casa Blanca, dijo que la violencia viola las promesas formuladas por el Gobierno interino egipcio.

“El mundo entero está observando”, dijo el portavoz.

JORDANIA

La Hermandad Musulmana en Jordania exhortó a sus camaradas egipcios a seguir protestando, afirmando que su victoria ayudará al grupo fundamentalista islámico a tomar el poder en otros países árabes. En un comunicado el Frente de Acción Islámico, el ala política de la Hermandad, dice que el régimen militar egipcio se ha dejado llevar por una “conspiración” elucubrada por Estados Unidos e Israel para debilitar al mundo árabe.

“Hoy es su día, y sus consecuencias determinarán el futuro de Egipto, de los árabes y de los

musulmanes”, dijo el texto.

IRÁN

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Irán condenó el desalojo de los manifestantes, advirtiendo que la violencia “aumenta las probabilidades de una guerra civil”.

“Denunciamos la represión violenta y condenamos la masacre del pueblo, y expresamos nuestra profunda inquietud por las consecuencias indeseadas” de los eventos, dijo el ministerio en un comunicado.

ITALIA

La ministra de Relaciones Exteriores de Italia, Emma Bonino, exhortó a todas las partes en conflicto en Egipto a hacer todo lo posible para detener la violencia y “evitar un baño de sangre”.

Bonino lamentó la pérdida de vidas humanas.

“Yo había expresado las esperanzas de que las plazas serían desalojadas” mediante un acuerdo con los manifestantes “y no con la intervención de las fuerzas policiales, lo que no ayuda a encontrar una solución a la crisis política”, expresó Bonino.

UNIÓN EUROPEA

La directora de Política Exterior del bloque, Catherine Ashton, deploró la violencia y pidió a las Fuerzas de Seguridad egipcias que “ejerzan la máxima moderación”.

“El enfrentamiento y la violencia no son la forma para solucionar temas políticos clave”, insistió. “El futuro democrático del país dependerá de un diálogo entre todos los afectados para superar las diferencias en un proceso inclusivo de reconciliación política, con un gobierno civil con plenos poderes e instituciones democráticas que funcionen”.

Ashton describió varios elementos clave para potencializar el proceso, incluyendo “protestas pacíficas, protegiendo a todos los ciudadanos y permitiendo la plena participación política”.

TÚNEZ

Rachid Ghannouch, presidente del gobernante partido islamista moderado Ennahda, consideró la represión un “crimen abyecto”.

“Las autoridades golpistas en Egipto han cometido una matanza contra manifestantes pacíficos”, indicó el político en una declaración.

GRAN BRETAÑA

El primer ministro británico David Cameron dijo que la violencia “nada solucionará”.

“Lo que es necesario en Egipto es una genuina transición a una genuina democracia. Ello significa concesiones de todas las partes”.

FRANCIA

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores francés dijo que el país “deplora muy vigorosamente” la violencia durante las evacuaciones.

“Es esencial que esta violencia cese y que prevalezca una lógica de calma”, indicó el ministerio, pidiendo moderación a todos y advirtiendo contra un “uso de la fuerza desproporcionado”.

CATAR

Catar dijo que “condena enérgicamente” la violencia en Egipto. La declaración fue formulada por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores. Pidió a las autoridades egipcias que se abstengan de represiones contra los manifestantes.

<http://lta.reuters.com/article/topNews/idLTASIE97E01820130815?sp=true>

Manifestantes atacan edificio en El Cairo, cifra de muertos trepa a 525 en Egipto

jueves 15 de agosto de 2013 12:06 GYT

La policía antidisturbios despeja la zona de miembros de los Hermanos Musulmanes y partidarios del derrocado presidente egipcio Mohamed Mursi en la plaza Rabaa al-Adawiya. 14 de agosto, 2013. REUTERS/Stringer (EGIPTO - POLITICA DISTURBIOS)

EL CAIRO (Reuters) - Cientos de seguidores de los Hermanos Musulmanes de Egipto atacaron el jueves un edificio del Gobierno en El Cairo y lo incendiaron, mientras la furia por una represión de las fuerzas de seguridad contra el movimiento islámico que provocó la muerte de cientos de personas se extendía a las calles.

En Alejandría, la segunda mayor ciudad de Egipto, cientos marcharon para protestar por la violenta operación del miércoles contra campamentos de los Hermanos Musulmanes en la capital, provocando enfrentamientos en todo el país, en los que al menos 525 personas perdieron la vida y miles resultaron heridos.

"Volveremos por el bien de nuestros mártires", cantaban los manifestantes.

Demandaban la restitución del ex presidente Mohamed Mursi, quien fue depuesto por el Ejército hace seis semanas después de manifestaciones masivas en su contra y cuyo derrocamiento desató una crisis que ha polarizado al país árabe más poblado del mundo.

El portavoz de los Hermanos Musulmanes, Gehad El-Haddad, dijo a Reuters que la furia dentro del movimiento, que tiene millones de seguidores, estaba "fuera de control".

"Después de los golpes y arrestos y matanzas que estamos enfrentando, las emociones están demasiado elevadas como para ser guiadas por alguien", declaró.

Los Hermanos Musulmanes llamaron a sus seguidores a marchar en El Cairo el jueves más tarde, mientras que las procesiones funerarias de los muertos probablemente serán nuevos puntos de conflicto en los próximos días.

El miércoles, los manifestantes se enfrentaron con la policía y los soldados que usaron bulldozers, gases lacrimógenos y balas para dismantelar dos campamentos de protesta que se habían convertido en un bastión de resistencia de los Hermanos Musulmanes frente a los militares.

Los enfrentamientos se extendieron rápidamente a Alejandría y numerosas ciudades y pueblos del país de mayoría musulmana y 84 millones de habitantes.

Un testigo de Reuters contó 228 cuerpos, en su mayoría envueltos en telas blancas, ubicados en filas en el piso de la mezquita de Al-Iman en el noreste de El Cairo, cerca del lugar donde ocurrieron los peores episodios de violencia.

Algunos hombres retiraron las telas para mostrar cuerpos carbonizados. Las mujeres arrodilladas lloraban sobre los cadáveres. Dos hombres se abrazaban y derramaban lágrimas sobre otra víctima.

ISLAMISTAS EN SHOCK

Luego del baño de sangre, y con una cifra de muertos que se supone aumentara aún más, los seguidores de Mursi quedaron azorados por una represión que fue más rápida y brutal de lo que la mayoría esperaba.

El jefe del Ejército, general Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, removió a Mursi del poder el 3 de julio después de masivas protestas de personas frustradas por la falta de progreso en la reforma económica y preocupadas por lo que veían como un mayor dominio islámico en el poder.

Pero la subsiguiente represión apunta a un futuro sombrío para los Hermanos Musulmanes, un movimiento que fue marginado durante décadas bajo el autócrata Hosni Mubarak hasta que éste fue derrocado por un levantamiento popular en 2011.

"Ya no se trata de Mursi. ¿Vamos a aceptar una nueva tiranía militar en Egipto o no?", dijo Haddad.

A pesar de las escenas impactantes en El Cairo y otros lugares, incluyendo imágenes de televisión de manifestantes desarmados arrojándose al piso mientras las fuerzas de seguridad disparaban, muchos egipcios apoyan la represión, mostrando cuán profunda se ha vuelto la división en la sociedad.

"Los Hermanos Musulmanes nunca llegarán a un acuerdo político", dijo Ismail Khaled, un gerente de 31 años de una empresa privada.

"Son terroristas y violentos y lo que ocurrió fue la única manera lógica de terminar con los campamentos, que tenían armas y (...) personas violentas. Gracias a Dios la policía terminó con ellos. Hubiera querido que lo hicieran antes", agregó.

El Cairo y otras ciudades afectadas por la impactante violencia estuvieron tranquilas durante la noche, después de que el Gobierno instalado por el Ejército declaró un estado de emergencia de un mes e impuso un toque de queda desde el atardecer al amanecer en la capital y otras 10 provincias.

Una fuente militar dijo que, aunque los campamentos de protesta como el levantado afuera de la mezquita de Rabaa al-Adawiya en El Cairo, no serán más tolerados, las marchas se producirán a pesar del estado de emergencia.

CONDENA INTERNACIONAL

La decisión de despejar por la fuerza las protestas desafió los pedidos occidentales de llegar a un acuerdo negociado a la crisis, en medio de preocupaciones de que el país que ha firmado un tratado de paz con Israel y controla el estratégico Canal de Suez pueda terminar fuera de control.

El presidente estadounidense, Barack Obama, se manifestó el jueves en contra de la violencia, condenando la represión militar y diciendo que su país había cancelado ejercicios militares conjuntos previstos para el mes próximo.

"Estados Unidos condena fuertemente los pasos que han tomado el Gobierno interino y las fuerzas de seguridad de Egipto", dijo Obama desde su casa de vacaciones en la isla de Martha's Vineyard, en Massachusetts. "Deploramos la violencia contra los civiles", agregó.

Por su parte, el presidente francés, Francois Hollande, citó al embajador egipcio para exigirle que detengan inmediatamente la represión.

En Ankara, el primer ministro turco, Tayyip Erdogan, pidió el jueves al Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU que se reúna inmediatamente y actúe después de lo que describió como una masacre en Egipto.

"Estoy llamando a los países occidentales. Permanecieron en silencio en Gaza, permanecieron en silencio en Siria (...) Siguen callados sobre Egipto. Entonces, ¿cómo hablan de democracia, libertad, valores globales y derechos humanos?", dijo en una conferencia de prensa.

En tanto, la Alta Comisionada de los Derechos Humanos de la ONU, Navi Pillay, llamó a todas las partes a "alejarse del borde del desastre".

Pillay, ex jueza de crímenes de guerra de la ONU, dijo que el alto número de muertos apuntaba a "un uso de la fuerza excesivo, incluso extremo, contra los manifestantes".

Pero los Emiratos Árabes Unidos, uno de varios países del Golfo Árabe inquietos por la victoria de Mursi en las elecciones de 2012, expresó su apoyo a la represión, diciendo que el Gobierno egipcio había "ejercitado su máximo autocontrol".

(Reporte adicional de Alexander Dziadosz, Michael Georgy y Tom Perry en El Cairo, y Arshad Mohammed y Lesley Wroughton en Washington; Editado en español por Lucila Sigal)

Aug 15

Catholic spokesman defends Egyptian army crackdown against protesters

Posted By *The Catholic Free Press* August 15, 2013 | 4:22 pm | International



Riot police and army personnel take positions during clashes with members of the Muslim Brotherhood and supporters of deposed Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi in Cairo Aug. 14. At least 95 people were killed nationwide, many of them during the assaults on sites where Morsi supporters are holding vigils. (CNS photo/Asmaa Waguih, Reuters)

By Jonathan Luxmoore
Catholic News Service

OXFORD, England (CNS) — A spokesman for Egypt’s Catholic Church defended a police and army crackdown against Egyptians protesting the ouster of former President Mohammed Morsi.

“The military tried to evacuate this sit-in by the Muslim Brotherhood, but they (Brotherhood members) went out and set fire to important sites, including many churches,” said Father Hani Bakhoum Kiroulos, a spokesman for the Catholic Coptic Church.

“This is a problem not just for Christians but also for moderate Muslims. We are facing a group of terrorists who seek to set the whole country ablaze, and we have to cooperate together against this,” he said.

Egypt’s Health Ministry confirmed Aug. 15 that more than 500 protesters and police were killed and more than 3,700 injured when security forces used bulldozers, tear gas and live ammunition to disperse protest camps in Cairo and other cities around the country,

In an Aug. 15 Catholic News Service interview, Father Kiroulos said Western media had falsified the situation in Egypt by portraying the conflict as political when it mostly concerned violent acts by a small minority of Egypt’s 82.5 million inhabitants.

“The security forces are doing their best, but the situation is uneasy. They don’t want to attack or kill fellow-Egyptians, but they have to stop people who come at them with arms,” he said.

Coptic Catholic Bishop Kyrillos William of Assiut told Vatican Radio Aug. 15 that the government action and the reaction of the Muslim Brotherhood were not unexpected “because Egypt won’t accept an Islamic state.” The majority, he said, “wants to separate religion from the state.”

Morsi supporters were “shouting slogans against the government, against the police and against the Christians because they are persuaded that all three are the cause of the fall of Morsi’s regime.”

The demonstrators “burned various churches, including one of ours, the one belonging to the Franciscan convent in Assiut,” he said. They climbed the wall and entered the compound,

burning the cars that were in the courtyard, setting on fire a souvenir stand, and then setting afire the church “after having profaned it by throwing the tabernacle on the ground.” They also burned an Orthodox church and a Seventh-day Adventist church in the city, the bishop said.

In el-Qusiya, Bishop William said, the demonstrators started going toward a convent of nuns, “but then some wise people, including Muslims — said to them, ‘What have they done wrong? They’ve been doing good here for 70 years.’ And they chased them off.”

Christian sources said seven Catholic churches were attacked by Muslim extremist mobs in Upper Egypt. They said 25 places of worship belonging to the Coptic Orthodox and Protestant churches, and at least 100 Christian homes and shops, a school and convent were burned. Father Kiroulos said the church was telling people “to stay calm, avoid violent reactions and wait for this moment to pass.”

He said church leaders hoped to form a joint commission to defend Christian sites and said he had been in touch with police and army officials to explain Catholic needs.

“It’s normal in any country with problems for minorities to suffer,” said the priest. “The attackers want Christians to pay the price for supporting democracy and to play up tensions between Christians and Muslims, calculating we will then go into the streets and do the same to Muslims. But this isn’t our intention.”

Some Egyptians have criticized Christian leaders for backing the June 30 military overthrow of Morsi. Coptic Orthodox Pope Tawadros II and Egypt’s grand imam, Sheik Ahmed el-Tayeb, appeared alongside Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Sisi during his televised announcement. Father Kiroulos denied that the Catholic Coptic Church had backed the June military intervention.

“The church did not support a military coup — on the contrary, the military supported the desire of the people, and the church is part of the people,” said the priest, who is secretary to Coptic Catholic Patriarch Ibrahim Isaac Sedrak.

“As Egyptian Coptic Catholics, we aren’t asking for help or protection from outside the country, only from our own government and military. This is our right — and it’s the duty of the authorities, who are doing their best.”

<http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/insidestory/2013/08/20138157236729270.html>

Is Egypt returning to military rule?

We ask if the crackdown on pro-Morsi protesters is the start of a longer confrontation or a violent precursor to peace.

Inside Story Last Modified: 15 Aug 2013 09:22

Egypt is in a state of turmoil after security forces moved in on two Cairo protest camps set up by supporters of the country's ousted president, Mohamed Morsi.

There are conflicting reports on the death toll, with Egyptian officials saying 235 civilians and 43 security personnel were killed, and Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood putting the number of dead at 2,200.

Make-shift hospitals have been struggling to cope with the number of dead and injured.

A state of emergency has been imposed for a month.

Protesters at the two sites - Nahda Square and the Rabba al-Adiwyah Mosque in the Nasr City neighbourhood - had been preparing for a security crackdown since last month when

Abdel Fattah El Sisi, Egypt's army chief, called on Egyptians to give him a mandate to confront terrorism.

In a statement that was perceived as a veiled threat against pro-Morsi protesters he said: "I ask ... that all honest and trustworthy Egyptians come out on the streets. But why come out? I ask that they come out to give me the mandate and order that I need to confront violence and potential terrorism."

Egypt now faces a very difficult period, where security becomes a key issue, and clearly the interim government will try to impose security on the country so a political process can begin. Whether they can succeed or not is not clear.

Granne Bannerman, a scholar at the Middle East Institute

El Sisi is seen as a divisive figure in Egypt - a national hero to some, a reminder of military rule to others. But could he be a future leader of Egypt?

Despite Egypt having an interim president and a prime minister, it is Sisi who has become the face of the government since Morsi was deposed. The general has laid out a roadmap for Egypt's transition to civilian rule. And although he says he has no personal ambition to run for the presidency, many observers say Sisi is now the most popular figure in Egyptian politics.

But opponents of military rule say the intentions of the government are clear. On Tuesday, 15 of 25 governors appointed by the government were generals. Critics say that is a return to a Mubarak-era strategy of appointing governors with security backgrounds.

Mohamed Al Beltagy is a leading figure in the Muslim Brotherhood. Earlier on Wednesday his daughter was killed in Nasr City. He told the media that Egypt's army chief was dragging the country into a state of civil war: "The bloody coup must come to an end If you remain at home then Abdel Fattah El Sisi will turn Egypt into another Syria. Abdel Fattah El Sisi will turn Egypt into a civil war. Now you must take to the street to clearly declare that the military coup has come to an end, and that the role of the military machine has come to an end, and that an institution that is killing its people cannot deserve to remain in power."

So, is Egypt returning to military rule? Is this the beginning of a longer confrontation or is it a violent precursor to a more secure Egypt? And what is needed to restore peace to the country?

To discuss this Inside Story, with presenter Stephen Cole, is joined by guests: Graeme Bannerman, a scholar at the Middle East Institute and a former analyst with the US state department; Sharif Nashashibi, a middle east analyst and columnist for Gulf News and Middle East magazine; and Bashir Abdel-Fattah, the editor-in-chief of Al-Ahram democracy review.

"I have been deeply concerned from the outset at how the military has behaved, and how it's been supported by a large element of the population against another large proportion of the population. And everything we've seen since the overthrow of Morsi ... is leading to exactly what the military said [it] wanted to avoid It is not going to lead to a stable Egypt, quite ... the contrary."

Sharif Nashashibi, a Middle East analyst

Rival Egypt sides mobilise supporters

Youth movement calls for creation of watch groups to protect state buildings as Morsi supporters vow to stage rallies.

Last Modified: 15 Aug 2013 20:10

Egypt's Tamaroud youth movement has called on its supporters to take to the streets on Friday, while backers of deposed President Mohamed Morsi vowed to keep up their campaign to get the former leader reinstated.

Tamaroud said on Thursday night it wanted its sympathisers to form neighbourhood watch groups in order to stand up to Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood.

The youth group, which spearheaded protests paving the way for the overthrow of Morsi, urged Egyptians to "massively take to the streets forming neighbourhood watch groups in every road and alley, safeguarding our households, mosques and churches".

The call came a day after hundreds of people were killed when security forces cleared two pro-Morsi protest camps, ending sit-ins that began after the army toppled Morsi on July 3.

Morsi supporters took to the streets in several governorates on Thursday night, including in Fayom, Minia and Asiat.

Earlier in the day, the Interior Ministry authorised police to use deadly force to protect themselves and key state institutions from attacks, after state media said hundreds of Morsi supporters attacked the local government offices in Giza and set them ablaze.

"The Interior Ministry has instructed all forces to use live ammunition to counter any attacks on government buildings or forces," the ministry said in a statement.

Protesters have attacked police stations and other official buildings across the country over the past two days.

Death toll disputed

The Health Ministry said that 525 people were killed in the clearings and subsequent clashes across the country on Wednesday, and more than 3,500 injured.

Officials from the Muslim Brotherhood have said the true death toll was far higher, with a spokesman saying 2,000 people had been killed in the "massacre."

"After the blows and arrests and killings that we are facing, emotions are too high to be guided by anyone," said Gehad el-Haddad, a spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood, adding that anger within the movement was "beyond control".

Spotlight

Follow our ongoing coverage of the political crisis in Egypt

Hundreds of bodies were packed into a Cairo mosque which had been pressed into service as a makeshift morgue.

Witnesses said most of the dead were killed by gunfire, many of them shot in the dead. Volunteers poured cold water and ice over the bodies to keep them from rotting in the harsh summer heat.

Families had hoped to bury their dead on Thursday, but several of them said they were unable to acquire the proper permits. The Health Ministry wanted them to accept death certificates that said their relatives committed suicide, they said.

The army-backed interim government has defended the crackdown, saying authorities had no choice but to act.

Authorities imposed an evening curfew on Wednesday, and also declared a state of emergency, which will last for one month. The latter gives security forces the power to detain people indefinitely.

http://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/egypte/egypte-pourquoi-les-pro-et-les-anti-morsi-se-radicalisent_390287.html

Egypte : pourquoi les pro et les anti-Morsi se déchirent

Après la sanglante répression de mercredi contre les partisans du président destitué par l'armée, Mohamed Morsi, de nouvelles violences ont éclaté en ce "vendredi de la colère". Comment en est-on arrivé là ?



Un homme devant un feu sur la place Al-Adawiya au Caire, après les répressions contre les partisans de Mohamed Morsi, le 27 juillet 2013. (CITIZENSIDE.COM / AFP) Par Pauline Hofmann

Mis à jour le 16/08/2013 | 16:26 , publié le 16/08/2013 | 15:12

Vendredi à haut risque en Egypte. Ce 16 août, les Frères musulmans ont appelé à un jour "de colère" après la prière, pour protester contre la répression dont ils ont été victimes mercredi. Selon le dernier bilan, au moins 578 personnes sont mortes sous le feu des autorités égyptiennes qui ont vidé les places Nahda, dans l'ouest du Caire, et Al-Adawiya, dans le nord-

est de la capitale, où étaient massés les partisans du président Morsi, destitué le 3 juillet par l'armée égyptienne. Comment en est-on arrivé là, alors que Mohamed Morsi avait été élu démocratiquement ?

De nombreux électeurs avaient choisi le candidat des Frères musulmans par défaut, pour éviter le retour du clan Moubarak. Depuis, la ligne de fracture a bougé et les Frères musulmans fédèrent les critiques de tous les camps : anti-islamistes, libéraux de la classe politique égyptienne, nationalistes... Les pro-Morsi sont aujourd'hui isolés. *"Les islamistes avaient réussi à fédérer autour d'eux, sur leur droite, les salafistes et, sur leur gauche, les démocrates*, indique Gilles Kepel, spécialiste de l'islam, au *Figaro*. *Aujourd'hui, les Frères musulmans, en Egypte comme en Tunisie, se sont coupés de ces soutiens à cause de leur pratique du pouvoir."*

"Le gouvernement a répondu à une pression de l'opinion"

"Le gouvernement a répondu à une pression de l'opinion pour éradiquer les Frères musulmans", analyse Clément Steuer, spécialiste de l'Egypte au Centre d'études et de documentation économiques, juridiques et sociales du Caire, contacté par francetv info. Le peuple égyptien a *"vécu la mise en place des sit-ins par les Frères musulmans comme une insulte à sa volonté (...) de voir la fin de la dictature obscurantiste"*, analysent pour leur part les écrivains égyptiens Bagat Elnadi et Adel Rifaat, interviewés dans *Libération*. Ils avaient été plusieurs millions à descendre dans la rue le 30 juin pour réclamer la destitution de Mohamed Morsi.

Une fois ce dernier éjecté du pouvoir, les télévisions d'Etat favorables aux Frères musulmans ont été fermées sur ordre des militaires. Les seules chaînes continuant à émettre ont alors mené de véritables campagnes de dénigrement contre le camp de l'ex-président. *"Certains arguments avancés [par les médias] sont fantasmatiques*, explique Clément Steuer. *Selon certaines télévisions privées, Mohamed Morsi cherchait à céder le Sinai au Qatar et le sud du pays au Soudan. Il était présenté comme un agent étranger mettant en danger l'unité du pays"*, précise-t-il.

Des rumeurs véhiculées par les télévisions privées

Et comme les partisans de Morsi refusent de s'exprimer sur ces chaînes, indignes de confiance selon eux, une partie de la population croit à ces rumeurs sans émettre de doute. *"Comme partout, les gens croient ce qu'ils veulent bien croire"*, déplore Clément Steuer. Les islamistes trop démonstratifs deviennent la cible de quolibets au Caire. Le *Washington Post* rapporte les paroles de plusieurs islamistes brimés. *"Il faut que vous compreniez que les minibus ne s'arrêtent même plus aux arrêts pour nous"*, explique par exemple un imam d'une mosquée radicale de la capitale égyptienne.



Des supporters de Mohamed Morsi fouillent une moto à côté d'une barricade de la place Nahda, au Caire, le 7 juillet 2013. (MOHAMMED HOSSAM / ANADOLU AGENCY)

Cette tension entre pro et anti-Morsi a exacerbé les divisions. En juillet déjà, des affrontements à Alexandrie, dans le nord du pays, avaient donné un avant-goût des violences actuelles : ces émeutes entre Egyptiens d'une même ville, d'un même quartier, ont fait 14 morts et 200 blessés. Au Caire, les tensions autour des sit-ins étaient permanentes. Comme le rapporte RFI, les quelques dizaines de milliers de manifestants, islamistes pour la plupart, perturbaient la vie quotidienne aux alentours des deux places occupées. *"La place Al-Adawiya est devenue, au fil du temps, un village de dix mille habitants hurlant des slogans à longueur de journée et de nuit."*

Le journaliste de RFI dressait un constat amer : *"Pour une femme, ne pas être voilée, c'est ici l'enfer."* Résultat, les habitants, très remontés, avaient formé des comités pour déloger les manifestants. Selon Amnesty International, des *"actes de torture"* ont été perpétrés aux alentours des sit-ins. Des victimes, anti-Morsi, parlaient de coups de barre de fer et de décharges électriques. D'après le *Washington Post*, des leaders islamistes accusés d'incitation à la violence et de meurtres tenaient des tribunes dans les manifestations. Après la répression du 14 août, trois importants responsables du mouvement ont d'ailleurs été arrêtés.

Une risque de guerre civile ?

La réalité des campements urbains pro-Morsi était pourtant plus contrastée. D'après la chaîne Al Jazeera, seuls certains manifestants portaient des armes et étaient dangereux. Selon le *Washington Post*, des femmes et des enfants avaient également installé leur quartier sur les places Nahda et Al-Adawiya. Le journal était allé à la rencontre de ces opposants au gouvernement transitoire. Au cours des manifestations, un journaliste du *Nouvel Observateur* notait la présence à la fois d'islamistes radicaux, mais aussi des citoyens opposés à la prise de pouvoir autoritaire de l'armée.



Des supporters de Mohamed Morsi installés sur la place Nahda au Caire, le 12 juillet 2013. (MOHAMMED ELSHAMY / ANADOLU AGENCY)

D'ailleurs, une troisième voie commence à émerger. Pour Clément Steuer, *"la répression est soutenue par une partie de la rue, mais les violences sont gênantes pour une autre partie des*

opposants, comme Mohamed El-Baradei. " Cet ancien ténor du pouvoir, prix Nobel de la paix, a d'ailleurs démissionné du gouvernement le soir même de la répression.

D'autres opposants farouches aux Frères musulmans dénoncent la radicalisation des deux camps, pro et anti-Morsi. Bassem Youssef est un présentateur de télévision libéral, très influent en Egypte et surtout très critique envers les islamistes. Cela ne l'a pas empêché de mettre en garde contre cette campagne anti-Frères musulmans, dans une tribune du journal *Al-Shourouk* (traduite par *Courrier international*). Dans un style empreint d'ironie, il s'insurge contre les attaques systématiques envers les partisans de Morsi. Il craint que l'Egypte renoue *"avec le climat des années 1990, avec les 'solutions sécuritaires', les campagnes de dénigrement médiatiques, la gâchette facile... et un radicalisme qui ne cessait de se renforcer jour après jour."*

La nouvelle Egypte prévoit *"l'écriture d'une nouvelle Constitution"*, d'après Bagat Elnadi et Adel Rifaat. Une Constitution *"qui ne permettra plus l'existence de partis religieux"* et pourrait conforter les Frères musulmans dans leur posture de martyrs. Au risque d'une guerre civile ? Pas impossible, pour Gilles Kepel, qui indique au Figaro : *"Les Frères musulmans ont (...) passé le plus clair de leur existence dans la clandestinité. Donc, ils sont capables de gérer la répression. Ils disposent de cellules dans chaque village, de réseaux de solidarité et, même si l'armée a déjà détruit les Frères en 1954, ils ont la capacité de structurer une autre Egypte. Qui plus est, ils ont construit sur leur marge toute une mouvance radicale et violente qui contrôle d'ores et déjà le Sinai."*

http://www.liberation.fr/monde/2013/08/16/egypte-nouveaux-heurts-entre-islamistes-et-policiers-plusieurs-morts_925129

Egypte : au moins 75 morts lors du «vendredi de la colère»

LIBÉRATION.FR avec AFP 16 août 2013 à 14:47 (Mis à jour : 16 août 2013 à 23:12)



Des manifestants pro-

Morsi ce vendredi au Caire. (PHOTO KHALED KAMEL. AFP)
ACTUALISÉ

Le pouvoir affirme combattre un «complot terroriste», tandis que les Frères musulmans appellent à manifester tous les jours.

Les violences ont encore ensanglanté l’Egypte vendredi avec au moins 75 morts dans des heurts entre partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi et forces de l’ordre autorisées à tirer, un appel des islamistes à manifester samedi faisant craindre une nouvelle escalade.

Alors que des quartiers entiers du Caire ont été transformés en champs de bataille tout au long de la journée durant laquelle les pro-Morsi se sont mobilisés en masse à travers le pays, les manifestations ont quasiment cessé une heure après l’entrée en vigueur du couvre-feu nocturne, à l’appel de «l’Alliance contre le coup d’Etat».

Celle-ci a néanmoins appelé à des manifestations quotidiennes à compter de samedi pour dénoncer la mort mercredi de 578 personnes, en majorité des islamistes tués dans la dispersion par l’armée et la police de leurs camps au Caire, la journée la plus sanglante depuis la chute du régime de Hosni Moubarak en février 2011.

Le pouvoir mis en place par l’armée après la destitution de M. Morsi le 3 juillet affirme désormais se battre contre un «complot terroriste malveillant des Frères musulmans», la confrérie du président déchu, et avait autorisé policiers et soldats à ouvrir le feu sur les manifestants attaquant forces de l’ordre ou bâtiments publics.

Face à cette escalade, qui fait craindre que le pays --sous état d’urgence-- ne bascule dans le chaos, des pays européens ont dit envisager de réexaminer leurs relations avec Le Caire.

Tirs d’armes automatiques

Dans la capitale verrouillée par l’armée et quadrillée par des «comités populaires» de partisans du nouveau pouvoir, des tirs d’armes automatiques ont retenti toute la journée dans différents quartiers, notamment autour de la place Ramsès où étaient massés des milliers de pro-Morsi.

Dans deux morgues improvisées dans des mosquées du quartier, un correspondant de l’AFP et des témoins ont compté au moins 39 corps. En outre, des sources médicales et de sécurité ont fait état de 31 morts dans différentes autres provinces.

Et dans la soirée, à Suez, cinq personnes ont été tuées par les forces de l’ordre et des dizaines blessées lors d’une manifestation bravant le couvre-feu, selon des sources de sécurité.

Le parti de la Liberté et de la Justice, le bras politique des Frères musulmans, a fait état de 130 morts dans la capitale seule.

Dans le centre du Caire, des témoins ont rapporté avoir vu un homme sauter d’un pont pour éviter les balles alors que les chars se dirigeaient vers les manifestants. Les télévisions ont montré des hommes tirer à la Kalachnikov depuis un pont du Caire mais il était impossible de savoir s’il s’agissait de manifestants ou de policiers en civil.

«Eviter la guerre civile»

Des tirs ont également été entendus dans d'autres grandes villes du pays où les pro-Morsi manifestaient comme à Alexandrie (nord), Beni Soueif et Fayoum au sud du Caire, et dans la ville touristique de Hurghada sur la mer Rouge.

Le ministère de l'Intérieur a fait état de plusieurs attaques des pro-Morsi contre des postes de police.

Parallèlement, le nouveau pouvoir a continué ses arrestations dans le camp des Frères musulmans détenant au moins deux parlementaires, selon la coalition favorable à M. Morsi, lui-même détenu au secret. Leur Guide suprême Mohamed Badie, en fuite, a promis que les responsables des «massacres» allaient devoir payer. Les Frères musulmans ont évoqué 2.200 morts mercredi.

Appel à des «mesures appropriées» de l'UE

Alors que de nombreux pays occidentaux ont condamné le bain de sang de mercredi et la poursuite des violences, les 15 pays membres du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU ont appelé jeudi à un «maximum de retenue» en Egypte.

Vendredi, la chef de la diplomatie européenne, Catherine Ashton, a invité les Etats membres de l'Union européenne à prendre «des mesures appropriées» lors d'une réunion prévue lundi à Bruxelles.

Les grands pays européens ont continué à déconseiller les voyages en Egypte, alors que la Suède, la Norvège et la Finlande ont rapatrié leurs ressortissants qui y faisaient du tourisme.

Les Etats-Unis ont de leur côté annulé des exercices militaires communs et incité leurs ressortissants à quitter l'Egypte, sans aller jusqu'à interrompre l'aide annuelle (1,5 milliard de dollars) versée en grande partie à la toute-puissante armée de leur allié.

La Turquie a, elle, rappelé son ambassadeur en Egypte, et le Caire a aussitôt rappelé son représentant à Ankara et annulé des manoeuvres navales prévues avec la Turquie pour protester contre son «ingérence».

En revanche, le roi Abdallah d'Arabie saoudite a affirmé son appui au pouvoir égyptien «face au terrorisme» et mis en garde contre «les ingérences» dans ce pays. La Jordanie a elle aussi dit soutenir le gouvernement égyptien dans sa lutte pour «combattre le terrorisme».

Mais dans la rue, des centaines de personnes ont manifesté à l'appel de groupes islamistes à Khartoum, Amman, Rabat, Jérusalem-Est et en Cisjordanie pour dénoncer «le coup d'Etat» contre Mohamed Morsi.

Le 3 juillet, le chef de l'armée Abdel Fattah el-Sissi, désormais le nouvel homme fort d'Egypte, a invoqué la mobilisation de millions de personnes réclamant le départ de M. Morsi pour justifier sa destitution.

Les pro-Morsi dénoncent un coup d'Etat contre le premier président démocratiquement élu du pays alors que ses détracteurs l'accusent d'avoir gouverné au profit de son seul camp et d'avoir laissé le pays s'enfoncer dans la crise économique.

Egypte: 4 manifestants pro-Morsi et un policier tués

Par AFP | AFP – ven. 16 août 2013

Au moins quatre manifestants islamistes et un policier ont été tués en Egypte dans des heurts entre forces de l'ordre et manifestants pro-Morsi descendus dans les rues pour un "vendredi de la colère" après la dispersion dans le sang de leurs rassemblements.

A Ismaïliya, sur le canal de Suez, au moins quatre manifestants ont été tués par les forces de l'ordre auxquelles le gouvernement mis en place par l'armée a donné jeudi le droit d'ouvrir le feu sur tout manifestant qui se montrerait violent, un geste sans précédent de mémoire d'Egyptien.

Au Caire, un policier a été tué dans une embuscade alors que l'armée avait littéralement scellé la plupart des artères quasi-désertes du Caire en prévision de ce "vendredi de la colère" auquel les partisans du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi avaient appelé pour dénoncer le "massacre" de plus de 300 des leurs mercredi.

A Tanta (nord), la police a tiré à la chevrotine et des grenades lacrymogènes sur des manifestants islamistes, selon des responsables de la sécurité.

A l'issue de la prière de la mi-journée, des cortèges sont partis de nombreuses mosquées du pays, notamment au Caire où une foule se pressait sur la place Ramsès dans le centre de la capitale quadrillée, en plus des militaires et des policiers anti-émeutes, par d'innombrables policiers en civils particulièrement hostiles ou nerveux.

Mercredi, près de 600 personnes ont péri dans tout le pays, essentiellement dans la dispersion sanglante au Caire de partisans de Mohamed Morsi, destitué et arrêté par l'armée début juillet.

Les Frères musulmans, la confrérie de M. Morsi, ont appelé leurs partisans à défiler "pacifiquement" par "millions" à la sortie des mosquées vendredi et à converger vers la place Ramsès au centre de la capitale.

Deux jours après la journée la plus sanglante -578 morts et plus de 3.000 blessés- depuis la chute de Hosni Moubarak en février 2011, les violences relancent les craintes dans le pays sous état d'urgence et où un couvre-feu nocturne a été imposé dans la moitié des provinces.

Cette journée sera un test pour le plus peuplé des pays arabes, où la division ne cesse de s'accroître entre partisans des Frères musulmans et tenants de la solution sécuritaire que les nouvelles autorités semblent désormais privilégier.

D'une part, la confrérie de M. Morsi, dont l'appel à manifester jeudi n'avait pas reçu d'écho au Caire, tente une nouvelle démonstration de force face aux autorités installées par l'armée début juillet.

D'autre part, le gouvernement, qui jusqu'ici saluait la "très grande retenue" de la police dans la dispersion des manifestants pro-Morsi sur les places Rabaa al-Adawiya et Nahda du Caire --

quelque 320 morts selon un bilan officiel--, a durci le ton jeudi, autorisant les forces de l'ordre à ouvrir le feu sur les manifestants violents.

Lors du carnage sur les places où campaient depuis un mois et demi des milliers d'islamistes venus avec femmes et enfants, l'Intérieur avait assuré que "les instructions étaient de n'utiliser que les gaz lacrymogènes, pas d'armes à feu". "Mais quand les forces de sécurité sont arrivées, elles ont été surprises par des tirs nourris", avait-il ajouté.

"Comités populaires"

Après de nouvelles attaques, dont l'incendie du siège de la province de Guizeh dans la banlieue du Caire et la mort de neuf policiers et militaires, attribuées à des "islamistes" notamment dans la péninsule instable du Nord-Sinaï, des "comités populaires" pro-pouvoir installaient des points de contrôle à travers le pays, fouillant les habitants et régulant les accès aux quartiers.

Vendredi, la presse, quasiment unanimement acquise à l'armée, se déchaînait contre la confrérie. "Les milices des Frères détruisent les biens du peuple", titrait notamment le journal privé al-Masry al-Youm au-dessus d'une photo du siège de la province de Guizeh ravagé par les flammes.

A l'aube de ce "vendredi de la colère", Laila Moussa, une porte-parole de la Coalition pro-Morsi contre le "coup d'Etat", a affirmé à l'AFP que des membres des Frères musulmans, dont au moins deux parlementaires, avaient été arrêtés.

Depuis le coup de force des militaires, la majorité des dirigeants de la confrérie ont été arrêtés ou sont en fuite.

M. Morsi est lui-même toujours détenu au secret. Son Guide suprême Mohamed Badie, en fuite, a promis vendredi dans sa lettre hebdomadaire à ses partisans que les responsables des "massacres" allaient devoir payer. Les Frères musulmans ont évoqué 2.200 morts et plus de 10.000 blessés.

"Eviter la guerre civile"

Alors que de nombreux pays occidentaux ont condamné ce bain de sang, les 15 pays membres du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU ont appelé jeudi soir les différentes parties en Egypte à faire preuve d'un "maximum de retenue".

Les Etats-Unis ont de leur côté annulé des exercices militaires communs et incité leurs ressortissants à quitter l'Egypte, sans aller jusqu'à interrompre l'aide annuelle (1,5 milliard de dollars) versée en grande partie à la toute-puissante armée de leur grand allié.

Le président Barack Obama a "condamné avec force les mesures prises par le gouvernement intérimaire", comme la ré-restauration de l'état d'urgence.

Navi Pillay, Haut commissaire de l'ONU en charge des droits de l'Homme, a réclamé une enquête sur la dispersion des pro-Morsi.

Le président français François Hollande a appelé à tout mettre "en oeuvre pour éviter la guerre civile". Paris et Berlin ont convoqué les ambassadeurs égyptiens et devaient s'entretenir à la mi-journée, tandis que la Turquie a rappelé pour consultations son ambassadeur en Egypte. Le Caire a aussitôt rappelé son représentant à Ankara.

<http://www.rfi.fr/moyen-orient/5mn/20130816-egypte-manifestations-vendredi-colere-ramses>

Egypte -

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Egypte: un «vendredi de la colère» à haut risque



L'armée et la police sont mobilisées pour contenir les manifestations de ce «vendredi de la colère» et sont autorisées à tirer si les manifestants s'en prennent à des bâtiments publics.

REUTERS/Louafi Larbi

Par RFI

Ils sont des milliers dans les rues de la capitale égyptienne et dans d'autres grandes villes du pays à avoir répondu à l'appel à la mobilisation des Frères musulmans, qui ont décrété ce vendredi 16 août «journée de la colère». Au Caire, l'armée bloque les principales artères. Sur la place Ramsès ou ailleurs dans la capitale, les scènes d'émeutes ont commencé à se multiplier. Le pouvoir égyptien dit se battre contre un «complot terroriste».

Cinq morts sont signalés dans la province du Fayoum au sud du Caire, 8 à Damiette et au moins 5 partisans du président déchu Morsi ont été tués dans le nord à Ismaïlya. Mais les bilans restent difficiles à établir pour l'heure car ils sont généralement contradictoires.

Les blessés se comptent par dizaines et le bilan devrait s'alourdir, les forces de l'ordre ayant reçu l'autorisation de tirer à balles réelles en cas d'attaques de bâtiments publics ou si elles sont elles-mêmes la cible des manifestants.



Des supportrices du président déchu Mohamed Morsi, dans les rues du Caire ce vendredi 16 août dans la matinée.

REUTERS/Louafi Larbi

Les partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi ont appelé à manifester « *par millions* » en réponse au « *massacre* » de plus de 600 personnes le 14 août dernier, notamment dans la dispersion sanglante de deux sit-in dans la capitale.

Dès la fin de la grande prière du vendredi, les manifestants ont commencé à défiler notamment au Caire en direction de la place Ramsès, dans le centre alors que les forces armées ont bloqué les principaux accès avec des chars.

Sur place, les forces de l'ordre ont tiré des gaz lacrymogènes, et, selon des témoins, des coups de feu ont été entendus. Un grand désordre règne sur la place, occupée par les pro-Morsi, rapporte notre correspondant au Caire, **Alexandre Buccianti**.

En fin de journée, la situation y restait particulièrement critique. Actuellement une énorme fumée noire s'échappe de la place Ramsès où les Frères disent déplorer au moins 50 morts, qui auraient été entreposés dans la mosquée al-Fata, située sur la place.

Les chars de l'armée sont déployés dans des lieux stratégiques; place Tahrir ou bien au siège de la télévision. Les hélicoptères continuent de surveiller la ville, en vol stationnaire. Dans le quartier chiite de Zamalek, de nombreux échanges de coups de feu ont été entendus. Plus de 20 cadavres auraient été signalés par des témoins dans une mosquée du Caire.

Un scénario identique est en train de se produire du côté de Gizeh, sur l'avenue des pyramides, où selon des témoins, les manifestants subiraient là aussi des tirs.



Des supporters du président déchu Mohamed Morsi, dans les rues du Caire ce vendredi 16 août dans la matinée.

REUTERS/Louafi Larbi

Mais il y a aussi des manifestations dans plusieurs autres villes d’Egypte, à Minieh, en moyenne Egypte, à Tanta, au centre du delta, mais aussi en Mer Rouge, à Hurghada, ou encore à Ismaïlia et Damiette, où plusieurs manifestants ont été tués.

Un peu partout en Egypte des manifestations s'organisent en réponse à l’appel de ce vendredi de la colère des Frères musulmans.

En fin de journée, l’Egypte a reçu le soutien du roi d’Arabie Saoudite contre le « *terrorisme* ».

