



The Washington Post: The last, least democratic elections in the history of Jordan ... and the "independent" respond

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On Friday, the Washington Post published a report saying that the 2020 elections that took place a few days ago are the least democratic in Jordan's modern .history

In its report, the newspaper criticized the holding of elections despite the increase in injuries in Jordan due to the Corona pandemic and the failure to give ".Jordanians an opportunity to vote in other ways, either "early voting" or "remote voting

.The report also noted the pre-election boycott campaigns, where "the most frequently used hashtags on social media were" Boycott the elections for your life



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According to the newspaper's report, which described the elections as "the least democratic in Jordan's modern history," evidenced by saying that the decrease in the voting rate to 29% due to endangering people's lives of infection with Corona undermines the integrity of the elections and creates a fertile environment for "corruption and electoral fraud

The newspaper expressed its surprise that Jordan did not postpone the elections, despite the fact that dozens of countries postponed their elections for fear of the spread of the Corona epidemic

The newspaper's report did not stop there, but rather described the electoral system based on the open proportional list as "ambiguous," and ultimately leads to a parliament removed from "political blocs", in addition to being reinforcing divisions

The newspaper pointed to government interventions that led to the deliberate weakening of the electoral lists, as well as depriving hundreds of international observers from attending and observing the elections due to the Corona pandemic

The newspaper noted the interference in the lists and the pressure on the candidates, especially those affiliated with the lists of the Reform Alliance led by the Islamic Action Front, which led to the withdrawal of a number of them representing minorities, including Christians and Circassians

The newspaper emphasized that the comprehensive ban imposed by the government after the elections made vote-buying markets popular in light of millions of workers losing their wages, which made black money spread significantly

The report pointed out that the election law, which reinforces and perpetuates division, and gives some candidates the ability to succeed by obtaining 2000 votes made vote-buying very effective in these elections



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For his part, the spokesperson for the Independent Election Commission, Jihad al-Momani, commented on the report on his personal Facebook page: “The interest of some intellectuals in the Washington Post report on the recent elections is indeed reprehensible. There is nothing in the report more than what was published on Facebook and it was said about the Jordanian Sunnis except that the Washington Post report Fatni divides the Jordanians

It can be seen that the newspaper relied on the testimonies of people who either boycotted the elections or others lost them, without any indication that the" .elections were monitored by international and local bodies," Momani added

Al-Momani continued: “There is an implicit accusation that the elections are the reason for the high numbers of Coronavirus infections, and this is not true, ”.as the numbers increased at least two months before the elections

Al-Momani continued: “There is an explicit accusation for the next council that it will be weak despite the fact that 98 of its members are newly elected, and
”.the newspaper has no information about them except for the opinions it obtained from the opinions published on Facebook



:Brief link to the article

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