

Hizb al-Muhafizin al-Taquaddumiyyin (Progressive Conservative Party) (PCP), Tunisia, 2011, Translated by Suja Sawafta, Translated for the Islamic Political Party Platform Project, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, <http://kurzman.unc.edu/islamic-parties>. [6/19/13].

#### Al Hachimi Translation

Al Areeda Ash-Shabbiya (name of party but translates directly to ‘people’s petition’) for freedom, justice, and development.

A practical program for achieving the goals of the Tunisian Revolution

- A democratic constitution
- Free health
- Unemployment benefits
- Free transportation for the retired
- Establishment for a Bureau of grievances
- A ministry for our worker’s abroad

In the Name of God Most Merciful Most Gracious and Peace be Upon Prophet  
Mohammad the Last Messenger.

A letter from Dr. Mohammad Al-Hachimi Al-Hamidi

The Sons of my Nation: Assalamu-Alakum wa Rahmatu Allah w Barakatu

I am honored to present this petition for freedom, justice, and development as an independent national initiative, and as a practical program and ambition for achieving the goals of the glorious Tunisian revolution, the most important of which are societal freedom, dignity, and justice.

In the constituent assembly elections, there will be independent electoral lists of citizens in support of Al-Areeda: constituents of Al Areeda for freedom, justice, and development. If you place your trust and give your votes to these representatives on election, and allow them to become the majority in the constituent assembly, I will work with these representatives on the implementation of al-Areeda’s program and its clauses, and in its introduction there will be a framework for a democratic constitution, and the adoption of free health, and providing unemployment benefits of 500,000 deserving individuals in return for daily work that would benefit national/collective whole.

I will do everything in my power, in collaboration with elected representatives and with the government’s capabilities, to protect the interests of our nation and citizens in all cities, to extend the safety and security, improve the economy, provide the people with more work, insure that justice prevails, and combat

corruption. With God's help, we will make Tunisia a successful and economically progressive country/state of freedom, justice, and human rights.

Peace be upon you All

In the Name of God the Most Merciful the Most Gracious

28 Rabee Awal 1432 or March 28, 2011

Al-Areedah Ash-Shabbiyah for Peace, Justice, and development

The Tunisian people and those who have signed this petition:

- 1) Pray for mercy on the souls of the martyrs of the revolution for freedom and dignity and promise in fulfillment of their pure blood to encourage all the 'children' of the Tunisian nation to stand shoulder to shoulder, in unity and cooperation, in building the new Tunisia that the revolutionaries sacrificed their lives for and the country that many generations struggled for in the past decades
- 2) Welcome the speech and objectives of the temporary president of the Republic, Mr. Fouad al-Mabza on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 and invite Tunisians to share in the enthusiasm for the transition period that will pave the way for constituent elections on July 24, 2011, and to support the temporary (transition) government until it is able to fulfill its duties in the best circumstances.
- 3) Propose to the current and future government(s) to make free health care among its top priorities.
- 4) Propose to the current and future government(s) to provide unemployment benefits/compensations for those without work in exchange for their working half of the workday in service of the community until they are able to find permanent work.
- 5) Ask that the Tunisian people have the ability to partake in selecting the representatives of the constituent assembly in fair and free elections and believe that the new constitution for the Tunisian republic must ensure a democratic system that represents the desires of the Tunisian people and abides by the principles of human rights and respects the Islamic and Arab identity of the country and ask that power is distributed among the President and the Constituent Assembly while ensuring the separation of powers and guaranteeing the independence of the Judiciary.

- 6) Assign Dr. Mohammad al-Hachimi al-Hamidi to represent them and speak on their behalf in national forums and work to ensure their active participation in the next constituent assembly elections and future political appointments.

This petition is a national a national initiative and it represents the foundations of the electoral program for independent constituents in support of Al-Areeda Ash-Shabbiya for freedom, justice and Development in the constituent assembly elections.

