



■ **Major General / Yassen Hussam El-Din Taher**

*Consultant of the Military Academy for Postgraduate and Strategic Studies
Former Governor of Ismailia*

National Loyalty and Egyptian National Security

Introduction:

National loyalty is the deep sense of attachment to one's homeland, dedicated service to it, and safeguarding its resources and interests through interaction with the society's culture and heritage while remaining open to diversity. It involves respecting others, fulfilling obligations to the homeland, and upholding its values such as integrity and honor to elevate the nation's sign. Therefore, national loyalty drives individuals to actively participate in building and developing their country across political, economic, and social domains. It extends to nurturing a spirit of protection and defense of the nation, being prepared to sacrifice against any internal or external threats. Therefore, national loyalty and national security are two sides of the same coin that affirm that human beings are the true wealth. To preserve it and work on developing its awareness, the responsibility falls on everyone, whether official institutions or civil society.

Research Objectives:

The Research aims to:

- A. Clarify concepts related to belonging, citizenship, and national loyalty, examining the views of thinkers and researchers and identifying factors influencing national loyalty.
- B. Analyze and monitor all components of the relationship between national loyalty and Egyptian national security across various fields, focusing on significant challenges impacting this relational bond.

Importance of the Research:

From the study's perspective, the significance becomes evident as national loyalty stands as a fundamental pillar for any nation or society to confront challenges affecting national security. Thus, the relationship between national loyalty

and Egyptian national security represents the cornerstone of the Egyptian state's capability to achieve national security across political, security, economic, social, and other domains. Therefore, enhancing the level of national loyalty within Egyptian society, particularly among youth, has become imperative.

Methodology of the Study:

This study adopts a descriptive approach to review all concepts related to loyalty and belonging, while also examining and analyzing the challenges that meet the requirements for achieving Egyptian national security to reach conclusions and recommendations.

Research Problem:

National loyalty represents the highest level of attachment to one's homeland, coming after



belonging and citizenship. It thus serves as a key component for societal cohesion, reflecting on achieving the requirements of Egyptian national security. Therefore, the study seeks to prove the validity of the relational bond between national loyalty and national security.

Research Questions:

Based on the study presented, the following questions arise:

- A. What are the concepts, levels, and factors influencing national loyalty?
- B. What are the components and requirements of Egyptian national security?
- C. What is the relational bond between national loyalty and Egyptian national security, and what are the degrees of influence between them?

Structure of the Research:

This Research addresses the following axes:

- A. *First Axis: The theoretical framework of belonging, citizenship, and national loyalty.*
- B. *Second Axis: The relationship between national loyalty, integration, and societal participation.*
- C. *Third Axis: Concepts, components, and requirements of Egyptian national security.*
- D. *Fourth Axis: The relational bond between national loyalty and Egyptian national security.*
- E. *Fifth Axis: Challenges in enhancing Egyptian national loyalty across different fields.*
- F. *Sixth Axis: Study results and recommendations for developing Egyptian national loyalty.*

First Axis: The Theoretical Framework of Belonging, Citizenship, and National Loyalty:

1. Belonging, Citizenship, and Loyalty are Interconnected Concepts, belonging refers to the attachment individuals feel towards various groups such as family, tribe, or society. Citizenship, on the other hand, entails the commitment to a specific country or state in terms of rights and responsibilities. Loyalty, therefore, embodies deep attachment, dedication, and readiness to sacrifice for the homeland while adhering to the state's laws, respecting its national symbols, and working to protect its interests.

2. It is evident that belonging, citizenship, and loyalty are interconnected in terms of definition and content, with political, social, and legal dimensions. Additionally, there is a societal awareness that motivates individuals within the community to actively participate in building and developing their nation in all fields, fostering a spirit of dedication to protect and defend the country, and readiness to sacrifice for it against any internal or external threats. This underscores that humans are the true wealth of their nation and society.

