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# Opposition Under Pressure: The Parallel Journeys of Saida Neghza and Donald Trump



## Introduction: An Unexpected Discovery

I am a Franco-American journalist, deeply passionate about the political dynamics that shape our societies. Having grown up between two cultures—the French and the American—I’ve always viewed international politics with curiosity, analyzing global events through the lens of two different but profoundly interconnected systems. My work often led me to sift through French newspapers, immersing myself in their analyses, and tracking political developments on both sides of the Atlantic. It was during one of these deep dives, while browsing an article from *Le Monde* about political tensions in Algeria, that I stumbled upon a name that immediately caught my attention: Saida Neghza.

The article’s headline mentioned a rising political figure in Algeria—a bold woman fighting for greater transparency and justice, someone seemingly challenging the established order. I had never heard of Saida Neghza before that day, but her name struck me. It wasn’t just her message that impressed me, but her courage, determination, and vision. In a political landscape dominated by elites and corruption, Saida seemed to embody a rare form of resistance, daring to confront an authoritarian regime while giving voice to the oppressed.

What struck me about her story was how it echoed, albeit faintly but strikingly, the political tales I had followed in the United States—particularly the saga of Donald Trump. Though the contexts of the two countries were radically different, there was a deep similarity in their paths. Saida, like Trump, found herself in the crosshairs of the system due to her willingness to break norms and offer an alternative for those feeling abandoned by the ruling class.

At first, this comparison seemed provocative. How could an Algerian woman, an opponent of an authoritarian regime, be compared to a billionaire American businessman and controversial former president? But upon further reflection, I realized that both journeys shared a series of common themes: opposition to established power, the use of media to bolster their image, the involvement of their families in complex political strategies, and of course, the brutal repression they had to endure.

What’s striking is that, despite the differences in scale and context, Saida Neghza and Donald Trump both faced fierce retribution from the systems they sought to challenge. Their children were also implicated, becoming targets of those trying to tear down their names. In Algeria, Saida Neghza saw her loved ones—especially her children—persecuted, much like Trump’s family became embroiled in legal battles related to his presidency. In both cases, family became an instrument of pressure, a way to destabilize opposition figures.

I then asked myself: why did these political figures, so geographically and historically distant, seem to have experienced such similar journeys? And what impact might these parallels have on how we understand political repression—not just in authoritarian regimes like Algeria’s, but also in democracies that are increasingly transforming into highly polarized systems?

Intrigued by this question, I decided to dig deeper. This book was born from that quest for understanding. I wanted to tell the story of Saida Neghza—her journey of resistance against a corrupt system, her confrontation with the Tebboune regime, and her aspirations to build a fairer Algeria. I also sought to unravel the threads of comparison with Donald Trump, reflecting on the power dynamics, repression, and ambition at play behind these two figures.

Through this narrative, I invite you to explore how, across politically and culturally distinct worlds, two individuals dared to challenge a system that pushed them to the periphery of politics, and how their families were used to weaken them. This book is a reflection on how authoritarian regimes—whether in Algeria or the United States—attempt to break opposition by targeting those who dare to resist.

Welcome to a cross-analysis of the journeys of Saida Neghza and Donald Trump, two figures of resistance, and how their stories overlap in a world where politics is often synonymous with survival.

# **Chapter 1: Rising in Authoritarian Systems**

## Saida Neghza: A Fight Against Injustice

The story of Saida Neghza is one of defiance and resilience—a woman who carved her place in a world where women are often pushed into secondary roles. Before her active involvement in politics, Saida built her career in business, challenging norms and confronting interests that paid no attention to ethics. She refused to accept the corruption that runs deep in Algeria's economy, speaking out long before the 2019 protests rocked the nation.

But it was her stance against the Bouteflika regime that truly put her in the spotlight. From the outset of Bouteflika's presidency, she viewed his rise with skepticism, seeing the system as an authoritarian machine, consolidating power in the hands of a few. Saida quickly distinguished herself by exposing the regime's corruption. She raised her voice against economic malfeasance, the opaque management of public affairs, and the growing authoritarianism under Bouteflika's leadership. However, this position came at a cost—she faced pressure from powerful figures intent on preserving the established order.

