

Islamists call Friday protest over 'coup'

AFP, Cairo

An alliance of Islamist parties and movements including ousted president Mohamed Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood has called for "peaceful protests" on Friday to denounce the military's overthrow of the Islamist president.

The National Alliance to Support Legitimacy called for "peaceful protests on Friday in all of Egypt's provinces to denounce the military coup against legitimacy and in support of the legitimacy of President Morsi".

In a statement earlier, the Muslim Brotherhood and its political arm, the Freedom and Justice Party, slammed "the terror of the police state through its arrests of Brotherhood leaders and the closure of satellite channels".

The statement was read out to Morsi supporters gathered in Cairo's Nasr City surrounded by army vehicles, a day after he was overthrown by the military.



People celebrate outside the Presidential Palace after the army ousted Mohammed Morsi in Cairo on Wednesday. Inset, Egyptians hug and kiss an army soldier. In their tens of thousands, they cheered, ignited firecrackers and honked horns as soon as the army announced Morsi's rule was over.

PHOTO: AFP

Press hails Morsi's 'legitimate' ouster

AFP, Cairo

Egypt's largely state-run press yesterday unanimously hailed the army's overthrow of Islamist President Mohamed Morsi as a "legitimate" revolution.

"The people's revolution was victorious," the flagship government-owned Al-Gomhuriya splashed on its front page.

The mass circulation daily carried a picture of armed forces chief General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi under a panoramic shot of the ecstatic crowd thronging Cairo's Tahrir Square.

In bold red font, the front-page headline in government-owned newspaper, Al-Ahram, read: "President ousted by revolutionary legitimacy."

"And the people's revolution was victorious," read the main banner in state-owned Al-Akhbar.

The independent Sherouk's headlines said, "The people and the army won" and "The revolution ends the rule of Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood".

Al-Masry Al-Youm, another independent daily, simply declared: "Welcome back Egypt".

Its front-page depicted Tahrir Square, epicentre of the 2011 revolution, packed with thousands of people, under the headline: "Ouster of Morsi as demanded by the people".

Al-Watan, an independent paper known for its anti-Islamist bent, headlined: "Egypt is back with us again".

Wafd, the mouthpiece of the liberal party of the same name, said: "The people halted the (Brotherhood's) rule with a revolution protected by the army".

The independent daily Tahrir published a wrap-around picture special of the packed iconic square.

"IT'S A REVOLUTION... NOT A COUP, MR. OBAMA!" Tahrir declared in English across the top of its front page.

World urges return to democracy in Egypt

AFP, London

World powers yesterday called for a return to democracy in Egypt after the military ousted president Mohamed Morsi, but many took a pragmatic stance and stopped short of condemning the overthrow of the Islamist leader.

The United States and European Union both indicated that aid to Egypt would not immediately be affected while Russia and China hinted that they viewed events there as a popular uprising rather than a coup.

Middle Eastern governments meanwhile welcomed the toppling of Morsi on Wednesday after days of bloody protests, with war-hit Syria hailing the "great achievement" but others fearing that the unrest could spread. Syria and some other Arab nations rejoiced at his ouster.

US President Barack Obama and many leaders shied away from calling the events a coup while urging a quick return to elected civilian government in Egypt, a pivotal US ally which receives \$1.3 billion in annual American military aid.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon urged a return to civilian rule in Egypt, saying it "should be resumed as soon as possible".

Europe was divided on how to react.

Britain, the former colonial power in Egypt, said that it was ready to work with the

country's interim rulers.

But Germany took a far stronger line with Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle describing Morsi's ouster as a "major setback for democracy in Egypt" and calling for dialogue and compromise.

Russia called on all Egyptian political forces to "exercise restraint" but again offered no condemnation.

China said it supported the "choice of the Egyptian people" and called for dialogue but did not elaborate.

The Egyptian army toppled Morsi on Wednesday after a week of bloodshed that killed nearly 50 people.

Top judge Adly Mansour was sworn in yesterday as temporary president and Egypt's army has confirmed it is holding Morsi and several of his top aides.

Turkey, where Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his Islamist-rooted party faced down mass protests last month, said the events in Egypt were undemocratic. Saudi King Abdullah praised the army's intervention, as did the oil-rich United Arab Emirates.

