The Impact of 9/11
on Value Orientations
Of the Islamic Public in Egypt

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Two waves of surveys in Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Morocco (2000-2002):

Variety of issues: family, women, religion, interpersonal relationships, economy, politics, social, tolerance, attitudes toward the West.

Replicated after 9/11: Data here are from Egypt.

~ Difference in Worldviews between Egyptians, Jordanians, Iranians.

~ Changes in Egyptian attitudes since 9/11.
Figure 1 - Religiosity versus Spirituality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Religion Is Very Important in Life</th>
<th>Often Think about the Meaning and Purpose of Life</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 2-Identity: Religion versus Nationalism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Above all Muslim</th>
<th>Above all nationalist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 3 - Participation in Religious Services

Country

Percentage

Egypt

Jordan

Iran

More than once a week

Once a week or more

22

42

28

44

12

26
Figure 4 - Religious Authorities Sufficiently Respond to Country's Problems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percent Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 5 - Western Cultural Invasion Is A Very Important Problem

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percent Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary of Differences in Worldviews Between Egypt, Jordan, and Iran

~ Egyptians and Jordanians are more religious than Iranians.
~ Iranians are less concerned about Western cultural invasion and more critical of the Islamic establishment than either Egyptians or Jordanians.

~ Across the three countries, education and trust in mosque are inversely related. But the effect of education on the overall attitude toward religion is different among these countries. While in Iran education is correlated with increase in secularism, in Egypt and Jordan, education has no significant effect on attitudes toward religion.

~ Conclusion: Iranians appear to be moving toward secularism, while no such move was detectable among either Egyptians or Jordanians.
Figure 1 - Percentage expressing Western cultural invasion to be a very important problem

Before 911: 63%
After 911: 71%
Figure 2 - Percentage who do not like to have Jews as neighbors

Before 911: 68.4%
After 911: 99.8%
Figure 3 - Religious authorities adequately responded to:

- Moral problems: 92% before 911, 73% after 911
- Spiritual needs: 87% before 911, 75% after 911
- Family problems: 88% before 911, 67% after 911
- Social problems: 81% before 911, 57% after 911
Figure 4 - Gender issues

Men are better political leaders (strongly agree)

- Before 911: 49%
- After 911: 34%

Univeristy education is more important for boys than for girls (strongly disagree)

- Before 911: 37%
- After 911: 48%
Figure 5 - The effectiveness of democratic political system

- **A strong leader who does not bother with parliament and elections (very bad)**
  - Before 911: 56%
  - After 911: 76%

- **Having a democratic system (very good)**
  - Before 911: 61%
  - After 911: 68%

- **In democracy, the economy runs badly (strongly disagree)**
  - Before 911: 17%
  - After 911: 35%

- **Democracies are indecisive (strongly disagree)**
  - Before 911: 12%
  - After 911: 20%

- **Democracies aren't good at maintaining order (strongly disagree)**
  - Before 911: 17%
  - After 911: 20%

- **Democracy is better than any other system (strongly agree)**
  - Before 911: 56%
  - After 911: 69%
Figure 6 - Percentage expressing a great deal of confidence in major social institutions

- Press: 21% (Before 911), 28% (After 911)
- T.V.: 20% (Before 911), 28% (After 911)
- Government: 13% (Before 911), 16% (After 911)
- Political parties: 10% (Before 911), 13% (After 911)
- Parliament: 26% (Before 911), 25% (After 911)
Figure 7 - Who controls the country

- The country run by a few big interests
  - Before 911: 69%
  - After 911: 77%

- The country run for all the people
  - Before 911: 29%
  - After 911: 23%
Figure 8 - Percentage who strongly agree with Western cultural invasion to be a very important problem

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Education</th>
<th>Before 911</th>
<th>After 911</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Edu.</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 9 - Percentage who strongly disagree with "the economy runs badly in democracies"

Level of Education:
- No Edu.
- Elementary
- Vocational
- Secondary
- University

Percentage Before 911:
- No Edu.: 16
- Elementary: 16
- Vocational: 20
- Secondary: 15
- University: 25

Percentage After 911:
- No Edu.: 24
- Elementary: 28
- Vocational: 33
- Secondary: 49
- University: 48
Figure 10 - Percentage who strongly disagree with "university education is more important for boys than for girls"
Figure 11 - Percentage saying yes to "religious authorities adequately responded to social problems"

- Before 911:
  - No Edu.: 88%
  - Elementary: 86%
  - Vocational: 79%
  - Secondary: 82%
  - University: 86%

- After 911:
  - No Edu.: 69%
  - Elementary: 61%
  - Vocational: 59%
  - Secondary: 71%
  - University: 43%
Figure 12 - Percentage expressing that the country is run by a few big interests

Educational Level: No Edu., Elementary, Vocational, Secondary, University

Percentage:
- Before 911:
  - No Edu.: 66%
  - Elementary: 68%
  - Vocational: 66%
  - Secondary: 73%
  - University: 74%
- After 911:
  - No Edu.: 73%
  - Elementary: 73%
  - Vocational: 77%
  - Secondary: 76%
  - University: 84%
Figure 13 - Percentage Expressing Above All Muslim

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Education</th>
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<th>After 911</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Edu.</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary of Egyptian Worldviews After 9/11

- Concerns over Western cultural invasion have increased. There is also a considerable increase in anti-Jewish attitude.
- Egyptian views have changed in the direction less favorable to religious authorities, more favorable toward women, more favorable toward democracy, and more critical of the way the country is run.
- Education has positive effect on concerns over Western cultural invasion.
- Education has positive effect on favorable attitude toward democracy and women.
- Education has negative effect on favorable attitude toward religious authority and on religious identity.
Conclusion:

Egypt is experiencing a cultural change. This change is certainly in a direction favorable to democracy, gender equality, and secularism, and away from the Islamic fundamentalism of the past decades.

This new cultural turn, however, is accompanied by two major perceptions. One is that Western culture may not be good for Egypt. The other is that a small and powerful interest group is running the country. These perceptions are even stronger among people with university education.

Considering all these factors, Egypt may experience a fairly strong pro-democracy and somewhat secularist movement in the near future. This movement is certainly oppositional and may display critical attitudes toward the West.

Two corroborating factors lend additional support to these