

This thesis addresses one of the intellectual phenomena “Neo Liberalism” (NL) which emerged and interacted in the Arab world as a result of political, social and ideological changes that took place over the last two decades.

It is a serious attempt to explore the effect of such phenomenon over the Arab situation through answering a central question: What is the developmental impact of the neo-liberalism on the Arab World??? The thesis also tries to answer another set of interrelated questions such as: What is the impact of the neo-liberalism policies on the nature of the “National Statehood”?? Do, the social, cultural and economical restructuring programs were able to achieve a comprehensive development in the Arab States?? Does the neo-liberalism present a new democratic model that is able to release the Arab societies from the dominance and ascendancy of the Arab elites or the ruling regimes?? Why did the neo-liberalism’s mainstream remain isolated with no public support in the Arab- Street??

The importance of this research lies in identifying and clarifying the impact of globalization on the Arab World and to introduce the consequences of implementing the neo-liberalism policies which exacerbated the political, economic and intellectual crisis in the Arab Societies. In addition, the research introduces the neo-liberalist, their presence in the Arab Societies, their major thoughts in relation to the above mentioned questions.

As the research focuses on the intellectual and economic transformations of the capital under globalization, that produced the neo-liberalism as a political and ideological movement; it (the research) will use the political-economy as an analytical tool which view the economic factors as bases for

the intellectual, social, cultural and political transformations. In addition, the research uses the “historical analysis” tool which goes beyond the descriptive and narrative nature of history and analyzes the events in the context of their historical formation and development.

The research is divided into two main axes:

Firstly: Explores the concept of the Neo-liberalism in the context of the fundamental changes and transformations accompanied and generated in the Capitalist system in the last decades and introduce the neo-liberalism and neo-liberals in the Arab World through discussing their main thoughts, theories and political arguments as well as discussing the main challenges they face, their presence and the degree of support in local community.

Secondly: introduces the impact of neo-liberalism’s policies and concepts on the Arab community, particularly on the individual national state, the Arab development and democracy.

The research concluded set of results:

- 1- The main and dominant, is that the emergence of the liberal thoughts and ideas in the Arab world was an echo of those ideas that were generated and accompanied the birth and growth of capitalism in Europe, its origin place of birth. In the same manner, it is likely to view the birth of the neo-liberalism in the Arab situation. The neo-liberalism in the Arab countries was not the natural outcome of a revolution in the communication and information system and developed technology or the result of dramatic transformation in

social and economic structures, but it is the result of importing and applying ready and developed thoughts and theories, on and in underdeveloped political, social and economical environment, the process which has deepened the annexation of these countries to the capitalist centre. Therefore, the neo-liberal stream in the Arab world was born separated and isolated, contradicting the political, economical and moral structures of the local community.

The given results illustrate that applying the neo-liberal policies in the Arab world failed to solve or tackle the local problems, no reforms or progress were achieved, yet it brought further fragmentation, disintegration, impoverishment, disagreement and clashes.

2- The research concluded that the Arab national-state was the victim of applying such thoughts. The weaknesses and fragility of the social and political structures of such countries have deepened its crises and internal contradictions. The reforms and restructuring of the economy have led to disastrous outcomes embodied in further unemployment, weakening the non-extractive production sectors and the other local production sectors against the non-equivalent competition of the foreign commodities.

3- Democracy has been reduced and adapted to fit the foreign agendas and to strengthen the ruling elite; allies of the foreign countries, while excluding the opposition parties.