

Egypt's Cyber Revolution that Shook the World

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Egypt
Revolution



About the speaker

- Senior Judge in Egypt.
- Advisor to the Minister of Military Production.
- Former advisor to the Chairman of the Egyptian Regulator of the Exchange.
- I hold a Ph.D. in Law from the University of Lyon III in France, for a dissertation on the legal framework to fight cybercrime in Europe and the USA.
- My domain of interest covers: cybercrime, data protection, national and information securities.
- Founder and Chairman of the French Association of Cybercrime Prevention (AILCC).

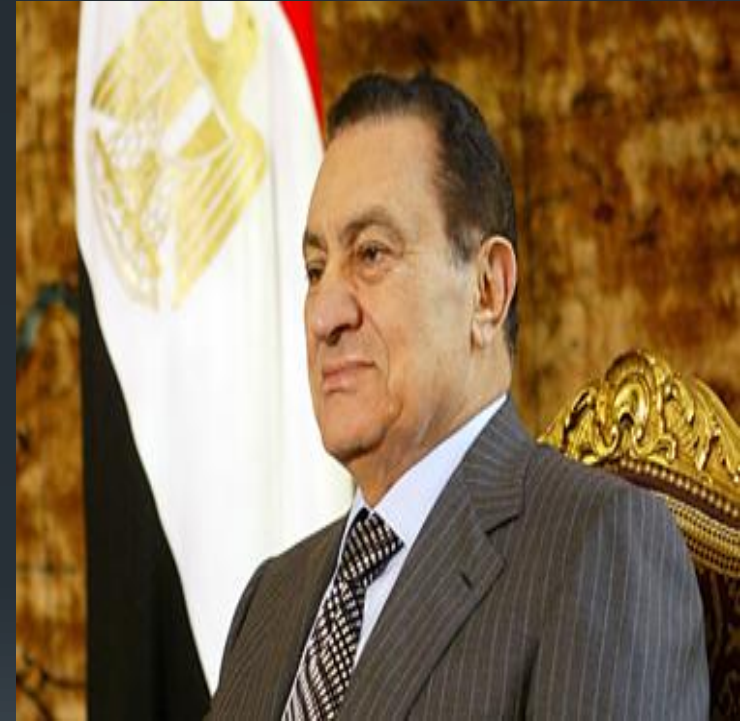
About Egypt ...

- Known officially by The Arab Republic of Egypt
- Covering an area about 1,000,000 km²
- Bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the north, Israel to the northeast, the Red Sea to the east, Sudan to the south and Libya to the west.
- The great majority of its estimated 83 million people live near the banks of the Nile River.
- Egypt's economy depends on agriculture, petroleum and tourism.
- The official language of Egypt is Arabic, with other spoken languages such as English, French and German.
- Football is the Popular National sport of Egypt.



Background ...

- Hosni Mubarak, the former President became head of Egypt's Republic government following the assassination of President Anwar El Sadat in 1981.
- He continued to serve until his departure in 2011.
- Mubarak's 30-year reign made him the longest serving President in Egypt's history.
- Mubarak's government earned the support of the West and a continuation of annual aid from the United States.



