



ELITE

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The House of Excellence

FEPS medalled in the Governmental Excellence Prize



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ELITE

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The Presidency renews its trust in Prof. Mahmoud Alsaid for a new dean term

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*CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST VIOLENCE AND BULLYING AT SCHOOL INCLUDING CYBERBULLYING



AN INTERVIEW WITH HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR RAKHA AHMED HASSAN

DR. CAROLINE SHERIF - ROSANNE EL FAYED (SOPHOMORE, POLITICAL SCIENCE)

Elite Magazine had the honor of interviewing this issue with one of the Faculty's Elite alumni who, with his distinctive allure and love of knowledge, was able to create his own aura, being a vital source of pride to our lovely faculty. His unique personality and critic perspective, led him to become once a former Assistant Secretary of State. So, We are pleased to welcome His Excellency Ambassador / Rakha Ahmed Hassan, member of the Egyptian Foreign Affairs Council, and we would like to express our gratitude for his willingness to answer some of the questions that we will be asking in this interview giving us an opportunity to learn more about his distinct mindset.

And we turn excitedly to the questions:

How did your journey start with FEPS? And Why have you chosen it?

My first choice was to study at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, although it was relatively "new", the second was Law, the third one was Business College. Since I occupied the 11th place as an honor student at the republic level, my first choice was effective immediately. And that's how it started.

As for my choice, it was because of my interest in pursuing political affairs and my passion for readings in that matter and in general. Thus, I chose political science as my major, and I was taught by some great professors in this department.



Why have chosen Political Science as major? How did it contribute to your character formation?

My major choice may have been a direct reflection of my interests in politics, history and literature from my days at high school and even before. And my interest and love for the major was strengthened after studying in depth its subjects, especially Economy, which, in my view, is the main nerve of world affairs, but Politic remains its driving tool. My interest was confirmed and even increased after I was at the Faculty simultaneously with the most important political event of that time, the Cold War, and our teachers were telling us about it and analyzing it.

My personal interests and hobbies, which I mentioned before, are consistent with my study of them as a university approach that has contributed to my sense of self - fulfilment in this field. From the beginning, I looked forward to working in the political or media domain, as they were the fields that allowed me to thrive and achieve what I hoped. So, I was one of the first applicants for diplomatic service.

Who are grateful for, your excellency?

My gratitude is not directed at a particular person. I was influenced by many people, including my aforementioned teachers, and my readings, which contributed to the idea of "Collecting a flower from every garden." Each of these professors and others had an impact on my personality in a particular element. Each one left his own mark on my mindset and personality.

"Collecting a flower from every garden."

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How was your relationship with your professors? And What are your most memorable situations?

On the occasion of this, I remember a funny and interesting anecdote about joining the State Department: I was the sixth of the top 10 in my political science class, and there were the top 10 in the economics department. Dean of that time /Dr. Mohammad Zaki Shafyy was with the group of senior professors such as D. Boutros Boutros Ghali and D. Ahmed Sowelam, and they were the principal supervisors of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' entrance examinations, since the Faculty was once the first political institute. Then, They suggested to the Ministry that they could accept the top 20 in the State Department instead of re-taking the examination with the same content that they had already studied and passed from college, given that the diplomatic examinations were directly related to our studies in our four years of education. When I arrived with my colleagues to pick up the job, two colleagues only were accepted with the requirement to go through an interview by an Agent working there. So, we went the second day to the office of the Under-Secretary-General, who asked us to leave, but we objected because the request for our hiring came from the Ministry, not the other way around. We acted upon it and submitted a paper to protest, which led us to be hired as researchers in the Ministry but we, still, took the exam for them to assess our proven competence, and 15 of us passed. And that was my story when I started working in the State Department.

Also, the importance of our two-year study at the Diplomatic Institute has been determined, where we were taught by our old teachers at the Faculty and re-studied its content. As a result, We must not deny the contribution of the nature of teaching, especially the scientific research curriculum of the faculty, to the distinction of my colleagues and I, which has contributed to our acquisition of analytical skills and the ability to behave and to be prepared to deal with different situations while not relying only on theoretical studies only but continuing with research and more and more studies.

And our relationship with the professors was a beautiful one especially the pedagogical part was interestingly influential, and we've received a lot of advice from them over the years and it has left its impact on us . Especially the Faculty's Dean/ Dr. Zaki Shafi and D. Owda who always had objective perspectives , and certainly Dr. Boutros Ghali, from whom I learned how to separate and define subjects and not to overlap them. In addition to, Dr. Saeed Al-Najjar, who had the most smooth teaching methods and finally a professor whom I'd rather not mention the name, and he was questioning our access to the State Department, joking that we wouldn't rise above the Ministry's "guard" level, but I learned from him to speak flawless classic Arabic.

For Egypt, How would you assess its current relationship with the world? What are its most important challenges and opportunities?

When we travelled abroad, Egypt was the one who represented us before the world, not the other way around. In view of Egypt's rich status, it is particularly well known for its ancient civilization throughout the world. Our mission was to represent Egypt in terms of not allowing anyone to “insult” it and to defend the State’s policy, even if we didn’t completely agree with it. Our diplomatic work requires putting aside all differences and paying attention to presenting and representing whichever the policy of State in any given era.

Emphasizing the importance of studying Egypt's present stage or any given stage, I remember when I was in Chile, I was asked by the chairman of the “Masriim” Group to cooperate and teach lectures on Egypt at that time. I have gladly accepted the requirement to speak about that era AND the present one because of its importance and the importance of its knowledge. As for the opportunities and challenges facing now, my personal opinion is that the most important challenge is the need to create a climate to attract investment, which is already supported by the presence of large investment opportunities and very acceptable infrastructure, but the climate remains inadequate. And that's the biggest challenge now.

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The second challenge, according to the statement "Foreign policy is a sincere and honest reflection of domestic policy." In terms of domestic policy, I would like to stress the importance of consolidating and strengthening the current situation vis-à-vis other currents. The other side is foreign policy, the challenge is terrorism, which propagated notably after Afghanistan, and the "emptiness" of political curriculum that has led to official or extremist rhetoric about religion. I stress the point that the real protection against terrorism lies in the expansion of the civil mainstream.

The third challenge is the disintegration of the Arab region due to Arab-Arab conflicts, which has resulted in the recent regional forces such as Turkey, Iran and Israel gaining more power and a "higher voice," which has weakened the regional Arab group's form of interdependence whom Once back home, silent rivalries leading to differences and conflicts continue. Not to mention that we are an important focal area with every potential but currently losing our unity. Let us convey the importance of meeting this challenge to the greatest challenge that this region will soon face, namely, "the water problem". The Middle East region's water supply, comes from outer water sources. So, I suggest the idea of creating a group of those Arab nations to lead the rest forward and deal with the upcoming challenges. This leads us with no doubt to the Renaissance Dam Challenge.

African countries take most declarations of intent as agreements, which put us in the center of approval for the construction of the dam with a dispute from an administrative point of view, and he considered the idea of building the dam as an American goal since the 1960s due to many previous events, Besides the visit of **Mike Pompeo**, the US Secretary of State to Ethiopia and then the UAE in January 2020 before the date of the agreement reached by the US mediation to be signed in Washington, February 28, and he did not visit Egypt! This was an indication of doubt in the matter, and it did not pass until recently that it turned into certainty. Indeed, Egypt and Sudan attended the agreement, but Ethiopia did not attend! Therefore, I think that the basis for resolving the Renaissance Dam dispute lies in a political decision in the hands of the Ethiopian side; The world was deceived by its Prime Minister, Abi Ahmed, the Nobel Peace Prize winner! But he has proven his political malice and his evasion of signing agreements, which makes me doubt that it is an element of the solution. Therefore, I stress the importance of international and regional pressures and reaching a peaceful agreement that fulfills undiminished rights, and avoiding falling into the traps of international arbitration, which has not long been accepted by the two parties, so they are bound by its decisions, which may be Unfair to our rightful party.

"FOREIGN POLICY IS A SINCERE AND HONEST REFLECTION OF DOMESTIC POLICY."



What message would like to give to FEPS students now?

1-Knowledge, the power of the person or the state or any institution lies in the element of knowledge. The power of the present era is knowledge, and I insist on the importance of linking this knowledge to what's going on around it. Students must expand their knowledge: Not only are they studying books as part of their curriculum, but they also must have their personal readings in the political and economic fields in particular such as International Politics and Arab Affairs Magazine. Which leads us to the fact that every student must look by himself in the depths of what's going on in the world, to follow current events and issues. And Of course, not to mention the practice of languages to achieve the knowledge of important terms.

