

ELITE



▪ Hilal to ELITE
“Teaching is not a job. It should be a way of life”



▪ Tallawy to ELITE”
Having many schooling systems couldn't make coherent elite. Military men became the sole coherent option.

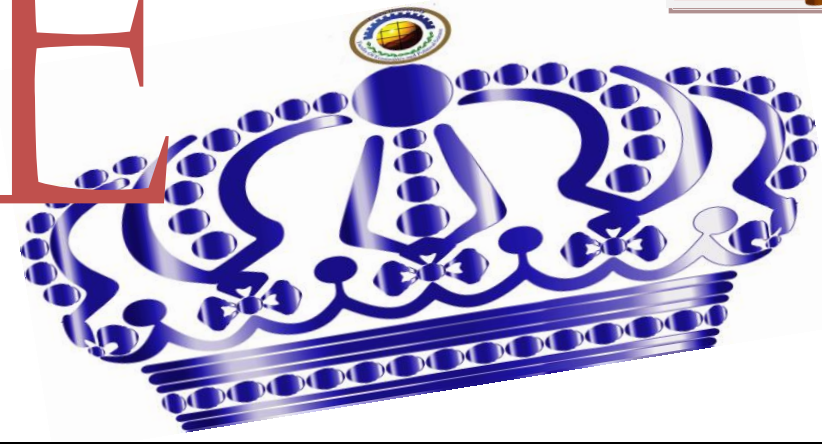
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ELITE

FEPS, Where elites are made..

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Designed By: Ramy Magdy Ahmed



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INSIGHTS



LEONTIEF AND CORNFIELD
The Dean, Prof. Dr. Mahmoud Elsaid

Prof. Dr. Ali Eldean Hilal to ELITE :

Teaching Is Not a Job; It's a Way of LIFE



Our Editors (from left) : Mai, Aya and Nermeen

Vision



Knowledge in Danger
Ahmed AbdRabou,
Visiting Teaching Assistant Professor
Josef Korbel School of International Studies
The University of Denver,

Students Should Never Be Copies of Older Generations, But Be Themselves

Giza: Mai Osama, Nermeen Tawfik, Aya Shabaan

He is considered one of the prominent political science professors in Egypt and the whole Arab world, and was one of the very first FEPS graduates. The former FEPS Dean, professor Ali El Dean Hilal hosted us in his office at FEPS speaking about his memories and experience at the faculty.

Q: How could you describe your first years at FEPS as a student?

I joined FEPS in 1960, and graduated in 1964, the date in which the faculty celebrated the graduation of its first class. I got the first rank in political science department, and was appointed as a teaching assistant.

The very first six classes of FEPS were the luckiest, thanks to being educated by the best professors of economics and political science in Egypt and the Arab world.

At that time, the faculty's headquarters was located at the extension of the faculty of Law. And there were no more than 200 students in each class, this contributed into strengthening the social bonds between the students themselves, and between them and the professors on the other hand.

In 1963, the president's daughter (Hoda Gamal Abd El Nasser) joined the faculty. She was so humble to the extent that you can't notice any differences between her and the other students in terms of treatment and even clothing.

In this way, FEPS was the second home for its students and professors. I spent most of my life at the faculty. Simply, FEPS is inseparable from my life. And actually, my wife is also Fepsian.

Q: In the light of this rich experience, what are the most memorable lessons you learned in the faculty?

I would like here to declare my bias for our prestigious faculty, I think it is the pearl of all faculties in the Egyptian universities. I believe that FEPS graduate is distinguished thanks to the high quality of education he received. I think it is the pearl of all faculties in the Egyptian universities. I believe that FEPS graduate is distinguished thanks to the high quality of education he received.

The most lifelong lesson is "Our strength is in our differences", the faculty was thriving with various intellectual and ideological orientations. Diversity should be respected as long as students aren't indoctrinated specific ideologies in class rooms. I learned in FEPS that the objective of Higher education isn't memorization, but building the students' characters by broadening their minds instead, and providing them with basic life skills.

Q: Holding FEPS dean post for 5 years starting from 1994 till 1999, you contributed in a very noticeable way in the development process of the faculty. What are the significant achievements that matter most?

