

Aswat Masriya (Cairo)

Egypt: Salafis Slam Coptic Concerns On Bearded Policemen

8 July 2012

Islamist) front rejected remarks made by Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim in regards to bearded policemen.

In a statement, Salafis described the remarks as an insult to Sunnah (Islamic practice), accusing them of prompting sectarian tension and degrading bearded policemen.

The interior Minister had approved a court decision to refer all bearded policemen to substitution, while administrative judiciary dismissed the calls made by them against the decision.

Conflicts erupted when some policemen grew their beards defying the discourse of the interior ministry who has not allowed policemen to grow their beards in years. The policemen had argued that no religious or legal barriers prevent them from growing their beards.

The front slammed Ibrahim's justifications for the decision which included Coptic Christians' distrust in bearded policemen when filing complaints against Muslim citizens. "If Copts cannot trust a bearded policeman, how can they trust a bearded president to outline their futures and their children's futures?"

The statement criticized Ibrahim for disregarding the current conditions that brought a majority of Islamists to parliament and a bearded president to office.

Copyright © 2012 Aswat Masriya