



# ELITE



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**EDITOR IN CHIEF**  
Dr. Ramy Magdy Ahmed

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# ELITE

FEPS, WHERE ELITES ARE MADE

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**Our hearts are with you..**

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**Meeting Expatriate  
Egyptian  
Businessman 'Mr.  
Karim Asaad'**



## Meeting Expatriate Egyptian Businessman 'Mr. Karim Asaad,' Chairman of 'Brooks and Kempton'

Interview conducted by: Dr. Ramy Magdy - Edited by: Mirna Ossama

### 1. How do Egyptians expatriates play a role in supporting Egyptian state policies?

Above all, Egyptians abroad make an effort to communicate with the state, whether directly with leaders in Egypt or [indirectly] through leaders in the community or official bodies such as the embassy or consulate. Egyptians are the first to support their country and maintain its image both at the level of England and globally. Egyptians speak about their country with love, whether in terms of economy, tourism or politics, and we support our country and its leaders because that is how we can protect it. Additionally, those working abroad help the economy through two way. Some make currency transfers to Egypt, others invest in areas such as international trade, agricultural commodity supply (import or export) and in any products that are needed in all activities and fields.

### 2. There has been recent talk about the Egyptian Overseas Investment Company; what are the company's most important roles and objectives?

The important role lies in that of the Egyptian Ministry of Migration and the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI), with sponsorship from the Prime Minister, who promotes the idea of

the inauguration of the company, alongside other senior state leaders, including the President [Al-Sisi]. This company is still in its infancy, with its initial vision and fundamental legal coordination forming during the Conference of Egyptian Communities that was sponsored by the Ministry of Migration. We and some of the founders were present at this conference, in addition to some official sponsors so that we could get to know each other.

The idea began during the "Egypt Can" Conference in 2019, where a number of experts and investors considered establishing a company, but then the [pandemic] closure came in the United States, Europe and England and lasted until 2021. Upon our return to Egypt, the idea began to centered our conversation once again until we were finally able in 2023, at a meeting with the Ministry of Migration and Her Excellency Ambassador Suha El-Gendi, to present the idea. We met with the Prime Minister [Mostafa Madbouly] and the Chairman of the Investment and Financial Control Authority of the New Administrative Capital, all who encouraged us to proceed. This embedded within us the feeling that all state bodies are supportive.

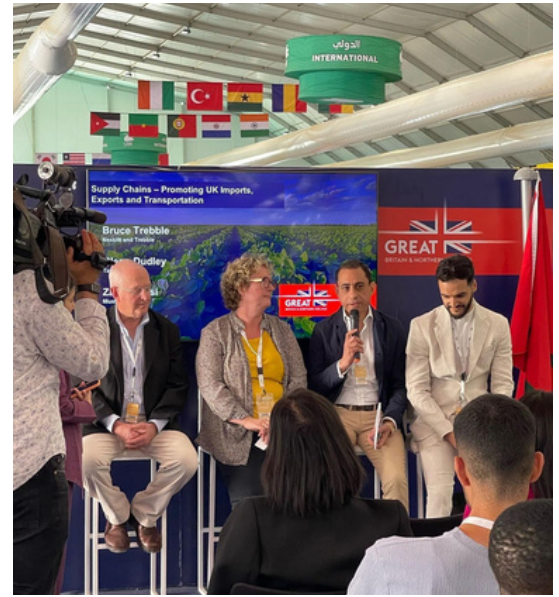


For the investment sectors, work will be mainly focused on what we call "development and investment"; most investors have agreed that there are ongoing investment projects being established by the state in Egypt in various logistical fields, industry as one of them. However, there are hotels that do not work as efficiently, for example, and there are other non-productive projects which prevents them from competing at the global quality level. That is why we aim to enter projects that realize development side by side with investment. Thus, such an initiative will encourage Egyptian investors from abroad as well as attract more of them faster. These investments will include tourism, business, real estate development, food, and communications technology. This project is still an idea as a feasibility study has not been carried out yet, but there is a practical study that will be done shortly after the inauguration of the company. Currently at the most important point, the focus regarding the company is with its initial capital formation. Afterwards, we begin to touch on more details.

### 3. Does this mean there are no specific projects already planned?

There are investors doing work on some projects. I have an existing project as well as my company in England to invest between the two countries; and from other countries around the world, there are many investors working on giant projects whether they are social, logistical, or belonging to the giant food industries. Moreover, they have an expansionist vision that will be executed through the company and not privately on their own. Therefore, projects exist and what we are looking for, for [the sake of] development, is to carry on with the same projects that we have worked on and to seek their development. What is new is that it will no longer be in separate directions, but rather through a company

capable of accommodating all Egyptians abroad.