L’Egypte reste sous le coup d’un couvre-feu qui démarre à 21 h. Si les manifestants devaient encore se trouver dans les rues à cette heure-là, la situation serait certainement appelée à dégénérer un peu plus.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2013/08/2013816102257435227.html>

Egypt's Christians face unprecedented attacks

More than 30 churches have been destroyed in the past week as thugs launch a campaign of intimidation.

Hazel Haddon Last Modified: 16 Aug 2013 12:51

Attacks on Christians have increased dramatically since the ousting of Egypt's president on July 3 [Reuters]

Cairo, Egypt - At Abu Seifein church in the wealthy Cairo district of Mohandeseen, there was little sign of any damage on Thursday, despite the rubble lying in the streets nearby. The church is a short walk away from Al-Gamat Al-Dowal Street, the site of heavy clashes the day before, but despite the violence, the church escaped unscathed.

Many churches in Egypt were not so lucky. Security forces moved to violently disperse two protest camps by supporters of ousted president Mohamed Morsi in Cairo on Wednesday morning, setting in motion a day of deadly violence that left at least 525 people dead in clashes across the country.

Amid the violence, alleged Morsi supporters carried out on dozens of attacks on churches and Christian-owned properties throughout the country.

Mina Thabet, an activist with Christian rights group the Maspero Youth Union, told Al Jazeera on Friday that at least 32 churches had been “completely destroyed, burned or looted” in eight different governorates over the previous two days. The group also recorded dozens of other attacks on Christian-owned shops, businesses and schools around the country.

The Anglican church of St Saviour’s in the city of Suez was one of those attacked on Wednesday. “They attacked the church with Molotov cocktails and stones, and the car of the priest was completely destroyed,” said Egypt’s Anglican Bishop, Mouneer Annis. “Two other churches in Suez were completely burned - and the thugs looted the churches afterwards. It’s a mixture between burning and looting.”

“It never happened before in history that such a big number of churches were attacked on one day,” Bishop Thomas, a Coptic Orthodox bishop in Assiut told Al Jazeera. “We normally used to have attacks once a month or so.”

Political dimensions

Christians, who make up around 10 percent of Egypt's population, have long complained of discrimination and periodic violent attacks by extremists. However, since the ouster of Mohamed Morsi on July 3, the number of recorded sectarian incidents has dramatically increased.

Christians were widely seen as being supportive of the transition, and Coptic Orthodox Pope Tawadros II, the leader of Egypt's largest Christian denomination, publically supported the move.

Michael Magdy, 24, a Christian who works at a pharmacy in Mohandiseen close to Abu Seifein church, was not initially supportive of the military-backed transition.

“I protested on June 30 against Morsi, but at first I wasn't convinced about the army taking control of Egypt. I don't like the police or the army. I was at the Mostafa Mahmoud [protests in 2011] and at the Port Said massacre in 2012,” he said, referring to a notorious incident of football violence in which the police were accused of complicity.

“But the Muslim Brotherhood were putting women and kids on the front lines of their protests, so I think the army had to disperse them,” he said.

Hany Bushra, 41, a Christian engineer who lives in Mohandiseen, agreed that the dispersal of the sit-ins was necessary. “The army had to do what they did. They waited a long time, and nothing happened. These people are terrorists. They want to drive Christians out of the country.”

Youssef Sidhom, editor of Christian weekly Watani, believes that the recent surge in violence is an attempt to divide Egyptians into sectarian camps. “The Muslim Brotherhood are trying to split the nation. This is a collective punishment, enforced on Christians because they supported the ouster of Morsi,” he said.

Bishop Annis agrees that Christians are being targeted by Brotherhood supporters. “We know [the attackers in Suez] were Islamists as they had beards. Last week also, Morsi supporters were demonstrating in Suez in the streets, and they stopped in front of St Saviours' and chanted against Pope Tawadros.”

Egypt's 'worst sectarian crisis'

Paul Sedra, an associate professor of history at Simon Fraser University, believes that Wednesday's violence was an extension of an ongoing demonisation campaign by the Muslim Brotherhood against Christians.

Copts are not seen as an important [political] constituency... As a result, they are often left to bear the brunt of political violence

Paul Sedra, professor

“Throughout their rule and since Morsi's deposition from power, they have engaged in explicitly sectarian appeals that have aimed to vilify Copts as their chief antagonists in Egypt,” Sedra told Al Jazeera. “When Islamists are loathe to attack the state directly, they often settle for attacking Copts, because they are an easy target.”

The Egyptian authorities have often been criticised for failing to respond swiftly to attacks on Christians. But there is little sign that Wednesday's violence has diminished the support of Egyptian Christians for the military-led government and its transitional roadmap.

“The attacks on churches were condemned immediately by the prime minister and the interior minister yesterday, and this is a positive sign,” said Bishop Annis.

Bishop Thomas believes that security “needs to be improved” but argues that delays in responses on Wednesday were understandable as forces were “overwhelmed”.

Sedra, however, argues that state authorities also bear responsibility for the ongoing violence. “The state is competing with the Islamists to win over the loyalties of the population, and the Copts are not seen as an important constituency in this. As a result, they are often left to bear the brunt of political violence,” he told Al Jazeera.

“There's no question that this is the worst sectarian crisis that Egypt has seen in its modern history.”

<http://www.lesechos.fr/economie-politique/monde/actu/0202952113090-egypte-nouvelles-attaques-contre-les-forces-de-securite-595714.php?xtor=RSS-2059>

International

International Actualités

Egypte : le «vendredi de la colère» engendre un nouveau bain de sang

Par **Les Echos** | 16/08 | 07:02 | mis à jour à 19:28

Plusieurs dizaines de manifestants ont été tués en Egypte dans des heurts entre forces de l'ordre et manifestants pro-Morsi descendus dans les rues pour un «vendredi de la colère». La France, l'Allemagne et l'Italie demandent « une concertation urgente au niveau européen ».



Les affrontements au Caire se sont poursuivis vendredi. - AFP

18h50. Le nombre de victimes s'élève à plus de 70 morts. Les violences entre partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi, mobilisés par milliers, et forces de l'ordre ont fait au moins 70 morts vendredi en Egypte, avec des quartiers entiers transformés en champs de bataille.

Le pouvoir mis en place par l'armée après la destitution de Mohamed Morsi affirme désormais se battre contre un « complot terroriste malveillant des Frères musulmans », la confrérie du président déchu, et a autorisé ses hommes à ouvrir le feu sur les manifestants.

« Vendredi de la colère » en Egypte

Situation vendredi à 17h30



17h20. Près de 50 morts au Caire selon un bilan des services de sécurité. Les corps ont été transportés dans une mosquée proche de la place Ramsès, où des milliers de partisans du président Mohamed Morsi s'étaient rassemblés dans l'après-midi. Plusieurs témoins ont affirmé à l'AFP avoir compté plus de 20 cadavres dans une morgue improvisée d'une mosquée du centre du Caire.

L'un de ces témoins, n'appartenant à aucun des deux camps, a affirmé avoir compté 27 corps, tandis qu'un autre a dit avoir dénombré 20 cadavres et vu « d'autres corps arriver » alors qu'il quittait les lieux.



Lundi, les représentants des 28 Etats-membres de l'Union européenne se réuniront à Bruxelles. - AFP

17h17. Le chef de la diplomatie européenne, Catherine Ashton, a invité vendredi les Etats membres de l'UE à prendre « des mesures appropriées » pour répondre à la situation en Egypte. « J'ai été en contact constant avec les ministres des Affaires étrangères de l'Union européenne et j'ai demandé aux représentants des Etats membres de débattre et de coordonner les mesures appropriées qui doivent être prises par l'Union européenne en réponse à la situation en Egypte », a déclaré Mme Ashton dans un communiqué.

Lundi, les représentants des 28 Etats-membres de l'Union européenne se réuniront à Bruxelles pour faire le point sur la situation en Egypte. Le but de cette réunion est de trouver une position commune des Etats membres et de l'UE concernant la situation en Egypte en vue «de possibles actions», explique-t-on à Bruxelles. Elle pourrait également «préparer une possible réunion» des ministres européens des Affaires étrangères.

17h15. L'Allemagne va « réexaminer ses relations avec l'Egypte » en raison de l'évolution récente de la situation dans le pays, a annoncé vendredi la chancellerie. « La chancellerie a expliqué que le gouvernement fédéral, en raison de l'évolution récente de la situation, allait réexaminer ses relations avec l'Egypte », affirme un communiqué gouvernemental rendant compte de l'entretien téléphonique d'Angela Merkel avec le président français François Hollande.

Dans la matinée, lors d'un point de presse régulier, le porte-parole de la chancellerie, Steffen Seibert, a déclaré que l'Allemagne condamnait « vigoureusement la violence qui au Caire et dans d'autres villes a fait plus de 600 morts, selon des informations officielles ». « Nous demandons à toutes les parties d'agir pacifiquement et de s'abstenir de tout acte de violence, en particulier aujourd'hui », a-t-il ajouté. « Une escalade pourrait plonger l'Egypte dans un chaos de violence et de représailles », a commenté M. Seibert.

17h12. Le roi Abdallah d'Arabie saoudite confirme son soutien à l'armée égyptienne. Il a proclamé vendredi son appui au pouvoir égyptien « face au terrorisme » et mis en garde contre « les ingérences ». « Le gouvernement et le peuple d'Arabie saoudite se tiennent aux côtés de leurs frères en Egypte, contre le terrorisme et face à tous ceux qui tentent de porter atteinte

aux affaires intérieures » de ce pays, a déclaré le roi dans une déclaration reproduite par l'agence officielle SPA.

Le souverain saoudien, dont le pays est le chef de file des monarchies pétrolières du Golfe, a appelé « les Egyptiens, les Arabes et les musulmans à s'opposer à tous ceux qui tentent de déstabiliser l'Égypte », sans autre précision. Il a assuré qu'il était « du droit légitime » de l'Égypte de « s'opposer à tous ceux qui lui portent atteinte ».

Le roi Abdallah avait été le premier dirigeant étranger à féliciter le président par intérim Adly Mansour nommé le 3 juillet par l'armée. Le royaume saoudien avait aussi annoncé l'octroi d'une aide de 5 milliards de dollars à l'Égypte pour soutenir l'économie de ce pays.

17h10. La Belgique déconseille « tout voyage » en Égypte. Jusqu'à présent, la Belgique déconseillait de se rendre en Égypte, « sauf (pour) les voyages vers les régions touristiques de la mer Rouge et du Golfe d'Aqaba ». Désormais, ce sont tous les voyages dans ce pays qui sont déconseillés.

Concernant les Belges qui se trouvent actuellement en Égypte, le ministère leur recommande de rester « extrêmement vigilants » et de limiter leurs déplacements « au strict minimum » et de « ne pas prolonger leur séjour au-delà de ce qui est nécessaire ». L'Égypte est surtout fréquentée par les Belges en hiver, mais reste la sixième destination la plus importante pendant les mois de juillet et d'août pour le voyageur belge Jetair.

16h30. Des violences au sud du Caire, dans le Fayoum, font 5 morts. Les affrontements en marge de la « journée de la colère » organisée par les Frères musulmans en Égypte ont fait au moins cinq morts et 70 blessés vendredi dans la province du Fayoum, au sud du Caire, a-t-on appris auprès du directeur de l'hôpital général de la province.

A 15h30, le bilan est de 12 morts dans les affrontements entre partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi et forces de l'ordre à travers l'Égypte, selon un bilan fourni par le ministère de la Santé dans l'après-midi. De son côté, l'Alliance contre le « coup d'Etat », une coalition pro-Morsi, a affirmé qu'au moins 25 personnes avaient été tuées sur la seule place Ramsès, dans le centre du Caire, principal point de rassemblement des manifestants islamistes.

A Ismaïliya, sur le canal de Suez, au moins quatre manifestants ont été tués par les forces de l'ordre auxquelles le gouvernement mis en place par l'armée a donné jeudi le droit d'ouvrir le feu sur tout manifestant qui se montrerait violent, un geste sans précédent de mémoire d'Égyptien. Au Caire, un policier a été tué dans une embuscade alors que l'armée avait littéralement scellé la plupart des artères quasi-désertes du Caire. A Tanta (nord), la police a tiré à la chevrotine et des grenades lacrymogènes sur des manifestants islamistes, selon des responsables de la sécurité.



Hollande et Merkel se sont entretenus par téléphone et « ont appelé à une cessation immédiate des violences ». - AFP

15h. François Hollande et Angela Merkel demandent « une concertation urgente au niveau européen » sur la sanglante crise égyptienne. Les deux dirigeants se sont entretenus par téléphone et « ont appelé à une cessation immédiate des violences », selon un communiqué de la présidence française. Ils ont également appelé « au retour au dialogue entre Égyptiens. L’Égypte doit retrouver au plus vite le cours de sa vie démocratique ».

Le président et la chancelière « ont également demandé une concertation urgente au niveau européen. Ils souhaitent que les ministres des Affaires étrangères de l’Union puissent se réunir rapidement, la semaine prochaine, afin de faire le point sur la coopération entre l’Union européenne et l’Égypte et d’élaborer des réponses communes », conclut l’Elysée.

14h45. L’Égypte annule ses manoeuvres navales avec la Turquie pour « ingérence », prévues en octobre. L’Égypte veut protester contre les « ingérences » d’Ankara qui a condamné la répression sanglante des manifestations de soutien au président islamiste destitué Mohamed Morsi.

La Turquie a rappelé son ambassadeur au Caire qui en a fait de même, et le Premier ministre Recep Tayyip Erdogan, soutien du président Morsi chassé par l’armée le 3 juillet, a appelé à une réunion urgente du Conseil de sécurité de l’ONU consacrée à ce qu’il a qualifié de « massacre » en Égypte.

Manifestations de soutien aux pro-Morsi à l’étranger. Quelque 600 personnes, proches du mouvement islamiste palestinien Hamas au pouvoir dans la bande de Gaza, se sont rassemblés après la prière du vendredi sur l’esplanade des Mosquées à **Jérusalem-Est** pour protester contre le chef de l’armée égyptienne Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, qui a destitué Morsi. Sur l’esplanade des Mosquées, les manifestants ont accusé le général Sissi d’être un « collaborateur américain » au service d’Israël, et scandé que Morsi était toujours le président de l’Égypte.

Dans le cortège on pouvait voir des posters de Sissi et d’Hitler, avec comme légendes « Hitler tuait des juifs pour son peuple », et « Sissi tue son peuple pour des juifs ».

A Hébron, dans le sud de la Cisjordanie, des centaines de palestiniens ont également manifesté en soutien à Mohamed Morsi, selon un correspondant de l’AFP. Brandissant des drapeaux aux couleurs de l’Égypte, du Hamas et des territoires palestiniens, ils ont essayé de se rendre à la mosquée Al-Husseïn, dans le centre de la ville, mais ont été stoppés par des

forces de sécurité de l'Autorité palestinienne. Des heurts ont alors éclaté, dans lesquels un manifestant a été blessé et d'autres arrêtés.

A **Amman** en Jordanie, un millier de personnes ont manifesté à l'appel des Frères musulmans pour exprimer leur soutien à Morsi. Scandant des slogans hostiles au « pouvoir militaire », au « coup d'Etat » et au général Sissi, le nouvel homme fort d'Égypte, ils ont défilé dans le centre de la capitale à la sortie des mosquées. Un dirigeant des Frères musulmans, Hamam Saïd, a appelé le gouvernement jordanien à rappeler son ambassadeur au Caire et à chasser celui d'Égypte. L'opposition islamiste jordanienne a dénoncé « le massacre » de mercredi en Égypte, alors que le royaume n'a toujours pas réagi officiellement aux développements dans ce pays.

A **Khartoum**, la capitale soudanaise, quelque 500 manifestants ont défilé à Khartoum à l'appel d'organisations islamistes pour protester contre la répression sanglante des pro-Morsi, selon un correspondant de l'AFP. Ils se sont rassemblés devant le palais présidentiel, brandissant des portraits de M. Morsi et le drapeau égyptien. « Sissi: agent israélien et américain », ont-ils scandé. « Où est la CPI ? », scandaient les manifestants à Khartoum, faisant référence à la Cour pénale internationale de La Haye. Le président soudanais, Omar el-Béchir, fait l'objet d'un mandat d'arrêt de la CPI pour génocide au Darfour (ouest du Soudan), en proie à une guerre civile et des violences depuis 2003. La police anti-émeutes n'est pas intervenue. Parmi les manifestants figuraient des Égyptiens résidant au Soudan ainsi que des membres du Mouvement islamique, lié au gouvernement soudanais.

Environ 500 personnes ont manifesté vendredi à **Rabat** à l'appel de la principale mouvance islamiste du Maroc pour dénoncer la répression sanglante en Égypte, a constaté un photographe de l'AFP. Dans le calme, ces manifestants, pour la plupart proches du mouvement Justice et bienfaisance (« Al Adl wal Ihsane », interdit mais toléré), ont appelé à « l'arrêt immédiat des crimes commis » dans ce pays, selon la même source.

AbdelFattah « Al-Sissi est un lâche, le peuple d'Égypte ne sera pas humilié », a scandé la foule, qui s'est rassemblée après la prière du vendredi devant une mosquée du quartier Hay Al Fath, à Rabat. Quelques dizaines d'avocats ont par ailleurs manifesté pour les mêmes raisons devant l'ambassade d'Égypte, dénonçant « un crime contre l'humanité », d'après le photographe de l'AFP.

12h30. Nombreux cortèges partis des mosquées. A l'issue de la prière de la mi-journée, des cortèges sont partis de nombreuses mosquées du pays, notamment au Caire où une foule se pressait sur la place Ramsès dans le centre de la capitale quadrillée, en plus des militaires et des policiers anti-émeutes, par d'innombrables policiers en civils particulièrement hostiles ou nerveux. Mercredi, près de 600 personnes ont péri dans tout le pays, essentiellement dans la dispersion sanglante au Caire de partisans de Mohamed Morsi, destitué et arrêté par l'armée début juillet.

Les Frères musulmans, la confrérie de M. Morsi, ont appelé leurs partisans à défiler « pacifiquement » par « millions » à la sortie des mosquées vendredi et à converger vers la place Ramsès au centre de la capitale. Cette journée sera un test pour le plus peuplé des pays arabes, où la division ne cesse de s'accroître entre partisans des Frères musulmans et tenants de la solution sécuritaire que les nouvelles autorités semblent désormais privilégier.

L'ONU demande de la retenue. A l'issue d'une réunion d'urgence et à huit clos du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU, les membres du Conseil ont souhaité que «les parties en Egypte fassent preuve d'un maximum de retenue», a déclaré jeudi la présidente argentine du Conseil à l'issue de consultations sur la crise en Egypte. Rendant compte de ces consultations, tenues en urgence depuis jeudi après-midi, l'ambassadrice argentine Maria Cristina Perceval a ajouté que les 15 pays avaient «déploré les pertes humaines» et qu'ils souhaitaient la fin de la violence et des progrès vers la «réconciliation nationale».

Mme Perceval a tenu à souligner qu'il ne s'agissait pas d'une «déclaration officielle» du Conseil mais de «commentaires» qui reflétaient les discussions à huis clos entre les 15 pays membres. L'Argentine assure la présidence tournante du Conseil pour le mois d'août. Cet artifice, ont expliqué des diplomates, a permis que le Conseil réagisse rapidement à la crise sans avoir à négocier pied à pied un texte et à surmonter certaines divergences. Ainsi la Russie et la Chine ont rejeté lors de la discussion l'idée de négocier une déclaration formelle. Moscou et Pékin sont traditionnellement réticents à intervenir dans les affaires intérieures de pays souverains. «L'important, a fait valoir un diplomate occidental, est que le Conseil ait pu envoyer rapidement un message d'apaisement et de retenue.»



Les violences en Egypte créent «une situation très inquiétante» pour l'ensemble de la région, estime Laurent Fabius. - AFP

«Une situation très inquiétante», pour Laurent Fabius. Les violences en Egypte créent «une situation très inquiétante» pour l'ensemble de la région, avec «le risque que ce soient des mouvements extrémistes qui récupèrent toute la tension», a déclaré vendredi le chef de la diplomatie Laurent Fabius. «Quand vous mettez bout à bout, même s'il ne faut pas tout confondre, ce qui se passe en Syrie, en Egypte, au Liban, en Irak, et l'incidence que ça peut avoir sur le conflit israélo-palestinien (...), c'est effectivement très, très, très inquiétant», a souligné Laurent Fabius sur la radio RTL.

«L'Egypte est un pays absolument déterminant dans le monde arabe», a ajouté le ministre. «C'est une raison supplémentaire pour laquelle il faut demander, comme les Nations unies l'ont demandé à l'appel de la France hier, une décélération, une retenue maximale. Sinon, le risque c'est que ce soit des mouvements extrémistes qui récupèrent toute la tension», a-t-il fait valoir.

Il faut «absolument aller vers une décélération [en Egypte] et que le pouvoir fasse des gestes, et en même temps les manifestants, eux, ont un devoir de manifester pacifiquement», a-t-il insisté.

Nouvelles attaques contre les forces de sécurité. De nouvelles attaques ont visé jeudi les forces de sécurité au lendemain de la répression de manifestants favorables au président islamiste destitué, qui a causé la mort de près de 600 personnes, un bain de sang unanimement condamné à l'étranger .

Jeudi, les Etats-Unis ont annulé des exercices militaires communs et incité leurs ressortissants à quitter l'Egypte, sans aller jusqu'à interrompre l'aide annuelle (1,5 milliard de dollars) versée en grande partie à la toute-puissante armée de leur grand allié. Mais Washington se réserve la possibilité de prendre des «mesures supplémentaires», a averti le président Barack Obama.

578 morts mercredi. Loin de chercher l'apaisement, le pouvoir égyptien mis en place par l'armée a annoncé avoir autorisé la police à tirer à balles réelles sur quiconque s'en prendrait à des bâtiments officiels ou aux forces de l'ordre, faisant craindre de nouvelles violences sanglantes. Cette annonce du ministère de l'Intérieur a été faite après une attaque contre le siège de la province de Guizeh dans la banlieue du Caire et la mort de neuf policiers et militaires, attribuées à des «islamistes» notamment dans la péninsule instable du Sinaï. Le gouvernement avait auparavant salué la «très grande retenue» de la police après la dispersion mercredi des deux camps érigés au Caire par les partisans du président Mohamed Morsi destitué et arrêté le 3 juillet par l'armée, et les violences qui se sont propagées ensuite dans tout le pays.

Selon un dernier bilan du ministère de la Santé, 578 personnes ont péri, dont 535 civils, la journée la plus meurtrière en Egypte depuis la révolte ayant chassé du pouvoir le président Hosni Moubarak en février 2011. Le ministère a précisé que 228 personnes avaient péri sur la place Rabaa al-Adawiya, principal point de rassemblement occupé depuis plus d'un mois par des milliers de pro-Morsi. 90 autres ont péri dans la dispersion du second sit-in pro-Morsi au Caire. Selon les autorités, 43 policiers ont été tués.

A la suite des violences, l'état d'urgence a été décrété pour un mois et un couvre-feu est imposé dans la moitié du pays de 19H00 (17H00 GMT) à 06H00 (04H00 GMT). La levée de l'état d'urgence avait été un des acquis de la révolte de 2011.

Appel à former des «comités populaires». Accentuant les divisions, Tamarrod, le principal mouvement à l'origine des manifestations monstres ayant conduit à la destitution de M. Morsi, a appelé les Egyptiens à former des «comités populaires» pour défendre le pays contre ce qu'il appelle le «terrorisme» des Frères musulmans, la confrérie de M. Morsi.

Après la dispersion des camps, des images aériennes filmées de nuit ont montré le village de tentes des pro-Morsi en feu sur la place Rabaa al-Adawiya. Plus de 200 cadavres dans des linceuls blancs étaient alignés au sol dans la mosquée voisine d'al-Imane tandis que des

volontaires tentaient d'établir la liste des noms des victimes. Les Frères musulmans ont évoqué 2.200 morts et plus de 10.000 blessés. Des dizaines de personnes, le visage couvert pour se protéger des odeurs, venaient identifier leurs proches. Parmi eux, une femme a affirmé à l'AFP se recueillir sur la dépouille de sa fille. Une autre a hurlé en découvrant un corps calciné sous un linceul.

Plusieurs figures égyptiennes se sont désolidarisées de l'intervention des forces de l'ordre, notamment le vice-président Mohamed ElBaradei, prix Nobel de la paix, qui a démissionné, et le grand imam d'al-Azhar, la plus haute autorité de l'islam sunnite. La presse égyptienne, en revanche, largement acquise à l'armée, saluait, à l'image du quotidien gouvernemental Al-Akhbar, «La fin du cauchemar Frères musulmans».

Source agences

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/08/16/la-journee-de-combat-de-tarek-hussein_3462254_3212.html

En Egypte, la journée de combat de Tarek Hussein

Le Monde.fr | 16.08.2013 à 05h29 • Mis à jour le 16.08.2013 à 12h25 | Propos recueillis par Serge Michel

Aux abords de la mosquée de Rabiya Al-Adawiya, le 15 août.

Employé au département des lettres de crédit de la CIB (Commercial International Bank), Tarek Hussein, 28 ans, a été renvoyé il y a deux mois quand ses patrons ont appris qu'il comptait parmi les partisans de Mohamed Morsi. Le jeune homme, membre du parti islamique des travailleurs El-Shaab, a passé les six dernières semaines sous une tente dans le camp de Rabiya.

Lire notre analyse : "Les éléments sont réunis pour que l'Egypte glisse vers la guerre civile"

"A l'aube, avant que l'alerte ne soit donnée, j'étais sous ma tente, au sud de l'avenue El-Tayaran, à la hauteur de la station d'essence Mobil. Je devais rejoindre ma femme qui m'attendait à l'extérieur du camp, pour aller en ville. Elle m'a appelé pour me dire qu'il y avait des troupes et des blindés qui approchaient. J'ai compris que c'était le jour du grand combat et je lui ai dit de partir le plus vite possible.

Ils ont attaqué de trois côtés, sur l'avenue El-Tayaran nord et sud et à l'ouest de la route El-Nasr. L'est de El-Nasr a été laissé au début pour nous permettre de nous échapper, mais personne n'est parti. La première vague de l'assaut a été très cruelle, avec des bulldozers. Ils ont pénétré nos lignes si profondément que quarante personnes se sont retrouvées encerclées et ont été arrêtées. Nos consignes, c'était de ne rien céder. Alors on a reformé une barricade, et pendant que les autres tiraient des cailloux, je suis allé chercher des pneus. C'était le seul moyen de les arrêter et surtout, cela rendait inefficaces leurs gaz lacrymogènes. Cette barricade, même si elle a encore reculé, a tenu de 7 heures du matin à 5 heures de l'après-midi ! Je me suis battu pendant trois heures sur cette barricade, et j'ai vu tomber beaucoup des nôtres à côté de moi.

Des gaz lacrymogènes, il en venait de partout. Au début, je pensais qu'il y avait des policiers infiltrés parmi nous qui en lançaient. Puis j'ai compris que les canettes de gaz étaient lancées par les fenêtres des bâtiments autour de la place, qui appartiennent à l'armée.

Au coin de l'avenue Siwaya Al-Masri, il y a un immeuble en construction, et c'est Dieu qui nous l'a donné. Car nous l'avons investi à tous les étages et nous avons pu lancer de grosses pierres et des cocktails Molotov sur les blindés. On a réussi à brûler trois bulldozers de la police.

Vers 13 heures, on m'a appelé sur la scène, devant la mosquée. C'est là, sur la scène, que Asmaa, la fille de 17 ans de notre leader Mohamed Beltagui, a été tuée le matin d'une balle dans la poitrine tirée par un sniper embarqué dans un hélicoptère. Les nôtres perdaient courage, on m'a demandé un bon discours pour les motiver. J'ai dit que Sissi était un criminel et que nous n'avions plus peur, que nos poitrines étaient ouvertes à ses balles. J'ai crié jusqu'à ce que je n'aie plus de voix que Dieu était plus grand qu'eux et qu'il était de notre côté. Que nous n'étions plus des esclaves, que nous ne serons jamais les esclaves de l'armée.

Puis j'ai demandé à la foule devant moi d'aller renforcer le front ouest de la route El-Nasr, devant le supermarché Tiba, parce que la pression des bulldozers y était très forte et que les nôtres y mouraient nombreux. J'y suis allé aussi, pendant une heure. Il y avait des gens qui mouraient de partout. On a réussi à repousser l'assaut.

Après, j'étais vraiment épuisé et j'ai dû me reposer. Je me suis installé au pied de l'immeuble de la police de la circulation, qui est le plus haut du quartier et que les snipers de l'armée utilisaient pour tout tuer alentour. Mais au pied du bâtiment, j'étais tranquille. Je voyais les hélicoptères qui tiraient dans toutes les directions. Je voyais aussi les nôtres qui tombaient, qui tombaient, je n'avais jamais vu ça avant, un tel massacre. Après une demi-heure, je me suis relevé. En face de moi, il y avait les cuisines du camp et j'y suis allé pour aider à mettre des macaronis dans de petites boîtes, que les nôtres allaient livrer aux combattants, sur tous les fronts. C'est Dieu qui a décidé de ce que je devais faire et là, il voulait que j'aide dans les cuisines. Ensuite, je suis allé à l'hôpital, derrière la mosquée. Et là j'ai vu l'ampleur du massacre.

Il y avait des cadavres partout, et des dizaines de blessés avec des balles dans la tête, dans le cœur ou les épaules. J'en ai vu un dont toute la chair du bras avait été arrachée. J'ai aidé en portant des instruments de chirurgie, ou en faisant de l'air pour aider les blessés à respirer. Il devait être 15 heures, 15 h 30. C'est là que j'ai croisé monsieur Mohamed Beltagui. Je lui ai présenté mes condoléances pour sa fille et je l'ai encouragé, je lui ai dit qu'on avait besoin de lui, qu'il ne devait pas se laisser abattre. A nouveau, c'est Dieu qui m'a mené à l'hôpital, mais il me fallait repartir à l'attaque, pour ne pas me laisser gagner par la dépression.

C'était trop horrible, cet hôpital. J'ai voulu retourner dans l'immeuble en construction au coin de la rue Siwaya al-Masri, mais tous les chemins étaient bloqués. En courant autour d'un bloc de maison, j'ai vu une femme mourir devant moi, d'une balle dans la poitrine. Je me suis dit, pour les hommes, d'accord, c'est normal et le suivant cela peut être moi. Mais une femme ! Ici, en Egypte, on ne peut pas comprendre cela. Cela paraît impossible qu'un homme tue une femme.

J'ai fini par me retrouver en première ligne et j'ai lancé des pierres. Mais mon but était de remonter dans l'immeuble en construction, qui était notre meilleure position. Le seul moyen

semblait de traverser en passant par la mosquée, mais des gens m'ont arrêté. Les deux rues de chaque côté de la mosquée étaient sous le contrôle complet des snipers, plus personne n'osait les prendre.

Ah, ils ont dit qu'on était armés. Je vous jure que j'aurais bien voulu ! Dans ces conditions, on aimerait tout pour se défendre. Si on avait eu des armes, jamais il ne nous serait arrivé ce qui est arrivé. Si seulement 10 % d'entre nous avaient été armés, on les auraient repoussés ! D'accord, il y avait peut-être parmi nous quelques-uns qui étaient armés. On ne pouvait pas contrôler tout le monde. Mais ce n'était pas la consigne, que d'être armé.

A ce moment, je ne pouvais plus bouger. On était un petit groupe, abrités au pied d'un immeuble, mais si on avait mis un pied dehors, les snipers l'auraient tiré. Il y en a d'ailleurs un qui a passé la tête, pour voir. La balle lui a traversé la mâchoire. Il n'était pas mort, on lui a dit de courir à l'hôpital. J'étais là quand j'ai vu mon immeuble en construction tomber aux mains de la police. J'ai compris que c'était fini. Les étages ont été vidés, mais il y en a peut-être qui sont restés cachés en haut.

Peu après, j'ai vu les blindés arriver devant la mosquée. Il devait être 17 h 30 ou 18 heures. Vous me pardonnerez, mais dans ces conditions, on ne pense pas à regarder sa montre. On ne pense pas non plus à prendre des photos, alors que j'avais un appareil dans la poche. Il n'y avait plus rien à faire. On s'est regroupés dans une rue derrière, au nord de la route El-Nasr. On a fait la prière du crépuscule et évacué des blessés. J'ai vu les gens sortir de la mosquée, les médecins, les blessés. Puis je l'ai vu partir en flammes."

Serge Michel
Journaliste au Monde

<http://www.lesoir.be/299870/article/actualite/monde/2013-08-16/l-armee-egyptienne-impose-sa-loi-dans-un-pays-devaste>

L'armée égyptienne impose sa loi dans un pays dévasté

Samuel Forey au Caire pour Le Temps

Mis en ligne vendredi 16 août 2013, 9h57 | mis à jour lundi 19 août 2013, 20h02

L'assaut lancé contre les Frères musulmans a fait officiellement 578 morts. Ce vendredi, les Frères entendent faire une démonstration de force.

Les Frères veillent leurs nombreux morts. Plus de 200, dans la mosquée al-Iman, près du site de Rabaa, au Caire. C'est du lieu de l'ancien rassemblement pro-Morsi qu'ils viennent, tous. Wafaa Hefny, sympathisante de la confrérie, a fait les voyages : « *On a commencé à aller les chercher après la bataille. Je les chargeais dans la voiture, puis je revenais en prendre d'autres. Dans la nuit, l'armée a incendié des bâtiments, dont la mosquée de Rabaa. C'est là qu'on a commencé à trouver des corps carbonisés. On les amenait, sans cesse. Puis on les rangeait, les uns à côté des autres.* »

Ce matin-là, c'est l'heure de l'identification. Dehors, une liste répertorie les noms et les origines des cadavres. Il faut ensuite aller les réclamer à l'intérieur. Ils ressortent enfin, un par un, abrités dans des cercueils, sous les lamentations de la foule rassemblée devant la mosquée.

« *C'est un coup très sévère* », s'est contenté de commenter Gehad el-Haddad, l'un des porte-parole des Frères musulmans. L'un des organisateurs du rassemblement de Rabaa glisse : « *Il y a de la colère, de la tristesse. Mais on continue à avancer. Ce n'est pas fini. Ce n'était qu'un sit-in. On en fera d'autres.* »

Il ne reste plus grand-chose de Rabaa. Beaucoup de débris, de déchets ramassés par des chiffonniers, qui ressemblent à des pillards après la bataille. Des cartouches, aussi. « *Toute la journée, pendant douze heures, ça a tiré* », raconte Mustafa, qui habitait à proximité du sit-in. Il se définit comme libéral. « *Mais les Frères ne méritaient pas ça. Ils ont été massacrés, tout simplement, et ils n'avaient rien pour se défendre. Que des pierres et des cocktails Molotov* », reprend Mustafa.

Les habitants du quartier se partagent en deux catégories : ceux qui défendent discrètement les Frères et ceux qui soutiennent obstinément les forces de l'ordre. Mustafa fait partie des premiers, très minoritaires. Mais la plupart des riverains reçoivent les soldats en héros. Ils applaudissent à chaque mouvement de blindés. Ils posent, armés de bâtons, à côté de la police militaire.

Le pays en état d'urgence

Le Caire a redécouvert l'état d'urgence. Symbole de l'Etat Moubarak, il est accompagné d'un couvre-feu, avec les militaires aux carrefours et les policiers dans les rues.

Malgré la journée meurtrière du 14 août, la capitale égyptienne s'est réveillée jeudi dans le calme. Çà et là, elle porte les cicatrices des affrontements. Une partie du Ministère des finances brûlée. Des transports de fonds renversés et pillés. Des bus complètement vides gisant en travers de la route.

C'est au cours de la journée que l'Égypte a sombré à nouveau dans la violence. Les bâtiments publics ont été pris d'assaut. Les manifestants pro-Frères ont mis le feu au siège du gouvernorat de Giza, dans la capitale. Les commissariats ont été attaqués, deux policiers ont péri dans le Sinaï et au sud du Caire. Alexandrie, la deuxième ville du pays, a continué d'être secouée par des émeutes.

Mais de nombreux signaux indiquent une reprise en main par les faucons égyptiens. Le Ministère de l'intérieur a autorisé dans la journée les forces de l'ordre à tirer sur les civils qui s'en prennent aux bâtiments publics – cette fois, la consigne est officielle. Mohamed Morsi, le président déchu, a vu sa période de détention prolongée de trente jours.

Les Frères ne parviennent pas à s'installer durablement sur d'autres places. Leurs alliés s'éloignent, comme le Parti de la construction et du développement, la vitrine politique de la Gamaa Islamiya, groupe connu pour avoir commis des attentats dans les années 1990. Son porte-parole, Khaled al-Sharif, condamne les violences contre les chrétiens et la mise à sac des commissariats, en affirmant qu'il ne « *fallait pas répondre à la violence par la violence* ». Le parti salafiste al-Nour tient le même discours : condamnation des violences et volonté de retour au dialogue, alors que les Frères lancent sans arrêt de furieux appels à manifester, par millions, dans l'Égypte entière. Ils entendent faire une démonstration de force dès ce vendredi.

Dans le monde arabo-musulman, la colère des manifestants, la prudence des diplomates

Le Monde.fr avec AFP | 16.08.2013 à 18h59 • Mis à jour le 17.08.2013 à 11h12

La dispersion dans le sang des pro-Morsi, mercredi, suscite également la colère de manifestants dans le monde musulman. Vendredi, jour de prière, a vu l'organisation de rassemblements à Jérusalem, en Jordanie, au Soudan, en Indonésie ou encore au Pakistan. Partout, les slogans visaient le chef de l'armée égyptienne, Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi, nouvel homme fort d'Egypte.

A **Jérusalem**, environ 600 personnes, proches du mouvement islamiste palestinien Hamas, se sont rassemblées après la prière du vendredi sur l'esplanade des Mosquées à Jérusalem-Est en accusant le général Sissi d'être un "*collaborateur américain*" au service d'Israël. Ils ont également scandé que Morsi était toujours le président de l'Egypte. La police israélienne n'est pas intervenue.

A **Hébron**, dans le sud de la Cisjordanie, des heurts ont éclaté entre des forces de sécurité de l'Autorité palestinienne et des manifestants alors que ces derniers tentaient de se rendre dans une mosquée. Un manifestant a été blessé et d'autres arrêtés.

En **Jordanie**, à Amman, un millier de personnes ont défilé à la sortie des mosquées à l'appel des Frères musulmans. Un de ses dirigeants, Hamam Saïd, a appelé le gouvernement jordanien à rappeler son ambassadeur au Caire et à chasser celui d'Egypte. L'opposition islamiste jordanienne a dénoncé "*le massacre*" de mercredi en Egypte, alors que le royaume n'a toujours pas réagi officiellement.

A **Khartoum**, la capitale soudanaise, quelque 500 manifestants se sont rassemblés devant le palais présidentiel, brandissant des portraits de M. Morsi et le drapeau égyptien. "*Sissi : agent israélien et américain*", ont-ils scandé ainsi que "*Où est la CPI [Cour pénale internationale] ?*". La police anti-émeutes n'est pas intervenue. Parmi les manifestants figuraient des Egyptiens résidant au Soudan ainsi que des membres du Mouvement islamique, lié au gouvernement soudanais.

Au **Maroc**, environ 500 personnes ont manifesté dans le calme à Rabat, à l'appel de la principale mouvance islamiste. Les manifestants scandaient entre autres "*Al-Sissi est un lâche, le peuple d'Egypte ne sera pas humilié*".

LES DIPLOMATIES PLUS SILENCIEUSES

Du côté des diplomates, la majorité des dirigeants arabes ne s'est pour le moment par exprimée sur le coup de force contre les pro-Morsi. Seuls le **Qatar** et la **Tunisie** ont condamné la violence du pouvoir égyptien. Mercredi, le président tunisien, Moncef Marzouki, avait pris l'Egypte en exemple pour appeler au calme dans son propre pays alors qu'une coalition d'opposants continue d'y réclamer la démission du gouvernement où le parti islamiste Ennahda est toujours majoritaire. "*Ce qui se passe en Egypte montre la nécessité pour tous les partis politiques en Tunisie de s'asseoir à la table des négociations en s'attachant*

à la légitimité et à la démocratie [...] et s'abstenir de la rhétorique incitant les Tunisiens à la confrontation", avait déclaré M. Marzouki.

Vendredi, le roi Abdallah d'**Arabie saoudite** a pour sa part exprimé son soutien aux dirigeants égyptiens au nom de la "guerre contre le terrorisme". Le royaume de Bahreïn et les Emirats arabes unis s'étaient également exprimés dans ce sens. La diplomatie des Emirats a notamment fustigé "l'insistance des groupes politiques extrémistes à tenir un discours appelant à la violence [...] ce qui a conduit aux évènements déplorables [de mercredi]".

<http://www.boursorama.com/actualites/egypte-tension-extreme-pour-le-vendredi-de-la-colere-cd4d2a5402824344a31e86e3dbe861a7>

Egypte: tension extrême pour le "vendredi de la colère"

AFP le 16/08/2013 à 13:09



Des Egyptiens marchent à travers les débris qui jonchent le sol de la place Rabaa al-Adawiya , le 15 août 2013 au Caire (AFP / Mahmoud Khaled)

Les chars de l'armée ont littéralement scellé la plupart des artères quasi-désertes du Caire en ce "vendredi de la colère" pour lequel les islamistes appellent à manifester contre le "massacre" de partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi il y a deux jours.

Le gouvernement mis en place par l'armée a donné jeudi aux forces de l'ordre le droit d'ouvrir le feu sur tout manifestant qui se montrerait violent, un geste sans précédent de mémoire d'Egyptien. Mercredi, près de 600 personnes ont péri dans tout le pays, essentiellement dans la dispersion sanglante au Caire de partisans de M. Morsi, destitué et arrêté par l'armée début juillet.

La peur se lisait sur les visages des quelques courageux se hasardant dans les rues quadrillées, en plus des militaires et des policiers anti-émeutes, par d'innombrables policiers en civils particulièrement hostiles ou nerveux à l'approche de la grande prière de la mi-journée, ont rapporté des journalistes de l'AFP.

Les Frères musulmans, la confrérie de M. Morsi, ont appelé ses partisans à défiler "pacifiquement" par "millions" à la sortie des mosquées vendredi et à converger vers la place Ramsès au centre de la capitale.

Deux jours après la journée la plus sanglante -578 morts et plus de 3.000 blessés- depuis la chute de Hosni Moubarak en février 2011, cet appel à la mobilisation fait redouter de

nouvelles violences dans le pays sous état d'urgence et où un couvre-feu nocturne a été imposé dans la moitié des provinces.



Des Egyptiens pleurent, le 15 août 2013, leurs proches tués lors de l'assaut lancé contre les pro-Morsi, dans une morgue installée dans une mosquée du Caire (AFP / Mahmoud Khaled)

Il pourrait également se révéler comme une journée test pour le plus peuplé des pays arabes, où la division ne cesse de s'accroître entre partisans des Frères musulmans et tenants de la solution sécuritaire que les nouvelles autorités semblent désormais privilégier.

