
'Arab Spring showed power of unity'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: Al-Sharif, a student activist and writer, was among the thousands who had gathered at Tahrir Square in Egypt's capital Cairo on January 25, 2011 — the beginning of what is now referred to as the Arab Spring. "It was a deeply spiritual experience where one wishes to laugh and cry at the same time," Al-Sharif recounted at IIT Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) on Saturday. "We felt true solidarity with Egyptians from all walks of life and true love with which you can

fight the forces to protect one another," he said. He was delivering a talk on the Arab Spring and its impact on students.

"The proverbial spring lives in peoples' hearts, reminding them of the possibilities of united force, the power of social media, and how collective thinking can shake a government," Al-Sharif said. "Thus, the event did not remain confined to Egypt — it became a global phenomenon." He said that a number of factors led to the uprising that showed those in power what people can achieve.

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