### 4. One of the state's top priorities is sustainable development and combating climate change. How do you see Egyptian influencers abroad being aware of this issue?

Egyptians abroad, especially businessmen, engineers, doctors or communications experts, interact with their fields in countries outside Egypt. As for Western nations, they routinely put climate change and related matters into our daily lives, so much so that people on the streets are talking about electric cars, greener energy supplies, and all over more efficient futures. So, this is what we live here for, and it takes a significant portion of the budgets of the countries we live in. Hence, I believe that, through the experts and practitioners in this field, this [the prioritization of sustainable and clean development] will inevitably pass onto Egypt. In my field of agricultural commodity supply, we are attempting to establish the highest degree of sustainability paired with efficiency for the entire process of operation, manufacturing and implementation, so that all stages are updated with regards to the preservation of the environment. All fields and activities we witness in the Western or Gulf countries or in developed areas of Asia, will make this direction [towards sustainability] a



fundamental aspect of the lives of all human beings. This has been and continues to be conveyed through the United Nations Climate Change conference (COP), one of the world's most important conferences, which includes each year kings, heads of state, and ministries as well as many people attending to preserve humanity and all the nations of the world.

**5. Your company plays an important role in commodity, grains and food security issues. How does your business engage in the fight for sustainability and against climate change?**

This topic has a particular approach that must conform to international standards, such as following-up to the laws of the Food Safety Authority (FSA) which follows and conforms to the high certificates of food safety. Each industry or facility working in the fields of pharmaceuticals follows certain standards. We have invested in production lines, from product receipt to packaging, so that the production process supports the preservation of the environment from waste, dust or impurities. We care to ensure that the working environment is clean in order to we maintain the health and safety of workers and technicians. Thus, there has been upgrade in production lines, beginning from when the product is directly sourced from farms until it is automatically packaged in an environment clear of contamination from old manufacturing methods and processes. These means are costly, but they support the principle of



It also makes the products' probability of approval in global markets higher. What is more is that it preserves both the lives and health of the professionals, making their productivity higher in terms of quality. In this framework, the finest electronic modern equipment and technology are used for production.



**6. What are the main target groups of your projects? Who do you think needs support and consideration?**

The system is complete. If we are talking about the basis of the projects, it is customer satisfaction. The standards all start from the interior to the exterior. First, the environment in the factory itself or in the processing plant itself is clean according to global standards. Typically, many processes are carried out with environmental measurements to assure that the environment itself in which we operate such as the manufacturing and storage wards, etc., has accurate measurements and is far from any contaminants. These processes are carried out until the final production stage where heat and water measurements as well as analyses of our own products are carried out, either in Egypt or abroad. These analyses are by which we measure the suitability of our products to the required standards. What is done internally depends on the compatibility with international standards and international certificates, which keeps production and workers part of the larger community. Thus, when we start exporting the product it is in line with the European, American, or any other standard.



As we have been engaged in export operations for decades, we hope that we can comply with higher standards so that we can enter foreign markets.

**7. I am certainly aware of your extensive national role, but could you elaborate on your company's contribution to any social projects in Egypt?**

We are not currently planning to set up a social project at the individual level or at the organizational level because such a project needs a sizeable investor to be able to provide and fund such endeavors. However, whenever there is an opportunity to participate in social services, whether directly for the company's employees or the factory or through charitable organizations, we try and seek it for it is for our country; we try our best to serve it.

**8. Is there an example of any Egyptian NGO that you have had the opportunity to deal with?**

There's a lot that we deal with, whether monthly or weekly, with a high degree of interaction.

**9. One of the problems that Egyptians abroad always talk about is the inadequate utilization of Egyptian skills as well as their sensitivity to climate change, so what is your assessment to take advantage of these skills and knowledge? How can we use this knowledge in local communities?**

The pyramid starts from the base and builds up to its top where the best performance is achieved to save the climate. Thus, we need to create generations with a

background in climate change, specifically through schools, universities and institutes, so that subjects are taught with an eye on climate change and environmental conservation to save the planet we live on, to avoid pollution. This is shown by television advertisements that show, for example, marine animals eating waste made of plastic, and how this damages the environment cycle. Therefore, if this culture is widespread among children or young people in Egypt, they will see how much damage may be done to the environment or to creatures that complete the environmental cycle once plastic bags are thrown in the sea. I hope that future generations will study this issue thoroughly so that they can safeguard the environment more effectively than our generation.