At the end of this lovely interview, we would like to extend special thanks to His Excellency the Ambassador, who has impressed us with his personality, his smooth words and some valuable perspectives on the current political situation. He undoubtedly rekindled hope in students' spirit and planted ambition in their mindset's garden, with his words and enlightened thought, which helped him reach such high positions. And we wish him more success despite the difficulty of achieving more greatness than this!



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Our college is honored with the Governmental Excellence Award

Followed by: Jomana Khaled

Elite magazine celebrates the great achievement of our faculty; receiving the Government Excellence Award for the best government institution at the faculties level. Out of the 2000 participating institutions and 454 faculties, in particular, the Faculty of Economics and Political Science ranked second at the faculties level, and what an achievement that it is also the only theoretical faculty among the top 10 ranked faculties.

The Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Dr. Mahmoud Al-Saeed, expressed his gladness and thanks to all members of the faculty, from the administrative team to the faculty members to the students and staff of the faculty. We do not need to mention how much everyone in this special and unique institution has worked to achieve this goal because their efforts really illuminate the faculty. These efforts are crystal clear and are proven by every achievement of the faculty.

Also, it is worth noting the role of Elite Magazine in this achievement and how grateful the Elite team is to be a part of it.



The Government Excellence Award can be summarized that in order to achieve the sustainable development strategy, the “Egypt Award for Government Excellence” was launched under the management of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, which was held in its second session in October. This award aims to stimulate the spirit of competition and excellence at the level of employees on one hand, and at the level of institutions of government on the other hand. This award, or rather the effectiveness as a whole, also aims to find the best and most effective administrative strategies to adopt them and to support the government sector and promote it to the highest levels.

In accordance with the goal of the Egypt Award for Government Excellence, the government institutions and agencies that received this award must have implemented all quality standards efficiently and raised the administrative level of their institutions to provide the best services while achieving the requirements of their employees and the satisfaction of all parties.

It is not surprising that the Faculty of Economics and Political Science won this position. Everyone there works hard and collaborates to achieve the best output, and develop educational means in all ways to create generations that build the future.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who contributed to this achievement, especially the Dean of the College, Prof. Dr. Mahmoud Al-Saeed.



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For this occasion, a ceremony was held in honor of the team preparing the governmental excellence file, the faculty members, and the administrative staff - on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at the Triumph Hotel in New Cairo, in the presence of Ambassador Nabila Makram, Minister of State for Immigration and Egyptians Affairs Abroad, and Prof. Saleh Al-Sheikh, head of the Central Agency for Organization and Administration, and Major General Ashraf Kahla, director of the Institute for Intelligence and Security Studies.



And a special honor for ELITE Magazine for its effective role among the components of the faculty's file to obtain the Governmental Excellence Award - and the honor was received by the Editor-in-Chief: Ramy Magdy

تحت إشراف وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي - جامعة القاهرة - كلية الاقتصاد والعلوم السياسية



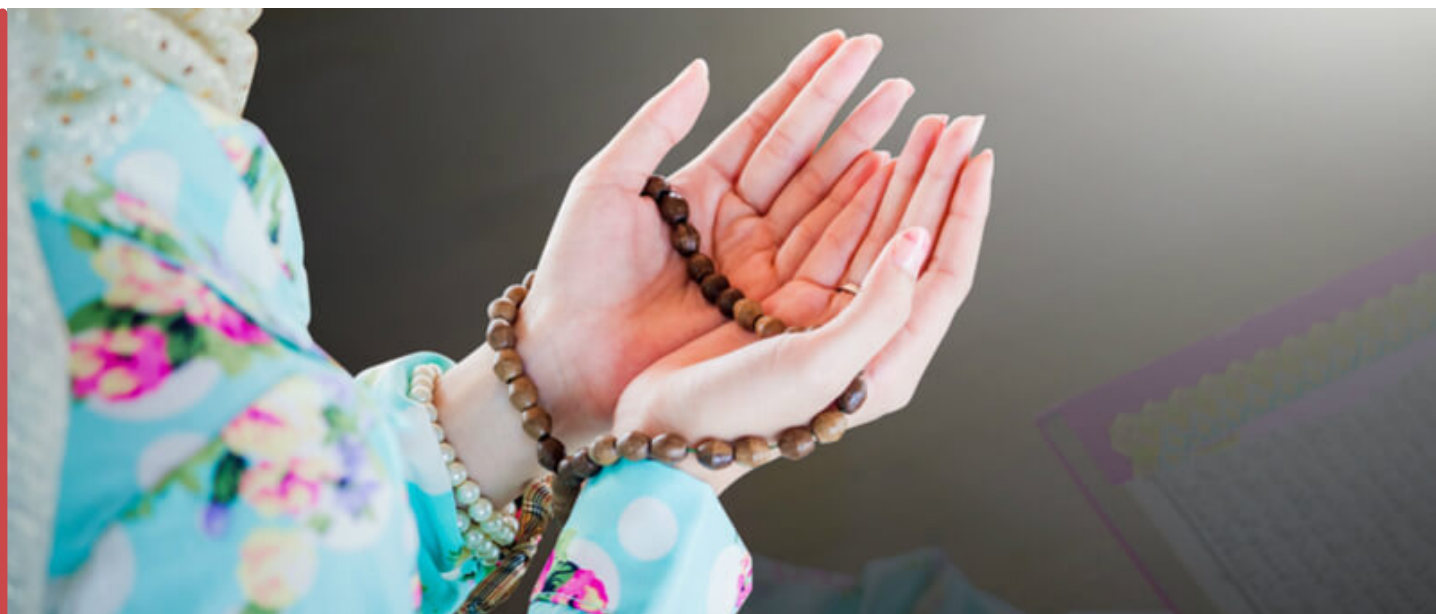
THE PRAYER

Prof. Hanan M. Aly, Vice-dean for Education and Student Affairs

On the afternoon of a cold winter day, and while he was sitting in his office busy with his work, his phone rang and he looked at it. To his surprise, it was his mother's number. Usually, she does not call him during work as she knows the accurate nature of his work and his need to focus. However, she sends him a message to call later when his time allows it. He came out of his surprise by the ongoing ringing of his phone, and here he said to himself that there is nothing he could do but answer. The first thing he heard was his mother's low voice saying, "My son, I want to say goodbye to you before my departure." His astonishment prevented him from speaking, and before he could utter a word, she said, "I'm waiting for you at the train station at four o'clock in the afternoon." And here he burst out saying, "Mom, what kind of travelling is this? Where to? and why didn't you tell me before? Are you travelling to—?" She interrupted him, saying, "I hope you are not late." then she hung up. He sat in shock for a few seconds, unable to move. Then he looked at the wall clock in front of him, only for him to say, "Oh my God, less than an hour and a half left, and the road trip is

long and congestion is high at this time of the day." He let out a long sigh, gathered his papers, put on his coat, and sped off. As he was driving, he suddenly remembered that he was supposed to pick up his children from school today and that his wife will meet them at the mall to dine out and shop. So, he had to call his wife quickly, saying, "My dear wife, I'm sorry, I won't be able to pick up the children from school today." "Why? I promised them yesterday and they were so happy and excited to buy some clothes for Eid," replied his wife. "I'll make it up to them and we will go out another time Insha'Allah," he said. "Your voice sounds troubled... Is there something you're hiding from me? Are you okay? Have you been assigned a task—?" she began to say filled with worry before he interrupted her and said, "I'm fine, but I have to meet my mother at the train station." She set off in a flurry of questions, "What a surprise? Are you travelling with her? And where? And when—?" he interrupted her once more, "No, I'll just see her off. You should go home with the children and wait for me."

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On the road, he tried to call his mother over and over, but to no avail, she wouldn't answer. So, he began to go crazy with thoughts and he recalled what she had said in her brief call. He then began to remember what she did in her previous travels to many provinces. Whether to attend a conference, discuss a thesis, offer her condolences, or for any other reason.

She used to tell him before travelling, so that he would book her train tickets back and forth, reserve a place for residence and drive her to the station. He remembered that she preferred to travel early in the morning, asking him to book the first train.

But today? He couldn't understand what had happened, and what the matter was with this sudden travel? Was she going to their village? Here, he remembers that there is no longer a place to go after the death of his uncles and the sale of the family house.

As questions multiplied in his mind, he began to remember his memories with his mother when she would take him with her on her travels. She would bring stories to read to him while traveling when he was young, but he used to read them alone while she was busy reading her books. They would always eat chocolate biscuits together, so much so they called it

“travel biscuits”. And she would take him for a walk after her work and buy him a simple gift so that it would remain a souvenir from everywhere they went.

