The State of the Sudanese & Algerian Uprisings: Livestream Event, June 1

TIMES for Livestreamed Panel:
12 PM United States Eastern Time (NYC)
5 PM London Time
6 PM Geneva / Khartoum

Today in Sudan and Algeria, people’s uprisings that broke out this past winter have won momentous victories for the first time since the start of the 2011 Revolutions, overthrowing the heads of the regimes in both countries. But the people have vowed to go beyond the overthrow of their dictators, to take down the entire structure of the old regimes and replace them with governments that represent the people. They have also been working diligently to avoid the same mistakes as in Egypt and Syria, where the counterrevolution came to dominate by 2013 through the fracturing of peaceful protest and the large-scale acceptance of a military coup in Egypt.

What sparked these latest uprisings, and what has made them so successful thus far? What are the balance of forces today in Algeria and Sudan? And what has changed since 2011 that may allow for a different outcome than the bleak reality we have seen across the Middle East for the past six years? What has been the role of women fighting patriarchy? What is the anti-
racist dimension of these struggles, especially concerning solidarity with the victims of genocide in Darfur? How are labor unions involved? What role does the opposition to capitalism play in these uprisings? What kind of international solidarity is needed?

SPEAKERS:

Dr. Hamza Hamouchene is a London-based Algerian scholar-activist, commentator, researcher, and a founding member of Algeria Solidarity Campaign (ASC), and Environmental Justice North Africa (EJNA). He previously worked for War on Want, Global Justice Now and Platform London on issues of extractivism, resources, land and food sovereignty as well as climate, environmental, and trade justice. He is the author/editor of two books: The Struggle for Energy Democracy in the Maghreb (2017) and The Coming Revolution to North Africa: The Struggle for Climate Justice (2015). He also contributed book chapters to Voices of Liberation: Frantz Fanon (2014) and The Palgrave Encyclopaedia of Imperialism and Anti-Imperialism (2016). His other writings have appeared in the Guardian, Middle East Eye, Counterpunch, New Internationalist, Jadaliyya, OpenDemocracy, Pambazuka, Nawaat, El Watan and the Huffington Post.

Sara Abbas is a doctoral candidate in political science and a feminist who researches social movements in Sudan. She has written for Transition magazine, OpenDemocracy and The Nation. The views expressed are her own and do not represent those of institutions she is affiliated with.

Adam Baher is a Sudanese human rights activist based in Berlin, Germany. He is a member of Justice Equality Movement Sudan (JEM).

Selma Oumari is a member of the New Anticapitalist Party in France, involved in anti-racist struggles as well as international solidarity.
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First time since the beginning of the 2011 uprisings, protests were held in the Sudan and Egypt that marked a significant addition to previous protests. The people in the streets, however, were demanding the total downfall of an oppressive system and not merely the fall of a dictator. They were demanding a comprehensive change in the regime and the rule of the people. As a result of peaceful protests and the arrival of military intervention in Egypt on June 30, what has been the spark that ignited the last uprisings? And what were the achievements of these protests up until now? What are the key powers of today in Algeria and Sudan? And what has changed since 2011 and what led to different results than the immediate past in the Middle East?

The debate will feature 4 speakers (2 from Algeria and 2 from Sudan) on June 16/June 10 to answer these questions and others.

Hamza Homsi, writer and research coordinator in “Campaign for the Right of the Algerians” in London, and Sarena Abass, political science student at the University of the Arts and Culture in Berlin.
Originally posted at the Alliance of Middle Eastern Socialists website.