**10. Finally, what are the challenges that can the efforts of Egyptians abroad to, first, support sustainable development priorities and, second, to combat climate change?**

The proportion of Egyptians living abroad is high, approximately 12 to 14 million people, a large proportion that is able to serve Egypt very well. Yet, there are challenges due to international and economic conditions, and the conditions that countries generally have been experiencing since 2019. Starting from the Coronavirus pandemic, wars and up to petroleum problems and their prices affecting all sectors of the economy in all countries of the world. Therefore, the challenges are multiple, but there is a great effort being made.





# ETERNAL CONFLICT

**Prof. Hanan M. Aly, FEPS Acting Dean**

Translated by: Lydia Amir, 3rd year Political Science

The sound of a loud crash...glass and debris everywhere...people running...sounds mingling...

His face went pale...his limbs shivered...his breaths quickened...

The young man couldn't process what happened...he stopped his car...held his head...felt his body...looked around him...

He saw two cars crash on the other side of the road...

One of the cars was badly damaged, and its driver was injured...his face bleeding...unconscious...being brought out of the car...

And a man sitting in the backseat...looking better...

The young man took the man and his driver to a nearby hospital...

There the man was bandaged...but the driver was taken to the operation room...

Meanwhile, the man was making several phone calls, the moment he finished one, he began another...

He spoke angrily...glancing at his watch from time to time...as if he had an important appointment to catch...

As soon as one of the doctors came out and reassured the man his driver was well, the young man got up to leave...and offered the man a ride to wherever he needs to go...

On the road, they began to talk...

The young man is in his thirties...living alone...while his parents and siblings live in

another city...working in freelancing...

The man is approaching his seventies...no children...working in construction...owning plenty of real estate...running several companies...

-Sir...you didn't specify your destination...this street we're on is nearly at its end, would you like us to turn right or left?

The man seemed nervous, observed the young man, and began to plead...

-We'll keep going forward...until we're out of the city...then keep going until...

The young man interrupted him in surprise, looking at him in anger, and grumbling to him...

-I've spent the whole night with you, it's nearly dawn...I think that's enough for me...

He stopped the car, and pointed...over there, you can rent a car that will take you anywhere...

-I don't want a car...I'm searching for a companion to accompany me, a fellow to keep me company, a friend to come with me...

-And you've found no one but me...he asked with straining eyes, a frown on his face, and turned away...

-You seemed a good sort, you've shown me chivalry, and made me feel reassured...

He shook his head, and said: surely you have close acquaintances, loyal employees, and obedient drivers...





-Did you not hear my many phone calls... alas...no one is available to travel with me...

The young man became furious: Well, I'm not available to travel either...

He added unhappily: What is wrong with tonight? It's the end of the week... I'm driving my car around...all my friends too busy for me...and fate puts you in my path...

-What about me...my car is crashed, my driver is injured, my helpers are busy...and fate has put you in my path...

He opened the car door, and looked at him disappointedly: Pleasure to meet you...if you would please exit my car...and let me go home...

-You didn't ask me where we were traveling...

-How is it my business?

-Perhaps you would change your mind when you learned of my destination, he said smiling...

-The young man sighed heavily, hit the steering wheel hard, and shouted at him harshly: get out before I...

-And the man interrupted: I'm going somewhere souls long to be, hearts desire to see, tears are shed...

The young man suddenly paid attention, opened his mouth, his spirit calmed, and looked at him saying: do you mean Mecca?

He nodded, eyes shining, hands shaking...

-You're going to make the pilgrimage?

-Yes, and so will you...

-How can it be? I have neither the visa, nor the means...I haven't even told my parents? And...

-Never you mind...I'll handle it all...

-He wondered quietly: How do you trust me so, when you've only known me two hours?

- I have seen innocence in your eyes, courage in your actions, and gentleness in your speech...

He shook his head: I'm not who you think I am... I've made so many mistakes...Commit so many sins...have so many faults...

He patted his shoulder, calmed him down, and whispered in his ear: Every son of Adam is a sinner...

His eyes filled with tears, he lowered his head, gulped and said quietly: No, no I can't...How shall I stand in between Allah's hands, in His house, having defied Him, and harmed His creation...

-If there is something brewing in your chest...your God who created you...is closer to you than your own vein...confess your sin to him, and leave your defiance behind...

He shook his head left and right, hiding his face in his hands and exhaling his pain...

The man took the young man's hands off his face, and turned it towards his own, looking in his eyes, and saying gently: It is the calling of Ibrahim (Peace be upon him), hearts long for the place where he left his wife and his son Ismail...don't refuse that calling...

The young man smiled, and said: "Labbaika Allahumma Labbaik" (Meaning: Here I am, O Allah, here I am.)

And so commenced the trip to the sanctified house of Allah...

