

ملخص توثيقي للمادة الصحفية

- المصدر: جريدة ذا ناشيونال - (The National) دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة.
- التاريخ: الثلاثاء، 12 يوليو 2011.
- عنوان التقرير: "شرف ومسؤولية كبيرة" (An honour and great responsibility)
- الموضوع الرئيسي: انتخابات المجلس الوطني الاتحادي (FNC) لعام 2011 في دولة الإمارات.

المحتوى التفصيلي:

1. السياق التاريخي: يشير التقرير إلى توسع الهيئة الانتخابية في عام 2011 لتصل إلى 129,274 ناخباً إماراتياً، وهو ما يعادل 20 ضعف عدد الناخبين في أول انتخابات جرت عام 2006 (والذي كان أقل من 7,000 ناخب).
2. استطلاع آراء الشباب والمواطنين: يتضمن التقرير مقابلات قصيرة مع مجموعة من المواطنين والمواطنات الشباب من مختلف إمارات الدولة (دبي، أبوظبي، رأس الخيمة، والشارقة).
3. بيانات المقابلات: تستعرض المادة أسماء المشاركين، أعمارهم، مهنتهم، ومستواهم التعليمي، وتتمحور إجاباتهم حول:
 - نية التصويت أو الترشح للانتخابات.
 - المعايير التي يبحثون عنها في المرشح المثالي.
 - أبرز القضايا التي تهم إماراتهم (مثل: التوطين، التعليم، الرعاية الصحية، غلاء المعيشة، وتطوير الخدمات).
4. أبرز الشخصيات المذكورة: غيث مطر سلطان عوض الصيري، مريم مبارك السركال، عبد الله علي سعيد بن غليظة، طارق حمد عبد الله أحمد سالم فارس، أميرة عبد الله علي النجار، وآخرون.
5. الصور: تنصدر التقرير صورة جماعية لعدد من المواطنين الإماراتيين الشباب (آمنة الحداد، علا سالم، وبنا قباني)، وصورة فردية لـ "غيث مطر الصيري" الذي أعرب عن فخره لكونه ضمن الهيئة الانتخابية ونية ترشحه.

the emirates



Fewer than 7,000 people were eligible to participate in the inaugural FNC election in 2006, but this year, nearly 130,000 Emiratis will have the chance to make their voice heard. Lee Hoagland / The National

An honour and great responsibility

A pool of 129,274 Emiratis was announced this week as voters for the Federal National Council elections that take place on September 24. The size of the electoral college is 20 times greater than that of the inaugural election in 2006 when fewer than 7,000 people could participate. Below, Amna Al Haddad, Ola Salem and Bana Qabbani speak to a cross-section of those eligible to vote – and potentially stand for election – and ask what outcome they are hoping for in the forthcoming ballot.

Abdullah Ali Saoud Al Jini
Qualita

Age 23
Sex Male
Home emirate Dubai

Profession Tourist guide
Education High school graduate

– Al Sharaf Secondary School for Boys

Are you going to vote? "I have yet to decide."

Will you run as a candidate? "No, I will not."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "I will look for the goals they will present in the elections. I don't think the goals in the campaign will be implemented in the future."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "One of the major issues that faces Dubai is the population, and it needs a solution."

Was your name in the electoral college in 2006? "No, it was not."

Terraq Hamad Abdulla
Ahmed Salem Faras

Age 38
Sex Male
Home emirate Ras Al Khaimah

Profession Director
Education Majored in e-marketing and internet marketing and programming in the US.

Are you going to vote? "Yes, [but] that depends on the quality of the candidates. I will study them and then decide if I want to vote. I will vote for who deserves it."

Will you run as a candidate? "No, it's not for me."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "A person would be eligible if he really cares and understands what the council is and what it does. Last time, in 2006, when we sought some of them, they did not know what they would be doing there. The person should be a responsible person who will use his privileges to represent RAK people and what he will do for his country."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "Health and education are two important areas that need a change, but the major issue that faces the UAE is the imbalance of the population and it should be taken seriously. Other emirates take a more important stand in education and health care compared to others, such as in Abu Dhabi and Dubai. We cannot divide health care and education, as this is an area that matters to the whole country. It should have been the same from the beginning, and not divided to certain areas only."

Was your name in the electoral college in 2006? "No."

Khaifia Salem Al Badawadi

Age 24
Sex Male
Home emirate Dubai

Profession Bailiff, Dubai Courts
Education Studied law at Sharjah University and Al Jazeera University.

Are you going to vote? "Yes."

Will you run as a candidate? "I am considering announcing myself."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "We have to save our nation, and our regime has opened for UAE nationals to participate. We live in a democratic environment and this is a way to encourage

Are you going to vote? "Yes, I will focus on Emiratization as I know many high school graduates who aren't finding jobs."

Will you run as a candidate? "I am thinking about it."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "I will look for candidates to keep their word and not just talk without action. It's something you can tell if you see the person and it's not a matter of their social status, education, background or job title. There are some people who have no education but are leaders in life and lead others."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "The country facilitates a lot of procedures for foreigners and gives them a lot of promotions. You have a local and you have a foreigner, but ultimately [the local] will be working to benefit his country and give back."

