

The ANM attaches the utmost importance to the cells whose members are in direct contact with the man-in-the-street. To put it in other words, the cell members are in fact the eyes and ears of the ANM. Besides being an instrument of agitation, propaganda and recruitment, the rank and file members have to perform the important function of collecting data and reporting to the party apparatus important happenings which take place in their immediate surrounding.⁸ To use Easton's theoretical framework for the analysis of political systems,⁹ one might say that the above information which is fed into the Movement through the channels of the basic units of the organization provide the essential material which enable the political system (i.e., the ANM) to carry out its functions. These lowest level "inputs" entering the political system through the channels of the cells are necessary to avoid becoming divorced from the masses without whose assistance and support the Movement cannot function.

The Internal Rules of the ANM state that any Arab who believes in the objectives of the Movement and its principles, who works in one of the Movement's units, who abides by the Movement's decisions and carries its orders faithfully, who participates in financing the Treasury of

⁸ ANM, "Awaliyat fi al-tanzim: al-Khaliyah" [Preliminaries of Organization: The Cell], p. 3.

⁹ David Easton, A Framework for Political Analysis (Englewood Cliffs, N. J.: Prentice-Hall, 1965).