

## Anarchy in Egypt: Dutch reporter is 'raped in Tahrir Square' as MILLIONS take to the streets demanding president's resignation

- The demonstrations were largest since the 2011 Arab Spring uprising
- Chanted: 'The people demand the fall of the regime'
- At least 43 women, including foreign journalist, suffered sexual assaults
- U.S. and UK have urged citizens to cancel travel plans to or within Egypt
- Egyptian media: Woman was raped five days ago and is now recovering

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A Dutch journalist has been raped by several men in Cairo's Tahrir Square as millions of protestors took to the streets to demand President Mohammed Morsi to step down.

The news of the attack came as the Egyptian army issued a 48-hour deadline for the deadly clashes to be resolved - so far eight people have been killed and hundreds injured.

The woman was allegedly raped 'by men who dub themselves revolutionists,' according to Egypt 25's reporter Dina Zakaria.

The horrifying rape is reminiscent of the violence at Tahrir Square in 2011 when CBS foreign correspondent Lara Logan was beaten and sexually assaulted by a 200-strong mob.

According to [Ynetnews](#), the state hospital issued a statement saying the women was admitted after being raped by five men several days ago.

**Scroll down for video**





**Colourful:** A general view shows fireworks above Tahrir Square as Egyptians celebrate the Egyptian military reaction to the protests against President Morsi in Cairo



**Fireworks:** The army gave Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi and the opposition a 48-hour ultimatum to reach consensus and meet the people's demands or it would announce measures to end the stalemate





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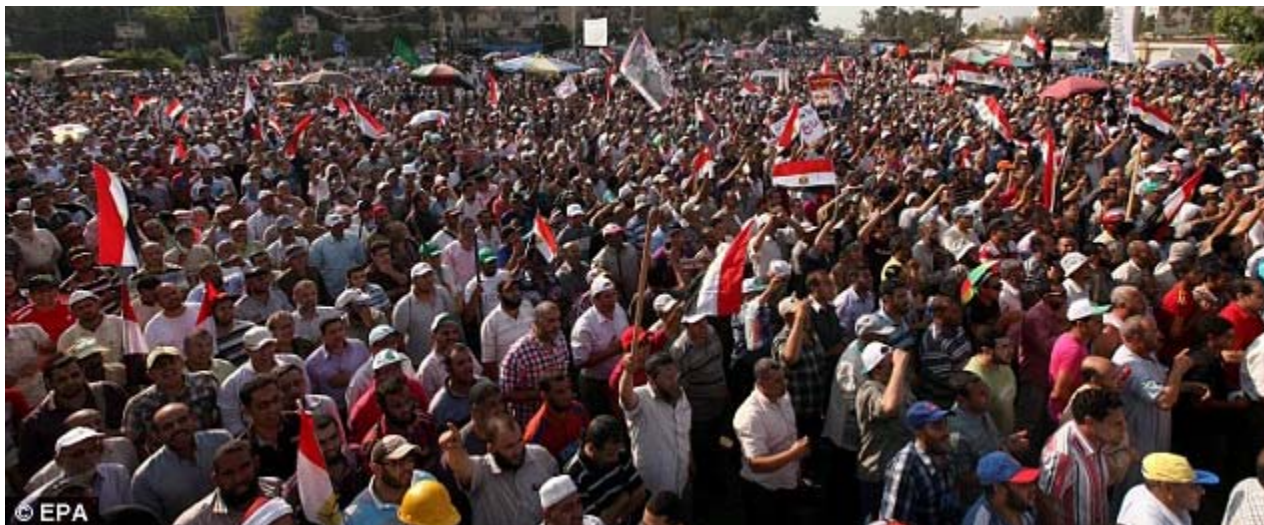
**From above: Protesters take part in a protest demanding that Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi resign at Tahrir Square in Cairo**



© Reuters

**Huge numbers: Egypt's powerful armed forces gave Islamist President Mohamed Mursi a virtual ultimatum to share power, urging the nation's feuding politicians to agree on an inclusive roadmap for the country's future within 48 hours**





**Making a point: Egyptians supporting President Morsi wave their national flag and shout slogans during a protest in Cairo**

The website reported the journalist underwent surgery and has been released.

This morning women's activists said at least 43 females, including a foreign journalist, suffered organised sexual assaults by gangs of men in recent days.

Egypt's military has given its president and his opponents a 48 hour 'last chance' to reach an agreement to 'meet the people's demands' before it intervenes in the dispute.

Hundreds of thousands of protesters massed for a second day today calling on President Mohammed Morsi to step down.