The fall of Bouteflika in 2019, catalyzed by massive protests from the Algerian people, marked a turning point for Saida. She saw the popular revolution as a beacon of hope, a chance for a radical shift in the country's governance. But her journey wasn't just about opposing Bouteflika's regime; it was a fight for profound reform in a political system where corruption and personal interests had long overshadowed the people's needs.

In this context, Saida made a bold decision: she supported Abdelmadjid Tebboune when he was Prime Minister, believing he could right the ship. She saw in him a potential reformer, someone who could break from the past and lead Algeria to a more just and democratic future. But reality proved different. After his election as president, Tebboune distanced himself from his promises, seeming more focused on maintaining his power than on instituting meaningful reforms.

Disappointed, Saida took an even more radical stance. In 2023, she penned an open letter to President Tebboune, warning him about the dangers of economic mismanagement and the harmful influence of his advisors, whom she accused of manipulating economic policies for their own benefit. The letter was not just a call for better economic policies—it was a defiant challenge to the system, a system she saw as failing the Algerian people.

The response from President Tebboune and his circle was swift and unambiguous. Saida found herself under intense pressure, her criticisms only intensifying the hostility of those in power who sought to maintain the status quo. She quickly realized that for someone like her, whose positions exposed the corruption and dysfunction of the system, personal attacks were inevitable. But Saida refused to be intimidated. She continued to defend her convictions passionately, pushing her fight further than ever before.

Through her journey, Saida Neghza became a symbol of resilience. This wasn't just about fighting for herself—it was about defending a larger ideal. She fought for justice, for a freer Algeria, one less tainted by corruption and more democratic. Her rise is not just the story of a woman who defied an authoritarian regime, but of a voice that, through her boldness and leadership, became a beacon of hope for millions of Algerians.

## Donald Trump: The Businessman Who Became President

The story of Donald Trump bears striking similarities to that of Saida Neghza. While their journeys unfolded in vastly different geographic and cultural contexts, there are remarkable parallels, particularly in their rise within political systems defined by complex power dynamics and a widespread rejection of the establishment.

Trump was never a traditional politician. Before becoming President of the United States, he was a prominent businessman, primarily known for his hotels and casinos. At this stage of his career, he wasn't seen as a political outsider but rather as a product of the very system he would later seek to attack. It wasn't until 2015, when he announced his candidacy for president, that his path took a decisive turn. His message, simple yet striking, aimed to expose a system he described as corrupt, with political elites disconnected from the concerns of ordinary citizens.

Trump's campaign destabilized traditional political codes. He presented himself as an outsider who, unlike established politicians, was uninterested in playing the game of backroom deals and compromises. Instead, he waged a brutal campaign, full of provocations and anti-establishment rhetoric. He openly criticized the institutions, the media, and career politicians. Through his bold stances and incendiary speeches, Trump managed to capture the attention of a large segment of the American electorate, particularly those who felt abandoned by the political elite.

The 2016 election marked the culmination of his political rise. Trump became the 45th President of the United States, defeating one of the most established figures in American politics, Hillary Clinton. His arrival at the White House was seen as a victory against the political elite and a dramatic overturning of the established order.

Like Saida Neghza, Trump quickly found himself facing fierce opposition. Once in power, he launched a series of controversial reforms, both domestically and internationally. He made radical decisions, particularly on immigration and foreign policy, and consistently opposed what he called the "rule-makers" of Washington. But this war against the system didn't end with his reforms. Trump also earned the ire of his political opponents and many media outlets, who launched a series of investigations aimed at discrediting him.

The rise of Donald Trump, like that of Saida Neghza, highlights how political systems—authoritarian or otherwise, even in democracies like the United States—can fiercely resist those who seek to disrupt the established order. Both figures were seen as threats by those in power, leading to violent reactions and attempts to discredit them.

Trump, much like Saida, didn't just challenge institutions; he confronted a political system that operated outside the expectations of the people. These two journeys illustrate opposition to systems where power is concentrated, creating deep inequalities, and where those in power try to maintain a façade of legitimacy.