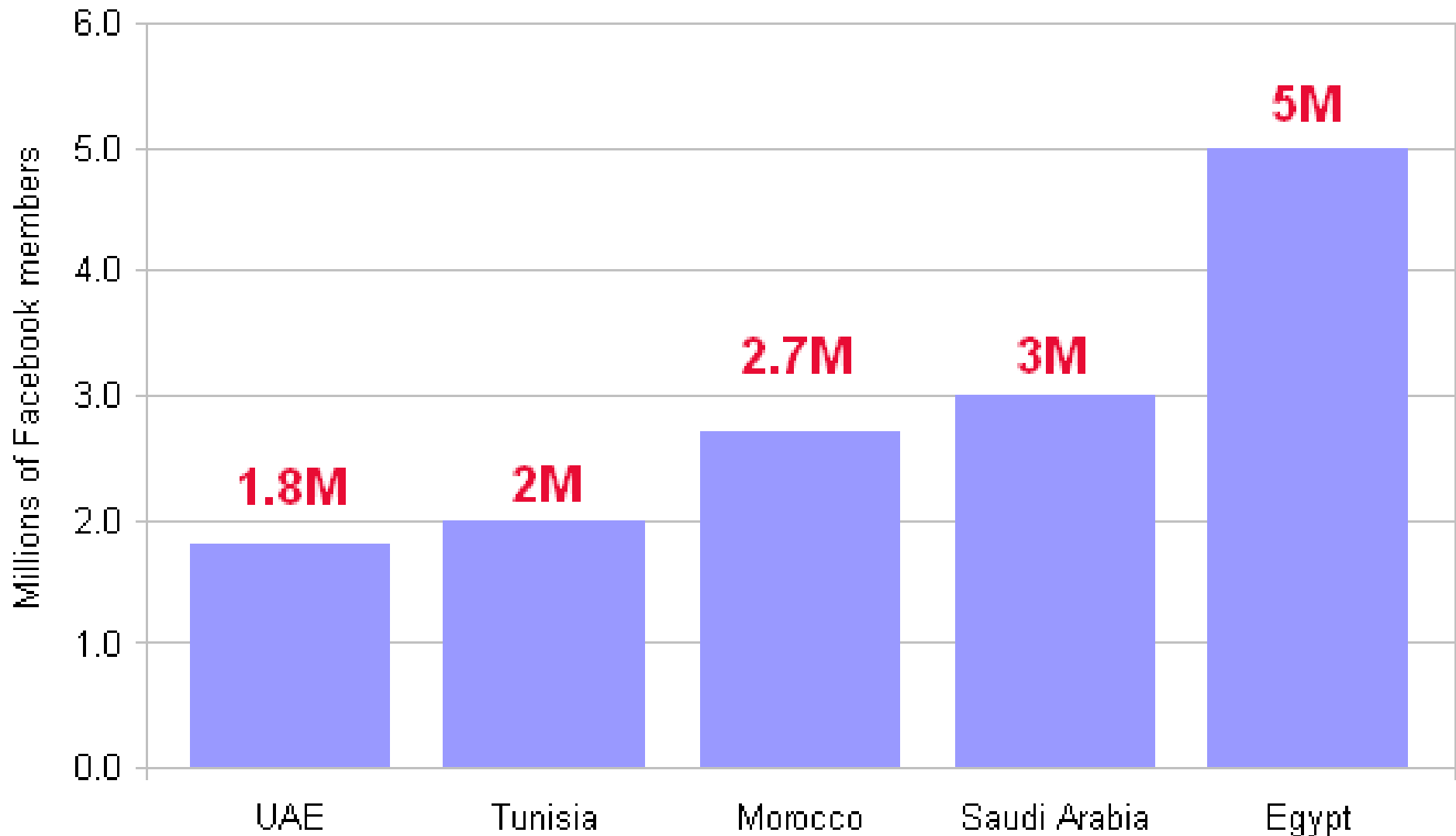
The Internet in Egypt: Popular and Powerful

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- **Domain name:** dot EG
- **Population:** 83 000 000
- **Internet-users:** 17 060 000
- **Average charge for one hour's connection:** 0,20 US\$
- **Number of imprisoned bloggers :** 2



MENA'S TOP FIVE FACEBOOK COMMUNITIES



Connective technologies are a growing force in Egypt

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- Internet use in Egypt increased from less than 1 percent to 21 percent of the population during the past decade.
- 30% of Egypt's 17 million Internet users now subscribe to Facebook, an increase of 10 percent since just May 2010.
- The Egyptian government reports 60 million mobile phone subscribers out of 80 million people, although smartphone penetration in the country is still low.



The blogosphere

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- Since early 2007, the government has been reinforcing Web surveillance under the iron fist of a special department of Egypt's Ministry of Interior.
- Facebook has been placed under surveillance, rather than blocked, so that activists can be observed and arrested.
- Authorities are monitoring emails and telephone calls without any court order.
- Since 2008, cell phone companies are required to obtain their customers' personal data before selling them their services.
- Surveillance is also commonplace in cybercafés, which are frequently visited by the population. The authorities often pressure café managers to gain access to the personal data of Internet users that interest them.