At the entrance to Mecca, at the miqat...as soon as the young man had put on the Ihram



garb, he felt a serenity in his soul, a breeze in his chest, and a clarity in his mind...

The man looked at him smiling: Allah has lit up your face...call on Him to light up your sight...

The young man thanked him, and said: Up until this moment...I thought I was in a dream...only now am I sure it is real life...

In the past...I thought Hajj was a faraway wish...only now have I realized it's at arms' reach...

I used to think I was drowning in the seas of sin...only now have I learned there are shores of safety...

The man took the young man's arm, and they went on...

They entered the Haram Mosque, walking among hundreds of thousands of people...

As soon as the young man laid eyes on the Holy Ka'aba...his tears began to pour, his heart began to beat, his body began to shiver, he looked at the man, and cried out in joy: it's the Ka'aba..

The man smiled: Call on Allah to increase the greatness, glory and fearsomeness of His House...

The Hajj rituals began with the circumambulation around the Ka'aba...

The man noticed that the young man walked with a lowered head, an averted gaze, and a hunched back...

He rebuked him saying: Raise up your head, circle around with your gaze, and straighten your back...you are in between Allah's hands... in His house...among His creation...cry your tears, request forgiveness, and listen to advice...

-My back is hunched carrying my sins...

-If they are like mountains...they shall be demolished...

If they are like seas...they shall recede...

If they are like clouds...they shall clear...

After they had circled twice, the young man began to please: I want to kiss the Black Stone...

-It's very crowded...but let us try...

At their seventh turn, the circle began to get

tighter and tighter until the young man found himself in front of the Multazim door...he made Dua'a to Allah to remain steady in His obedience, then received the Black Stone and kissed it, cried, and asked Allah to win Paradise, holding on to the curtains of the Ka'aba, loudly sobbing, and crying out to Allah to rescue him from the fire...

After they had prayed at the station of Ibrahim, and going in between As-Safa and Al-Marwah, the man said: Oh, how was our mother Hagar...all alone in a barren desert with neither plants nor water...with a young baby crying in hunger...

She walked back and forth along the earth... looking left and right...climbing to the top of the mountain, and then descending into the valley...

Six times she came and went between the mountains of As-Safa and Al-Marwah...and having found neither water to quench her thirst, nor food to keep her life, nor people to accompany her loneliness...she decided to go back to the mountain of As-Safa where she left her baby, to hold him in her arms and resign to her fate...

The man added, with a smiling face and shining eyes, pointing to the well of Zamzam with his hand: and the babe hit the ground with his little feet, and a fountain of water exploded, growing plants, attracting people, and inhabiting the land...it's the great mercy of Allah...

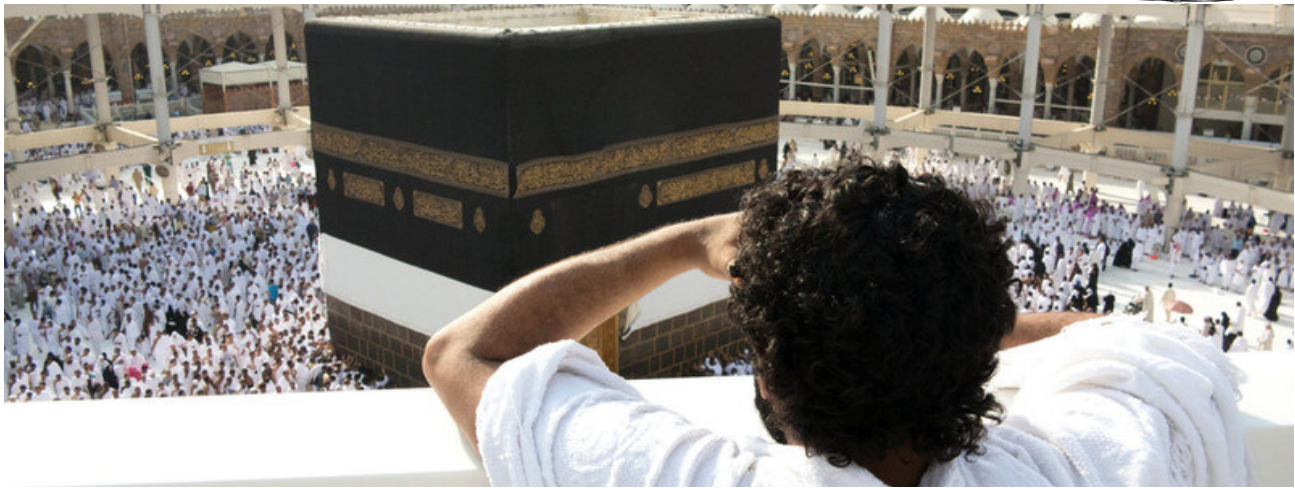
The young man took a deep breath, looking long at the place of the well, lost in his thoughts, and said: Oh God, gather us up with Your mercy, be good to us in Your generosity, and give us Your tenderness...

