

Research Africa Reviews Vol. 1 No. 3, December 2017

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Abdessattar Rejeb (Editor) *Social Challenges in Tunisia after the Revolution, Governance and Social Intervention*. Cairo.

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The Book: From the Conference to the Proceedings

The book is a collection of essays in Arabic and French entitled *Social Challenges in Tunisia after the Revolution, Governance and Social Intervention*. It may be regarded as a timely text that addresses an urgent subject; one that at this stage reflects upon managing Tunisia's democratic transition and one that should be considered of great academic and practical importance. Since the Scientific Committee of the Conference has rarely come across writings on this issue and for this purpose since the Revolution, we would like to claim that this book's contents appropriately fit in a volume of social merit. Although Tunisia's Revolution was deeply rooted in the country's social demands, attention to the social issue has remained confined to political discourse that recurred daily, and that was usually dominated by electoral stakes or ideological debates. We believe that unless academics and experts tackle the topic head-on and equip themselves with the requirements of work relying on their various expertise as well as their specific methodology, then the idea of reaching the heart of these issues and the attempts to essentially tame the social topic will remain a challenging and attainable exercise.

The Proceeding's Scientific Process: From Adjudicating to Editing

The book may be regarded as a scientific document that contains the edited proceedings of the first International Conference; a gathering that focused on Occupational Science and Social Service in Tunisia and that was held on 25th and 26th of October 2017 in Tunis. It was organized by the National Institute of Labor and Social Studies at Carthage University in collaboration with the German Foundation (Hans Saidel) and the Tunisian Association for Social Service. As editors, we have been careful like other academic institutions in assessing the materials' overall contents during the various stages of editing and evaluation. The Committee, as a matter of information, adjudicated the participants' papers and it assisted in choosing the themes for each session. The Committee then reviewed the presented texts before its members decided to send them for adjudication; thereafter the papers were edited and prepared for publication. It also requested participants to include issues that took place during the conference's deliberations and discussions.

Through the various contributions that were made by social scientists and researchers, the book attempted to present views that we would consider to be new in the approach of the democratic transition experiment; this transitional experiment is a significant political experience, which has been implemented, reflecting what happened and what is happening at different levels covering diverse dimensions and sharing various social connotations. We do not claim that we have taken into consideration all aspects of the issue, but in this book we have opened the door to a different approach that sheds light on the evaluation of the initial

results of the experience of a truly democratic transition in Tunisia. In other words, the outcome is not the 'result' as a social, political or economic impact, but it is rather a set of coordinates that are added to the existing situation, which are formed from their social details and determined by their dynamics.

Although the selected chapters reflect the opinions of the authors, they together represent an integrated content that tried to identify the social challenges, dismantle some of the facts and their dynamics, and understand the sequence of events. The book, however, went beyond understanding, dismantling, and explaining the challenges; it also identified a list of prospects and it pointed out possible solutions. The connection between understanding and finding solutions is necessary for at least two reasons; it is firstly significant for scientific reasons with the proviso that the intellectual effort does not stop at the end of the social event. And secondly, it is important for purely pedagogic reasons. Pedagogy must accompany the qualitative changes that are taking place in Tunisia for it is as a method that would ensure success. In other words, it should ensure, that future generations take responsibility; a task that would, in turn, transform and build a society that would be conscious of the notions citizenship, freedom, and justice.

Each contributing author examined the social challenges in Tunisia in relation to the issue of governance and social intervention according to his/her own perspective whether it was from a sociological, anthropological, economic or political science-. Each chapter then too suggested solutions to overcome the stated challenges. As a result, the contents of each chapter were systematically divided into two parts: the one presented the challenges and the other opened up prospects for solutions. Chapters focused on the basic social challenges and treated the issue in its factual and management dimensions. Challenges rose not only because of the problems that have arisen during previous decades following independence, or because of the problems that have arisen since 2011 which were problems of a complex economic, political, social and political nature. In addition to all these reasons, challenges arose because there was the inability of actors in general to find appropriate solutions to accelerate the improvement of the living conditions of people and make them continue yearning for hope. The heart of the challenge is in the management of Tunisia's social, political, and economic changes.

Book's Themes, Topics, and Presenters

There are also challenges in approaching the problems through methods and methodologies that allow for the understanding of an increasingly complex reality in its components and interference in its data. In order to achieve qualitative change, Tunisia's social issue should be firstly pinpointed and secondly they should be based on clear approaches. The book's chapters treat the social challenges in Tunisia after the revolution from different angles; the various themes and topics, as noted below, were addressed by an array of well-known professors:

1. Theme One: Social Challenges in the period of democratic Transition: Governance - Issues and Experiences.

- Public social intervention, philosophy and performance by Professor Moncef Wannas
- Public Policy and Governance in Tunisia (2012-2013): Socio-Anthropological Remarks by Professor Yassin Karamati
- The Social Issue in Post-communist Poland: Between the Marginalization and Political Exploitation, by Professor Jerome Heurtaux

