



Editorial

In Geneva ... truth triumphed over falsehood and lies

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With the power of logic, proof of truth, and with serious professional scientific work, Egypt has faced the tendentious and lurking people who used to discredit its reputation and image in the field of human rights by propagating rumors and spreading lies and slanders that many around the world believed or almost believed in the past years.

This confrontation took place at the session of the UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) that was held on November 12, 2019. The session, which included extensive discussions of Egypt's human rights file has ended not only with a general international conviction of the integrity of the human rights situation in Egypt, but also with a commend for many aspects in this field, including Egypt's fulfillment of its obligations and the recommendations that had already been accepted during the UPR.

This result, which was achieved at the Human Rights Council in Geneva, does not reside in the satisfaction or anger of international parties regarding our people and our citizens, but it carried other indications, and provided lessons in how to deal with challenges and national issues and address the contemporary world.

Egypt was fully confident in its human rights conditions, and the falsehood of the rumors and the states that are hostile to Egypt and its people. Caring for human rights and development in all fields in Egypt is done for the rights of members of society and all its groups, and not for satisfying any external parties. However, Egypt accepted these international institutions as forums to explain the reality of human rights conditions to the world and to face the lies attached to it.



There is no doubt that the Egyptian success in this international forum is attributed to the approach taken starting with the formation of the delegation that included government officials, experts in this field, and representatives of national institutions and civil organizations. The delegation was representing the Egyptian people and not the Egyptian government only. Hence the richness, diversity, experience and right representation presented Egypt to the world with a unified opinion towards one goal.

At the same time, the national report on human rights, which took many months to be prepared by all the relevant authorities, was formulated in a sober scientific and objective way. It was comprehensive and impressed the members of the Human Rights Council as it included a comprehensive definition of human rights, and presentation on what was achieved in Egypt on the political, economic and social fields for the benefit of all groups of the Egyptian people.

Furthermore, the logical and fact-based response for dozens of questions submitted by 12 countries was an opportunity to refute many of the common misconceptions and lies through transparency, honesty and objectivity respected by the world.

What happened in Geneva in November 2019 significantly indicated that we can face our most critical issues and challenges if we deal with them with all of our governmental and public tools, work in national integration and not in competition or conflict, follow the scientific approach, leave the forefront position to those with knowledge, experience and competence, rely on frankness, transparency, admit mistakes and work to correct them and move in the right path.

This is Egypt's approach now which gives hope for a better tomorrow more prosperous and advanced on the political, economic, cultural, social and other fields.