Israel maintained silence on the events in Egypt, with which it signed a peace treaty in 1979.

Both Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch called for Egypt's new rulers to respect rights.

Egypt unrest likely to worsen: US

Orders evacuation of Cairo embassy; bolsters presence in Gulf

AFP, Washington

The United States on Wednesday ordered most of its personnel to evacuate its embassy in Cairo leaving just a skeleton staff behind, only hours after the Egyptian military ousted president Mohamed Morsi.

Amid fast-moving events in Egypt, a travel advisory confirmed that "the Department of State ordered the departure of non-emergency US government personnel and family members from Egypt due to the ongoing political and social unrest."

The embassy in Egypt has occasionally been targeted by demonstrators and as protests swelled in Cairo it had already been closed on Tuesday and Wednesday as a precaution.

The advisory warned that "political unrest ... is likely to worsen in the near future."

The State Department advised all Americans "to defer travel to Egypt and US citizens living in Egypt to depart at this time because of the continuing political and social unrest."

Meanwhile, the US Navy has deployed three additional coastal patrol ships to its Fifth Fleet headquarters in Bahrain, bolstering America's presence in the strategic Gulf, officials said Wednesday.

The USS Tempest, the USS Squall and the USS Thunderbolt arrived Wednesday at the port of Manama, bringing the total number of patrol craft to eight, the Navy said.

US military planners and analysts say Iran has developed swarming tactics to try to outrun and encircle America's larger warships transiting the Gulf, along with plans to plant mines to disrupt commercial shipping.

POST-MORSI EGYPT

Reprisals start

- The army ousts Islamist President Mohamed Morsi and announces a "roadmap" for the future
- The army detains Morsi and imprisons leading members of his Muslim Brotherhood
- Arrest warrants are issued for around 300 other Islamists
- The Muslim Brotherhood's TV station is shut down
- Al-Jazeera staff are arrested after airing a defiant speech by Morsi

A Morsi supporter with his portrait

Army plans for the future

- General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi
- Chief justice Adly Mansour becomes interim president
- The constitution drafted by the Islamists is frozen
- New presidential election planned (no date given)
- New rules will be set for parliamentary elections

The faces of Egypt today

General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi
Army chief and defence minister

Adly Mansour
Caretaker president

Mohamed ElBaradei
Key opposition figure

Amr Mussa
Key opposition figure

The military's key role in politics

1952 The army overthrows King Farouk and takes power	1953-2011 4 military presidents. The armed forces develop an economic empire	Feb 2011 Popular uprising topples President Mubarak. He hands power to the military's supreme council	April, Nov, Dec 2011 Troops violently repress protests against military rule in Cairo's Tahrir Square	Aug 2012 Mohamed Morsi, Egypt's newly-elected civilian president, transfers the army's sweeping executive powers to himself	July 1, 2013 Political crisis. The military gives Morsi 48 hours to bow to popular demands for his resignation	Army head General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi
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ODDLY enough

Absurd, ridiculous!

AFP, Beijing

Human breast milk has become a new luxury for China's rich, with some firms offering wet nurse services, a report said, provoking outrage and disgust among web users yesterday.

Xinxinyu, a domestic staff agency in Shenzhen, provides nurses for newborns, the sick and other adults, the Southern Metropolis Daily said. "Adult (clients) can drink it directly through breastfeeding, or they can always drink it from a breast pump if they feel embarrassed," the report quoted company owner as saying.

Traditional beliefs in some parts of China hold that human breast milk has the best and most easily digestible nutrition for people who are ill.

Philippine warns gun-selling cops

AFP, Manila

The Philippines' poorly paid police have been warned they will be sacked if they sell their new semi-automatic pistols, a spokesman for the graft-plagued force said yesterday. This came after President Benigno Aquino announced that officers would finally be given pistols after going without officially issued weapons for years.



Ecuadorian Foreign Affairs Minister Ricardo Patino shows a picture of a microphone during a press conference in Quito on Wednesday. A hidden microphone was found in Ecuador's embassy in London, where WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange is holed up, Ecuador's foreign minister said.

PHOTO: AFP

EU discusses joint stance on US surveillance row

Obama, Merkel discuss Europe's concerns

AFP, Brussels

European Union ambassadors met in Brussels yesterday to find a common stance on explosive allegations of US spying on EU offices, as Germany insisted a huge EU-US trade deal remained the "highest priority".

