Country: Libya

Years: 1951-1968

Leader: Idris I

Ideology: Rightist

Description: Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as rightist. CHISOLS identifies leader as none. Perspective monde does not identify leader’s party. The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica (2020) write, “[Idris’] main support came from conservative tribesmen.” Vandewalle (2012:4) writes, "The discovery of oil in 1959 further and forever changed the country’s fortunes, but in highly unexpected and unforeseen ways. It provided Idris al-Sanusi with an even greater and inordinate power to shape the country’s political and economic life—or, as it happened, to avoid doing so.”

Years: 1969-2010

Leader: Muammar al-Qaddafi

Ideology: Leftist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. Perspective monde identifies leader’s party as Arabic Socialist Union until 1979. CHISOLS identifies party as none. *Political Handbook of the World* identifies Qaddafi’s party as Revolutionary Command Counil (RCC): “The following September, while the king was in Turkey for medical treatment, a group of military officers led by Col. Muammar al-Qadhafi seized control of the government and established a revolutionary regime under a military-controlled Revolutionary Command Council (RCC).” *Oriente Moderno* identifies RCC as left: “In fact, the socialism called upon by the RCC was an Islamic socialism as al-Qaddafi clarified later.” Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Rulers notes that “in 1973 he [al-Qaddafi] nationalized all foreign-owned petroleum assets… [and] he espoused a form of Islamic socialism.” Rulers adds that “He [al-Qaddadfi] resigned his position as head of state in 1979 but nevertheless remained the undisputed leader” of Libya. The Historical Dictionary of Libya notes that “Domestically, Qaddafi trumpeted socialism as the solution to humanity’s economic problems.” Moreover, the Dictionary notes “He was the general secretary of the GPD in 1977-1979, resigning… [but] Retaining his position as de-facto commander in chief of the armed forces, he adopted the title Leader of the Revolution”.” Hahn (1974) writes, “Regardless of the fact that uch credit should properly go to Jalloud and the other pragmatists on the Revolutionary Command Council, the 11-man ruling junta has insisted throughout that it draws its inspiration from [Qaddafi].” .” Smith (1979) writes, “At 37, however, Col. Muammar Qaddafi has consolidated control of his revolution, tightening the reins on the oil riches that have plucked this sprawling North African state from historic and geographic obscurity. . . ‘He has done it and gotten away with it, and the reality is it’s still a one-man show,’ says one Western diplomat here. Another observer says, ‘There are no apparent challenges to him; he can do anything he wants.’” Cordell (2020) writes, “The regime, under Qaddafi’s ideological guidance, continued to introduce innovations.” The Editors (2020) describes Qaddafi as “de facto leader of Libya (1969-2011),” and states “On September 1, 1969, Qaddafi seized control of the government in a military coup that deposed King Idris. Qaddafi was named commander in chief of the armed forces and chairman of Libya’s new governing body, the Revolutionary Command Council.”

Year: 2011

Leader: Mustafa Abdul Jalil

Ideology:

Description: CHISOLS identifies leader party as NTC (National Transition Council). Perspective monde does not identify leader’s party. World Statesmen (2020) identifies leader’s affiliation as National Transitional Council/al-Majlis al-Wataniyy al-Intiqaliyy (NTC). Gritten (2011) writes, “According to a leaked US diplomatic cable from January 2010. . . the cable also said Human Rights Watch believed Mr. Abdul Jalil’s drive to change the system was driven more by his conservative point of view rather than a reformist agenda.” Wahid (2011) writes, “In his first speech to the people of Tripoli, Mustafa Abdul Jalil. . . announced his vision for a post-Al Qathafi Libya: “We are seeking to establish a state government by law and welfare—and Shari’ah—Islamic law—should be the main source of law.” . . . Shari’ah literally means ‘the way to a watering place’. It is the body of rules and laws that apply to all areas of life: political, judicial, spiritual, economic. In economic affairs, it means taxing less, not more; and taxing unused wealth rather than income or spending.”

Year: 2012

Leader: Mohammed Magariaf

Ideology: Rightist

Description: CHISOLS identifies leader party as NFP. Perspective monde identifies leader’s party as National Front Party. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identified the average left-right (0-10) score of the National Front Party (NFP) as 8.0, with a left-right (0-10) salience score of 8.5 and a divided-united party (0-10) cohesion score as 9.0. Al Jazeera (2012) writes, “[The National Front] is striving to be a broad political platform, presenting itself as a liberal party, campaigning on issues such as decentralization, human rights, economy, national reconciliation and security.”

Year: 2013

Leader: Nouri Abusahmain

Ideology:

Description: CHISOLS identifies leader party as none. World Statesmen (2020) identifies leader’s party as “Non-party”. Shennib (2013) writes, “[Abusahmain] had the backing of the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood, the Justice and Construction Party.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identified the average left-right (0-10) score of the Justice and Construction Party (JCP) as 4.0, with a left-right (0-10) salience score of 8.5. Eljarh (2013) describes Abusahmain as a “compromise candidate” between the National Forces Alliance and the Islamists. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 5 experts identified the average left-right (0-10) score of the National Forces Alliance (NFA) as 0.0, with a left-right (0-10) salience score of 8.5. Turner (2015: 790) writes, “Although Abusahmain has maintained that he is independent, his success at the poll was widely accredited to the backing that he received from the Justice and Construction Party, the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood.” King (2020: 179) writes, “The NFA was more of a broad centrist coalition . . . NFA leaders stressed that they were nationalists and Muslims while differentiating their party by advancing a practical national economic reform program.”

Years: 2014-2015

Leader: Akila Saleh Issa

Ideology: CHISOLS identifies leader party as none. Perspective monde identifies leader’s party as independent. World Statesmen (2020) identifies leader’s party as none.

Description:

Years: 2016-2020

Leader: Fayez al-Sarraj

Ideology:

Description: CHISOLS identifies leader party as none.

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