

In the name of God, the most Gracious, the most Merciful
14/5/2012
First draft of the constitution's preamble
(Clauses that were agreed upon in principle after discussion and examination)

We, the representatives of the Tunisian people, members of the Constituent Assembly, elected based on the realization of the revolution for dignity, freedom and justice;

Taking pride in our people's struggle, and in response to the objectives of the revolution that crowned the epic of struggle for liberation from colonialism and tyranny until the victory of its free will; and in loyalty to the martyrs and to the sacrifice of consecutive generations; and for the purpose of definitively breaking away from oppression, corruption and injustice;

Building on the [constant principles] of Islam and on Islam's purpose which is based on moderation and openness, and on fundamental humanitarian principles; and inspired by our people's civilization over the ages, and its reform movements which are based on its Arab and Islamic identity and on its civilizational and human accomplishments; and committed to its national accomplishments;

For the purpose of establishing a republican system in which the [civic] state where the people are the source of all authority; in which organisational freedom, administrative neutrality, free elections leading to a peaceful transfer of power are the basis of political competition; and in which government is based on [participative] democracy, human rights, the separation of powers, the rule of law, justice and equality in the enjoyment of rights and in the satisfaction of obligations on the part of individuals, groups and actors;

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Based on our faith in the human being in his absolute humanity as a dignified being; and strengthening our cultural and civilizational belonging to the Arab and Islamic nation based on national unity that is grounded in [social responsibility], brotherhood and social solidarity, in the direction of striving for a Maghreb union, which is a step towards Arab unity; and in support to the oppressed everywhere, and to the rights of peoples to determine their own destiny, and to the just liberation movements, in particular the Palestinian liberation movement, and in conformity with international agreements and conventions in so far as they conform with the Tunisian people's religious and cultural values (or in so far as they conform with the constitution);

In response to the ambitions of the Tunisian people to be the homeland's history maker, the Tunisian people being the carrier of the banner of the pioneering spirit and initiative of enlightened action as it was throughout history; in support of its ambition to contribute to civilization; in the context of cooperation with the people of the world based on the principles of peace, mutual respect, joint interests and human solidarity; and dealing with nature with the care that guarantees life's sustainability to future generations in a sound environment that allows to make a better future for humanity;

We therefore, in the name of the people, relying on God's blessing, establish this Constitution.