

Speech of
H.H Sheikha Mouza bint Nasser Al – Misnad in the Closing Session
of the 2nd Forum on Democracy and Political Reform in the Arab
World 27th – 29th May, 2007

In the Name of Allah, Most Compassionate, Most Merciful.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Over the past two days, I have followed up on your Forum's rich and wise discussions and deliberations which have made us in Qatar more convinced that reform in the Arab World is always driven by competent callers who can justify the importance of such a demand, and democracy's message is carried up by guides capable of explaining its importance to the Public.

I don't think that the conclusions that you have reached are the results of this moment but an accumulation of previous efforts that believed in the potentials of an Arab to effect change whenever s/he is given an opportunity to express himself/herself and reveal his/her energies.

I fully agree with Dr. Aziz Sidqi that goodwill, Ladies and Gentlemen, can not only lead to democracy. I also share Imam AL- Sadiq AL- Mehdi his opinion that progress can not be achieved through resolutions only .

I think that the Arab World is in a bad need to exploit and activate its dynamic and static forces so that everyone can contribute to change his/her status towards the best. This demand we must all work to explore the optimal means to achieve it .

If we , in this context, stress the importance of the civil society organizations being one of the most effective structures and instruments of democratic transformation, it is very crucial, therefore, to eliminate all obstacles and difficulties that such organization face.

How can the Arab World prove its efficiency in the new millennium when its civil society organizations are subject to marginalization though everyone knows that such institutions stand in the forefront of democratic communities components and structures!!

In the Arab World, we don't lack competencies or capabilities, but we need to build more trust among whomsoever engaged in the Public

Affairs, and to mobilize efforts and strong wills in order to pinpoint wise and true visions about the future we like it for ourselves.

As we are very much interested in reform and its success, I would like here to record this moment: the moment of the birth of Arab Foundation for Democracy that, with Allah's Will and your good intention and expertise, would pave the way to encourage Arab region to promote culture of democracy and make it a theory and practice .

While Doha is proud of the birth of that Foundation, it also appreciates the efforts of the present elite of participants to work for a new Arab future in which democracy embraces its features and freedom forms its concepts away from mono-dialogues approach .

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, we have written the words of the introduction and we need to go forward till the book is completed . A book that we are sure will record a successful trip made by our region looking for freedom and democracy.

Thank you and I wish you every success.