Egypt's military described the mass protests yesterday that brought out millions demanding Morsi's removal as 'glorious', and said protesters expressed their opinion 'in peaceful and civilized manner,' and that 'it is necessary that the people get a reply ... to their calls.'



**Revolt: Protesters have stormed the headquarters of President Mohammed Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt**

© AFP/Getty Images

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© AFP/Getty Images

**Opportunists: Egyptian men loot the burnt headquarters after it was set ablaze by opposition demonstrators overnight**



© AFP/Getty Images

**Ultimatum: Egypt's opposition gave Islamist Mohamed Morsi a day to quit or face civil disobedience after deadly protests demanded the country's first democratically elected president step down after just a year in office**

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The military underlined it will 'not be a party in politics or rule.' But it said it has a responsibility to act because Egypt's national security is facing a 'grave danger,' according to a statement read out on state television.

'The Armed Forces repeat its call for the people's demands to be met and give everyone 48 hours as a last chance to shoulder the burden of a historic moment for a nation that will not forgive or tolerate any party that is lax in shouldering its responsibility,' it said.

It did not directly define 'the people's demands,' but said if they are not realized, the military is obliged to 'announce a road-map for the future and the steps for overseeing its implementation, with participation of all patriotic and sincere parties and movements'

It is the second ultimatum to be given to Mr Morsi and the opposition to reach an agreement. Last Sunday, defence minister Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi gave the two sides a week to reach an agreement.

The organizers of yesterday's protests also gave Mr Morsi a Tuesday 5pm deadline to step down or face an escalation of the campaign to force him out, including civil disobedience.

Hours earlier protesters stormed the headquarters of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt.

[Obama: Stop Egypt sex assaults](#)



[Gunfire at Muslim Brotherhood HQ in Egypt set ablaze in...](#)





**Past: The horrifying rape is reminiscent of the violence at Tahrir Square in 2011 when CBS foreign correspondent Lara Logan was beaten and sexually assaulted by a 200-strong mob**

The six-storey Cairo building was set alight overnight, and this morning looters ransacked its contents and removed the Brotherhood's sign - it is thought eight people have been killed outside in the last 24 hours.

Egyptian security forces arrested 15 armed bodyguards of the number two in the ruling Muslim Brotherhood, Khairat El-Shater, on Monday after an exchange of fire, security sources said.

And the headquarters of the moderate Egyptian Islamist party Wasat was set on fire today, in an expansion of attacks on Islamist organisations across the country. Unidentified assailants threw petrol bombs at the building.

It followed overnight clashes between armed Morsi supporters barricaded inside the building and young protesters pelting it with firebombs and rocks.

The unrest has led the U.S. State Department and UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office have urged citizens to cancel travel plans to or within Egypt.



**Volatile: More than 600 people have been wounded after millions of protesters swarmed into the streets to demand the resignation of Islamist President Mohamed Morsi**





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Advice: The unrest has led the U.S. State Department and UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office have urged citizens to cancel travel plans to or within Egypt



© AP

Protests: Opponents of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi wave national flags and light fireworks during a protest outside the presidential palace, in Cairo







**Determined: Egyptians flooded the streets determined to oust Islamist President Mohamed Morsi on the anniversary of his turbulent first year in power**

An Egyptian opposition movement that has led nationwide protests against President Morsi has given him until tomorrow to resign.

Young revolutionaries united with liberal and leftist opposition parties in a massive show of defiance on the first anniversary of Morsi's inauguration yesterday, chanting 'the people demand the fall of the regime'.

The demonstrations, which brought half a million people to Cairo's central Tahrir Square and a similar crowd in the second city, Alexandria, were easily the largest since the Arab Spring uprising that ousted Hosni Mubarak in 2011.

After dawn today, young men were still preventing traffic entering Tahrir Square but only hundreds of people remained, some resting under makeshift awnings.

Morsi, the most populous Arab state's first freely elected leader, stayed out of sight throughout the protests but acknowledged through a spokesman that he had made mistakes while adding that he was working to fix them and was open to dialogue.

He showed no sign of quitting.





**Anger: Protesters opposing Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi wave Egyptian flag and shout slogans against him and members of the Muslim Brotherhood after attacking the national headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood**



**Fire attack: A protester throws Molotov cocktails at the national headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood**





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Fireworks explode over Tahrir Square as the sun sets during protests this evening



© AP

As nightfall came to Cairo, opponents of Egypt's President Mohammed Morsi protest were still gathered in their thousands outside the presidential palace





**Demonstrations: Opponents of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi chant slogans**



**Demands: Egyptians poured onto the streets on Sunday, swelling crowds that opposition leaders hope will number into the millions by evening and persuade Islamist President Mohamed Morsi to resign**

## **TENSION RISING: TRAVEL ADVICE**

The U.S. State Department and UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office have urged citizens to cancel travel plans to or within Egypt.