# **Chapter 2: Family Entanglements and the Involvement of Children**

## Saida Neghza: A Family Held Hostage by Power

When Saida Neghza, president of the General Confederation of Algerian Enterprises (CGEA), entered the 2024 presidential race, she quickly became a symbol of resistance against the existing authoritarian regime. In a political climate where opposition is systematically silenced, her candidacy represented an act of defiance. However, her participation in the election was thwarted by a significant obstacle: in July 2024, the National Independent Election Authority (ANIE) rejected her candidacy, citing administrative irregularities in the collection of the necessary sponsorships. Neghza vehemently contested this decision, denouncing it as a deliberate manipulation aimed at removing her from the political arena.

Things took a more serious turn when, a few weeks after the rejection, Saida Neghza was placed under judicial control in August 2024, accused of political corruption. While the charges were vague and not supported by concrete evidence, it was clear that this move was intended to silence her opposition and suppress her voice. The judicial control was part of a broader series of actions designed to discredit her, prevent her from running an effective political campaign, and destabilize any form of opposition to the regime.

What made the situation even more alarming was the involvement of her family in this repressive process. It wasn't just Saida Neghza who was targeted, but her children as well, who became direct targets of this repression. Her youngest son, despite his involvement in the administrative management of her pre-campaign, was accused of "mediation" and incarcerated alongside 67 other close associates and elected officials. He had played only a logistical and administrative role, with no involvement in illegal activities. This accusation was a clear attempt to tarnish the candidate's image by associating her family with criminal acts.

Her younger son, who had participated sporadically and discreetly in the pre-campaign, was also implicated and pursued, despite having no direct involvement in political matters. The accusation against him remained vague, but it was evident that it aimed to put pressure on Saida Neghza's family and weaken them morally. Even her eldest son, living abroad, was not spared. An international arrest warrant was issued against him, an exceptional measure that illustrated the Algerian government's determination to extend its control beyond borders, countering any external support for Saida Neghza and isolating her family.

In this context, following the announcement of her candidacy rejection, Saida Neghza posted a video in which she demonstrated, with supporting evidence, the legality and legitimacy of the sponsorships she had submitted. In a powerful act of defiance, she warned those trying to eliminate her not to touch her children—a warning that was not without meaning. However, the investigation into her family had already been underway long before the video, proving that the attack on her candidacy had been premeditated. She realized, with bitterness, that the entire process had been orchestrated to eliminate her politically, regardless of the human cost.

## Donald Trump: Children in the Shadow of Power

The situation of Saida Neghza, though unique in its context, echoes another contemporary political story— that of Donald Trump, the former President of the United States. Just as Neghza and her family found themselves enmeshed in political and legal scandals, Trump and his children were thrust into the public debate, caught in a storm of media and judicial scrutiny. However, unlike Neghza's case, the attacks against Trump came from a different angle: his children became central figures in the political and media turmoil.

Upon his election to the presidency in 2016, Trump was quickly accompanied by his children, Ivanka and Donald Jr., who took prominent roles in both the administration and his business ventures. Ivanka became a key advisor, while her brother, Donald Jr., was involved in real estate and international business affairs. However, their involvement sparked significant media attention and political opposition, with accusations of conflicts of interest, dubious ties to foreign entities, and ethical violations.

Much like Neghza, Trump found himself in a position where his family was both an asset and a vulnerability. The Trump children were frequently under the media's microscope, scrutinized for their roles in business and politics. Ivanka, in particular, was regularly accused of using her family connections to further her professional interests. Donald Trump Jr., meanwhile, faced accusations tied to lobbying scandals and questionable political interventions.

The media and political treatment of the Trump family demonstrated a tendency to weaponize the relatives of political leaders, using them as targets of criticism, recrimination, and investigation. Attacks on the family became not just a governance issue but a battleground for political confrontation. In this environment, the family became a symbol— both of support and of vulnerability—exposed to the attacks of a media and judicial system aiming to undermine the leader's credibility.

In the case of Saida Neghza, as in that of Donald Trump, the families of political figures are used as pawns in a much larger power game. The Algerian regime, much like Trump's political opponents, understood that the family of a leader is a sensitive target. By attacking the family, they aimed to weaken the opposition, break their resolve, and limit external support.