While he was lost in his memories, he remembered that his mother asked him to come at four o'clock. He looked at his watch and it was quarter to four, then he looked at the road and sighed, saying, "There is a lot of distance to go and I'm running out of time." So, he decided to take the sideways alleys at full speed. After a while he arrived at the station and it was seven minutes before four.

He left the car, got down quickly and entered the station searching all the faces in hopes of finding what he was looking for, and in a far seat he found her. She rose quickly and happily, raising her arms in the air to embrace him. She hugged him tightly and a tear escaped from her eyes, but she tried to hide it before kissing his forehead and saying, "Son, forgive me. I must have disturbed you and spoiled your day, I just missed you and wanted to say goodbye."

He took her by the hand, patted her shoulder, sat her down and sat next to her then said, "What is wrong mother? I was so worried about you; you should have told me earlier so I would arrange matters for you."



She looked at him with kindness and tenderness, saying, "There is no need for preparations." He hurriedly said, "I want to know immediately where is your destination? And when will you come back?"

She was silent and did not answer him, so he furrowed his eyebrows and looked at her with a surprised face and with a quavering voice, he said, "Mom, why didn't you answer my calls?"

"I left my phone at home," she replied, lowering her head and looking at the ground.

He suddenly rose up and said, "How shall I check on you and make sure that everything is going well, then?"

Here, she stood up, and gently stated, "It is time to leave."

He, in turn, stood looking at the seat and on his right and left, wondering, "Where is your bag, mom? Your clothes, your books, your computer, your reading glasses, and—"

She interrupted him and grabbed her little handbag and said, "I don't need all these things anymore."

He looked at her in astonishment, "What are you carrying in this little bag, then? Is it our travel biscuits?"

She answered him as she started to move, "No, I only carry my ID and some pictures."

He hurried after her, "What pictures? Could you please let me see them?"

She answered him as she opened her bag to show him what was inside, "I carry your picture and other pictures of many people that I drew from my imagination."

He questioned, while looking inside the bag, "Who are all of these? What are their names and numbers? So, I could ask them about you to check on you?"

She said as she bid him farewell, "I don't know their numbers and I don't remember most of their names. All I know is that I helped this one, understood that one, solved the problem of this, comforted this and comforted that,... Their prayers for me may benefit me."

She was overwhelmed with tears as she put her hand in the bag and took out a big key. She gave it to him and ran away quickly, so he called after her saying, "Mom, wait! What is this?"

"This key is my prayer for you, it will open closed doors for you," she said, hurrying to the far sidewalk.

He couldn't control himself while he ran after her, calling: "Mom...Mom..." He couldn't see her anymore, she's gone out of sight.



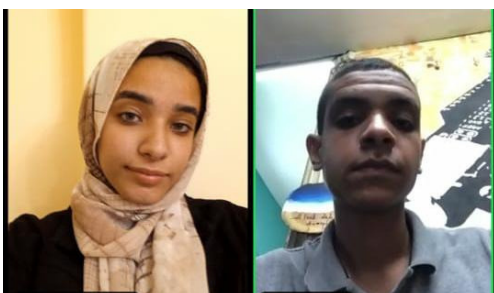


WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT CLIMATE CHALLENGES ? (A DISCUSSION)

Carolyn sherif -Jomana Khaled -Mostafa Maher-Assile Mostafa-Hana Zakria- Mark Nabil-Hania Bahaa

God has endowed man with countless and innumerable things. He gave him life and given him the mind to know how to manage it. He was given the choice to either be good or to choose corruption. The manifestations of divine giving are evident to us when God chose our master Adam from all other creatures to build and populate the Earth. Not only this, but the matter is that God has made us his successors on this Earth. Meaning that we are on his behalf in it to take its good and avoid its evil, but things don't always go as planned.

The Glasgow Climate Conference was held on October the 31st and will continue till November the 12th. It is a conference that was established to put an end to the violations of God's successors on his land on the planet and a well-known occasion to inform the whole world about the latest environmental developments that our planet has reached. That's why, we -the Elite team- decided to interview some Cairo University students to ask them about this conference, as an initiative to educate everyone about the importance of preserving the environment. Our meetings with these students were very fruitful and the questions went as follows:



At first, our question was, is the student interested in climate issues or not?

Answers mostly showed that there is no great interest in these issues. Some even said that they were not aware of the existence of such conference in the first place. However, one Law student showed her disappointment, "I feel resentful because unfortunately, no courses are taught in the Faculty of Law on environmental law." and she added that this is due to her interest in it.

Then we moved on to another question.

Did the student know that the Glasgow Summit will be held on 1 and 2 November this year? How often does the student follow up on issues related to climate change?

We found out that everyone asked, without exception, answered that they did not know the timing of the conference and that they only heard about the topic through social networking sites. Thus, it became clear throughout the interview that issues related to the environment are not popular among the majority of students and that many of them do not care about such issues.

We asked them to rate on a scale from 1 to 10, how bad they think climate change is?

The responses differed slightly; where one student said, "The planet will not last for more than five years, I say it is bad by 8.5." Another answered, "8/10 due to the environmental disasters that can occur." She also mentioned that climate change affects her daily life. Other answers were more pessimistic; which goes on to reflect the slight difference in the points of view with regards to this matter.

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Then, we moved on to ask them whether from their points of view, the climate change crisis affects their daily lives from near or far?

We found out that all the responses unanimously agreed that the climate change crisis affected their daily lives, even if the degree of impact varied from one interviewee to another.

One of the students justified her answer by saying, "Climate change led to the withering of many coral reefs. It also had a direct impact on marine life in general."

She continued, "Water temperature was also affected, so much so that the sea became warm in the winter and cold in the summer."

"Temperatures, in general, have become quite extreme; the summer has become extremely hot," she concluded by saying that she believes that all of this is due to climatic change. Therefore, we can see that this explanation is based on a real life experience that she went through despite it affecting her from afar not in her daily life.

Another student talked about the harsh degree to which the climate has reached as a result of global warming. She elaborated on her point of view by saying, "Look how things have turned out to be; the summer has become very hot while the winter is very cold."

Here, we can see that she is talking about the effect closely. For it is known that, the nature of the climate in Egypt is moderate in both winter and summer.

And we added a question: Are gases emitted from the main causes of the temperature rise? And if that is true, in your opinion, what are the appropriate measures that the state can take to reduce these emissions?

In addition, they were asked that knowing that the increase in emissions of Greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide leads to the risk of premature death, can you legalize the use of your car or "gasoline consuming" public transportation as a campaign to reduce air pollution? , we find everyone agreeing to this proposition that gas emissions are one of the main reasons for the temperature rise, and everyone agreed on the need to provide solutions to solve the gas emissions crisis that increases the climate problem. With the need to address the emissions resulting from the operation of these factories in any modern way, while some saw the need to reduce dependence on old energy sources that pollute the environment and move to modern, renewable energy sources that are clean and non-polluting to the environment, and thus reduce the impact of greenhouse gas emissions such as carbon dioxide, Everyone agreed in the matter of reducing gasoline and using public transportation to reduce the risks resulting from them and causing damage to the environment, but in this case, they wish for appropriate solutions, although some see the need to move to the stage of operating vehicles with renewable energy such as electricity, which reduces the risks of pollution. While some praised the Egyptian state's approach now, which is presenting a good initiative to reduce the use of fuel that harms the environment, by replacing vehicles Those that use gasoline are other modern vehicles that use natural gas and electricity to reduce the expected risks to the environment.

And we wanted to know, Do they think that the developed countries of the world can make decisions that contain the climate change crisis? Do they think issues related to



so that the answers come mostly in agreement with the importance of the role of the developed countries in the issue of containing the crisis, due to what they can do in finding solutions and creating appropriate infrastructure for this, as well as their unlimited ability to rely on renewable and costly sources of energy.

but the whole issue constitutes a crisis only if we look To the developing countries that possess old energy sources such as coal, oil, and gas, which have very dangerous effects on the environment, and therefore, to contain the crisis, international solidarity is required at the highest level to transfer expertise and experiences and together to eliminate this crisis, and everyone believes that the issue of change The climate has become critical and it is necessary to intervene and provide appropriate solutions and even work to implement them as soon as possible so that the situation does not get out of control.

And finally, they were asked what avenues can be taken in Egypt to become a more climate-conscious country at the micro and macro level? And finally, are you ready to "start with yourself" to sacrifice some of the daily habits that we practice that may harm nature and lead to climate change, or do you see that the solution to this problem begins only with the countries themselves taking the necessary measures?

for different answers to come from everyone. They made suggestions in this regard. We find one of the students saying, "We in Egypt need to educate simple people about the problems and dangers that we face if we do not change our habits. We also need state bodies that monitor the problems and always suggest alternative solutions. And this is the opinion that a large number of students agreed with, and everyone was fully prepared to begin by himself to sacrifice some of the daily habits that he practices to preserve the environment, even if some see the need for states to intervene and provide radical solutions that are imposed on their peoples. The first is to educate them and raise them to respect the environment and preserve their planet so that the incident does not happen and things get out of control one day.