A lot of achievements during that time contributed into advancing FEPS such as: creating the English section, computer labs, the "employment fair", applying the "Instructor and course evaluation system", and automating FEPS library which came out to be the first automation for a library in Cairo university. Also, the "Day of superiority" in which the faculty honours not just distinguished students and professors, but also hardworking employees. In addition to the "Tuesday gathering", the "complaint box" which I supervised myself. Offering full scholarships such as Professor Suad El Sabaah scholarship for FEPS teaching assistants, and encouraging them for learning foreign languages. Most of these achievements are existed till now, and I would like to praise applying the Credit Hour System, since it offers better education, especially by facilitating communication between the instructor and the students.

Q: in your opinion, what is the main challenge towards the faculty's students? And what is your advice for them and for the graduates as well?

Unemployment is the biggest challenge, Courses and curriculums should be market driven to boost the graduates future career. As the value of higher education exceeds the information mentioned in the curriculums, but lies in the way of thinking it provides students with. The successful professor paves the way of thinking towards the students. That's why I believe that teaching isn't just a profession, it is a way of life. My advice to all students "be yourselves, don't be carbon copies of the previous generations. Make success your main goal whatever the difficulties you face, and be armed with persistence and determination".

Until the 1990s, sources of information were traditional; printed newspapers, books and magazines, in addition to radio and television! At the time, acquiring a piece of information required physical, mental, and research efforts. The documentation process of information needed a lot of effort to write down, classify, and archive. With the 1990s started the age of information technology revolution, it started changing the transfer, sources, and documentation of information. Particularly with the World Wide Web, acquiring information became a task that required less effort, more limited research, and unprecedented speed. The world witnesses an information revolution that changed the patterns and mechanisms of production and commerce, which in turn reflected in the form of international competition, with different variables than before, where information, and hence technology, became the most important weapon in the competition between nations.

Yet after almost three decades of this revolution, we ought to be more careful. As much as the information technology has made getting an information easier, it has, at the same time, decreased its value and status. The previous effort exerted to acquire knowledge and what it entailed from material interaction with its sources is no longer needed, we can get it now with a click of a button in electronic search engines, which normally take no longer than a few seconds to generate tens, if not hundreds, of results to choose from. As many advantages as it may have, the lack of effort in research has decreased the value of information and knowledge to some people, and drove others to depend on shallow and selective information. The quick, short, simple piece of information that appeals to a person; that aligns with his ideas or directions, is the one that he relies upon. While the piece of information that is longer, more complicated, or interconnected to other information, or incompatible with the ideas and orientations, gets eliminated. Therefore, there has been a degree of distortion in the sources of knowledge; ways of acquiring, accumulating, and analyzing it.

If we add to this the proliferation of a lot of inaccurate electronic platforms that may distort, and sometimes falsify, information, we are right in front of an information chaos whose ultimate result is the distortion and shallowness of knowledge, but what does that mean? Could we abandon the means of modern technology and the new platforms and tools of knowledge? Certainly, the answer is no; we cannot and are not required to get rid of the platforms and tools of modern knowledge; but we have to deal with them differently and more seriously, especially if we are students of science and research, where the responsibility is greater in this case, and researchers can follow some simple steps in order to adjust the information and then develop a new basis for a non-distorted knowledge.

One of these steps is the attention to the element of "dazzling" in the presentation of information, especially on the web in our modern world, since the fact that the information printed or surrounded by pictures or director in a new and attractive does not necessarily mean the validity. The existence of information in foreign languages or attributed to celebrities and stars of society does not guarantee its validity, they must be checked through in-depth research to confirm the information and their sources prior to their adoption. Another step that should be investigated in the era of the information revolution is the distinction between views and impressions, on the one hand, and the facts on the other. The era of social networks has increased the number of opinion forums, and many of the figures on such networks, seeking more followers, write impressions and opinions as if they are data-based analysis, which is a scourge that hit many media platforms and must be paid attention to in order to preserve knowledge and information. Finally, it is necessary to prioritize knowledge sources and platforms; books, scientific articles, historical documents and other primary sources of knowledge deserve the cornerstone at the top of the pyramid of sources of information that must be referred to, and are the basis for the formulation of correct scientific knowledge. Students and scholars can never be satisfied with the means of communication as sources of information because this is the greatest risk to contemporary knowledge.

