

Helmut Kohl ...Elections and Self-Reconsideration

The Germans almost unanimously acknowledge that Helmut Kohl, who continued in office as German Chancellor for 16 years or four terms in office, was the best person who assumed this position. In his era, the country witnessed several positive leaps in different economic, social and political aspects. Kohl was the architect of the German unity.

He also succeeded with wisdom to crystallize the so-called reconciliation policy with the east and west and in officially liberating Germany from the occupation of four armies that separated Berlin from the western part of Germany.

It was required to obtain a license from West Germany to travel to western Berlin whether by a car or plane.

After the pullout of the occupation armies, Germany became a united country with full sovereignty and became eligible to access to the United Nations, thus turning over the leaf of the World War II with its pains and negative aspects that have affected the mind and soul of every German for 50 years.

It was Kohl also who prepared the infrastructure of the European unity in terms of standardization of financial, monetary and legislative systems of labor, tax and parliamentary laws as well as standard specifications of goods.

The European unity was the fruit of much of his great effort. However, when this great man failed to win a fifth term in office, he was asked, "Why have you lost elections?" He bowed his head and answered, "I have been preoccupied with my success in work and my national and regional victories. I have not paid

enough attention to communication with the masses, considering my achievements sufficient to win elections without the need to exert further efforts to communicate with the masses.”

In fact, Helmut Kohl mentioned a truth that may not be conceived by some of us: the long successive terms in office should not divert any official, no matter how successful he may be, from developing a plan of action to every term in office fitting each phase.

Such plans should also be associated with budgets that turn them from being theoretical to practical. He should take into account that this is an announcement from the presidential candidate of his plans in the form of public announced pledges to those who voted for and against him alike.

In light of this view, any president can announce his record of achievements before the end of his term in office so that his possibility of success can be evident and indisputable.

In Egypt, the presidential race, for which ten candidates ran, was unprecedented democratic elections where every party was keen to observe the rules applied in the free world so that the experiment can be an applicable example in third world countries.

The most astonishing aspect in the current Egyptian election experiment is that it observes what Kohl has said in a self-accountability moment, even though we know that we have never had a connection with the former German Chancellor with regard to his election view.

It was really impressing that the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) presidential candidate, President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, announced ambitious, applicable and integrated plans, representing his partisan program

with which he ran for the presidency race against the other nine candidates. Some candidates were not familiar with what the President has announced.

An Upper Egyptian candidate appeared in a television program to comment on the NDP program only one hour of announcing it in al-Azhar Park; he described it as a game, wondering: why has not the President implemented his program and ambitions during his previous terms in office?

Like many others, this candidate proved that he did not differentiate much between a program of action and pledges for a coming term in office and achievements in the form of a statement of account of a previous term.

This is similar to someone wondering why Mercedes did not produce its marvelous 2005 make in the 1940s. He does not know that the marvelous 2005 make is the developed outcome of the previous year make, 2004.

In fact, it is the ability to make success and its consequent need to develop it for further success. This emphasizes that every phase of national action has its own aspects, plans of constant development, challenges, developments and ability to properly measure achievements.