3. Concepts of Belonging from the Perspectives of Scholars and Thinkers:

- a. Murroy emphasizes that an individual's inclination to conform to their society's laws manifests as a necessity for human belonging, stemming from human needs. Fromm argues that understanding human psychology must be based on analyzing human needs arising from their existential conditions. He views the need for belonging as paramount ⁽¹⁾.
- b. Maslow underscores the importance of the need for belonging in his hierarchy of human needs, placing it after physiological and safety needs. Adler's theory highlights that the need for belonging is to approach and enjoy cooperation and exchange with another ally and to adhere to him ⁽²⁾.
- c. Leohfestinger emphasizes that for there to be group solidarity among its members, there must be unity in the attitudes and behaviors of those members. Therefore, the success of groups and the achievement of their goals depend on the extent of cooperation among them. Thinker Abdullah Al-Mubarak believes that belonging is the true affiliation to the homeland in thought, feelings, and conscience through the individual's pride in this homeland ⁽³⁾.
- d. Ashraf Abu Al-Saud emphasizes that belonging is the individual's affiliation to a specific group, which may be a family, a party, or an institution. The feeling of belonging is the individual's strong connection to the group to which he belongs; as it fulfills many of his material, psychological, and social needs. Therefore, he is strongly attached to this group and becomes keen to maintain that relationship permanently ⁽⁴⁾.

- e. Over time, humans realize that belonging is one of the things that is particularly important to them. Therefore, many psychologists have begun to develop theories that explain the concept of belonging. For example, the theory of psychosocial development (Ericsson) is a modification of Freud's theory of sexual development. It has been shown that humans go through many stages of life through which it becomes clear that the relationship between the individual and society is linked to the need for self-actualization, satisfaction with the group, and a sense of security to be a motive for belonging ⁽⁵⁾.
- f. There is a theory called the development or liberation theory (Marshall Sahlins), and this theory is based on three basic elements: civil rights, political rights, and social rights, including economic welfare and social aspects such as relationships and social participation. ⁽⁶⁾
- g. As for Amitai Etzioni's theory, it emphasizes that there are many ways to reform society, the most important of which is to open up the field widely for voluntary activity, in order to encourage attempts to develop self-responsibility and assimilate the importance of duties and obligations, which leads the individual to perform his duties towards the community in which he lives. Thus, a state of connection and belonging to that society occurs ⁽⁷⁾.
4. Through the theories and opinions presented concerning the concept of belonging, it is commonly understood that belonging is a psychological and social need that fosters positive membership within a group. This results in the emergence of harmonious and cohesive feelings, fostering cooperation and integration among community members. Shared ideas and opinions for the benefit of the nation emerge from this, heightened by acquired values and pride in the history of the homeland, making this concept a source of societal progress and advancement.
5. Based on the review and analysis of various opinions and theories by a group of scholars or thinkers regarding the concept of belonging, the study introduces a concept of belonging from the researcher's perspective as follows: Belonging is a characteristic specific to humans, but it is acquired and evolves throughout the individual's life stages. Therefore, it is the bond that connects the individual to a group, community, or nation to which they belong, making them feel a sense of responsibility towards that entity.
- 6. Definition of Citizenship:**
- a. John Dewey defines citizenship as participation in the life experience through giving and taking, encompassing everything that makes an individual more useful and of greater value than others. This allows for increased participation, defining citizenship as belonging to the territory determined by geographical boundaries, with all those belonging to that territory considered citizens deserving of all associated rights and duties ⁽⁸⁾.
- b. Others define citizenship as a multidimensional human, social, and political concept influenced by levels of intellectual and political maturity, as well as cultural development. It is positively formulated when basic constants such as constitutional and legal rights, justice, and commitment to all duties towards the nation are met. Therefore, citizenship is the legal and social link between individuals and their political community, serving as the cornerstone for building the national state.
- 7. Concept and Definition of National Loyalty:**
- a. National loyalty represents an individual's attachment to and fondness for their homeland, even when separated from it, and includes the feeling of necessity to defend it against any threats that endanger its entity and stability. It transcends mere physical attachment to encompass emotional and behavioral aspects.
- b. It is also defined as a psychological-social sentiment characterized by emotion and passion, with a behavioral aspect that drives individuals to engage in activities related to the community's interests. It includes a cognitive aspect involving the individual's understanding of all the concepts and values that underpin the sense of loyalty.
- c. Furthermore, national loyalty is defined as every citizen's desire to serve their homeland, enhance its stature, protect its components and values—whether religious, cultural, or civil—and ensure respect for its laws. This includes



safeguarding the environment, participating in political activities, and defending national issues, while demonstrating cooperation with fellow citizens in confronting dangers, threats, and challenges.