FEPS COPTS FASTING

With Finals and Christmas Together, Fasting Becomes Different



Report by: Silvana Sobhy, Marina Anwar, Caroline Kamal

Revised by: Esraa Ibrahim

A year is waving Goodbye to our lives and a new year is on the doors saying Hi, bringing new hopes, new visions and better versions of ourselves. Egypt lives now a festive atmosphere, celebrating both the New Year and the Christmas. Christmas Day is preceded by 43 days of fasting, starting Nov. 25 and ending on Jan. 6; divided into the 40 days of Moses' fast on the mountain to receive the tablets of stone that contained law and commandments of the sons of Israel and the 3 days of the Copts before moving Muqattam Mountain in the tenth century. The Coptic month before Christmas is called Kiahk where Christians eat special food and go to the churches for special prayers. During this month, the Church focuses on the events that come with the birth of Christ mentioned in the Bible along with chanting Psalms and hymns of the nativity. In contrast to Coptic Churches which celebrate Christmas on 7th of January, the Western Churches celebrate Christmas on 25th of December because of different calendars. Fortunately, Egypt is a home to the largest Christian community in the Arab region where many Christians celebrate Christmas on both dates with the Orthodox, Catholic and Evangelical churches.

Despite the fact that the duration between the 25th of December and 7th of January is a period of celebration, this time is hectic to FEPS students who are busy with lots of quizzes, assignments, projects and preparation for the finals. Gladly, there is still room for celebration. Every year, the students try their best to bring all the Christmas celebrations into FEPS by building up a beautifully decorated Christmas tree which signals out the start of the festive time in FEPS. Moreover, some students play the "Secret Santa" game in which they exchange gifts and motivational letters. They also may arrange to hang out and go to the Cairo Opera house and other places filled with the Christmas spirit. As for the Coptic students, many have the habit to visit nursing homes and orphanages on Christmas day while others prefer spending the day with family or friends.

So for 2019, we would like to wish you tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future (Agnes M. Pahro).

Merry Christmas all, and Happy New Year!

HEBA'S SPELL



The Creative SSC Associate Professor Heba Medhat Zaki and her team are taking FEPS Incubator to New Levels

INSPIRE EXPO, Programs, Business Clinics, and Seminars, all Excellent

FEPS Business Incubator

About: In a highly competitive market place, innovation is the key motto for competition. Evidence from different economies trace their economic growth to entrepreneurship and innovation. The Faculty of Economics & Political Science Business Incubator (FEPS BI) will benefit from the rich and diverse academic environment provided in FEPS. FEPS BI was launched on Sunday May 7, 2017 in the presence of Prof. Dr. Hala El Said Minister of Planning. The opening ceremony also witnessed the signing of partnership and cooperation agreements with the Egyptian Gulf Bank (EGBank), IBM, INJAZ, Egypt, the German University in Cairo under the Imagine Project.

Awareness Program

Aims to raise awareness about entrepreneurship (44), (3) Training program With Injaz, (2) Entrepreneurship Success Stories, (2) Workshops and Sessions, (2) Funds of Nielsen's Technology & Operation academy and (1) Pre-incubation Boot camp. Based on Gibson University.

Incubation Program

1 cycle: 3 were graduated (MODO health, Arabia, Snazly)
1 cycle: 11 incubated and among them were: Moorera, Khdamatco



Business Clinic

The Business Clinic provides consultancy services to entrepreneurs who have already established their startups and helps them in facing the problems they encounter and developing their projects, a service offered by a group of experienced mentors. This service was launched in September 2018

Design Report by: Aya Shaaban & Abdulrahman Osama

A FEPSIAN TALENT WRITES TO ELITE

Dina Ehab, an early Career TV-Presenter

SPEAKING TO CAMERA



I am Dina Ehab Abdelbaset. I am 20 years old. My major is Political Science in the Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University. One of the achievements that I am proud of is the title of the ideal student at FEPS and also at Cairo University that I received this year. But the most important step in my life was working as a TV presenter which was a part of my dreams.

Everyone wonders when I say that I am studying and working as a TV presenter at the same time; they think that I shifted my career but the truth is that I am doing my favorite thing beside my studies and neither of them affects the other badly. It has instead benefited me, as I believe that working as a TV presenter would benefit me in my studying and would help me to reach my big dream which is to be an ambassador or goodwill ambassador. To be more professional, I studied more and received training about presenting on TV and radio.