Bloggers: Mobilized but also harassed

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- In 2008, over 500 of bloggers were arrested for “endangering state security” mainly by virtue of the State of Emergency Law.
- The crackdown continued in 2009.
- Most have been released since then, yet two bloggers are still behind bars.
- Since January 2009, an average of one complaint per day is lodged against a journalist or a blogger.
- Blogger Abdel Kareem Nabil Suleiman, nicknamed “Kareem Amer” was sentenced to three years in prison for “insulting the President”.



Emergency law

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- Emergency law in Egypt was firstly enacted in 1958, and has remained in effect since 1967, except for an 18-month break in 1980.
- Under this law, police powers are extended, constitutional rights are suspended, and censorship is legalized. The law sharply circumscribes any non-governmental political activity, and street demonstrations, non-approved political organizations, and unregistered financial donations are formally banned.
- Under state of emergency, the government has the right to imprison individuals for any period of time, and for virtually no reason, thus keeping them in prisons without trials for any period.



Abuse of power

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- During the Egyptian parliamentary election, 2010, opposition groups complained of harassment and fraud perpetrated by the government.
- Opposition and civil society activists have called for changes to a number of legal and constitutional provisions which affect elections.
- The perceptions of corruption and its beneficiaries being limited to businessmen with ties to the National Democratic Party have created a picture “where wealth fuels political power and political power buys wealth”.



Lead-up to the protests

- On June 6, 2010, a young Egyptian man (Khaled Saeed) had been sitting on the second floor of a cybercafé in Alexandria. Two detectives from the police entered the premises and arrested him, allegedly beating him and smashing him against objects as he was led outside to their police car.
- Multiple witnesses have testified that Saeed was beaten to death by the police.
- Human Rights Watch released a press report about the photo that stated, "Photos of Said's battered and deformed face show a fractured skull, dislocated jaw, broken nose, and numerous other signs of trauma" and also that the image clearly showed "strong evidence that plainclothes security officers beat him in a vicious and public manner."



The Start of Cyber Revolution

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- The revolution in Egypt was started by a young Google executive that organized a protest via Facebook. He was released from prison after being detained for 12 days.
- A Facebook page was set up in his name by Google executive Wael Ghonim, and Khaled's name and face became a rallying point for protesters.
- The Facebook page, We Are All Khaled Said, attracted huge attention - tens of thousands of people joined the site, and his plight became a rallying point for Egyptians in the recent popular uprising.



The Use of Social Networks in Egypt's Revolution

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- Social networks have been used to produce films, videos and photos to show the whole world how things were going in Egypt.
- In addition, networks like Facebook were used as a mean of communication between protesters.
- Twitter was used to share logistics between protesters.
- Social networks were used to gather information about the manifestations and observe in real time the status of these manifestations in the whole country.



“We are all Khaled Said Group”

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- Number of members on Facebook: 365,000 as of 10 Jan., 2011.
- Increased to 680,000 members on 10th Feb., 2011.
- Number of contributions: 13 on 11th Jan., increased to 916 on 10th Feb.
- 127 Links to Facebook.
- 116 Links to YouTube.
- 5 Links to Twitter.



6th April Youth Movement

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According to their Web site:

- “ This movement was established, because its members do believe that Egypt deserves an advanced place in the world, and that the Egyptian people deserve a better life as well! Members of this group started together to encourage people to express their opinion about the previous regime, to break their own fears and negativity! and to elevate their awareness about the importance of participation in the political life!”



حركة شباب 6 إبريل - 6th of April Youth Movement

Politician



Wall

Everyone · 6th of April Youth

Share: Post Photo

Write something...