The second axis: The relationship between national loyalty, integration, and social participation:

1- National loyalty distinguishes itself from other forms and concepts of national connection by its permanent and spontaneous desire to defend the homeland against all forms of threats, whether internal or external. It also involves active and positive participation in various forms, such as political, economic, and social participation, within the framework of loyalty to the nation and commitment to its national interests, even if this requires personal sacrifices.

2- The relationship between national loyalty and social/community participation:

A- Community participation is the process through which individuals play a positive role for the benefit of their community. This participation is the indicator that reflects the degree of loyalty within the community and the extent of their connection to that community.

B- Community participation linked to national loyalty is the real and standard reference aimed at educating individuals about their rights and responsibilities, and ensuring the development of their capacities to enable them to contribute effectively to building the community and cooperating with all institutions.

C- Enhancing social participation is one of the features of citizenship that helps preserve rights and enables effective participation in decision-making processes. This highlights the role of educational institutions and empowerment agencies in defining the ways and various types of participation, emphasizing the importance of laws and regulations governing them, in addition to clarifying the role of participating institutions.

D- Following what has been presented, the key features of community participation can be identified as follows:

- Community participation represents organized collective action towards

achieving planned goals and voluntary work, where loyalty and work must be voluntary and optional.

- Political culture, which includes all aspects of political and social knowledge that equip individuals with facts and information enabling them to perform and participate positively.

- Community participation and national loyalty are two sides of the same coin closely related. Therefore, there are factors that affect this relationship, most notably upbringing and education, in addition to the prevailing culture and identity within the community. The media plays a pivotal role in shaping perspectives on national issues, making it influential either positively or negatively in this regard ⁽⁹⁾.

3. National Integration and its Relationship with National Loyalty:

A- National integration is a complex and multifaceted concept that reflects a range of dimensions. It signifies the integration status of all forces and segments within society, including ethnicities, nationalities, common language, religious beliefs, and various sects across all regions within the nation and within its diverse state components and institutions, without neglecting the diversity and differences within society. This supports the concept of national loyalty.

B- Opinions and studies indicate that there are several aspects contributing to achieving national integration as follows:

- The necessity of decisively and fairly resolving all conflicts and disputes within society without violence.
- Encouraging participation and integration of different values and cultures, and increasing the space for self-expression.
- Narrowing the gap between elites and other societal strata, as well as between urban and rural areas, and between rich and poor regions.
- Sharing experiences and diverse expertise and harnessing them for the benefit of other segments of society ⁽¹⁰⁾.

4- Social Integration and National Loyalty:

A- Social integration differs from national integration as it targets marginalized and deprived groups with the aim of achieving equal opportunities and equality in obtaining a fair share of resources, wealth, and job opportunities. Researchers in this field affirm a close relationship between social integration and national loyalty within the framework of citizenship and attachment to the nation.

B- Researchers point to four main types of social integration as follows:

- (cultural Integration) refers to consistency between cultural standards.
- (normative Integration) refers to consistency between cultural standards and behavior.
- (communicative Integration) refers to communication within the social system.
- (functional Integration) refers to the extent of mutual dependence between system units.

C- A society is characterized by integration when it has a dominant national identity among the majority of its citizens, enabling it to achieve harmony, reject disputes, control all forms of violence, reduce all latent differences and contradictions in social, economic, and political structures within society, and address the phenomenon of social injustice and deliberate deprivation of participation, thereby not satisfying the basic needs of humans (11).

The Third Axis: Concepts, Contents, and Requirements of Egyptian National Security

1- Interest in the concept of national security began with the emergence of the nation-state in the seventeenth century due to its utmost importance in maintaining state sovereignty. The concept of national security became intertwined with the concept of state sovereignty, leading to the emergence of various opinions and concepts from multiple perspectives, including protection, development, national interest, and international relations. Therefore, national security is a contentious and disputable concept depending on ideological orientations, intellectual schools, and historical development stages.

2- Theoretical and Conceptual Foundations of National Security:

A- The term “national security” consists of two elements: security, which in language is the opposite of fear, and national, which refers to the state with its three elements: people, land, and authority or system. Thus, the concept of national security is a descriptive concept that varies in meaning depending on circumstances, time, and ongoing developments, fundamentally signifying tranquility and absence of fear through a set of related measures.

B- Sociologists’ concept of national security refers to a state’s ability to protect its internal values from external threats, regardless of the nature or sources of these threats. Here, the expansive nature of national security becomes evident as it extends beyond military aspects to encompass achieving maximum protection, stability, and comprehensive development in all areas (12).