D'une part, la confrérie de M. Morsi dont l'appel à manifester jeudi n'avait pas reçu d'écho au Caire tente une nouvelle démonstration de force face aux autorités installées par l'armée début juillet.

D'autre part, le gouvernement, qui jusqu'ici saluait la "très grande retenue" de la police dans la dispersion des manifestants pro-Morsi sur les places Rabaa al-Adawiya et Nahda du Caire - quelque 320 morts selon un bilan officiel-, a durci le ton jeudi, autorisant les forces de l'ordre à ouvrir le feu sur les manifestants violents.

Lors du carnage sur les places où campaient depuis un mois et demi des milliers d'islamistes venus avec femmes et enfants, l'Intérieur avait assuré que "les instructions étaient de n'utiliser que les gaz lacrymogènes, pas d'armes à feu". "Mais quand les forces de sécurité sont arrivées, elles ont été surprises par des tirs nourris", avait-il ajouté.



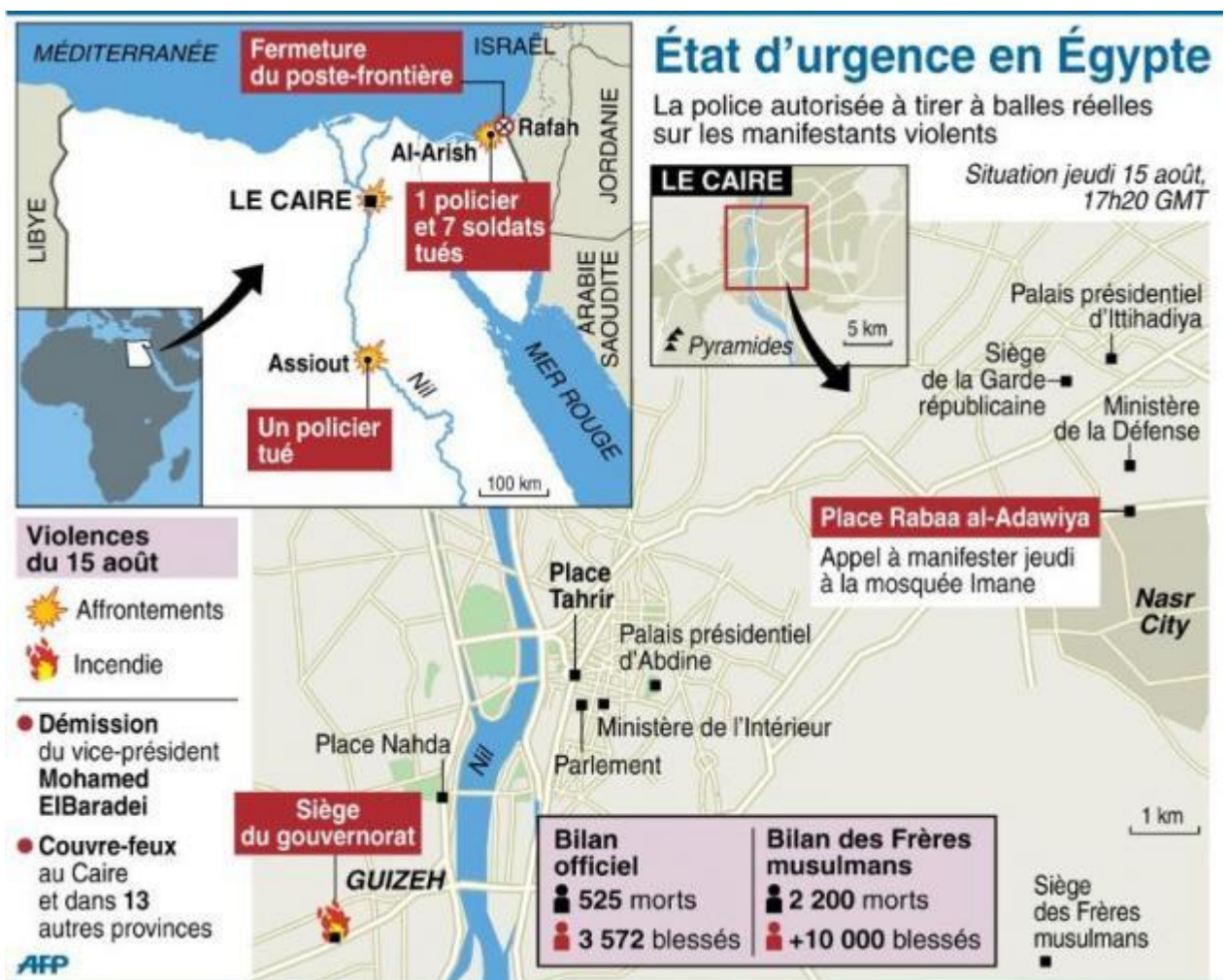
Des pompiers et des passants se pressent devant le siège du gouvernorat de Gizeh, incendié, le 15 août 2013 au Caire (AFP / Gianluigi Guercia)

"Comités populaires"

Après de nouvelles attaques, dont l'incendie du siège de la province de Guizeh dans la banlieue du Caire et la mort de neuf policiers et militaires, attribuées à des "islamistes" notamment dans la péninsule instable du Nord-Sinaï, des "comités populaires" pro-pouvoir installaient des points de contrôle à travers le pays, fouillant les habitants et régulant les accès aux quartiers.

Vendredi, la presse, quasiment unanimement acquise à l'armée, se déchaînait contre la confrérie. "Les milices des Frères détruisent les biens du peuple", titrait notamment le journal privé al-Masry al-Youm au-dessus d'une photo du siège de la province de Guizeh ravagé par les flammes.

A l'aube de ce "vendredi de la colère", Laila Moussa, une porte-parole de la Coalition pro-Morsi contre le "coup d'Etat", a affirmé à l'AFP que des membres des Frères musulmans, dont au moins deux parlementaires, avaient été arrêtés.



Localisation des violences en Égypte jeudi (AFP /)

Depuis le coup de force des militaires, la majorité des dirigeants de la confrérie ont été arrêtés ou sont en fuite.

M. Morsi est lui-même toujours détenu au secret, tandis que doit s'ouvrir le 25 août le procès de plusieurs de ses hauts responsables, dont son Guide suprême Mohamed Badie, en fuite. Ce dernier a promis vendredi dans sa lettre hebdomadaire à ses partisans que les responsables des

"massacres" allaient devoir payer. Les Frères musulmans ont évoqué 2.200 morts et plus de 10.000 blessés.

Au Caire, l'armée était déployée, bloquant des grands axes, notamment ceux menant à la place Tahrir.

"Eviter la guerre civile"

Alors que de nombreux pays occidentaux ont condamné ce bain de sang, les 15 pays membres du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU ont appelé jeudi soir les différentes parties en Egypte à faire preuve d'un "maximum de retenue".

Les Etats-Unis ont de leur côté annulé des exercices militaires communs et incité leurs ressortissants à quitter l'Egypte, sans aller jusqu'à interrompre l'aide annuelle (1,5 milliard de dollars) versée en grande partie à la toute-puissante armée de leur grand allié.

Le président Barack Obama a "condamné avec force les mesures prises par le gouvernement intérimaire", comme la ré-restauration de l'état d'urgence. La présidence égyptienne a estimé que des telles déclarations risquaient "d'encourager les groupes armés violents".

Navi Pillay, Haut commissaire de l'ONU en charge des droits de l'Homme, a réclamé une enquête sur la dispersion des pro-Morsi.

Le président français François Hollande a appelé à tout mettre "en oeuvre pour éviter la guerre civile". Paris et Berlin ont convoqué les ambassadeurs égyptiens et devaient s'entretenir à la mi-journée, tandis que la Turquie a rappelé pour consultations son ambassadeur en Egypte. Le Caire a aussitôt rappelé son représentant à Ankara.

Les représentants des 28 Etats membres de l'UE se réuniront lundi à Bruxelles pour faire le point sur la situation en Egypte.

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/08/16/les-coptes-cibles-privilegiees-des-represailles-des-freres-musulmans_3462452_3212.html

Les coptes, cibles privilégiées des représailles des Frères musulmans

LE MONDE | 16.08.2013 à 14h24 | Par Christophe Ayad

Dès que la nouvelle de l'assaut des forces de l'ordre contre les campements de sympathisants du président déchu, Mohamed Morsi, au Caire a été connue, l'ensemble de l'Egypte s'est embrasé. Partout, d'Alexandrie à Assouan, des lieux de culte et des bâtiments appartenant à des coptes (chrétiens d'Egypte) ont été attaqués – en plus des commissariats et édifices publics –, en marge des manifestations.



Selon l'ONG Initiative égyptienne pour les droits de la personne, 25 églises ont été attaquées mercredi 14 et jeudi 15 août, ainsi que des centres culturels et communautaires, des écoles, des maisons et des commerces. Les attaques, le plus souvent aux cocktails Molotov, ont touché 10 des 27 provinces en Egypte. Plusieurs dizaines de civils coptes auraient été tués, sans qu'il soit possible de vérifier les chiffres.

Une telle ampleur et une telle simultanéité laissent penser à une forme de coordination, voire de mot d'ordre, ce qui est inquiétant. Et si aucune consigne n'a été donnée, ça l'est encore plus : cela signifie que la propagande anticopte, diffusée par les prêcheurs les plus extrêmes de la nébuleuse islamiste, a été intégrée par les militants.

SITUATION DÉSESPÉRÉE DANS CERTAINS VILLAGES

Les dirigeants des Frères musulmans insinuaient, ces dernières semaines, que l'Eglise et des businessmen coptes avaient financé la manifestation monstre du 30 juin qui a conduit à la destitution du président Morsi. Une stratégie destinée à rallier les musulmans, qui forment plus de 90 % de la population, à leur cause. Les violences anticoptes étaient déjà en hausse avant l'assaut de mercredi.

"Ce jour-là, ce sont des coptes venus de toute l'Egypte qui ont rempli la place Tahrir", nous assurait, début août, un journaliste Frère musulman rencontré au centre de presse de la mosquée Rabiya Al-Adawiya, le QG des pro-Morsi. Et de citer à l'appui de sa démonstration la présence du pape Tawadros II aux côtés du général Al-Sissi, lors de l'annonce de la destitution de M. Morsi. Quand on lui fait remarquer que le cheikh d'Al-Azhar, recteur de la plus prestigieuse université sunnite du monde arabe, était également là, il balaie l'argument : "Il ne représente pas les vrais musulmans."

Si, au Caire, la situation des coptes est inquiétante, elle est carrément désespérée dans certains villages reculés de Haute-Egypte, où les habitants se terrent chez eux dans la crainte d'attaques.

UNE "LIGNE ROUGE", SELON LE GOUVERNEMENT

Jeudi, le gouvernement a affirmé que ces attaques communautaires constituaient une "*ligne rouge*", tandis que son homme fort, le général Al-Sissi, a promis de reconstruire les lieux de culte détruits. Jeudi, 84 personnes, dont plusieurs Frères, ont été déférées devant la justice militaire pour des violences antichrétiennes à Suez.

La coalition pro-Morsi se défend de tout acte anticopte, accusant les services de renseignements de se livrer à des violences pour "*ternir la réputation*" des Frères musulmans. Une accusation peu convaincante.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/08/20138172914648850.html>

Week of defiant protests planned for Egypt

The Muslim Brotherhood announces a series of rallies over the next six days after more bloodshed across the country.

Last Modified: 17 Aug 2013 03:49

At least 95 people were killed and hundreds injured in Cairo's Ramses Square on Friday [Reuters]

The Muslim Brotherhood has called for a week of protests across Egypt to start a day after more than 100 people were killed when security forces fired on protesters staging a "day of rage" against the military-led government.

Undeterred by the bloodshed since Wednesday, in which over 600 people have been killed, the Brotherhood urged its supporters back onto the streets to denounce the overthrow of deposed president Mohamed Morsi and a crackdown on his supporters.

"Our rejection of the coup regime has become an Islamic, national and ethical obligation that we can never abandon," said the Brotherhood, which has accused Egypt's military of plotting the downfall of Morsi last month to regain the levers of power.

Many Western allies have condemned the killings, including the United States, but Saudi Arabia threw its weight behind the government on Friday, accusing the Muslim Brotherhood of trying to destabilise Egypt.

Violence erupted across Egypt again on Friday after the Brotherhood and other groups, under the banner of the Anti-Coup Alliance, called for protests in defiance of a military crackdown on sit-in demonstrations that left hundreds dead on August 14.

In the worst of Friday's violence, at least 95 people were killed and hundreds injured in Cairo's Ramses Square as anti-coup protesters were fired on by government forces. A correspondent for Al Jazeera described lines of bodies in a makeshift morgue in the nearby Al-Fath mosque.

Egyptian police arrested over 1,000 alleged supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood throughout the day, the interior ministry said in a statement, including 558 in Cairo alone.

Early on Saturday morning, a tense stand-off continued at the Al-Fath mosque. Witnesses inside the building told Al Jazeera that police, soldiers and "thugs" in plain-clothes were attempting to storm the building and that there were hundreds of people inside, including women and children.

Government defends actions

An interim cabinet, installed by the army after it removed Morsi during rallies against his rule, has refused to back down in the face of the protests. It has authorised police to use live ammunition to defend themselves and state installations.

Government spokesperson Bader Abdel Atty defends security forces' crackdown on protests

Bader Abdel Atty, a spokesman for the Egyptian foreign ministry, defended the actions of the security forces in an interview with Al Jazeera, saying that protesters were armed with machine guns.

"They are raising al-Qaeda flags in the heart of Cairo. They are using machine guns against civilians. And this cannot be described as far as I know as a peaceful demonstration," he said.

He dismissed international condemnation of the violence and said Egypt would accept no external interference.

With no compromise in sight, the most populous Arab nation - which is often seen as leading events in the entire region - looks increasingly polarised and angry.

A number of tour operators have suspended all holidays to Egypt until at least next month and the United States has urged its citizens to leave the country.

The European Union asked its states to consider "appropriate measures" to take in reaction to the violence, while Germany said it was reconsidering its ties.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/08/2013816121757821877.html>

Scores dead in Egypt's 'day of rage' clashes

Witnesses say police, soldiers trying to storm mosque near Cairo's Ramses Square and that hundreds are trapped inside.

Last Modified: 17 Aug 2013 01:10

Scores of people have been killed in Egypt after security forces opened fire on anti-coup protesters staging a "day of rage" against the military-led government.

In the worst of the violence on Friday, at least 95 people were killed and hundreds injured in Cairo's Ramses Square as anti-coup protesters were fired on by government forces. A

correspondent for Al Jazeera described lines of bodies in a makeshift morgue in the nearby Al-Fath mosque.

A protester, Said Mohammed, told Al Jazeera that the crowds were shot at by snipers and by men in helicopters.

"Helicopters started to shoot us as we were walking. Not bombs this time, it was bullets. My friend took a shot in the neck and he died," he said. "This was the first time we saw helicopters shooting. There were people shooting from the windows."

Earlier on October 6 bridge near Ramses Square, a protester called Ahmed Tohami told Al Jazeera that police were firing at marchers.

"Men, young ladies, old women, under attack. The kids here on the bridge - we are under attack... there is no way down. They are attacking us from the front, they are attacking us from behind. We have nowhere to go," he said live on Al Jazeera.

Also in Cairo, residents blocked roads and clashed with anti-coup protesters as they tried to move through their areas. Ambulances carrying injured from the Ramses Square clash were also forced back.

Later in the evening, witnesses inside the Al-Fath mosque told Al Jazeera that police, soldiers and "thugs" were attempting to storm the building and that there were hundreds of people inside, including women and children. Live footage appeared to show tear gas being fired into the building.

"They are entering with guns. They are threatening to burn the mosque with the people in it," Umayma, a protester inside the mosque, told Al Jazeera in a telephone interview.

In Alexandria, 21 people were reported dead in clashes between pro- and anti-coup supporters. Al Jazeera's Jane Ferguson reported bands of men armed with batons and machetes on the streets as night fell.

Elsewhere, eight protesters were killed in the city of Damietta, while four died in Ismailia, northeast of Cairo.

Bader Abdel Atty, a spokesman for the Egyptian foreign ministry, defended the actions of the security forces in an interview with Al Jazeera, saying that protesters were armed with machine guns.

"They are raising al-Qaeda flags in the heart of Cairo. They are using machine guns against civilians. And this cannot be described as far as I know as a peaceful demonstration," he said.

He dismissed international condemnation of the violence and said it was not based on the facts.

The Muslim Brotherhood and other groups, under the banner of the Anti-Coup Alliance, had called for the protests on Friday in defiance of a military crackdown on sit-in demonstrations that left hundreds dead on August 14.

Casualty figures

Ramses Square, Cairo: 95 reported dead, hundreds injured.

Damietta: Eight reported killed.

Alexandria: 21 dead as pro- and anti-Morsi groups clash.

Ismailia: Four reported killed.

A curfew came into effect at 5pm GMT, with authorities warning "firm action" against breakers.

In a statement, the interim Cabinet asserted that the government, the police and the "great Egyptian forces" stood together in the face of a "brutal terrorist plot" by the "Brotherhood organisation".

The Brotherhood in turn said the coup leaders had "lost their minds" and were devoid of ethics and values. It said the coup had failed, and called for a week of daily marches in defiance of the crackdowns.

<http://fr.euronews.com/2013/08/17/le-siege-par-la-police-et-l-armee-d-une-mosquee-du-caire-se-poursuit/>

Infos

Le siège par la police et l'armée d'une mosquée du Caire se poursuit

17/08 13:05 CET

A l'intérieur de la mosquée Al-Fath du Caire se trouvent plusieurs centaines de partisans des Frères musulmans, les pro-Morsi ; à l'extérieur, outre les forces de l'ordre, de nombreux opposants aux Frères musulmans, les anti-Morsi, se sont rassemblés.

Des femmes et des enfants, quelques hommes aussi, ont accepté de sortir du lieu saint. Les autres refusent toujours. En particulier parce qu'ils réclament des garanties du pouvoir : ne pas être arrêtés et ne pas être non plus attaqués par leurs opposants.

Jusqu'à présent, la police paraît vouloir trouver une solution pacifique. La question est : la détermination des personnes réfugiées à l'intérieur de la mosquée conduira-t-elle le pouvoir à changer de stratégie ? Le précédent de ces derniers jours peut faire craindre le pire. L'épreuve de force continue...

<http://fr.euronews.com/2013/08/17/pas-de-reconciliation-avec-ceux-qui-ont-du-sang-sur-les-mains-premier-ministre-/>

“Pas de réconciliation avec ceux qui ont du sang sur les mains”-Premier ministre égyptien

17/08 16:55 CET

C'est une annonce qui risque d'enflammer un peu plus l'Égypte.

Le pouvoir de transition indique ce samedi vouloir dissoudre la confrérie islamiste des Frères musulmans, une idée à l'étude explique un porte-parole du gouvernement. Le Premier ministre Hazem el Beblaoui va encore plus loin et durcit le ton à l'encontre des protestataires : "La réconciliation est là pour ceux dont les mains ne sont pas tachées de sang. Il n'y a pas de réconciliation avec ceux qui ont pris les armes contre le pays, contre sa population. Il n'y a pas de réconciliation avec ceux qui ont bafoué la loi. Nous sommes un État, un gouvernement qui a un rôle politique pour revenir sur le droit chemin, un État civil démocratique dans lequel tout le monde participe".

Pour l'heure pas de réaction du côté des Frères musulmans.

La confrérie créée en 1928 puis dissoute en 1954 est reconnue officiellement comme une ONG depuis mars dernier.

<http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2013/aug/19/egypt-prisoner-riot-ends-with-36-dead/>

Egypt prisoner riot ends with 36 dead

Maggie Michael Associated Press



A soldier sets up barbed wire outside the constitutional court in the Maadi section of Cairo on Sunday while waiting for protesters who never arrived.

CAIRO – Egyptian police fired tear gas Sunday in an attempt to free a guard from rioting detainees, killing at least 36 as the country's military leader vowed to tolerate no more violence after days of clashes that killed nearly 900 people.

The deaths of the prisoners, captured during the fierce fighting in recent days around Cairo's Ramses Square, came as Gen. Abdel-Fatah el-Sissi also called for the inclusion of Islamists in the government. Meanwhile, security forces detained Muslim Brotherhood members in raids aimed at stopping more planned rallies supporting ousted President Mohammed Morsi, which the military-backed government says fuels the violent unrest.

The suspects killed were part of a prison truck convoy of some 600 detainees heading to Abu Zaabal prison in northern Egypt, security officials told the Associated Press. Detainees in one of the trucks rioted and managed to capture a police officer inside, the officials said,

Security forces fired tear gas into the truck in hopes of freeing the badly beaten officer, the officials said. The officials said those killed died from suffocating on the gas. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

However, the officials' version of events contradicted reports about the incident carried by state media. The official website of Egyptian state television reported that the deaths took place after security forces clashed with militants near the prison and detainees came under fire while trying to escape. The official MENA state news agency also said the trucks came under attack from gunmen.

State media also said all those killed and the gunmen belonged to the Muslim Brotherhood, the organization that Morsi hails from. The officials who spoke to the AP said some of the detainees belonged to the Brotherhood, while others didn't.

The differences in the accounts could not be immediately reconciled Sunday night.

Death toll continues to rise

The violence adds to the ever-rising death toll in the days of unrest. On Saturday alone, clashes between Morsi supporters and police killed 79 people, according to a government tally released Sunday and carried by MENA. That raised the death toll for four days of unrest across the country to nearly 900 people killed. Some 70 police officers were killed in clashes with protesters or retaliatory attacks during the same period, according to the Interior Ministry.

The clashes began Wednesday when security forces in Cairo dismantled two encampments of Morsi supporters, who demanded his reinstatement. The military overthrew Morsi in a bloodless July 3 coup after millions took to the street demanding he step down.

Egypt's military-backed interim government declared a state of emergency after Wednesday's clashes and imposed a curfew, turning the capital into a ghost town after 7 p.m. every night. The government also began taking harsher measures to cripple the Brotherhood.

Security forces arrested hundreds of Muslim Brotherhood members early Sunday morning in raids on their homes in different cities, aimed at disrupting planned rallies to support Morsi. The Cabinet also held an emergency meeting to discuss potentially banning the group, a long-outlawed organization that swept to power in the country's first democratic elections a year ago.

The Brotherhood has shown no signs of backing down though.

Under the banner of an anti-coup alliance, the group held protests Sunday, though many appeared smaller in scale than others held in recent days. In the coastal city of Alexandria, protesters clashed with residents. In the southern city of Assiut, security forces fired tear gas to disperse hundreds rallying in front of a mosque.

"They think they can end the movement," Muslim Brotherhood senior member Saad Emara said. "The more killings, the more people join us."

However, the government blames Islamists for a series of attacks on churches and police stations, increasing public anger against the group.

General speaks out amid criticism

In his first appearance since the violence began, el-Sissi spoke at length in an hourlong speech about the motives behind ousting Morsi. The general said the Islamist president exploited democracy to monopolize power. He again said the military's action "protected Egyptians from civil war," despite the ongoing violence on the streets.

"We will not stand by silently watching the destruction of the country and the people or the torching the nation and terrorizing the citizens," el-Sissi said in a speech aired on state television. "I am not threatening anyone. ... If the goal is to destroy the country and the people, no!"

The general said that the military didn't seek power but instead "have the honor to protect the people's will – which is much dearer (than) ruling Egypt."

El-Sissi also said Islamists must be included in the country's politics moving forward. A military timetable calls for the nation's constitution to be amended and for presidential and parliamentary elections to be held in 2014.

El-Sissi's speech was an attempt to consolidate internal support in the face of international criticism. In a joint statement Sunday, the presidents of the European Commission and the European Council said it was the responsibility of the army and the interim government to end the violence, warning against the use of force. They said the EU will "urgently review in the coming days its relations with Egypt" – meaning much-needed financial aid could be on the line.

Nearly two weeks of international diplomacy by the EU, U.S. and Arab nations failed to broker a peaceful end to the standoff. Lawmakers in the U.S. expressed greater discontent Sunday with Egypt – and concern about \$1.3 billion in annual military aid it gives the nation.

Egypt also lost one of the few doves in the country's military-backed administration Sunday as Mohamed ElBaradei, who resigned as vice president in protest of the use of force against Morsi's supporters, flew out of Cairo to Vienna. ElBaradei declined to speak to journalists as he left Egypt, where pro-military news outlets have become increasingly hostile toward him.

<http://www.lne.es/internacional/2013/08/16/egipto-desgarrado-espera-nueva-jornada/1456517.html>

Estado de emergencia

El 'Viernes de la ira' deja 173 muertos y 1.330 heridos

El gobierno egipcio ha detenido en las últimas horas a más de 1.000 personas, la mayoría seguidores de Mursi

18.08.2013 | 15:21

El 'Viernes de la ira' deja 173 muertos y 1.330 heridos Agencia Atlas

EP Hasta 1.118 manifestantes, en su mayoría seguidores del presidente depuesto Mohamed Mursi, han sido arrestados en todo el país por las fuerzas de seguridad egipcias, acusados de incitar la violencia y cometer actos vandálicos, en el marco de la ola de protestas contra el Gobierno militar del 'Viernes de la ira', según fuentes de Seguridad citadas por el diario egipcio 'Al Masry al Youm'.

El Gobierno egipcio anunció este sábado que al menos **173 personas han muerto y 1.330 han resultado heridas** en los disturbios en las últimas horas en todo el país. Un portavoz del primer ministro precisó en una rueda de prensa que las víctimas se produjeron entre el viernes y las 10.00 de este sábado hora local.

El número de policías muertos en los enfrentamientos en Egipto en los últimos cinco días se eleva ya a 70, informó este domingo una fuente del Ministerio del Interior a la agencia oficial Mena.

De los fallecidos desde el pasado miércoles 14 de agosto hasta **este domingo 24 eran oficiales, 24 agentes, 18 reclutas** que cumplían el servicio militar en la policía, tres guardias rurales y un funcionario civil del cuerpo.

Sólo en El Cairo, una ciudad tomada por el Ejército y escenario de los choques más intensos, alrededor de 50 personas han muerto, según fuentes de los servicios de seguridad. Un testigo de la agencia Reuters ha visto 27 cadáveres tendidos junto a una mezquita de la capital egipcia, aparentemente víctimas de disparos de bala y perdigones.

En Alejandría, la segunda ciudad del país, han muerto 16 personas y otras 140 han resultado heridas, según la televisión estatal. A estas víctimas se suman otras cinco en Fayum, ocho en Damietta, cuatro en Ismailia, cuatro en Port Said, cuatro en Suez y cuatro en Tanta.

Las críticas se dirigen principalmente contra el jefe del Ejército, **Abdelfatá al Sisi, al que atribuyen la responsabilidad del golpe que expulsó a Mursi del poder**. "El pueblo quiere la ejecución del carnicero", ha afirmado Mustafa Ibrahim, manifestante de 37 años.

Dimite el portavoz de la oposición de Mursi

El portavoz del Frente de Salvación Nacional (FSN), Jaled Dawud, ha dimitido este viernes por la negativa del que fue principal grupo opositor al otrora presidente egipcio, Mohamed Mursi, a condenar la "masacre cometida por las fuerzas de seguridad".

"El FSN ha rechazado condenar la masacre cometida por las fuerzas de seguridad al dispersar las acampadas (de seguidores de Mursi) en las plazas de Rabaa al Adaweya y Nahda" el pasado miércoles, justifica Dawud en un comunicado publicado en su perfil en la red social Facebook.

"El Frente ha decidido claramente ponerse del lado de la Policía en su continua confrontación con los Hermanos Musulmanes", apunta Dawud, que tacha de "ataque inaceptable" la ola de críticas de la formación liberal contra el Premio Nobel de la Paz Mohamed ElBaradei por dimitir como vicepresidente a raíz del sangriento desmantelamiento de las acampadas del miércoles.

El hasta ahora portavoz del NSF recalca que **el diálogo es la única salida a la situación política actual** y enfatiza que dicha solución debe garantizar que la Hermandad se reintegra en el proceso de transición, según ha informado el diario egipcio 'Al Ahram'.

El NSF fue uno de los principales patrocinadores de las multitudinarias protestas que tuvieron lugar a finales de junio que exigían la dimisión de Morsi y que, posteriormente, derivaron en el golpe de Estado.

Muere unos de los hijos del líder de Hermanos Musulmanes

Ammar Badie, uno de los hijos del líder supremo del movimiento islamista Hermanos Musulmanes, Mohamed Badie, ha muerto por disparos recibidos durante los enfrentamientos con la Policía en las manifestaciones celebradas este viernes en El Cairo, según ha informado el partido Libertad y Justicia en su página de Facebook.

Badie, de 38 años de edad, **ha muerto por una herida de bala** que sufrió cuando participaba en las manifestaciones del 'Viernes de la Ira' en la plaza Ramses de El Cairo. Se desconoce dónde se encuentra en la actualidad el líder supremo de Hermanos Musulmanes, que ha sido acusado oficialmente de incitar a la violencia y cuyo juicio comenzará el 25 de agosto.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/epa/article/ALeqM5gG7cIYWpVfWvRJV_draRAFMM-4U5g?docId=2107641&hl=es

Mueren 36 islamistas detenidos en el asalto al convoy que los trasladaba

(EFE) – 18/08/2013

El Cairo, 18 ago (EFE).- Al menos 36 presos, supuestos miembros de los Hermanos Musulmanes, murieron hoy en enfrentamientos desatados tras atacar un grupo armado el convoy policial que los trasladaba a una cárcel al norte de El Cairo.

Según dijeron fuentes de seguridad a la televisión estatal y a la agencia oficial Mena, los detenidos perdieron la vida durante los choques cerca del presidio entre los policías que los custodiaban y el grupo armado que intentó liberarlos.

El convoy policial trasladaba a 612 presos islamistas, simpatizantes de los Hermanos Musulmanes, a la cárcel de Abu Zabal, en el norte de la capital.

Según Mena, durante este ataque, un oficial de policía fue secuestrado por los islamistas, aunque poco después fue puesto en libertad y trasladado a un hospital.

Sobre los arrestados pesa una orden de detención por los disturbios del pasado viernes en la cairota plaza de Ramsés, donde se registraron enfrentamientos entre islamistas y policías y un violento ataque contra una comisaría.

El Partido Libertad y Justicia, brazo político de los Hermanos Musulmanes, calificó la muerte de los detenidos de "masacre sangrienta terrible".

La tensión se ha disparado en Egipto desde el pasado miércoles, cuando las fuerzas de seguridad dismantelaron dos acampadas de islamistas en El Cairo.

Las autoridades no han ofrecido hasta el momento un balance global de víctimas mortales de los últimos cinco días, aunque según las cifras oficiales difundidas hasta ahora el número de fallecidos se acerca a los 900.

Los partidarios de Mursi han llevado a cabo hoy marchas en varios puntos del país contra el golpe militar, mientras que el jefe del Ejército, Abdel Fatal al Sisi, ha advertido de que no se doblegará ante la violencia.

Egypt: 36 prisoners killed in riot

8:04 AM Monday Aug 19, 2013

An Egyptian relative of Ammar Badie, killed by Egyptian security forces, makes a finger sign that they say symbolizes the Rabaah al-Adawiya mosque during his funeral. Photo / AP

At least 36 people detained on suspicion of taking part in the street clashes roiling Egypt's capital were killed when security forces fired tear gas inside of the prison truck holding them, security officials said.

Those killed were part of a prison truck convoy of some 600 detainees heading to Abu Zaabal prison in northern Egypt, the officials told The Associated Press. Detainees in one of the trucks rioted and managed to capture a police officer inside, the officials said.

Security forces fired tear gas into the truck in hopes of freeing the badly beaten officer inside, the officials said. The officials said those killed died from suffocating on the gas.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to speak to journalists.

However, the officials' version of events contradicted reports about the incident carried by state media. The official website of Egyptian state television reported that the deaths took place after security forces clashed with militants near the prison and detainees came under fire while trying to escape. The official MENA state news agency also said the trucks came under attack from gunmen.

State media also said all those killed and the gunmen belonged to the Muslim Brotherhood, the organisation that ousted President Mohammed Morsi hails from. The officials who spoke to AP said some of the detainees belonged to the Brotherhood, while others didn't.

The differences in the accounts could not be immediately reconciled Sunday night.

Meanwhile supporters of ousted president Mohamed Morsi cancelled some Cairo marches today for "security reasons", as the military chief vowed to face down violent protests following Egypt's bloodiest week in decades.

The latest developments come as senior European Union diplomats were to hold emergency talks Tuesday in Brussels to discuss the situation in Egypt and any future EU action.

More than 750 people were killed in four days of violence after the military and police launched a blistering crackdown on Islamist protest camps, sparking international condemnation.

In his first remarks since the campaign began on Wednesday, military chief Abdel Fattah al-Sisi said security forces would confront further violence from protesters.

"We will never be silent in the face of the destruction of the country," Sisi told top military and police commanders.

"We are very prepared for this," he said, and pledged a "forceful" response to further attacks on police stations and government buildings.

The Islamists said they cancelled "several marches", citing fears of vigilantes and snipers but that others would go ahead.

At the site of at least one planned march, residents gathered vowing to forcibly prevent any demonstration.

"Several marches in Cairo have been cancelled for security reasons," said Yasmine Adel, a spokeswoman for the Anti-Coup Coalition of Morsi loyalists.

A separate statement by the group said "all nationwide marches and Cairo marches are continuing as planned" with the exception of a rally in the Roxy area of the capital.

Several hundred protesters briefly marched in the Suez canal city of Ismailiya, an AFP correspondent said.

The Islamist coalition has grown increasingly disorganised as some leaders have been arrested and others are in hiding.

At a mosque in the Dokki neighbourhood, where one march was scheduled to begin, residents stood guard.

"We are waiting for them. I swear we will kill them if they approach the mosque," one said.

The rallies had been expected to be a test of the strength of Morsi's loyalists after four days of deadly clashes with police.

On Saturday, police stormed a Cairo mosque where Islamists were holed up, after trading fire with gunmen inside its minaret.

On Sunday morning, the capital showed signs of returning to normal, with traffic beginning to flow again and banks and shops reopening for the first time since Wednesday.

That was when security forces stormed two camps of Morsi supporters, sparking clashes that killed at least 578 people across the country.

In the 24 hours after that, another 173 people were killed, according to the government, putting the four-day toll at 751.

The violence has shocked the international community, but Egypt's government - installed by the army after Morsi's July 3 ouster - has fiercely defended its actions.

The unrest, including a crackdown on Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood and the arrest of top Islamist leaders, has left Egypt divided as never before.

Vigilantes have pulled bearded men out of cars, and a mob chanted "terrorists" as Morsi supporters were dragged from Cairo's Al-Fath mosque on Saturday.

According to an AFP tally, more than 1,000 people have been killed since mass demonstrations against Morsi at the end of June, among them a son of the Brotherhood's supreme guide on Friday.

The government, meanwhile, dismissed reports that it could ban the Brotherhood.

"We're not into the effort of dissolving anyone or preventing anyone" from taking part in politics, presidential adviser Mustafa Hegazy said on Saturday.

Violence has also continued to plague the Sinai Peninsula, where a civilian, two soldiers and a policeman were killed overnight Saturday, security sources said.

The European Union said Sunday it would review ties with Egypt's army and government unless the bloodshed ends.

"The EU will urgently review in the coming days its relations with Egypt," EU leaders Herman Van Rompuy and Jose Manuel Barroso said.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague called his Egyptian counterpart Saturday to condemn violence by both sides, and described as "unacceptable" attacks against churches.

The United States has announced the cancellation of its biannual military exercise with Egypt, and its embassy in Cairo was closed for security reasons.

The White House has stopped short of suspending \$1.3 billion in annual aid, although some US lawmakers called Sunday for the funds to be cut.

But the international response has not been uniformly critical. Both Saudi Arabia and Jordan have said they back Egypt in its fight against "terrorism".

- AFP

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/08/18/egypt-violence-crisis/2668453/>

Egypt braces for more violence after deadly week

Sarah Lynch, Special for USA TODAY 1:44 a.m. EDT August 19, 2013

The European Union said Sunday it will "urgently review" its relations with Egypt.



(Photo: Ed Giles, Getty Images)

Story Highlights

- Morsi supporters canceled at least one of the protest marches they planned Sunday
- Assailants attacked dozens of churches, Christian properties, police stations, government posts
- European Union said Sunday it will "urgently review" its relations with Egypt

CAIRO — More violence is expected in Egypt after chaos swept through the country last week, leaving nearly 900 dead in four days of unrest and threatening to stall a political transition.

Egypt "is on a course for an incurable cycle of violence," said Michael Wahid Hanna, a senior fellow at the New York-based Century Foundation.

"I don't know if we're very far off from seeing suicide bombings ... and assassinations," he said. "That's where the country is headed."

Over the weekend, the central al-Fateh mosque became the new battleground for unrest as pro-Morsi protesters marched to Ramses Square in a self-declared "Friday of Anger." After fighting broke out with security forces, leaving 173 dead on Friday, protesters used the mosque as a makeshift hospital and morgue before it was surrounded, then cleared, by security forces Saturday.

Egyptian officials said Sunday that 79 were killed in Saturday's clashes, bringing the four-day death toll to 890 since Wednesday, when security forces plowed into two protest camps, killing at least 638.

That didn't include 3 dozen detainees killed Sunday night amid conflicting reports of an escape attempt in a prison truck convoy carrying 600 detainees en route to a northern Cairo jail. State news agency MENA reported the deaths occurred when security forces clashed with militants, while the Associated Press cited officials who blamed the deaths on tear gas fired into a truck after a police officer inside was captured by the prisoners.

Supporters of ousted president Mohammed Morsi canceled at least one of the protest marches they planned Sunday, citing security concerns. A Muslim Brotherhood-led coalition, furious over the ouster of Morsi on July 3, called off a rally at Roxy Square in Cairo "after reports of thugs on rooftops of surrounding buildings," the Anti-Coup Movement said in a statement.

STORY: McCain: U.S. has 'no credibility' in Egypt

STORY: Egypt tourism takes massive hit amid unrest

STORY: Americans staying put in Egypt despite violence

Meanwhile, angry assailants have attacked dozens of churches, Christian properties, police stations and government posts since Wednesday in retaliatory strikes against authorities, who cleared two major pro-Morsi protest camps, and their perceived backers — Christians.

"For the first time I fear walking in the streets," said Cairo resident Dina Hosny, 24, who worries about additional attacks and now sees "violence as part of our everyday lives."

Khalil Al-Anani, an expert on Egypt and Islamist movements, said it is unlikely the Muslim Brotherhood will turn to violence to achieve its political aims, but it doesn't — and can't — control all Islamists.

"If the state cannot include and engage many young Islamists ... this will be a time bomb that can fire back on society and the state," he said. "They will replace the ballot box by bullets."

Some protesters vowed to fight if dissolved, democratically chosen institutions, including the disbanded parliament and 2012 constitution, are not restored by authorities.

"If they destroy the way of democracy it will be a big problem for Israel and all the European and American people," said Hamdy Al-Sagheer, an Arabic professor, at a Friday rally. "People will fight if we lose the way of democracy."



Egyptian military and policemen carry coffins with the bodies of off-duty policemen who were killed near the border town of Rafah, North Sinai. Islamic militants ambushed two mini-buses carrying off-duty policemen, killing more than two dozen of them. Khalil Hamra, AP

Attacks on churches and government sites in recent days only strengthen the state's resolve to deal with the Muslim Brotherhood and its Islamist allies as security concerns rather than political ones. The security situation could stall anticipated elections, analysts said.

"It's a country nowhere near that point right now," Hanna said, adding polling stations could be attacked and voters intimidated if elections took place under current circumstances.

The state boosted its narrative over the weekend that it is fighting "terrorism" as it arrested Islamists including the brother of al-Qaeda leader Ayman Al-Zawahri, MENA reported. At Friday's protest alone, Egyptian authorities arrested 1,004 Brotherhood "elements," the Interior Ministry said.

Egypt is facing "war by the forces of extremism" and will confront it with "security measures within the framework of law," Mostafa Hegazy, adviser to Egypt's interim president, said in a press conference Saturday.

Amid the deadlock, Egyptians were trying to return to some semblance of normal Sunday: Banks, some shops and the stock exchange reopened on the first day of the workweek here as traffic was back on the streets.

But political problems remained dire.

The European Union said Sunday it will "urgently review" its relations with Egypt. The army and the interim government are responsible for ending the violence, presidents of the European Commission and the European Council, Jose Manuel Barroso and Herman Van Rompuy, said Sunday in a statement.

"The violence and the killings of these last days cannot be justified nor condoned," they said.

Still, many Egyptians support the military and Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, who overthrew Morsi.

"The Egyptian people and I are happy because the Brotherhood is gone," said Waleed Mohammed, a security guard at a residential building. "The Brotherhood was in power for a year, and we were strangled. There was no democracy."

In his first appearance since a deadly crackdown Wednesday, army chief al-Sisi said Sunday that the military has no intention to seize power and called on Islamists to join the political process.

"We have given many chances ... to end the crisis peacefully and call for the followers of the former regime to participate in rebuilding the democratic track and integrate in the political process and the future map instead of confrontations and destroying the Egyptian state," he said.

Still, the government announced Saturday it is examining possibilities of disbanding the Brotherhood, which has won every election since 2011. But Islamists will be difficult to quiet even if they face political exclusion, Hanna said.

After the uprising against Hosni Mubarak in 2011, those who feel restrained are no longer willing to tolerate repression sitting down, "and I think that's the big difference," Hanna said.

Contributing: The Associated Press

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/foreigners/2013/08/an_egyptian_liberal_mourns_egypt_s_hopes_for_a_democratic_future_have_been.single.html

Everything Was Possible

Two years ago, as Egyptians, we had incredible dreams for our country's future. How did it come to this?

By Omar Robert Hamilton|Posted Monday, Aug. 19, 2013, at 2:06 PM



An injured supporter of deposed Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi is helped during clashes with riot police on the October 6 Bridge in Cairo on July 15, 2013.

Photo by Mohamed Abd El Ghany/Reuters

This article originally appeared on madamasr.com.

I sit, for the 12th hour now, alone and struggling for what to do. For the first time since I got on a plane for Egypt on Jan. 29, 2011, I am at a loss.

Worse days than today lie ahead of us.

We thought we could change the world. We know now that that feeling was not unique to us, that every revolutionary moment courses with the pulse of a manifest destiny. How different things feel today. I will not bury our convictions, but that feeling—youthful optimism? naiveté? idealism? foolishness?—is now truly and irrevocably dead.

I mourn the dead and I despise those killing them. I mourn the dead and I despise those sending them to their deaths. I mourn the dead and I despise those who excuse their murder. How did it come to this? How did we get here? What is this place?

It is Feb. 12, 2011. Hosni Mubarak has fallen. In the morning I will fly to America to finish a job, before moving permanently to Cairo to help build the new country. I am sitting on my mother's balcony. We are smoking cigarettes and drinking tea to keep out the cold and talking about all that we've seen and done, about all that we're going to do. Everything, on that night, was possible. Our conversation ranges from the grandiose of the global revolution to the practical rethinking of ministerial appointments to the minutiae of the requirements of the film school that should be established. We talked through the night. I took notes.