The day of satiation is here...the night to be spent in joy, preparing for the greatest ritual of Hajj...

The standing at Arafa...

At Arafa, the man began to make Dua'a, crying out, begging for mercy...the young man repeating it all behind him...

As soon as the sun began to set, he told him: Look at these masses...they left their



hometowns, absent from their businesses, and away from their children...and came here disheveled and dusting, crying out for Allah's mercy...would He send them away wanting?

The young man shook his head.

The man continued: They came hoping for forgiveness, shall Allah keep it from them?

The young man shook his finger to the negative.

The man added: They pray for rescue from hell, shall Allah not save them?

The young man cried out: No...He is the Honorable One.

The man looked at him long and hard, and said: Rejoice, my son...Allah willing, He has forgiven your sin, you are as you were when your mother had you...all blackness has been erased from your slate, it's pearly white now...

The young man jumped in joy, hugging the man, and whispered in his ears: As you have taken me a companion in the world...I call to Allah to unite us again in the life to come...

In the Muzdalifah, the young man fell asleep until the night was at its end, and when the man woke him, the young man looked around him, and said: Such a quiet place...I haven't slept as deeply as I have tonight... haven't felt such reassurance except here... nor such safety except right now...

The man said: These could be the signs of mercy, forgiveness, and safety from hell...

He added: Come on, let's gather up the stones with which we will stone the devil tomorrow, Allah willing...

The young man went, and gathered seven

large stones...

The man laughed, and asked: What is that?

-I want to take out my anger on him, to release my frustration of him, and make him taste my might...

The man said with a smile on his face: Throw those away, and gather up seven the size of a hazelnut, do not submit to your anger, bow down to your frustration, or count on your might...

How then shall I resist his whispers, beat his nudges, and get away from his pursuits...

-You must fight him with his own weapons... resist him with his own cunning...avoid him with his own resourcefulness...deceive him...

He gaped: could one deceive the devil?

-By frequently mentioning Allah, remembering to request forgiveness, and being quick to do good...

After they had thrown the stones on the first day of Tashriq, and completed the Ifadah Tawaf, the man addressed the younger man: Be sure to always sanctify your tongue with the mention of Allah, remind your mind of His anger, and reassure your heart of His forgiveness.

At the end of the days of Tashriq, during the farewell circumambulation, the young man made intense Dua'a for Allah to give him more visits to His house for years and years to come...

On their way back, the young man's phone rang, and he looked at the older man, anxious, and did not answer...

It rang again, and the elder man looked at him strangely for not answering...



At the third ring...there was no choice but to answer...

His friend's voice came asking why he had disappeared, telling him he was preparing an evening to gather with many other friends...

He interrupted him, gathering his strength: I'm not coming anymore...

The man smiled victoriously: May Allah keep you steady on the path of righteousness...

When the car came near the place where they had met several days before...the young man said: I want to take your phone number and remain in contact with you...

-Certainly, he took a card out of his pocket and said: we will meet often as well...

-The young man took the card in his hand smiling...and when his eyes caught the man's full name his face fell, his brow frowned and his eyes squinted...

The man wondered: do you know me...

The young man answered with difficulty: I'd heard about you...

-And what did you hear about me?

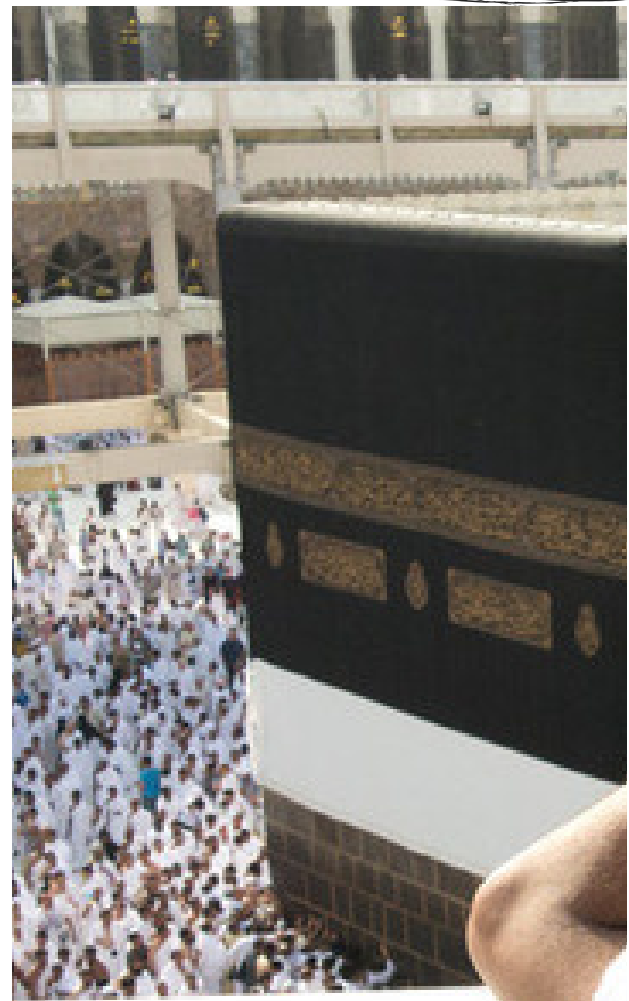
-The young man lowered his head, and remained silent...