The snooping claims, revealed by US fugitive Edward Snowden, have sparked outrage across the bloc, casting a pall over long-awaired EU-US talks on a free trade deal worth billions expected to give a much-needed boost to the debt-racked eurozone.

The closed-door discussions between the EU ambassadors are expected to last for hours, senior diplomatic sources said.

This came a day after Berlin and Paris struck a note of discord over how to proceed with the trade talks, with France pushing for a delay while Germany said they should go ahead next week as planned.

EU Commission president Jose Manuel Barroso eventually announced a compromise: the trade talks would open but run in tandem with working groups tasked with probing the extent of the US spying.

Seeking to limit the fallout from the scandal, US President Barack Obama spoke with German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Wednesday to address European concerns.

"The president assured the chancellor that the United States takes seriously the concerns of our European allies and partners," according to a readout of the telephone conversation released by Washington.

Merkel's spokesman said she welcomed Obama's announcement that the US would provide information on its surveillance activities, and reiterated that Berlin and Washington were committed to the trade talks.

"The negotiations on the (trade deal) still have highest priority, they are to begin on July 8," Steffen Seibert said in a statement.

MORALES'S 'HUMILIATION' Russia decries France, Spain, Portugal

AFP, Moscow

Russia yesterday condemned France, Spain and Portugal for blocking the flight from Moscow to La Paz of Bolivian President Evo Morales, over suspicions that US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden was on board.

"The action of the French, Spanish and Portuguese authorities can hardly be viewed as a friendly step toward Bolivia or Russia," the Russian foreign ministry said in a statement.

The plane carrying Morales was forced to land in Vienna after several European nations denied it overly rights.

Morales urged European countries to "free themselves from the US empire" as he arrived home late Wednesday.

While in Moscow on Tuesday, Morales said Bolivia would consider Snowden's request for political asylum, a comment that apparently sparked the European concern.

The Bolivian government accused European countries of placing the life of Morales in danger, a comment echoed by the Russian foreign ministry.

Meanwhile, Leftist Latin America leaders were preparing to meet in Bolivia yesterday following the event. Among those expected to attend are Ecuador's Rafael Correa, Argentina's Cristina Kirchner, Venezuela's Nicolas Maduro, and Uruguay's Jose Mujica, among others.

Vacancy announcement for senior management position

Pubali Bank Limited is the largest commercial private Bank having 419 computerized and largest number of online branches and network with a diverse and motivated employees who are ready to take challenge and deliver. Pubali Bank Limited is seeking to recruit Senior Management/ Leaders for the Bank to guide its next phase of innovation and growth:

1. Principal for its Training Institute

Qualifications and Experience:

- MBA or Masters degree
- DAIBB from institute of Bankers, Bangladesh preferred.
- At least 15 years of experience in HR, Organizational Development or in a Bank, out of which, 05 years in training institute preferably in Bank.

Essential Functions:

- Analyze and assess the training and development needs of the organization
- Plan, coordinate and facilitate in house training and development programs
- Design, develop and implement leadership programs
- Research and provide external resources for skill improvement not covered by in-house curriculum/ resources
- Prepare yearly Academic Calendar and related budget

2. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for Pubali Bank Securities Limited (a subsidiary company of Pubali Bank Limited)

Academic Qualifications and Experience:

- MBA or Masters degree
- Minimum 15 years of work experience in Bank, out of which at least 5 years in relevant field.
- Must have knowledge on Capital Market & Securities Trading System with proven Track record of achieving results, growing business and excellent network and contacts.

General conditions:

- Age not over 50 years on 01 July 2013. Age may be relaxed for the candidates with excellent academic background and experience.
- Excellent presentation & communication skill in Bangla & English is required.
- Ability to work independently as well as in a team environment.
- Computer literate/ user.

Compensation package: Negotiable

Please send your Application, Current CV with three passport size photographs, copies of academic certificates duly attested to the General Manager, Human Resources Division, Pubali Bank Limited, Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka latest by 25 July 2013.

The Bank reserves the rights to accept/ reject any application(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever. Only short listed candidates will be contacted for interview. No TA/DA will be applicable for this purpose. Those who applied earlier need not apply again.

