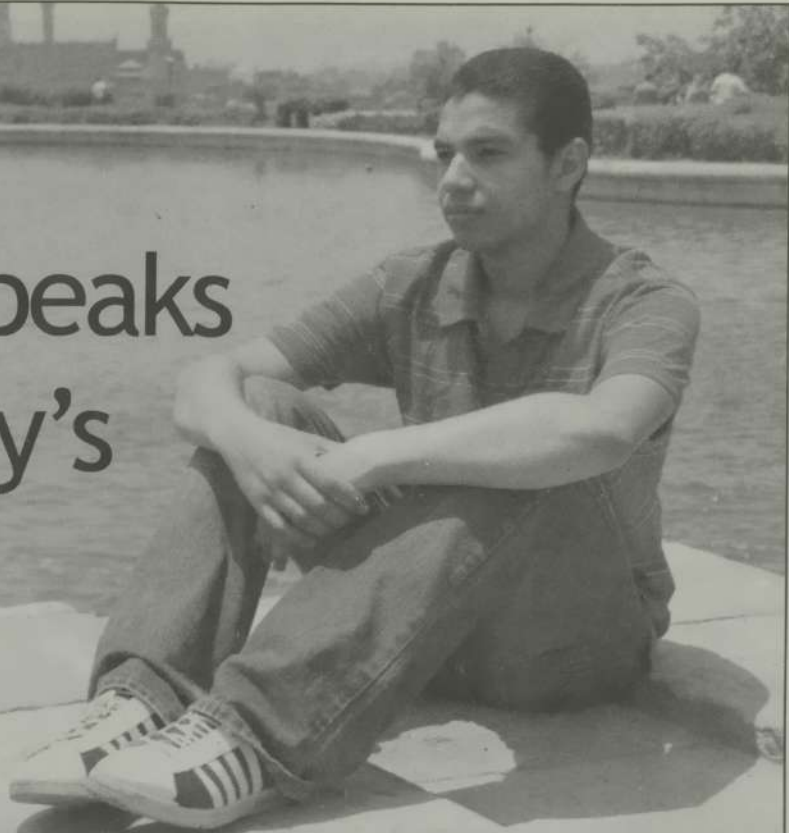


Egyptian student speaks on country's future



Contributed by Ahmed Ali El Sharif

Ahmed Ali El Shari, an Egyptian student in Cairo, wonders what life will be like after the protests in Egypt are over and how they will affect his life.

By Erik Andersen
Co-editor-in-chief

you know, unless you have been under a rock, Egypt is going through some tough times right now. The people of Egypt are growing tired of their 82-year-old president, Hosni Mubarak, who has led the country for three decades. More than 10 thousand Egyptians, the majority of them young adults, stormed the streets and demanded that Mubarak leave office immediately. What started as a peaceful yet powerful protest against the government quickly turned into something a little more sinister in recent days. Mubarak supporters

gathered on the Tahrir Square where they then began to hurl rocks and pieces of the road at protesters.

Ahmed Ali El Sharif, a student in the Electronics and Communication Department of Cairo University, has agreed to answer some questions for *The Clackamas Print* regarding the situation in Egypt. Questions and responses were edited for clarity and brevity.

What is your stance on the whole movement?

I am with the protesters in their demands, but I do not agree with the sabotage which has been done in my country.

Have you yourself been to the protests?

I am a protester, but I did not go to Tahrir Square. I receive the news from my friends to know what is going on. ... The aggression they had is because there are some people with them that began to push the police and wanted to steal only, not to reform. So the police had to stop them by any way they could. This happened from Jan. 26 to 28.

About the aggression yesterday (Feb. 2), it was from the wicked that is being paid for by some members in the national party (El-hezb El-Watny) who have benefits with the system right now. They want the protests to end by any way possible.

What were some of the things Mubarak did in his leadership that

angered the people of Egypt?

He let some of the business people control the market in Egypt; he did not make some essential constitutional amendments like some of the terms which are needed to be a candidate for the presidency (and) he cares for Egypt outside more than inside.

Do you think Mubarak should step down immediately or at the end of his term?

At the end of his term in September or August. If he leaves now, the constitutional amendments can't be achieved now, and we would have to wait a long time to have them, so for the public's interest he tells us that he had to stay, as he said to the ABC News (on Feb. 3).

Is school going as normal or has it been shut down until the protests subside?

We are in midyear vacation now (until Feb. 13), but it can be extended. But if some people have school on these days, it has to be shut down to be safe.

What kind of things would you change if you were asked to lead Egypt?

I would make constitutional amendments right now to acclimate with the new century, (dissolve) parliament, talk to the protesters to know what they want and do it and return the security and safety to the Egyptian streets through the police.

What type of government are the people of Egypt looking for after Mubarak leaves?

A government that really wants Egypt to move on to be in the lead of the Middle East again, a government that deals with humans not numbers, a government that makes reforms in the country and builds roots and establishes new projects, a government to do land reclamation as I know there is only seven percent of Egyptian land that is being used, a government that will expand in the desert, care about youth (and) pays good salary.

What are some of the fears you have about the next government?

The government which is ruling now I like, except some ministers like the minister of the education and media. I fear (the new government) will deal with numbers not with humans, like the previous government.

Have questions about transferring?

Oregon Transfer Day is back at Clackamas Community College. Representatives from more than 30 four-year universities will visit CCC on Feb. 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Gregory Forum. Come get advice and suggestions from colleges you may be thinking of transferring to.

If you have any questions visit <http://depts.clackamas.edu/advising/> or call Rachel Cardenas at 503-594-3175.

FREE BEER ... talk!

Listen to two guys who make their living drinking and writing about beer. John Foyston from *The Oregonian* and Angelo De Iseo from brewpublic.com will be in Roger Rook 135 on Friday, Feb. 11 1-2 p.m.

The Clackamas Print Photo Contest

Deadline: March 2

Introducing *The Clackamas Print's* first student photo contest. Share your passion for photography or just your luckiest photographic moment.

Requirements:

- A digital copy or scan must be submitted through your MyClackamas email account to photoed@clackamas.edu
- Permission to publish the image must be given to *The Clackamas Print* in the e-mail
- The image must be taken in the Pacific Northwest within the last year
- Three entry limit
- The image cannot be altered from original

Grand Prize:

- Color print of photo will be framed and hung in Roger Rook Hall
- Photo featured in the final issue of *The Clackamas Print* for winter term
- \$50 Gift Card to Pro Photo Supply

Runner(s) Up:

- Photo featured in the final issue of *The Clackamas Print* for winter term



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