حركة شباب 6 إبريل - 6th of April Youth Movement

ما أنزل في حاجات مفروض مانسأهاش.. اعتزازنا وثقتنا في القوات المسلحة مش
 بديل عن مطالبتنا بشيء إحنا مقتنعين إنه صح, مش معنى إني نازل إني عايز أولعها,
 معنى إنك رافض تنزل إنك متكاسل أو ساذج, بالعكس كل وجهة نظر لها كل الإحترام
 وتقدير. التظاهر حق طبيعي مش شيء استثنائي وبرضو مش شيء قُستهلك, يعني
 ...مش هانتظاهر لأشياء ملهاش قيمة.. ل

أنا بحبك يا بلادي

6th April Youth Movement

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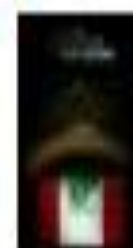
- Number of members on Facebook: 60,000 on 10th Feb., 2011.
- Number of contributions: 1272 on 10th Feb.
- 90 Links to Facebook.
- 43 Links to YouTube.
- 7 Links to Twitter.
- 7 Links to blogs
- 48 mobile numbers have been submitted on the site for direct contact with the protesters.



Twitter was used as a force serving for good:

- Giving protesters a powerful tool for organizing the manifestations.
- Creating the story day after day
- Maintaining the flow of information
- Supply details on escape routes and ways to avoid checkpoints





@BloggerSeif

All Seif

**PEOPLE LEAVE TAHRIR VIA OMAR
MAKRAM, SEMIRAMIS THEN VIA
NILE! #jan25**

2 Feb via Twitter for BlackBerry®  Unfavorite  Retweet  Reply



@Ghonim

Wael Ghonim

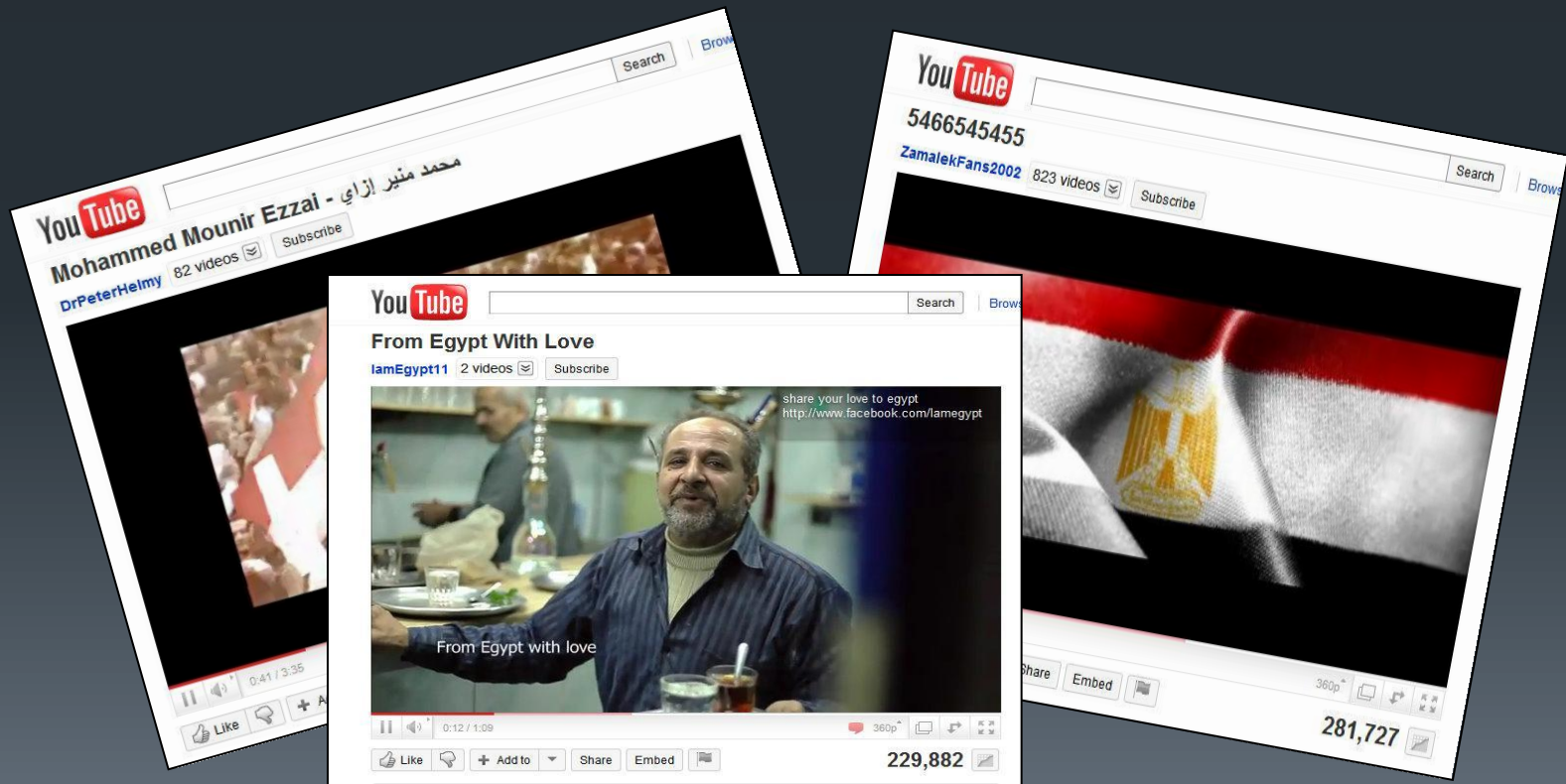
Everyone come to Tahrir now we need you
we are no less than 10,000 and no more
police #JAN25

