

EGYPT: JUSTICE

FOR THE '25 JANUARY REVOLUTION'

"Their [martyrs'] blood is a responsibility on my shoulders until all their rights are fully restored, and until those who killed them are justly punished by the law"

Then-presidential candidate Mohamed Morsi in a television appearance on ON-TV



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Two years have passed since the "25 January Revolution" that claimed the lives of 840 protestors. But today, the families of those killed are still waiting for truth and justice.

No senior official or security officer has been convicted or justly punished for killing or injuring protestors. Courts continue to acquit senior and other security officials.

In some cases, the courts ruled there was not enough evidence, and in others that the defendants were exercising their right to self-defence – despite well-documented evidence that police used excessive and lethal force when not strictly necessary.

The acquittals and the failure of some cases to even reach court are due to shortcomings in the evidence-gathering process. Amnesty International is also concerned that police officers were involved in the investigations, prompting fears that they might tamper with evidence or withhold information in order to absolve their colleagues and institutions from liability.

Relatives of those killed told Amnesty International they had been asked to present new evidence and that several witnesses had faced intimidation.

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Shortly after assuming power in June 2012, President Morsi established a fact-finding committee to look into the killing and wounding of protesters which took place before he took office. He promised fresh investigations and retrials for those acquitted

of killing protestors if new evidence emerges.

The creation of a Fact-Finding Committee to investigate the deaths of protestors was a positive step, but the report needs to be made public: victims and society as a whole

have the right to full truth.

Justice is needed for human rights abuses committed against protestors. Only then will Egypt be able to break with the legacy of past abuses, and avoid further protestor deaths.

“It’s been two years, and all we hear is acquittal, acquittal, acquittal. Did the martyrs kill themselves? In our case [Suez], it is one delay after the other. How long do we have to wait for justice?”

Mother of Islam Metwali Mohamed Metwali, shot dead on 28 January 2011 by security forces in demonstrations in Suez, to Amnesty International in December 2012

TAKE ACTION

Call on Egypt’s President Mohamed Morsi to ensure justice for the “25 January Revolution”.

“Your Excellency

■ I call on you to ensure that anyone against whom there is sufficient evidence of responsibility for unlawful killings and injuries as a result of excessive and arbitrary use of force in policing demonstrations is brought to justice in fair trials.

■ I also urge you to publish the results of the Fact-Finding Committee

to look into abuses against protestors.

Yours sincerely...”

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**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 3 million supporters, members and activists in more than 150 countries and territories who campaign to end grave abuses of human rights.

Our vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.

We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and are funded mainly by our membership and public donations.

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