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WOMEN AGAINST FEMINISM!

Yasmeen Aladdin Abdel-Atey

Teaching Assistant, Political Science Department & Research Assistant at Women's Studies Unit

We often hear plenty of rhetoric that orbits around the idea that the real enemy to a woman is indeed woman themselves; and that feminism is merely an ideological framework aimed at destroying the values and foundations of society and at generalizing the grievances of women, which had transpired out of thin air... These unfounded theses alongside many other commonly shared notions concerning how women view each other and how we view feminism as well as the stereotypes attached to it have formed the basic background against which we judge the ideology. Having such a distorted and malformed basis of misconceptions as your starting point for your mental image of feminism and its essential role in defending women's issues has managed to frame and give rise to the idea: "I am not a feminist and I do not need it" amongst women. Such rise is no more evident and articulated than in the launch of the hashtag '#WomenAgainstFeminism' on Tumblr in 2014-2017 as a reaction to the feminist campaign 'Who needs Feminism?' launched earlier.



This hashtag was able to spread widely throughout social media, especially on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube, and it provided the opportunity for some to share pictures (of women) accompanied by posts whose content starts with the claim that they do not need feminism. This trend considered feminism to be a harmful or toxic ideology that promotes hatred of men and marginalizes their traditional roles in society, which they on the other hand are strongly attempting to preserve. In addition, this hashtag was able to document the view that discredits the existence of a so-called "patriarchal system" and regards it as a myth or illusion. Additionally, it questions the credibility of what they see as the feminist perspective of dividing society into two groups one of "the rapist men" and another of "the victimized women" and many other ideas associated originally with efforts focused on destroying feminist thought and its various struggles.



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One might assume that this movement/hashtag is a new one, but it is not new at all, rather it roots back to the nineteenth century as well as the seventies of the twentieth century. Back then, it took the form of women-led demonstrations held against women’s rights and equality demanded by the feminist movement and thought, mainly in western societies. These women, whose ideas have survived the run of history so far and even developed, were given the label ‘antifeminist’ and were deemed as being ‘antifeminism’. Their firm stance against feminist thought and ideology nowadays is based on their rejection of the existence of this delusionary image of “a constant, bloody conflict between the sexes”– which they claim demolishes and divides society according to its biased and illusory visions. The most important ideas related to this “antifeminist” trend:

On the other hand, these ideas have since spread in our Arab region, whether on social media or in reality from one woman to the other. Their central focus here also rests upon the “popular sayings” or notions that women are their own worst enemies and that feminism belittles the importance of women’s social roles, besides many other accusations that are similar to those listed by the supporters of the ‘#WomenAgainstFeminism’ hashtag. Though, of course, taking into account the different cultural idiosyncrasies or mannerisms of other women.



1. Feminists are aggressive and domineering, as are masculinists (men’s rights activists).
2. They do not need feminism because equality prevents the real empowerment of women in society.
3. Women already see themselves as truly equal to men.
4. Feminism hates men and villainizes them as inherently bad people and rapists, while they view women only as victims in societies.
5. Feminism rejects the traditional social roles of women, especially the presence of women inside homes of their own free will.

However, if we attempt to analyze these popular sayings and theses and to evaluate the trend/hashtag that has negatively affected women’s views of feminism in western or Arab societies, then we can see that this discourse only displays the stereotypical images of the feminist thought and movement. These stereotypes have been able to hide and perhaps destroy the true essence of the perspective while influencing women’s views towards each other in particular and creating an internal conflict between them. Ironically, women who have been able to voice their opinions, whether on the ground or virtually, to express that they are equal with men or that they have the freedom of choice concerning their social and “traditional” roles, and to have the ability to participate in the public sphere, could only do so because of the ongoing feminist struggle.



One that has long since been calling for the presence of women in public spheres, advocating for their rights and gender equality, and providing the means through which the voiceless can finally speak out. Thus, the view of feminists is not that all women are victims but rather that they are active actors in whichever society they are.

Additionally, we must acknowledge that the strengths of the patriarchal system lay in its ability to mobilize all its formal and informal endeavors to create a culture that is hostile and misogynistic, regardless of whether this misogyny manifests within women or towards each other. This is patriarchy's attempt at preoccupying women with internal problems and at projecting a deceptive and false image that conceals the real feminist demands of all different aspects: political, social, and/or cultural. Besides, this highlights the system's ability to create imaginary conflicts that result

in the disregard and neglect of the real situation of women, which we can demonstrate through the following:

- Gender gap and inequality indicators
- Numerous cases of gender-based discrimination and violence
- Strengthening and defense of women's rights that directly stem from human rights; or against the various violations befalling women...etc.

What we ought to do now is to rethink the status of women within the patriarchy, and to direct attention to the fact that women are indeed not enemies to each other. The real enemy is the one crystallized in the form of the patriarchal system, which feeds (politically, economically, socially, and culturally) on the promotion of stereotypes and false images of the feminist thought and movement.





EXPO 2020 DUBAI

Malak Ashraf, Third Year, Economics Major

The ad campaigns of Expo 2020 Dubai have probably caught your attention recently, and maybe two of the questions you had in mind are: what exactly is a World Expo and why is this one particularly important?

A World Expo —as you might have guessed— is a global event that gathers countries, governments, organizations, and visitors from all over the world. All with the aim of showcasing and exploring cultures, latest technological inventions, art, food, architecture and every thing else that can distinguish each country. Thus, they promote international cooperation and share the best practices on critical issues faced by the whole world yet in a festive, educational and engaging context. World expos have a history of highlighting the emergence of brilliant inventions; think of the Telephone and Television, unprecedented Architecture and Buildings like the Eiffel Tower and the Ferris Wheel, as well as brand innovations like the Heinz Ketchup and Popcorn.

World Expos highlight certain global challenges represented in their themes —which are their main focus— where solutions and innovations addressing them are highly encouraged. A World Expo was first introduced in 1851 when The Great Exhibition, held in the famous Crystal Palace in London, showcased the industrial technological innovations following the Industrial Revolution. World Expos take place every five years and last up to six months. Their organization is regulated by the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) which is an intergovernmental organization of 170 member states located in Paris. The hosting country for the expo is elected and the BIE supervises its organization for the expo.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) won the elections in 2013, becoming the host country of the World Expo 2020. Unfortunately, the unexpected pandemic crisis resulted in postponing it —as approved in accordance with other participating nations— from October 2020 to October 2021.

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However, the expo's name was kept as it is, **Expo 2020 Dubai**, for marketing reasons. The expo's motto is: **“Connecting Minds and Creating the Future”** with three sub-themes: **Sustainability, Opportunity** and **Mobility**.

Each sub-theme has its own pavilion in addition to the participating countries' pavilions, each one of which follows a sub-theme. The 2020 Expo shall last for 6 months during which all the countries will commemorate together international celebrations and national and international days. Also, they would participate in the expo's programmes such as the "Entertainment Programme" and "Programme for People and Planet", in addition to each participant's own programmes and events. Among the most attention-grabbing pavilions are UAE's falcon-shaped pavilion, Saudi Arabia's pavilion (the second largest one that looks like a mass rising from the ground), and the UK's.

The latter is inspired by a Stephen Hawking project emphasizing the importance of Artificial Intelligence, all displayed in the opportunity district. Other interesting pavilions are: the Japanese, Moroccan and Singaporean pavilions.

So, what makes Expos extremely important and full of opportunities?

In addition to the enhanced international relations, cultural exchange and potential for extraordinary inventions, an important aspect of expos (particularly to the hosting country) is that, just like any grand international event, it supports tourism, investments and business collaborations. Moreover, by organizing such a prolonged and significant event, the hosting country gains prestigious recognition among other countries. However, participating countries can benefit greatly from this expo as well. Since each of the 191 participants establishes its own pavilion, it has an opportunity to showcase its architecture, culture, vision, etc., and to promote its own touristic venues and investment opportunities in an advertising manner.

Furthermore, countries benefit from each other's experiences and development and can establish relations or collaborations that could help in fulfilling each one's development agendas and goals.

