

## Consuming Revolution: Ethics, Art and Ambivalence in the Arab Spring

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### Abstract

The scenes from the momentous spring of 2011 are all too familiar to us now: masses of people crowding the streets of downtown metropolises, holding up signs, waving their flags, proudly marking what is theirs—their nation—and what deserves to be theirs—a civil democracy. These reclamations have been appropriately dubbed by many in the Arabic press as “dignity revolutions.”

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The Arab Spring of 2011 marked an important phase in social struggle over gender equality, against stereotyped internationally and locally produced images and roles, and over women equal rights to freedom of expression, mobility, and their bodies. Middle Eastern women face multilayered, multifaceted dominations and manipulations within their own societies and beyond many of which have been internalized by

women for decades. The spark that ignited these revolutions in the offline world was ignited by the Arab cyberactivists' well-coordinated campaigns, calling for the toppling of corrupt regimes in their home countries. Arab Spring, wave of pro-democracy protests and uprisings that took place in the Middle East and North Africa beginning in 2010, challenging some of the region's entrenched authoritarian regimes. Demonstrators expressing political and economic grievances faced violent crackdowns by their countries' security forces. Encyclopaedia Britannica's editors oversee subject areas in which they have extensive knowledge, whether from years of experience gained by working on that content or via study for an advanced degree. See Article History. Arab Spring, wave of pro-democracy protests and uprisings that took place in the Middle East and North Africa beginning in 2010 and 2011, challenging some of the region's entrenched authoritarian regimes. The fat in a

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