

Egyptian Revolution

Cultural changes



han Rashad © 2011

Bread – Freedom – Social Justice



Modernization

Conditions of Modernization in the Western Model

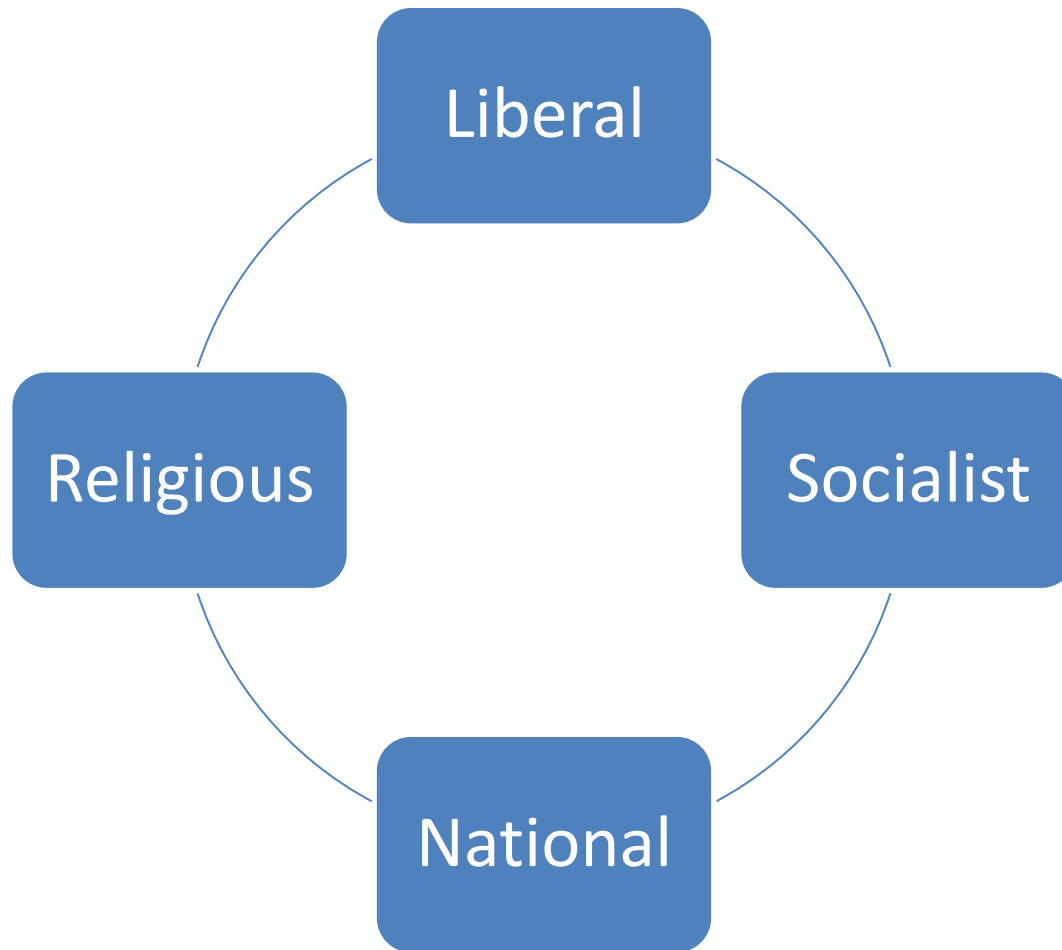
-Cultural

-Social

-Economic conditions

- Free market
- Strong Belief in science
- The technological development
- Domination of civil law instead of religious instructions
- Secularity
- Respect of Human Rights: Freedom of expression, beliefs, etc.

Modernization in Egypt has started in the 19th century



French Expedition in Egypt
Beginning of in 19th century



Mohamed Aly Pasha



Mohamed Abdu



Qasim Amin

First attempts of modernization and reforms failed or did not continue

Why

- 1952 revolution in Egypt (Nasser), military overthrew the King : One official discourse, no place for other discourses.
- 1967 Egypt defeated in a war against Israel. Sinai was occupied by the Israeli.
- Since then the official discourse was liberalization of Egypt .

“No voice should be louder than
the voice of our battle to free our
land”

Measures undertaken

- Banning political parties, including the Muslim Brotherhood
- Strong control of the media, books, etc. Censorship.
- Nationalizing of newspapers and publishing houses.

These thoughts of reform were limited to small intellectual elite. It did not lead to a real change.

2011: Wide revolution started in
Egypt

2011: Wide revolution started in Egypt

- Thoughts of democracy, freedom and social justice part became part of wide discussions in the Egyptian society.