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Egypt at Dubai Expo 2020

Egypt is among the countries that chose the Opportunity sub-theme for their pavilions. With a slogan: “**Legacy Empowering Future**” and a logo being a combination of the two most important natural resources of the country: water and land, the Egyptian pavilion showcases ancient Egyptian history featured through the archaeological replicas and screen shows on one hand and the current development in multiple fields like tourism, new cities, education and health on the other hand. Designed by Egyptian Architect Hazem Hamada, the pavilion’s building looks like an edifice that is decorated from the outside with hieroglyphic letters. The 3-storey pavilion is divided from the inside into many zones, among which are: Suez Canal, New Cities, Culture, Iconic Figures, Mega-Projects, and the Eye on Egypt zone. The latter offers a telescopic view of some of the well-known touristic destinations in Egypt. In addition, there is the Time Machine which offers a 3D journey through Egypt from the past till the present. The pavilion shall host a total of 116 events for the expo’s duration. These events are a variety of cultural salons, seminars, sessions, and workshops. They will cover different topics such as green tourism, the development of the ICT sector in Egypt, women’s role, and space technology, in addition to musical events.

One of the highlights of the Egyptian participation in the Expo has been its active engagement with the women’s pavilion events. Another was the signing of a protocol between the Information Technology Industry Development Agency "ITIDA" and Nile Online to boost the company's outsourcing and IT services to its foreign clients. Accordingly, the 2020 Expo Dubai is especially important to us since it’s **the first in the Middle East**. Thus, it is an opportunity that must be exploited.



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OUT OF OIL, WATER AND ELECTRICITY.. BUT NEVER OUT OF WEAPONS

Mariam Ismail, L2, Political Science, mariam.ismail2020@feps.edu.eg

As the Lebanese people took to the streets, one began to think that maybe it was the end of the sectarian separation quite famous in the country. However, not long after, we were proven wrong. On the 14th of October, protests called for by the Shiite parties Hezbollah and Amal erupted contesting the probe of the blast's investigation. The protestors were heading to a demonstration in front of the court of justice to demand the removal of Tarek Bikar the judge leading the investigation.

Up to this point, it all seems normal, just another protest in Lebanon. What doesn't make it normal is the fact that this demonstration happened in a neighborhood that used to be one of the frontlines of the civil war between Maronite Christian and Shiite militia, as matter of fact until this day this neighborhood is divided between both of them. And to make matters worse, sometime during the demonstration, shooting started between the Shiites and the Christian Lebanese forces resulting in six deaths all from the Shiite side and more than 30 injured, marking this as the gravest street violence that has happened since the end of the civil war a decade ago. Shiite are accusing the LF of firing first while the LF is claiming that the sniper who started it was from the Shiite part. The truth? Well, unless you were in the middle of the shooting you wouldn't know; actually, even if you were there then you'd either be a Christian accusing Shiites or a Shiite accusing the LF. Which leaves our question unanswered for the moment.

Furthermore, the other more important question that led to all of this still remains unanswered; who is responsible for the port blast? Now, one must be wondering why the Lebanese would want to stop such an important investigation. Many reasons, first of all, it has been over a year and the court hasn't made any progress so far. Second of all, many ministers and individuals in positions of power refused to comply with court orders and didn't even show up for the investigation. Third of all, Hezbollah and its allies are accusing Bikar of primarily targeting Shiite leaders and their allies. Therefore, doubting the transparency and credibility of the investigations. On the other side, some people think Hezbollah wants to stop the investigation to reinforce their impunity and escape any type of accountability or punishment. And for the second time, as much as I wanted to be the messenger of good news, unfortunately, we have no idea where the truth is.



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Four days after this tragic event, the funeral of the six dead moved, headed by members of the two Shiite parties shooting fire in the skies as they marched in the streets of different sects. Needless to say, that was a statement, they were shouting “Shia, Shia, Shia” in a clear demonstration of power trying to intimidate anyone who thinks about crossing them again. However, it was hard to ignore the number of weapons used in both the shooting and the funeral, which left a lot of people questioning. If Hezbollah was really after the truth that will comfort the Lebanese people, then why are they wasting all their resources on weapons instead of helping these people overcome what they’re going through economically.

In short, it seems that -unfortunately- Lebanon might be on the verge of another civil war. This, however, is stranded by the decision of the prime minister whether the investigation will continue or not. Before this happens, the Lebanese people must take a minute to think and remember how frightened and traumatized they were just by the sound of the bullets in the air. Lebanon and its people have suffered long enough from separation and fights all because of people who decided to plant hate and suspicion instead of peace and fraternity, but let’s be real. If these leaders are fighting in the name of their sect and religion, if they want to present their prophets and books; then why are they hiding behind desks and microphones? Why aren’t they in the street side by side with their so-called brothers, for whom they care? After all, there has never been a prophet in the world who let his people fight for him without being in the first row, so where are they now?



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Exploring The Metaverse

Noor Khaled - Sophomore - Economics
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Following CEO Mark Zuckerberg’s announcement that Facebook will become Meta, the world buzzed with the idea of the “new” and exciting concept of the Metaverse.

The term “Metaverse,” however, is not a new one. Thirty years ago, the term was coined by Neal Stephenson, who used it in his fiction novel “Snow Crash,” and the concept itself was spoken about even before then.

And just like people found it difficult to picture what the internet would be like long before it was created, we are now trying to envision what seems to be a distant reality.

A reality where we can go beyond the vast but limited interactions and uses we have of the Internet today towards a more immersive experience. So, what exactly is the Metaverse, and when will it happen?

In a literal sense, the word “Metaverse” — a portmanteau word of the Latin term “meta,” which means beyond or transcending, and “universe” — means beyond the universe. Some people describe it as an iteration of the Internet

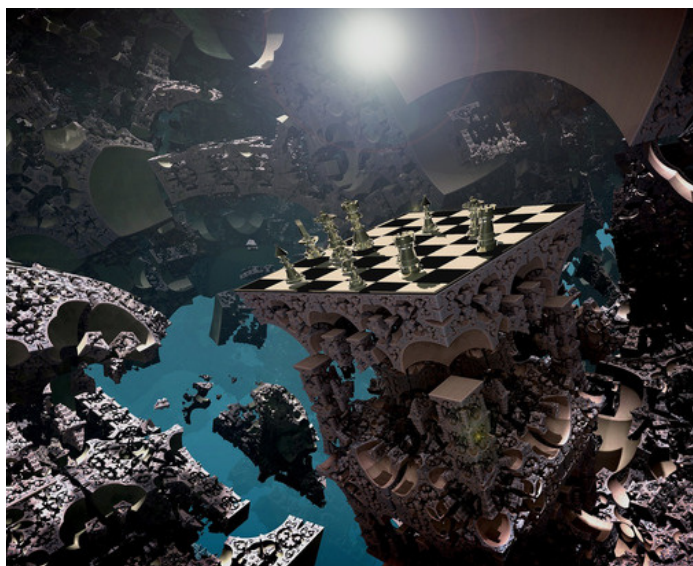
or even the end of the internet as we know it today since it will be a combination of the physical world, virtual world, and augmented reality. In reality, however, the meaning of the Metaverse and its scope is still evolving.

To understand what the Metaverse may feature, we have to clear up some misconceptions about what the Metaverse is.

The Metaverse is not exclusively a virtual space, a virtual world, a virtual reality, or a virtual economy; more importantly, it is not a video game. These terms fail to encompass the scope of the Metaverse, which is a complete extension of reality where you can work, learn, create, travel, play, and connect with people.

To bring it closer to reality, imagine if you could play The Sims using a virtual headset. You can build and live in the house you dream of in the place you wish to be without physically having to do any of that in the real world. You can go to work, school, or visit art galleries without physically being there.

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There is a high demand for the Metaverse, and powerful engines and platforms that can be used to build the Metaverse — such as Epic Games’ Unreal Engine, Unity, and Nvidia's Omniverse — already exist.

However, the technology needed to fully immerse users is still very limited. That is why technology companies like Meta and gaming companies are rushing to invest in the development of immersive hardware like augmented reality glasses and virtual headsets.

In conclusion, the Metaverse is hard to define, but it can be referred to as an immersive 3D virtual world where people can communicate with each other and interact with everything in it. However, instead of a phone acting as the link between you and the Internet, augmented reality wear, virtual reality headsets, and even implanted chips will be the link between our physical bodies and the Metaverse.

While some people fear it will be the demise of humanity in the long run and the creation of a dystopian Matrix, others are incredibly excited about the avenues the Metaverse may open.

With the birth of the Internet, the world was never the same. And just as we cannot imagine what the world would look like without the Internet today, I believe that future generations will not be able to imagine life without the Metaverse.



With the right technology, you could even experience the wonders of the present, past, or even fictional world using your five senses from the comfort of your own home. How delightful does that sound?

Now that we know what the Metaverse is not, we can define what experts believe will be some of the characteristics of the Metaverse.

