



Egyptian Association for Supporting Democratic Development
Registered no. (5469 – 2004)

November 20, 2005 – 12:00 pm

**Egyptian Parliamentary Election
Second Phase -9 Governorates**

Press Release (1)

The Egyptian Association for the Support of Democratic Development (EASD) is monitoring the voting process during the second phase of Parliamentary elections on November 20, 2005 with 627 monitors in 70 districts throughout 9 governorates. From the opening of the polling stations at 8:00am until 12:00 pm, monitors observed and reported numerous violations, including:

- 1. Some Judges are preventing monitors from entering the polling station, and throwing them out in several cases, despite the monitors possession of ID's from the Upper Parliamentary Election Committee and official authorization letter from EASD;**
2. Various NDP candidates are using thugs to intimidate other candidates' supporters;
3. Increased violence and attacks from NDP supporters against other candidates;
4. Late opening of numerous polling stations
5. Absence of measures to protect voter secrecy inside the polling stations;
6. Presence of campaign literature in support of NDP candidates within polling stations;
7. Voters are being pressured to cast their ballot in favor of National Democratic Party (NDP) candidates in some polling stations;
8. Some polling stations are located inside police stations and local municipalities, in clear violation of the law;
9. Government vehicles are being used for NDP candidate campaigns and to transport voters to polling stations;
10. Numerous candidates were buying votes.

As a result of these reports and in support of the principles of democracy and transparency, EASD once again stresses on the critical need to allow the presence of civil society monitors within the polling stations to observe the voting and counting process without any restrictions or conditions, in respect to the recent judicial ruling issued by the Administrative Court regarding this matter.

During the preliminary hours of the Election Day, EASD monitors observed a number of violations, including:

Late opening of polling stations

- EASD monitors reported that polling stations 38-42 in the Al-Foutouh Al-Eslamiah school and in polling stations 9-14 in the Bilal bin Rabah school in Al-Dekheila district in Alexandria did not open until 8:30am due to lack of phosphoric ink.
- The Health center polling stations 87 and 88 in the district of Esna in Qena did not open until 8:35am.
- In Sheikh Shaarawy primary school polling stations 58 and 59 in the district of Neqada in Qena did not open until 8:30am.
- The Compound school polling station in the district of Ebshoway in Fayoum did not open until 8:30am
- In Al-Saha preparatory school polling station in the district of Bander Fayoum in Fayoum did not open until 8:40am.
- In Bahtim preparatory school polling stations 17 to 30 in Shobra second district in Qalyoubiah did not open till 8:20 am.
- In Amr BinAas primary school polling station 101 in Shobra second district in Qalyoubiah did not open till 8:45 am.
- In girls commercial school polling station in Delengate district in Behira did not open till 9:00 am.

Voter registry violations

- EASD monitors reported that voter registries were incorrect in the Manshiat Al-Ashry polling stations in the district of Fayoum in Fayoum. Specifically, names were repeated and the same registration numbers were used for different names on the voters' list. In polling station 1, voter registry pages 4, 5, 29 and 30 included the name "Um Hashim Ramadan Mohamed" register number 635, which is the same number for "Halawethom Attiah Ali". A similar case was noted for registry number 127 in pages 14, 21, 13, 90, 91, and 97 in the same registry. EASD monitors also noted the listing of "Abu-Bakr Salah Osman" register # 265 who died over 15 years ago, and "Korani KheirAllah" register# 275 who died 5 years ago, "Ahmed Oweiss Badawy" register# 314 who adied 5 years ago, and "Zaghloul Khatib El-Sayed Omar" register# 2 who died 2 month ago.

- Until 9:15 am, the voter registry was not posted in polling station number 64 in the district of Esna in Qena.
- In the Nagah-Hamadi girls preparatory School polling station number 85 in Qena, the Judge was forced to stop the voting process due to numerous mistakes in the voter registry.
- In Al-Shahid Omar Naeer school polling station number 88 in the Rahmaniah district in Behirah, the name “Reda Mohamed El-Adly” is repeated in both the men registry (#129) and women registry (#57).