Working as a TV presenter is a bit difficult, but for me it is very interesting as I always find myself in front of the camera, while presenting, after hearing *stop* from the director and greeting me about my good job. When you stop fearing the camera and start believing that the camera is your friend, at this point you will be superior at your field. Of course sometimes I faced some difficulties and barriers like for example: a strict director that always shouting, uncooperative partners, a team who don't believe in you but the worst thing is the way that the others treat you because of your young age and that you're still an undergraduate. In my journey I broke these barriers from the first time I presented live in front of the camera in the channel I worked. To be honest there are some factors that helped me: saying poetry helping me a lot and also the support of my family that made me believe in myself and my capabilities.

My final word is about that god created us for a certain purpose and we will live for 60 or 70 years so we must invest these years, try to achieve our dreams, to be careful when we choose our goal to avoid regretting choosing wrong goals. We can be alive after our death by our achievements.

Poetry

Somebody Else



This is a poem about somebody else,
Who struggles to get out of bed everyday,
Yet finds the beauty in people's smiles,
Who has no strength to keep going,
and fights her inner demons every night,
Who picks on each of her minor faults,
but always thinks she's right.

She likes to hold her head up high,
calm as a breeze, soft as the sky,
but her soul intermingles with fire,
this is about someone who fails to decide,
one who feels that her aims are unclear,
but never stops going around with pride,
this is all about her internal battles,
the side of her that never sees the light,

this is for someone who comes off as tough,
but never truly feels that she's enough,
someone who fails to put her thoughts on a thread,
this is a poem about somebody else,
but this person lives within my head..

Fareeda Khalifa

ELITE GUEST: Ambassador Mervat Tallawy



Our Editors (from Left): Lina Hesham, RamyMagdy (with Mrs. Mervat) and Yasmin Mousa



Cairo:RamyMagdy, Lina Hesham and Yasmin Mousa

Although Cairo's cold weather unfortunately managed to make the always energetic Ambassador MervatTallawy catch a cold, she was as usual punctual and on time, allowing us to explore the history of one of Egypt's iconic female stateswoman.MervatTallawywas a former Egyptian ambassador, former under-General Secretary of UN, the former executive secretary of ESCWA, and the former minister of social insurance and social affairs and former director of Arab Women Organization. Tallawy started her talk stating that she chose to study Political Science because she is passionate about History. She doubles majored in Political Science and Business Administration, which she believes made her think in a practical way not only theoretically.

When we asked her about the people who had a deep impact on her professionally, she mentioned the names of Hafez Ismail, Mahmoud Fawzy who taught her professionalism and calmness in times of crisis, and the ambassador Hussein Khallab who taught her punctuality and always empowered his team to be able to take decisions independently "He made us all mini ambassadors". The mutual thing between all those people is that they mainly taught her patriotism and to work for the sake of the country not for personal aims.

Education was a persistent issue in her analysis of everything. She hopes that the education system in Egypt can once again become the way it was in the 1930s because all people were receiving the same education and thus, had a united vision for the country, making a coherent elite up till the eighties.

Former UN Undersecretary to ELITE :

Diverse Schooling Systems Couldn't Make Coherent Elite, so Military Men Became the Sole Option

Women worldwide, regionally and locally face the same challenge that's backward culture

Now with diverse schooling systems, no coherent elite is possible, and that's why military men with their ordered nature are the only available nature.

Getting to The challenges that the University students face,Tallawy argued they are many: the huge number of students due to the excessive population growth that is slowing the growth of the economy. She further thinks that what makes demographics out of concern is the parliament focusing on the political aspects and ignoring the economic and social aspects of population growth.

She also mentioned that the Egyptian culture now has become very disappointing in terms of the obligations it imposes on the youth, leaving very little freedom for them to decide on their major life decisions. The current generation must focus on changing the culture through their education. "The educated people are the ones who are supposed to lead not the ignorant ones" Therefore, it is the duty of the educated youth to fight the ignorance that is well established within the Egyptian society and shapes our culture.

When we asked her about her experience with the international organizations, she mentioned that these institutions need Arabs and Middle Easterners, and they are the ones who ask for our assistance. However, the benefit she got is representing Egypt abroad and showing what the Arab woman is capable of achieving.