25 Jan via Twitter for BlackBerry® ★ Unfavorite ↻ Retweet ↩ Reply

YouTube

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As a video sharing application, YouTube demonstrators were able to document the events and share it with the world through video proofs and evidence about what is really happening out there. Although the press was covering the events in depth, the people's video contribution showed us events that could not be covered by the press reporters.





YouTube Usage Facts

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Day	Videos uploaded to YouTube	Views
Jan. 16	7	377,987
17 – 20 Jan.	9	392,382
21 Jan.	10	208,174
22 Jan.	15	320,163
23 Jan.	19	73,323
24 Jan.	18	364,953
25 Jan.	327	3,390,927
26 Jan.	112	509,427
27 – 29 Jan.	Internet shut down	Internet shut down
30 Jan.	11	111,264

YouTube was the number one video site on the Internet.

The site also was the 3rd largest Internet destination after Google & FaceBook.

People submitted 1064 videos of 5700 min.

Videos uploaded by geographical zone (outside Cairo)

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Governorate	No. of Videos
Alexandria	19
Asyut	1
Beheria	5
Beni Suef	4
Dakahlia	34
Damietta	12
Ismailia	10
Port Said	2
Suez	17
Tanta	9

Tunisian revolution

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- After the ousting of Tunisian president Zine El Abidine Ben Ali due to mass protests, many analysts, including former European Commission President Romano Prodi, saw Egypt as the next country where such a revolution might occur.
- On 17 January, due to rising discontent with the country's state and the poor living conditions, and following the self-immolation of Mohamed Bouazizi in Tunisia, a man set himself ablaze in front of the Egyptian parliament; about five more attempts of self-immolation followed suit.



Online Egyptian Activists' Action Plan

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Egyptian activists have been circulating online a kind of primer to Friday's planned protest

How to Protest Intelligently

Important information and tactics

**Please distribute through email
printing, and photocopies ONLY!**

Twitter and facebook are being monitored. Be careful not
to let this fall into the hands of the police or state security.

The Demands of the Egyptian People

- 1. The downfall of the regime of Hosni Mubarak and his ministers.**
- 2. The cessation of the Emergency Law**
- 3. Freedom**
- 4. Justice**
- 5. The formation of a new, non-military government with the interests of the Egyptian people at heart.**
- 6. The constructive administration of all of Egypt's resources.**

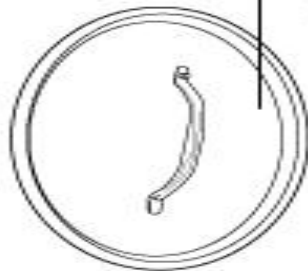
The Strategic Goals of Civil Disobedience

1. To take over important government buildings.
2. To attempt to win over members of the police and army to the side of the people.
3. To protect our brothers and sisters in revolution

Necessary Clothing and Accessories

Sweatshirt or leather jacket with a hood.
This helps shield your face from tear gas.

The lid of a pot: you can use
this shield when the State Security
beats you or shoots rubber
bullets.