Prevention of monitors from entering the polling stations

- Judges at the following stations refused entry to EASD monitors, despite their possession of badges from the Upper Parliamentary Election Committee and/or official authorization issued from the organization:
 - Al-Werdani school polling station in Al-Werdian district in Alexandria
 - Ismail Al-Mabrouk school polling station in Bander Damanhour district in Behirah
 - Al-Khawaled school polling stations 133,134 and 135 in Itay Al-Baroud district
 - Rahmaniah school polling station 1 in Bander Al-Rahmaniah district in Behirah
 - Al-Nesma school polling station # 65 in Esna district in Qena
 - Al-Soufy primary school polling station in Bander Fayoum district in Fayoum
 - Al-Saha preparatory school polling station in Bander Fayoum district in Fayoum

Campaign material inside the polling stations

- In Al-Soufi primary school polling station in Bander Fayoum district, EASD monitors reported distribution of campaign material inside the polling station.
- Campaign literature for NDP candidate Fathi Kandil (labour) was available inside Khaled BinWalid School in Nagaa Hamadi district in Qena.

Missing indelible phosphoric ink

- EASD monitors reported that indelible phosphoric ink was missing in polling stations 86, 87 and 88 in the Al-Shahid Omar Naeer school in the Rahmaniah district. Only normal stamp pads were available.

Incidents of violence

- In the Mahmoudia new preparatory School in the Mahmoudia district of Bahira, EASD monitors reported that thugs supporting NDP candidate “Essam Al-Kadi” were holding knives and other potential weapons, preventing citizens from approaching the polling station. This occurred in the presence of the security forces.
- In the Emam Abdou School in the Thaniya Arab district of Port Said, EASD monitors reported a large number of outlaws preventing candidate representatives and civil society monitors from entering the polling station.
- In polling station 11 of the Al-Maks girls’ and boys’ preparatory school in Alexandria, EASD monitors observed the presence of a large number of thugs in front of the school, provoking some candidates without any interference from security forces.
- **In Refaa Tahtawy School, Geith El-Enab district in Alexandria, EASD monitor “Adel El-Habashy” was assaulted and prevented from entering the polling station by orders from National Security officers, who also prevented potential supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood candidate from voting.** (This action was in bias of NDP candidates Mohamed El-Balash and Mohamed Khalil Adam.)
- In polling station 1 of the Agriculture School polling center in Ismailia, EASD monitors observed the NDP candidate destroying the authorization papers of Salah El-Sayeigh’s representative “Mahasen Soliman Mustafa”. The incident was reported to the Ismailia Security Directorate.
- In the Medical Center polling station 1 in Ismailia, EASD reported an assault from NDP candidate supporters against one of the voters.
- In the Abu Bakr Sedik primary school polling center, voters were terrified by NDP supporters wielding knives, chains and other potential weapons.
- In the Al-Shohada Club polling center in Al-Shohada district in Ismailia, thugs prevented citizens from voting.
- In the Baby Garden school polling stations 15 and 16 in the Tanta district of Gharbia, EASD reported the presence of criminals who were released to intimidate voters today on Election Day.
- In front of Al-Amir Loolo school polling center in the district of Mena Al-Basal in Alexandria, an EASD monitor was assaulted by supporters of NDP candidate Al-Safi AbdelAal because he was aware bribes were being distributed to voters. The monitor was threatened with weapons to stay away from the polling center.
- In the Khadiga Bent Khoiled School, Al-Max boys preparatory school, Bela Bin Rabah primary school, and New Dekheila school polling centers in Al-Amriah district in Alexandria, thugs assaulted voters in front of security forces, preventing them from entering the polling station.
- EASD monitors reported the heavy presence of thugs in front of the Salah El-Dine, Al-Amir Loolo, and Taliaa school polling centers in the Mena El-Basal district of Alexandria.