The FCO advise against all travel to parts of the country - around one million British nationals visit Egypt every year.

The demonstrations are 'likely to continue in the near future,' the U.S. travel warning said.

The U.S has also evacuated various 'non-emergency employees and family members' from the country.

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Since February the Netherlands has been advising its citizens to 'consider taking the initiative to leave the country.'

France, Germany and New Zealand continue to urge travelers to Egypt to avoid large crowds and be on alert.

An aide to Morsi said he was 'encouraged' that events had unfolded mostly peacefully: 'This is another day of democratic practice that we all cherish,' he said in a statement.

He accused the opposition of being vague in its demands and outlined three ways forward: first, parliamentary elections, which he called 'the most obvious'; second, national dialogue, which he said opponents had repeatedly rejected; and third, early presidential elections, as demanded by protesters.

But that, he said, 'simply destroys our democracy'.

The massive protests showed that the ruling Muslim Brotherhood has not only alienated liberals and secularists by seeking to entrench Islamic rule but has also angered millions of ordinary Egyptians with economic mismanagement.

Tourism and investment have dried up, inflation is rampant and fuel supplies are running short, with power cuts lengthening in the summer heat.

Dozens of militants attacked the Brotherhood's national headquarters in Cairo with shotguns, petrol bombs and rocks, setting it on fire, and targeted offices of its political party across the country.

## **VIDEO: Muslim Brotherhood HQ is overrun and ransacked**

Muslim Brotherhood HQ is overrun and ransacked





**Mass crowd: Protesters opposing Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi gather during a demonstration at Tahrir Square in Cairo**



**Nickname: An Egyptian protester holds a tire framing a poster of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi, a reference to his nickname by protesters as a 'spare tire' because he was the spare presidential candidate for Muslim brotherhood**





**Bitter: Anti-Morsi protesters chant slogans on a pedestrian bridge with a banner that reads "Get Out", during a massive protest in Alexandria**

There was no sign of police or fire service protection for the Brotherhood's head office, where witnesses said guards inside the building fired on the attackers. Two people died and 11 were injured in that clash, hospital sources said.

Protest organisers called on Egyptians to keep occupying central squares across the country in a campaign of peaceful civil disobedience until Mursi quits.

Tens of thousands of demonstrators stayed in Tahrir Square long after midnight, appearing to heed the call for a sit-in. But as the working day began, only hundreds remained.

## VIDEO: Thousands fill Tahrir Square in Egypt to protest against Morsi

[Thousands fill Tahrir Square in Egypt to protest against Mursi](#)



If protesters maintain their camps, however, and return in the evenings, the spotlight will be on the army. It displayed its neutrality on Sunday, making goodwill gestures to the protesters after urging feuding politicians last week to cooperate to solve the nation's problems.

Some uniformed policemen marched among protesters in Cairo and Alexandria, chanting 'the police and the people are one', and several senior officers addressed the Tahrir Square crowd.

That cast doubt on whether Morsi could rely on the security forces to clear the streets if he gave the order.

Diplomats said the army, which ruled uneasily during the transition from Mubarak's fall to Morsi's election, had signalled it was deeply reluctant to step in again, unless violence got out of hand and national security was at stake.

While the main demonstrations were peaceful and festive in atmosphere, seven people were shot dead in clashes in the central cities of Assiut, Beni Suef and Fayoum and outside the Brotherhood's Cairo headquarters.





One protestor holds a toy sheep as a sign. Now mass demonstrations across Egypt could determine its future



Egyptians opposing President Morsi shout as they take part in a protest demanding him to leave office, in front of the presidential palace in in Cairo







© Ahmed Asad/APA Images/ZUMAPRESS.com/Alamy Live News

One woman has painted a flag on her cheek and shouts during the historical protest in Cairo



© Alamy Live News

Protesters opposing Mohamed Morsi carry a huge flag as they march to Tahrir square from Mustafa Mahmoud mosque





Tensions between Morsi's supporters and his opponents have risen in the lead-up to the anniversary, with at least seven killed in clashes last week

The Health Ministry said 613 people were wounded in street fighting around the country.

The opposition National Salvation Front coalition of liberal, secular and left-wing parties declared victory, saying the masses had 'confirmed the downfall of the regime of Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood'.