C- The concept of national security from a development perspective emerged prominently following the October 1973 War, which constituted a significant transformation impacting the policies and objectives of major global powers due to the energy crisis and rising oil prices. Advocates of this perspective focus on three fundamental pillars:

- Ensuring and developing economic resources.
- Relying on self-sufficient economic capacities and alternatives.
- Achieving comprehensive development across various sectors.

D- (Robert McNamara)’s viewpoint asserts that development is national security; without development, there can be no security. He argues that a state that does not develop cannot remain secure. Additionally, the thinker Joseph Nye emphasizes that true national security is achieved by ensuring the absence of any form of deprivation from economic prosperity (13).

3- Dimensions of National Security:

A- Military Dimension: This dimension is the most effective and clear-cut, as it does not tolerate weakness or penetration which could lead to the collapse of the state and expose it



to dangers and threats affecting its sovereignty. This dimension has a significant impact on all other dimensions and represents the essence of national security (14).

B- Political Dimension: This dimension is related to ideology, creed, the type of political system, and the form of political institutions within the state. It focuses on domestic policies, public satisfaction levels, and social cohesion. On the other hand, it concerns foreign policy efforts, including diplomatic efforts in international relations.

C- Economic Dimension: This dimension pertains to development, self-sufficiency, and prosperity. It involves securing vital economic resources to achieve a suitable level of prosperity to avoid external pressures. Key indicators of this dimension include economic growth rate, gross domestic product (GDP), and consequently, national income.

D- Social and Demographic Dimension: This dimension is significant and relates to the structure of social construction, social relationships, heritage, and societal characteristics. It affects population composition and consequently influences the state's national security, enabling it to confront any threats. Key indicators include demographics and societal aspects (15).

E- Information Dimension: In the context of technological advancements in information and communication, this dimension has become one of the contemporary determinants of international relations. Given the importance of information related to national security, states are compelled to maintain secrecy and confidentiality, whether it pertains to military information or other fields.

4. Requirements for Achieving Egyptian National Security:

National security is a comprehensive process that entails several necessary requirements for its achievement, encompassing all the dimensions previously mentioned. The focus will be on requirements that directly enhance national loyalty as follows:

A- Military Dimension Requirements: The cohesion between the Egyptian people and their

armed forces remains a crucial cornerstone in the military dimension. Additionally, continuous readiness of these forces to maintain the highest level of combat efficiency serves as a fundamental source of security and safety for the Egyptian people.

B- Economic Dimension Requirements: The requirements of this dimension are centered around securing resources, achieving economic objectives, and fostering comprehensive development. This includes ensuring all basic needs of citizens are met and securing income sources to improve living standards, thereby enhancing levels of loyalty.

C- Social and Demographic Dimension Requirements: The requirements of this dimension involve protecting social values and ethical principles within society. It also involves ensuring societal cohesion and elevating national loyalty and belonging by specifically addressing the relationship between citizens and the nation.

The Fourth Axis: The Relational Link between National Loyalty and Egyptian National Security

1- National loyalty is intricately linked in a relationship of mutual influence with the requirements for achieving Egyptian national security in its various dimensions. The level of allegiance and loyalty to the homeland positively contributes to confronting all challenges and threats affecting Egyptian national security. National loyalty plays a pivotal role in the state's ability to endure and achieve its vital interests at all levels.

2- The Relationship of National Loyalty with the Political Dimension Requirements:

A- National loyalty positively or negatively impacts the extent of active political participation, exercise of political rights, and fulfillment of duties, reflecting on national stability and increasing societal satisfaction.

B- National loyalty positively influences increasing the sense of belonging among individuals towards their nation, affecting the feeling of freedom and the ability to participate, thereby increasing vigilance in finding solutions to national problems and

public issues through continuous national dialogue.

C- National loyalty is significantly influenced positively or negatively by all measures aimed at promoting citizenship values and fostering a sense of belonging among youth, to protect them from infiltration by external groups and institutions, thereby enhancing Egyptian national security and establishing a strong bond between citizens and the Egyptian state.

3- The Relationship of National Loyalty with the Economic Dimension Requirements:

A- The economic dimension primarily relates to economic resources and investment aspects in terms of increasing national output growth rates, but more importantly, it concerns human resources and the human element, making national loyalty one of the most influential factors on the human element.