### **Definition of Al-Areeda Ash-Shabbiya for Peace, Justice, and Development**

- Al-Areeda Ash-Shabbiya is an independent political and national initiative, proposed by Tunisian writer and media personality Dr. Mohammad al-Hachimi on 3/3/2011 and it is based on general Tunisian views, and he presented within it a practical program to achieve the goals of the Tunisian revolution, through the following key demands and ideas: a democratic constitution, free health, and unemployment benefits.
- Al-Areeda received support from thousands of Tunisians. Thus, Dr. al-Hachimi announced in a statement in As-Sabah newspaper on Friday, March 8, 2011, that he seeks to nominate independent constituents to implement/adopt the Areeda's program and that he seeks to win the support of the people in the constituent assembly elections.
- The current work conducted by al-Areeda is voluntary and falls within the electoral decree for the constituent assembly that gives independents a role in the political arena/ on the political stage and allows them to participate in providing independent lists in the election without them being affiliated with political parties and institutions. Due to this al-Areeda welcomes the participation of citizens in its constituency or in supporting candidates during the electoral period.

For more information on al-Areeda Ash-Shabbiya visit our website:

[www.alhachimi.net](http://www.alhachimi.net)

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**The General Program for Al-Areeda Ash-Shabbiya for Peace, Justice, and Development**

These are the political points in the electoral program for independent constituents in favor of Al-Areeda in the constituent assembly elections:

- 1) Working on the implementation of a democratic constitution that abides by the principles of human rights and respects Tunisia's Islamic and Arab identity and working to distribute political power between the President of the Republic and the parliament, and calls to extend the mandate of the constituent assembly for a minimum of 3 years to a maximum of 5 years in order to achieve political and economic security and stability in the country.
- 2) Working to achieve social justice and equality and doing so specifically by providing free health care to all citizens, and providing 200 dinars to each citizen without work in exchange for them working two days a week in service of their community. These unemployment benefits/compensations will help 500,000 individuals should the constituents of al-Areeda win in the elections and a new government is formed that implements al-Areeda's program.
- 3) To pledge, in the event of political victory, that the trust is placed in the people in choosing Dr. al-Hachimi as President of the Republic and commissioning him to formulate a government that implements the promising components of this program.
- 4) To hold a national conference for labor that includes trade unionists and all other individuals with the same affiliations, a conference that will formulate a strategy for employment and opening the doors for employment in all areas of the country.
- 5) To combat corruption in all the country's institutions, and to establish a bureau of grievances that would employ a large number of new graduates from faculties/departments of law and rights. This bureau will consider the citizen's complaints of the state from the previous era or after not outstanding one year, and will pay special attention to monitoring the work of banks in giving out loans, and to protect the rights of individuals who owe money to these banks.
- 6) To formulate a national strategy that will improve the educational system in the country and to ensure that it remains free and doing this by incorporating the participation of educational organizations and educational scholars in the society, in order to make it an exceptional educational program by encouraging scholarly research.
- 7) To hold a national conference on farming in which all specialists can participate to come up with a strategy that all people in this sector can agree upon for the development of the national economy and to

partake in the process of finding a solution to the problem of unemployment and too much hard currency in the country.

- 8) To establish a permanent exhibition of investment projects in each state in the country, so that each state can examine all the investment projects being conducted within it and present it to Tunisian and foreign investors, and to sell it through all platforms especially attractive websites on the internet.
- 9) To establish ministry that deals with the affairs and concerns of Tunisians living abroad and protects their interests both in Tunis and the countries that they live in, and it will make it easier for them to have opportunities to invest in the national economy, and it will give them the same benefits that are given to foreign investors, and it will also make easier for them to retire in Tunisia.
- 10) To allow anyone over the age of 65 to use public transportation for free inside the republic.
- 11) To protect women's earnings and to respect their rights and encourage their participation in society, to support family life, and give special attention to art, intellect, and innovators/creators.
- 12) To work on establishing security all through the republic on the basis of human rights and the law, and supporting our army through all our means so that it will be able to protect our country and the revolution.