- Social challenges and the Obstacles to Transformation in Tunisia: the Sustainability of a Crisis or Failure in Social Intervention and the Fragility of Governance, by Professor Said Al-Abdouli
2. Theme Two: Social Challenges, Repercussions and Effects.
 - Contempt and Burning - Notes in the Moral Economy of Suicide by Professor Maher Trimesh
 - Youths' Social Views of Post-Revolution Tunisia by Moez Ben Hamida
 - The Fragility of University Graduates, Economic Dependence and the Fragile Identity by Professor Radhia Meshkan
 - The Revolution and its Repercussions on the Tourism Image of The Tunisian Country by Professor Adel Washani
 3. Theme Three: The Social Issue and the Economy, the Bets and the Requirements of Governance.
 - Social and Economic Challenges in Post-revolution Tunisia and its Influence on Algeria: What Kind of Relationship - Analytical Reading of the Current Situation by Professors Saber Bahri and Mouna Kharmoush
 - Managing Economic and Social Policies in Tunisia after 2011 between the Demand for Economic Reform and the Obligations of the Political Transformation by Professor Abdessattar Rejeb
 - The Features of New and Dynamic Global Economy and the Fundamentals of the Strategic Vision of Development in Tunisia by Professor Riadh Ben Jelili
 - Post- Revolution Tunisia, Unemployment Crisis and Socio-economic Renewal by Professor Lotfi Bannour
 4. Theme Four: Social Policies and Social Intervention in the Post-2011 Period:
 - Social Service, the Challenges of Social Policy Governance in the Context of the Moroccan Democratic Transition by Professor Youssef Siddik
 - The Policy of Price - Support and Resistance to Poverty in Tunisia, the Problematic and Options by Professor Ali Jaidi
 - The Socio-economic Conditions of Women Working in Rural Areas and the Problems of Social Coverage by Professors Sami al-Hanashi and Ali –Jaidi
 - The Importance of Evaluating Social Institutions and Programs in the Social Intervention Governance by Professor Lassaad Labidi
 - The Status of the Beneficiary in the Social Intervention Methodologies by Professor Annick Fanget
 - Boosting Social Intervention and its Suitability to the Merits of the Revolution by Professor Fathi Jarray

The one set of chapters in the book was written in Arabic language, and the chapters another in French; the implication of this was that it thus required that all the chapters were classified according to specific printing requirements. We have been careful to maintain as far as possible the harmony of the content in indexing according to the logic of the themes and topics as mentioned above. The book's contents analyzed the burning event and the crisis of youth identity during the current period.. In the case of the Tunisian revolution, the focus was on the kind of event that ignited the flames of protest in Tunisia and one that turned it into a 'revolution'. Also its contents helped one to understand the case of the identity destruction as experienced and encountered by the young throughout this period and particularly

highlighting their disappointment with the revolution's outcomes. The book illustrated to what extent the relationship between the social movements and the challenges facing the current Tunisian society was and remains interdependent. It is, however, necessary to clarify briefly the impact of different factors that shaped the existing challenges and that examined the feasibility of governance and social intervention as solutions to overcome these challenges.

Among the contributions that one comes across in the book were those that underscored the comparative experiences of Maghreb and Europe; these examined the relationship between social transformation and political exploitation. It also showed the possibility of learning and drawing conclusions that help to comprehend the reality of the social and political relationship in Tunisia nowadays. Some of these chapters studied public administration from its social, economic and political perspectives; they first revealed the advantages of this measure, and then they showed the limits of such measures. In this context, we considered that a close scrutiny of issues such as (a) alleviating of poverty, (b) evaluating the policies of resistance to poverty and proposing ways to reduce it, (c) raising the issue of unemployment which included the unemployment of women, especially in rural areas, or (d) dealing with the issue of tourism, and (e) tackling the negative images that had been adopted after 2011 due to multiple and interrelated factors to be of great importance .

Perhaps this gives added value to the book's contents in that the contribution offered a vision for the management of economic transition within the new and dynamic global economic setting; it is a contribution that may help to overcome the characterization or understanding of the challenges that may lead to possible and potential solutions. In this book, the authors were not limited to dealing with the social issues at the macroscopic level only, but they extended their studies to also include those at the micro-level; they thus contributed to the review of the social intervention that was directed at the individual and the institutional levels as well as having been concerned with the improvement of the country's governance. The multiplicity of viewpoints was not merely an intellectual or scientific luxury, but we see in these a methodology requirement that assisted us to fully grasp the social challenges at present. The book should therefore be viewed as one that reviewed the strategies of social intervention; and it is a text that judged and set itself new horizons.

In essence, by observing what was happening in the social situation in Tunisia we observed the various possibilities that threatened the country's progress; these may have grave consequences if they are not interrupted to overcome structural inefficiencies. We want to underline the point that we do not really know how long it takes to announce these possibilities of changes and progress. What we, however, do know for sure is that the accumulation of bad influences lead to the need for immediate change. Moreover, we should add that it is not a secret that delaying the required treatments has had a negative impact on the experience of democratic transition as a whole. And furthermore, change in the context that we all presently live in does not necessarily mean that it is for the better; what it perhaps mean is that the negative effects are felt as well as the effect of perverse impact of "neighboring scenes" of reproduction that are dominated by the events of chaos and civil war respectively. Through this publication, we tried to not only understand but also attempted to reveal the Revolution's social phenomena along with a way forward charted out by this path of the democratic transition.

To end, we wish to state that the book showed the multiple facets of the examination of the social issue such as the diagnosis, the audit, the recapitulation, reviewing the methods, and also updating the ethics of academic research. And in the preview, it too opened the prospects for solutions and stimulated the pace of urbanization; these processes without which no country shall be able to establish itself; here we are reminded by Ibn Khaldun that without a state there will be no urbanization.

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ISSN 2575-6990