It is, perhaps, this memory that hurts me the most.

By the time I returned from America, the Army had cleared two sit-ins from Tahrir Square, begun court-martialing civilians en masse, and assaulting women protesters with "virginity tests." The revolution now is smaller, but serious, focused, and under sustained attack. The unfallen state, the deep state, the client state; once a month, every month, it attacks. It clears Tahrir in March, April, August, and December. It attacks protesters at the Israeli Embassy. It envelops downtown Cairo in a November mist of Pennsylvanian tear gas. It rains down rocks and Molotov cocktails from the roof of the Cabinet building. It welds shut the doors of the Port Said Stadium death trap. Every month, people die fighting it.



A wounded boy is treated on the floor of the Taamin Sehi field hospital during clashes in Cairo on Aug. 16, 2013.

Photo by Virginie Nguyen Hoang/AFP/Getty Images

There were moments when we could have broken the Army's grip on the country. We should have stayed in Tahrir after Mubarak was ousted. Tahrir was in the driver's seat and hadn't yet acquired the politicians to sell it out. But we left. Everyone said they would be back the next day, and then, somehow, they weren't. People wanted to shower and to sleep in their own beds. Then spontaneous cleaning brigades of earnest patriots spread through the city and by midday everything was nice and tidy and gone.

In November 2011 and in January 2012, the streets echoed with chants demanding the end of military rule. But now it had become the self-appointed role of the politicians to translate street action into political gain. Now, the Army had people to talk to. Had all the forces that were supposedly against the military—the revolutionaries, the liberals, the Brotherhood, and the Salafis—ever truly united, where might we be today? Dead, possibly. But maybe not. Maybe somewhere closer to a civilian state.

A real, ideological alliance was never possible. But a tactical, practical one just might have worked. But rather than work together, each party repeatedly met with and made deals with the Army, consistently placing the generals in the strongest tactical position. Everyone was to blame. The old, moneyed liberals who presented themselves as allied with the revolution lived in relative comfort, had historical ties to the military, and routinely demonized the Brotherhood. The revolutionaries' disdain for high politics meant that they effectively removed themselves from the equation. The Salafis were only ever interested in the deal that brought them the most power and their prized ministries—education and health. And the Brotherhood, long enamored of its ability to put numbers on the street, was arrogant and duplicitous from the beginning—making serious electoral promises to the liberals, lobbying America, and offering the Army immunity and oversight of itself.

When in power, Mohammed Morsi refused to take on the Ministry of Interior. Instead, he appointed Ahmad Gamal Eddin, who, as chief of the Assiut Security Directorate, almost killed off the revolution in January 2011 and then was the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces' chief of general security at the time of the Mohamed Mahmoud and the ultras massacres.

The main enemy of the people has always been the security state—the police and the military. We will never get anywhere until they are dismantled entirely. There was a moment when that could have been achieved, when a civilian state could have been built. But Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood would have had to choose the challenge of working with the disparate and bickering forces of the left and the liberals over dealing with the organized certainty of the military.

* * *

I write now from Sarajevo. I sat yesterday in the Srebrenica memorial museum. While men were jumping off Cairo's October 6 Bridge to escape the gunfire closing in on them from all sides, Gen. Ratko Mladic was staring at the camera, speaking to history:

“Here we are on July 11, 1995, in Serbian Srebrenica, just before a great Serb holy day. We give this town to the Serbian nation; in memory of the uprising against the Turks. The time has now come to take revenge on the Muslims.”

I wander the streets alone. Every building is still mapped with the scars of war. I drink alone at the opening gala of the film festival I am attending, thinking of a woman in the museum video.

If I had cried out, if I had screamed that they couldn't take him. If I had grabbed him. If I had done something. I don't know. Maybe I would be able to live with myself.

* * *

It's June 27, 2013. We're sitting in Estoril, at the corner table under the television. Of the six of us, three genuinely believe that the marches on June 30 will be very seriously attacked; that it is the perfect moment for the old National Democratic Party networks to throw the country into chaos and force the military to take control again. There is talk of kill lists. I spend hundreds of pounds on goggles I hope will keep the birdshot out of our eyes. I don't want to march that day. I want Morsi gone, but the voices we are hearing are all remnants of the old regime, what we call *feloul*, and online instructions are circulating insisting no one chant against the military or the police. But all my friends are going, so what choice do I have? To watch them die on television?

We read it wrong. The blood that the Army, the regime wanted was not ours. Not this time. Is it because we are now irrelevant? Or because the backlash would have been too strong?

And on July 3, just as they did on Feb. 11, 2011, the military staged a coup. In February they removed Mubarak to sap public pressure and demobilize people. And it worked. What happened this time? Did the street pressure force the Army to act, or did the Army create the street pressure through Tamarod to get what they wanted?

* * *

Can the side without guns ever win?

An Iranian friend once assured me that reform, rather than revolution, is what we want. That revolutions are only won by those most violent.

The first thing I read when I woke up today was Adam Shatz. He wrote, “Egypt's revolutionaries mistook their belief in the revolution for the existence of a revolution.”



Mourners attend the funeral of Ammar Badie, son of Muslim Brotherhood Supreme Guide Mohammed Badie, at the Katameya cemetery in Cairo on Aug. 18, 2013.

Photo by Ed Giles/Getty Images

But what do we have if not our beliefs? They are the foundation of our actions, of our identities. And it was transformative: the belief we all shared, for a moment, in each other. In an eternity of disappointment and greed and malice, that moment, that moment in which being human was finally worth something, in which having a community was preferable to being alone with a book, had a value that will never be lost. You cannot underestimate how important these two and half years have been for people, how empowered, how unafraid people were. The existence of the revolution should not be confused with the existence of a political leadership and process. The revolution is dead when we say it's dead. The revolution is dead when we will no longer die for it.

My apartment in Cairo is in Bab al-Louq, and every time I go to the supermarket I see the doorway I hid in on Nov. 22, 2011, during the first battle of Mohamed Mahmoud Street. I smell the cloud of tear gas filling the street, see the locked glass door, and the flashes of police gunfire coming closer and closer in the reflection. I hear the crack of a shotgun reloading, louder and louder. And I hear, with perfect clarity, my thoughts:

Turn. Take it in the back. Maybe you'll survive. Stand up straight. Stand up. They will remember you. It's your turn now. People have given more. People have given their eyes. Alaa is in jail. They faced it bravely. Bravely. Stand up straight. They will remember you.

I cannot stand up to death today. Today I am a coward who can only write. I see the revolution being dragged away to be shot over a shallow grave and I don't know what to do. But I do know that, before it's too late, we will grab it, we will fight for it. We have to, or we will never be able to live with ourselves.

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/08/19/juges-trop-agressifs-les-comites-anti-morsi-sont-pries-de-rentre-chez-eux_3463104_3212.html

Jugés trop agressifs, les comités anti-Morsi sont priés de rentrer chez eux

LE MONDE | 19.08.2013 à 10h12 • Mis à jour le 19.08.2013 à 19h45 | Par Serge Michel (Le Caire, envoyé spécial)

Des jeunes gens fouillent un minibus dans le quartier de la place Ramsès au Caire, le 17 août.

Trois pneus, deux grosses pierres, et des individus qui surgissent de tous côtés dès qu'une voiture s'approche. Cette rue du centre du Caire, derrière la gare Ramsès, rendue lugubre par le couvre-feu de 19 heures, n'est pas si déserte qu'il n'y paraît. La lame d'une machette brille dans les phares. Une main agile ouvre la portière de l'intérieur. Deux ombres s'engouffrent dans le minibus et ressortent chargées de bagages pour une fouille à même le sol, au milieu des débris laissés par les affrontements des derniers jours.

"Nous arrêtons les terroristes", dit un gosse efflanqué. "Nos armes sont enregistrées", ajoute un autre en brandissant une carte plastifiée que l'obscurité rend illisible. Un troisième, obèse, coince sa matraque sous son bras et exige les passeports des passagers, qu'il semble incapable de déchiffrer. Le véhicule a des plaques diplomatiques et le conducteur, un Japonais, semble pétrifié. L'aîné de la bande pose, en anglais, la question du sphinx : "La déposition de Morsi, c'est une révolution populaire ou un coup d'Etat ?" Le chauffeur répond juste (une révolution) et repart sans dommage.

Le quartier d'Al-Fazeh, près de la mosquée Al-Fath où se sont affrontés, le 16 août, Frères musulmans et forces de sécurité, subit, comme le reste de la capitale, la loi des "comités populaires", chargés d'appeler la police d'un coup de sifflet ou de téléphone en cas de découverte suspecte. Voire de régler eux-mêmes les problèmes. Or, en ces heures incertaines, une barbe est déjà suspecte. Et certains barrages ont été improvisés par des volontaires qui oublient de remettre dans les valises une partie de ce qu'ils en ont sorti.

RESPECTER LE COUVRE-FEU

Si bien que, dans la soirée du dimanche 18 août, le ministère de l'intérieur a prié les comités de rentrer chez eux. Trop de plaintes pour vol ou harcèlement ont été enregistrées. Les autorités appellent plutôt les Egyptiens à respecter strictement le couvre-feu. Ces comités, formés spontanément en 2011 au moment du renversement du président Moubarak, ont repris du service la semaine dernière à la suite d'un appel lancé à la télévision par le mouvement anti-Morsi Tamarrod ("Rebelle").

Samedi soir, sur les barrages du centre du Caire, c'est à qui racontera le plus d'atrocités commises par les Frères musulmans et le plus d'actes héroïques pour les contrer : "Ils ont pillé une pharmacie", dit le gosse efflanqué. "On en a arrêté six, dont deux étaient armés", poursuit son aîné. "Ils étaient trois, masqués, dans une Jeep noire, ils ont tiré sur nous de la rue Ramsès", reprend le gosse. "Une de leurs armes faisait un bruit qu'on n'a jamais entendu, un boum terrible", ajoute le garçon obèse. "Ils étaient super-entraînés, ils tiraient à la Kalachnikov d'une seule main", affirme le plus jeune. Il extrait un téléphone portable de sa poche et montre une photo de manifestants brandissant, la veille, le drapeau noir d'Al-Qaida. "Ces gens-là sont des porcs, pas des musulmans, conclut l'aîné. Ce sont des agents du Qatar."

En haut, sur les ponts déserts, les voitures roulent à contresens. On entend leurs pneus crisser quand elles évitent les piétons qui s'y sont risqués. En bas, la place appartient aux chiens qui, pour une fois laissés en paix, se prennent pour des lions. Plus loin, au carrefour, un petit café défie le couvre-feu. Les trois adultes du barrage de la rue, épuisés par les heures de veille, y sont attablés et s'excusent par avance des mauvaises manières éventuelles de leurs jeunes acolytes.

Il y a Achraf Abou Chama, chauffeur de bus pour touristes. "Nous sortons de ces trente ans complètement épuisés, dit-il. Moubarak nous a exploités comme un mauvais mari exploite sa

femme. Il a laissé le pays avec 45 % d'ignorants, d'analphabètes. Et les 55 % restants sont pires encore, parce que c'est le régime qui les a éduqués." Il y a aussi un M. Ayad, vendeur de voitures d'occasion. "J'avais dix employés, j'ai dû en chasser cinq. Comment je vais nourrir mes enfants ? Leur donner à manger des corans ?"

Serge Michel (Le Caire, envoyé spécial)

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/08/19/il-faut-tuer-ou-arreter-les-leaders-des-freres-musulmans_3463103_3212.html

Egypte : "Il faut tuer ou arrêter les leaders des Frères musulmans"

LE MONDE | 19.08.2013 à 09h46 • Mis à jour le 20.08.2013 à 12h38 | Par Serge Michel

Un des nombreux points de contrôle mis en place au Caire par les militaires égyptiens. Ici, le 17 août au soir devant la mosquée Al-Fath.

Le général Amr a choisi de passer ce dimanche 18 août en famille au club Al-Ahly, dans le quartier de Nasr City, à l'est du Caire. C'est là qu'il reçoit Le Monde pour évoquer la situation du pays et partager ses opinions. "Pas mes opinions, des informations factuelles et documentées", précise-t-il d'emblée.

Et d'abord ceci : "Nous sommes 90 millions d'Égyptiens et il n'y a que 3 millions de Frères musulmans. Il nous faut six mois pour les liquider ou les emprisonner tous. Ce n'est pas un problème, nous l'avons déjà fait dans les années 1990." Il s'exprime en arabe, que son épouse traduit dans un anglais parfait – elle est guide touristique, au chômage depuis deux ans en raison de l'effondrement du nombre de visiteurs. "Il y a 200 000 chambres d'hôtel vides dans le pays", souffle-t-elle lorsque son général allume une cigarette. Les deux garçons, qui jouent chaque jour au tennis dans ce club, écoutent respectueusement le discours paternel. "Après, les touristes reviendront, les investissements étrangers aussi. Et l'Égypte sera en paix pour les siècles à venir."

Lire aussi Mohamed Badie, guide suprême des Frères musulmans, arrêté

Le général de police sait de quoi il parle et ne partage aucune des inquiétudes occidentales pour l'avenir de l'Égypte. A la fin des années 1990, il a été responsable de la sécurité de la province de Louxor, peu après le massacre de 1997 au temple d'Hatchepsout qui avait causé la mort de 62 touristes. "Les Frères ne voient que deux possibilités : soit ils dirigent l'Égypte, soit ils la brûlent. Heureusement, nous sommes l'armée la plus puissante du monde arabe, et la 14e au niveau mondial. Nous sommes le seul pays qui a gagné une guerre contre le terrorisme. Nous savons comment nous y prendre."

"COMLOT"

Au début des années 2000, le général Amr a dirigé au Caire une prison réservée aux extrémistes musulmans. Il affirme avoir reconnu certains de ses anciens "clients" parmi les partisans du président Morsi, déposé le 3 juillet par l'armée et qu'il accuse d'avoir libéré 25 000 détenus, dont certains ultra-dangereux. Même si elles ont été vidées, les prisons égyptiennes ont-elles vraiment la capacité d'accueillir trois millions de Frères musulmans ? "Je voulais dire qu'il faut tuer ou arrêter leurs leaders, 30 hauts responsables et 500

subalternes. Alors les autres retourneront chez eux. De toute façon, ils manifestent aujourd'hui parce qu'ils sont payés."

Le général connaît les prix. Au sit-in de Rabiya Al-Adawiya, à trois kilomètres de ce club privé, dont la dispersion, le 14 août, par les forces de sécurité, a laissé de 200 à 300 cadavres sur le bitume, les "protestataires syriens" étaient, selon lui, payés 500 livres par jour (54 euros), les Egyptiens 100 livres, les femmes 50 et les enfants 30. En tout (nourriture, logistique, salaires), les deux sit-in du Caire où s'étaient installés plusieurs dizaines de milliers de pro-Morsi, "soi-disant pacifiques, en vérité des terroristes armés jusqu'aux dents", auraient coûté 60 millions de livres par jour aux Frères musulmans, pendant quarante-huit jours, soit 313 millions d'euros.

Déblayage des abords de la place Ramses.

Une bagatelle pour la coalition des ennemis de l'Egypte, accusée par le général Amr d'avoir soutenu la confrérie : la Turquie, le Qatar, Israël et les Etats-Unis – ou plutôt le président Barak Obama en personne. "Ils voulaient tout simplement abattre notre pays, mais nous avons eu connaissance de ce complot, dit-il. L'Egypte est la première civilisation du monde. Nous avons souvent été envahis, nous avons toujours retrouvé notre souveraineté."

Autour de cette table ombragée, agréablement rafraîchie par un courant d'air, quelques-unes des 50 000 familles membres d'Al-Ahly déambulent vers les dizaines de terrains de sport et les nombreux bassins. Les femmes peuvent y nager, selon leurs convictions, en bikini ou entièrement habillées. Le club, fondé en 1907 par des étudiants luttant contre les colons britanniques, possède 23 hectares en trois endroits du Caire ainsi que l'équipe de foot du même nom, sacrée "club du siècle" en 2000 par la confédération africaine de football.

Le général Amr instruit maintenant le procès du président déchu Mohamed Morsi. Extraits : "C'est un espion du Hamas. Il a voulu vendre 40 % du Sinaï pour 8 milliards de dollars afin de le rattacher à la bande de Gaza. C'est Barack Obama qui a proposé ce deal. Morsi a d'ailleurs creusé mille tunnels vers Gaza. Il était aussi sur le point de vendre le sud de l'Egypte au Soudan et a donné son feu vert à l'Ethiopie pour construire un barrage qui allait réduire de trois quarts l'eau du Nil. Il avait interdit le tourisme (sic) et avait prévu de louer, pour cinq ans, au Qatar tous les sites antiques, les pyramides, le sphinx, les temples. Il a versé 2 milliards de dollars à la presse étrangère pour qu'elle chante les louanges des Frères musulmans."

"FASCISME THÉOLOGIQUE"

A courir les rues et les dîners du Caire, à lire la presse égyptienne, il faut constater que ces "informations" font aujourd'hui l'objet d'un quasi-consensus dans le pays. C'est d'ailleurs un discours comparable, même s'il était lissé par l'éloquence et les responsabilités, qu'a tenu, samedi 17 août, au palais présidentiel, Moustapha Hegazy, conseiller politique de la présidence intérimaire.

"L'Egypte n'est pas un pays faible, un pays satellite, a-t-il proclamé. C'est un pays souverain. (...) Rien ne nous arrêtera, rien ne nous fera perdre du temps. (...) Nous interdirons au fascisme théologique de priver nos citoyens de leurs droits élémentaires."

Près de la place Ramses, le 17 août. Mahmoud dit avoir été blessé par des pro-Morsi lors des affrontement du 16 août.

Selon M. Hegazy, les Egyptiens sont plus unis que jamais par l'ennemi commun que sont les terroristes islamiques, et par le rêve commun d'une marche vers le futur et la démocratie. "Ce qui se déroule dans les rues n'est pas une dispute politique. Lorsque des extrémistes brûlent des églises, abattent des policiers, tirent sur des citoyens et mettent littéralement le feu à toutes les villes du pays, c'est une guerre." A l'adresse des chancelleries occidentales qui critiquent les opérations musclées des forces de sécurité, il a lancé : "Nous voyons, en ces moments fondateurs, qui est avec nous, qui est contre nous, et nous en prenons note."

Lire aussi : La crise égyptienne rebat les cartes diplomatiques dans la région

Moustapha Hegazy avait invité toute la presse étrangère, mais une partie de celle-ci semble avoir été retenue, place Ramsès, par l'évacuation, au même moment, des militants islamistes retranchés dans la mosquée Al-Fath. Ses services ont alors distribué un DVD où l'on voit clairement, sur des images tournées par hélicoptère le 14 août, des pro-Morsi mettre le feu à des bâtiments et à des voitures, lancer des cocktails Molotov sur la police et, certains, faire usage d'armes automatiques. Pour lui, le gouvernement égyptien est aujourd'hui victime d'un immense malentendu, avant tout médiatique : "Les Egyptiens conçoivent une immense amertume devant la couverture biaisée et tellement partielle de la presse étrangère."

Serge Michel

Journaliste au Monde

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/world/court-raises-possibility-of-a-free-mubarak/article5039707.ece>

Updated: August 20, 2013 02:25 IST

Court raises possibility of a free Mubarak

AP

Egypt's deposed President Hosni Mubarak. File photo

AP Egypt's deposed President Hosni Mubarak. File photo

TOPICS

World

Egypt

unrest, conflicts and war

Jailed ex-Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak could be released later this week, judicial officials said on Monday, a move that would fuel the unrest roiling the country after the autocratic leader's successor was removed in a military coup.

Underscoring the growing anger over Mohamed Morsy's ouster, suspected Islamic militants ambushed two minibuses carrying off-duty policemen in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, forcing the men to lie on the sand and shooting 25 of them dead.

The brazen daylight attack raised fears that the strategic desert region bordering Israel and the Gaza Strip could be plunged into insurgency.

The 25 were given a funeral with full military honours after a plane brought their bodies to an air base in eastern Cairo. Interior Minister Mohammed Ibrahim, who is in charge of the police, and the army's Chief of Staff, Gen. Sedki Sobhi, led the funeral.

The coffins of the victims were draped in red, white and black Egyptian flags and, in a show of solidarity, were jointly carried in the funeral procession by army soldiers and policemen. Earlier, relatives and friends wept over the coffins.

Despite the violence, Cairo, a bustling metropolis of some 18 million people, began to restore a sense of normalcy although the capital remained under a state of emergency and a dusk-to-dawn curfew.

Daytime traffic was back to its normal congested levels and stores were open. Government employees also returned to work. And the Central Bank ordered banks to extend by one hour their curtailed opening hours effective Tuesday.

During his decades ruling Egypt, Mr. Mubarak frequently warned that Egypt would fall into chaos without him at the helm.

The 85-year-old former President has been in detention since April 2011, weeks after he was ousted in a revolution against his rule.

Two judicial officials, however, said there will no longer be any grounds to hold the 85-year-old former President if a court accepts a petition by his lawyer requesting his release in a corruption case later this week.

Many analysts, however, expressed scepticism, saying the political cost of letting the former leader who was widely hated for widespread abuses and repression during his 29 years in power could keep him in jail.

The judiciary officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media, said a criminal court on Monday ordered Mr. Mubarak's release in a corruption case in which he and his two sons were accused of embezzling funds for the maintenance of presidential palaces. His sons will remain in custody, the court said without giving reasons.

Monday's order, along with the fact that Mubarak had previously been ordered released in two other cases against him the killing of the protesters and a case related to illegal earnings opened the possibility of freedom for the former president.

Mr. Mubarak is also facing trial for alleged acceptance of presents from state newspapers but has already repaid their value. His defence team has submitted a petition for his release in connection with the presents and a ruling is expected later this week.

While he still faces trial, Mr. Mubarak secured a ruling to be released from custody in the case of the killing of protesters because he could not be held for more than two years pending a final verdict, the officials said.

Tensions in Egypt have soared since the army ousted Morsy, who was Egypt's first freely elected president, in a July 3 coup following days of protests by millions of Egyptians demanding the Islamist president step down and accusing him of abusing his powers.

On Wednesday, the military raided two protest camps of Morsy's supporters in Cairo, killing hundreds of people and triggering the current wave of violence.

In all, nearly 1,000 people were killed in the crackdown and the clashes that erupted between Morsi's supporters and security forces.

Morsy's supporters have fought back, staging demonstrations demanding that he be reinstated and denouncing the military coup.

The Sinai Peninsula has long suffered from violence such as kidnappings by Bedouins demanding the release from prison of relatives.

Al-Qaeda-linked fighters, some who consider Morsy's Muslim Brotherhood to be too moderate, and tribesmen have used the area for smuggling and other criminal activity for years and have occasionally fired rockets into Israel and staged cross-border attacks. A year ago, 16 Egyptian border guards were slain in Sinai near the borders with Gaza and Israel in a yet unresolved attack that is widely blamed on militants.

But Islamic militancy in the area has been on the rise with almost daily attacks targeting security forces since Morsy's ouster.

Monday's killings took place near the border town of Rafah in northern Sinai. A few hours later, militants shot to death a senior police officer as he stood guard outside a bank in el-Arish, another city in the largely lawless area, three security officials said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for either attack.

The security officials initially said the 25 policemen were killed in a rocket-propelled grenade attack against the buses but later said further investigation showed that they were shot to death. The policemen were off-duty and not in uniform, the officials said.

The attacks came a day after security forces killed 36 detainees during a riot on a prison—bound truck convoy north of Cairo. The killings came as police fired tear gas to free a guard who was trapped in the melee, security officials said.

On Monday, the government ordered an inquiry into the deaths, which it blamed on armed men allegedly trying to help the 600 Muslim Brotherhood detainees escape. It gave no details.

The Brotherhood blamed military chief, Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, and the interior minister for Sunday's killings. The group also called for an international inquiry into the deaths.

“There are mass killings to a special a group of people (the brotherhood) with a special political ideology, with a real political legitimacy and a strong connection with the will of people,” Ahmed Abu Baraka, a Brotherhood lawyer, told a news conference on Monday.

Amnesty International demanded a “full, impartial and effective” probe into the events, the London-based group said in a statement.

In all, nearly 1,000 people have been killed in violence between security forces and Morsy’s supporters since last Wednesday.

The Interior Ministry also said 102 policemen and other employees have been killed in the violence.

Mr. Morsy has been held in an undisclosed location since July 3. He is facing allegations that he conspired with the Palestinian militant Hamas group to escape from prison in 2011. On Monday, prosecutors ordered his detention for 15 days in connection with allegations that he conspired to kill and torture protesters during mass demonstrations by the opposition outside his presidential palace in December 2012.

Keywords: Egypt crisis, Morsy ouster, Hosni Mubarak, Amnesty International, Egypt’s Sinai Peninsula

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/right-turn/wp/2013/08/20/youre-wrong-and-youre-wrong-on-egypt/>

You’re wrong, and you’re wrong on Egypt

By Jennifer Rubin, Published: August 20 at 11:30 am

Secretary of State John Kerry gives a statement on the situation in Egypt. (Evan Vucci/Associated Press)

We see a plethora of rotten ideas circulating as to what to do about Egypt. Bret Stephens, who usually is attuned to human rights, urges we participate in the government crackdown by “taking steps to help a government the secularists rightly consider an instrument of their salvation. [Gen. Abdel Fatah al-Sissi] may not need shiny new F-16s, but riot gear, tear gas, rubber bullets and Taser guns could help, especially to prevent the kind of bloodbaths the world witnessed last week.” No thank, you.

Aligning ourselves and arming a military that is slaughtering citizens is not in our short- or long-term interest; if we do so, we will rightly earn the enmity of the Egyptian people for decades. (Do we also give supplies to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad? To the Chinese?)

Egypt is not, as Stephens asserts, a “zero sum” game in which we either help the Muslim Brotherhood or Sissi, a Nasser-in-the-making. We should be on the side of the Egyptian *people*, pushing all sides toward a reconciliation with the goal (eventually) of return to democratic rule. In the meantime, we should do everything in our power to end the killing (not speed it up), broker a truce and move the government toward greater protection of civil liberties, minorities and women. The mistake that President Obama made, which Stephens repeats, is to think we have to side with the party in power. Rubbish. We side with liberty and those, even those out of power, who aim to expand it.

There is another troubling point. I have written extensively on Christian persecution in Arab lands. I think the persecution of Christians is an abomination America must oppose. But we should not be viewed as valuing *only* Christian lives. Rand Paul vows not to let any Christians die in Syria, but the Muslim Syrians who make up the vast majority of the 100,000 dead are

our concern, too. (Apparently his famed isolationism ends when it comes to backing Assad's regime. Not exactly a coherent foreign policy approach.) Others choose to ignore the killing of Egyptian Muslims by the government, focusing solely on the retribution allocated to Coptic Christian. This is despicable; we should deplore killing of all innocents. Our concern for religious minorities cannot be at the expense of slaughtered Muslims.

While isolationists trumpet Egyptian chaos as evidence that no good comes from U.S. influence in the world (the far right and far left merge here in their stony indifference to human atrocities), it is a perfect example of what happens when America withdraws and favors a series of undemocratic leaders simply because they hold power (first Hosni Mubarak, then Mohamed Morsi and now the military). We have not made clear to any party that good relations and continued aid from the United States require a modicum of respect for human rights. Had the Obama administration spent the last four and a half years working, speaking to, facilitating and aiding secular democrats rather than "ending wars" as Obama likes to excuse retrenchment, our influence might be greater, and Egypt might be less bloody.

I say "might" because we should approach this and other crises with humility but not fatalism. We can't "control" events, but neither can we refuse to steer them. This is both for the good of those who may be aided and for the sake of our moral standing in the world (which is ebbing with each passing week in the Obama administration). That is the definition, I thought, of the "smart diplomacy" Hillary Clinton once promised.

There is an old Jewish joke in which two men are arguing. They turn to a rabbi to resolve the fight. "You're right," he says to one. "And you're right," he says to the other. The first says, "But we can't both be right!" The rabbi responds, "And you're right." The Egypt debate in the United States is the flip-side of this – there are many people arguing, and most of them are wrong. An unequivocal and forceful policy that puts values, not players, first is needed.

In the words of President Harry S Truman, "I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures. I believe that we must assist free peoples to work out their own destinies in their own way. . . . The free peoples of the world look to us for support in maintaining their freedoms. If we falter in our leadership, we may endanger the peace of the world. And we shall surely endanger the welfare of this nation."

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/20/us-policy-egypt-mubarak_n_3784658.html

U.S. Policy In Egypt Complicated By Possible Mubarak Release

By DEB RIECHMANN and BRADLEY KLAPPER 08/20/13 06:20 PM ET EDT 

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WASHINGTON — The Obama administration, undertaking a major review of U.S. relations with Egypt, edged closer to a decision Tuesday about curtailing some of America's \$1.5 billion in annual aid after the Egyptian military's crackdown on supporters of ousted President Mohammed Morsi.

Top administration officials met at the White House to review the possibility of cutting military or economic aid to Egypt, a longtime U.S. ally and the most populous nation in the Arab world. Some cuts are forthcoming, according to U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to talk publicly about the sensitive discussions.

Tensions in Egypt have soared since the army ousted Morsi, who was the nation's first freely elected president. The July 3 coup followed days of protests by millions of Egyptians demanding that Morsi, who hails from the Islamist Muslim Brotherhood, step down. Some 1,000 people have been killed in ensuing violence.

The U.S. is in a bind. While it wants to continue aiding Egypt to maintain ties with the military-run government and assert its influence in the region, the Obama administration and lawmakers do not want to appear to be condoning the bloody crackdown. To express its displeasure, the U.S. suspended the delivery of four F-16 fighter jets to Egypt and canceled biennial U.S.-Egyptian military exercises planned for next month.

In canceling the military exercises, President Barack Obama said that America's traditional cooperation with Egypt "cannot continue as usual" while violence and instability deepen.

The administration now is deciding what it wants U.S. engagement in Egypt to look like and what, if any, aid, should be cut. Congress, meanwhile, appears split on whether to suspend the aid, with some saying that would deprive Washington of leverage over those in power in Cairo.

So far, Obama has opted against any swift reaction, insisting it would not serve U.S. national interests to suddenly eliminate funding for operations that cover everything from fighting al-Qaida in the heart of the Middle East and safeguarding the stability of the Suez Canal to halting weapons flow to the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip and ensuring Israel's security.

For weeks the administration has said it won't characterize the military's takeover of the Egyptian government as a coup d'etat.'

Such a determination would not only make it appear that the U.S. was taking sides in the internal conflict, but it also would, under U.S. law, trigger an automatic suspension of most aid programs.

However, while the administration has not declared Egypt's military takeover a coup, officials are essentially treating it as such internally and are reviewing aid under the guidelines that govern such a determination, a U.S. official said. Stopping short of making a formal declaration gives the U.S. flexibility in what aid it might cut off, the official said. It also would make it easier to reinstate aid later.

The official spoke only on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to discuss the situation publicly.

The money is significant. Between 1948 and 2011, the U.S. provided Egypt with \$71.6 billion in bilateral aid, according to a June report issued by the Congressional Research Service.

A number of U.S. interests are at stake. U.S. warships are given fast passage through the Suez Canal to deploy carrier groups to the Persian Gulf. Without that access, the ships would have

to travel around the Cape of Good Hope, adding time to their deployment from Norfolk, Va., the report said. The U.S. also wants to keep the 1979 Israel-Egypt peace treaty intact, promote democracy and economic growth in the country and maintain Egyptian cooperation on intelligence and issues related to terrorist activity in the region.

The U.S. currently sends \$1.48 billion a year in aid to Egypt.

The bulk of the money – \$1.23 billion – is in the form of military aid. Since 2000, Egypt's military financing from the U.S. has been placed in an account at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York where the money stays until it is obligated. The money doesn't actually leave the U.S. Egypt uses the money to negotiate major arms purchases, such as tanks, with U.S. defense suppliers.

The State Department says some \$585 million – almost half the military aid package for the year – has not yet been obligated. Spokeswoman Marie Harf said the administration hasn't missed any deadlines because it has until Sept. 30, the end of the fiscal year, to use the money.

Even as officials review aid to Egypt, the U.S. military has continued to ship thousands of spare parts for American weapons systems used by Egyptian forces, including armored personnel carriers, tanks and missiles.

The next military weapons shipments are scheduled to take place next month – including 10 Apache helicopters and a number of M1A1 Abrams tank kits, which include machine guns and other equipment used with the tanks. Defense Department officials said they did not know the exact number of tank kits scheduled to be sent in September.

Col. Steve Warren, a Pentagon spokesman, said those shipments are being reviewed, but the deliveries are continuing as planned. "There is no policy decision to suspend the shipment of any weapons systems other than the F-16s," Warren said. "Any suggestion of a de facto suspension is incorrect."

The rest of the U.S. aid to Egypt – \$250 million – is in the form of economic support.

Harf said the U.S. is trying to abide by all requirements and has conducted a legal review of programs. So far, the review has found that most forms of U.S. economic aid to Egypt can legally continue even if a coup is declared because funds are spent on promoting democracy, health and rule of law programs and the like. She said, however, that there is a "tiny bucket" of economic aid that might be subject to cancellation because of the events that have taken place in Egypt.

European Union foreign ministers will hold an emergency meeting Wednesday in Brussels to forge a joint response to the recent violence in Egypt with discussions expected on proposals to halt aid programs and suspend arms shipments.

However, the threat to withhold aid – by either the U.S. or the EU – is weakened by the readiness of wealthy Arab states to prop up Egypt's new military-backed leadership. So far, they have promised \$12 billion in new aid, chiefly from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, who are longtime critics of Morsi's Islamist movement, the Muslim Brotherhood. The grants allow the government to pay for vital food and fuel imports.

AP White House Correspondent Julie Pace and AP Writer Lolita C. Baldor at the Pentagon contributed to this report.

<http://www.egyptindependent.com/news/hrw-condemns-historic-unlawful-killings-egypt>

HRW condemns "historic" unlawful killings in Egypt

Tue, 20/08/2013 - 17:48



Mohamed Hossam Eddin
Egypt Independent

Human Rights Watch (HRW) said that the rapid use of excessive force by security forces in breaking up sit-ins supporting ousted President Mohamed Morsy led to “the most serious incident of mass unlawful killings in modern Egyptian history.”

Human Rights Watch investigations indicate that the decision to use live ammunition on a large scale reflected, from the outset, a failure to observe basic international policing standards on use of lethal force.

It also added that it was not justified by the disruptions caused by demonstrations or the limited possession of arms by some protesters, according to a statement issued on Monday by HRW.

The statement added that the failure of the authorities to provide safe exit from the sit-in, including for people in need of urgent medical attention, constituted a serious violation of international standards.

Based on first-hand documentation and interviews with health workers and lists of the dead obtained by the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights, the death toll during the dispersal of the Rabaa sit-in reportedly exceeds 377, much higher than the latest Rabaa death toll of 288 announced by the Health Ministry.

Residents from Rabaa told HRW that at around 6:30 am security forces called on protesters to leave the sit-in via the Nasr Street exit using loudspeakers. Around 10 to 15 minutes later, at around 6:45 am, riot police moved in on the Rabaa protest from several sides shooting tear gas, rubber pellets and, very soon after, live ammunition.

It was not possible to establish whether the first use of live ammunition came from the side of security forces or protesters. HRW, however, says it found no evidence to suggest that firing

by protesters justified the quick resort taken by police to massive lethal force against largely unarmed protesters.

“This excessive and unjustified use of lethal force is the worst possible response to the very tense situation in Egypt today,” said Joe Stork, acting Middle East and North Africa director at Human Rights Watch. “Egypt’s military rulers should rein in police forces to prevent the country from spiraling into further violence. The military should not be encouraging police to use even more lethal force.”

<http://www.middleeastmonitor.com/articles/africa/6996-what-is-an-egyptian-human-life-worth#sthash.cTxqWAn.dpuf>

Egypt Military Crackdown: What is an Egyptian human life worth?

Hanine Hassan

Tuesday, 20 August 2013 13:33



Hundreds, if not thousands, of Egyptians have been killed in recent days as the security services crackdown on the anti-coup protests

Prior to the 14 August clashes, the two main protest sites, al-Nahda and Rabaa al-Adawiya, were densely populated with women, children, and men who have been staging a 47 days-long peaceful sit-in to protest the removal of President Mohammed Morsy. Both sit-ins would at certain moments have a gathering of at least 115,000 people. On July 31, the Egyptian cabinet authorized the interior minister to "take all necessary measures to face these dangers and put an end to them within the framework of the constitution and the law." More than 40 international and national human rights organizations have warned the Egyptian Authorities not to use abusive and excessive force in the dispersal of protesters as Egypt's riot police have consistently responded with excessive and unlawful lethal force in dispersing demonstrations and have showed insufficient respect to protecting the right to life.

This warning resulted from previous massacres committed by the Egyptian Armed Forces and Security Forces against peaceful protesters just a few weeks before. On 8 July, 51 people were killed when lethal force was used on protesters gathered outside the Officer's club, followed by another massacre on 27 July when 74 people were killed, many shot in the head and chest.

On July 19, the EuroMid Observer for Human Rights issued a statement, signed by 11 international human rights organizations, demanding the Egyptian Authorities to protect human lives , emphasizing that "Egyptian security forces and the army are responsible for

protecting all protestors, including both supporters and opponents of the deposed president. However, instead, a serious escalation in human rights violations - such as extrajudicial killings; arbitrary arrests; excessive use of force; and deprivation of freedoms of association, speech and expression – has been documented, targeting those who oppose the military's ouster of President Morsi. The Egyptian authorities have not only perpetrated such acts, but also turned a blind eye to their practice by others"¹.

As the Egyptian cabinet was considering the pro-Morsi sit-ins a "threat to national security", human rights organizations and governments around the world kept urging the Egyptian Armed Forces to show restraint, to seek for a peaceful dispersal of the sit-ins and to avoid the escalation of violence.

Yet Egypt has been ruled since its independence by the generals who have since then committed severe human rights violations, showing little respect to human rights and dignity and acting with blatant disregard for human life.

Violating the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association of the protestors

The violence started around 6.30 a.m. on Wednesday 14 August as Central Security Forces (riot police) backed by helicopters and snipers, surrounded both sit-ins and fired tear gas from three different entries while heavy semi-automatic bursts of gunfire were heard. Eyewitnesses' reports and video footage showed the sounds of successive gun shots and men in the crowd falling to the ground right away, which means that security forces were using live gunfire as snipers were firing tear gas and live ammunition from rooftops and helicopters. EuroMid researcher counted 42 victims in the first hour. Security forces shredded through the labyrinthine networks of tents and tarpaulin shacks, setting them on fire, with women and children still inside of them, causing many casualties and injuries. An eyewitness told EuroMid "a mother and her baby were crushed to death inside the tent", as severe chaos rose among the bloodshed.

The Egyptian Authorities have blatantly violated the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association of the protestors, which states that: "Everyone has the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association [...] and these rights are essential components of democracy".

Responses to demonstrations and sit-ins must comply with international standards, even when some participants err by resorting to violence, including the use of firearms. International standards forbid the excessive use of lethal force, and do not justify the intentional murder of protestors by police or military snipers. The use of force must not exceed what is required to prevent the use of violence. Firing live ammunition at crowds is intolerable and should be considered a criminal act.

Extrajudicial executions

The Egyptian Security Forces had announced one safe corridor from which protestors could exit the Rabaa sit-in parallel to Tayaran Street. Protestors and eyewitnesses stated that the security forces deliberately targeted protestors who were using the safe corridor, and attacked physically and verbally protestors as they were trying to escape. Men were executed on the

spot while walking with their hands above their heads. The police unlawfully killed protesters who were clearly not engaged in any form of violence.

This was clearly not an attempt to break-up a peaceful sit-in, but a huge military operation against unarmed civilians. The use of deadly fire on such a scale and the killing of so many by the security forces prove that there was an intention to kill with no regard for people's lives.

Within less than 3 hours, the Field Hospital itself and the adjacent halls were completely full with corpses and injured protesters. The injuries varied from birdshots to live bullets, burns and asphyxiation. Medical staff reported that the "majority of the bullet injuries were to the head, neck, and chest, as well that the angle of gunshot wounds indicated they were shot from above, as some of the deaths were judged to be targeted killings, as the position of the shots could only result in death".

The Egyptian Security Forces are guilty of extrajudicial executions, which are acts outside the realm of rule of law and hence deprive the targeted individual(s) of their right to life, as well as the right to defend themselves against charges against them. The killing of a person by governmental authorities without the sanction of any judicial proceeding or legal process is an unlawful punishment that violates the Declaration of Human Rights.

But who will hold the Egyptian Forces accountable? They have not opened or announced any investigation into any of those cases, which is contrary to the provisions of Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions, which state the need to investigate cases of unlawful killings and that the "purpose of the investigation shall be to determine the cause, manner and time of death, the person responsible, and any pattern or practice which may have brought about that death," and that "the body of the deceased person shall not be disposed of until an adequate autopsy is conducted by a physician".

But as death tolls rose, the Egyptian authorities attempted to cover up the numbers of the massacre. The police are refusing to register the cause of death as murder and push families to list the cause as accidents or suicide. The EuroMid researcher was shown official certificates of death where the cause of death was not mentioned.

Places designated for the sole protection of civilians, such as hospital zones, should not be the object of military operations

Additionally, the Egyptian Security Forces imposed a siege on the Rabaa Field Hospital, preventing ambulances from coming through from the very beginning of the violent crackdown. At least one ambulance medic was shot in the head. Snipers were targeting anyone coming in and out of the hospital. It is a criminal act to deliberately attack a hospital or other medical units, whether civilian or military. Medical personnel in general may not be attacked.

According to the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials, when whenever the use of force and firearms is unavoidable, law enforcement officials shall ensure that assistance and medical aid are rendered to any injured or affected persons at the earliest possible moment. This obligation was violated by Egyptian Forces, specifically by imposing a siege on the Field Hospital, and blocking its entrance, and eventually setting it on fire.

Unlawful use of teargas

Rules under international customary law ban the use of certain weapons as an instrument to contain assemblies. Central Security Forces (riot police), backed by the Egyptian Army, fired teargas canisters and gas bombs directly at the densely populated sit-ins, causing severe cases of asphyxiation and injuries among women, children and elderly. Eyewitnesses reported that as a result of the excessive use of teargas, the stampede rushed forward, and some people were crushed to death. It appears that security forces firing tear gas at the stampeding protesters exacerbated the situation, as people could not see a safe passage and may have been the cause of some of the deaths.

No respect to Human Life Right and Dignity

The Egyptian authorities may decide, in accordance to national law, to disperse a demonstration, they are bound to comply with a series of obligations, namely, they should respect and protect the life and security of all personas. The Egyptian Security Forces have clearly failed in safeguarding Egyptian lives.