Judges

- In Ismail Al-Mabrouk School polling station 2 in the Damanhour district of Beheira, the judge did not make any opening report to start the voting and the voting box was not sealed with red wax.
 - In Nobas Primary School polling station in the Kafr Shokr district of Qaliyoubiah, the judge insisted to change the voting box lock due to its small size.
 - In Al-Nasr Experimental school polling station 37 in the First Shoubra district in Qaliyoubiah, the judge insisted to check the fourth family name of citizens while the voting registry names only include the third family name.
 - In the Girls' Preparatory School polling center in the Nagaa Hamadi district of Qena, the judge insisted on stopping the voting process for 15 minutes to have breakfast.
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November 20, 2005 – 2:00 pm

**Egyptian Parliamentary Election
Second Phase -9 Governorates**

Press Release (2)

**EASD Condemns the Expulsion of and Assaults Against its Monitors
from the Polling Stations and Holds the Upper Parliamentary
Elections Committee Responsible for their Safety and Well-Being**

The Egyptian Association for the Support of Democratic Development (EASD) expresses its grave disapproval and concern over the criminal assaults by NDP thugs and supporters against its chairman “Hamada Mansour” in front of the police security forces.

EASD also denounces the scandalous lack of action by the police forces and holds them fully responsible for these assaults. EASD confirms its intention to bring the criminals and their accomplices to justice by all available means.

EASD also condemns and expresses its mounting alarm over the expulsion of its monitors from polling stations by the supervising judges, with the excuse that they were instructed to do so, despite the monitors’ possession of official monitoring badges from the Upper Parliamentary Elections Committee (UPEC). EASD calls for the Judges Club to issue a clear statement indicating its position on these actions, which undermine the integrity of the judges’ and their rulings.

EASD holds the UPEC and Ministry of Interior directly responsible for the safety and well-being of its monitors, and stresses that their expulsion from the polling stations clearly indicates an intention to tamper with the votes and ballot boxes.

EASD demands that the UPEC intervene immediately and instruct all polling station election officials to allow civil society monitors to enter the stations and monitor the entire voting process. EASD also calls for the Ministry of Interior to ensure the safety of civil society monitors.

To this regard, EASD exposes the details of these abuses to the UPEC and to the public to make everyone aware of the abuses taking place on the ground in Egypt:

- In the Loolo School polling center in the Mena Al-Basal district of Alexandria, EASD Chairman “Hamada Mansour” was threatened by NDP thugs wielding knives to keep him away from the polling station.
- EASD monitor “Azhar Ibrahim” was beaten in by NDP thugs who also destroyed his mobile phone in the Mechanics Secondary School polling center in the Bandar Damanhour district of Beheirah.
- EASD monitor “Khaled Bahaa ElDine” was attacked in the Beni Senhour School women’s polling station 104 in the Rahmania district of Beheira,
- EASD monitor “Adel El-Habashi” was beaten by NDP thugs upon orders from national security officers in the Refaa Tahtawy School polling center in the Karmouza district of Alexandria.
- In the Al-Max district of Alexandria, EASD monitor “Khaled Al-Amir” was held in Al-Max police station for 20 minutes to prevent him from monitoring.
- In the Suzan Mubarak School polling center in the second district of Port Said, EASD monitor “Ahmed Mosaad Mohamed” and “ Mohamed Hussein”, were both attacked by NDP thugs.
- In polling station 19 in Qena EASD monitor “Hassan Aboul Atta” was also assaulted.

EASD would like to take this opportunity to express its great appreciation of its monitors who insist on observing the election process in this unfortunate and challenging environment.



Egyptian Association for Supporting Democratic Development
Registered no. (5469 – 2004)

November 20, 2005 – 4:00 pm

**Egyptian Parliamentary Election
Second Phase -9 Governorates**

Press Release (3)

The Egyptian Association for the Support of Democratic Development (EASD) is monitoring the voting process during the second phase of Parliamentary elections on November 20, 2005 with 627 monitors in 70 districts throughout 9 governorates. From 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm, monitors observed and reported on clear breaches of the electoral law and instructions from the Upper Parliamentary Elections Committee (UPEC). In specific, monitors cited the continued use of thugs and violence by the ruling party with the silent or active support of security forces. EASD monitors were also harassed or thrown out of numerous polling stations to prevent them from reporting on any irregularities.

EASD condemns the flagrant and extensive use of brutality, which threatens the code of competition and the right of citizens to compete equally. EASD voices particular concern over the continued and often violent intervention by security forces in the electoral process.

EASD also denounces the arrest of candidate agents and supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood, and demands their immediate release. In support of the principles of democracy and transparency, EASD stresses on the vital importance of having popular will determine the outcome of the election rather than threats and fraud.

