

Hizb al-Fadyla (Virtue Party), Egypt, 2011, Translated by Stephen Kirsch, Translated for the Islamic Political Party Platform Project, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, <http://kurzman.unc.edu/islamic-parties>, [6/19/13].

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Chapter One Introduction

Egypt recently witnessed radical changes in the political sphere, allowing for the people of the nation to possess the ability to delve into in the political process of the intellectuals of this nation. And to allow those that were suspended or banned from practicing this right in this previous era, where Egypt had witnessed immobility as a result of corruption, which at that time appeared rampant at all political levels. Not to mention the unprecedented deterioration of the economic conditions, wherein, according to the Human Development Report of 2008, the poverty rate in Egypt increased to 19.6%, establishing and widening the gap between the rich and the poor. The inflation rate rose to the highest level with increasing prices and treatment costs, while levels of education dropped to its lowest level, threatening the collapse of the whole educational system.

These difficult conditions in Egypt have led to the decline of its position on the international stage as well as its regional influence. This had made it coveted among major countries that seek to extend their influence in the region as well as to acquire the resources of the country due to Egypt's central and extensive role in the dynamics of the Middle East.

The January 25th Revolution provides a real opportunity for the people of this nation, in all their colors, to rebound and build Egypt anew. And in doing so, unite the efforts of different affiliations and judgments in search of practical working mechanisms that include political organizing activity in the society and the mobility of force therein. These also include the transition of power and its effectiveness, by way of a peaceful path, to realize social peace and power, or shared power. And to stop the wasting of the countries resources that caused the bloody conflicts when possibilities for just peaceful changes were absent, with these developments emerging from modern political thought.

With these developments starting and building off of modern political thought, many of the people of Egypt called for their organization around the same intellectual proclivities. And they seek out a better future for their country, in order to put forward their new political visions as Egyptian public opinions. They seek to do this by way of new political parties, believing in the importance of establishing the principles of peaceful reforms through state institutions. Also, they wish to work for closer transparency and to meet the requirements of Sharia, and an orientation to peaceful, public, and legal political work. And we tie ourselves to a firm stance for the fight for this experience, confident of the importance of the historical changes that were undertaken by all the collaborators of the national forces, and specifically in the circles of the Islamic movement in Egypt, which we see as extremely useful to the stability of Egypt. It is a definite push to start the

development process far from foreign political pressure on logical and democratic calculations. And we hope that God   Almighty helps us along this new path, and that we are loyal to this good country.