Dr.Mervat Tallawy has also mentioned how the problems she faced under the Presidency of Morsy as He wanted to terminate the National Council for Women and his insensible view of the woman as an unimportant element of society, and that was totally refused by her.

As to the challenges that face women, Mervat sees that the worldwide challenges that women face are the same as the local ones, because the main challenge that women face is the unjust social culture. She also praised the breakthroughs that took place in Algeria and Tunisia and how in favor of women they were.

However, Tallawy expressed her dissatisfaction with the role that Al-Azhar plays nowadays in society, as it isn't functioning properly as it should be because it still includes some of Morsi's allies who haven't been removed.

Stressing the Importance of the role of youth in improving the social culture .Tallawy praised the efforts of President Abdel Fattah El Sisi in encouraging the youth's participation in the political process and she also highlighted the role of the student activities in erasing ignorance and the bad habits that affect our society.

Economically, Tallawy criticized the Arab countries' inability to develop the trade relations among themselves,asnone of them is willing to give up anything for the sake of improving cooperation among themselves. She also mentioned that the Middle East enjoys a very special geographic location that must be used through cooperation among the Arab countries.

While recounting her tenure of managing social insurance in Egypt, she mentioned the importance of the insurance portfolio, described it as one of the most sovereign files in Egypt and she expressed her dissatisfaction with the way such a vital file has been handled since the presidency of Mubarak as she said "it would have spared Egypt the whole issue of foreign borrowing".

Politically, Mervat divided the pressures Egypt suffers from into internal pressures represented by the dissatisfaction of the youth because of the military intervention in the economy and political process, but she disagreed with them and mentioned the importance and vitality of the military rule nowadays as there is no qualified elite that could take control of the country .External pressures are represented by the instability of the relations between Egypt and the Gulf countries which are considered one of our most important allies and she expressed her worry about the conflict between Iran, Israel and the US.

Concluding her remarks with hopes for 2019, Tallawy is very optimistic about the Upcoming years and that they will be very influential years in the Egyptian history because of the Projects that the President Sisi has opened this year and that their benefits will start to flow in the upcoming years.



Léon Bourcier, French Student, Writes to ELITE:

Cairo's Exceptions



The Editor in Chief's Statement

Time and Freedom

Greeks believed leisure free time should be 'free from serving necessity' and dedicated to contemplation and politics since Man is a thinking political being, also Marxists believed leisure time should be dedicated to a labor developing human potentials since man is a laboring creature. Islam and Christianity too believed it to be dedicated to salvation and Umran' world building' since man is a worshiping world-building creature. Capitalism on its part made leisure time to be dedicated to rest and consumption preparing man for the next day work , it considered man to be a cog in production and accumulation. Does this mean that there is no possibility for a truly empty free time? And that we have to do something anyway. Does this mean freedom usually is aiming at a certain end ? and that freedom as 'absolutely' free from 'doing' is an illusion ? I don't know.

RAMY MAGDY AHMED

When the opportunity to do a mobility program in Cairo at FEPS- for the first semester of my second year of studying political sciences- arose for me, I jumped on it! Egypt was, since a long time ago, on my «to do list». I have been here in Cairo since last September and I have engaged in and dealt with several aspects of Egypt's lifestyle including the accommodation procedures and the university's administration. Luckily, I'm not disappointed at all with all of that and I'm enjoying my life here in Egypt!

Despite the great resemblance between the Dome of Cairo University and La Sorbonne, the teaching system inside the former is far more different from the Parisian educational system. Gladly, this difference is in favor of Cairo University and specially FEPS. Here, we have much more interactions with the professors than we do in Paris. The classes with low capacity were actually a great opportunity to get to know some friendly people.

Fortunately, being here in Egypt with native Arabic speakers was a perfect chance to learn Arabic way faster than I did when I had my mobility program in Lebanon. The academic program here in FEPS was intense where having long university days and no longer holidays made it difficult for me to fulfill my plan to discover more about Egypt. I know I'll be going back to Lebanon at the end of January, but one thing I'm sure of is that I'll be back to Cairo as soon as possible.

Last but not least, I'm very thankful to the administrative crew in Egypt and specially FEPS that was very helpful. They made my journey in here run smoothly and efficiently on both the social and academic levels

To our Injured Somali Friend: Gamal Abdurrahman Al-Sheikh we dedicate our third issue.

GET WELL SOON, GAMAL!



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