First, experts think that the Metaverse will be persistent; continuing endlessly without pause. Not only will it be persistent, but it will also be synchronous and live, where events take place in real-time for everyone. Second, the Metaverse will be a blend of both the physical and virtual worlds.

Third, it will be interoperable, meaning that the different systems within the Metaverse will be connected and able to exchange information. Fourth, it will be a fully functioning economy where anyone can buy, sell, create, and invest in works. Finally, the Metaverse will not have a sole creator; many individuals and businesses will contribute to creating it.

From these attributes, we can deduce that the Metaverse will become a reality once we have demand, the right software, and hardware. We can consider the first two criteria of our checklist accomplished.

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The 2021 Nobel Prize of Economics

Ogine Ibrahim

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One of the most important international awards that the world awaits every year. An award that is not only financial but highly appreciated as well, Its "the Nobel Prize". The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced Monday that the economists: David Card, Joshua Ingrete and Guido Empense have won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Economics.

It is worth mentioning here that the specialized committee honored these three scientists for their innovative ideas about the labor market, and for using the causal relationship more effectively, which helped them reach new results that benefit the society as a whole. And to delve deeper into what they presented. Ulla Card, the Canadian and the professor at the University of California, Berkeley, used natural experiments to analyze the impact of minimum wages, on immigration and education on the labor market. He succeeded in reaching many important conclusions: increasing the minimum wage does not necessarily lead to job abolition, the subjects that students study in schools have an important role for students' success in life, especially in the labor market, and not some of the mock materials are only indoctrination, as some claim. The other awards went to Ingrist, an Israeli-American, professor at MIT, and Empnes, a Dutch-American professor at Stanford, for their "systematic contributions to the analysis of causal relationships. They reached a very important conclusion, which is that everything that increases an individual's academic

life increases the possibility of his/her pay rise. As they concluded that: "An additional school year increases average wages by 9%, and that Americans born in the last part of the year have better educational attainment."

Effective economic efforts and contributions don't only deserve these international awards, but all our support and attention as well. Because they're not only beneficial on the economic level, as they have a significant impact on society too. So if we look at Card's contributions about the importance of science subjects in schools. After examining its convincing evidence, this can encourage many students to become interested actually in what they are studying, because they are now convinced that what they are studying is useful for their academic and practical life. And for that reason too, came the contributions of Ingrete and Impens. As their evidence shows the positive relation between studies and pay rise. It will encourage many young people to complete their studies, halfway through claiming that it is useless and nothing but a certificate that will be put aside, and will not get them a serious job with a good income.

Despite that, we rarely find any Egyptian or Arabic names in the midst of this great party. Is this due to the weak capabilities of the Arab countries, or because of the strong attraction of distinguished minds from the major countries?



WE OWN BOTH THE RIGHT AND THE TRUTH

Esraa Gamal, Economics, Level 4

Dear Reader,

Finally, I have gotten the chance to analyze together with you a very important, but rather ambiguous issue. A truth that has been hidden from all of us, with some even carrying out multiple attempts to obliterate or further conceal it.

However, I would like to take you through a short journey to uncover this truth...

“Jews and Arabs are relatives and cousins!”

What do you think of this phrase? Do you view it as a given truth or just one lie in the midst of many others that are continuously being spread and engraved in our minds for the sake of a disgraceful colonizing goal?

Well... the whole notion actually runs quite deep! This idea of blood-relatedness between Arabs and Jews, which casts a shadow over our main crucial issue in Palestine.

However, we are not here to open a discussion regarding the available presented solutions to solve the Palestinian struggle. For any solution that does not restore the situation to what it was before 1948, or should we say before 1918, is absolutely unacceptable without discussion. Any situation that does not exclude Israel from existence should acquire no place in scientific research.

It is observed that most of our Arabic writings on the Israeli enemy take an entirely political perspective, with given and absolute inputs. However, there are too many hidden images and missing information, as if we are merely chasing a ghost!

That is why we believe that a scientific study is required in order to capture, embody and explain this ghost both historically and structurally. Such a study has become a conditional necessity for any proper Arab understanding. So, we will try to address this issue objectively away from our political bias, hard as it might psychologically be. Fortunately, the scientific evidence supports our political stances. As we own both the right and the truth.

Perhaps it is clear that the violent back and forth between growth and shrinkage, is a fundamental feature of the universal Jewish entity. It is a double oscillation across both time and space.

It is high time we asked some important questions:

- Who are the Jews and where is their position in the history of humanity?
- What is the relationship between the Jews of the Torah and the Jews of today?
- How valid is it to say that Jews and Arabs are cousins?

Slow down, dear reader. Everything will be clarified shortly ...

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Serological studies have actually proven that Jews display a high rate of variation in blood groups, which denies the homogeneity of their origin. As a result, Jews only represent a geographical unity (the first truth). Based on this last decisive judgment, the authors of "We are the Europeans" commented: "We rightly believe that Jews cannot be classified as a nation or as an anthropological unit, but rather as a social religious group."

However, Political Zionism is trying in vain to establish from the universal Judaism a population, a nation and a nationality. This is not only a falsification of the reality but also of history as most of the world's Jews are transformed foreigners.

According to a scientific study held by the British scientist James Fenton; 95% of Jews do not belong to the children of Israel but are transformed foreigners. Where the genetic character differs totally between the Torah Jews and Today's Jews from a scientific perspective (the second truth).

Hence, we have the right to claim that Today's Jews are not the children of Israel -the children of Prophets Isaac and Yacoub- and that there is no common bond between both except for the religion.

Only the religion.

Thus, there is no current blood relation between Arabs and Jews. We all agree that the Torah Jews and Arabs are cousins, where Ismail is the father of Arabs and Isaac is the father of the Jews.

But then, the descendants of the Jews had their bloods mixed with other strangers and foreigners. Up to the point where they have been occupied by people with no relation to Isaac or his son Israel.

So, Today's Jews are relatives to the Europeans and Americans where they now represent a crucial part or segment of them, even if the religion differed. Accordingly, the Jews of Europe and America are not strangers as they claim. For they are descendants of the natives, with religion as the only distinction between them. However, Jews are truly considered as outsiders in the Home of Arabs, Palestine. Where their existence represents nothing but colonialism and rape through oppression and extortion.

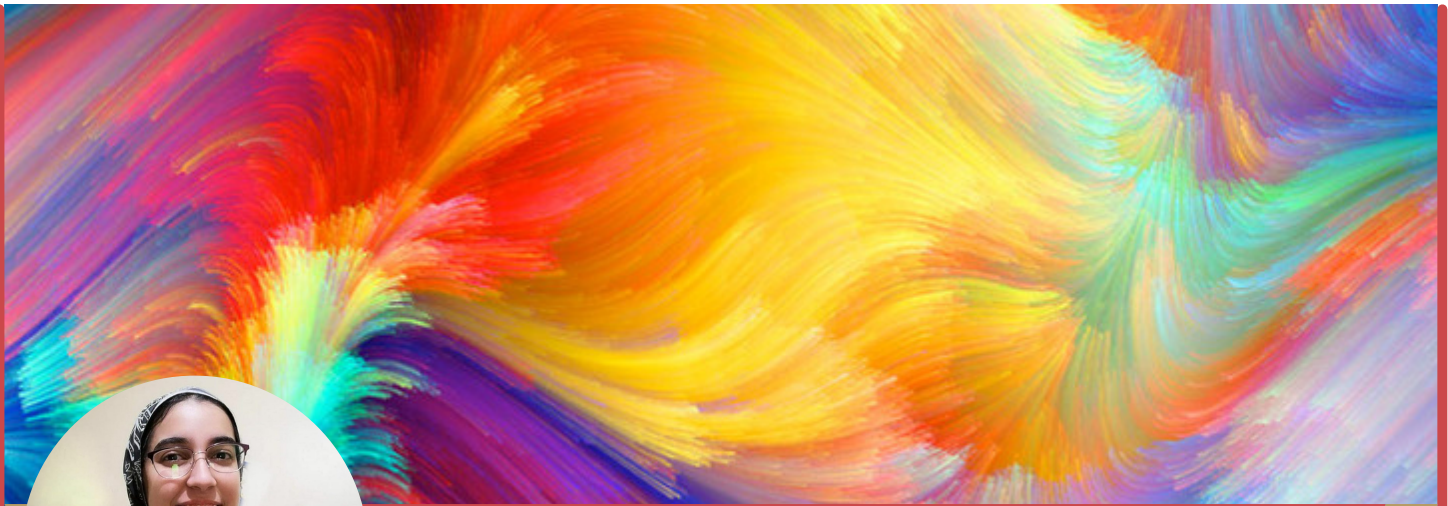
By that, our short journey ends, dear reader, yet it will be renewed once again and always. However, we must always avoid and prevent any of their attempts to influence our thought and culture. It is over and enough is enough!