As the Election Day proceeded, EASD monitors observed a number of violations, including:

Violence:

- In the Sadat Primary School polling center in Damanhour, EASD monitors reported clashes between Muslim brotherhood supporters and some NDP thugs which resulted in the injury of 5 people (3 men, 2 women) who were transferred to Al-Salam Hospital.
- In Hadam Preparatory School polling station 6 in the Ebshway district of Fayoum, EASD monitors reported clashes between candidates Dr. Abdelhamid Hadam and his cousin Hassan Rabei Hadam. The polling station was closed for 20 minutes.
- In front of the New Gheit El-Enab School polling center in the Karmouz district of Alexandria, EASD monitors reported assaults against women voters by some thugs.
- In the Kassem Amin Preparatory School polling center in Al-Gomrouk district of Alexandria, a large number of outlaws were threatening voters with knives, swords and other weapons.
- In the Ras El-Tine Secondary School polling center in Al-Gomrouk district of Alexandria, supporters of candidate Amer Abu Heif were provoked by NDP loyalists.
- In the Port Fouad Secondary School polling center in the East district of Port Said, EASD monitors reported confrontations between independent candidate Mohamed Tahan and voters for not paying the bribes he had previously promised.
- EASD monitors reported the heavy presence of NDP thugs threatening voters in support of opposition candidates in the Al-Max Preparatory School polling center in the Dekheila district of Alexandria and in polling station 142 in the Musalam Preparatory School in the Gharbia governorate
- In polling station 21 in the Ismailia Secondary School in Ismailia, EASD monitors reported that Muslim Brotherhood candidate was assaulted and forced to leave the poll.
- In Al-Shohada Health Center polling station 25 in Ismailia, EASD monitors reported that only voters carrying NDP IDs were allowed to enter.
- In Al-Bitash Preparatory School polling center in the Dekheila district of Alexandria, EASD monitors observed a number of thugs were bussed to the station, where they assaulted opposition voters and prevented them from entering the poll.
- In Mohamed El-Sayed Hanafi School polling center in the Montazah district of Alexandria, EASD monitors reported violence between supporters of NDP candidate Mohamed Abdullah and supporters of Muslim brotherhood candidate, resulting in many injuries.
- In New Al-Max Girls' Preparatory School polling center in the Dekheila district of Alexandria, EASD monitors reported outbreaks of violence which resulted in numerous injuries. Afterwards, voter Ibrahim Abdel Rahman filed a police report (#818) for being beaten.

- In New Al-Max girls Preparatory School polling center in the Dekheila district of Alexandria, independent candidate Ibrahim Mohamed Mursi's car (Alexandria license number 169654) was destroyed by thugs.
- In Al-Kabouty School polling stations 1-6 in Al-Arab district of Port Said, voters and EASD monitor Mohamed El-Kabouly were harassed and threatened by NDP thugs.
- In Suzan Mubarak School polling center in the Port Fouad district of Port Said, EASD monitors reported outbreaks of violence between the candidate supporters.
- In Al-Hekma Secondary School polling center in the First Tanta district of Gharbia, fighting took place between police and citizen Kamel Mohamed Farag who was prevented from voting.
- In Seidi Abdel Rahman polling stations 55 and 56 in the Tanta district of Gharbia, supporters of candidate Bahaa Hawas clashed with a Muslim brotherhood supporter.
- EASD monitor Khaled El-Amin AbdelMagid was detained at Max police station for photographing thugs attacking monitors in the New Al-Max Girls' Preparatory School polling center in the Dekheila district of Alexandria.
- Police forces prevented EASD monitors from entering the Commercial School polling station in the Tanta Second district of Gharbia.

Administrative and Security Interventions

- In Al-Moaassaa School in the Hegazy Kebly district of Qena, national security forces threw out Mahmoud Ahmed Shalabi, the representative of candidate Hisham El-Kady.
- In Ismailia, EASD monitors reported a truck (plate # 40774 Giza) and another limousine car (plate # 87713), carrying approximately 40 people and moving between polls to intimidate voters.
- In Al-Azhar Preparatory Institution polling center in the Kous district of Qena, EASD monitors reported the arrest of a Muslim brotherhood candidate representative and his driver.
- In Al-Kebly Famola town in the Al-Uksur district of Qena, 20 supporters of Muslim Brotherhood candidate AbdelHamid El-Senousi were arrested.
- Security forces expelled an EASD monitor and closed Al-Tahrir School polling center in the district of Kous.
- Security forces surrounded and closed for two hours the Al-Saha Al-Shabiya Preparatory School polling center in the district of Bander Al-Fayoum.
- In Nady El-Shaab polling center in the Kous district of Qena and in Bilal Bin Rabah School polling station 63 to 65 in the El-Arab district of Port Said, a police officer took the authorization letters from EASD monitors and candidate agents and refused to return them after throwing them out of the center.