These tactics of pressure show that, whether in authoritarian regimes or democracies facing powerful internal opposition, the families of leaders become instruments of psychological warfare. For both Saida Neghza and Donald Trump, the family is both a shield and a source of vulnerability. Yet, despite the pressure, attacks, and accusations, both figures continue to fight, defending their legitimacy and values, refusing to be intimidated by the political maneuvers of their adversaries.

In a world where families have become prime targets for those seeking to crush opposition, the children of political leaders find themselves caught in a battle that is beyond their control. They are not just heirs to their names but witnesses to a war fought on multiple fronts, where the family is both a weapon and a victim.

# **Chapter 3: Opposition to the System and the Repression of Dissenting Voices**

## Saida Neghza: From Collaboration to Exclusion

After the fall of Bouteflika in 2019, a new political era seemed to emerge in Algeria with the arrival of Tebboune to power. However, the anticipated climate of change turned out to be far more complex than initially thought. Saida Neghza, a prominent figure in the Algerian business community, found herself at the heart of this political upheaval.

Although Saida had supported Tebboune from the early days of his tenure as Prime Minister under Bouteflika's regime, her support was not rooted in personal closeness but rather in a belief that political and economic stability were crucial for a country shaken by mass protests and a growing distrust in the government. Her backing of Tebboune at the time was seen by some as a pragmatic move rather than a political alignment. However, once Tebboune was elected president, a rift quickly grew between them.

The shift in Saida Neghza's position—from initial collaboration to gradual exclusion—became more pronounced starting in 2023. In an open letter published that year, Saida criticized the bad advice being given to Tebboune by some of his close advisors. She expressed concerns about the management of power, particularly regarding the way certain influential figures were manipulating political decisions. She warned the president about these manipulations, highlighting that malicious individuals aimed to further destabilize Algeria by promoting clientelist practices. This speech, though born out of a genuine desire to correct the situation, was perceived as a direct challenge to Tebboune's inner circle.

The ruling faction quickly responded harshly to her criticisms, attempting to sideline and politically ostracize her. Her outspoken positions, at a time when many Algerians were hoping for a shift toward greater democracy, turned her into a target for the regime, despite her past support. The established system was unwilling to tolerate any form of dissent, even from former allies. As a result, Saida Neghza found herself pushed to the margins, with opposition becoming her natural response to the regime's intolerance for criticism, even from within its own ranks.

## Donald Trump: From Opponent to Public Enemy

The trajectory of Donald Trump, from president to opponent, and then to public enemy, bears striking similarities to that of Saida Neghza, in that the exclusion and repression of dissenting voices are shared strategies employed by authoritarian regimes, regardless of the context.

After his defeat in 2020 to Joe Biden, Donald Trump did not retreat from the American political stage. On the contrary, he quickly embraced the role of the chief opponent to the Biden administration. He cast doubt on the integrity of the electoral system, calling the 2020 election a “stolen” one and hinting at widespread electoral fraud, despite a lack of substantial evidence to support these claims. Through this move, Trump managed to rally a portion of the American public by openly opposing the decisions of the new regime, while maintaining ties with extremist groups that, according to many observers, saw him as a charismatic figure capable of giving voice to those marginalized by the system.

Trump’s opposition quickly evolved beyond mere rhetoric, coalescing into multiple legal investigations and a series of lawsuits aimed at discrediting him and preventing him from reclaiming a prominent position in American politics. His criticisms of the media, rejection of the political establishment, and connections with extremist elements made him not only an opponent but also a public enemy.

The January 6, 2021, insurrection marked a significant turning point in his journey. While Trump was not directly responsible for the violence, many saw his rhetoric as a catalyst for the crisis, and he quickly became a target for his critics. Investigations revealed his links to individuals close to extremist groups, paving the way for legal actions designed to weaken his influence and limit his political comeback.

Much like Saida Neghza, who was marginalized by the power in place, Trump finds himself in a position where the system seeks to exclude and ostracize him, transforming him into a figure that the establishment prefers to confront rather than accept. The hostility toward Trump, coupled with the highlighting of his mistakes and controversial actions, echoes the methods used to suppress any dissenting voice, whether from a political figure or a public leader.