Opposition leaders, who have seen previous protest waves fizzle after a few days in December and January, were to meet on Monday afternoon to plot their next move.

Influential Qatar-based Muslim cleric Sheikh Youssef Qaradawi, visiting Cairo, appealed to fellow Egyptians to show more patience with Morsi, while saying the president had made errors.

'How long has Mohamed Morsi ruled? One year,' Qaradawi said in a television address. 'Is one year enough to solve the problems of 60 years? That's impossible ... We must give the man a chance and help him. Everyone must cooperate.'

The United States and the European Union have urged Morsi to share power with the opposition, saying only a national consensus can help Egypt overcome a severe economic crisis and build democratic institutions.

Morsi and his Brotherhood supporters have so far rebuffed such pressure, arguing that he has democratic legitimacy and the opposition is merely seeking to achieve on the streets what it failed to secure at the ballot box.

## TWO YEARS OF TURMOIL AND TRANSITION: TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Key events from when the Arab Spring began to the current protests:

**Jan. 25-Feb. 11, 2011** - Egyptians stage nationwide demonstrations against the rule of autocrat Hosni Mubarak, who led the country for nearly three decades.

The 18-day 'revolution,' launched by secular and leftist youth, draws in a wide spectrum, including the Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamists. Hundreds of protesters are killed as Mubarak and his allies try to crush the uprising.

**Feb. 11** - Mubarak steps down and turns power over to the military. Two days later, the body of top generals, the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, dissolves parliament and suspends the constitution, meeting two key demands of protesters.

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**June 16-17** - Egyptians vote in the presidential runoff between Morsi and Shafiq. The generals issue a 'constitutional declaration' giving themselves sweeping authorities and limiting the powers of the next president. Morsi emerges as the victor, with 51.7 percent of the vote.

**June 30** - Morsi takes his formal oath of office before the Supreme Constitutional Court, a day after reading a symbolic oath in Cairo's Tahrir Square, birthplace of the revolution.

**Aug. 12** - In a bold move, Morsi orders the retirement of the top Mubarak-era leadership of the military and cancels the military's last constitutional decree, taking back the powers that the generals gave themselves. The move was seen as way to curb the military's role in political affairs but it also gave Morsi the power to legislate in the absence of parliament.

**Nov. 22** - Morsi unilaterally decrees greater authorities for himself, giving his decisions immunity from judicial review and barring the courts from dissolving the constituent assembly and the upper house of parliament. The move came just ahead of court decisions that could have dissolved the bodies. The move sparks days of protests, with clashes between Morsi's supporters and opponents. At one point, some 200,000 people rally in Tahrir Square, with some of the first chants for Morsi to 'leave.'

**Dec. 4** - More than 100,000 protesters march on the presidential palace, demanding the cancellation of the referendum and the writing of a new constitution. The next day, Islamists attack a peaceful anti-Morsi sit-in outside the palace, sparking all-out street battles that leave at least 10 dead. Days later, Morsi rescinds his initial decrees, but maintains the date of the referendum.

**Jan. 25, 2013** - Hundreds of thousands hold protests in Tahrir Square and nationwide against Morsi on the 2-year anniversary of the start of the revolt against Mubarak, and clashes erupt in many places.

**Jan. 26** - Residents of the city of Port Said stage protests, angered by a court ruling convicting and sentencing to death a group of local soccer fans for a 2012 stadium riot. Police crack down hard in Port Said, killing more than 40 protesters, and in outrage the city and others nearby go into near revolt. Much of the anger is focused at Morsi, who praised the police for their crackdown.

**Feb.-March** - Protests continue in Port Said and other cities for weeks, with dozens more dying in clashes, and some police units around the country go on strike. Brotherhood youth and their opponents fight in the streets outside the group's main Cairo headquarters.

**June 23** - A mob beats to death four Egyptian Shiites in their home in a village on the edge of Cairo. Morsi condemns the attack, but critics blame virulent anti-Shiite rhetoric by his hard-line Islamist allies, fueled by Syria's civil war. A week earlier, Morsi shared a stage with hard-line clerics at a rally, sitting silently as they denounced Shiites as 'filthy.'

**June 30** -- Millions of Egyptians take to the streets in Cairo and other cities calling for Morsi to step down in a massive display of anger and frustration with the Islamist leader. The demonstrations are largely peaceful, although 16 people, half of them in clashes outside the Muslim Brotherhood's Cairo headquarters, are killed in protest-related violence nationwide. Organisers vow to keep up the protests until Morsi resigns.