January Revolution

Included wide groups of the society

Revolutionary and reform ideas became “popular”

- Changes in the cultural sector already
before the revolution
- Using tools available in the modern
and postmodern condition

Privatization and the popular cultural products in the private cultural sector

- Audio-visual media
- Social media
- Book Industry

Private TV stations

1990 first private channels in the
Arab Region



Al Jazeera 1996

Combining news and entertainment



Dream channel

Dream, Al Hayat channels Al Mehwar



Demonstration in 2007

Margin for freedom in the private media

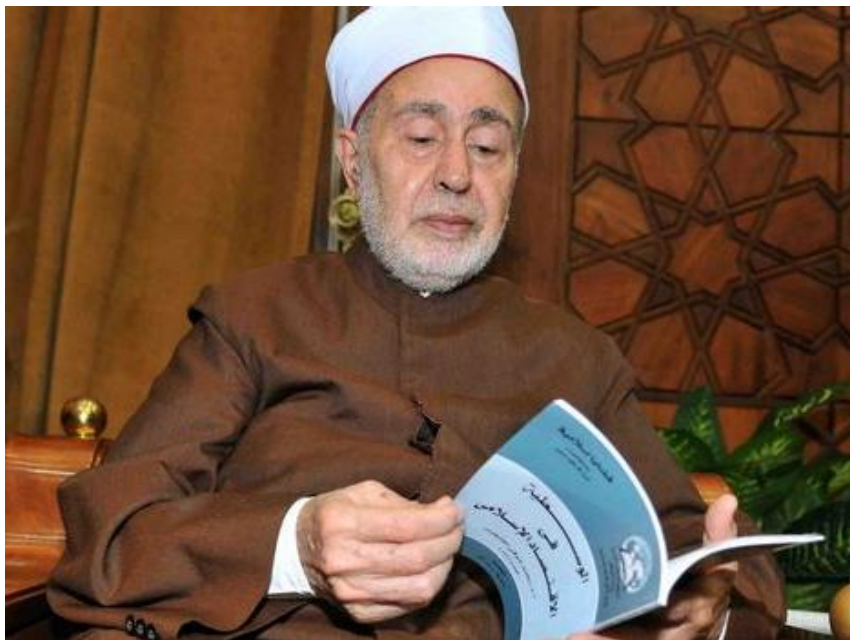


Young Islamic broadcaster, Amr Khaled



Former Egyptian Mufti, Gomaa

Former Azhar Sheikh Tantawi



Mostafa Hosni





Religious programs for women

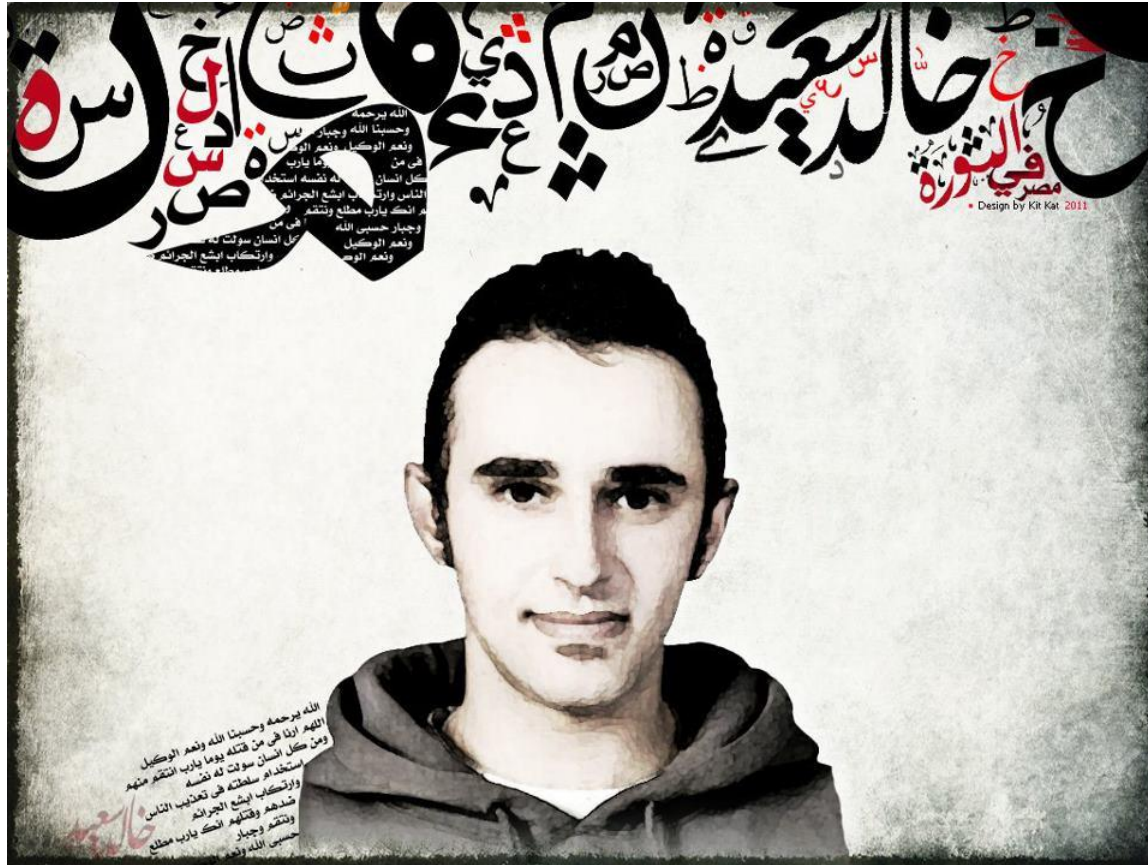
New modern religious discourse

Popular cultural products in the private cultural sector

- Audio-visual media
- Social media
- Books

Social media in Egypt

- Mid of 1990: Huge developments in the communication in Egypt
- Internet a ground occupied by the youth and the opposition



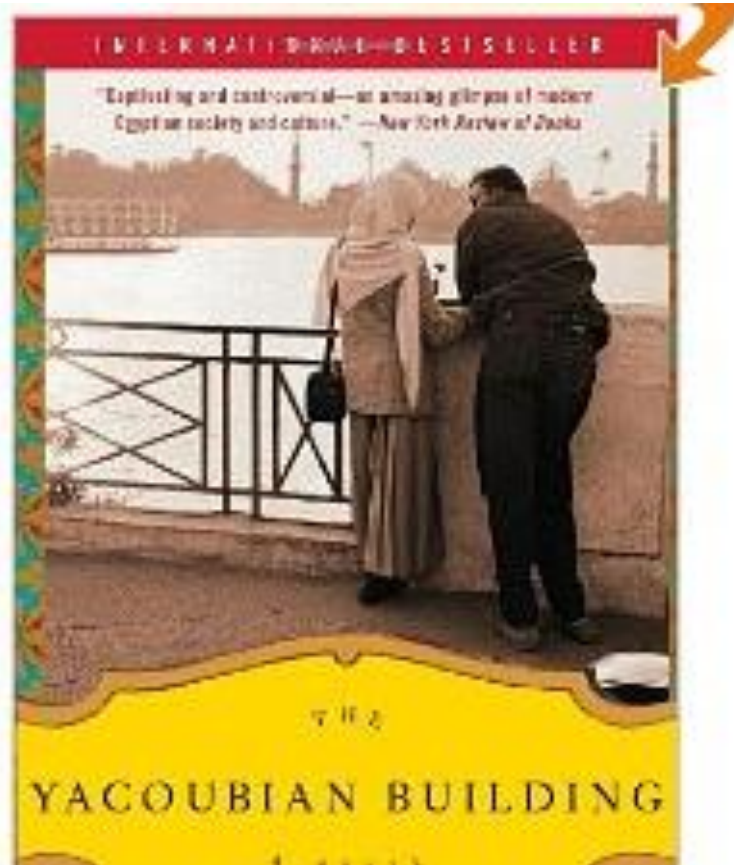
Khaled Said

Popular cultural products in the private cultural sector

- Audio-visual media
- Social media
- Books

Popular books = Listening to the
voices of the ordinary people

- Establishing new concepts for book
industry and market



Yacoubian Building by Alaa Alawani

Popular books



Popular cultural products in the private cultural sector