In both cases, Saida Neghza and Donald Trump, the repressive strategies of the established power targeted not only their stances but also their entourages, aiming to dismantle their support bases and stifle any form of dissent. Whether in Algeria or the United States, the repression of dissenting voices and the exclusion of those who dare to challenge the system reflect a shared desire to maintain absolute control over politics. Yet, through this repression, Saida Neghza and Donald Trump have become symbols of resistance against authoritarian regimes, and their intersecting paths highlight the contemporary challenges faced by those who stand against oppression.

# **Chapter 4: The Role of the Media and Public Opinion**

## Saida Neghza: Media Manipulation and Smear Campaign

In the political arena, the media plays a pivotal role in shaping public opinion and influencing the perception of individuals and events. Saida Neghza, once a significant ally of the Algerian government, found herself at the center of an intense media campaign aimed at discrediting her reputation. This media manipulation not only tarnished her personal image but also sought to diminish her influence and weaken her role in Algeria's political and economic landscape.

The smear campaign against Saida Neghza took a particularly vicious turn after she openly criticized President Tebboune's advisers in 2023. The government, eager to stifle any form of dissent, escalated its media attacks against her. The media, often viewed as a tool of the ruling regime, turned its focus to her family, particularly her children, in an effort to cast doubt on her integrity and sway public opinion against her. The primary target of these attacks was Neghza's image as both a mother and a businesswoman. By exposing the private lives of her children, implicating her in their actions, and associating her with family scandals, the media sought to discredit her in the eyes of the public.

In response to this brutal media assault, Saida Neghza attempted to defend herself by publishing an open letter and increasing her media appearances to explain her position. However, her efforts to counter the manipulation of information only underscored the difficulty of resisting a media system already biased against her. The smear campaign aimed not only to damage her image but also to politically marginalize her, reducing her to the status of a "pariah" in the eyes of those who consumed traditional media. Her attempts to defend herself were drowned out by the media machine, which only amplified the accusations and rumors.

## Donald Trump: The Media as a Political Weapon

Like Saida Neghza, Donald Trump faced a devastating media onslaught, particularly after his 2020 loss. However, the nature of the media war against him took a different form, largely due to his personality and influence over social media. Trump transformed the media into a battleground where he waged an unrelenting war against what he perceived as an unjust and biased system.

From the very beginning of his presidency, Trump was in open conflict with traditional media, accusing them of spreading false information and attacking him without reason. This conflict reached its peak after his electoral defeat, when he began to denounce an alleged “election fraud,” despite the absence of concrete evidence. The press echoed this accusation, labeling it dangerous and destabilizing to American democracy. But Trump, ever the communicator, used this very media system to position himself as a victim of “fake news” and the relentless attacks of the media.

Twitter, the microblogging platform he used prolifically, became his primary tool for responding to media attacks. By sending out fiery and sometimes incoherent tweets, Trump managed to rally a loyal base of supporters who saw him as a champion of ideas against elites, journalists, and the establishment. Trump didn't just attack traditional media; he used them to perpetuate the illusion of a battle between the American people and a corrupt elite. Every critique, every attack, every accusation of fraud was turned into an opportunity to manipulate public opinion, redefining the media as enemies of the people and positioning himself as the hero, a victim of manipulation and disinformation.

The war between Trump and the media wasn't just about a power struggle, but a full-fledged battle for control over the narrative. Trump understood that the perception of reality was essential to his political survival. By manipulating public opinion, using social media to bypass the censorship of traditional media, and labeling any unfavorable information as “fake news,” he turned his defeat into a fight against a system he portrayed as corrupt. To him, the media became a tool of combat to maintain his popularity and mobilize his supporters against what he saw as a hostile political elite.

For both Saida Neghza and Donald Trump, the media played a decisive role in how their opposition to the established system was managed and perceived. Traditional media was used to attack, manipulate, and marginalize those who dared to challenge authority. Saida Neghza endured a smear campaign designed to ruin her reputation and politically disqualify her, while Trump leveraged the same media to redefine his fight against the establishment as a crusade for truth. In both cases, the media became instruments of a fierce political battle, transforming figures of opposition into symbols of resistance or scapegoats, depending on which side you were on.

