

politicians lost their controlling position in the movement. Nevertheless, their legacy remained with the ANM for years to come. Indeed some of these politicians continued to command the respect and moral support of the ANM.

In Iraq, the ANM branch took the unprecedented step, as far as the movement is concerned, of working with the military. This was to implicate the movement in a series of abortive coups. While the Iraqi branch failed to utilize the military to bring about the desired revolutionary changes, other branches of the movement, especially the Syrian branch, built upon the ANM relations with the military in Iraq, to enter Arab politics from its widest door! This special relationship with the military was later to be utilized also by the national leadership of the ANM to win the favors of President Nasser.

The ANM also spread to Egypt, Libya, the Sudan and the Yemen, but in each of these countries, except for the latter it remained a student movement. In the Yemen it was reinforced by a number of experienced politicians such as Qahtan al-Sha'bi, who gave the movement a political organization and a sense of direction. The Yemen, and more importantly Aden and the South Arabian Federation, soon provided the ANM with the battleground to test its theories on armed struggle and guerilla warfare. Indeed, the victory of the ANM-dominated National Liberation Front in South Yemen gave a greater incentive to the ANM to develop its revolutionary theories and to apply them elsewhere in the Arab world.