Thick rubber gloves in order
to protect your hands from
the heat of tear gas containers



Protective glasses
(Can be bought at any
metalworking or paint shop)



Scarf to protect your
mouth and lungs
from tear gas



A rose so we can show that
we can do as we ought to and
join together in the most
peaceful way possible



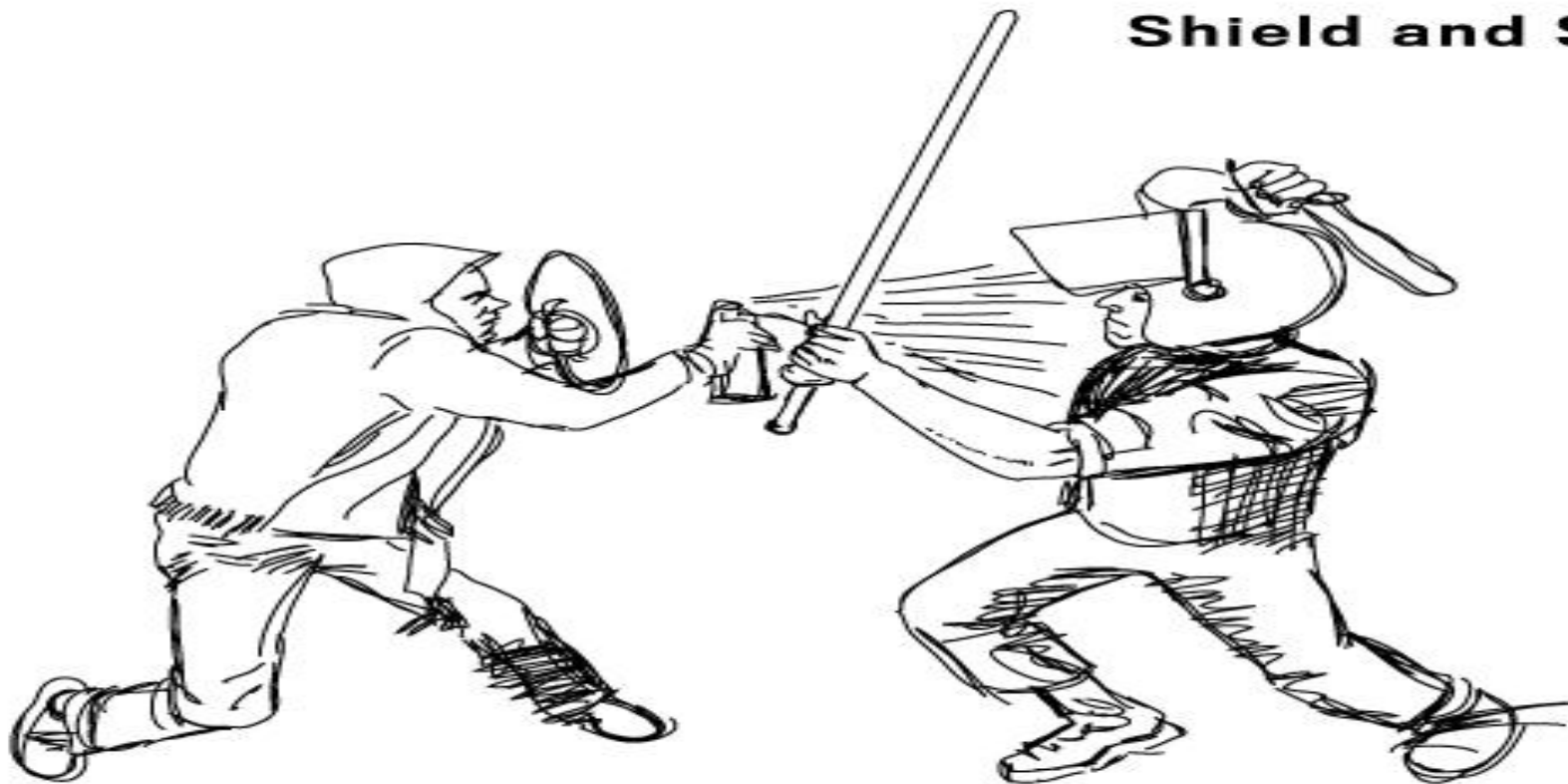
Spray Paint so that if the authorities
attack us, we can spray paint the
visors of their helmets and the
windshields of the armored trucks,
blocking their vision and hindering
their movement



Shoes that make it easy to run
and move quickly.