B- National loyalty is greatly affected negatively by inflation rates and unemployment within society, and positively impacted by all measures aimed at achieving prosperity and alleviating hardship, especially for low-income groups, leading to internal societal stability that in turn fosters loyalty and belonging, thus protecting the domestic front from all opposing currents.

4- The Relationship of National Loyalty with the Demographic Dimension Requirements:

A- National loyalty is influenced by all factors related to social and population aspects, including population growth rates across the geographic map, which impacts population density and affects the presence of informal settlements and the standard of living.

B- National loyalty and the requirements for achieving national security in the social dimension are clearly interconnected, as national security always seeks to achieve a suitable level of social justice and enhance relationships and services within society. Therefore, the required national loyalty during dealing with anticipated crises and issues related to social aspects and basic needs becomes the line of defense against attempts to influence the morale of societal groups.

5. Based on the Research presented, national loyalty plays a crucial role in defining the requirements

of national security across all dimensions, especially the social dimension, where it impacts several societal aspects that play a critical role in national stability and security as follows:

A- National unity and social integration: Enhancing the sense of belonging and loyalty to the nation can promote societal stability, thereby reducing internal tensions and divisions.

B- Social justice and poverty alleviation: This helps reduce class conflicts and directs efforts towards providing economic opportunities and improving living standards for all.

C- Strengthening education and comprehensive societal awareness contributes to improving the level of education and culture in society, enhancing individuals' capacity for positive engagement.

D- Promoting human rights and equality: National loyalty contributes to promoting the importance of human rights and equality among citizens, thereby fostering social stability and increasing satisfaction.

The Fifth axis: Challenges in Enhancing Egyptian National Loyalty in Various Areas

1- Global Social Openness: The world becoming like a small village has led to numerous changes, both positive and negative. On the negative side, it has facilitated the spread of many negative behaviors while eroding proper societal values. This has distorted the value system in general and specifically in Egyptian society, resulting in the proliferation of negative phenomena such as decreased tolerance towards others and advocacy for the weak. Consequently, this has led to the spread of violence and bigotry, reduced societal awareness, and affected the level of national loyalty.

2- Challenges in Enhancing National Loyalty in the Political Field:

The challenges facing efforts to enhance Egyptian national loyalty in the political arena take various forms that significantly impact the efforts made in this field. These challenges can be elucidated as follows:

A. Internal Political Challenges: In their comprehensive sense, these challenges affect attempts to elevate national loyalty and hinder



any efforts to raise awareness, foster belonging, and encourage political participation. They can be summarized as follows:

- Weakness of the media system in countering rumors, spreading misleading news, false ideas, and disrupting the correct understanding of political societal issues, which affects the integrity of positive national dialogue.
- Political fluctuations and rapid changes in the Egyptian scene, creating a state of instability and reducing citizens' trust in the political system, especially in political forces and parties.
- Decreased levels of political participation are indicative of political backwardness and have a significant impact on national loyalty, as such participation is a measure of social cohesion.
- Restrictions on freedom of expression and participation in opinion lead to a state of dissatisfaction and widen the gap between the people and state institutions.

B. External Political Challenges: undoubtedly affect the problem of weak belonging and reduced levels of loyalty, illustrated as follows:

- The escalation of extremism in all its forms, whether regional or global, has led to increased violence directed against society, whether religious ideological extremism or political ideological extremism, both undoubtedly affecting the levels of belonging and national loyalty within Egyptian society.
- Pressures and external practices exercised against Arab countries, including Egypt, under the guise of protecting so-called democratic practices and human rights, which in reality aim to disrupt regimes and portray them negatively to their populations. This includes the use of modern psychological warfare methods, rumors, and focusing on youth and marginalized groups to fragment Egyptian societal unity. These practices have had a negative impact on the level of national loyalty through the exploitation of social media networks and electronic media, resulting in privacy violations and information breaches, whether private or public, used as a means of blackmail.