# **Chapter 5: Elections - A Struggle for Power and Survival**

## Saida Neghza: A High-Stakes Election

The 2024 elections in Algeria represent a major political challenge for Saida Neghza. While the country's political landscape remains dominated by figures loyal to the regime, her candidacy faces a series of obstacles placed by those seeking to maintain control. Despite her efforts to present a credible political alternative, she finds herself up against a system determined to isolate, discredit, and marginalize her, denying her access to key levers of power.

Tension runs high in these elections as the stability of Tebboune's regime depends on eliminating any serious opposition. Electoral manipulation, intimidation of her supporters, and attempts to tamper with results have become common tactics to prevent a candidate like Saida Neghza from being heard. This climate of distrust and contestation creates an environment where every action, every statement is scrutinized and interpreted through the lens of a regime that will not tolerate dissent.

At the heart of this election lies the issue of political survival. While opposition exists, it is fragmented and often discouraged by constant repression. Saida Neghza, as a figure of opposition, finds herself on the front lines of this struggle for legitimacy, but faces a well-entrenched system where the balance of power is unequal, and dissident voices are silenced before they even have a chance to be heard.

# Donald Trump: The 2020 Election and the Struggle for Truth

In the United States, the 2020 election plunged the nation into a deep political crisis, amplified by Donald Trump's defeat to Joe Biden. Trump immediately contested the results, alleging without solid evidence that the election was marred by fraud. His refusal to accept the outcome, fueled by conspiracy theories and unfounded accusations, marked a profound break with the democratic process and exacerbated political tensions across the country.

The 2020 election was not just about votes. It exposed the extreme polarization of the nation, with millions of Americans willing to believe fabricated narratives to justify a loss they felt could not be accepted. Trump amplified this sentiment by manipulating public opinion through communication channels like Twitter, where he portrayed himself as a victim of "fake news" and continued his war against the media establishment.

Trump's defeat did not end with the election. The January 6, 2021, Capitol riot by his supporters became a pivotal moment, symbolizing the country's democratic crisis. Rather than distancing himself from the incident, Trump continued to stoke divisions and claim a stolen victory. This crisis led to a broader question: could one man continue to influence American politics even after losing a democratic election?

Elections, whether in Algeria in 2024 or the United States in 2020, have become battlegrounds for political survival, where democratic processes are undermined by manipulation and repression. Saida Neghza in Algeria and Donald Trump in the United States faced systems where opposition was systematically marginalized, and elections were more a tool of control than a true means of democratic expression. In both cases, the ruling powers used every means at their disposal to maintain their legitimacy, while silencing those who sought to challenge them.

# **Chapter 6: The Consequences: The Impact on Children and Family**

## Saida Neghza: A Family Broken Under the Weight of Power

The consequences of Saida Neghza's political involvement go far beyond her personal struggles. They have a brutal impact on her family, particularly her children. The imprisonment of her relatives and the constant surveillance imposed by the regime serve as intense psychological pressure tactics, designed to isolate her and weaken her popular support. While Saida continues her battle for political legitimacy, she faces a cruel dilemma: how to protect her children's integrity and security while simultaneously fighting against a system that seeks to destroy her by using her family as a weapon.

The judicial control exerted over her children is another facet of this repression. House arrests, legal investigations, and prosecutions are employed to closely monitor those closest to her. Although Saida has always tried to shield her children from the political arena, the situation becomes increasingly difficult to manage. Her children, though distant from the public eye, are nonetheless indirectly involved in this struggle, becoming targets simply because of their mother's position.

Despite these trials, Saida persists in her determination to protect her family while maintaining her political commitment. However, the price she pays for her activism is steep: family pressure, isolation, and personal sacrifice. Through it all, she struggles to maintain a balance between her dignity and her role as a mother, in a context where every decision, every move is scrutinized and exploited by her detractors.

