

Mideast unrest could spell end for dynasties

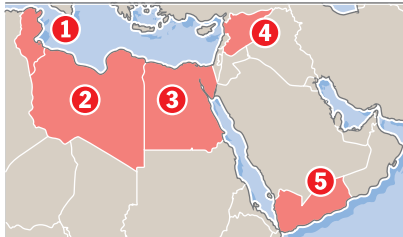
Dynastic succession in the Arab world is coming under pressure as protests sparked by the Tunisian uprising spread through the region



1

TUNISIA: Many politicians suspect ousted President **Zein al-Abidine Ben Ali** intended to put forward his wife **Leila Trabelsi** –

loathed by most Tunisians – as his successor



2

LIBYA: **Muammar Gaddafi** appears to be grooming two sons. **Saif al-Islam**, (left) often tipped as likely heir, but brother **Mutassim** is using

role as national security adviser to raise his profile



3

EGYPT: President **Hosni Mubarak's** believed to want his son **Gamal** – former banker supported by younger elements in ruling National

Democratic party – to succeed him. Protests likely to have derailed plan



4

SYRIA: **Bashar al-Assad**, 45, succeeded father **Hafez al-Assad** as president in 2000 in smooth transition of power – first

example of dynastic succession. Re-elected unopposed in 2007



5

YEMEN: President **Ali Abdullah Saleh**, suspected of grooming his son **Ahmed** – head of elite presidential guard. Tunisia-

inspired protests demand end of Saleh's rule and succession plan