Challenges in Enhancing National Loyalty in the Economic Field:

- Unemployment is among the most critical economic challenges affecting national loyalty and also evolves into a security challenge. Unemployment correlates with various forms of crime, contributes to terrorism, and increases feelings of despair, particularly among the youth. Moreover, it fosters the disintegration of families, creating social, intellectual, and cultural vacuum.
- Sharp changes in labor market mechanisms and rapid shifts in job requirements, coupled with the emergence of new technologies that demand quick adaptation, pose significant barriers for certain segments of society to secure suitable employment opportunities. This situation negatively impacts their national loyalty.
- Inflation and price hikes exacerbate living difficulties and hinder access to essential needs and demands. This leads to economic deterioration and widens economic disparities, contributing to social discord and fostering a discouraging and potentially tense atmosphere.

Challenges in Enhancing National Loyalty in the Social Field:

The social challenges that confront the efforts and endeavors to elevate national loyalty are the most significant among all challenges in other fields. We can highlight the most important of these challenges as follows:

- Population growth issue: It is one of the largest and most dangerous challenges facing Egypt over the past years, continuing to cast its shadows and repercussions on Egypt's present and future. This problem consumes any increase in the returns of development pursued by Egypt and represents the main imbalance in the equation between life necessities and the available capabilities of the Egyptian state. Many factors contribute to this issue, including low societal awareness, entrenched customs and traditions, and the prevalence of early marriage.
- The problem of informal settlements: This problem emerged in Egypt since the early

20th century as a result of economic crises and wars, leading to internal migration from rural or Bedouin areas to urban cities and civilized regions in search of employment. Continuous neglect of the rural sector over the past years, coupled with increased attention and focus on major cities, and the reckless construction on agricultural lands have reduced job opportunities. This problem is a major factor contributing to increased social disintegration and decreased levels of belonging and national loyalty within the society.

- **Illiteracy Problem in Egypt:** It is one of the most serious challenges facing Egyptian society, leading to negative impacts on the social, economic, and political levels. It is akin to a disease that undermines many efforts and plans related to comprehensive development. Human beings remain the cornerstone of all attempts at advancement and growth. The primary causes of this phenomenon include economic reasons such as unemployment and poverty, as well as cultural factors linked to certain customs and traditions, especially concerning the education of girls and the preference for early marriage. Social factors, notably population growth, also contribute. One of the most dangerous effects of this problem is the decline in social cohesion due to disparities in educational levels between illiterate and educated individuals. Moreover, it leads to reduced health awareness and the spread of violence, all of which directly impact national loyalty.
- **The Necessity of Renewing Religious Discourse:** This is of utmost importance in advocating for goodness and deterring evil. Through religious discourse, citizens can be encouraged towards all forms of positive construction, productivity, reconstruction, reform, creativity, excellence, fraternity, reconciliation, tolerance, and compassion. Therefore, renewing religious discourse has become significantly important in guiding society and elevating human behavior, while promoting all societal principles and values, thereby enhancing national loyalty.

Research Results and Recommendations:

Based on the study and analysis of the theoretical and conceptual framework of belonging, citizenship, national loyalty, their relationship with integration, social participation, relational attachment, and their impact on national security, the study concluded the following results and recommendations:

Research Findings:

- A - The study confirms that national loyalty is a behavior that reflects feelings of pride in one's country, reaching the level of sacrifice for the stability and survival of the nation and the preservation of its sovereignty. Loyalty, belonging, and citizenship are among the most important pillars of societal strength that influence national security by impacting individual behavior and attitudes. Together, they constitute essential determinants for all forms of activities within society.
- B - Social participation is the process through which individuals play a role in the political and social life of their community, enabling them to participate in decision-making within that society. Therefore, it represents a positive reciprocal relationship where national loyalty enhances the desire to connect with others. This leads to a clearer picture through the state of national integration of all forces and sectors within society, whether ethnicities, nationalities, or different religious beliefs, thereby supporting national security.
- C - The study examines the dimensions of Egyptian national security and its achievement requirements, along with the relationship between these aspects and the concept of national loyalty. It evaluates how belonging and national loyalty positively contribute to confronting all challenges and threats affecting Egyptian national security. It emphasizes the crucial role that loyalty plays in determining the state's resilience and survival capacity.
- D - The study also outlines some of the significant challenges that impact efforts to enhance national loyalty among various segments of the Egyptian population, particularly the youth. This includes internal and external political arenas, as well as economic challenges such as unemployment, inflation, and issues related to labor market dynamics. Additionally, it covers



social challenges like population growth, informal settlements, illiteracy, and other challenges that require addressing with decisive solutions to mitigate their impacts.

