

term is used to refer broadly to the military operation with this name or to denigrate those who support the operation and the LNA.

Definition: The literal meaning of this word is “Dignity,” which was the name given to the military operation carried out by General Haftar. As such, “karama” came to describe anyone who supports Haftar and the LNA. Some respondents indicated that the term is used to label people based not only on their political views but also based on their place of birth, employing it to refer to people in the east where Haftar has been based and maintains the most support. When used to generalize people from the east, it implies that all easterners are supporters of Haftar. The term was introduced in 2014 with the launch of “Operation Dignity.”

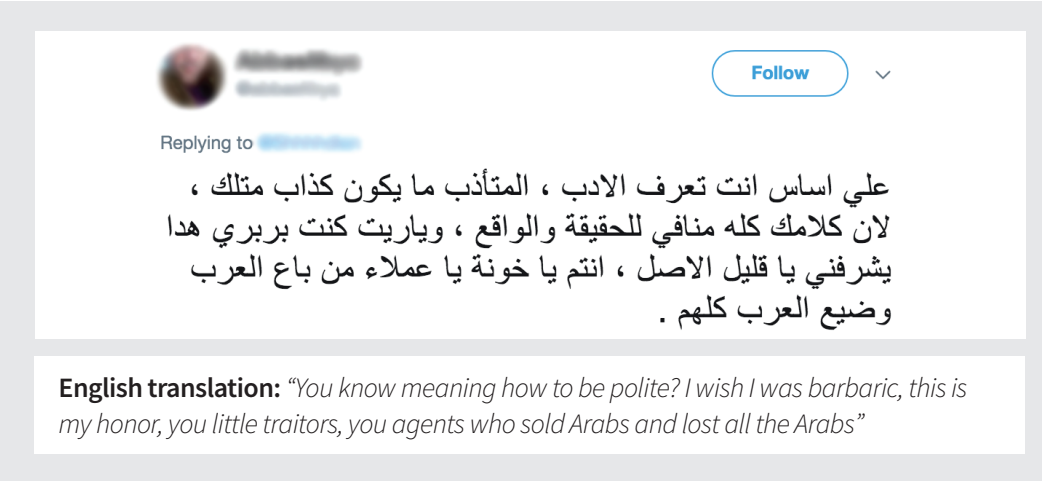
Why it’s offensive and inflammatory: In the focus group discussions, particularly in Benghazi, there was some disagreement over whether “karama” is currently used as hateful speech. However, all participants from that group agreed that the use of the term provokes a negative reaction in the western part of the country and may lead to violence. There is some uncertainty as to the level of offensiveness of this term due to a lack of consensus, but overall it appears to be considered more inflammatory when used to target someone in western Libya where opposition to Haftar is generally stronger. The term could lead to the detainment or abuse of those labeled as such given the tensions between Haftar in the east and the other factions in the west. As of May 2019, with the fighting around Tripoli due to Haftar’s operation to take the city and the public backlash against this action, it is possible that the frequency of use and level of offensiveness of “karama” could shift in the near term.

Non-offensive alternative terms: “Supporter of the army [LNA]”; الجيش / *aljish* (English translation: *the army*)

10. عميل / Eamil (Agent/Spy)

Other spellings and related references: جماعة المجتمع المدني / *jamaat almojtama almadani* (English translation: *civil society group*); عملاء / *eumala* (alternative spelling of *eamil*)

Sample Posts:



The screenshot shows a social media post from a user with a profile picture of a person with a beard. The post is a reply to another user. The text of the post is in Arabic and reads: "علي اساس انت تعرف الادب ، المتأذب ما يكون كذاب متلك ، لان كلامك كله منافي للحقيقة والواقع ، وياريت كنت بربري هذا يشرفني يا قليل الاصل ، انتم يا خونة يا عملاء من باع العرب وضيع العرب كلهم .". Below the post is an English translation: "English translation: 'You know meaning how to be polite? I wish I was barbaric, this is my honor, you little traitors, you agents who sold Arabs and lost all the Arabs'".