-Let me tell you...

-The young man raised his head in sadness, and gazes at him with frustration...

-I was an emperor of depravity...yes, I have walked the path of wickedness...but I caught myself before falling into the pit...

He added: I fought with the devil...sometimes I beat him, sometimes him me...until I hit the final blow, and Allah was gracious enough to guide me to righteousness...





**REPORT ON THE SEMINAR OF MAJOR GENERAL STAFF DR. SALAH AL-GAMSI ENTITLED "STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DECEPTION IN THE OCTOBER 1973 WAR"**

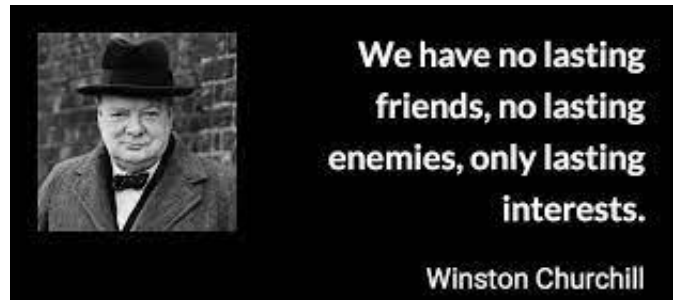
Menna-t-Allah Hossam Enan - Level 4 - Economics menatallah.annan2020@feps.edu.eg

The Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University organized a symposium entitled "Strategic Planning and Deception in the October War", on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, where the Faculty hosted Major General Staff Dr. Salah Al-Gamsi, member of the Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs and Academic Advisor to the Egyptian Military Academy and the grandson of Field Marshal Mohamed Abdel Ghani Al-Gamsi, Chief of Staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces in 1973, succeeding Lieutenant General Saad El-Din El-Shazly, as a speaker in addition to Dr. Ibrahim Saif Abdel Hamid Al-Minshawy, a teacher in the Department of Political Science at FEPS, as a commentator. The symposium discussed the various stages that Egypt underwent starting from the setback "Al- Naksa" of 1967, all through the War of Attrition, and ending with the canal crossing in 1973.

Professor Dr. Hanan Mohamed Ali, Acting Dean of the College, began by introducing and welcoming the guest and emphasizing the lasting impact that the war left on the conscience of Egyptians, pointing out the many hurdles that the political and military leadership at that time had incurred to prepare for the crossing of the Suez Canal without attracting the enemy's attention.

Major General Al-Gamsi then started his speech by highlighting the close connection between the power of politics represented by diplomacy and the politics of power represented by the Armed Forces, stressing the importance of having high degrees of harmony and consensus between the political and military leadership in order to unify the front to confront difficulties and enemies, as was the case at

the time of the crossing of the Suez Canal and in contrast to what happened in Al-Naksa. The Major General then went on to mention the fact that wars have existed since the dawn of humanity with Caine (Qabeel) killing Abel (Habeel) and will continue to exist until the end of time. For war is nothing but a conflict of interests and a desire to impose one's will over others, as Churchill explained when he said, "We have no lasting friends, no lasting enemies, only lasting interests."



Al-Gamsi then moved on to talk about the different motives for wars according to Richard Ned Lebow's "Why Nations Fight: Past and Future Motives for War" where he divided war motives into four: material interest, fear, standing and revenge as a manifestation of spirit. He explained that the 1973 war falls under the revenge/spirit motive and the restoration of dignity and honor, citing the words of the late President Anwar Al-Sadat, "I prefer the world's respect, even without compassion, to the world's compassion if it is without respect."