Research Recommendations:

A - I propose the establishment and formation of a national observatory to monitor the issues and challenges in efforts to enhance national loyalty, under the supervision of the Cabinet, aiming for the following:

- Developing a shared national vision on how to address these challenges through effective societal participation involving representatives from all segments of society.
- Formulating practical strategies to address youth issues and foster positive values of loyalty and belonging to maintain social stability and achieve comprehensive national development.
- Establishing and creating a comprehensive and integrated database about the nature of programs, activities, and events that assist researchers in this field, providing them with related data and statistics.

B - I propose launching serious and realistic programs in collaboration with political parties aimed at increasing popular participation and encouraging effective engagement in achieving these objectives and programs, while activating the role of unions and civil society institutions and integrating all societal segments and organizing their social interactions.

C - Implementing a series of community campaigns and initiatives aimed at instilling concepts of national loyalty, especially for

expatriates and Egyptian diaspora communities, through the dissemination of cultural and promotional encyclopedias using modern technology and social media tools.

D - I propose to achieve an integrated strategy to enhance the level of belonging and national loyalty that meets the requirements of Egyptian national security by working on the following:

- Seeking to integrate the roles of social development institutions to foster societal awareness and develop loyalty among Egyptian society starting from families, schools, educational institutions, and media guidance.
- Assigning responsibility for formulating an informational strategy to address all challenges facing national security and leveraging all available energies and capabilities through the General Authority for Information, media outlets, other official state institutions, and civil society organizations.
- Activating moderate religious discourse through Egypt's official religious institutions, primarily Al-Azhar, Endowments, and the Egyptian Church, to reinforce values of loyalty, fidelity, and sincerity to the nation.
- Establishing a social networking platform and a dedicated Egypt-focused messaging application, linked to providing various services aimed at enhancing a sense of belonging and national loyalty, affirming national identity and societal cohesion, in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications and national technology companies.

Conclusion:

Belonging and national loyalty are among the most important pillars and foundations of societal strength that impact national security. Loyalty and belonging are the driving forces behind individuals' behaviors and their orientations towards specific goals. National loyalty encompasses many meanings, foremost among them being love for the nation, community, and family, as well as a sense of dedication to all of them, and the individual's commitment to preserving rights without compromise.

In this study, we have presented and analyzed the theoretical and conceptual framework of national loyalty, shedding light on its relationship with integration and community participation, and its impact on meeting the requirements of Egyptian national security. The study concluded by confirming the interconnectedness between national loyalty and Egyptian national security, as well as the challenges facing the process of enhancing national loyalty. Finally, a set of proposals has been formulated for the development of Egyptian national loyalty.

References:

- هنرى موارى (١٨٩٣ - ١٩٨٨) عالم أمريكي بجامعة هارفارد، أهم مؤلفاته الاستكشافات فى الشخصية.
- (١) محمود السرحان، الولاء والانتماء لدى الشباب الأردنى، مطبعة التوفيق، عمان، الأردن ٢٠١٣، ص ٣٩.
- (٢) مهيد عبد الله، تعزيز قيم الانتماء للوطن، رسالة دكتوراه، أم درمان، السودان ٢٠١٥، ص ١٦٦.
- (٣) جيهان مديح، بحث زمالة أكاديمية ناصر العسكرية، استراتيجية تنمية روح الولاء والانتماء، القاهرة ٢٠١٨، ص ٥.
- (٤) أيمن الجرجاوى، بحث زمالة أكاديمية ناصر العسكرية، رؤية مستقبلية لتنمية الانتماء لدى الشباب، القاهرة ٢٠١٣، ص ١٤.
- (٥) ضياء محمد دويدار، استراتيجية مقترحة لتنمية الولاء والانتماء لدى الشباب، أكاديمية ناصر العسكرية، القاهرة ٢٠٢١، ص ١٢.
- (٦) مارشال ديفيد سالتينز، كتاب كيف يفكر السكان الأصليون، جامعة شيكاغو ١٩٩٥، ص ١٤١.
- (٧) مهيد عبد الله، مرجع سابق، ص ١٦٧.
- (٨) ضياء محمد دويدار، مرجع سابق، ص ٤٥.
- (٩) فيروز محمد أبو العينين، تنمية الوعى بالمواطنة لدى طلاب التعليم العالى، رسالة ماجستير، معهد الدراسات التربوية، جامعة القاهرة ٢٠١٢، ص ٤٢.
- (١٠) رضوى عمار، التعليم والمواطنة والاندماج الوطنى، مركز العقد الاجتماعى، مركز دعم واتخاذ القرار، مجلس الوزراء، القاهرة ٢٠٢٤، ص ٥٥.
- (١١) سهيل مقدم، من أجل استراتيجية فعالة فى مواجهة العنف الاجتماعى، مجلة العلوم الإنسانية، جامعة الإمام محمد بن سعود، العدد ١٦٦، السعودية ٢٠١٢، ص ٢٧٧.
- (١٢) جيهان مديح، مرجع سابق، ص ٢٨.
- (١٣) محمد عبد الفضيل شوشة، التنمية الشاملة لسيناء وتأثيرها على الأمن القومى المصرى، رسالة دكتوراه، أكاديمية ناصر العسكرية، القاهرة ٢٠١٩، ص ٧٧.
- (١٤) السيد ياسين، إعادة اختراع السياسة من الحداثة إلى العولمة، الهيئة المصرية للكتاب، القاهرة ٢٠٠٦، ص ٢٠١.
- (١٥) أحمد يوسف، ما الأمن القومى، الهيئة المصرية العامة للكتاب، القاهرة ٢٠٢٣، ص ٢٦.