Considering the evidence in the case of Egypt, security agents used lethal force when it was not necessary to protect lives or prevent serious injury and hence clearly violated the international law and standards. They have used live ammunition at crowds; they have extrajudicially killed dozens; they have used excessive teargas, resulting in some people crushed to death and hundreds asphyxiated; they have targeted medical personnel, setting a hospital on fire, and they have not spared women and children. Men were executed on the spot while walking with their hands above their heads. More than 700 have been victims of arbitrary arrests and at least 1500 are missing until this moment.

While human rights organizations are overwhelmed with the magnitude of the Rabaa massacre, a new one followed just 3 days later. Hours after Egyptian army chief General Abdel Fattah El Sissi urged the Muslim Brotherhood to pursue dialogue instead of "terrorism," 52 prisoners were killed while being transported to a prison outside Cairo. The Egyptian Security Forces are prohibiting human rights organizations and journalists from investigating this new incident. Egyptian security forces are guilty of a pattern of excessive and unwarranted lethal force, which have led to an unlawful mass massacre, unprecedented in modern Egyptian history.

On 15 August, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay stated that "the number of people killed or injured, even according to the government's figures, point to an excessive, even extreme, use of force against demonstrators. There must be an independent, impartial, effective and credible investigation of the conduct of the security forces. Anyone found guilty of wrongdoing should be held to account" she said.

Since the deposal of President Morsy on July 3, at least 1500 people have been killed in Egypt as a result of the erupted violence. But who will investigate these violations of national and International laws? Interim Prime Minister Hazem el-Beblawi, on Egyptian TV, defended and justified the clearing as "necessary to restore the security of Egyptians" and praised the Ministry of Interior and police for showing "restraint to the maximum level". While Egyptians rose in January 25 to put a halt to all these violations, it is clear, one massacre after the other, that the new military-installed regime does not appear to be interested in safeguarding

Egyptian human rights. The path to democracy has vanished under the bloody boots of the army.

Hanine Hassan is a Researcher in Human Rights violations and doctoral student studying aspects of mental torture and humiliation under occupation. She tweets at @hanine09.

Notes

1.

<http://www.euromid.org/marsad/index.php?action=main/readcontent&lang=en&cat=1&id=433>

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/news/recent-bloodshed-underscores-urgent-need-halt-arms-transfers-egypt-2013-08-20>

20 August 2013

Recent bloodshed underscores urgent need to halt arms transfers to Egypt



Vast quantities of weapons and equipment supplied irresponsibly to Egypt by a handful of countries are being used for excessive force and unlawful killings.

© FAYEZ NURELDINE/AFP/Getty Images

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Weapons and equipment supplied irresponsibly to Egypt by a handful of countries are being used for excessive force and unlawful killings. Deliveries must be frozen until full, prompt and impartial investigations into the recent violence – and similar incidents over the past several years – have been carried out and their findings made public.

”

Salil Shetty, Secretary General of Amnesty International

All governments must suspend the transfer of weapons of the type used by Egypt’s security forces in violent dispersals and unwarranted lethal force against sit-ins and other protests, Amnesty International said today.

The organization has analysed some of the transfers to Egypt in recent years – including tens of thousands of conventional weapons worth tens of millions of dollars. Among the countries supplying weapons and ammunition of the type used during the bloodshed on 14 August are the Czech Republic, China, Cyprus, France, Germany, Italy, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, and the USA.

The supplies include military firearms, shotguns, riot control launchers and corresponding ammunition and projectiles, as well as armoured vehicles and military helicopters.

“Weapons and equipment supplied irresponsibly to Egypt by a handful of countries are being used for excessive force and unlawful killings,” said Salil Shetty, Secretary General of Amnesty International.

“Deliveries must be frozen until full, prompt and impartial investigations into the recent violence – and similar incidents over the past several years – have been carried out and their findings made public. How could any state continue to deliver equipment used to disperse demonstrations knowing full well the Egyptian security forces’ track record?”

“No further weapons should be sent until the Egyptian authorities can demonstrate that the security forces will not use them unlawfully.”

Guns, tear gas, armoured vehicles and bulldozers were used by the Egyptian security forces – including riot police and members of the Ministry of Interior’s Special Forces – to clear encampments set up by supporters of Egypt’s ousted President Mohamed Morsi in Cairo. As of Monday, the death toll had risen to about 900 protesters and bystanders, while on Sunday Egypt’s Ministry of Interior told Amnesty International that 69 members of the security forces also lost their lives. On Monday, an additional 25 conscripts serving in the riot police died during an armed attack in restive Northern Sinai.

“Enough is enough. How many people must die as a result of the use of excessive force by the Egyptian security forces before the world wakes up and stops fuelling such violence?” said Shetty.

“The excessive and unwarranted lethal force seen this week is part of a pattern documented by Amnesty International for years. This is why enforcement of the global Arms Trade Treaty, adopted just a few months ago, is so badly needed.”

Amnesty International’s call comes as EU Foreign Ministers are due to meet in Brussels to discuss their response to the situation in Egypt. The organization calls on all EU member states to fully implement the EU’s existing Common Position on arms exports, as well as the human rights provisions of the Arms Trade Treaty – which all EU member states have signed.

The organization is also calling on world leaders to refuse the export of conventional arms when there is an overriding risk the arms would be used to facilitate serious human rights violations – the litmus test contained in the global Arms Trade Treaty adopted by the UN General Assembly on 2 April 2013. All states should sign and ratify the treaty and implement its human rights provisions without delay

Background

Firearms and ammunition

Firearms and ammunition used by the Egyptian security forces include assault rifles and machineguns – weapons which members of the public are not permitted to own in Egypt.

Pistols, shotguns, and corresponding ammunition used by security forces most likely emanate from batch deliveries of hundreds or thousands of pistols or shotguns, or from hundreds of thousands of dollars’ worth of cartridges delivered in a single month. Such batches are more indicative of a government order than of sales to the general public.

According to Amnesty International's research, in recent years the following countries have transferred weapons to Egypt of the type being used in the current crackdown:

The **Czech Republic** sent 15,062 pistols to Egypt in May 2013. This appears to be part of a contract for 50,000 pistols announced that month by the Czech company CZ to equip the Egyptian police. Whether the remaining 34,438 pistols have been delivered is not known. The Czech Republic also exported a total of more than 3,500 pistols to Egypt in two shipments in February and July last year.

The **USA** reported exports of 1,524 military rifles and machineguns to Egypt between January 2011 and June 2013. In January 2012 the USA supplied Egypt with more than US\$10 million worth of 'Cartridges Not Containing a Projectile', and sent a further US\$1 million worth of 'Parts of Cartridges' two months later. It is likely that these shipments of components were made into ammunition in Egypt.

The USA also exported 2,050 pump-action shotguns in large batches to Egypt during 2011-2012. In July last year it delivered cartridges for rifles and pistols worth US\$169,479.

Turkey reported an export of 14,406 pistols to Egypt in 2010. The following year, it reportedly made several transfers of shotgun cartridges worth a total of US\$336,047.

From October 2011 to May 2013, **Italy** reported exports to Egypt of shotgun cartridges in large batches, worth a total of €562,231. It also reportedly sent 7,415 "pistols and revolvers" in April 2010 and significant exports totalling 1,607 single barrelled shotguns from 2009-11.

From 2011 to 2013, **Switzerland** reported exports to Egypt of small calibre ammunition (for pistols, rifles and machineguns) worth a total US\$295,871.

Cyprus reported exports to Egypt between October 2011 and December 2012 of large batches of shotgun cartridges with a total value of €761,724.

According to official records in Egypt, in 2010 **China** supplied the country with military firearms worth \$US100,831,

Germany also reported exports of 1,130 pistols or revolvers during 2009 and 2010 in sufficient batches to cause concern.

Similarly **Spain** reported a single export of shotgun cartridges in February 2013 worth €176,550 while **South Korea** reported exports of shotgun cartridges in 2012 worth US\$450,965.

Armoured vehicles and other military equipment

As recently as January 2013, **France** supplied 47 Sherpa armoured vehicles to the Egyptian security forces, similar to the 20 vehicles it previously supplied. Many of these vehicles were seen last week being used to transport police and military personnel, and protesters pushed one off a bridge.

On 9 October 2011, several protesters were killed in Cairo when Egyptian armoured

personnel carriers and cars drove recklessly and at high speed into protesters in an attempt to disperse a primarily Coptic demonstration.

Tracked armoured personnel carriers also used in the crackdown have included many NATO-standard type M-113. **The Netherlands** has previously delivered 105 variants of this vehicle (AIVF) while the US has supplied more than 250 of them through its massive military aid programme to Egypt.

Last week the Egyptian security forces also used a Boeing AH-64 Apache military attack helicopter to conduct surveillance over Cairo to facilitate command and control of operations, and used armoured Caterpillar D7R bulldozers to break up protests and smash through barricades. Both types of military equipment are made in the **USA**.

According to two research groups, TransArms USA and the International Peace Information Service, two vessels operated by the shipping company American President Lines (APL) docked in Damietta in Egypt in January this year after leaving US ports.

The research groups have obtained six bills of lading – documents used in the transport of goods by sea – for the ships. According to those documents, the cargo included parts and components for tactical and support vehicles, military Humvees (HMMWVs), armoured vehicles and tanks, helicopters and aircraft of various type, military electronic equipment and radars, various types of missiles, and various types of hazardous chemicals.

According to US State Department statistics, in 2011 the US government authorized more than US\$100 million worth of arms sales to Egypt. This included some 73,000 items – worth in excess of US\$1.7 million – listed as “toxic agents”, the category which includes tear gas. The USA shipped a similar amount of toxic agents to Egypt in 2010.

EU arms export licences granted in 2011 show that **France** exported €26.5 million of electronic components to Egypt, €25 million of arms-production equipment, €23 million of military aircraft and €21 million of bombs, rockets and missiles. **Spain** authorized the sale of €78.5 million of military aircraft and **Germany** gave permits for €57.3 million of military ground vehicles, €9 million of electronic equipment and €6 million of naval vessels.

http://www.lemonde.fr/international/article/2013/08/23/charitables-ou-resignes-les-egyptiens-acceptent-la-liberation-d-hosni-moubarak_3465449_3210.html

Charitables ou résignés, les Egyptiens acceptent la libération d'Hosni Moubarak

LE MONDE | 23.08.2013 à 11h00 • Mis à jour le 23.08.2013 à 11h04 | Par Serge Michel (Le Caire, envoyé spécial, avec Christophe Ayad à Paris)



Ils sont une dizaine, massés devant le poste de télévision d'un marchand de boissons, dans la rue étroite de Bab Al-Bahr, derrière la place Ramsès, au Caire. Sur l'écran, un hélicoptère. Il n'y a pas de son de rotor ni de commentaire, juste un air martial. Il est filmé en gros plan et transporte Hosni Moubarak de la prison de Tora à l'hôpital militaire de Maadi. Il est 16 heures, jeudi 22 août, Hosni Moubarak est libéré après deux années derrière les barreaux. Le raïs déchu est désormais en résidence surveillée dans un hôpital militaire en attendant la reprise, prévue dimanche, de son procès pour le meurtre de quelque 800 manifestants lors de la révolution de janvier 2011.

Champagne ! Ou presque. Taoufik Ahmed, le patron du café, distribue gratuitement des canettes de Pepsi tièdes pour fêter la nouvelle. *"On était mieux avec lui qu'avec Morsi "*, crie-t-il à la ronde. Le quartier, qui a prêté main-forte à la police le 16 août pour disperser les Frères musulmans et les partisans du président Morsi rassemblés place Ramsès, l'a payé cher. *"Les Frères ont incendié nos boutiques et ont tiré sur nos jeunes à coups de fusils"*, affirme le patron en désignant, à quelques dizaines de mètres, deux bâtiments noircis par les flammes, dont l'hôtel Nil.

"DANS LES POUBELLES DE L'HISTOIRE"

"Il a payé pour ce qu'il a fait, qu'il rentre chez lui maintenant", enchaîne un badaud. Ces gens-là ont tous soutenu la révolution du 25 janvier 2011. Ils ont tous exécuté ce régime de prébende et d'état d'urgence. Et pourtant, ils semblent avoir pardonné à Hosni Moubarak et il règne dans la rue comme un sentiment de réconciliation. *"Ses fils, eux, doivent être punis !"*, lance un homme, qui suscite l'approbation de tous. Mais le vieux raïs ? *"Il n'était pas parfait, il n'est peut-être pas innocent, mais nous les Egyptiens sommes assez charitables pour le laisser finir sa vie à la maison. Il a 85 ans !"*, résume l'un d'entre eux.

Un peu à l'écart, Chérif Abdel Hussein, vendeur de cartouches de cigarettes de contrebande, est moins enthousiaste. *"Qu'il rentre chez lui. Mais il restera pour toujours dans les poubelles de l'histoire"*, maugrée-t-il.

Dans les rues du Caire, le portrait d'Hosni Moubarak, invisible pendant deux ans et demi, réapparaît peu à peu. *"C'était le bon temps, justifie Abdallah, un garagiste du quartier de Rod Al-Farag qui a ressorti le portrait du président déchu, bien en évidence à l'entrée de sa boutique. Avec lui, on avait la sécurité dans les rues et du travail. Depuis deux ans, la révolution ne nous a apporté que des malheurs et des divisions."* Ce genre d'opinions s'exprime désormais au grand jour.

"ON A D'AUTRES SOUCIS"

Le café Bustan, au centre-ville, est depuis 2011 un haut lieu de réunion des révolutionnaires. Ils sont, cet après-midi, un peu sonnés, un peu déprimés, mais pas révoltés. *"Il n'est pas entièrement libre, tente de se rassurer Ahmed Hossam, romancier. Il sera en résidence surveillée. Tôt ou tard, il sera jugé coupable."* Ahmed dit pourtant ne pas avoir de *"problème"* avec sa sortie de prison. *"Ce sera un vieillard chez lui, on l'oubliera. Et on a d'autres soucis en ce moment"*, ajoute-t-il en allusion à la *"guerre contre le terrorisme"* déclarée par les autorités aux Frères musulmans, depuis le démantèlement sanglant du sit-in de Rabiya Al-Adawiya, le 14 août. Désormais, c'est le successeur et ancienne bête noire d'Hosni Moubarak, Mohamed Morsi, qui est sous les verrous, détenu au secret dans un camp militaire en attendant d'être jugé à son tour.



Islam, informaticien, est plus amer que son ami Ahmed. *"A moi, cela me pose un gros problème, dit-il. Mais je pense que les juges ont travaillé avec les éléments dont ils disposaient, pas de façon idéologique ou émotionnelle, comme nous. Les avocats de Moubarak ont aussi été excellents. Et les preuves, les documents qui l'auraient vraiment désigné coupable, ont toutes été détruites en 2011, dans l'incendie du ministère de l'intérieur."*

CONTINUITÉ HISTORIQUE

Tous admettent qu'il y a une continuité indéniable entre les deux grandes figures historiques, Nasser et Sadate, leur successeur Moubarak, et désormais le général Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi, actuel homme fort du gouvernement. *"Le rêve égyptien a été dessiné par Nasser, confie le jeune romancier. Et depuis soixante ans, c'est pour ce projet que nous travaillons tous, que nous nous fatiguons tous. Nous y croyons encore. Mais pour y arriver, il nous faut un guide, quelqu'un comme Sissi."* Avec la libération d'Hosni Moubarak, le gouvernement, mis en place par les militaires en juillet au nom de la *"sauvegarde de la révolution"*, prend de plus en plus des allures de restauration de l'ancien régime.

Alors, deux ans de troubles pour rien ? Le retour à la case départ ? Les jeunes du café Bustan ne peuvent l'admettre. *"Il s'est passé quelque chose d'unique en Egypte, le peuple s'est réveillé deux fois en deux ans, il ne se laissera plus faire par ses dirigeants"*, reprend Ahmed Hossam. *"D'accord, lui répond Islam, mais nous sommes dans un tunnel. Je ne vois plus de lumière au bout."*

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/22/egypt-security-forces_n_3793707.html

In Egypt, Signs Of Piety Attract Suspicion From Security Forces And Vigilantes

Agence France Presse | By Haitham El-Tabei Posted: 08/22/2013 7:42 am EDT | Updated: 08/22/2013 10:39 am EDT



Abdul Salam Badr had no choice but to shave his beard to save himself from becoming a target in Egypt's crackdown on supporters of ousted Islamist president Mohamed Morsi.

In recent days, overt signs of piety have become all it takes to attract suspicion from security forces at Cairo checkpoints and vigilantes looking to attack Islamists.

"I was in a shared taxi headed to the morgue, transporting the body of my friend who was killed in the demonstrations," said Badr.

"I was stopped by members of a vigilante group because I had a beard," added the 29-year-old, who said he was not loyal to any political organisation.

"The only thing that saved me was the fact that I was transporting a dead body."

And so in a small, dusty salon, he shaved his facial hair, "because life has become safer without a beard."

The ouster of Morsi, a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, has set off something of a witch hunt against those perceived as being his supporters.

The campaign has been fed by domestic media, which has broadcast around-the-clock images of bearded gunmen allegedly firing at security forces during demonstrations.

One video, showing a bearded man with a jihadist flag attacking young men after they were thrown off the roof of an apartment block in Alexandria has exacerbated the frenzy.

Local media and the government have also loudly labelled the Muslim Brotherhood wholesale as "terrorists".

So-called "popular committees" -- neighbourhood militias -- have made life even worse, giving vigilantes the chance to wreak havoc, particularly in Cairo after a night-time curfew was implemented.

The beard and women's full-face veil, or niqab, are often characteristics of religious Muslims, but have become conflated with support for the Muslim Brotherhood.

Certain Brotherhood leaders sought to promote the wearing of the face veil during Morsi's turbulent year-long presidency.

But now such religious symbols have become a liability.

"People who wear a beard are paying the price for those members of the Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamist groups who have resorted to violence" in recent days, said May Moujib, professor of political science at Cairo University.

Those affected range from actual Brotherhood members to those who have no affiliation with the group but happen to sport a beard.

One Western news photographer decided to shave his beard after being repeatedly accosted in the street and even threatened by Egyptians who mistook him for a member of the Muslim Brotherhood.

A bearded taxi driver, meanwhile, admitted customers were increasingly reluctant to use his services.

"This is possibly the beginning of a campaign to boycott bearded taxi drivers," he told AFP.

Mohammed Ibrahim, a pharmacist who also has a beard, has changed his route to work and the hours he keeps in order to avoid "tension with the popular committees."

As the crackdown continues, reports have suggested that some preachers have even offered religious dispensation to the faithful who want to shave their beards to avoid being targeted.

"The hostility of the people is even worse than police harassment," said Mohamed Tolba, a Salafist Muslim.

"We are observing a tenet of Islam, but we face the hatred of the population," said Tolba, who has recently launched an online comic to try to break frequently-held stereotypes of Salafist Muslims.

"The targeting of those with beards is deplorable behaviour which threatens peaceful coexistence between Egyptians," warned Nivine Messad, another political science professor at Cairo University.

"It is a bad sign for the future, and an indication of the divisions between Egyptians," she said.

"Cooler heads must step in to put an end to the violence and incitement."

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<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/08/egypt-curfew-sisi-muslim-brotherhood.html#ixzz2eu3ANs7e>

Strict Curfew in Cairo Imposes Harsh Living Conditions

[Supporters of ousted Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi throw stones at riot police and army personnel during clashes near Rabia al-Adawiya, in Cairo, Aug. 14, 2013. (photo by REUTERS/Asmaa Waguih)]

Supporters of ousted Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi throw stones at riot police and army personnel during clashes near Rabia al-Adawiya, in Cairo, Aug. 14, 2013. (photo by REUTERS/Asmaa Waguih)

By: Ayah Aman for Al-Monitor Posted on August 27.

اقرأ باللغة العربية

CAIRO, Egypt — A cautious calm prevailed in Cairo following the curfew that was imposed on Aug. 14 by the Egyptian authorities after dispersing the sit-ins held by supporters of deposed President Mohammed Morsi in Rabia al-Adawiya and Nahda squares.

Summary :

Egypt's new rulers are not planning to end the curfew anytime soon, despite the difficult conditions it has imposed on Egyptians.

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Strict Curfew Untenable for Egyptians
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While the security services are taking tight measures against those who defied the curfew, some opposition movements — headed by the pro-Morsi People's Alliance to Support Legitimacy — are adamant about holding protests in different areas of Cairo and other provinces, until the political administration reneges its road map.

Egypt's Prime Minister Hazem el-Biblawi — in his capacity as deputy military governor in accordance with the emergency law — has issued a decision to impose a curfew from 7 p.m. until 6 a.m., as per resolution No. 532 of 2013 published in the Official Gazette. People who breach the curfew can be sentenced to a minimum period of three years in prison.

The Council of Ministers' media adviser, Sherif Shawki, told Al-Monitor, "The curfew will remain in place for a while longer, and the government is not currently reviewing options to cancel it. The government thanks citizens for abiding by it, and there are some exceptions for journalists and doctors." He added that the government agreed to reduce the curfew time from Aug. 24 to start at 9 p.m., with the exception of Fridays, after receiving complaints from citizens.

Egyptians are living in a state of limbo as a result of the curfew, which is in effect for more than 11 hours a day and has left the streets of the city dark and silent every day starting at 7 p.m. when shops close and people head home.

Restaurants and shops close their doors two hours before the curfew and public transport is suspended, while the army's tanks are deployed and military checkpoints are set up at the city's major thoroughfares.

"The curfew will not last long, as everybody is displeased and business has been suspended for a week now," Mohammed Farouk, a 35-year-old taxi driver, told Al-Monitor. He expressed his anger over the curfew. "Egyptians are not accustomed to living under this kind of pressure."

For his part, Hussein Hamdi, who works at a cafe in the Mohandeseen neighborhood of Cairo, told Al-Monitor, "The curfew needed to be imposed in such circumstances after the spread of chaos, repeated robberies and burning of shops and commercial buildings." Many employees in the cafe have been laid off and Hamdi's salary was reduced.

While security services have been relatively strict in carrying out the curfew, Morsi supporters and the People's Alliance to Support Legitimacy continued to call for rallies against the Egyptian government over the past week. However, they failed to gather large masses of people, who feared being tracked down by security services, not to mention that snipers were spread all over the city as well as hooligans who disrupted rallies and prevented them from reaching main squares.

On Aug. 23, thousands of pro-Morsi protesters demonstrated, roaming new streets and squares in Cairo and in several provinces, avoiding main squares such as Ramses Square, which saw violent clashes last week that left 173 people dead and 1,330 injured, according to a statement from the Egyptian Ministry of Health.

Calls by Morsi supporters against the military's practices spread via social networking sites, urging people to go into the streets and return before curfew, to avoid clashing with security forces. New locations for demonstrations were also published, to avoid security forces who would prevent rallies from reaching main squares. Meanwhile, security services closed all entrances to the Tahrir and Ramses squares.

"The government imposed the curfew under the emergency law for a month, in an attempt to intimidate us and thwart new demonstrations," Rahman Mansour, a 22-year-old pro-Morsi protester, told Al-Monitor. He expressed his anger at what he described as "security and military practices against civilians. My friend was arrested on charges of breaking the curfew on Friday when he was on his way back from the demonstrations in Ramses Square."

Hassan Saber, a 27-year-old man affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood, said, "We will try to take advantage of the morning to hold protests in new places. We formed groups in charge of detecting the security situation in the streets and making sure that there is no police or 'thugs' before we set out. These groups will also spread false information about gathering in the squares under the control of security forces, so as to disrupt their movements against us. "

"Official authorities have yet to declare information about the exact number of people who were arrested on charges of breaking the curfew. However, human rights activists launched campaigns to defend detainees and collected the names of the missing and those of people arrested and held in police stations and in military police detention centers. They also set some legal guidance and we had to cancel several demonstrations last week as security forces were tracking us," Saber added.

Al-Monitor was on site in front of the Military Tribunals Complex, where Cairo residents who broke the curfew are held. A number of family members had gathered there to demand the release of their loved ones, while civilian attorneys were prevented from communicating with the detainees.

Another anti-coup activist, Shirine Mahmoud, a 30-year-old veiled woman, told Al-Monitor, "We much rather demonstrate and remain a thorn in the side of this bloody regime. I am not afraid, and we will never rest until retribution is exercised on those whose hands are stained with blood. Our cause has nothing to do with Morsi's return to power, but we cannot accept that the military continues to rule."

Security forces have been raiding the homes of a number of prominent Muslim Brotherhood leaders in Cairo and other provinces since Aug. 15. Islamist preacher Safwat Hegazi, the Brotherhood's Supreme Guide Mohammed Badie, the group's spokesman Ahmad Aref as well as the Freedom and Justice Party's secretary and 57 other members have been arrested in Minya, Port Said, Alexandria and Al-Gharbiya on charges of sabotage, incitement to murder and breaking the curfew.

Although the number of victims in Friday's (Aug. 23) protests declined substantially compared with previous demonstrations, a large number of bodies are still lined up in front of

Zeinhom morgue due to the slow procedures of obtaining burial permits and certificates that state the cause of death. Al-Monitor visited the morgue, which on Aug. 19 received the bodies of 37 young men who died as they were being transported from Nasr City police station to Abu Zaabal Prison, according to doctors at the morgue.

Families of the victims present at the morgue told Al-Monitor of the presence of torture marks on the bodies of their loved ones, contradicting Interior Ministry claims that “there were 36 victims, and they suffocated when a gas canister was used to quell an attempt to free them.”

After taking possession of his brother’s body, one man was heard shouting: “What a lying state. My brother’s corpse is covered with burn and torture marks, yet the cause of death is listed as gas asphyxiation.”

Khaled al-Higazi, a lawyer for one of the victims, Alaa Issa, told Al-Monitor that a number of the victims who died while being transported had been arrested following the events in Ramses on Aug. 16. The latter had been accused of breaking the curfew, being in possession of light weapons and sabotaging state facilities.

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http://www.lemonde.fr/a-la-une/article/2013/08/27/occident-la-victoire-dans-l-impuissance_3467238_3208.html

Occident : la victoire dans l'impuissance

LE MONDE | 27.08.2013 à 18h34 • Mis à jour le 28.08.2013 à 16h59 | Par Jean Birnbaum (Responsable du "Monde des livres")

Un militaire devant la télévision publique égyptienne, le 6 juillet 2013.

Le 11 janvier 1992, l'armée algérienne interrompait un processus électoral qui venait de consacrer la victoire des islamistes. Quelques jours auparavant, le Front islamique du salut avait obtenu 188 sièges à l'Assemblée. Il se trouvait donc aux portes du pouvoir. Arguant que cette perspective représentait une menace vitale pour la nation, les militaires en décidèrent autrement. Leur coup de force allait marquer le début d'une longue guerre civile.

Bien que les situations diffèrent par maints aspects, on retrouve cette séquence en trois temps (ouverture d'un processus électoral-victoire islamiste-intervention de l'armée au nom du salut public) dans l'actuelle crise égyptienne. Et, parmi les commentaires qui lui sont consacrés, on reconnaît nombre d'arguments qui avaient été mobilisés à propos de l'Algérie. A commencer par la relative indulgence dont semblent bénéficier les généraux égyptiens auprès des démocrates occidentaux, au nom de la lutte contre la dictature islamiste.

Ainsi, dès le 16 janvier 1992, Claude Lefort (1924-2010), ancien militant révolutionnaire et penseur de la démocratie, revenait sur les événements algériens dans un entretien au Nouvel Observateur. Tout en qualifiant de "faute" le coup d'Etat, Lefort considérait qu'il représentait "la nécessité politique du moment". A l'appui de sa position, le philosophe avançait un argument central : la démocratie, ce n'est pas d'abord le règne de la majorité, c'est le respect du pluralisme et de l'Etat de droit ; dès lors que le pouvoir risque de tomber entre les mains de

gens qui ont toujours manifesté leur haine de la démocratie, leur mépris des libertés, tous les moyens sont légitimes pour les chasser. A l'évidence, le propos mais aussi la gêne de Claude Lefort étaient liés au fait que les islamistes avaient gagné dans les urnes, et qu'eux aussi pouvaient invoquer la défense de la démocratie...

Telle est également la situation en Egypte aujourd'hui : les deux camps, celui de l'armée comme celui des Frères musulmans, en appellent à la démocratie. "L'armée est intervenue sous la pression du peuple, pour évincer un parti qui mettait en place un régime totalitaire", disent les partisans du général Al-Sissi. "Ce que le coup d'Etat a détruit, c'est le processus démocratique dont le président Morsi était l'incarnation", rétorquent les islamistes.

Ce qui frappe donc, dans ce débat qui a été tranché par le glaive, c'est que l'ensemble de ces forces se réclament de la démocratie telle qu'elle s'est formée en Occident. Prises dans un jeu de discours et d'intérêts complexes, ces forces rivales n'en prétendent pas moins faire du libéralisme politique l'horizon commun de leurs mobilisations. Voilà pourquoi chaque camp accuse l'Occident de trahir ses propres valeurs en refusant de le soutenir : "Démocrates d'Occident, n'avez-vous pas honte de cautionner un coup d'Etat ?", s'emportent les partisans de l'ex-président Morsi. "Démocrates d'Occident, comment pouvez-vous condamner notre révolte contre la dictature islamiste ?", tonnent, quant à eux, les soutiens de l'armée.

HUNTINGTON DÉMENTI

On fera remarquer que les prétentions démocratiques des deux camps sont sujettes à caution. Une chose demeure, néanmoins : la centralité de la référence démocratique au sein de cette confrontation, alors même que les acteurs pourraient se réclamer d'un autre modèle, voire d'un contre-modèle. Du reste, cette centralité de la référence démocratique vient démentir les thèses d'un Samuel Huntington, le théoricien du "choc des civilisations". Selon lui, il serait temps que l'Occident admette que ses valeurs n'ont rien d'universel, et que la modernisation du monde ne se confond pas avec sa démocratisation, les autres civilisations n'en ayant que faire.

Or, la situation égyptienne (on pourrait élargir l'analyse au Moyen-Orient et au-delà) tend à montrer que les principales forces politiques, même féroceement ennemies, mettent en avant une même légitimité démocratique. Pour l'expliquer, on peut évidemment invoquer un pur calcul d'intérêts économiques et stratégiques, puisque les grandes institutions qui structurent "l'ordre" international ont été mises en place dans un monde dominé politiquement et matériellement par l'Occident libéral. Mais on peut aussi y voir l'influence maintenue, voire accrue, d'un Occident dont le rayonnement politique s'intensifierait, paradoxalement, à mesure que s'amenuise sa domination militaire et économique. Le politologue Bertrand Badie a montré comment les acteurs de la contestation, en Egypte mais aussi en Algérie, en Iran ou en Inde, peinent à peser sur les événements tant qu'ils se contentent de mots d'ordre identitaires, ethniques ou religieux. Afin d'ouvrir une perspective réelle, ils sont obligés d'"importer" les valeurs et les techniques politiques de l'Occident.

Au moment où ce dernier semble largement désarmé face à l'axe Damas-Téhéran-Moscou-Pékin, et donc incapable d'interrompre l'horreur syrienne ; à l'heure où il ne parvient même pas à faire cesser la répression en Egypte, il y aurait là une victoire dans l'impuissance, pour paraphraser le mot d'Hegel sur Napoléon.

Tombé de son piédestal économique et stratégique, l'Occident observerait, non sans surprise et peut-être avec perplexité, l'aura planétaire d'un modèle qu'il a lui-même tendance à mésestimer : la civilisation démocratique.

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<http://hebdo.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/0/7/133/3556/Le-Caire,-ville-morte.aspx>

Le Caire, ville morte

Depuis l'instauration du couvre-feu, décrété après l'assaut contre les pro-Morsi, la ville du Caire, d'ordinaire très tumultueuse, est réduite à un silence pesant.



Chahinaz Gheith28-08-2013

Les cairotes ne reconnaissent plus leur ville. Cette ville tentaculaire qui ne dort jamais, où le bourdonnement est permanent et la circulation et le bruit des klaxons sont incessants, n'est plus la même. Couvre-feu l'oblige. Depuis près de deux semaines, après les affrontements entre les forces de l'ordre et les Frères musulmans, l'état d'urgence a été décrété en Egypte et un couvre-feu a été imposé par le pouvoir mis en place par l'armée. Au départ instauré à partir de 19h pendant les deux premières semaines, il a été raccourci de 2 heures pour commencer à 21h, à l'exception du vendredi maintenu à 19h. Tout s'arrête de 21h jusqu'à 6h. Et pour la première fois, ce couvre-feu est observé à la lettre dans la grande majorité des quartiers de la ville.

Le soir, c'est le silence de morts dans la capitale. Le Caire affiche aujourd'hui deux visages. Pendant la journée, tout le monde, pressé, vaque à ses occupations. Il faut tout finir avant. Passé 20h, le rythme du trafic est moins frénétique que d'habitude. La ville devient, une fois n'est pas coutume, un paradis pour les piétons qui ne risquent plus leur vie à chaque traversée de rue. Les moyens de transport se font rares. Il n'y a presque plus d'embouteillage, le trafic routier est réduit à néant. Les blindés quadrillent les avenues désertes. Tout est fermé : commerces, restaurants et magasins. Le soir, et précisément à 21h, les dernières ombres s'empressent de rentrer chez elles, dans la peur de rompre le couvre-feu. Cet état est le résultat d'une situation politique très compliquée. La capitale est éteinte. « Nous sommes au bord de l'explosion. Sous Moubarak, la vie était difficile. Aujourd'hui, elle est insupportable. On ne peut pas se déplacer normalement. Comment peut-on survivre alors que la ville est en état de siège dès 21h, les gens sont sommés de rester chez eux ? », grogne Moustapha, un chauffeur de taxi dont la journée de travail commence à 6h du matin. Chaque jour, il part à la recherche de rares clients dans les quelques heures de circulation libre. Et d'ajouter : « Regardez, les taxis sont parqués dès le coucher du soleil. Après le couvre-feu, on ne peut faire que quelques courses très limitées dans le même quartier. Mais ça ne suffit pas pour payer l'essence ni le pain quotidien. Et si on tente de braver les barrages militaires, on se retrouve coincé et on risque d'être rossé ou visé par les tirs des forces armées ». Moustapha n'hésite pas à raconter l'incident du journaliste Tamer Abdel-Raouf, directeur du bureau régional du

quotidien Al-Ahram, qui vient d'être tué par balle à un barrage tenu par l'armée à Damanhour, dans le gouvernorat de Béheira au nord de l'Égypte.



Les magasins du centre-ville qui veillaient jusqu'à minuit ferment désormais leurs portes à 20h.

L'instauration du couvre-feu s'avère une mesure nécessaire pour maîtriser la situation et arrêter les violences qui ont dégénéré dans tout le pays suite à la dispersion sanglante des sit-in de Rabea Al-Adawiya et d'Al-Nahda. 14 gouvernorats sont soumis au couvre-feu de 21h à 6h, pendant un mois. Policiers et militaires ont reçu l'autorisation d'ouvrir le feu sur tout manifestant hostile ou citoyen bravant les ordres du couvre-feu. Seules les personnes travaillant dans les médias ou dans le secteur de la santé ont le droit de se déplacer librement. Pourtant, ces quelques rares personnes autorisées à circuler, en plus de quelques téméraires, sont arrêtées à chaque coin de rue. Les chars et les blindés des militaires contrôlent les cartes d'identité et fouillent les coffres des véhicules. C'est la pagaille devant le portail de l'autoroute reliant Le Caire à Alexandrie. Arrivés à l'heure du couvre-feu, les véhicules sont stationnés et personne n'est autorisée à passer avant 6h du matin.

Mohamad Zayat, ingénieur, ainsi que sa famille, sont obligés de passer la nuit sur place. « Pas question de braver le couvre-feu. Les horaires du couvre-feu ont été annoncés il y a deux semaines », lui dit l'officier, sans se soucier des pleurs de son bébé.

S'adapter à la nouvelle vie quotidienne

C'est la onzième fois qu'on décrète le couvre-feu en Égypte. Le calife Yazid bin Muawiya fut le premier à imposer cette mesure dans l'histoire islamique. Il a même condamné 3 personnes, parce qu'elles ont bravé le couvre-feu. Ensuite, le roi Farouq l'a proclamé suite à l'incendie du Caire en 1952. Parmi les plus célèbres couvre-feux, il y a celui imposé lors des manifestations des 18 et 19 janvier 1977, et celui décrété après l'assassinat du président Sadate en 1981. Les émeutes de la sécurité centrale qui ont eu lieu le 25 février 1986 à cause d'une rumeur sur le prolongement du service militaire ont amené aussi l'instauration du couvre-feu.

Si ce couvre-feu est aujourd'hui bien respecté, il ne le fut pas pendant le mandat de Morsi, quand celui-ci l'a imposé pour réagir aux violences dans les gouvernorats de Port-Saïd, Suez et Ismaïliya. Les habitants de ces villes ont rejeté le couvre-feu. Les Port-Saïdis ont même organisé un tournoi de foot dans la rue pour braver cette décision. Aujourd'hui, les gens préfèrent rester chez eux, car ils ont peur de nouveaux débordements. La frustration, l'impatience et le désespoir sont palpables partout. Les gens sont hantés par une angoisse, celle d'un bain de sang, surtout que ces derniers jours, les troubles se multiplient et chaque jour apporte son lot de violence et de victimes. « Nous n'avons qu'à nous plier à cette décision sécuritaire ou plutôt cette punition collective pourvu que les autorités réinstaurent le calme dans le pays », témoigne sans colère Réda, comptable.

Progressivement, la vie reprend au Caire. Autant dire que les Cairotes tentent de s'adapter à la situation et de trouver un juste milieu entre une vie normale et le couvre-feu. D'ailleurs, toutes les administrations ont repris le travail, y compris les banques et la Bourse. Il est clair que la machine commerciale et économique du pays fonctionne au ralenti, mais on espère que cette situation temporaire ne s'éternisera pas.

Répercussions sur l'économie



Les militaires contrôlent les cartes d'identité et fouillent les véhicules qui passent aux heures du couvre-feu.

Ce couvre-feu a de sérieuses conséquences sur l'économie égyptienne et la récession. Les citoyens souffrent de la hausse des prix due à l'augmentation du coût des transports. Nombreux sont ceux qui ne savent plus à quel saint se vouer dans ce climat d'anxiété et de privation de liberté. Autrement dit, les restaurants et les petits commerçants de nuit n'arrivent plus à joindre les deux bouts. Contraints à vivre sous un couvre-feu imposé par l'armée, ils ne peuvent que s'y adapter. Ces débrouillards qui ont des charges familiales ont vu leurs habitudes changer et leurs bourses s'amincir considérablement. Plusieurs commerçants, qui avaient rejeté la décision de Morsi de fermer les commerces à 22h, ont commencé à ouvrir leurs magasins à 9h et à 10h du matin au lieu de midi, comme ils le faisaient auparavant. Hassan, propriétaire d'un magasin de prêt-à-porter, a pourtant préféré fermer sa boutique durant ce mois de couvre-feu. « On est en vacances forcées. Autant fermer la boutique. Ouvrir

3 ou 4 heures par jour pour chasser les mouches et ne pas parvenir à couvrir les salaires des ouvriers, les factures d'électricité et les impôts. A quoi ça sert ? », s'indigne-t-il. Quant à Oum Samia, marchande de poissons, elle a été contrainte de baisser ses prix. « Quand le poisson n'est pas vendu, je ne peux pas le conserver pour le lendemain. Je suis obligée de le céder à un prix bas, parce qu'il faut rentrer à la maison avant l'heure du couvre-feu », se plaint-elle.

Le Caire dort tôt

Autre scène, autre image. Le Caire n'est plus cette ville peuplée de noctambules. Tout au long de la corniche, les croisières et les bateaux lumineux qui diffusaient leur musique ont complètement disparu de la scène. Les Cairotes, qui adorent faire leur shopping le soir et s'attarder dans les restaurants et les cafés illuminés, ont changé leurs habitudes. On fait désormais ses courses pendant la journée et les soirées dansantes si prisées dans les hôtels ou sur les petits bateaux bardés de néons fluorescents voguant sur le Nil se tiennent désormais en plein jour. A l'heure du déjeuner, deux jeunes femmes vêtues de chatoyantes robes de soirée entrent dans un grand hôtel du centre-ville. Elles viennent assister à une cérémonie de noces. « On a l'air ridicule ! », s'exclame l'une d'elles, perchée sur d'extravagants hauts talons. « Qui ose porter une robe comme ça en plein jour ? ». « Les fêtes de mariage commencent d'ordinaire à 20h et s'achèvent vers minuit ou plus tard », commente Mohamad Nasr, directeur de l'hôtel Safir, où deux couples célèbrent leur union en plein après-midi. Pour Samir, un jeune noctambule, le couvre-feu et les barrages sont un véritable enfer au quotidien. « C'est une restriction désagréable. Plus de restaurants, plus de rencontres amicales, plus de veillées, de sorties ou de cinéma », lance-t-il. Raison pour laquelle certaines familles ont décidé de partir en vacances sur la Côte-Nord ou de passer quelques jours dans les hôtels pour divertir leurs enfants enfermés à la maison.

Renforcer les liens familiaux

C'est l'occasion aussi de favoriser et de renforcer les liens familiaux. « Le couvre-feu permet de rassembler à nouveau les membres de la famille autour des repas. Cela permet de retrouver l'amour et la chaleur familiale, quasi absents ces derniers temps », souligne Dr Nabil Al-Zahar, psychiatre.

Mais le malheur des uns fait le bonheur des autres. Les cafés ouverts jusqu'à l'aube dans certains quartiers sont encore florissants. « Les gens s'ennuient. Ils sont sous pression. On ouvre pour leur permettre de décompresser un peu », lance le propriétaire d'un café à Bassatine. En fait, les cafés sont ouverts dans la plupart des quartiers populaires. C'est à croire que le couvre-feu ne concerne pas les habitants de ces quartiers. C'est d'ailleurs aux heures du couvre-feu (entre 21h et 6h) que les jeunes de ces quartiers vaquent à leurs occupations. « Le couvre-feu n'existe pas dans notre quartier. Nous restons dehors toute la nuit jusqu'à des heures tardives sans être inquiétés par les forces de l'ordre », confirme Karim, un habitant de la rue Ahmad Zaki à Bassatine. « Les gens ne dorment pratiquement plus dans ce quartier. C'est aux heures du couvre-feu qu'ils envahissent les rues », affirme un habitant de ce quartier. Les forces de l'ordre seraient-elles au courant du non-respect du couvre-feu dans ce quartier ? Oui, rétorque un habitant. « Les forces de l'ordre savent que nous ne respectons pas le couvre-feu dans notre quartier et ne nous empêchent pas de le faire. Et ce n'est pas tout. En signe de défi, à l'heure de l'entrée en vigueur du couvre-feu, des marches envahissent les rues avec des chants pro-Morsi sous les yeux de l'armée. Ceci dans le cadre d'une série d'actions appelée Semaine de la chute du coup d'Etat », ajoute-t-il. Ailleurs, dans les petites ruelles, il n'y a pas l'ombre d'un soldat ou d'une patrouille, laissant le champ

libre aux comités populaires. « Etat d'urgence, couvre-feu, et aujourd'hui, la libération de Moubarak. Voilà où nous en sommes arrivés », conclut un partisan de Morsi qui a choisi de sortir et d'affronter les balles de l'armée au lieu de vivre sous « l'occupation militaire ».

