THE TURKISH MODEL GOVERNANCE FOR THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT

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This paper will study the capacity of the future government of Egypt for holding Turkish government up as a model. The main question of this paper is that can Turkish government be a model for new Egyption government? The paper attempts to provide an answer to the question that how Turkish government can influence the next Egyptian government. The main conclusion to be drawn from this paper is that owing to new government of Egypt will form because of revolution and Turkish government has been formed through democratic process, it seems unlikely that the new government can hold Turkish government up as a model.

The paper compares society and government of Turkey with there Egyptian's ones. In Turkish society, Islam as a way of life has a significant role. In fact, Islam is a national tie, a source of identity and the main source of legitimacy. In the society of turkey, there is basic conflict between secularism and Islamic values.

In contrast to Turkish Muslims, Egyptian Islamists, especially Salafists, interpret Islam as an ultra place and ultra time. In fact, they believe Islam makes an ideal way of life for all places and periods. They assert Islamic

values must be fully implemented similar to the early years of Islam. Egyptian Muslims firmly believe that Quran is a strong constitution.

Turkey became a multiparty democracy in 1946, since then military – led parliaments have designed the constitution. Political system of Turkey consisted of liberal, conservative (Islamic) parties. Welfare party and Justice and development party are the most important Islamic parties in Turkey. In February 28, 1997, constitutional court dissolved the Welfare party. The February 28 process is known as the soft coup because military removed RP-led government. JDP gained power in 2002 through elections, and achieved comfortable victories in 2007 and 2011 elections.JDP leaders believe Islamic principles are compatible with Democratic values. Facing up to liberal parties, they adopted accommodation policies, not confrontation.

In 1977, Egyptian leaders formed a multiparty system, but state –owned National Democratic Party (NDP) dominated the political scene. In every election, NDP leaders attempted to use public and state owned facilities to win elections. This situation represents very unfair competition among Egyptian political parties. After popular uprising in 2011, Islamic group gained upper hand arena. Muslim Brotherhood (MB) movement could form a party known as freedom and Justice party(FJP). In recent presidential election, its candidate could achieve narrow victory. MB leaders strongly believe that Islam has a perfect plan and it should be considered as an ultimate arbiter in society. They reject outright that notion of separation between religion and politics. Although they strongly advocate democratic approach, but eventually they want to form an Islamic government.

In both countries, military elites have a crucial role in political scene. The military in Turkey is distinctive. Intervening four times to change governments since 1960, the military has always restored civilian rule to fix the limits of acceptable security policies in foreign affairs, defend secularism, and fight Kurdish separatism. Actually, military is staunch defender of Turkish secular system. JDP have adopted the strategy to reduce influence of Turkish Army Forces(TAF) greatly. To do so, government decided to retire diplomats over

the age of 61, because Foreign Ministry and its diplomats are seen as one of the strongest foundations of the secular establishment. In May 2004, military elites severely criticize government because of its decision to implement education reform plan.

Since 1952, Egyptian people have been under military rule. All of Egyptian presidents were chosen from among military elites except last one. After peaceful uprising in 25 January 2011, Hosni Mubarak was forced to resign from presidency after 29 years in power.

To sum up, it is worth mentioning that Islamic identity in both countries is insignificantly different. Military elites in both countries act in a different way. Today, Egypt is in the period of transition. Some political experts believe that democratic culture does not exist in Egyptian society and new government of Egypt is formed by revolution. Meanwhile Turkish government is formed based on democratic process. Turkey 60 years, from 1950 to 2010 imposes a huge amount of civilian control over the military. However, in Egypt, Democratic consolidation is not an easy task, if Egyptian politicians and the public are committed to achieve genuine democracy, they must be ready to pay the price. Therefore, it looks very unlikely Egyptian government hold Turkish government up as a model.