

Middle East Dialogue...Glorious Past, Uncertain Future

THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE ARAB SPRING: THE LIBYANS FALL

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No one can deny the impact of journalism and media on the countries' social and political changes through out the human history. The Arab world and Libya in particular is not an exception. Within the tremendous increase toward the use of technology and the Internet, many doubts that information technology contributed in the Arab Spring revolutions (Benmamoun, Kalliny & Cropf, 2012, p. 26). However, no one can deny the crucial role that the Arab written press played in its movement toward reaching the national independence from the foreign control.

A survey study conducted by the researcher, revealed that the use of social media in Libya has changed significantly since 2009, and it was a major cause for Libya Fall. In fact, the crucial role that the media played throughout the history is not new in Libya. Thus, a historical over view of some of the very critical historical moments that proved the impact of media in gaining the national independence in the past will be tackled. Additionally, a ray of light will be shed on AlGadifi's style of governance that provoked Libya Fall. Most importantly, how (Satellite TV, Face book and You tube in particular and camera phones) were the means through which the Libyans declared their anger with the regime as a one-way path that caused Libya Fall, will be the focus of this presentation and why it is Libya FALL?