National loyalty and Egyptian National Security

■ Major General / Yassen Hussam El-Din Taher

Consultant of the Military Academy for Postgraduate and Strategic Studies

Former Governor of Ismailia

Abstract:

Belonging, citizenship and loyalty are intertwined concepts and are affected by each other. Therefore, there is an interconnection between belonging to a group or society and citizenship, which represents the amount of commitment in the relationship with the homeland through a set of rights and duties. As for loyalty, it is the most profound relationship and shows the amount of dedication and sacrifice for the sake of the homeland while adhering to the laws of the state and the values of society.

National loyalty is defined as a psychological, social and behavioral feeling that motivates the individual to do things related to the interests of the group or the nation. It has a cognitive aspect represented by the individual's awareness of and the nation and exalt its status and protect its capabilities and values, whether religious, civilizational or cultural, and to strive Always participate positively in all political.

The process of raising the level of Egyptian national loyalty faces a set of challenges in various fields, which in turn affect the achievement of national security requirements. These challenges differ according to the different factors, whether political, economic, or social. Therefore, it was necessary to shed light on these challenges.

Keywords: Loyalty, homeland, security

الولاء الوطنى والأمن القومى المصرى

■ لواء أ. ح. / يس حسام الدين طاهر

مستشار بالأكاديمية العسكرية للدراسات العليا والاستراتيجية

ومحافظ الإسماعيلية الأسبق

المستخلص :

الانتماء والمواطنة والولاء هي مفاهيم متشابكة وتتأثر فيما بينها، وبالتالي هناك ترابط بين الانتماء للجماعة أو للمجتمع والمواطنة التي تمثل قدر الالتزام في العلاقة بالوطن من خلال مجموعة من الحقوق والواجبات، أما الولاء فهو العلاقة الأكثر عمقا، ويظهر قدر التفانى والتضحية من أجل الوطن مع الالتزام بقوانين الدولة وقيم المجتمع.

يُعرف الولاء الوطنى على أنه شعور نفسى واجتماعى وسلوكى يدفع الفرد للقيام بأمر مرتبطة بمصالح الجماعة أو الوطن، وله جانب معرفى يتمثل فى إدراك الفرد كل المفاهيم والقيم التى يستند عليها الشعور بالولاء والرغبة فى خدمة الوطن والإعلاء من شأنه وحماية مقدراته وقيمه سواء الدينية أو الحضارية أو الثقافية، والسعى الدائم للمشاركة الإيجابية فى جميع المجالات السياسية والاجتماعية وغيرها.

عملية الارتقاء بمستوى الولاء الوطنى المصرى تواجه بمجموعة من التحديات فى المجالات المختلفة والتي بدورها تؤثر على تحقيق متطلبات الأمن القومى، وتلك التحديات تختلف باختلاف مجالاتها سواء سياسية أو اقتصادية أو اجتماعية؛ ولذا كان من الضرورى إلقاء الضوء على تلك التحديات والتوصية بمجموعة من المقترحات لمواجهتها.

الكلمات المفتاحية : الولاء، الوطن، الأمن