For the Israeli aggressor does not backdown and leave occupied lands through agreement and diplomacy, but rather by force and blood. Thus, the Major General believes that if Egypt had not taken the decision to



fight in 1973, it would have degenerated into a situation like our neighbor Palestine – whose occupied state represents the largest crisis in the Middle East - describing the occupation as rampant in Palestine like cancer is in a kidney, and stressing that war is the only solution to confront the Zionist enemy.



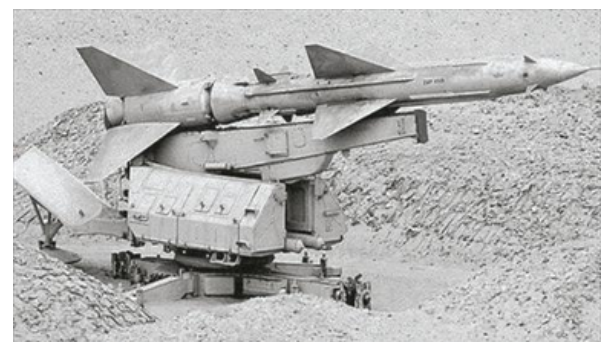
Al-Gamsi then gave a quick run through of the historical events and wars that led up to the 1973 war, starting with going to war to help Palestine preserve its land in 1948, passing through the tripartite aggression in 1956, Al-Naksa in 1967, and ending with the October War of 1973. The Major General's talk generally revolved around several main axes, which are strategic planning, the problems and challenges that faced the leadership when making the crossing decision, the stages leading up to the 1973 war, the military strategic goal of the war, and the strategic deception plan.

The Major General began his talk on the strategic planning axis with the measures taken by the political leadership after the setback of 1967, when the people rejected the resignation of the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser and insisted on completing the war and restoring the occupied territories. The leadership at that time decided to take the war of attrition as an approach and a way to rebuild the armed forces organizationally, training-wise, and morally.

**Strategic planning** was thus composed of the following set of strategic objectives:

- Working to unify the Arab ranks after the differences worsened due to Egypt's support for the Yemeni revolution through the Khartoum Conference that took place on August 29, 1967, in which three things were agreed upon: "No peace with Israel", "No recognition of Israel" and "No negotiations with Israel".
- Establishing a set of common principles to be adopted by the entire Egyptian nation, stating

- the following: "What was taken by force can only be recovered by force", "A hand builds and a hand bears weapons", "War for peace" and "Egypt first and foremost".
- Issuing the necessary legislation to define the powers of the President of the Republic, the Minister of Defense, and the Chief of Staff, and to establish and define the powers of the National Defense Council and the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces.
- Preparing the political stage before the 1973 War after Israel and the United States had succeeded in restricting Egypt within its borders, ensuring Israel's military superiority, and curbing the Non-Aligned Movement.
- Rebuilding and organizing the armed forces and correcting the mistakes of 1967 at the tactical and strategic levels through the formation of the second and third field armies, and the formation of the leadership of the Civil Defense Forces to assume civil protection of vital targets in the governorates in cooperation with the national police forces.
- Preparing the theater of operations by placing many forces along the Suez Canal. In addition to establishing missile battalions (missile wall), and warning radars for the units and formations of the Air Defense Forces.



- Exploiting the closure of the Suez Canal to put pressure on international powers to force Israel to retreat in order to open it again for the passage of international trade.

The Major General then moved on to talk about the **problems and challenges that faced the Egyptian leadership when preparing for the crossing**, which included:

- The Suez Canal blockade, which the enemy established on the eastern bank of the canal by creating sand wall lining the entire canal supported by a concrete wall.



- The sand wall varied in height from 20–25 meters with inclination of 45–65 degrees. Behind it, Israel established a defensive line called the “Bar Lev Line,” consisting of 31 fortified defensive points extending from Port Fouad in the north to Sina south, making it one of the largest and most difficult defensive lines in the world.
- The enemy’s local reserves, consisting of tank battalions and mechanized infantry, are stationed on all axes of approach to enemy fortified points.
- The method of securing the troops and equipment needed for crossing the canal from superior enemy artillery fire and aviation, which were overcome by establishing passive local defense pits and constructing a missile wall.

The Major General then went on to talk about the **stages of preparation for the 1973 war** and showed a video of the late Field Marshal “Mohamed Abdel-Ghani Al-Gamsi,” who previously served as the Minister of War and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, and before that he served as Chief of Staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces in 1973 to replace Lieutenant General Saad El-Din El-Shazly after his dismissal, and before that the position of head of the Armed Forces Operations Authority, who divided the stages leading to the 1973 war into three stages: the defense stage, the active defense stage, and the war of attrition stage.

