

Youssef Abdelke a Threat to Syrian State Security?

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A Syrian rebel tries on a gas mask seized from a Syrian army factory in the northwestern province of Idlib on 18 July 2013. (Photo: AFP - Daniel Leal-Olivas)

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What is happening in Syria today? Who is the brilliant mind who assumed that the achievements of the army against the armed groups sanction a return to the kind of mentality that caused a considerable part of the current crisis in Syria?

Who is this genius who decided to arrest Youssef Abdelke, and how does

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he plan to convince himself, his family, his neighbors, and the people of Damascus, the coast, Aleppo, Homs, Daraa, Idlib, Raqqa, Hassakeh, Deir al-Zour, all the way to Quneitra and Suweida, that a threat has been incarnated in a single man named Youssef Abdelke?

How can any security agency or official make such a decision? Is it fear of a statement that the activist-artist might write out of his sense of morality, which some in the Syrian regime seem to be lacking? Which security agency dared to make this move, as though carrying out a routine act with no fear of accountability?

Who decided to confront Youssef and his comrades? The patriotic Syrians who want to change the regime, but who never accepted the current approach? Those who have declared stances long before many others did, rejecting all forms of foreign intervention in the Syrian crisis?

Who decided to issue a death sentence against the branch of the opposition that is suited to help restore Syria's standing as a strong, cohesive state, able to stand back on its feet and come back to life?

There is nothing that can justify this move, even in the unlikely case that he was arrested as a result of mistaken identity, and there is no good description for what is otherwise a foolish, malicious, ignorant, and brutal step.

All that can be said is that disgrace, utter disgrace, shall haunt everyone who planned and implemented this criminal move. Any delay in Abdelke's release will be an ominous indication that there are those in the regime who want only the kind of opposition that devours hearts, because they have no hearts.

Ibrahim al-Amin is editor-in-chief of Al-Akhbar.

This article is an edited translation from the Arabic Edition.

Comments

Submitted by Anonymous (not verified) on Wed, 2013-07-24 13:55.

If you are so concerned for your friend's safety why don't you task your paymasters in Hezbollah to see if they can't pull strings with the murderous regime you and they support? You are a hypocrite of the worst kind. Did you just discover that Assad and his thugs in the regime want only the kind of opposition that devours hearts, because they have no hearts? Wake up as smell the carnage that has devoured Syria. There is no good description for your selected concern for your Syrian leftists friends other than as a foolish, malicious, ignorant, stance that supports a brutal regime when it suits you.

Submitted by But but reforms! (not verified) on Mon, 2013-07-22 15:20.

Al Amine is upset because his friend was arrested and it reflects in his personal newsletter, a newspaper of former repute known as "Al Akhbar."

"Who is the brilliant mind who assumed that the achievements of the army against the armed groups sanction a return to the kind of mentality that caused a considerable part of the current crisis in Syria?"

A "return," you say?

Ah yes, the people's paper.

Give yourself credit for expressing outrage over your famous friend's arrest, while denying the plight of tens of thousands.