

Down with military rule - Down with Mubarak's rule

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Statement by the Revolutionary Socialists (Egypt)

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You will pay the price ... killers of the revolutionaries!

The revolutionaries have returned to Tahrir Square. Once again it is filled with the young people who are impatient to bring the killers of the revolutionaries in January to justice, and to see the realisation of freedom and social justice. The military courts have stolen years upon years of their lives. They have lost their eyes to sniper fire on the orders of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces and their henchmen in the Ministry of the Interior. They have been slandered by the subservient media, which has moved overnight from one master to a new one. Social tensions have increased and the state's response has been to mobilise thugs and military trials against protesters and strikers. The state dashed the hopes of people who hoped to see privatized companies return to the public sector, by appealing the court decision. Likewise it appealed against the decision to exclude remnants of the old ruling party from the elections, thereby confirming its allegiance to the Mubarak regime. The dreams of these young people have virtually all evaporated, taken from them in police stations and prisons under torture. And still the list of martyrs goes on: two in Alexandria, one in Cairo and one in Suez.

Their battle is not about whether to have elections or a constitution first. Their battle is not about the second article of the constitution. Nor is it over seats in parliament. The battalions of the revolution stationed in Tahrir Square, in Alexandria, in Suez and in other governorates of Egypt are not sections of the elite, locked in battle over a document in order to re-divide their share of power or wealth. The spark which set this movement ablaze was kindled by the poor and the revolutionaries of Egypt, serious in their determination to bring down the system and insisting on their right to enjoy freedom and a dignified life. For all the reasons above, the revolutionaries of Egypt deserve more than a timetable negotiated behind the scenes by the political forces in order to map out a government.

- The revolutionaries of Egypt did not entrust the revolution to the Military Council and did not agree to deliver it into the hands of the generals.
- The revolutionaries of Egypt did not mandate the Military Council to rule Egypt, rather it was Mubarak who did this.
- The revolutionaries of Egypt did not agree to the extension of the Emergency Laws by Mubarak in 2009.

The referendum in favor of the amendments to the Constitution which was drafted in the absence of Egypt's toilers has not been respected by the generals, even though they chose its authors and managed the entire process. You could say that today we are now, in effect, ruled by the constitution of 1971, since the powers of the President of the Republic have been exchanged for the powers of the Military Council, without anyone having had to call a single referendum.

It is a broken system which rules by announcing a broken constitution, elaborated in pointless documents behind closed doors by figures who have not been elected by the people and who represent no one. A repressive regime which rules by military courts, and iron and fire, and by crushing people under the tracks of its armored cars. The people won a victory on 11 February 2011 by forcing Mubarak to vacate his seat at the top table. They did not do this to replace him with new military Mubaraks, but to replace him with a completely new regime. Our revolution is not complete! From the first moment, the junta has not ceased in its efforts to bend the people to its will. In defense of its own interests it has sought to turn things back to how they were before 25 January. At first this lying language was friendly to the revolutionaries, as a prelude to an increasingly brutal policy of repression, the more that public awareness increased of an alliance between the military and civilian authorities and the capitalist class, united in their effort to steal the revolution and its dreams.

We thought that the massacre at Maspero [on 9 October] was the most that this brutal alliance was capable of, but the violence which it has mobilized against the revolutionaries since 'The Friday of Handing Over Power', on 18 November until the moment this statement was written, proves that this brutal repressive power knows no limits. They have dragged people in the streets, and killed them, and dragged their bodies and piled them on top of each other.

We, the Revolutionary Socialists, stationed in Tahrir Square since the first day, we call on the brave masses of the revolutionaries in the streets and squares of Egypt today, to apply the lessons of the 25 January Revolution and to unite all the forces in our 'Liberated Squares' in a single front, which alone has the right to speak for the revolution.

We will put you on trial, killers of the revolutionaries, whether it takes a long time or a short one, as our victory, and the victory of the revolution is inevitable.

Glory to the martyrs!

Victory to the revolution!

Power and wealth to the people!