We have our Arabism and Palestine is ours. No matter how hard they try and how intense their power and force become, they -by one way or another- are going to be defeated.

Do you know why?!

Yes, because we always own both the right and the truth.





COLORS...THE BEST MARKETING TOOL

FARAH ELMELEGY, ECONOMICS, THIRD YEAR ,FARAH.ELMELIGY2019@FEPS.EDU.EG

From the greatest arts in ancient days and painting on temple walls to making coloured movies and pictures to something as simple as choosing an outfit for the day, colours have always been used as a tool of self-expression since the beginning of time... It is one of the greatest non-verbal means of communicating one's thoughts and feelings.

Ever wondered why some banks' logos are blue? How about food chains and the colour red? Or maybe you are choosing the colour for your new eco-friendly brand, is black really the colour for it?

Colour psychology basically shows how colours affect one's behaviour, emotions and perceptions. It is how our brains link certain colours to specific emotions; red is warm as fire, yellow is bright as the sun....Although it is still very subjective how each person connects with colours, and despite having very little theoretical and empirical studies to back up such science, colour psychology is impactful enough that a main factor in marketing for prominent companies and franchises lies in colour branding. As humans are visual creatures, colours play a tremendous role in how we think, feel, react and

even in deciding whether to buy things or not. So, if you are an entrepreneur or an arts enthusiast, understanding colour symbolism will make your branding efforts more effective.

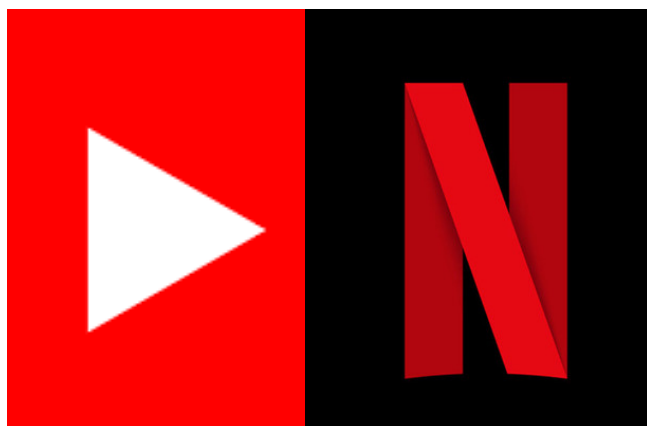


Colours generally fall under 3 categories; warm, cool and neutral. Warm colours, like red, spark various emotions ranging from warmth and passion to hostility and anger. That is why red is considered one of the most powerful colours in branding as it rapidly captures our attention and

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stimulates emotions. "Buy Now", "Click Here" and "Discount" are some of the basic examples of the colour's usage. Think about the famous Netflix and YouTube logos and how their branding strategies attract you to join and start watching. Red is also said to have an influence on increasing people's appetite if combined with another primary colour like yellow... McDonald's maybe? But beware, as if not used adequately, red could evoke a sense of danger. So



if you're looking for a loud, move-to-action kind of brand, red will surely stand out.

Sunshine, hope and joy... The colour yellow arouses cheerfulness and positivity. It always speaks to the kid inside of us just like Nesquik and Chupa Chups do. As a playful colour that is also an eyecatcher, yellow is the ideal choice for accenting any design. Think of taxicabs and warning signs. Bright yellow works on enticing one's nerves and senses. However, if overused, yellow could cause stress and anxiety and could cause some to be somewhat more judgmental. Furthermore, companies like Shell, DHL and Ikea use yellow to provide a sense of easy accessibility and speed.



Being a secondary colour, orange might not be as daring as red, but it definitely still holds the playfulness of yellow. It's a youthful colour often used with a young audience for a more friendly branding; just like how Nickelodeon does it by sparking enthusiasm and creativity. Moreover, it is associated with citrus and vitamin C products and drinks.

Moving on to the cool colours, blue comes at the very front. The colour of waves and skies, blue, evokes serenity and calmness leading to intensifying trust and stability. And that's exactly what banks need. Remember the CIB's slogan; "A bank to trust" ? Well, banks are not the only ones who use blue, most large corporations know how to use their colour strategies too. From Facebook and Twitter to Samsung and PayPal, they all rely on the safe atmosphere that blue shades tend to create.



From the lucky clover leaves to the dollar sign, green is always linked with nature and wealth. What makes it a great match to any environment or sustainability related product is that it



represents plants, which in turn helps in encompassing a sense of freshness and the enjoyment of an organic feel. As for the darker shades, they mostly represent prestige and money and are better suited for high-end brands similar to Starbucks.

Did you know that Queen Elizabeth I banned non-royals from wearing purple for years? That's how elite the colour is! Purple is a combination of two extremes: the fiery of red and the coolness of blue creating a nice balance between stimulation and serenity. It transmits regal vibes and luxury. With regards to its usage, it is often used as an accent colour, but keep in mind that too much purple can arouse a sense of arrogance. However, some brands like Yahoo and Cadbury use such colour to promote a lush experience.



Reaching the third category in color segmentation, neutrals are the most versatile colours of all. Starting off with the boldest color of all, black conveys a sense of power and dominance. Its intimidating vibes provide a whole aura of elegance and exclusivity. As for white, it is always connected to purity and sophistication. In fact, it is commonly used as a background colour for most brands' logos to bring together the whole image. Most premium brands like Apple, Chanel, and Dior use the black and white combinations to pass on such vibes.



Given its great connection to Earth, brown is perceived as a natural colour that induces a warm down to earth feeling. Brands related to coffee and chocolate like TBS, Galaxy or Hershey's use brown as their main color.



Now think about it, why choose one when you can choose all of them? A multicolour strategy also works. Using many colours at once provides a sense of playfulness and informality. ToysRUs and OurKids are great examples as they provide kids products. As for Google and eBay, they work on reaching people from all diverse backgrounds and cultures.



And the list goes on. Whether it's pink, turquoise, maroon or grey, each colour has its own psychology and symbolism. And now that you know the rules, feel free to create your very own. Just remember that personal preferences and cultural variations should be taken into consideration as well.

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THE GOOD CHILD AND THE NEGATIVE CITIZEN

Nora Mohamed Gad, Third Year, Political Science

“Obey what I say and be a good child.” and “Better stay away from politics.” are two phrases that are often said in the Arab world. The first is directed to young children and the second is for adults. Do they have any connection?

The child in the Arab world is normally raised according to a strict traditional upbringing pattern, the effects of which soon accompany the individual for the rest of their life. Which in turn affects various aspects of their life, including their political culture and their behavior towards power and politics in their country. It is no wonder that many political problems in the Arab world have a deep root that stems from the common method of Arab upbringing.

A sentence such as “Obey what I say and be a good child” explains a lot about the values that this educational method establishes. The precedent sentence may direct the child in most situations that are supposed to be related to their personal opinions, choices and privacy. Such as the amount of food they can eat, what clothes they should wear, or the game they want to play, i.e. things that adults are supposed to leave them the freedom and choice in deciding them, so that they are able to form their own personality.

As when they are deprived of the ability to choose and are forced to submit to what others dictate about it, they unconsciously learn that passivity, non-participation and lack of expression of opinion are good things and that if they continue to do so, they will always be a "good person".

Here, we note that all of the foregoing refusal to participate in decisions, passive obedience and fear of expressing opinions generate in the child an increased sense of selfishness and that the achievement of their individual interest is the most important goal. Where they are not accustomed to participating in their own decisions and the decisions of their family, let alone the decisions related to their society?!

Thus, there is no reason to be surprised when that child becomes a full-fledged adult citizen of their country, but nevertheless they did not rid themselves of the burdens of the beliefs that were ingrained in them during their childhood.

In general, we find that Arab citizens prefer to avoid active participation in the political life in their country, even if they are only partially interested in following up the situation in their country and discussing politics. They think that their participation in these matters is of no use to them, where the subjectivity that has been unconsciously entrenched in their minds confirms to them the idea that the interest of society is not their business as long as their interests are fine.

As a result of the normalization of one's receiving orders and advice as axioms, the Arab individual finds themselves in an advanced stage of their life receiving rumors and political ideas that are motivated by certain goals as postulates as well. Also, they do not think critically about its purpose or destination, but rather they may believe it and begin to spread it without realizing how much that harms them and their country.

