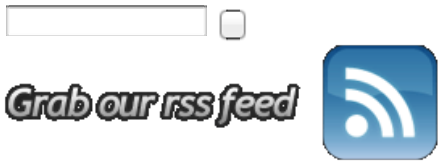

We are all Khaled Said

Against torture in Egypt and inhuman treatment of Egyptians in their own country

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- FAQ
- Torture in Egypt
- Silent Stands
- Contact
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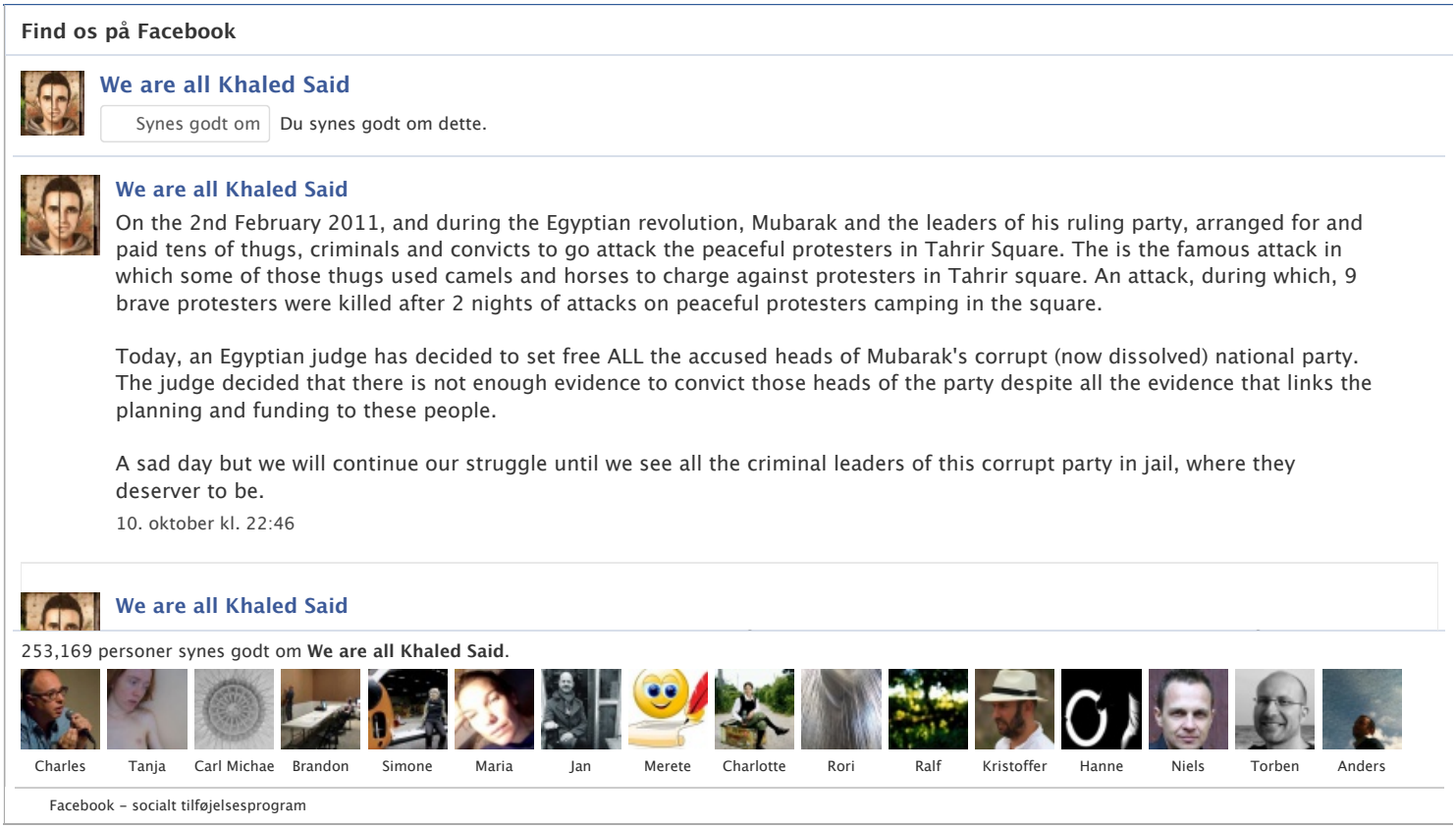

Flash Mob in Egypt: Protesters find a way around Emergency Law

Jul.02, 2010 in Egypt

A Flash Mob was organized in Egypt last week by the Facebook fan page, We are Khalid Said. The page was formed in memory of Khaled Said who was brutally tortured and killed by Alexandria police on June 6th. According to AP, he was killed "after he posted a video on the Internet of officers sharing the spoils from a drug bust among themselves".