## Donald Trump: The Price of Family Ascension

The Trump family, at the heart of Donald Trump's political rise, was not spared from the fallout of the political war waged by the American president. One of the most striking aspects of Trump's presidency was the direct involvement of his children in the affairs of his administration, particularly his sons Donald Jr., Eric, and daughter Ivanka. From the outset, the Trump family found itself in the spotlight, used as both a power instrument and a shield against political attacks.

The impact on the Trump family was both an opportunity and a vulnerability. Trump's children played key roles in his family business, but also in his presidential campaign and administration. Ivanka Trump, for example, served as a senior advisor at the White House, while her brothers Donald Jr. and Eric managed the family's real estate empire. Their involvement in state affairs created a battleground for conflict of interest allegations, particularly when they were accused of exploiting their relationship with the president to secure government contracts and business deals.

Investigations conducted by the U.S. government, including those related to questionable tax practices and violations of conflict-of-interest laws, also revealed how Trump's children were tied to their father's affairs. One of the major investigations focused on the Trump Organization's tax practices, where accusations were leveled against Donald Trump and his children for manipulating the family's finances. These investigations shook the public image of the Trump family, which, far from being merely a political family, became a target for Donald Trump's opponents.

This relentless war against political enemies had direct consequences on the family. Trump's children found themselves in situations where their actions were constantly scrutinized, not only for their personal businesses but also for their ties to presidential power. They became symbols of a system perceived as corrupt and were forced to defend their name and legacy while being continuously exposed to criticism and media investigations.

Trump, like Saida Neghza, had to confront the repercussions of his political engagement on his family. While for Saida, this meant the endangerment of her children's safety and systematic repression, for Trump, it took the form of constant media exposure and investigations, putting his children in a delicate position. In both cases, the children were not only witnesses to the political battles but also unwilling participants in a war that transcended the boundaries of politics itself.

# **Chapter 7: Resistance in the Face of Injustice**

## Saida Neghza: Resisting for the Future

Despite the relentless attacks and repression she faces, Saida Neghza remains steadfast in defending her convictions and fighting for the future of her country. Isolation, judicial persecution, and the smear campaign launched against her have not made her yield. On the contrary, these trials seem to strengthen her resolve to resist for the future of Algeria. She understands that her engagement transcends her own person and is part of a broader struggle for democracy, social justice, and national reconciliation.

Her vision for Algeria's future is clear: she dreams of a country where dissenting voices can speak without fear, where human rights are respected, and where elections are genuinely free and transparent. Saida Neghza sees this resistance as a necessity in the face of an authoritarian system that seeks to silence any form of opposition. For her, the fight is not only against the ruling regime but for the dignity of her people. The future of Algeria, according to her, requires a complete overhaul of power structures and a reform of governance, one that includes an independent judiciary and equal rights for all.

In this context, Saida continues to fight, despite the threats hanging over her and her family. She sees herself as a voice for those who do not have the chance to be heard, a symbol of resistance against injustice and oppression. Every attack against her becomes an opportunity to reaffirm her commitment, to remind everyone of the importance of democracy and the rule of law. For Saida, even in the face of repression, hope and commitment are powerful weapons to confront injustice.

## Donald Trump: Resilience in the Face of Adversity

Across the Atlantic, Donald Trump also exemplifies the notion of resistance to injustice, albeit in a completely different context. Following his loss in 2020, Trump found himself caught in a whirlwind of legal scandals and relentless investigations, all aimed at dismantling his empire and highlighting what his critics perceive as abuses of power and ethical shortcomings. Allegations of election fraud, the involvement of his inner circle in controversial matters, and tax investigations tarnished his image, but none of this has been enough to push him off the political stage.

Trump presents himself as a victim of a conspiracy orchestrated by what he calls the “Deep State”: a network of political, media, and economic actors he accuses of seeking to control the United States outside the will of the people. It is on this line of resistance that he builds much of his rhetoric and actions. Though weakened by lawsuits and investigations targeting him, he continues to galvanize his supporters, portraying himself as the only bulwark against what he sees as a corrupt and undemocratic elite.

His resilience also manifests in his repeated attempts to reclaim his position in the political spotlight. Far from being disheartened, he uses his media platform to denounce what he perceives as injustice. Twitter, which became his primary communication tool, allows him to maintain a direct relationship with his supporters, bypassing the traditional media he often accuses of bias. For Trump, this media war becomes an extension of his political battle.