Despite the efforts of authorities and activists in some Arab countries to attract citizens' attention to participate in political life, refute rumors and take initiative and positivity in societal and political decisions, the radical treatment of this issue will only start with education; by raising children who are able to choose, discuss and make decisions. They take initiatives in their affairs and the affairs of their family, which later will turn into the affairs of their community and society. Consequently, a child with a responsible and positive mentality will be raised. And this approach of thinking will continue to evolve with them as a citizen in their country or even as an individual in their family, work and society.

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"The Squid Game" Cost of Violence

Walaa Mohamad Abas Bahij, Third level, Political Science

Dear reader, You may wonder how a TV series can be a pillar in spreading violence among children. And also how Korean drama can invade most countries even though the Korean language is only spoken by its people. Hence, it's now necessary to answer these questions and understand the details of this attention-grabbing incident.

This series -The Squid Game- is a production of South Korea. It consists of nine episodes about a game of survival, and the heavily indebted characters competing in such deadly games. Moreover, the series is translated into 37 languages, dubbed in 34 languages, and it has achieved unprecedented number of views around the world estimated in millions. Yet, the remarkable thing is that the success of this series is not a result of promotional campaigns by Netflix as usual, but rather the story, characters, its visual and artistic formulation. This caused it to be watched at an accelerated rate among large audiences around the world, where it is considered the most watched non English-speaking work around the world as the percentage of viewers from outside South Korea exceeds 90%. However, it is very strange that this series was actually written in 2009 by Hwang Dong, yet many production companies rejected it due to the excessive violence.

Social media is also considered one of the most significant factors for its success, together with the timing of its showing; amid the pandemic and quarantine. Another very critical aspect is that the timing of its increased popularity coincided with the return of schools, which means that children can play this game in school with their peers. And here we begin to notice the great danger of this series, especially for children, because of course they tend to imitate Myron. However, an even more dangerous phenomenon is introducing this series' characters into the electronic games for children which are already full of violence.

Therefore, violence has become a live entertainment and even exceeded the existence of its characters as toy games for children to play with. Hence, A crucial question must be asked here about the absence of parental guidance and supervisory role in that matter.

For the burden of responsibility in this issue lies mostly on the parents because, as you already know, the Netflix platform shows a disclaimer before each episode that it is advisable not to watch this series for children less than 18 years old due to the large number of violence scenes that threaten children's behavioral and cognitive development. Also, many schools around the world have done their part by communicating their warnings of the risks of children watching this series, because of the killing and violence scenes of its characters that gives the child a negative mental image towards the world.

Thus, another very important question is raised: To what extent do people prefer material gain over sound child rearing? And to what extent are parents too busy for their children so much so that such a series gets millions of views among children?

Whereas such works are considered as embodiment of the harsh reality of neoliberal capitalism. Moreover, it attracted such a large audience as it combines child entertainment with deadly consequences. Furthermore, reactions on the series reveal South Korea's increasing influence on the global culture, after the success of the K-pop group BTS. This series won the Academy Award for the first and best non-English speaking show.

Finally, it should be noted that such scenes of violence and murder cause psychological distortions and behavioral disorders to children and adolescents, and they will raise violent behavioral tendencies, so its our responsibility together to avoid such a dangerous matter.

*CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST VIOLENCE AND BULLYING AT SCHOOL INCLUDING CYBERBULLYING



MORGAN IN THE PARLIAMENT (1)

Mohamed Awad , Level Four , Political Science

Truth be told, I thought a lot before writing this article, and wondered, "Would anyone care?" For hearing the word "Parliament" has become quite less frequent for the honorable reader. However, there always comes a moment when a person decides to act. Just act, without questioning. Who is Morgan?

At the beginning of the article, let's first get to know the hero of our story, "Morgan", and perhaps the answer to this question will make us dive into the depths of this exciting character. Morgan is someone who had a moment-like the one I experienced when I started writing this article- and decided not to continue his life normally.

Indeed, Morgan goes to a photography studio, wearing a luxurious suit and begins to stack his papers to run for parliament. Of course, Morgan has earned a fortune throughout his life, so he has all the ingredients that make him a Member of Parliament (MP); a lot of money, a luxurious suit and a 4x6 Picture.

And indeed, he actually runs for parliament, conducts a large electoral campaign, spends every precious thing to fill the ballot boxes on election days, so much so that people are panting behind Morgan and finally he succeeds! What does Morgan do? Morgan does not stop applauding...

Morgan goes to the session and sits amongst a bunch of other Morgans. Some of whom are Morgan by nature, others are even Morgan by inheritance. However, Morgan's favors don't run out. Morgan decides to do us yet another favor by staying silent. Always silent.

And now the reader may begin shaking their head while asking, "Is Morgan's silence a good thing? And is his mission primarily to be silent?"

To this, I say, "When you get to know Morgan well, you will be sure that his silence is a favor in my right, yours, and the right of every one of us. Because if he spoke, his words would cost us more than his silence."

And because being silent is always a difficult choice, and the duration is long, and there are too many sessions, Morgan usually breaks his silence with a long, warm round of applause, and a quick approval without thinking.

Now, is Morgan considered an offender or victim? This question may seem easy to some people and difficult to others. Others who may try to carry out a defensive ploy or attempt to sugarcoat the truth; to garner sympathy for Morgan and talk about him being a victim of a reality in which Morgans prevailed. Unfortunately, this is just a failed attempt that will continue to fail.

For when I looked into it, I could not find anything that excused Morgan's foolish act of going to the photography studio, taking a large picture of himself and instead of merely placing it on the wall of his house, he put it on the walls of all our houses. And on the highest request for nomination, he presented himself with what he knows no way for escape.

Morgan to where? And for how long? I could not find a better question than this to quickly conclude this article after becoming bored and depressed. For truth is, in our life people like Morgan multiply faster than flies do. Whenever a Morgan's star goes out, another shines, with much more boldness, a broader smile and a sharper look on his face.

He goes on with his life without a care, trampling on the dreams of thousands of people with his shiny shoes. Just to end up sitting down without saying a word and clap!!

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The Descent of the Greek Goddesses

Maryze Edwar, Level two, Economics

“You know dear, being a woman is a burden, giving birth to a girl is a catastrophe, bringing up girls and dealing with their hormones and emotions being on a rollercoaster 24/7 is the most difficult thing you shall bear, protecting your girls from the evil of this world will always bring you to your knees in despair and you are telling me why I am not happy with my newborn baby girl ?!!....”

These words, as once uttered, are the slogan representing our present times, resounding with awful echoes across different strata of the eastern society regardless of their level of education, social position or their financial status.

Females, long ages ago, were considered to be such sacred spirits; they were considered Greek goddesses in ancient Greek mythology and muses known for their enchanting beauty.

Although these mythologies are now considered as perfectly interesting bedtime stories, they were of great value to the ancient Greeks. They represented the religious reference to which they can resort, in addition to seeking enlightenment and inspiration from them.

Among the Greek goddesses -who were never of less importance than the Olympian gods- was Hebe, known as deity of everlasting youthfulness and charm. Hebe was also responsible for serving the divine nectar that made Olympian gods immortal. Another well-known goddess is Aphrodite, the goddess of beauty and love, who had powers to ignite affection within every creature's heart.

In addition to being the most beautiful goddess of them all, she was tremendously powerful; punishing those who disrespected her divine nature and immortality while shedding her grace upon those who worshipped her.

Women were not only that respected and worshipped in Greek mythology, but they were also looked at as divine spirits in Ancient Egyptian mythology. Which highlighted the story of King Osiris, Queen Isis and Osiris' evil brother Seth who killed him by putting him in a locked tomb which was later found by Queen Isis, who began to recite some reviving spells that brought king Osiris back to life.

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I have been doing lots of searching to try and figure out the main reason that caused such a major shift in women’s lives; from being so holy to getting humiliated by every feminine aspect ascribed to them and I found it to be patriarchy.

Patriarchy is that lethal cause behind women’s oppression. Women as well as men can support patriarchy and encourage double standards that permanently put men on a pedestal while viewing women as way too imperfect to have all their rights.

Patriarchy resulted in having two distinct perspectives for a committed sin, receiving two different verdicts and being rewarded with dissimilar prizes at every accomplished achievement based upon your gender.

Exploiting women’s feminine nature to introduce patriarchal ideas and persuading them to believe that their body and their features are what is hindering their success and always holding them back, is the main reason behind current crimes that violate their rights and result in their biological and psychological deformation such as female genital mutilation, sexual harassment and rape.

Writer Nawal El Saadawi was able to unfold the perfect solution for obtaining women’s freedom, where she said, "Women are the ones who are going to free themselves, for no oppressed entity across history was able to break its chains unless they spoke their mind out, formed unions and defended their own rights wholeheartedly."

