The Arab Spring: An Antithesis for Colonial Demarcation about the Middle East

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Capitalist border thinking has always tried to have an artificial demarcation regarding Middle Eastern countries by referring to a well-known taxonomy of “us” against “them” that is closely analyzed in Edward Said’s Orientalism, in-and-out grouping and the self categorization theory. Based on this narrative, the western countries have always accentuated that Middle Eastern countries can not embrace democratic principles completely and their immaturity for having civil society is an intrinsic feature of them. However, the recent Arab Spring has proved that such a colonial Eurocentric view about the Middle East is far from reality since Arab revolutionaries and especially the youth have proved that they can apply the same western tools to achieve the civil society foundations. This paper intends to shed some lights on the western misperception of the Middle Eastern countries’ potentiality in following the path of democracy by focusing specifically on the demographic factors of the youth in these societies that have broken the borer thinking of the west to some extent and have depicted that such a view about Middle East is unrealistic. To conduct this study, the researcher has used various demographic, social, and cultural indexes as well as the pseudo-civil society mechanisms that are present in the Middle East and reject the colonial Eurocentric interpretation of the make-up the Middle Eastern countries from intellectual and cultural perspectives by applying existing theoretical frameworks. This paper asserts that the sole western epistemic tradition from which to achieve universality as it is emphasized by the west is not true and Middle East has its own particularities that does necessarily go in line with the western demarcations. Coloniality of classification concerning people of this part of the world has been challenged by recent uprisings in the Middle East.