Was your name in the electoral college in 2006? "No."

Amira Abdulaziz Ali Al Najjar

Age 27
Sex Female
Home emirate Sharjah

Profession Marketing
Education Mass communication at Zayed University.

Are you going to vote? "Yes."

Will you run as a candidate? "No."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "I will look for someone who will listen to the people and knows what are the issues in the Government and country, someone who has a background on how to solve these issues as well, and not someone like me who is a marketer. I will vote for someone who is qualified and understands government rules and regulations, and knows how to make things work."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "Salary and 12-month [job] rotation. The issue is that everyone in Dubai is looking for a job in Abu Dhabi. Sharjah people in Dubai and people in RAK and Ajman in Qawain want to work in Sharjah. People from Sharjah should be able to find opportunities in their own emirate and salaries on par with Abu Dhabi. Why do they have to go to another emirate to find a job?"

Was your name in the electoral college in 2006? "No."

Muhammad Humaid Al Zaidi

Age 45
Sex Male
Home emirate Abu Dhabi

Profession Businessman
Education MBA from Zayed University.

Are you going to vote? "Yes."

Will you run as a candidate? "I am considering announcing myself."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "We have to save our nation, and our regime has opened for UAE nationals to participate. We live in a democratic environment and this is a way to encourage

UAE nationals to take part in the FNC where they can give ideas and directions, and I want to serve my nation. Anyone can be proud of his nation and trying to present his part in the elections and transmit their message to the FNC and make recommendations for the government."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "The emirate is very powerful. The AD government is serving its nationals well, but they should also hear from citizens about what they think of the services in Abu Dhabi. A few things need to be discussed, and improve its services for UAE nationals in Abu Dhabi."

Was your name in the electoral college in 2006? "No."

Maryam Mubarak Al Borkal

Age 35
Sex Female
Home emirate Dubai

Profession Senior manager in the public sector
Education PhD

Are you going to vote? "Yes, I am pleased my name is on the list, but this is a big responsibility that requires dedication and commitment."

Will you run as a candidate? "Maybe."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "His interests mostly should be serving social topics such as youth, women and child issues."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "Economic growth of Dubai."

Was your name in the electoral college in 2006? "No."

Rashid Abdulaziz Al Najari

Age 27
Sex Female
Home emirate Dubai

Profession Assistant project manager in semi-government company
Education Degrees in business science from Zayed University

Are you going to vote? "Yes."

Will you run as a candidate? "No."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "I will look for someone who will listen to the people and knows what are the issues in the Government and country, someone who has a background on how to solve these issues as well, and not someone like me who is a marketer. I will vote for someone who is qualified and understands government rules and regulations, and knows how to make things work."

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What are you looking for in a candidate? "His interests mostly should be serving social topics such as youth, women and child issues."

Are you going to vote? "Yes."

Will you run as a candidate? "Of course. Although I didn't want to at the beginning, I was only planning to vote, but actually I have a message and I have to send it through the FNC. Right now I am so excited, really proud to be chosen as one of the almost 130,000. This is a responsibility to be taken seriously. I am glad to be one of those people."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "I think it is not the right time to mention anything. I am just proud to be one of the members, of course there will be a message behind choosing me."

Was your name in the electoral college in 2006? "No."

Abdullah Ahmed Hassan Ali

Age 35
Sex Male
Home emirate Dubai

Profession Passport controller at Dubai International Airport
Education A degree from Higher Colleges of Technology in Dubai

Are you going to vote? "Yes."

Will you run as a candidate? "No."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "Whoever wants the best for the country. Someone also acceptable and someone we can reach and tell them what we want."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "Unemployment, low salaries, no job promotions. Salaries are not enough for the high price of living."

Was your name in the electoral college in 2006? "No."

Munir Al Khalid Al Muraqi

Age 20
Sex Male
Home emirate Ras Al Khaimah

Profession Official at the Ministry of Interior by day and TV presenter by night for Dubai Sports channel.

Are you going to vote? "Yes."

Will you run as a candidate? "A lot of people are encouraging me to be a candidate, I am thinking of it seriously."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "Improving the quality of life and helping people find employment. Improving the quality of life is the main request of locals."

Was your name in the electoral college in 2006? "No."

Maryam Hamad Ahmad Bin Fahad

Age 30
Sex Female
Home emirate Dubai

Profession Executive director of Dubai Press Club
Education Degree in film and moving image technology from Leeds University in the UK

Are you going to vote? "Yes."

Will you run as a candidate? "I still have to think about it."

What are you looking for in a candidate? "The most important thing is for the candidate to project the needs of the community. It is not just about the presence of a candidate within the Federal National Council, it has to be an individual who has a strong ability to bring forth issues, as well as new ideas."

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "I always look at the positive side and not the negative side. We are very advanced in the social life, the young generation and young leadership."

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What are you looking for in a candidate? "I will vote for the candidate who really deserves it. I do not have a preference for female or male, just whoever deserves the seat."

Are you going to vote? "Yes."

Will you run as a candidate? "Yes, I plan to run as a candidate because I want to serve my country. This is an opportunity and we are still young, to why not?"

What are the most important issues in your emirate? "Not really any issue, we just need more Emiratization in some places."

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