Prevention of monitors from entering the polling stations

- The judge at Beni Senhour School women's polling station 104 in Damanhour expelled and beat an EASD monitor.
- Judges expelled or prevented EASD monitors from entering the following polling centers or stations:
 - Polling station 55 in the First Tanta district.
 - Polling stations 47 to 49 in the Port Said Stadium in the Al-Manakh district of Port Said.
 - Imam Mohamed Abdou school polling stations 4 and 5, Al-Arab district in Port Said.
 - Ahmed Orabi mixed primary school polling stations 29 to 31 Al-Manakh district of Port Said.
 - Al-Iskander Primary School polling station in the Al-Gomruk district of Alexandria.
 - Women Health Improvement polling station in Port Said.
 - Ali Bin Abi Taleb Preparatory School polling stations 88-90.
 - Beni-Helal women's polling station 122 in the district of Rahmanyah in Beheira.
- Ismailia Girls' Secondary School polling station 44 first district in Ismailia, the judge kicked out the Muslim brotherhood candidate representative for no reason.

Campaign material inside the polling stations

- In Al-Farouq Omar school polling center in the Abu Gundira district Ebshway Fayoum, EASD monitors reported the presence of campaign materials inside polling stations 116-118 for independent candidates Mahmoud Sayed Ahmed and Mohamed Taha Al-Kholy.
- In Al-Kalzam Primary School polling center Al-Arbeen district in Suez, EASD monitors reported candidate representatives influencing voters inside polls 43 and 44.
- In Al-Fayoum Preparatory School polling station Bander Fayoum district Ebshway Fayoum, EASD monitors reported campaign materials inside the polling station.
- In Al-Emam Ali primary school polling station 5 first district Ismailia, EASD monitors reported extensive NDP candidate propaganda in front of the poll.
- In Al-Sayeda Aisha School polling station 14 in the Tanta district of Gharbia, EASD monitors reported extensive propaganda inside the poll for independent candidate Abdel Moneim Al-Afifi and campaign materials for all candidates outside the polling station.
- In Ismail Sabry School polling station in the Al-Gumruk district of Alexandria, EASD monitors reported extensive ads for NDP candidate Amer Abu-Heif in front of the poll.
- In Ras El-Tine Secondary School polling center in the Al-Gumruk district of Alexandria, EASD monitors reported extensive propaganda for NDP candidate Amer Abu-Heif in front of the poll.

- In the Commercial Girls' School polling center in the First District of Port Said, EASD monitors reported extensive propaganda for independent candidate Mohamed Tahan inside and outside the poll.
- In Abu Bakr Commercial Secondary School polling center in the Second district of Gharbia, EASD monitors reported minibuses (license number 1915 and 30127) campaigning for Ahmed Shbeir and Abdel Hady Al-Kasaby.
- In Al-Tawakol Azhar Institute polling center in the Tanta First district of Gharbia, EASD monitors reported extensive propaganda and campaign materials for all candidates in front of the poll