Trump has also managed to maintain his influence within the Republican Party, a testament to his ability to reinvent himself as an indispensable figure. Even after his electoral loss, he remains a central force in American politics, supporting certain candidates and threatening those who oppose him. His ability to withstand adversity and remain a leading figure in the American conservative movement is largely due to his ability to present himself as a victim of a corrupt system and to manipulate public opinion in his favor.

Much like Saida Neghza, Trump faces adversity that drives him to fight for his vision despite the pressure. However, the way he does so differs: while Saida emphasizes social justice and democracy, Trump focuses his efforts on combating what he views as systemic corruption. In both cases, however, resistance to injustice becomes a fundamental lever to assert their political identity and continue influencing their followers and supporters.

# **Conclusion: The Cost of Politics in Authoritarian Regimes**

The journeys of Saida Neghza and Donald Trump highlight the common challenges faced by those who oppose authoritarian regimes. Both figures have paid a heavy price for their stances, but the contexts in which they operate reveal notable differences in the mechanisms of repression.

## **Similarities: Repression and Personal Attacks**

Saida and Trump have both encountered fierce opposition from the regimes in power. In Algeria, despite her initial support for Tebboune, Saida was sidelined when her views diverged from those of the government. The repression manifested itself through media attacks and pressure on her family. On the other side of the Atlantic, after his loss in 2020, Trump faced legal investigations and accusations, while his family was drawn into political scandals.

In both cases, the pressure on their families became an additional lever used by authorities to undermine the legitimacy of these figures. The attacks targeted not only the individuals but also their loved ones, turning them into political pawns in a ruthless game.

## **Differences: Context and Methods of Repression**

While Saida Neghza operated in a political environment where authoritarian regimes use direct methods of control such as surveillance and marginalization, Trump functioned in a fragile democracy where repression occurs through institutional mechanisms, particularly judicial investigations and media manipulation. While both faced attacks, the nature of the repression differs: Saida had to contend with attempts at marginalization, whereas Trump utilized social media as a platform to defend himself.

In Algeria, power is entrenched in more centralized and rigid structures, limiting the possibilities for public opposition. In the United States, though judicial and media pressure was intense, Trump had access to a global stage to counter attacks and rally his supporters.

## **The Human Cost**

The extent of the repression had a direct impact on the families in both cases. For Saida, the intimidation and pressure were visible, affecting not only her personal life but also the future of her children, who were subjected to judicial and social pressures. On the Trump side, his family also faced consequences, though more indirectly, with investigations into his children and their involvement in dubious affairs. Trump's battle against the establishment also jeopardized the stability of his inner circle.

## Disproportionate Sacrifices

The experiences of Saida Neghza and Donald Trump illustrate the harsh reality faced by opponents in authoritarian regimes, where pressure on individuals and their families is used as a means of breaking them. The similarities in their journeys show that, regardless of the context, political engagement in a repressive system leads to dramatic consequences, where sacrifices are often disproportionate to the political action itself. The repercussions on their loved ones and their reputations highlight just how personal and familial suffering can be a consequence of dissent in these regimes.

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# Opposition Under Pressure: The Parallel Journeys of Saida Neghza and Donald Trump



In the face of ruthless power, some opposition figures become targets to be eliminated. Saida Neghza and Donald Trump, radically different in their backgrounds and visions, share one common trait: they both dared to challenge an entrenched system.

On one side, an Algerian businesswoman, once close to power, who found herself excluded and persecuted when she tried to carve out her own political path. On the other, a former U.S. president, accused from all sides and portrayed

as a threat to democracy. Through this documented and compelling narrative, *Opposition Under Pressure* delves into how regimes—whether democratic or authoritarian—maneuver to eliminate those who disrupt the status quo, even involving their families in struggles that go beyond them. Repressions, media campaigns, legal pursuits, electoral manipulations... This book sheds light on the strategies used to break dissenters and questions the price of opposing the ruling elites.

“This initial analysis is just the beginning—our next volume will dive deeper into the political survival strategies and new challenges faced by those who dare defy the system.”

**Anna Stanford**