How to Use the Accessories

Shield and Spray



HOLD YOUR GROUND, EGYPTIAN!
Block the truncheon with your shield
as you're spraying them in the face.

Steps for Carrying Out the Plan

- 1. Assemble with your friends and neighbors in residential streets far away from where the security forces are.**
- 2. Shout slogans in the name of Egypt and the people's freedom (positive slogans).**
- 3. Encourage other residents to join in (again with positive language)**
- 4. Go out into the major streets in very large groups in order to form the biggest possible assembly**
- 5. Head toward important government buildings – while shouting positive slogans– in order to take them over.**



Timeline of the 2011 Egyptian Revolution

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25th January 2011: The Day of Revolt

- This day was the start of a Revolution in Cairo, which was powered by the Tunisian revolution.
- 27 people have died, and hundreds were injured.
- Facebook & Twitter were blocked during these events.
- People have banded together, flooding Tahrir square.
- Tear gas was deployed and water cannons were used, to try to disperse the protestors, which have reached well over 70,000 people.





27th January 2011

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- Egyptian authorities asked mobile operators to "turn down the network totally".
- Internet providers were ordered to suspend Internet connectivity.
- Starting at 10:12 p.m. local time on Thursday night, Telecom Egypt went dark, followed by the four remaining main carriers over the next 13 minutes.



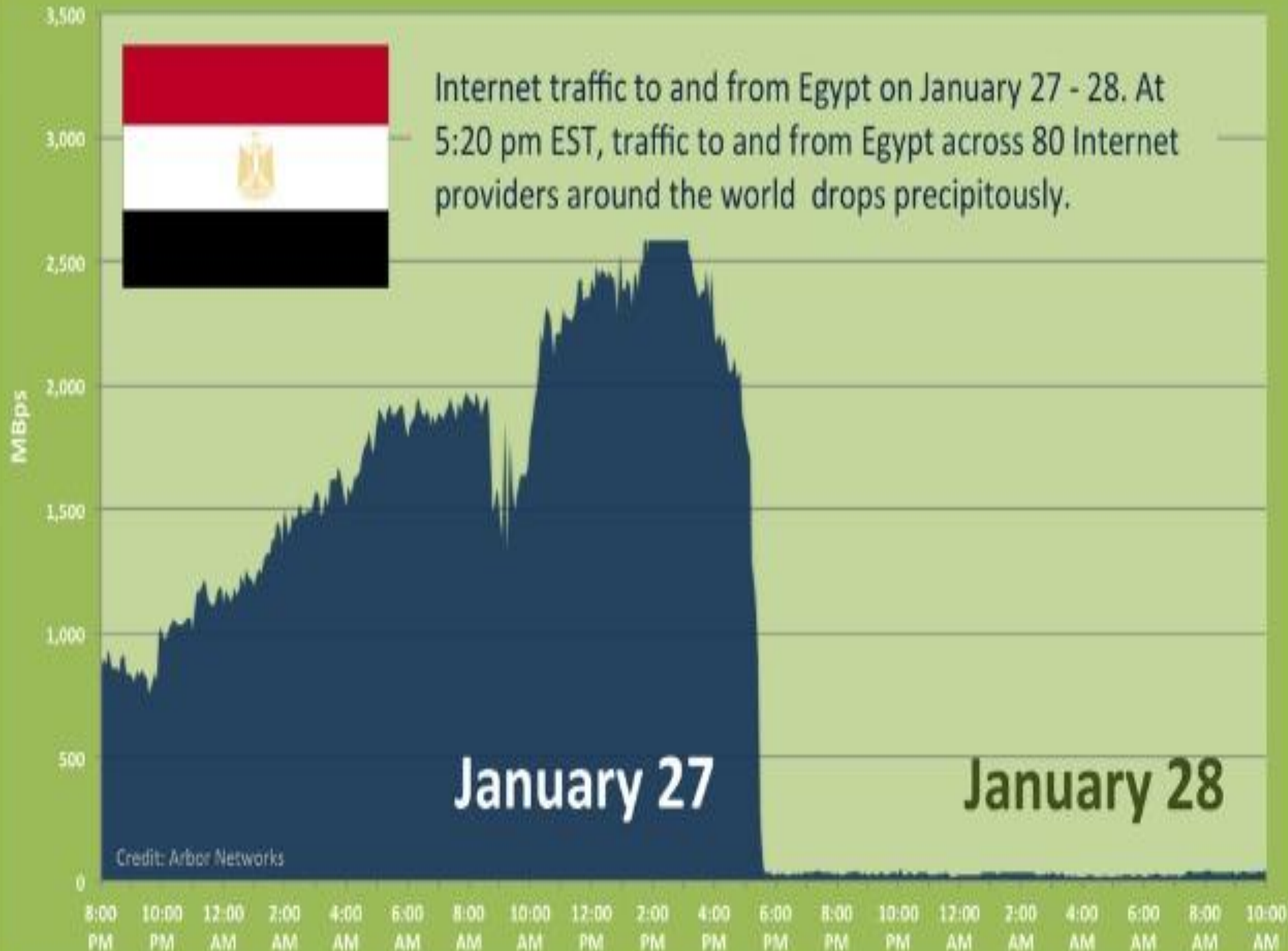
MUBARAK !!!
LET ME EMAIL
MY MOMMY !!!



THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO



Internet traffic to and from Egypt on January 27 - 28. At 5:20 pm EST, traffic to and from Egypt across 80 Internet providers around the world drops precipitously.



28th January 2011: The Friday of Anger

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- Tens of thousands of Egyptians joined protests on what was dubbed the “Friday of Anger” calling for the ouster of President Hosni Mubarak.
- Throughout the day, witnesses saw dozens of Egyptians bruised, bloodied and fainting in Cairo during protests on Friday.
- Around 2,000 protesters attempted to head to Tahrir Square but were stopped by security.
- Mubarak ordered the government to step-down.









**MUBARAK: I HAVE ORDERED THE GOVT TO STEP
DOWN AND I WILL NAME NEW GOVT TOMORROW**

1st Feb. 2011

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- President Hosni Mubarak said he will not run for a new term in office in September elections, but rejected demands that he steps down immediately and leaves the country.
- Watching his speech on a giant TV set up in Tahrir square, protesters booed and waved their shoes over the heads in a sign of contempt. "Go, go, go! We are not leaving until he leaves," they chanted, and one man screamed, "He doesn't want to say it, he doesn't want to say it."





10th February 2011

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- Hosni Mubarak refused to step down or leave the country and instead said he would hand his powers to his vice president.
- After Mubarak's speech, protest organizers called for the army to take action to oust him, and they vowed increased protests on Friday.
- Immediately after Mubarak's speech, Vice President Omar Suleiman called on the protesters to "go home" and asked Egyptians to "unite and look to the future."





obama

say to mubarak

"get out"

M

Save

GE

11th February 2011

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- Hosni Mubarak resigned as president and handed control to the military on Friday, bowing down after a historic 18-day wave of pro-democracy demonstrations by hundreds of thousands.
- Several hundred thousand protesters massed in Cairo's central Tahrir Square exploded into joy, waving Egyptian flags, and car horns and celebratory shots in the air were heard around the city of 18 million in joy after Vice President Omar Suleiman made the announcement on national TV just after nightfall.
- Nobel Peace laureate Mohammed ElBaradei, whose young supporters were among the organizers of the protest movement, told The Associated Press, "This is the greatest day of my life."





The Future

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- The 18 days between January 25 and February 11 were marked by mass demonstrations, the burning of the National Democratic Party (NDP) headquarters – a symbol of the regime – and the withdrawal of police from the country.
- If the Egyptian people can carry through and establish a positive model of democracy in an Arab country, there will be no turning back. That would be a magnificent contribution to the Arabs. It would place Egypt back at the center of the Arab world, where it belongs.