Voter registry violations

- The voter registry was not posted in the Nasiriyah Primary School polling stations 182,185,186 in the Deshna district of Qena.
- In the Shahid Mahmoud Sabry Primary School polling center in the Tanta district of Gharbia, EASD monitors observed numerous mistakes in the voter registry, which prevented many citizens from voting.
- In the Fatima Al-Zahraa Primary School polling stations 19 and 21 in the Third district in Ismailia, EASD monitors observed numerous mistakes in the voter registry and a difference between the posted copy and the one held by the judge.
- The voter registry was not posted in Al-Zohour girls preparatory School polling stations 91 to 93 and in the Secondary Technical School in Al-Manakh district of Port Said.
- The voter registry was not posted in Al-Taliaa School polling center in the Mena Al-Basal district in Alexandria, but was available with police forces.
- The voter registry was not posted in the Salah El-Dine School, Al-Galaa School, and Al-Eklath Compound School polling centers in the Mena Al-Basal district in Alexandria, but were available with police forces.
- In the Max Preparatory School polling stations 173-175 in the Dekheila district of Alexandria, EASD monitors observed numerous mistakes in the voter registry.
- In the Girls' Secondary Commercial School polling center in the First district in Port Said, EASD monitors observed numerous mistakes in the voter registry, which prevented some electors from voting.
- In the New Max Preparatory School polling center in the Dekheila district in Alexandria, EASD monitors observed numerous mistakes in the voter registry.
- In the Naser Girls' Preparatory School polling station 36 Port Fouad district in Port Said, EASD monitors observed numerous mistakes in the voter registry, which prevented some electors from voting.
- In the Sidi Abde lRahim School polling station 55 in the Tanta district of Gharbia, EASD monitors observed numerous mistakes in the voter registry, which resulted in an argument between a women voter and the judge due to a mistake in her name.
- In the Al-Attareen Primary School polling station 26 in the Attareen district in Alexandria, EASD monitors observed numerous mistakes in the voter registry, and some names were transferred to other districts although they previously voted in this poll.

Misuse of indelible phosphoric ink

- EASD monitors reported that no phosphoric ink was available at Al-Suez Girls' Secondary School polling stations 33, 35, 37 and 40 in the district of Suez.
- In Musalam Boys' Preparatory School, Abu Bakr Secondary Commercial School and Sayeda Eisha School polling station 14 in the Tanta district of Gharbiya, and in Al-Max Preparatory School polling stations 173-175 in the Dekheila district of Alexandria, EASD monitors noted that the phosphoric ink was easily removed.

No measures to protect voters' secrecy

- In the Werdian Secondary School in the district of Mena Al-Basal of Alexandria and in the Salah El-Dine School polling station 43 in Damanshour, the judge insisted that voters mark their ballots in front of him.
- EASD monitors observed that in the Kafr Iraqi School polling center in Tanta first district and in Al-Thawra Preparatory School polling station 15 in Senouras district in Gharbia, no measures were provided to protect the secrecy of the vote.
- In Al-Shahid Mahmoud Sabry Al-Badrawi School polling station Tanta district Gharbia, citizens were voting on a window sill and could be seen from outside the poll.

Incidents of vote-buying

- In front of the New Gaith El-Enab School women polling station in the Karmouz district of Alexandria, EASD monitors reported NDP candidate buying votes for 20 to 30 EGP.
- In Ismail Sabry Preparatory School and Ras El-Teen Secondary School polling centers in the Al-Gomruk district in Alexandria, EASD monitors observed 150 EGP being offered per vote for NDP candidate Amer AbouHeif.

Incidents of electoral fraud

- In Abu Bakr El Sedik Primary School polling station 64 in the Al-Arbeen district of Suez, EASD monitors reported signatures next to the names of three people (Mohamed Mahmoud Khalil, Mohamed Mansour Hassan, Mohamed Ibrahim Mohamed) who had not voted.
- In Tesfa Preparatory School polling station in Qualioubiyah, the first rolling ballot by the NDP representatives was caught by the free candidate General Sayed Azab (The rolling ballot is one marked ballot given to the voter outside the poll. The voter hides it and exchanges it with the unmarked one in the polling station. He then hides the unmarked ballot and casts the marked ballot. Afterwards, he hands the unmarked ballot to the people outside the poll to be marked and sent with next voter)

Judges

- In Health Center polling station 98 in the Kous district of Qena, the judge prevented the 19 years old from voting despite there names were on the voter registry.
 - In Mohamed Mohamed Salem Primary School polling station 93 in th Bander Fayoum district, the judge took the ballot of citizen Ihab Rushdi and did not insert it in the ballot box.
 - Judge Mohamed Nabil in Al-Farouq Omar school polling station prevented a reporter from Al-Masry Al-Yom newspaper from taking pictures inside the poll, claiming it is forbidden. The reporter called the police to file a report about the film which was taken from him.
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