Qu'est-ce qu'un couvre-feu ?

C'est l'interdiction faite de sortir après une certaine heure, le soir et pendant la nuit. Il est bien entendu que le couvre-feu ne s'entend pas pendant la journée, mais quand les ténèbres enveloppent la ville, c'est souvent, à ce moment, que les troubles peuvent commencer. Aussi, décrète-t-on que passée telle ou telle heure, on n'aura le droit, ni de traîner dans les rues, ni de se tenir dehors.

L'origine du mot ? Le mot est ancien, et si d'abord il ne désigne qu'un ustensile pour couvrir et conserver du feu sans qu'il s'éteigne, dès le Moyen Age, il prend un sens figuré : il s'agit de couvrir les feux, c'est-à-dire d'éteindre ou de masquer, de cacher les sources de lumière. Le couvre-feu c'est donc l'heure de l'extinction des feux. Et, bien vite, le mot va désigner le signal qui avertit qu'on éteigne : c'est une cloche particulière, sonnée de façon particulière. On sait que, du glas au tocsin, les sonneries de cloches avaient de multiples usages au Moyen Age, pour faire passer des messages à la population : une multitude de codes étaient connus de tous. On dit donc à l'époque : « Sonner le couvre-feu ». Une pratique qui se généralise en temps de guerre, aussi bien en France qu'en Angleterre, à partir du XI^e siècle. Il s'agit donc d'une sorte d'opération ville morte : pas de lumière et, par extension, pas de promeneurs.

C'est ce dernier sens qu'a pris l'expression, abandonnant, d'ailleurs le premier. A tel point que pour désigner l'obscurité commandée à toute une ville, on va user d'une autre expression : le « black-out ». Expression anglaise qui signifie à peu près « noir complet », et qui date de la dernière Guerre mondiale. C'était un ordre de la défense passive de calfeutrer toutes les fenêtres, pour ne laisser sourdre aucune lumière. Et cette mesure a d'abord été prise à Londres à une époque où elle essayait presque toutes les nuits les bombardements allemands. Ville invisible, elle donnait moins de prise aux bombes de l'ennemi. Une bizarrerie à signaler : le couvre-feu va, au XIX^e siècle, signifier également l'heure de l'allumage des réverbères, quand cette pratique était manuelle. Ce qui est tout à fait étrange, puisqu'à ce moment, le couvre-feu signifie, non pas qu'on éteint, mais qu'on allume.

http://www.la-razon.com/mundo/muerto-heridos-nuevos-enfrentamientos-Egipto_0_1897610299.html

Mundo / tensión

Un muerto y decenas de heridos en disturbios durante nuevas protestas en Egipto

El portavoz de Sanidad, Mohamed Fathalá, dijo que un hombre falleció en la ciudad mediterránea de Port Said al ser alcanzado por un disparo, mientras que la agencia oficial Mena informó de 18 heridos, entre ellos tres graves.



Se reactivaron las protestas en Egipto.

11:29 / 30 de agosto de 2013

Al menos una persona murió y decenas resultaron heridas al derivar hoy algunas protestas de los islamistas egipcios en enfrentamientos con vecinos y fuerzas de seguridad, informó el Ministerio de Sanidad.

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También se produjeron enfrentamientos similares en El Cairo, Alejandría, en el norte, y en las ciudades del delta del Nilo de Tanta y Mahala al Kubra, lo que hizo que policías antidisturbios y unidades del Ejército intervinieran para dispersar a los implicados.

A estas víctimas hay que sumar dos agentes que perecieron esta mañana en un ataque de desconocidos contra un puesto policial en un barrio del este de El Cairo.

En la capital se produjeron disturbios en el barrio de Mohandisin, en la avenida principal de Gamat al Dawal al Arabiya, y en la plaza de Guiza, donde se escucharon disparos en medio de un gran despliegue policial y militar, según pudo constatar Efe.

Los islamistas han celebrado numerosas concentraciones en El Cairo, aunque la mayoría poco concurridas, pese a que las fuerzas de seguridad, apoyadas por blindados, cortaron las principales arterias de la ciudad.

Entretanto, en Alejandría, los choques tuvieron lugar cerca del paseo marítimo entre los simpatizantes de los Hermanos Musulmanes y la población local.

Los servicios de seguridad detuvieron, además, a 140 manifestantes islamistas en la ciudad de Banha, 25 en Zagazig cuando intentaban irrumpir en tres comisarías, y catorce en Damanhur.

Los Hermanos Musulmanes alentaron ayer a los egipcios a iniciar una "intifada" (levantamiento popular) para "recuperar su revolución" y acabar con el golpe militar que el pasado 3 de julio derrocó a Mohamed Mursi.

Ante estas convocatorias, el Ministerio del Interior aseguró que sus fuerzas están "totalmente preparadas" para enfrentar cualquiera conato de violencia y que emplearán munición real en el caso de legítima defensa.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/pro-morsi-marches-in-egypt-leave-six-dead-1.1511199>

Pro-Morsi marches in Egypt leave six dead

Thousands march in defiance of army and call for reinstatement of ousted president



Riot police officers take position during a protest by members of the Muslim Brotherhood and supporters of ousted Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi in front of El-Thadiya presidential palace in Cairo yesterday. Photograph: Reuters/Amr Abdallah Dalsh

Fri, Aug 30, 2013, 21:29

First published: Fri, Aug 30, 2013, 21:29

Thousands of supporters of ousted Islamist president Mohamed Morsi marched through Cairo and cities across Egypt yesterday to demand his reinstatement, in the movement's biggest show of defiance since hundreds of protesters were killed two weeks ago.

Although most marches passed without major incident, a security source said there had been at least six deaths, and police fired tear gas at protesters in Cairo's Mohandiseen district.

The army-backed government, which has shot dead hundreds of supporters of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood since he was toppled by the military on July 3rd, had warned that forces posted at key intersections since morning would open fire if protests turned violent.

Having arrested most of the Brotherhood's leaders, it hoped by now to have suffocated the protests against its decision to force out and crush the movement that ruled Egypt for a year. But its prospects of presenting a return to normality looked to have been set back by live television images of tear gas and burning tyres in Cairo, as well as the sheer number of separate marches the well-organised Brotherhood staged.

The security source said there had been at least 50 injured throughout Egypt, in addition to the six dead, and more than 20 arrests. The cabinet issued a statement after the protests saying that anyone who disregarded the curfew would face legal consequences.

The demonstrators appeared mostly to have opted for numerous scattered protests, avoiding Cairo's bigger squares or the scenes of earlier protests such as the pro-Morsi street camps where security forces shot dead more than 600 people on August 14th.

'Interior ministry are thugs'

Just after Friday prayers, about 500 protesters set off from central Cairo's Sahib Rumi mosque, chanting: "Wake up, don't be afraid, the army must leave", "The interior ministry are thugs" and "Egypt is Islamic, not secular".

By mid-afternoon, thousands were marching in districts across Cairo calling for the return of the elected government, and some remained outside the presidential palace in the capital until just before the 7pm curfew.

Soldiers and helmeted police in black uniforms and bulletproof vests, armed with tear gas and semi-automatic rifles, manned checkpoints near the protests and blocked roads.

In Egypt's second city, Alexandria, more than 10,000 protesters took part in several separate demonstrations.

Marches were also held in several cities in the Nile Delta, including Tanta; the three Suez Canal cities of Suez, Ismailia and Port Said; and in the southern city of Assiut.

The Brotherhood's London press office circulated an email with links to video streams from what it said were protests in 15 districts of Cairo, as well as 32 in other towns and cities.

‘Where did legitimacy go?’

In the city of Fayoum, the private television channel CBC showed footage of a female Brotherhood supporter in a black head-to-toe veil, leading a march of veiled women and carrying a placard reading “Where did legitimacy go?”.

“This revolutionary wave will not stop,” Brotherhood politician Farid Ismail said by phone from an undisclosed location. He said the numbers of those who had demonstrated despite “intimidation, tear gas, live bullets and detentions” had been hugely underreported.

“This will continue in the coming weeks,” he said.

Armed forces chief Gen Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and the government he backs appear to have won broad public support for their crackdown, which they portray in the largely state-controlled or pro-government media as a fight against terrorism.

The Brotherhood, which won five popular votes after the overthrow of the army-backed president Hosni Mubarak in 2011 and gave Egypt its first civilian president in Morsi, says it is still committed to peaceful resistance. – (Reuters)

<http://elcomercio.pe/actualidad/1626207/noticia-egipto-condenan-11-hermanos-musulmanes-cierran-canal-tval-jazeera>

- ElComercio.pe
- Actualidad
- Mundo

martes 3 de septiembre del 2013 12:13

Egipto: condenan a 11 Hermanos Musulmanes y cierran canal de TV "Al Jazeera"

Miembros de partido del presidente derrocado Mohamed Mursi fueron acusados de incitar a la violencia. Otros 3 canales de TV fueron cerrados por hablar bien de la cofradía



Imagen del presidente Mohamed Mursi, en el centro de El Cairo. (Reuters)

El Cairo (DPA). Un tribunal militar en Suez condenó a **11 seguidores del presidente egipcio** derrocado Mohamed Mursi a 25 años de prisión por atacar al Ejército y quemar iglesias, informó hoy el diario estatal “Al Ahram” en su edición online.

Otros 45 acusados fueron condenados a cinco años de cárcel por su papel en los enfrentamientos de mediados de agosto que siguieron al desalojo violento de las protestas islamistas pro Mursi en El Cairo por parte de las fuerzas de seguridad.

CIERRAN CANALES, ENTRE ELLOS AL JAZEERA

Un tribunal administrativo egipcio ordenó hoy el cierre de cuatro canales de televisión, entre los que está la emisora en Egipto de la cadena “Al Jazeera”, según informó el portal Ahram Online.

Los cuatro canales informaban a menudo de forma positiva sobre los Hermanos Musulmanes. Además de Al Jazeera Live Egypt, las emisoras Al Quds TV, Ahrar 25 y Yarmuk deben dejar de emitir.

El lunes había sido clausurado ya el canal Al Hafez, que presentaba a menudo a clérigos islámicos radicales.

Las autoridades egipcias han detenido a decenas de conocidos líderes de los Hermanos Musulmanes desde que el Ejército derrocó a comienzos de julio en un golpe de Estado al presidente electo, el islamista Mohamed Mursi.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/egypts-interior-minister-survives-blast-at-least-7-injured/2013/09/05/52140dfc-1617-11e3-804b-d3a1a3a18f2c_story.html

Egypt’s interior minister survives blast; 22 people reported injured



View Photo Gallery — Egypt’s interior minister survives blast; at least 21 reported injured: Egypt’s interior minister survived an assassination attempt Thursday when his convoy was targeted by a bombing in Cairo’s Nasr City district. The area was the scene of a crackdown last month on Islamist supporters of ousted president Mohamed Morsi.

By Sharaf al-Hourani and Abigail Hauslohner, Published: September 5 E-mail the writer

CAIRO — Egypt’s interior minister survived an assassination attempt Thursday when his convoy was targeted in a bombing in the capital’s Nasr City district, the scene of a crackdown last month on Islamist supporters of ousted president Mohamed Morsi.

The minister, Mohamed Ibrahim, was unhurt in the blast, which damaged his armored vehicle and caused several injuries, according to state news media. There were conflicting accounts of the nature of the bomb and the casualty toll.

After decades of growth, South Korea has a skyline to match — a coast-to-coast line of apartments.

Twenty-two people were hospitalized with injuries, the Health Ministry said. The Interior Ministry said 10 police officers and a 7-year-old were among the injured.

Bombings are rare in Egypt, and Thursday's blast marked one of the most brazen assassination attempts on a high-ranking Egyptian official in decades, underscoring fears that the state's ongoing crackdown on Islamists could give way to a violent insurgency or even civil war.

No group asserted responsibility for the blast. The Muslim Brotherhood, which supports Morsi and staged protests demanding his reinstatement as president after a July 3 coup, condemned the attack and said the Islamist movement was not to blame.

Adly Mansour, the military-backed interim president, condemned what he called the "terrorist attack," vowing in a statement that the perpetrators "will not escape the sword of law and the grip of justice." Egypt's military chief, Gen. Abdel Fatah al-Sissi, denounced "the sinful attempt by some terrorist elements to assassinate the minister of interior."

Egypt's state-run Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported that a car bomb detonated on the street shortly after Ibrahim, the minister, left his home in an upscale section of Nasr City in eastern Cairo. Other media reports suggested that an explosive device had been hurled from a nearby building. Nasr City is a Muslim Brotherhood stronghold and the site of a pro-Morsi sit-in that was stormed by security forces on Aug. 14, leaving hundreds of protesters dead.

State radio reported that two blasts targeted Ibrahim's convoy, less than a minute apart, one of them a roadside bomb detonated by remote control. But a witness said there was one explosion, followed by police gunfire aimed at people fleeing the area.

State radio said one of the injured police officers lost a leg. MENA reported initially that seven people were injured. However, a police officer said he saw "dozens" of wounded people.

The Interior Ministry, which controls the nation's internal security forces, said in a statement that it was investigating the circumstances of the attack.

Ibrahim said that the bombing was "not the end but the beginning" of a new wave of terrorism but that the government would win, the Reuters news agency reported.

It was the first such attack since Egypt's 2011 uprising, when gunmen reportedly targeted the motorcade of longtime intelligence chief Omar Suleiman shortly after then-President Hosni Mubarak had named him vice president.

Extremist Islamist groups based in Egypt's Nile Valley launched attacks on government and security officials and infrastructure in the 1990s.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/06/egypt-journalist-held_n_3881199.html

Egypt: Journalist Held In Crackdown

By TONY G. GABRIEL and MARIAM RIZK 09/06/13 03:34 PM ET EDT **AP**



CAIRO — The detentions of an Egyptian labor lawyer and a journalist raised concerns among rights activists Friday that the military-backed government's crackdown on Islamists is expanding to silence other critics of its policies.

Authorities have been carrying out a wave of arrests for weeks against Islamist backers of ousted President Mohammed Morsi, who was removed in a July 3 coup. Still, his supporters have pushed ahead with protests organized by his Muslim Brotherhood denouncing the military and demanding Morsi's return to office.

In the latest rallies, thousands flowed from mosques Friday, chanting "down with military rule" and waving Egyptian flags.

Authorities have depicted the crackdown against Islamists as part of a "fight against terror." At least 2,000 Brotherhood members have been arrested, most on allegations of inciting violence.

A low-intensity militant insurgency has hit the Sinai peninsula and other areas in the south, where Islamist radicals have a strong base. A failed attempt to assassinate the interior minister Thursday with a car bomb has raised fears of an escalating Islamic militant campaign of revenge over the coup.

Along with the arrests, there has also been a heavy blanket of intimidation against criticism from within the non-Islamist camp against the military's actions.

Officials frequently urge the public to unite in the face of the terror threat. Rights lawyer Gamal Eid noted how pro-military TV stations and other media smear critics of the crackdown or other policies, including branding them as a "fifth column" for the Brotherhood. Private citizens have filed legal suits against activists, accusing them of serving foreign agendas or espionage.

The detentions of labor lawyer Haitham Mohammadain and journalist Ahmed Abu-Draa raised further alarm among activists.

Mohammadain was detained from a bus Thursday at a checkpoint in the port city of Suez. He belongs to the Revolutionary Socialists, a well-known leftist group which took part in the 2011 uprising against autocratic leader Hosni Mubarak and protests against Morsi and is now critical of the military.

His lawyer, Maha Youssef, said Mohammedain was first asked by the policeman at the checkpoint why he has a beard, which is seen as a sign of an Islamist. When he objected to the question, the policeman asked him to step out of the bus for more frisking, a power granted to police under the current emergency laws.

When the officer found papers on him identifying him as a member of the Revolutionary Socialists, the officer detained Mohammadain and wrote a police report accusing him of belonging to a secret group, according to Youssef.

She said Mohammadain has yet to be formally charged or questioned.

Journalist Abu-Draa, who reports from the volatile northern Sinai, has been under arrest since Wednesday, a military official said. He faces military investigation on allegations of publishing wrong information about an ongoing security operation, taking photos of military installations without a permit and spreading rumors about the armed forces.

The official spoke on condition anonymity because he isn't authorized to brief reporters.

Abu-Draa, a resident of Sinai, questioned the military's statements about its operations against militant groups in Sinai. During military airstrikes on a village that is a militant stronghold, Abu Draa wrote on Facebook that the strikes hit civilian areas and accused military officials of misinforming the public.

Few journalists have direct access to what is happening in Sinai because of security concerns, forcing many to rely on statement by officials. Abu Draa, an award-winning reporter who has done investigation stories in Sinai, freelances for multiple Egyptian and foreign newspapers and television channels.

A picture of the detained Abu Draa alongside militant suspects appeared in at least one newspaper with a caption identifying those arrested as "terrorists." The military official later said the joint photo was an unintended mistake.

Five journalists have been killed since Morsi's removal and 80 have been arbitrarily detained, Reporters Without Borders said Monday. Seven – most from outlets that authorities accuse of being pro-Islamist – remain in detention.

Eid, the rights lawyer, said Mubarak-era policies on dealing with dissent have remained the same, whether under subsequent interim military rulers or Morsi, who was Egypt's first freely elected president.

"We are before a tyrannical authority with interests very far from the revolution," he said, adding that while the Brotherhood's leaders and supporters are "on the top" of the security's list of arrests, "they are not at its end."

He ridiculed the police report against Mohammadain, saying most activist groups that arose since the uprising against Mubarak are not registered – including Tamarod, or Rebel, which spearheaded the campaign against Morsi and is a strong backer of the military.

"I think the issue is that the Revolutionary Socialists are not among those who are cheering the current authority," he said.

The current interim president was the head of Egypt's Supreme Constitutional Court and created a ministry to deal with transitional justice, referring to rights abuses by police and other authorities. But he also reinstated emergency laws that give sweeping powers to arrest and strip citizens of due process.

So far, non-Islamist dissent has been muted. Millions joined the anti-Morsi protests that led to the coup, and there is widespread sentiment among the public that the Islamists are a danger to the country that must be stopped.

But tempers are sharp.

A wedding party in the southern city of Qena turned into a fight Thursday night when the DJ played a popular new song thanking and praising the military. Three bearded men among the guests got furious and damaged the loudspeakers, sparking a fight with sticks that left seven people injured and led to the non-Islamist guests closing off a nearby highway for several hours, security officials in Qena said.

Under the crackdown, pro-Morsi protests have been smaller in recent weeks. Still, the Brotherhood has remained able to rally its base to the streets.

Many of Friday's protesters raised yellow signs depicting "four fingers," the symbol commemorating Rabaah el-Adawiya, the name of a Brotherhood-organized protest encampment that security forces violently broke up last month. The attack sparked several days of violence that killed more than 1,000 people, most of them Morsi supporters.

On Friday, two people were killed during clashes between protesters and anti-Brotherhood residents in the Mediterranean port cities of Alexandria and Damietta, security officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the press.

Pro-military protesters took to the streets in several Cairo neighborhoods, cheering the army chief and denouncing Thursday's car bombing against the interior minister's convoy.

Interior Minister Mohammed Ibrahim, who heads the police forces carrying out the crackdown, narrowly escaped the blast, but 22 police and civilians were wounded. Health Ministry official Ahmed el-Ansari said one of the wounded civilians died of his wounds on Friday.

AP correspondents Sarah El Deeb and Aya Batrawy contributed to this report.

<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/130906/two-dead-morsi-supporters-hold-new-rallies-egypt>

Agence France-Presse September 6, 2013 16:37

Two dead as Morsi supporters hold new rallies in Egypt

(Globalpost/GlobalPost)

Two people were killed Friday when clashes broke out between supporters and opponents of ousted Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi as thousands demonstrated despite a sustained government crackdown on Islamists.

The main rallies took place in the capital Cairo, while other protests broke out elsewhere in the country including in second city Alexandria and the Nile Delta province city of Damietta.

One person was killed in Alexandria and another in Damietta province when clashes there erupted between protesters and supporters of Morsi, medics said.

AFP correspondents in Cairo said protesters rallied in the upscale suburb of Maadi following the weekly Friday Muslim prayers.

Official media said smaller protests erupted in the afternoon in several provinces across the country.

The protests come a day after Interior Minister Mohammed Ibrahim survived a bomb targeting his convoy in which 21 people were injured. One of them died of his injuries Friday, a health official said.

The Islamist Anti-Coup Alliance led by Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood called for Friday's protests but only managed to attract several thousand supporters unlike past rallies when hundreds of thousands showed up.

The dwindling number of protesters come as police have pressed a crackdown on the Brotherhood, arresting hundreds of its members including its supreme guide.

The security forces stormed two major pro-Morsi protest camps on August 14, in an operation that saw hundreds of people killed.

Morsi was ousted by the military on July 3 after popular protests against his single year of turbulent rule. He is being held at an unknown location.

State media has said Morsi will stand trial in a criminal court for "incitement to murder" along with 14 other Brotherhood members, but no date has yet been given for the trial.

Morsi has been separately accused of crimes related to his 2011 escape from prison.

Since his ouster Egypt's new authorities have arrested the Brotherhood's supreme guide and more than 2,000 members, disrupting the group's ability to mobilise supporters.

On Tuesday a military court gave a life sentence to a Brotherhood member and sentenced 51 others to jail for attacking soldiers in the canal city of Suez in July.

The death sentence was the first imposed since the military toppled Morsi.

Earlier, an official told AFP the government would soon decide whether to dissolve an NGO registered under the Brotherhood's name amid allegations.

The NGO is legally a separate entity to the Brotherhood movement.

bur-hkb/dv

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/09/06/us-egypt-protests-idUSBRE9850EY20130906>

Clashes flare at pro-Mursi marches across Egypt, two dead





By Abdelrahman Youssef and Tom Perry

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt/CAIRO | Fri Sep 6, 2013 12:05pm EDT

(Reuters) - Two people were killed in skirmishes as supporters of deposed president Mohamed Mursi thronged Egypt's cities and towns on Friday for the third time in eight days, trying to rattle an army-backed government bent on crushing his Muslim Brotherhood.

But the authorities, who have killed hundreds of Mursi supporters and arrested most of its top leaders, pressed on with a campaign to neutralize Egypt's biggest political movement with a decision to clip its legal status.

Far from returning to normality after the army's overthrow of Mursi on July 3 following mass protests, the Arab world's most populous nation has remained on edge in fear of violence.

That fear was reinforced on Thursday when Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim survived a presumed suicide car bomb targeting his convoy, the culmination of a series of militant attacks.

Although it has yet to assign blame for that attack, the interim government has accused Brotherhood leaders of inciting violence, and portrayed the crackdown on the movement as a fight against terrorism - a view that many Egyptians endorse.

The new establishment has unveiled plans to revise the constitution to remove some Islamist-inspired amendments pushed through by Mursi, as well as lifting a ban on Mubarak-era officials returning to public office, before holding parliamentary and presidential elections early next year.

Friday's violence between Mursi supporters and either security forces or other supporters of the crackdown appeared more widespread than on either of the last two protest days.

A Reuters witness saw three men with swords set upon one of thousands of pro-Mursi protesters marching through Egypt's second city, Alexandria. Medical sources said one person involved in that protest was killed.

Another Mursi supporter was seen with birdshot wounds to the face, and Brotherhood supporters were seen punching and kicking a man they presumed to be hostile to them, the witness said.

State television showed footage of soldiers armed with assault rifles searching buildings in Alexandria, saying they were looking for gunmen who had opened fire on them.

One Mursi supporter was killed in Kafr el-Bateekh in Damietta province in clashes with government supporters where rocks, sticks and birdshot were used, according to witnesses and a medical official.

TEARGAS

In both Tanta in the Nile Delta and the southern city of Assiut, security forces used tear gas.

About 2,000 people marched in the Cairo district of Nasr City and 3,000 people in the port city of Suez.

There were also marches in Fayoum, three other cities in Assiut governorate and in eight cities in Minya governorate.

In the Delta city of Damanhour, hundreds took to the streets in a pro-government march, chanting "No to terrorism" and "Army, police and people are one hand".

As with previous days of protest, the marches received scant coverage on tightly-controlled state television channels and privately-owned Egyptian media hostile to the Brotherhood.

Islamist-run stations were shut down after Mursi was deposed, leaving it to Al Jazeera's Egyptian channel, banned but still transmitting from its base in Qatar, to show live footage of Friday's marches.

Separately, authorities announced they would within days dissolve a non-governmental organization registered by the Muslim Brotherhood in March.

Although short of a complete ban on the group, dissolving the NGO will strip the Brotherhood, which says it has a million members, of a defense against challenges to its legality.

The move stems from accusations that the group, which has won five consecutive national votes since autocratic president Hosni Mubarak's fall to a popular uprising in 2011, used its premises to store weapons and explosives.

The decision will be announced by Social Solidarity Minister Ahmed el-Boraie within days, his spokesman Hany Mahana said.

"Dr. el-Boraie has decided to dissolve the organization. The decree has not been issued yet," he said.

Since July, the army-backed authorities have killed more than 900 of Mursi's faithful and arrested most of the movement's leaders, including Mursi, on charges of murder or inciting violence against anti-Brotherhood protesters.

The group says the charges are an excuse for the crackdown.

Militant Islamists have also attacked police and churches. More than 100 members of the security forces have been killed since August 14, when the police killed hundreds of people while breaking up pro-Mursi protest camps in Cairo.

ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

One of the authors of that operation, Interior Minister Ibrahim, was the target of an assassination attempt on Thursday. A massive car bomb, almost certainly the work of a suicide bomber, blew up near his convoy as he set off for work, and his armored car was riddled with bullets.

A security source said three people had been killed in the blast: the person who detonated the bomb, a passerby who had died of their wounds, and a third person who was not identified.

The attack, staged in broad daylight, was by far the boldest since Mursi's overthrow, and its size and sophistication showed the risk that Egypt's crisis could spawn a wave of Islamist attacks like those it experienced in the 1980s and 1990s.

Radical Islamists have already stepped up an insurgency in the Sinai Peninsula since Mursi was overthrown, and online calls from Islamists for an even more violent response have grown.

(Writing by Kevin Liffey; Editing by Mark Heinrich)

http://www.thonline.com/news/national_world/article_4545aeb9-4262-5108-a8a1-76c62699be35.html

In south Egypt, Islamists take over town after coup

Posted: Saturday, September 7, 2013 12:00 am | *Updated: 5:20 am, Sat Sep 7, 2013.*

Associated Press

DALGA, Egypt -- The Coptic Orthodox priest would talk to his visitor only after hiding from the watchful eyes of the bearded Muslim outside, who sported a pistol bulging from under his robe.

So Father Yoannis moved behind a wall in the charred skeleton of an ancient monastery to describe how it was torched by Islamists and then looted when they took over this southern Egyptian town following the ouster of the country's president.

"The fire in the monastery burned intermittently for three days. The looting continued for a week. At the end, not a wire or an electric switch is left," Yoannis told The Associated Press. The monastery's 1,600-year-old underground chapel was stripped of ancient icons and the ground was dug up on the belief that a treasure was buried there.

"Even the remains of ancient and revered saints were disturbed and thrown around," he said.

A town of some 120,000 -- including 20,000 Christians -- Dalga has been outside government control since hard-line supporters of the Islamist Mohammed Morsi drove out police and occupied their station on July 3, the day Egypt's military chief removed the president in a popularly supported coup. It was part of a wave of attacks in the southern Minya province that targeted Christians, their homes and businesses.

Since then, the radicals have imposed their grip on Dalga, twice driving off attempts by the army to send in armored personnel carriers by showering them with gunfire.

Their hold points to the power of hard-line Islamists in southern Egypt even after Morsi's removal -- and their determination to defy the military-backed leadership that has replaced him.

With the army and police already fighting a burgeoning militant insurgency in the Sinai Peninsula, there are growing signs that a second insurgency could erupt in the south.

The takeover of Dalga has been disastrous for the Christian community in the town, located 160 miles south of Cairo in Minya, on the edge of the Nile Valley near the cliffs that mark the start of the desert.

In the initial burst of violence, the town's only Catholic church was ransacked and set ablaze, like the Monastery of the Virgin Mary and St. Abraam. The Anglican church was looted.

Some 40 Christian families have fled Dalga since, Yoannis said.

http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2013/09/12/egypte-l-etat-d-urgence-prolonge-de-deux-mois_3476791_3212.html

Égypte : l'état d'urgence prolongé de deux mois

Le Monde.fr avec AFP et Reuters | 12.09.2013 à 16h55 • Mis à jour le 12.09.2013 à 17h55

Le 8 septembre, des militaires égyptiens dans le Sinaï, une région en proie à des épisodes de violence depuis la destitution du président Morsi.

L'état d'urgence sera prolongé de deux mois en Égypte, a annoncé le gouvernement égyptien, jeudi 12 septembre.

L'état d'urgence avait été instauré le 14 août, le jour même où l'armée avait lancé avec la police l'assaut sur deux rassemblements des pro-Morsi, provoquant la mort de centaines de manifestants. En cinq jours, au moins 928 civils avaient été tués dans la répression des sit-in

et manifestations organisés par les Frères musulmans. Ces derniers protestaient contre la destitution du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi par l'armée.

VAGUES D'ATTENTATS

Le 5 septembre, une attaque visait le convoi du ministre de l'intérieur, Mohammed Ibrahim, alors qu'il circulait dans les rues du Caire. Mohammed Ibrahim avait survécu malgré la violence de l'explosion et était ensuite apparu à la télévision pour dénoncer une "lâche tentative" d'assassinat.

Le Sinaï, zone frontalière d'Israël et de la bande de Gaza, est également en proie à de vives tensions depuis la déposition du président Morsi. Mercredi 11 septembre, deux attentats ont visé l'armée égyptienne à Rafah, ville à frontalière de la bande de Gaza, tuant cinq soldats. Face à cette recrudescence des violences, la télévision publique du Caire a accusé jeudi le Hamas d'apprendre aux islamistes égyptiens comment dissimuler des bombes dans des voitures et d'avoir fourni 400 mines à des groupes radicaux.

<http://www.lalibre.be/actu/international/des-milliers-de-pro-morsi-manifestent-en-egypte-un-mort-a-alexandrie-523353023570b0befbe05b0a>

Des milliers de pro-Morsi manifestent en Egypte, un mort à Alexandrie

AFP Publié le vendredi 13 septembre 2013 à 20h01 - Mis à jour le samedi 14 septembre 2013 à 00h07



International "Abdel Fattah est un boucher", "A bas le pouvoir militaire" ... pouvait-on notamment entendre scander par la foule.

Des milliers d'islamistes manifestaient vendredi en Egypte pour réclamer le retour au pouvoir du président Mohamed Morsi destitué par l'armée début juillet, tandis que des heurts ont éclaté dans des villes de province et une personne a été tuée à Alexandrie.

Au Caire, quasiment un mois jour pour jour après la dispersion sanglante de rassemblements de milliers de pro-Morsi par l'armée et la police au Caire le 14 août, plusieurs milliers de manifestants ont défilé en direction de la place Rabaa al-Adawiya, dont les accès étaient bloqués par des soldats casqués et armés, a constaté un journaliste de l'AFP.

Cette place avait été, avec la place Nahda devant l'Université du Caire, l'épicentre le 14 août de la destruction des campements pro-Morsi au Caire qui avait fait des centaines de morts, en grande majorité des manifestants.

Les défilés de vendredi sont d'ailleurs placés sous le slogan "Loyauté au sang des martyrs". De nombreux manifestants brandissaient des photographies des pro-Morsi tués en scandant "Nous obtiendrons leurs droits (ce pour quoi ils se battaient, ndlr) ou nous mourrons comme eux", a rapporté le journaliste.

Dans le faubourg de Nasr City où se trouve Rabaa al-Adawiya, le défilé a marqué un arrêt devant l'immeuble d'une de ces victimes, tuée, selon sa mère, sur cette place. Ses proches regardaient les manifestants depuis une fenêtre brandissant la photo de la victime.

Les manifestants scandaient également "A bas le pouvoir militaire", à l'adresse de l'armée qui a destitué et arrêté M. Morsi après que des millions de manifestants ont réclamé son départ fin juin, et nommé un gouvernement civil pour le remplacer.

Ils ont aussi crié "Abdel Fattah est un boucher", en référence au général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, chef de la toute-puissante armée et nouvel homme fort du pays.

Un autre défilé s'est dirigé vers le palais présidentiel au Caire, selon l'agence officielle Mena.

A 17H00 GMT, heure à laquelle débute le couvre-feu le vendredi, journée traditionnelle de mobilisation, aucun incident n'avait été signalé au Caire.

A Alexandrie, la grande ville côtière du Nord, des heurts sporadiques ont opposé pro et anti-Morsi, faisant un mort et cinq blessés, selon Mena, tandis que trois personnes ont été blessées dans la province de Beheira (nord), de même source.

Dans le nord du pays toujours, la police a tiré du gaz lacrymogène pour disperser des affrontements similaires à Mahalla et Tanta, dans le Delta du Nil, ont rapporté des sources de sécurité et les médias d'Etat.

L'agence a ajouté que de nombreux partisans des Frères musulmans, la confrérie de M. Morsi, avaient été arrêtés en marge des manifestations dans différentes villes.

Les Frères musulmans appellent à de nouvelles manifestations samedi.

Dans la semaine qui a suivi le 14 août, au moins un millier de personnes avaient été tuées, des pro-Morsi pour l'immense majorité, mais aussi quelques dizaines de membres des forces de l'ordre, dans les manifestations réclamant le retour de M. Morsi, ou bien dans des attaques visant l'armée et la police.

Face à ces violences, le gouvernement a prolongé jeudi de deux mois l'état d'urgence dans le pays, où un couvre-feu nocturne est imposé dans 14 des 27 provinces, de 21H00 GMT à 04H00 GMT tous les soirs à l'exception du vendredi.

Depuis un mois également, une vague sans précédent d'arrestations a décapité et dégarni la confrérie des Frères musulmans, à laquelle appartient M. Morsi, premier président démocratiquement élu d'Egypte.

Plus de 2.000 membres des Frères musulmans sont emprisonnés et la quasi-totalité des dirigeants du mouvement sous le coup de procès pour meurtre ou incitation au meurtre.

<http://www.rfi.fr/moyen-orient/20130914-egypte-milliers-pro-morsi-rues-mois-apres-assaut-sanglant-police>

Egypte -

Article publié le : samedi 14 septembre 2013 à 05:14 - Dernière modification le : samedi 14 septembre 2013 à 05:14

Egypte: des milliers de pro-Morsi dans les rues, un mois après l'assaut sanglant de la police



Des manifestants pro-Morsi scandent des slogans hostiles au général Sissi et au régime militaire, au Caire, le 13 septembre.

REUTERS/Amr Abdallah Dalsh

Par RFI

Cela fera un mois jour pour jour, ce samedi 14 septembre, que les forces de l'ordre ont dispersé brutalement les deux *sit-in* de partisans des Frères musulmans au Caire, faisant des centaines de victimes. Des milliers de personnes ont manifesté hier dans la capitale mais aussi dans d'autres villes du pays.

Le cortège s'est mis en marche depuis la mosquée Salam dans le quartier de Nasr City. Plusieurs milliers de personnes se sont dirigées vers Rabaa al-Adawiya, en scandant des slogans hostiles au général Sissi et au régime militaire.

« J'ai participé à cinq élections et aujourd'hui la police et l'armée ont pris mon vote et l'ont jeté à la poubelle, explique Mustapha Mahmoud, un ouvrier de 40 ans. Je viens réclamer mon droit, ma voix. Je suis aussi venu car beaucoup de gens sont morts ici, et ils ne valent pas moins que nous. C'est le peuple égyptien qui est ici, ce ne sont pas les Frères musulmans, c'est tout le peuple. Moi je ne fais pas partie des Frères musulmans ».

La police « arrête ceux qui sont barbus »

Moustapha Ali, un professeur de mathématiques de 29 ans à la barbe en bataille, assure lui aussi, comme la plupart des manifestants, ne faire partie d'aucune formation politique : *« J'espère que l'on va retrouver les libertés qui existaient au temps de Mohamed Morsi. Bien sûr la police et le pouvoir répriment les gens comme nous, ils arrêtent ceux qui sont barbuis, sans aucune raison... Et pas seulement les gens qui portent une barbe, ceux qui ont des affiches, par exemple, pour la légitimité et contre le coup d'Etat. Ils les arrêtent et les interrogent »*.

L'armée avait bloqué l'accès à la place de Rabaa al-Adawiya. Les manifestants ont donc dû faire demi-tour, sans incident. Aux balcons, des habitants marquent leur soutien. D'autres, au contraire, font signe qu'ils sont opposés à leur mouvement.

Des chocolats à l'effigie du général al-Sissi. L'armée et le général Sissi, qui a renversé Mohamed Morsi, restent extrêmement populaires dans le pays. Pour une grande partie des Egyptiens, le chef des armées fait figure de sauveur, engagé dans une lutte contre des terroristes. Et son visage s'affiche partout.

<http://www.amnesty.ch/fr/pays/moyen-orient-afrique-du-nord/egypte/docs/2013/des-partisans-de-mohamed-morsi-voient-leurs-droits-bafoues-en-detention>

Égypte

Des pro-Morsi voient leurs droits bafoués



Au Caire, la police a fait recours à du gaz lacrymogène et des balles en caoutchouc contre des manifestants pro-Morsi. | © REUTERS/Amr Abdallah Dalsh

Des dizaines de personnes ont été privées de leurs droits juridiques fondamentaux après avoir été arrêtées lors de l'évacuation de deux sit-ins de grande ampleur au Caire le mois dernier, a déclaré Amnesty International.

Dans plusieurs cas recensés par l'organisation, des manifestants n'ont pas été autorisés à contacter leur avocat ou leurs proches dans un délai raisonnable, ni à contester la légalité de leur maintien en détention après leur arrestation.

L'égalité devant la loi est un droit

«Tous les citoyens doivent être égaux devant la loi. Il est inacceptable que des sympathisants de Mohamed Morsi ou des Frères musulmans soient traités de manière inéquitable en raison de leurs affiliations politiques», a souligné Philip Luther, directeur du programme Moyen-Orient et Afrique du Nord à Amnesty International.

Depuis le 3 juillet 2013, les forces de sécurité ont arrêté au moins 3 000 individus, pour la plupart des sympathisants ou des membres des Frères musulmans, selon des avocats les représentant.

Libertés d'expression et de réunion bafouées

L'organisation déplore que figurent parmi les personnes arrêtées des hommes et des femmes qui ne faisaient rien d'autre qu'exercer leur droit à la liberté d'expression et de réunion en manifestant en faveur du président déchu Mohamed Morsi.

Beaucoup sont inculpées de toute une série d'infractions graves, notamment de meurtre, d'agressions contre les forces de sécurité, de détention d'armes et d'incitation au meurtre et à d'autres formes de violence.

«Il faut libérer immédiatement et sans condition toutes les personnes incarcérées uniquement pour avoir exercé pacifiquement leur droit à la liberté de réunion, d'association ou d'expression. Les autorités doivent par ailleurs respecter scrupuleusement le droit de tous les détenus à un procès équitable», a précisé Philip Luther.

Des avocats impuissants

Un grand nombre de manifestants arrêtés lorsque les sit-ins de Rabaa al Adawiya et de Nahda ont été dispersés le 14 août 2013 n'ont pas pu contacter leurs avocats pendant au moins quatre jours. Les avocats des Frères musulmans ont déclaré qu'ils n'avaient pas pu suivre les enquêtes parce que les interrogatoires avaient eu lieu pendant le couvre-feu, ou qu'ils n'avaient pas été informés du lieu où se trouvait leur client ou encore de la date et de l'heure des investigations.

«Empêcher les détenus de recevoir une assistance juridique est une grave violation des droits humains.

«Empêcher les détenus de recevoir une assistance juridique est une grave violation des droits humains. Toutes les personnes arrêtées doivent se voir offrir une véritable possibilité d'être entendues par un représentant de l'administration judiciaire en présence d'un avocat, et pouvoir être jugées dans un délai raisonnable ou être libérées», a indiqué Philip Luther.

Assistance médicale refusée

Parmi les personnes arrêtées ce même mois lors de la flambée de violence sur la place Ramsès figurent 80 personnes. Ils ont été répartis entre deux cellules conçues pour accueillir un maximum de 20 détenus. Trois femmes ont été incarcérées séparément.

L'une d'entre elles souffrait d'une fracture à la jambe, et a passé quatre jours en détention sans que les autorités carcérales n'autorisent son hospitalisation ni ne lui permettent de voir un médecin. Elle a uniquement été hospitalisée sur l'ordre du procureur, à la suite du renouvellement de son mandat de dépôt.

Au moins 30 personnes arrêtées lors d'affrontements à proximité du tribunal de Gizeh nord le 16 août se trouvent toujours en détention dans des lieux inconnus.

Complément d'information

Depuis le 3 juillet 2013, les forces de sécurité ont arrêté au moins 3 000 personnes et en ont libéré 600. D'après des avocats, au moins 2 200 personnes se trouvent toujours dans les prisons de Tora, d'Abu Zabaal, de la cour d'appel du Caire, de Wadi El Natroon et d'El Kanater, ainsi que dans le camp des forces centrales de sécurité d'Al Salam, au Caire.

Les arrestations ont eu lieu après que les forces de sécurité aient eu recours à une force excessive pour réprimer les manifestations pro-Morsi ou à la suite d'affrontements armés entre camps rivaux au Caire, notamment dans les secteurs d'Al Moqattam (30 juin 2013), du Club de la garde républicaine (5 et 8 juillet), non loin du mausolée du soldat inconnu (27 juillet), et lors de l'évacuation des sit-ins de Rabaa al Adawiya et de Nahda (14 août), et de la place Ramsès (16 août).

13 septembre 2013

<http://www.lesechos.fr/economie-politique/monde/actu/reuters-00549349-nouvelle-offensive-de-l-armee-contre-les-islamistes-du-sinai-605110.php>

Nouvelle offensive de l'armée contre les islamistes du Sinaï

13/09 | 18:18

L'armée égyptienne appuyée par des hélicoptères a mené vendredi une offensive dans la péninsule du Sinaï pour déloger les insurgés qui y multiplient les attaques contre les forces de l'ordre depuis l'éviction du président Mohamed Morsi et font peser une menace sur la sécurité du pays.

Trois soldats ont été blessés lors des opérations dans trois villages différents, ont dit des responsables des services de sécurité.

Les insurgés, armés de roquettes et de grenades, mènent des attaques quasi quotidiennes contre les militaires et les policiers, dont 50 ont perdu la vie dans ces violences depuis la destitution de Mohamed Morsi le 3 juillet.

Un groupe d'activistes installés dans le Sinaï a revendiqué la responsabilité de l'attentat manqué contre le ministre de l'Intérieur au Caire la semaine passée.

La dernière offensive en date a permis aux forces de sécurité d'appréhender deux hommes, de saisir une roquette et de la dynamite employée à la confection de bombes ainsi que 200 ouvrages traitant du fondamentalisme islamique.