- Audio-visual media
- Social media
- Books

Future cultural change

Continuation or Rupture

Continuation

- Fierce struggle of power among different social and political groups leads to open criticism
- Public conflict of ideas lead to changes inside the discourse of the different social groups
- International public opinion
- Public struggle between the old and the new, between heritage and modernity



Basim Yousef

Sarcastic programs become part of most of the TV channels



ASA7BE Sarcasm

Sarcastic blogs on the internet



Khairat El Shater

Islamists express their opinion in public . Public dialogue among different social and political groups started.



Assem Abdelmagid, former Islamic militant



Misr 25 Channel, Muslim Brotherhood channel



Prominent unveiled female figure invited in a program in Misr 25 channel



Program for modern women on Misr 25 channel



Novel, Mawlana of Ibrahim Issa

After June 30th. Measures undertaken

- Shutting down private Islamic TV stations
- Banning of the newspaper “Freedom and Justice” belonging to the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood
- No real public debate about renovation of the religious discourse

Protests in Egypt, 30/06/2013



Islamic demonstrators in Cairo



The private cultural sector in Egypt

- Will it threaten the Egyptian culture on the long run?
- Will it focus on commercial products and thus manipulate the public opinion in a wrong way?
- What is the ideal mixture between private and public production in the cultural field?