By all accounts the 'Silent Protest,' as it is called on Facebook, was a resounding success in Alexandria. Stories from the ground, including pictures and videos, are flooding the Facebook group.

There was a public outcry after pictures of Said's mangled face surfaced on the Internet. Protesters, gathered near the Ministry of Justice in Cairo, were met with the usual show of extreme force, during which Ayman Nour, a well-known opposition leader, was injured trying to protect his son from the police. Pictures of the authorities dragging protesters away disseminated overnight on Facebook. AP reported that "Security forces, some of them in plainclothes, beat protesters and knocked some to the ground. They put them in headlocks and

handcuffed them before dragging them off to waiting trucks for arrest."

Searching for a way to voice their anger at the continued brutality by the police, one Facebook fan noted,

> "if speaking up only brings more violence, then silence will have to articulate our grief."

At 6 pm Alexandrians dressed in black and stood facing the ocean in complete silence, some in prayer, before marching away single filed. The Rules of Engagement for the protest, which were posted to the Facebook group on Thursday, attempted to maximize impact while minimizing violence by avoiding Egypt's stifling Emergency Law. The rules instructed participants to stand 5 meters apart therefore circumventing the ban on public assembly.

This could be the tipping point for Egypt. The escalating brutality of the Egyptian police has resonated in the US. At the State Department daily briefing, Assistant Secretary Crowley indicated his concern over the death of Said in Alexandria, and urged "the Egyptian authorities to hold accountable whoever is responsible."

Similar protests are planned for London and Washington DC. The opposition movement may be reaching a critical mass; unfortunately it came at high price for the Said family. Only time will tell if this builds into real and lasting political change, but it seems to be a clear sign of the percolating resentment on the Egyptian street.

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nadine-wahab/first-flash-mob-in-egypt_b_618412.html

Tags: Brutality, Egyptian Police, Emergency Law, Facebook, Protest, Silent Stand

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Website

It's Khaled Said...

He is a 28 years old Egyptian who was tortured and killed by two policemen in the street where he lived in Alexandria, Egypt. Khaled's death further exposed the Egyptian police brutality and their systematic torture of Egyptians. Khaled died, but many Egyptians have become alive where his picture has now become the symbol of Egyptians' struggle for their rights and freedom.

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- A New Khaled Said in Alexandria again: Mostafa Atteya a 39 years old father of three has been kicked to death and dragged across the street by two Egyptian policemen
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- Video from in front of Khaled Said's home during the last silent stand on 20 August (10 Ramadhan)
- Breaking News: Egyptian police attack silent stand participants who gathered at Khaled Said street.
- The Silent Stand has started in Egypt in more than 9 different cities
- Next Silent Stand Friday 20 August from wherever you are
- After our earlier video of the Egyptian police vehicle trying to run over Egyptian voters, another video has now surfaced showing the Egyptian police firing at voters in the 2005 elections
- Video of Egyptian Police vehicle attacking and trying to run over voters in the 2005 elections in Egypt – A must watch video.
- Policeman convicted by courts of torture and sexual torture of innocent victim has been re-instated as a Policeman the day after coming out of jail!
- Article in Washington Post: Facebook, YouTube and Twitter are the new tools of protest in the Arab world
- Fares Barakat was thrown out of a balcony by Egypt's savage national security forces "Amn Al Dawla"

Important Links

- Al Nadim Center
- Amnesty International on Human Rights in Egypt
- Human Rights Watch on Egypt
- Our Facebook Page
- Torture in Egypt Report

Arabic Links

- Facebook group "We are all Khalid Said"
- We are all Khalid Said (Arabic Website)

Tags

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Archives

- January 2012
- November 2011
- September 2011
- July 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010

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