Les nouvelles autorités au pouvoir au Caire ont largement concentré leurs actions sur les Frères musulmans, organisation dont est issu Mohamed Morsi.

Des milliers de partisans de l'ancien chef de l'Etat, écarté par les militaires, ont défilé dans plusieurs quartiers du Caire après la prière vendredi.

Des manifestations ont également eu lieu à Alexandrie, où on signale un mort et quatre blessés parmi les protestataires, Fayoum, Assiout et Kena. La télévision gouvernementale a

fait état de heurts entre des membres de la confrérie et des habitants à Mahala, localité située sur le delta du Nil.

Dans la capitale, les manifestants ont défilé en demandant la fin du régime militaire. L'état d'urgence instauré pour un mois le 14 août a été prolongé pour une durée de deux mois supplémentaires en raison de la situation sécuritaire dans le pays.

<http://www.maghrebemergent.com/actualite/internationale/item/29404-egypte-l-etat-d-urgence-prolonge-pour-parachever-le-demantelement-des-freres-musulmans.html>

Yassin Tamlali

vendredi 13 septembre 2013 13:45

Egypte - L'état d'urgence prolongé pour parachever le démantèlement des Frères musulmans

La prolongation de l'état d'urgence de deux mois a pour but la poursuite du démantèlement des Frères musulmans. Les groupes djihadistes, eux, ont toujours agi sous l'empire de lois d'exception particulièrement sévères sans que le gouvernement réussisse à les éradiquer.

« A la lumière de la situation qui prévaut dans le pays », le président égyptien par intérim, Adly Mansour, a prolongé jeudi de deux mois l'état d'urgence décrété le 14 août 2013 pour une durée d'un mois. Les espoirs d'une normalisation de la situation politique et sécuritaire s'éloignent d'autant plus que les Frères musulmans continuent d'appeler à manifester contre le renversement du président Mohamed Morsi, le 3 juillet dernier, par l'armée.

La reconduite de l'état d'urgence semble avoir pour but central de parachever le démantèlement de l'organisation des Frères musulmans, presque décapitée aujourd'hui. Elle ne semble pas viser l'éradication - plus difficile et plus coûteuse en vies humaines - des groupes djihadistes, qui, pendant le règne de Hosni Moubarak, ont toujours agi sous l'empire de lois d'exception particulièrement sévères.

Depuis que l'état d'urgence a été décrété, des centaines de personnes ont été tuées, dont la plupart lors de la dispersion de sit-in islamistes organisées pour dénoncer la destitution du président Morsi. Il n'a pas empêché la multiplication des attentats contre les militaires, les policiers et des membres du gouvernement (le ministre de l'Intérieur Mohamed Ibrahim, le 5 septembre dernier). Plusieurs attaques contre les barrages de contrôle, les commissariats et les convois des forces de sécurité ont eu lieu en différents points du territoire égyptien, essentiellement dans le Sinaï. Pas plus tard qu'avant-hier mercredi, un bâtiment Renseignements militaires dans cette presqu'île frontalière avec la bande de Gaza et l'Etat d'Israël a été la cible d'un attentat à l'explosif.

La responsabilité de ces actions est imputée par la presse, majoritairement favorable au régime en place, à des « djihadistes » soutenus par des « parties étrangères » et dont l'identité n'est jamais davantage précisée. Elle est parfois imputée aux Frères musulmans. L'un des rares attentats à avoir été revendiqués est celui qui a visé le ministre de l'Intérieur il ya une semaine. Il l'a été par un groupe se donnant pour nom « Ansar Bayt al Maqdis » (les partisans de Jérusalem) mais cette revendication n'a pu être authentifiée.

L'identité des groupes armés : flou total

Le flou est, en réalité, total quant à sur l'identité des groupes entrés en action il y a quelques semaines seulement pour les uns et actifs pour d'autres depuis de longues années (ceux opérant dans le Sinaï). S'il n'est pas improbable qu'une partie des Frères musulmans a été radicalisée par la répression, rien, pour l'instant, ne permet d'affirmer que cette confrérie s'est dotée d'un bras armé. Une reconstitution de factions radicales de la Gamaa islamia, responsable d'attentats meurtriers dans les années 1990, est plausible même si cette hypothèse ne se fonde encore sur aucune preuve tangible. Des chefs historiques de cette organisation comme Nageh Ibrahim - connu pour être un des auteurs des « Moragaât » (révisions dans le sens de la modération de la doctrine islamique du djihad) -, ont déclaré leur opposition à la violence politique. Mais d'autres, comme Assem Abdelmaged, sont des membres actifs de l'Alliance pour la défense de la légitimité qui exige le retour au pouvoir de Mohamed Morsi et sont recherchés pour « appel à la haine », entre autres accusations.

Bien qu'ils continuent à manifester tous les vendredis - raison pour laquelle le couvre-feu débute ce jour-là à 19 h et non à 23 heures comme le reste de la semaine -, les Frères musulmans éprouvent du mal à mobiliser leurs troupes. Dans certains quartiers, les « comités populaires » s'opposent, parfois violemment, à leurs manifestations, par hostilité envers les islamistes ou par crainte que des sit-in ne s'organisent près de chez eux, avec tout ce que cela impliquerait comme bouleversements de leur vie quotidienne. Cependant, leur capacité d'action réduite s'explique surtout par la répression qu'ils subissent, sans égale dans leur histoire depuis le règne de Nasser. Beaucoup de leurs dirigeants influents sont en prison, dont le Guide général, Mohamed Badiê, son prédécesseur, Mahdi Akef, et Mohamed El Beltagui, très populaire parmi les jeunes militants. Plusieurs autres dirigeants qui ne font pas partie du premier cercle sont également détenus, de même que des centaines de cadres intermédiaires.

Le gouvernement ne semble pas envisager de mettre hors la loi l'aile légale de la confrérie islamiste, le Parti de la liberté et de la justice mais celui-ci est immobilisé car l'essentiel de son encadrement se trouve derrière les barreaux, comme l'a rappelé un de ses dirigeants encore en liberté, Amr Derradj cité par Foreign Policy.

La décision d'épargner le PJJ pourrait être motivée par l'espoir d'y faire émerger une frange qui accepte de pactiser avec le pouvoir intérimaire et de prendre part aux prochaines élections. Cet espoir ne s'est pas encore concrétisé et il est peu probable qu'il le soit dans l'immédiat. La répression que subissent les Frères musulmans fait que toute dissidence en leur sein serait perçue que comme une haute trahison et par conséquent condamnée à rester minoritaire. En revanche, il est à se demander si la répression n'est pas en train de forger une nouvelle direction moins encline au compromis avec le régime que l'ancienne.

<http://directinfo.webmanagercenter.com/2013/09/14/egypte-1-mort-et-5-blesses-dans-des-affrontements-entre-pro-et-anti-morsi/>

1 mort et 5 blessés dans des affrontements entre pro et anti-Morsi

| 14 sept 2013 | 9 h 17 min |

Un mort et cinq blessés suite à des heurts entre pro et anti-Morsi, vendredi 13 septembre 2013, lors de la manifestation des milliers de partisans du président déchu, Mohamed Morsi au Caire et dans plusieurs autres villes égyptiennes.

Près d'un mois après la dispersion violente des rassemblements de protestation à la place Rabia Al-Adawiyya au Caire, les défilés étaient placés sous le slogan « Loyauté au sang des martyrs ».

A noter que de nombreux sympathisants de la confrérie des Frères musulmans, dont est issu Mohamed Morsi, ont été arrêtés en marge des manifestations dans plusieurs villes.

Les Frères musulmans ont appelé à de nouvelles manifestations ce samedi 14 septembre.

<http://french.cri.cn/621/2013/09/15/302s342259.htm>

Manifestations Pro-Morsi en Egypte : une personne a été tuée à Alexandrie

2013-09-15 20:38:01 xinhua

Ce vendredi, des partisans de Mohamed Morsi sont à nouveau descendus dans la rue, réclamant son retour au pouvoir, dénonçant le coup d'Etat militaire.

Alors qu'aucun incident n'a été signalé au Caire, des affrontements opposant pro et anti-Morsi ont éclaté dans plusieurs villes et provinces du pays. Et une personne a été tuée à Alexandrie et cinq autres blessées. Trois personnes ont également été blessées dans la province de Beheira, au nord. Dans la région, la police a tiré du gaz lacrymogène pour disperser des affrontements similaires à Mahalla et Tanta, dans le Delta du Nil, ont rapporté des sources de sécurité et les médias d'Etat. Selon Mena, en marge de ces manifestations, de nombreux Frères musulmans ont été arrêtés.

http://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/egypte/video-egypte-un-policier-tue-lors-d-une-operation-pres-du-caire_415235.html

VIDEO. Egypte : un policier tué lors d'une opération près du Caire

Il est mort lors d'affrontements avec des groupes armés, lors d'une intervention des forces de l'ordre dans une banlieue de la capitale égyptienne.

Par Francetv info

Mis à jour le 19/09/2013 | 09:09 , publié le 19/09/2013 | 08:56

Un policier égyptien a été tué par balles tôt jeudi 19 septembre, dans des affrontements avec des groupes armés, lors d'une opération dans une banlieue de l'ouest du Caire (Egypte), selon les images de la télévision publique égyptienne. Les violences ont éclaté lors d'une intervention des forces de l'ordre à Kerdassah, localité située à 14 km de la capitale égyptienne.

Les policiers sont intervenus contre des suspects recherchés pour la mort d'une dizaine de policiers, dans les affrontements survenus en août entre les forces de sécurité et les partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi, déposé par l'armée le 3 juillet. Depuis ces heurts, les forces de l'ordre ne pouvaient plus pénétrer à Kerdassah, un bastion islamiste. D'après la télévision égyptienne, la police a repris le contrôle du secteur et un couvre-feu a été décrété.

Par ailleurs, les autorités ont interrompu jeudi le trafic sur plusieurs lignes du métro du Caire, après la découverte de deux bombes sur les rails d'une station du sud de la capitale.

http://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/egypte/nouveaux-affrontements-entre-militaires-et-partisans-du-president-morsi-pres-du-caire_415199.html

Egypte : violents heurts et double alerte à la bombe au Caire

Les forces de sécurité ont lancé un assaut contre un village proche du Caire contrôlé par des fidèles de l'ex-président Morsi. Peu après, deux fausses bombes ont été découvertes dans le métro de la capitale.



Un soldat de l'armée égyptienne au Caire (Egypte), le 17 septembre 2013. (MOHAMED ABD EL GHANY / REUTERS)
Par Francetv info avec Reuters

Mis à jour le 19/09/2013 | 11:17 , publié le 19/09/2013 | 07:32

Des membres des services de sécurité égyptiens ont échangé des tirs avec des groupes armés et ont fait usage de gaz lacrymogène, jeudi 19 septembre, à Kerdassah, dans la banlieue du Caire, capitale de l'Egypte. Selon l'agence officielle Mena, un haut gradé de la police a été tué dans l'opération lancée conjointement par l'armée et la police.

(REUTERS)

Les forces armées ont attaqué le village pour le "*nettoyer (...) des éléments terroristes*", a indiqué un responsable de la sécurité à l'AFP. Depuis la destitution et l'arrestation le 3 juillet du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi par l'armée, les forces de l'ordre mènent une violente campagne de répression contre ses partisans, qu'elles accusent de "*terrorisme*".

Deux fausses bombes trouvées sur les rails

Les membres des forces de sécurité étaient venus arrêter des hommes soupçonnés d'avoir tué une dizaine d'agents lors de la mise à sac de plusieurs commissariats après la chute de Mohamed Morsi. L'objectif est d'arrêter "*140 personnes recherchées*" et de retrouver les auteurs du "*massacre*" de Kerdassah. Depuis ces heurts, les forces de l'ordre ne pouvaient pénétrer dans ce bastion islamiste. Quelques jours auparavant, le 13 septembre, des milliers de partisans du président déchu avaient manifesté au Caire, entraînant de nouveaux affrontements.

Quelques heures après le lancement de l'opération, les autorités égyptiennes ont interrompu le trafic sur plusieurs lignes du métro du Caire après la découverte de deux bombes sur les rails

d'une station du sud de la capitale, selon des responsables de la sécurité. Mais il s'agissait en réalité de faux engins explosifs, a indiqué un responsable du ministère de l'Intérieur à l'AFP, décrivant des *"sacs de ciment desquels sortaient des fils électriques, destinés à faire croire qu'il s'agissait de bombes. Ils ne contenaient en fait aucun agent explosif."* Aussitôt après la découverte des fausses bombes, des experts ont été déployés afin d'inspecter l'ensemble du réseau ferré. Le métro du Caire est emprunté chaque jour par au moins trois millions de passagers.

<http://www.presse.fr/detail/2013/09/29/326780/30-students-wounded-in-egypt-clashes/>

Nearly 30 students wounded in Egypt clashes



Egyptian riot police arrest a protester during clashes near Tahrir Square in Cairo, Egypt. (file photo)

Sun Sep 29, 2013 10:30PM GMT



'Majority of Egyptians against coup'

Nearly 30 students have been wounded in clashes between supporters and opponents of Egypt's ousted President Mohamed Morsi at three universities.

According to Egyptian state media and security sources, fighting between groups for and against Morsi broke out on Sunday.

At least 12 students were wounded in clashes at Cairo's Ain Shams University, security sources said.

The state news agency reported that 15 people were injured when rival students at Zagazig University fought.

Meanwhile, state-owned newspaper *Al Ahram* said that unknown gunmen shot at students marching and chanting anti-military slogans in the city of Zagazig which is located in northeast of Cairo.

Sources also said that clashes at a university in the Nile Delta city of Tanta left two people wounded.

Egyptian students have held several pro-Morsi demonstrations across the country since the start of the new academic year on September 21, demanding his reinstatement.

On September 22, more than 10 students were injured after supporters and opponents of Morsi clashed at Zagazig University.

On September 25, similar clashes erupted between pro-Morsi students and those supporting the military-installed government at Zagazig and Alexandria universities. Several people were wounded in the confrontations.

Morsi, who was Egypt's first democratically elected president, was ousted by the army after one year in office on July 3. The move sparked nationwide protests, which lasted for weeks.

Following his ouster, Egypt's army chief Abdel Fattah al-Sisi announced that Morsi, a leading former member of the Muslim Brotherhood, was no longer in office and declared that the head of the Supreme Constitutional Court, Adly Mahmoud Mansour, had been appointed as the new interim president of Egypt. The army also suspended the constitution.

Hundreds of protesters have been killed in violent crackdown on backers of Morsi by security forces.

MR/HN/AS

<http://www.lefigaro.fr/international/2013/10/04/01003-20131004ARTFIG00454-nouveaux-affrontements-violents-entre-pro-et-anti-morsi-au-caire.php>

Nouveaux affrontements violents entre policiers et pro-Morsi au Caire

Par Thomas Féat, AFP, AP, Reuters Agences

Mis à jour le 04/10/2013 à 21:10

Publié le 04/10/2013 à 16:50



Des partisans des Frères Musulmans ont manifesté dans plusieurs villes d'Egypte vendredi. Un premier bilan faisait état d'au moins quatre morts dans la capitale.

Des heurts ont éclaté vendredi au Caire et dans plusieurs autres villes d'Egypte au cours de manifestations orchestrées par des partisans de Mohamed Morsi. Dans la capitale, forces de l'ordre et partisans du président déchu se sont affrontés place Tahrir, lieu symbolique de la révolution de 2011. Quatre personnes, dont au moins un partisan des Frères musulmans, ont été tuées dans le centre de la capitale au cours des rixes, et au moins 40 blessés ont été recensés dans les violences qui ont éclaté en marge de manifestations islamistes à l'issue de la prière hebdomadaire dans le pays.

Les policiers ont tiré à balles réelles en l'air à de nombreuses reprises et envoyé une large volée de gaz sur plusieurs centaines de manifestants qui scandaient «Dieu est grand». Les forces de l'ordre ont ensuite pourchassé les manifestants pour les repousser vers une place plus éloignée. Dans le même temps, l'armée égyptienne a fermé tous les accès à l'emblématique place Tahrir, et la plupart des magasins sont restés fermés dans le centre de la capitale.

Dans le quartier de Manial, des centaines d'islamistes scandaient des slogans contre le nouvel homme fort du pays, le général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, quand des affrontements ont éclaté avec des anti-Morsi, selon un témoin qui a fait état de tirs de chevrotine dans chaque camp.

Alexandrie et deux villes du delta du Nil ont également été le théâtre de violences.

2000 Frères musulmans emprisonnés

Par ailleurs, plusieurs milliers de partisans des Frères musulmans ont pris la direction de la place Rabaa al Adaouia, dans les faubourgs du Caire, d'où ils avaient été délogés lors d'une opération particulièrement meurtrière de l'armée en août dernier, au cours de laquelle plus de 600 personnes avaient perdu la vie.

La répression en cours contre les Frères musulmans est l'une des plus violentes subie par la confrérie depuis sa création il y a 85 ans. Des centaines de ses partisans ont été tués par les forces de l'ordre et nombre de ses dirigeants sont en prison. Au total, plus de 2000 membres de la confrérie auraient été emprisonnés depuis cet été. Malgré tout, de petites manifestations ont encore lieu sporadiquement.

Avec agences

<http://maliactu.net/egypte-un-mort-par-balle-dans-les-affrontements-au-caire/>

Egypte: un mort par balle dans les affrontements au Caire

Publié le 4 oct 2013 - 5:27



Un homme a été tué par balle vendredi au Caire dans les affrontements qui ont émaillé des manifestations de partisans de l'ancien président islamiste Mohamed Morsi après la grande prière hebdomadaire, a annoncé un responsable médical.

Les affrontements qui ont eu lieu dans plusieurs quartiers, essentiellement entre partisans et opposants de M. Morsi, ont également fait 18 blessés, a expliqué Ahmed al-Ansari, responsable des services ambulanciers.

http://www.huffpostmaghreb.com/2013/10/04/egypte-manifestants-morsi_n_4044681.html

Egypte: affrontements entre partisans de Morsi et policiers

AFP | Publication: 04/10/2013 23h23 CEST



La police égyptienne a tiré des gaz lacrymogènes et des coups de semonce vendredi contre des manifestants islamistes près de la place Tahrir au Caire pour les empêcher de pénétrer sur le rond-point emblématique.

Les policiers ont tiré à balles réelles en l'air à de nombreuses reprises et envoyé une large volée de gaz sur plusieurs centaines de manifestants qui scandaient "Dieu est grand". Les policiers ont ensuite pourchassé les manifestants, essentiellement des Frères musulmans, pour les repousser vers une place plus éloignée.

Dans le même temps, l'armée égyptienne a fermé tous les accès à la place Tahrir, et la plupart des magasins sont restés fermés dans le centre de la capitale. Dans plusieurs quartiers du Caire, des milliers de partisans de l'ancien président islamiste Mohamed Morsi, renversé et arrêté par l'armée en juillet, ont entamé de nouvelles manifestations contre l'armée après la prière hebdomadaire.

"Vengeance, vengeance"

Dans le quartier de Manial, des centaines d'islamistes scandaient des slogans contre le nouvel homme fort du pays, le général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, quand des affrontements ont éclaté avec des anti-Morsi, selon un témoin qui a fait état de tirs de chevrotine dans chaque camp.

Un autre témoin a rapporté des affrontements dans le quartier de Chobra, qui ont pris fin avec l'intervention des forces de sécurité. Dans le quartier de Nasr City, où se trouve la place Rabaa al-Adawiya, haut lieu de la violente répression menée contre les Frères musulmans dont Mohamed Morsi est issu, des milliers de partisans de l'ex-président ont manifesté.

Le 14 août, pour mettre fin à des semaines de sit-in des pro-Morsi sur cette place ainsi que sur la place Nahda, dans un autre quartier, l'armée avait donné l'assaut et tout balayé, tuant des centaines de personnes.

Vendredi, les manifestants à Nasr City brandissaient leurs mains avec quatre doigts dressés, un geste devenu le symbole de la répression à Rabaa al-Adawiya, et des portraits de victimes de la répression, en scandant «Vengeance, vengeance».

Premier président égyptien élu démocratiquement mais accusé d'avoir cherché à accaparer le pouvoir pour les Frères musulmans, Mohamed Morsi a été destitué le 3 juillet par l'armée à la suite de manifestations massives réclamant son départ. Il est depuis détenu au secret et inculpé de la mort de manifestants.

<http://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/2013/10/04/97001-20131004FILWWW00433-caire-un-mort-dans-les-affrontements.php>

Caire: un mort dans des affrontements

Par Le Figaro.fr avec Reuters
Mis à jour le 04/10/2013 à 17:22
Publié le 04/10/2013 à 16:11

Un partisan des Frères musulmans est mort après avoir été touché par balle dans un affrontement près du centre ville au Caire, selon des sources médicales.

Des heurts ont éclaté aujourd'hui dans plusieurs villes d'Égypte à la suite des manifestations de plusieurs milliers de partisans des Frères musulmans.

Au Caire, les manifestants ont affronté les forces de l'ordre sur la route menant aux pyramides de Guizeh. Des partisans et des opposants du président déchu se sont affrontés sur la place Tahrir. La police a tiré à balles réelles en l'air et utilisé du gaz lacrymogènes pour les disperser.

Alexandrie et deux villes du delta du Nil sont également touchées.

<http://www.tdg.ch/monde/Des-manifestations-en-Egypte-font-5-morts/story/24844923>

Des manifestations en Egypte font 5 morts

Mis à jour le 04.10.2013 1 Commentaire

Cinq personnes ont été tuées en Egypte dans des affrontements entre forces de l'ordre et partisans des Frères musulmans. Des affrontements dans plusieurs quartiers du Caire ont également fait 18 blessés.



1/98 Cinq personnes ont été tuées vendredi en Egypte dans des affrontements entre forces de l'ordre et partisans des Frères musulmans. (4 octobre 2013)

Image: AFP

Des manifestations sanglantes ont eu à nouveau lieu en Egypte.

Quatre personnes ont trouvé la mort à Assiout, en Moyenne-Egypte et un partisan des Frères a été tué par balles au Caire, a-t-on appris de sources médicales.

Dans la capitale, plusieurs cortèges se sont formés et des heurts ont été signalés en divers points. Un véhicule militaire a tiré à balles réelles en direction des manifestants qui avaient un peu plus tôt été délogés à coups de gaz lacrymogènes de la place Tahrir, a constaté un correspondant de Reuters sur place.

Les milliers de manifestants du Caire ont tenté de marcher en direction du palais présidentiel, mais ont été refoulés par les forces de police. Les manifestants agitaient des drapeaux égyptiens et scandaient des slogans hostiles au général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, chef d'état-major de l'armée.

Par ailleurs, plusieurs milliers de partisans des Frères musulmans ont pris la direction de la place Rabaa al-Adaouia, principal campement des manifestants pro-Morsi qui en avaient été délogés le 14 août au terme d'une journée sanglante. Un autre sit-in, moins important, sur la place Al Nahda, à Guizeh, avait été évacué le même jour. Des centaines de personnes avaient trouvé la mort dans ces opérations.

Tolérance zéro

Les autorités égyptiennes, qui avaient averti qu'elles ne toléreraient aucun nouveau sit-in, ont dépêché l'armée et la police en renfort sur les lieux.

La répression en cours contre les Frères musulmans est l'une des plus violentes subie par la confrérie depuis sa création il y a 85 ans. Des centaines de ses partisans ont été tués par les forces de l'ordre et nombre de ses dirigeants sont en prison. Malgré tout, de petites manifestations ont encore lieu de temps à autre.

Par ailleurs, des hommes armés et masqués ont tiré sur un véhicule militaire vendredi près de la ville d'Ismailiya sur le canal de Suez, tuant deux soldats et en blessant deux autres, dont un officier, a indiqué un responsable des services de sécurité. (ats/afp/Newsnet

http://www.lepoint.fr/monde/le-caire-un-mort-dans-les-affrontements-04-10-2013-1739267_24.php

Nouveaux heurts meurtriers au Caire

Le Point.fr - Publié le 04/10/2013 à 19:04 - Modifié le 05/10/2013 à 09:35

Les rixes ont opposé forces de l'ordre et partisans des Frères musulmans, faisant quatre morts et 40 blessés.



Des partisans de Mohamed Morsi au Caire, vendredi 4 octobre 2013. © Hassan Ammar/AP / SIPA

Quatre personnes ont été tuées vendredi dans des heurts qui ont émaillé des manifestations de milliers d'islamistes au Caire, où la police a tiré des coups de semonce pour empêcher la foule d'approcher l'emblématique place Tahrir. Les affrontements entre d'une part des partisans de Mohamed Morsi et d'autre part des opposants de l'ancien président islamiste ou des membres des forces de l'ordre ont également fait 40 blessés au Caire et ailleurs dans le pays, a expliqué Ahmed al-Ansari, responsable des services ambulanciers.

"Quatre personnes ont été tuées au Caire", a-t-il déclaré en précisant qu'aucun membre des forces de police ou de sécurité n'était décédé, mais sans évoquer la cause ni le lieu exact des décès. Il avait auparavant parlé d'un homme tué par balle. Le secrétaire général de l'ONU Ban Ki-moon a exprimé vendredi son inquiétude face à ces violences, réclamant le respect des libertés publiques et la nécessité d'un "processus politique ouvert à tous".

Ban Ki-moon a souligné "la nécessité de manifestations pacifiques, l'importance du respect de la liberté de rassemblement et de l'engagement à la non-violence", a déclaré son porte-parole Martin Nesirky. La ville du Caire a été le théâtre de violents affrontements vendredi, en particulier autour de la place Tahrir, dont les forces de l'ordre avaient bloqué tous les accès.

Pour empêcher plusieurs centaines de manifestants scandant "Dieu est le plus grand" de pénétrer sur la place, la police a tiré en l'air à balles réelles et a envoyé de larges volées de gaz lacrymogènes. Les policiers ont ensuite pourchassé ces manifestants, partisans du président destitué et arrêté par l'armée en juillet Mohamed Morsi, pour les repousser vers une place plus éloignée.

À l'issue de la grande prière hebdomadaire, des manifestants ont aussi défilé en direction du ministère de la Défense, et des milliers d'autres se sont rassemblés dans le quartier de Nasr City, où se trouve la place Rabaa al-Adawiya, haut lieu de la violente répression menée contre les Frères musulmans.

Quatre doigts dressés

Des affrontements entre partisans et opposants de Mohamed Morsi ont également eu lieu, selon des témoins, dans les quartiers de Manial et Choubra au Caire, ainsi que, selon l'agence Mena, dans la ville portuaire d'Alexandrie, au nord du pays. Ainsi à Manial, des centaines d'islamistes scandaient des slogans contre le nouvel homme fort du pays, le général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, quand des affrontements ont éclaté avec des anti-Morsi, selon un témoin qui a fait état de tirs de chevrotine dans chaque camp.

À Nasr City, les manifestants ont brandi leurs mains avec quatre doigts dressés, un geste devenu le symbole de la répression à Rabaa al-Adawiya, et des portraits de victimes de la répression, en scandant "vengeance, vengeance". Ils se sont ensuite dispersés.

Le 14 août, pour mettre fin à des semaines de sit-in des pro-Morsi sur cette place ainsi que sur la place Nahda, dans un autre quartier, l'armée avait donné l'assaut et tout balayé, tuant des centaines de personnes. Depuis, plus de 2 000 islamistes ont été arrêtés, dont la quasi-totalité des responsables des Frères musulmans, et l'Alliance contre le "coup" militaire, dirigée par la confrérie, a perdu sa capacité à mobiliser les foules.

La justice a également interdit les activités des Frères musulmans et ordonné la saisie de leurs biens. Premier président égyptien élu démocratiquement mais accusé d'avoir cherché à accaparer le pouvoir pour les Frères musulmans, Mohamed Morsi a été destitué le 3 juillet par l'armée à la suite de manifestations massives réclamant son départ. Il est détenu au secret et inculpé de la mort de manifestants.

http://web.orange.co.uk/article/news/egypt_police_fire_on_protesters_in_tahrir_square

- 4 October 2013, 19:26

Egypt Police Fire On Tahrir Square Protesters



At least one person has been killed after Egyptian riot police clashed with protesters trying to take control of Cairo's Tahrir Square.

The protester was shot dead after both the police and civilians, supporting the military, opened fire on Muslim Brotherhood supporters.

Troops sealed off Tahrir Square with tanks and barbed wire, diverting traffic from the central plaza as thousands of Mohamed Morsi supporters marched towards it.

Protesters eventually surrounded police and army troops guarding the square, initially prompting forces to fire volleys of tear gas.

Reuters reported that an Egyptian army vehicle had later fired live rounds in the direction of Muslim Brotherhood supporters.

Civilians also clashed with pro-Morsi supporters - firing guns and throwing rocks. There were outbreaks of violence across the city.

Medical sources said one person had died from a gunshot wound, though it was unclear how he had been shot.

Across the country, similar clashes broke out. Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood is escalating protests to coincide with commemorations of Egypt's October 6 opening strike in the 1973 war with Israel.

Protesters chanted: "Down down with the murderer!", referring to Army Chief General Abdel-Fatah el Sissi, who forced Mr Morsi out of power.

Mr Morsi - leader of the Muslim Brotherhood - was ousted after millions took to the streets in the summer demanding he step down.

Earlier in the day, at least two Egyptian soldiers were killed in an attack by suspected militants on an army convoy east of Cairo.

<http://www.lephare-ouest.fr/international/egypte-nouveaux-affrontements-meurtriers/6498>

Égypte : Nouveaux affrontements meurtriers

Posted by: Christophe Segard in Afrique, International, Moyen-Orient, TV 5 octobre 2013 0

De nouvelles violences entre pros et anti-Morsi ont fait au moins quatre morts et une quarantaine de blessés en Égypte ce vendredi 4 octobre.

Dans la capitale, des résidents juchés sur leurs toits s'en sont pris aux islamistes qui défilaient devant chez eux. Plusieurs échauffourées ont éclaté ainsi alors que les Frères Musulmans continuent de manifester pour le retour du président déchu.

L'armée a même tiré des coups de semonce pour empêcher la foule de s'emparer de l'emblématique place Tharir. Les policiers ont ensuite pourchassé ces manifestants pour les repousser vers une place plus éloignée.

Même scènes de violence à Alexandrie, mais aussi deux villes du delta du Nil . Les autorités égyptiennes, qui avaient averti qu'elles ne toléreraient aucun nouveau sit-in, ont dépêché l'armée et la police en renfort sur les lieux.

La répression en cours contre les Frères musulmans est l'une des plus violentes subies par la confrérie depuis sa création il y a 85 ans.

<http://www.tunisienumerique.com/egypte-quatre-morts-dans-de-nouveaux-affrontements/195575>

Egypte: Quatre morts dans de nouveaux affrontements

International, News | Rabaa H | 5 octobre, 2013 à 10:21



Quatre personnes ont trouvé la mort ce vendredi en Egypte dans de nouveaux affrontements entre pro et anti Morsi.

Venus manifester leur hostilité à l'armée après la prière du vendredi, les manifestants ont été chassés à coup de gaz lacrymogènes et de coups de semonce au moment où ils ont essayé de s'approcher de l'emblématique place Tahrir.

Quatre personnes ont été tués et quarante autres blessées dans les heurts qui ont émaillé ces manifestations d'après Ahmed al Ansari, responsable des services ambulanciers qui n'a toutefois pas précisé la cause et le lieu exact des décès.

Plus de 900 personnes ont déjà trouvé la mort lors d'affrontements sanglants entre les partisans du président déchu, Mohamed Morsi, et les forces de l'ordre en août dernier.

Avec AFP.

<http://mediarabe.info/spip.php?breve19937>

Egypte : 28 morts dans des affrontements

dimanche 6 octobre 2013 - 20h03

Les tensions s'intensifient en Egypte. Des heurts avec les partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi ont fait au moins 28 morts, selon un nouveau bilan officiel.

Vingt-six ont péri au Caire, une à Beni Soueif et une à Delga, dans le centre du pays, a précisé Khaled al-Khatib, responsable du département des urgences au ministère de la Santé, cité par

l'agence de presse officielle Mena, sans préciser qui avait péri, où et dans quelles circonstances.

Les affrontements ont eu lieu entre manifestants partisans du président islamiste destitué Mohamed Morsi d'une part et des anti-Morsi et les forces de l'ordre d'autre part, a annoncé à la télévision un responsable du ministère de la Santé.

L'armée, qui réprime dans le sang depuis près de deux mois toute manifestation des pro-Morsi, avait déployé bien davantage de blindés que d'ordinaire au Caire. Les deux camps avaient annoncé des manifestations rivales à l'occasion du 40e anniversaire de la guerre israélo-arabe de 1973. (BFMTV).

<http://www.7sur7.be/7s7/fr/1505/Monde/article/detail/1717781/2013/10/06/Des-affrontements-font-44-morts-au-Caire.dhtml>

Des affrontements font 44 morts au Caire

Par: rédaction

6/10/13 - 18h26 Source: Belga



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MISE À JOUR Au moins 44 personnes ont péri dimanche en Egypte dans des heurts entre la police et des manifestants partisans du président islamiste destitué par l'armée Mohamed Morsi, à l'occasion du 40e anniversaire de la guerre israélo-arabe de 1973.



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Aucun policier ne figure parmi les morts, selon un responsable du ministère de l'Intérieur. Il s'agit du bilan le plus lourd depuis la semaine de répression sanglante qui avait débuté le 14 août quand soldats et policiers avaient dispersé par la force deux rassemblements pro-Morsi au Caire. Des centaines de manifestants islamistes avaient alors été tués.

L'armée, qui réprime dans le sang depuis près de deux mois toute manifestation des pro-Morsi, avait déployé bien davantage de blindés que d'ordinaire dimanche au Caire.

Dans le même temps, les anti-Morsi avaient demandé aux Egyptiens de descendre massivement dans la rue pour soutenir l'armée et les autorités, ce qui laissait redouter de nouvelles violences. Vendredi, au moins quatre civils avaient déjà péri dans des heurts entre pro et anti-Morsi au Caire.

Et dimanche, 40 personnes ont été tuées au Caire et quatre autres dans différentes villes au sud de la capitale, a détaillé Khaled al-Khatib, responsable du département des urgences au ministère de la Santé, sans préciser qui avait péri, où et dans quelles circonstances. Selon lui, 246 autres ont été blessées.

Dans la capitale dimanche, de violents heurts ont éclaté entre pro et anti-Morsi et les policiers anti-émeute qui ont dispersé les islamistes à coups de grenades lacrymogènes, de chevrotine et, parfois, de rafales d'armes automatiques, dès que leurs rassemblements grossissaient, ont constaté des journalistes de l'AFP.

<http://www.challenges.fr/monde/20131006.REU3861/les-heurts-en-egypte-font-au-moins-33-morts.html>

Au moins 44 morts dans des affrontements en Egypte

Publié le 06-10-2013 à 21h31 - Mis à jour à 22h20



Policier anti-émeute sur un véhicule blindé face à des partisans de Mohamed Morsi, au Caire. Au moins 33 personnes ont été tuées dimanche en Egypte à l'occasion de manifestations concurrentes de partisans et d'adversaires de l'ancien président Mohamed Morsi, issu des Frères musulmans, selon le ministre de l'Intérieur. /Photo prise le 6 octobre 2013/REUTERS/Amr Abdallah Dalsh (c) Reuters

par Yara Bayoumy

LE CAIRE (Reuters) - Au moins 44 personnes ont été tuées dimanche en Egypte à l'occasion de manifestations concurrentes de partisans et d'adversaires de l'ancien président Mohamed Morsi, issu des Frères musulmans, ont annoncé une source des forces de sécurité et l'agence officielle Mena.

Bravant l'interdiction des autorités, les partisans des Frères musulmans ont organisé des rassemblements dans plusieurs villes, notamment à Alexandrie, deuxième ville du pays, et au Caire, où des milliers d'entre eux ont approché la place Tahrir, sur laquelle se tenait un rassemblement de soutien au gouvernement, mis en place par l'armée.

Les partisans de Mohamed Morsi ont scandé "Le coup d'Etat, c'est du terrorisme" et "Sissi est un assassin", en référence au général Abdel Fattah al Sissi, à l'origine de la déposition du président islamiste le 3 juillet, et considéré par les Frères musulmans comme le responsable de la répression meurtrière menée à la mi-août contre la confrérie.

Les autorités égyptiennes avaient lancé samedi une sévère mise en garde aux Frères musulmans, soulignant que tout participant à une manifestation contre l'armée dimanche, jour anniversaire de l'offensive du Kippour en 1973 contre Israël, serait considéré comme un agent de l'étranger.

Le ministère de l'Intérieur a décrit les heurts de dimanche comme une tentative de "gâcher les célébrations et provoquer des dissensions au sein du peuple". Il a précisé que 30 personnes avaient trouvé la mort dans les gouvernorats voisins du Caire et de Gizeh, et que 423 arrestations avaient été effectuées.

"Nous demandons à toutes les organisations de défense des droits de l'homme de condamner les crimes commis aujourd'hui", a déclaré de son côté le Parti de la liberté et de la justice (PLJ), branche politique des Frères musulmans. "Nous demandons une enquête internationale sur les crimes d'aujourd'hui."

PLUS VIOLENTS HEURTS DEPUIS AOÛT

A Alexandrie, les forces de sécurité ont dispersé une manifestation en faveur des Frères à l'aide de grenades lacrymogènes, et des manifestations similaires ont eu lieu ailleurs dans le pays, notamment à Suez et Assouan.

L'agence officielle Mena a par ailleurs annoncé que les autorités avaient arrêté 25 membres des Frères musulmans, munis d'une cinquantaine de grenades, lors d'affrontements dans le Delta du Nil.

Les violences qui se déroulent depuis la mort de quatre personnes vendredi sont d'une ampleur sans précédent depuis le 14 août, date à laquelle deux campements de partisans de l'ancien président Mohamed Morsi, déposé par l'armée début juillet, avaient été violemment démantelés au Caire.

La télévision égyptienne a diffusé dimanche après-midi des images de la place Tahrir au Caire et d'Alexandrie où l'on voit la foule qui brandit des portraits du chef d'état-major de l'armée, le général Abdel Fatah al Sissi, et qui agite des drapeaux égyptiens.

Elle a également retransmis une cérémonie organisée dans l'un des principaux stades de la capitale, celui du 30 juin, où étaient présents Abdel Fattah al Sissi et Adli Mansour, le président par intérim.

La répression actuellement menée contre les Frères musulmans est l'une des plus violentes subies par la confrérie depuis sa création il y a 85 ans. Des centaines de ses partisans ont été tués par les forces de l'ordre et nombre de ses dirigeants sont en prison.

Avec Yasmine Saleh, Maggie Fick, Hadeel Al-Shalchi et Omar Fahmy; Pascal Liétout et Julien Dury pour le service français

Last Update: Monday, 7 October 2013 KSA 07:21 - GMT 04:21

Egypt clashes leave at least 50 dead and 246 injured

Sunday, 6 October 2013



Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood members and supporters of ousted president Mohammad Mursi run for cover from tear gas during clashes with riot police along Ramsis street in downtown Cairo, on October 6, 2013. (AFP)

Al Arabiya

At least 50 people were killed and more than 246 wounded on Sunday as Egyptian security forces clashed with supporters of ousted former President Mohammad Mursi, security and television sources said.

Supporters of Mursi and his Muslim Brotherhood were protesting in several cities to show their displeasure of the military's overthrow of the former president, while thousands celebrated the country's military victory on the anniversary of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

Most of those killed had been shot, security sources said, according to Reuters.

One eyewitness claimed that military vehicles were firing live rounds at Muslim Brotherhood supporters near Cairo's Tahrir Square, according to Reuters.

In central Cairo, policemen fired shots and tear gas to disperse stone-throwing protesters.

Around 335 protesters have been arrested, a source from the ministry of interior told the Egyptian daily Youm 7.

The recent clashes are certain to set back efforts by Egyptian's fragile transitional government to revive the country's stagnant economy, particularly the vital tourism sector, and bring order to the streets of Cairo, where crime and chaos have been rife.

The scene of the fighting contrasted with a festive mood in Cairo's central Tahrir Square, where thousands waved Egyptian flags, blew whistles and touted posters of army chief General Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi to the tune of a military band playing.

Taking part in the festivities, el-Sisi and interim President Adly Mansour attended a fireworks extravaganza late on Sunday at a military-owned stadium in eastern Cairo.

The Anti-Coup Alliance, the Pro-Mursi Islamist group led by the Brotherhood has repeatedly called for protests against the military's overthrow of Mursi, but its ability to mobilize large crowds has declined as security forces have detained more than 2,000 Islamists including several top Brotherhood leaders.

Interim President Adly Mansour has also called on Egyptians to take to the streets to commemorate the day. In a televised speech on Saturday he said that authorities will “defeat much-hated terrorism and blind violence with the rule of law that will protect the freedom of citizens and resources.”

(With AFP and Reuters)

<http://www.metronews.fr/info/photos-egypte-au-moins-50-morts-dans-des-affrontements-entre-islamistes-et-forces-de-l-ordre/mmjf!nAION3UVrID5Y/>

Créé : 07-10-2013 07:45

PHOTOS - Egypte : au moins 50 morts dans des affrontements entre islamistes et forces de l'ordre

VIOLENCES - De nouveaux heurts en Egypte ont opposé dimanche les forces de l'ordre et des manifestants partisans du président islamiste destitué par l'armée Mohamed Morsi. Au moins 45 personnes ont trouvé la mort. Ces affrontements ont eu lieu à l'occasion du 40ème anniversaire de la guerre israélo-arabe de 1973.

Dans la capitale dimanche, de violents heurts ont éclaté entre pro et anti-Morsi et les policiers anti-émeute qui ont dispersé les islamistes à coups de grenades lacrymogène, de chevrotine et, parfois, de rafales d'armes automatiques, dès que leurs rassemblements grossissaient. Photo : Hassan Ammar/AP/SIPA

De violents heurts ont éclaté dimanche en Egypte entre pro et anti-Morsi et les policiers anti-émeute. Ces derniers ont dispersé les islamistes à coups de grenades lacrymogène, de chevrotine et, parfois, de rafales d'armes automatiques, dès que leurs rassemblements grossissaient.

45 personnes ont été tuées au Caire, quatre à Beni Soueif, une à Delga (centre) et une autre à Assiout (sud), a précisé Khaled al-Khatib, responsable du département des urgences au ministère de la Santé, sans préciser qui avait péri, où et dans quelles circonstances.

Une répression sanglante

Il s'agit du bilan le plus lourd depuis la semaine de répression sanglante qui a débuté le 14 août par la dispersion par la force de deux rassemblements de pro-Morsi au Caire. Des centaines de manifestants islamistes avaient alors été tués.

L'armée, qui réprime dans le sang depuis près de deux mois toute manifestation des pro-Morsi, avait déployé bien davantage de blindés que d'ordinaire dimanche au Caire. Dans le

même temps, les anti-Morsi ont demandé aux Égyptiens de descendre massivement dans la rue pour soutenir l'armée et les autorités, ce qui laissait redouter de nouvelles violences.

<http://www.lefigaro.fr/international/2013/10/06/01003-20131006ARTFIG00201-au-caire-la-place-tahrir-replonge-dans-la-violence.php>

Au Caire, la place Tahrir replonge dans la violence

Par Delphine Minoui

Mis à jour le 07/10/2013 à 06:42

Publié le 06/10/2013 à 20:59



Au moins 50 personnes ont été tuées dimanche dans des heurts entre partisans et opposants du président déchu, Mohammed Morsi.

On les disait à bout de souffle, décimés depuis le sanglant démantèlement de leur sit-in, le 14 août dernier. Après un éphémère retour au calme, ponctué par de timides rassemblements, les Frères musulmans ont repris ce week-end le chemin des manifestations, annonciatrices d'une nouvelle vague de tension dans le pays. Ce dimanche, la violence a refait surface au cours d'affrontements entre opposants et partisans du président déchu, Mohammed Morsi. Dans la soirée, un bilan faisait état d'au moins 50 morts. Vendredi, au moins quatre personnes avaient déjà péri lors de sanglants accrochages.

Le choix de la journée de dimanche était particulièrement symbolique. Ce 6 octobre correspond au 40e anniversaire de la «guerre d'octobre», quand l'armée égyptienne récupéra la péninsule du Sinaï occupée par Israël depuis la guerre des Six-Jours. Pour l'institution militaire, à l'origine du coup d'État anti-Morsi du 3 juillet, c'est l'occasion idéale de fédérer les foules autour d'elle. Tout au long de la journée, ses partisans ont rallié la place Tahrir, encadrée par des blindés, en arborant des portraits du général Abdel Fatah al-Sissi, le nouvel homme fort du pays. Ballons et drapeaux flottaient au-dessus des têtes tandis qu'une bonne dizaine d'avions de chasse survolaient le ciel de la capitale.

La Coalition anti-coup - composée de Frères musulmans et de partisans de la Confrérie - avait, elle aussi, fait le pari de converger vers cette place emblématique de la révolution de janvier 2011, dont les Égyptiens se disputent l'héritage. La veille, le ministère de l'Intérieur avait annoncé sa «détermination à faire face avec fermeté à toute violence et infraction à la loi de la part des partisans des Frères musulmans au cours de leurs manifestations». «Nous n'avons pas peur des menaces», insiste Fatima Alaa. Membre de la Confrérie, la jeune femme

voilée de 23 ans a quitté à la mi-journée le quartier des Ingénieurs pour tenter de rejoindre Tahrir. Dans son cortège, des milliers d'hommes, de femmes, d'enfants, le poster de l'ex-président Morsi à bout de bras.

«C'est l'armée qui divise le peuple, pas les Frères»

Iman Nabil, une manifestante

Il est environ 15 heures quand nous la retrouvons avec ses acolytes sous le pont de Dokki, qui mène vers le centre du Caire. Pour prouver sa détermination, elle ouvre son sac à dos, rempli de masques à gaz, de désinfectant et d'antidouleur. «Nous sommes ici au nom de la liberté. Nous dénonçons les arrestations massives, les morts de manifestants», insiste-t-elle. Depuis le 3 juillet, des centaines de pro-Morsi ont été tués. L'ex-raïs islamiste élu en juin 2012 est toujours placé en détention, tout comme 2000 autres membres des Frères musulmans. Soudain, des rafales de tirs retentissent dans le ciel. De l'autre côté du pont, les forces de l'ordre dispersent les protestataires. Très vite, un nuage de gaz lacrymogène déferle dans la foule. Par ricochet, les téléphones portables se mettent à colporter d'autres nouvelles, en provenance cette fois-ci de la corniche Qasr el-Nil, qui mène également vers Tahrir. Là-bas, tout comme aux alentours de la place Ramsès, les forces de l'ordre empêchent les pro-Morsi d'avancer.

«La place Tahrir appartient à tout le monde. C'est l'armée qui divise le peuple, pas les Frères», s'emporte Iman Nabil. Cette manifestante qui dit n'appartenir à aucun groupe politique, refuse de voir dans ces rassemblements une provocation de la Confrérie. Elle dit avoir rejoint la «Coalition anti-coup» depuis la mort de plusieurs de ses amis lors du massacre orchestré par l'armée, le 14 août. Quand nous la rappelons dans la soirée, la violence du jour n'a pas entamé sa détermination. Au contraire. «Les militaires se trompent en pensant étouffer les Frères. Plus les forces de l'ordre tueront, plus la mobilisation reprendra», prévient-elle.

<http://journalmetro.com/monde/383107/des-affrontements-font-51-morts-en-egypte/>

06/10/2013 **Mise à jour:** 7 octobre 2013 | 1:19

Ajuster la taille du texte

Des affrontements font 51 morts en Égypte

Par Hamza Hendawi The Associated Press



Hassan Ammar Hassan Ammar / The Associated Press

LE CAIRE, Égypte – Les forces de sécurité et des manifestants islamistes se sont affrontés, dimanche en Égypte, faisant 51 morts, alors qu'une fête nationale célébrant l'armée a tourné

au chaos. Des foules provenant des deux camps opposés — les partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohammed Morsi et ceux appuyant l'armée qui l'a renversé — sont descendues dans la rue et en sont venues aux coups.

Le ministère de la Santé a fait état d'au moins 40 victimes au Caire, sans compter plus de 240 blessés. Le ministère de l'Intérieur, qui est en charge de la police, a mentionné que 423 partisans de M. Morsi avaient été arrêtés à travers le pays.

Plusieurs quartiers du Caire, la capitale, ressemblaient à des zones de combat après des batailles ayant fait rage pendant des heures dans les rues. Des partisans de M. Morsi ont ouvert le feu et lancé des engins incendiaires contre la police, qui a riposté avec des balles réelles et des gaz lacrymogènes. Les rues étaient couvertes de débris, et l'air était rempli de volutes de gaz lacrymogène et de fumée émanant des feux toujours allumés.

<http://www.jeuneafrique.com/Article/ARTJAWEB20131007085011/islamisme-freres-musulmans-egypte-armee-egyptienegypte-au-moins-50-morts-lors-d-affrontements-entre-pro-morsi-et-forces-de-l-ordre.html>

Égypte : au moins 50 morts lors d'affrontements entre pro-Morsi et forces de l'ordre

07/10/2013 à 09:03 Par Jeune Afrique



Scènes d'affrontement entre islamistes et forces de l'ordre au Caire, le 6 octobre. © AFP

Dimanche, des affrontements entre forces de l'ordre et partisans de l'ex-président Mohamed Morsi ont fait au moins 50 morts. En deux mois, la répression sanglante des Frères musulmans par l'armée aurait fait plus de 1 000 victimes.



Depuis la semaine de répression sanglante contre les Frères musulmans, à la mi-août, c'est le bilan le plus grave enregistré dans des affrontements entre forces de l'ordre et partisans de l'ancien président islamiste déchu le 3 juillet dernier, Mohamed Morsi. Dimanche 6 octobre, au moins 50 personnes ont péri dans ces circonstances, lors de manifestations pour le 40e anniversaire de la guerre du Kippour (que l'Égypte considère comme une "victoire"), mais aucun policier, selon un responsable du ministère de l'Intérieur.

Le bilan provisoire officiel fait état de 45 morts au Caire et 5

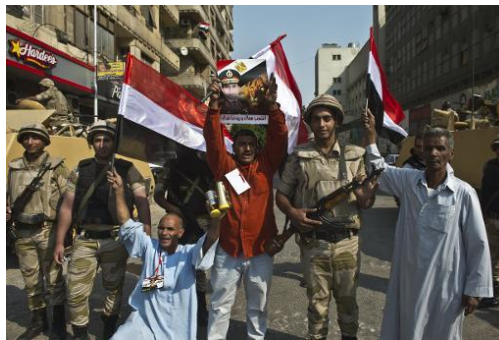
autres dans plusieurs villes du sud de la capitale. Dans la nuit de dimanche, outre les grenades lacrymogènes, les forces de l'ordre n'ont pas hésité à utiliser des tirs de chevrotine et parfois d'armes automatiques quand les rassemblements grossissaient. Selon Ahmed al-Ansari, haut responsable au ministère de la Santé, 268 personnes ont également été blessées. Et selon le ministère de l'Intérieur, qui a accusé dans un communiqué les manifestants d'avoir ouvert le feu sur les forces de l'ordre et vandalisé des biens publics au Caire, 423 personnes ont été arrêtées dans la capitale.

Depuis près de deux mois, l'armée réprime dans le sang toute manifestation des pro-Morsi. Policiers et militaires ont carte blanche pour ouvrir le feu sur "tout manifestant qui s'en prend à des biens publics", ce qui laisse libre cours à la plus large interprétation. Plus d'un millier de manifestants pro-Morsi ont ainsi été tués, et plus de 2 000 Frères musulmans arrêtés, dont la quasi-totalité de leurs leaders, leurs activités ont été interdites et les avoirs de la confrérie, qui avait pourtant remporté haut la main les législatives fin 2011, ont été gelés.

"Terroristes"

L'armée, le gouvernement, la quasi-totalité des médias et une large majorité de la population qualifient désormais les Frères musulmans et les partisans de Morsi de "terroristes". Les anti-Morsi se mobilisent aussi organisant régulièrement des contre-manifestations. Vendredi, au moins quatre civils avaient ainsi péri dans des heurts entre pro et anti-Morsi au Caire.

Quelques milliers d'anti-Morsi s'étaient également rassemblés dimanche au Caire sur la place Tahrir, emblématique pour la révolte populaire qui a renversé le président Hosni Moubarak début 2011. Symbole de la toute puissance de l'armée au cœur du nouveau pouvoir, ces manifestants brandissaient de nombreux portraits non pas du président ou du Premier ministre mais du général Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, chef d'état-major, vice-premier ministre et ministre de la Défense, considéré comme le nouvel homme fort de l'Égypte et dont les photos ornent désormais la plupart des rues, boutiques et administrations du pays.



Égyptiens manifestant au Caire aux côtés de militaires pour le 40e anniversaire de la guerre israélo-arabe de 1973. © *Khaled Desouki / AFP*

Nouvelles manifestations prévues

Dimanche, le général Sissi, accompagné par le président par intérim Adly Mansour et par le Premier ministre jordanien Abdallah Nsour, a lui-même assisté à un feu d'artifices dans un stade militaire suivi d'un long spectacle de danse et de chansons. "L'armée, la police et le peuple sont ensemble, main dans la main... Nous protégerons l'Égypte, le peuple égyptien et la volonté des Égyptiens", a-t-il promis à la foule au milieu des acclamations.

De son côté, l'Alliance contre le coup d'Etat, dirigée par les Frères musulmans dont est issu Morsi, a appelé à d'autres manifestations cette semaine et a notamment pressé les étudiants des universités égyptiennes et dans les écoles à manifester mardi "contre ces massacres qui se poursuivent". "L'Alliance tient les autorités responsables du coup d'Etat et les militaires entièrement responsables de tout ce sang égyptien qui est répandu en ce moment, et pour chaque Egyptien qui a été tué aujourd'hui", déclare l'organisation dans un communiqué.

(Avec AFP)

http://www.liberation.fr/monde/2013/10/07/le-pouvoir-egyptien-enferme-dans-la-voie-de-la-repression_937707

Le pouvoir égyptien enfermé dans la voie de la répression

Marwan CHAHINE Correspondant au Caire 7 octobre 2013 à 20:06 (Mis à jour : 7 octobre 2013 à 21:06)



Heurts entre police et membres des Frères musulmans partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi, le 6 octobre 2013 au Caire (Photo Mohammed Abdel Moneim. AFP)

L'anniversaire de la guerre du Kippour, censé rassembler le peuple autour de l'armée, a encore creusé le fossé entre ses soutiens et ses opposants.

Après un mois de relative accalmie - excepté dans le Sinaï où les affrontements n'ont jamais cessé -, l'Egypte vient de connaître un nouveau week-end de grande violence. Le bilan des affrontements de vendredi et de dimanche est très lourd : près de 60 morts, au moins 300 blessés et plus de 500 arrestations, principalement au Caire. Hier, cinq militaires ont été abattus à Ismaïliya (nord) et deux policiers tués lors d'une attaque à la voiture piégée dans le Sinaï. A Maadi, quartier huppé de la capitale, des tirs de roquette ont frappé des installations téléphoniques, sans faire de victime. Trois mois après la destitution de Mohamed Morsi par l'armée, à la suite d'immenses manifestations populaires, l'Egypte reste profondément divisée et peine à sortir du chaos.

Ce qui se jouait dimanche était avant tout une bataille pour la légitimité, et il est bien difficile de désigner un vainqueur. Pour les commémorations du quarantième anniversaire de la guerre du Kippour en 1973, considérée en Egypte comme une grande victoire contre Israël, les autorités avaient organisé des festivités sur la place Tahrir, où des milliers de personnes dont

de nombreuses familles sont venues célébrer leur armée. Beaucoup d'entre eux brandissaient un drapeau égyptien ou un portrait du général Abdel Fatah al-Sissi, ministre de la Défense et homme fort du nouveau régime, représenté de profil avec à ses côtés un lion rugissant.

Marches. La coalition anti-coup d'Etat, qui rassemble principalement des sympathisants du président déchu, avait elle aussi prévu de se rendre sur la place. Au départ de plusieurs mosquées, des marches de plusieurs milliers de personnes ont été initiées, rapidement dispersées dans le sang par les forces de l'ordre. Certes, les autorités sont parvenues à protéger la place symbole de la révolution, mais seulement au moyen d'un dispositif sécuritaire exceptionnel, avec des tanks disposés à chaque entrée. Et le terrible bilan de la journée vient ternir la grande fête nationale. Sans compter que les Frères musulmans ont montré que, même décimés - plus de 1 000 morts et 2 000 arrestations depuis juin -, ils sont encore capables de mobiliser et ne craignent pas la répression policière. En août, Gehad el-Haddad, porte-parole de la confrérie, disait : «*Notre stratégie est celle de tous les peuples opprimés et consiste à manifester pacifiquement devant les chars pour montrer au monde entier qui sont les victimes et qui sont les bourreaux.*» De nouvelles manifestations sont d'ailleurs prévues vendredi.

«**Terroristes**». L'embrasement de ce week-end est d'autant plus inquiétant que la nature des violences semble avoir changé. Les unités mobiles de police qui ont dispersé les marches de la coalition anti-coup d'Etat dans des quartiers du Caire étaient presque toujours secondées par des citoyens avides d'en découdre avec ceux qu'ils considèrent comme des «terroristes». Et, s'il est difficile d'avoir une vue précise des événements, des témoignages indiquent que de nombreuses personnes sont décédées dans des heurts entre civils. Les attaques contre les intérêts étatiques, imputées aux islamistes, attestent, elles, de la présence d'armes lourdes, y compris dans les villes. Le plus troublant est sans doute le degré d'acceptation des violences. Dimanche, dans les quartiers non touchés par les affrontements, la vie suivait son cours presque normalement, malgré le fossé qui ne cesse de se creuser entre les Egyptiens.

Dans son discours de clôture des festivités, le général Al-Sissi, sourire aux lèvres, a pourtant célébré la nation unie, répétant à plusieurs reprises : «*L'armée, le peuple et la police, une seule main.*» Une formule applaudie et reprise par les spectateurs, au premier rang desquels figuraient le président intérimaire, Adly Mansour, le Premier ministre, Hazem el-Beblawi, mais aussi le fils d'Abdel Gamal Nasser et la veuve d'Anouar el-Sadate. Prenant des accents panarabes, celui à qui l'on prédit un destin présidentiel a longuement évoqué les martyrs de la guerre du Kippour, sans faire mention des morts du jour, sauf pour souligner qu'il y aurait une addition à payer pour ceux qui sèment le désordre.

Cette attitude de déni, qui est aussi celle de la plupart des médias, traduit la volonté de ne pas considérer les détracteurs du nouveau régime comme des opposants, mais comme des ennemis de la nation. Cela trahit surtout une incapacité à apporter une solution politique à la crise. Et l'on peut penser que la force comme seule réponse ne renforce pas la légitimité du pouvoir, au contraire. Si la cote de popularité d'Al-Sissi reste très forte, de plus en plus d'Egyptiens, sans être partisans des Frères, se montrent ouvertement critiques de la méthode forte et reprochent déjà au gouvernement intérimaire son absence de résultats, notamment sur le plan économique. En refusant d'entendre les voies dissidentes, le nouveau régime risque fort de s'enfermer dans le même aveuglement que les précédents. Et pourrait lui aussi avoir à payer l'addition.

Marwan CHAHINE Correspondant au Caire

De nouveaux affrontements font 51 morts en Égypte

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De nouveaux affrontements font 51 morts en Égypte

LE CAIRE, Égypte - Les forces de sécurité et des manifestants islamistes se sont affrontés, dimanche en Égypte, faisant 51 morts, alors qu'une fête nationale célébrant l'armée a tourné au chaos. Des foules provenant des deux camps opposés ? les partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohammed Morsi et ceux appuyant l'armée qui l'a renversé ? sont descendues dans la rue et en sont venues aux coups.

Le ministère de la Santé a fait état d'au moins 40 victimes au Caire, sans compter plus de 240 blessés. Le ministère de l'Intérieur, qui est en charge de la police, a mentionné que 423 partisans de M. Morsi avaient été arrêtés à travers le pays.

Plusieurs quartiers du Caire, la capitale, ressemblaient à des zones de combat après des batailles ayant fait rage pendant des heures dans les rues. Des partisans de M. Morsi ont ouvert le feu et lancé des engins incendiaires contre la police, qui a riposté avec des balles réelles et des gaz lacrymogènes. Les rues étaient couvertes de débris, et l'air était rempli de volutes de gaz lacrymogène et de fumée émanant des feux toujours allumés.

Un photographe de l'Associated Press a vu neuf corps reposant sur le plancher d'une clinique dans le quartier cairote de Dokki, où ont eu lieu certains des pires affrontements. La plupart des corps comportaient des blessures par balle à la tête ou au torse.

Le bilan de 51 victimes de dimanche est le total quotidien le plus élevé depuis le 14 août, lorsque des forces de sécurité ont lancé un assaut contre deux camps de manifestants pro-Morsi, tuant des centaines de personnes.

Alors même que les combats se poursuivaient dans les rues, l'armée est allée de l'avant avec les vastes célébrations pour l'anniversaire marquant les 40 ans du début de la guerre de 1973 avec Israël.

En soirée, un concert organisé dans un stade du Caire géré par l'armée a été présenté en direct sur les ondes de la télévision militaire, concert auquel participaient des vedettes égyptiennes, libanaises et du Golfe. Le chef de l'armée, le général Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, d'autres hauts dirigeants et le président intérimaire Adly Mansour ont assisté au spectacle.

Les célébrations de dimanche étaient également une opportunité, pour les leaders égyptiens, d'alimenter encore davantage la ferveur pro-militaire en vigueur au pays depuis le coup d'État, alors que les Frères musulmans et leurs alliés islamistes tentaient de démontrer qu'ils étaient capables de survivre aux opérations de sécurité lancées contre eux.

Morsi jugé à partir du 4 novembre pour «incitation au meurtre»

AFP 9 octobre 2013 à 18:21



Des partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi manifestent le 13 septembre 2013 au Caire. (Photo Mahmoud Khaled . AFP)

L'ancien président égyptien avait été destitué et arrêté le 3 juillet. Le pays est sous état d'urgence depuis le 14 août.

Le président islamiste destitué Mohamed Morsi sera jugé à partir du 4 novembre pour «*incitation au meurtre*» de manifestants, un procès qui pourrait attiser encore davantage les tensions en Egypte, théâtre d'une nouvelle série de violences meurtrières depuis dimanche. L'ex-président comparaitra devant un tribunal du district du Caire aux côtés de 14 autres personnes pour la mort de manifestants le 5 décembre 2012, a rapporté l'agence officielle Mena.

Mohamed Morsi, destitué et arrêté par l'armée le 3 juillet après des manifestations monstres réclamant son départ, est accusé d'avoir «*incité ses partisans à commettre des meurtres prémédités*» lors de heurts devant le palais présidentiel au Caire, selon la même source. Sept personnes avaient été tuées dans ces affrontements entre partisans et opposants de Mohamed Morsi. Les heu la législation après la publication d'un décret constitutionnel.

Les Frères musulmans, le mouvement de Mohamed Morsi, avaient indiqué que la plupart des victimes étaient des islamistes, une affirmation contestée par l'opposition. Un journaliste anti-Morsi a été recensé parmi les morts. Plusieurs proches de l'ex-président ainsi que des responsables des Frères musulmans, détenus ou en fuite, figurent parmi les accusés. Le procès de Mohamed Morsi, détenu au secret depuis sa destitution, pourrait attiser la colère de ses partisans, dans un contexte de fortes tensions.

Bain de sang

Des heurts opposant des islamistes aux forces de l'ordre et des habitants ont fait 57 morts dimanche, en marge de manifestations réclamant le retour du premier président élu démocratiquement en Egypte. Autorités et pro-Morsi s'accusent mutuellement d'avoir ouvert le feu. Depuis la destitution de Mohamed Morsi, les autorités installées par l'armée ont lancé une répression implacable contre les Frères musulmans, qui a connu son paroxysme le 14 août, lorsque l'armée et la police ont dispersé dans un bain de sang deux campements pro-

Morsi. Depuis la mi-août, plus d'un millier de personnes ont été tuées et plus de 2 000 islamistes arrêtés, dont la quasi-totalité des dirigeants des Frères musulmans.

La justice a interdit le 23 septembre les «activités» des Frères musulmans et ordonné la confiscation des biens de l'influente confrérie. Et mercredi, le ministère de la Solidarité sociale a dissout une ONG liée aux Frères, a rapporté un média d'État. Plusieurs pays occidentaux, dont les États-Unis, de même que la chef de la diplomatie européenne Catherine Ashton ont réclamé la libération de Mohamed Morsi comme un geste de bonne volonté dans le cadre de la transition politique, mais cette demande a été rejetée par les autorités, qui accusent les Frères musulmans de «terrorisme».

Malgré la répression, les pro-Morsi ont juré d'intensifier leurs manifestations contre ce qu'ils considèrent comme un «coup d'État». «Personne ne pourra nous en empêcher (...) quels que soient les sacrifices à consentir», ont-ils prévenu dans un communiqué. Après les heurts de dimanche, plusieurs attaques ont visé en début de semaine la police et l'armée, faisant une dizaine de morts parmi les forces de l'ordre. Mercredi, une bombe a endommagé un bâtiment désaffecté de l'armée dans la péninsule du Sinaï, où des groupes islamistes armés multiplient les attaques depuis le 3 juillet.

Une population fortement divisée

Amnesty International a par ailleurs souligné mercredi que les forces de sécurité égyptiennes n'avaient pas réussi à empêcher les violences visant les Coptes et à protéger cette communauté, cible de plusieurs attaques après la sanglante répression des pro-Morsi. Les islamistes accusent les Coptes d'avoir soutenu l'armée dans la destitution de Morsi. L'ONG affirme que plus de 200 propriétés détenues par des chrétiens ont été attaquées, 43 églises sérieusement endommagées et au moins quatre personnes tuées.

Morsi, qui a dirigé le pays durant un année marquée par de fortes divisions au sein de la population, sera le deuxième président égyptien à comparaître devant la justice pour le meurtre de manifestants. Son prédécesseur Hosni Moubarak, qui a dirigé l'Égypte durant trente ans, est jugé pour «*complicité de meurtres*» de manifestants lors de la révolte qui l'avait renversé en 2011. L'Égypte est sous état d'urgence depuis le 14 août, la capitale est soumise à un couvre-feu nocturne et parsemée de barrages de militaires équipés de blindés.

AFP

<http://www.radio-canada.ca/nouvelles/International/2013/10/11/007-egypte-alexandrie-heurts-morsi-pro-anti.shtml>

Égypte : nouveaux heurts entre pro et anti-Morsi

Mise à jour le vendredi 11 octobre 2013 à 15 h 02 HAE
Radio-Canada avec Agence France-Presse et Reuters



Des militants islamistes au Caire Photo :

AFP/MOHAMED ABDELMENIEM

Des affrontements entre partisans et opposants de l'ancien président égyptien Mohamed Morsi ont été dispersés par la police à Alexandrie. Plusieurs milliers de pro-Morsi s'étaient rassemblés dans la deuxième ville d'Égypte de même qu'au Caire et dans plusieurs villes du delta du Nil.

Les affrontements d'Alexandrie auraient opposé des partisans de Morsi à des habitants « exaspérés par le cortège où l'on entendait des slogans contre l'armée ».

D'autres affrontements de moindre ampleur ont également éclaté dans la province de « Charkia ».

Ces violences surviennent moins d'une semaine après les heurts qui ont coûté la vie à 57 personnes dans l'ensemble du pays, dimanche dernier. Il s'agissait de l'une des journées les plus sanglantes depuis le renversement de l'ancien président Morsi par l'armée le 3 juillet dernier.

Le pays est soumis à l'état d'urgence depuis que l'armée a donné l'assaut contre des camps pro-Morsi - un assaut qui a fait des centaines de morts - à la mi-août.

Par ailleurs, au moins neuf soldats égyptiens ont été blessés dans l'explosion d'engins piégés au passage de véhicules de l'armée à Rafah, à la frontière entre le Sinaï et la bande de Gaza. L'armée mène régulièrement des opérations à Rafah pour détruire les tunnels de contrebande entre l'Égypte et la bande de Gaza. Elle mène également des opérations contre les groupes islamistes armés dans la péninsule du Sinaï.

La police et l'armée ont été visées par des attaques sur une base pratiquement quotidiennement dans la péninsule du Sinaï. Les groupes islamistes y multiplient les attaques contre les forces de l'ordre depuis la destitution de Mohammed Morsi en juillet dernier.

<http://www.afriquinfos.com/articles/2013/10/11/islamistes-egyptiens-defilent-pour-marquer-jours-leviction-morsi-mort-234104.asp>

Les islamistes égyptiens défilent pour marquer les 100 jours de l'éviction de Morsi, 1 mort

LE CAIRE (Xinhua) - Des milliers de partisans des Frères musulmans ont défilé vendredi dans les grandes villes d'Égypte pour marquer les 100 jours de la chute du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi, faisant un mort et sept blessés.

Vendredi 11 octobre 2013 | 19:40 UTC

Des affrontements ont éclaté entre les partisans de Morsi et ses opposants dans certaines villes d'Égypte.

L'agence de presse officielle MENA, citée par une source du ministère de la Santé, a déclaré qu'une personne avait été tuée et sept autres blessées dans les affrontements dans le gouvernorat de Sharqia, et sept autres blessées dans le gouvernorat de Damietta.

Dans la ville côtière d'Alexandrie dans le nord du pays, des forces de sécurité ont tiré du gaz lacrymogène pour disperser les affrontements entre manifestants pro- et anti-Morsi.

Au Caire, l'armée et les forces de police étaient déployées autour de la symbolique place Tahrir. L'unité de sécurité a également empêché des manifestants de s'approcher de la place Rabba el-Adawya et du Palais de Quba.

Vendredi, le groupe des Frères musulmans a publié un communiqué affirmant qu'ils n'accepteraient aucun accord jusqu'à ce que M. Morsi soit réinstitué et la Constitution de 2012 restaurée.

La situation de sécurité en Égypte s'est dégradée récemment, en particulier depuis le renversement de M. Morsi par l'armée le 3 juillet.

http://french.ruvr.ru/news/2013_10_12/Deux-personnes-tuees-dans-des-affrontements-en-Egypte-0886/

12 octobre, 10:37

Deux personnes tuées dans des affrontements en Egypte



Photo : EPA

Par *La Voix de la Russie* | Une personne a été tuée au cours des émeutes commencées vendredi soir dans l'un des quartiers du Caire après que les forces de sécurité aient arrêté une voiture transportant un groupe de partisans des Frères musulmans. Une fusillade a commencé entre la police et les islamistes.

Six personnes ont été arrêtées sur les lieux de l'incident.

En outre, selon les médias, une autre personne a été tuée lors d'affrontements dans la province de Sharqia, où les partisans des Frères ont essayé d'organiser une marche de protestation contre le gouvernement.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/10/18/uk-egypt-protests-idUKBRE99H15J20131018>

Thousands march for Mursi across Egypt; policeman killed in Sinai

Fri, Oct 18 2013

CAIRO | Sat Oct 19, 2013 12:44am BST

(Reuters) - Thousands of supporters of deposed Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi protested across Egypt on Friday, shouting slogans against army chief General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, who ousted him on July 3.

One person was wounded by gunfire when taking part in a pro-Mursi march of a few thousand in Fayoum, south of Cairo, state news agency MENA reported. Four were injured in clashes between Mursi supporters and residents in the Nile Delta city of Zagazig, state TV reported.

Hundreds of pro-Mursi Islamists took to the streets in the coastal city of Alexandria and in Buhayra province, witnesses and security sources said.

Friday's protests were mostly peaceful. On October 6, dozens of supporters of Mursi's Muslim Brotherhood were killed in protests in one of the bloodiest days since the military deposed him.

Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim, who survived an assassination attempt in September, ordered police to confront decisively any attempt to break the law, MENA reported.

On August 14, Egyptian security forces broke up two pro-Mursi sit-ins in Cairo and killed hundreds of civilians.

The government then declared a state of emergency and imposed a curfew. Thousands of Brotherhood members, including Mursi, have been arrested.

The pro-Mursi coalition that called for Friday's protests said in a statement released on the website of the Brotherhood's political wing that it would be open to the idea of having mediators work toward solving Egypt's political crisis.

Previous statements from the coalition had called the army-backed government illegitimate and insisted on Mursi's return to the presidency.

Proposals by the coalition to resolve the crisis must await the naming of mediators, the statement quoted Mohamed Ali Bishr, Brotherhood leader and a minister under Mursi, as saying.

Gunmen killed a policeman on Friday on a street in the city of El-Arish in north Sinai, security and medical sources said.

Egypt is fighting an Islamist insurgency in the largely lawless Sinai Peninsula, adjoining the Palestinian Gaza strip and Israel. Sinai-based militants have intensified their attacks on military and police since Mursi's ouster, which followed mass protests against his rule.

(Reporting by Shadia Nasralla and Ali Abdelatti; Editing by Andrew Roche and Peter Cooney)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201310181270.html>

Egypt: Alexandria Residents Clash With Brotherhood Supporters

18 October 2013



Photo: Elisa Iannacone

A pro-Mursi protester during clashes with security forces in Cairo (file photo).

Clashes broke out on Friday between Alexandria's Sidi Beshr residents and Muslim Brotherhood supporters after the residents refused to let the Brotherhood's allies march through their area.

The two sides hurled stones at each other.

Supporters of the former president and the Brotherhood earlier gathered at various areas in Alexandria and staged marches.

They chanted, "Down with the rule of the military" and "Leave, Sisi ... Mursi is my president".

Scores of the Brotherhood's supporters marched in Agami area, holding banners of the Rabaa symbol as well as pictures of political prisoners and people killed in clashes.

They also distributed leaflets carrying the word "Void" to express their rejection of what they called the military coup and demand the return of former President Mohamed Mursi to power.

On the other hand, dozens of Defence Minister Abdel Fattah al-Sisi's supporters marched earlier today to urge him to nominate himself for presidency.

They carried banners saying "The army and the people stand united" and "Sisi is my president".

Alexandria's security headquarters stepped up security all over the city in anticipation of acts of violence.

Security forces were deployed at al-Qaed Ibrahim and Sidi Beshr mosques while police vehicles patrolled areas where Brotherhood supporters planned to gather.

Egyptian riot police clash with Mohamed Morsi supporters in Cairo

Police fire teargas at protesters demanding the return of Egypt's ousted president, Mohamed Morsi, at al-Azhar University

- Associated Press in Cairo
- The Guardian, Sunday 20 October 2013 18.36 BST



A Mohamed Morsi supporter covers his face to protect against teargas fired by riot police during clashes in Cairo. Photograph: Mostafa Darwish/EPA

Egyptian riot police fired teargas at hundreds of protesters demanding the return of ousted president Mohamed Morsi, leaving them besieged inside a Cairo university.

Sunday's clashes marked the second day of unrest at al-Azhar University, Sunni Islam's most prominent centre of learning. Many supporters of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood are students at al-Azhar, a stronghold of the group, which is close to the site of a former protest camp raided by security forces in August, leaving hundreds dead and sparking days of unrest.

The students' protest began with a march on the campus, where protesters hurled stones at the administrator's offices, smashed windows and broke down doors, the university's deputy head, Ibrahim el-Houdhoud, said.

He told the al-Jazeera Mubasher Misr news channel that he had warned the protesters not to leave campus and clash with security forces. The protesters, however, ignored the advice, marching out of the main gates to hold prayers for students killed in previous clashes.

In a separate incident gunmen on a motorcycle fired on wedding guests outside a Coptic Christian church in a Cairo suburb, killing three people, security sources said.

The masked assailants shot randomly at the people as they left the church on Sunday night, the sources said. The victims were a man, a woman and an eight-year-old girl, according to a statement from the interior ministry. The ministry did not offer a motive for the shooting, which happened in Cairo's Waraa neighbourhood

Sunday's protests came amid heated debate over a new law that would place tougher restrictions on demonstrators, including heavy fines and possible prison sentences for violators.

Morsi was overthrown by the military on 3 July after millions took to the streets to demand he step down. Since then, Cairo has seen non-stop demonstrations by his supporters demanding his return. A military-backed crackdown has left hundreds dead and seen thousands arrested.

<http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2013/10/20/riot-police-arrest55studentsincairoclashes.html>

Police and students clash at Cairo university

October 20, 2013 1:00PM ET

Government officials tell Al Jazeera 55 students arrested in anti-government protests



Protesters gather amidst the remnants of tear gas smoke during clashes with riot police at Al-Azhar University in Cairo. Mohamed Abd El Ghany/Reuters

Egyptian security forces fired bird-shot shotgun shells and tear gas to disperse hundreds of students protesting against the government at Cairo's Al-Azhar University, the Ministry of Interior said Sunday.

Riot police used force in an attempt to prevent supporters of deposed President Mohamed Morsi from marching to Rabaa al Adawiya Square, the site of a protest camp that was destroyed in a deadly crackdown by security forces two months ago, a witness said.

"Rabaa Square is completely off-limits," a security source said. "Protesters are not allowed to move inside it."

The crowd of hundreds were students from Al-Azhar University, the historic seat of Sunni Muslim learning. They threw rocks at riot police stationed outside the gates of the university, and police threw them back.

The Ministry of Interior told Al Jazeera that 55 students were arrested during the clashes.

Authorities have cracked down on activities of the Muslim Brotherhood since a popular movement, backed by the country's military, ousted Morsi on July 3. The Brotherhood, Morsi's base of support, wants him reinstated as president.

"We want the return of legitimate rule to Egypt, we want the return of President Morsi," said Mohamed Magdi, a commerce student. "We are unarmed students. We just approached them and said 'you are our police' and then they attacked us."

The students had been protesting for the second day on campus in support of Morsi. Graffiti scrawled on university buildings condemned General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, the army chief who toppled Morsi, as a murderer and traitor.

The army rejects allegations that it deposed Morsi in a coup and says it was merely responding to the will of the people.

The government refers to the Brotherhood as "terrorists" and does not distinguish between the movement and Al-Qaeda-affiliated groups in the lawless Sinai Peninsula who carry out almost daily attacks on security forces.

Following weeks of anti-government protests by the group, the country's interim government outlawed the Muslim Brotherhood – arresting most of its leaders in the process. The group's leaders, including Morsi, have been charged with such crimes as inciting or taking part in violence.

Nevertheless, Morsi's supporters say they will continue to protest until the army-backed government falls – though demonstrations are now much smaller than they once were.

Al Jazeera and wire services

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2013/10/20/330381/police-clash-with-students-in-cairo/>

Riot police clash with pro-Morsi students in Cairo

Sun Oct 20, 2013 3:20PM GMT

Fierce clashes have erupted between Egyptian security forces and students protesting against the military-backed government at al-Azhar University in Cairo.

The security forces fired tear gas at protesters spilling out after a call by the Anti-Coup Alliance for a national uprising against the government.

Angry protesters also demanded the release of political detainees. Similar demonstrations were also held at Cairo University.

Since the start of the academic year in September, Egyptian university campuses have witnessed a number of protests.

Protesters were prevented from marching towards Rabaa al-Adawiya Mosque, the scene of a former sit-in where hundreds of protesters supporting the former president, Mohamed Morsi, were killed as security forces broke up the camps in early August.

"Rabaa Square is completely off-limits," media outlets quoted a security source as saying, adding, "Protesters are not allowed to move inside it."

The development comes as demonstrations by Morsi's supporters against the military-backed interim government are still being held across Egypt despite the interim authorities' efforts to widen crackdown on Morsi backers.

The interim government took power after Morsi was ousted by the army on July 3.

Egypt's interim government has arrested more than 2,000 Muslim Brotherhood members, including the party's leader, Mohamed Badie, who was detained on August 20.

Morsi has been held in an unknown location since his overthrow. He is due to stand trial on November 4 on charges of inciting violence.

Hundreds of supporters of the group have been killed in clashes with army over the past few months.

JR/PR/SS

<http://www.turkishweekly.net/news/157670/egyptian-troops-fire-teargas-to-disperse-islamist-protesters.html>

Egyptian troops fire teargas to disperse Islamist protesters

21 October 2013

CAIRO - Egyptian security forces fired bird shot and tear gas to prevent supporters of deposed Islamist President Mohamed Morsi from marching on Sunday to the site of a protest camp that was destroyed two months ago, a Reuters witness said.

The crowd of about 500 people were students from Al-Azhar University, the historic seat of Sunni Muslim learning.

A Reuters witness said he could smell teargas and could see students throwing rocks at riot police stationed outside the gates of the university, which is in the same Cairo suburb as the Rabaa al-Adaweya mosque, the scene of a former pro-Morsi protest camp.

"Rabaa Square is completely off-limits," a security source said. "Protesters are not allowed to move inside it." He said four students had been arrested.

Riot police were throwing stones back at the students.

The students had been protesting on campus in support of Morsi of the Muslim Brotherhood, who was overthrown by army chief General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi on July 3. Graffiti scrawled on university buildings refers to Sisi as a murderer and traitor.

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2013/10/22/330731/morsi-fans-opponents-clash-in-cairo/>

Morsi fans, opponents clash in Mansoura, Dakahlia



Egyptians police fire teargas to disperse rival protests in al-Mansoura University on October 22, 2013.

Tue Oct 22, 2013 6:7PM GMT

LAST UPDATE

Security forces have intervened after the supporters and opponents of Egypt's ousted president, Mohamed Morsi, clashed in the city of Mansoura, Dakahlia Governorate.

The clashes erupted on Tuesday as the two sides, who were holding separate rallies at al-Mansoura University, got engaged in hurling stones at rival protesters.

Riot police stepped in and fired tear gas to disperse the crowd.

There were no immediate reports on the number of possible casualties.

Tensions have been running high in Egypt since the ouster of Morsi, Egypt's first democratically elected president, by the country's powerful military in July.

The army suspended the constitution, dissolved the parliament and declared the head of the Supreme Constitutional Court, Adly Mahmoud Mansour, as the country's interim president.

This triggered mass street rallies, spearheaded by the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood - protests which were invariably met with use of violent force by the army-backed interim government.

Egyptian security forces have arrested more than 2,000 Muslim Brotherhood members, including the party's leader, Mohamed Badie, who was detained on August 20.

About 1,000 people were killed in a week of violence between Morsi supporters and security forces after police dispersed their protest camps in a deadly operation on August 14.

The massacre sparked international condemnation and prompted world bodies to call for an independent investigation into the violence.

<http://www.lesechos.fr/economie-politique/monde/actu/reuters-00559479-egypte-manifestations-pro-morsi-a-alexandrie-et-a-suez-622525.php>

International

Egypte-Manifestations pro-Morsi à Alexandrie et à Suez

25/10 | 17:29

La police égyptienne a fait usage de gaz lacrymogène vendredi pour disperser des partisans du président déchu Mohamed Morsi qui manifestaient à Alexandrie, la deuxième ville du pays, et à Suez.

Des rassemblements en faveur de l'ancien chef de l'Etat, issu du mouvement des Frères musulmans et destitué le 3 juillet par l'armée à la suite de manifestations de masse, sont organisés chaque vendredi après la grande prière.

A Suez, environ 4.000 manifestants sont descendus dans les rues.

A Alexandrie, ils étaient un millier qui ont bloqué la corniche, la route principale le long du front de mer, en scandant des slogans contre l'armée et la police, ont rapporté des témoins.

Des habitants et des automobilistes ont lancé des pierres sur les manifestants afin qu'ils laissent les voitures passer, ce qui a provoqué des échauffourées. La police est intervenue en tirant des grenades lacrymogènes et a arrêté deux personnes.

Des affrontements ont aussi opposé adversaires et partisans de Morsi dans le quartier de Wardeyan, dans l'ouest de la ville, où les forces de sécurité sont également intervenues pour disperser la foule.

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/84752/Egypt/Politics-/Police-intervene-to-end-clashes-in-Alexandria.aspx>

Police intervene to end clashes in Alexandria

Clashes flare in Alexandria's Sidi Beshr between residents and pro-Morsi supporters
Ahram Online, Friday 25 Oct 2013

Security forces intervened to end clashes between supporters of ousted president Mohamed Morsi and residents of Alexandria's Sidi Beshr area, Al-Ahram's Arabic news website reported.

The district is the site of weekly battles between pro-Morsi supporters and their opponents. Al-Ahram reported that police fired teargas to separate the clashing parties.

The pro-Morsi National Coalition in Support of Legitimacy announced a week of protests on Friday to demand Morsi's reinstatement and condemn the military, who removed him from power amid mass protests against his rule.

No injuries or deaths have been reported so far.

<http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2013/10/25/clashes-during-friday-protests/>

Clashes during Friday protests

Joel Gulhane / October 25, 2013 / 1 Comment / 924 Views

Security forces fired tear gas to disperse clashes between demonstrators and local residents



Pro-Mohamed Morsi protestors marching in Giza on Friday. DNE/Ahmed Al-Malky

Pro-Mohamed Morsi demonstrators in Alexandria, Giza and Suez clashed with local residents and security forces during marches on Friday.

Marchers clashed with local residents in the Omraniya neighbourhood of Giza, in Suez, and the Sidi Bishr neighbourhood in Alexandria, according to state owned Al-Ahram.

Security forces In Sidi Bishr fired tear gas to prevent the demonstrators and local residents from fighting each other.

State television reported that security forces in Suez tightened security around state owned property. Security also fired tear gas to disperse the protestors.

Pro-Morsi demonstrators also marched to the Supreme Constitutional Court in Cairo.

The Anti-Coup Alliance called for Friday protests under the banner of “Suez Persistence Path to Jerusalem”, which is billed to be the start of the “Week of Persistence.” The Alliance could not be reached for further comment on Friday’s marches.

Security forces were deployed around the capital on Friday morning to close some of the major squares including Tahrir, Rabaa Al-Adaweya and Al-Nahda Squares.