Then he moved on to talk about the military strategic goal of the war and explained that it was not to completely recover Sinai because that was not in Egypt’s military capacity, especially with the United States of America’s support for Israel, but the goals of the war were to cause the greatest amount of losses for the enemy as well as to cross the Suez Canal to seize the eastern bank and secure it at a sufficient enough depth to enable passage through the Suez Canal, opening it to international navigation. More importantly, the war aimed to end the state of neither war nor peace and to revive the

issue once more. Therefore, after the crossing, Egypt, supported by its Arab allies, was able to put pressure to hold negotiations to regain Sinai completely, which Egypt actually succeeded in doing.



He then went on to explain that Egypt would not have been able to achieve the victories it achieved except by relying on a plan of strategic deception, which was developed to outperform the technological and armament progress of the Israeli enemy by concealing any signs of preparation for war, which was achieved via the following actions:

- Carrying out many military movements under the guise of training, with a constant change in the size of the forces.
- In July 1972, a decision was issued to demobilize 30,000 conscripts since 1967, most of whom were outside actual combat formations and in rear positions.
- Moving crossing equipment from the back to the front under the cover of night.
- Establishing maintenance workshops on the front and pushing tanks there under the pretext of being broken down, which they were not.
- Importing equipment necessary for the crossing and rubber boats for the purpose of establishing a project on the Nile River, and deliberately placing the vessels and boats in the port for a long period of time to suggest neglect and lack of readiness to carry out any missions.
- Camouflaging the attack by raising the army’s maximum level of readiness and declaring a state of alert at airports and air bases multiple times, which forced Israel to announce an emergency military reserve call up in anticipation of any attack, and then announces that it was just a routine training exercise until October the 6th came, and Israeli intelligence thought that the initial Egyptian troop movements were another iteration of the exercises the Egyptians had previously undertaken.





- Leaking information to an intelligence source considered reliable by the Israelis that the attack would take place in May, which did not happen.
- In October 1973, it was announced that applications for Umrah trips would be opened for officers of the armed forces and soldiers, which contradicts the idea of preparing for war.
- Spreading rumors that Egypt did not obtain aircraft that could threaten the Israeli depth, which was not true, as Egypt sent an Egyptian aviation squadron to Syria to be close to the Israeli depth.
- Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan was assigned to visit the canal at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 6, 1973, only to find the Egyptians relaxing.



The Major General concluded his speech by saying that Israel is not only a terrorist state and a treacherous enemy that does not respect its promises and covenants, but that they are also the subject to the wrath of God, and that had Egypt not launched the 1973 war, it would not have pushed Israel to accept peace.

He then stressed that Egypt will inevitably fight Israel again, if not today, then in the future, which is what anyone can verify by reading the Holy Qur'an. In this regard, the Major General reiterated the words delivered by President El Sisi in a speech on October 11, 2018 during the 45th anniversary of the 1973 War, he declared: "If the Egyptian army was able to do it (achieve victory and defeat Israel) once, it will be able to do it every time."



Dr. Ibrahim, a teacher in the College's Department of Political Science, then began his speech by thanking the Major General Ali his rich and insightful speech that introduced us to the value of the 1973 War for both the Egyptian Armed Forces and the entire Egyptian population. He then started by emphasizing that the 1973 war was a major deception of the occupying state under the direct supervision of President Al-Sadat, and that this plan was based on a group of factors, namely:

- Egypt deceived the enemy that it had accepted the state of neither peace nor war and that it did not intend to fight by demobilizing 30,000 conscripts between 1967 and 1972.
- Misleading the enemy into thinking that Egypt's plan is based on defense, not attack.
- Announcing general mobilization in March and July and not accompanying this with any attacks, which led the enemy to believe that the preparation that occurred in October would be similar and that Egypt was carrying out these actions to calm its people internally and nothing more.
- Choosing a strange but smart time (two o'clock in the afternoon) to represent the zero hour, as it is common knowledge that battles take place either early in the morning or in the dark of night.

At the end of the symposium, questions from the audience were received, and a discussion took place about General Andre Beaufort, the French strategic expert, praising the strategy of the Egyptian armed forces during the war and its destruction of the security theory that Israel was proud of, and about the Defersoir loophole and the role of the valiant civil resistance in Suez, which refused to allow the occupation forces to seize the city. Then the Major General stressed once again that if we had not been able to regain our land in 1973, we would have been like Gaza today. Then he explained that the enemy cannot fight alone, but rather always needs external support, and that they have no honor. For if they had killed their prophets in the past, what is stopping them from breaking their treaties and promises.







**THE COLLEGE OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE ORGANIZED A SYMPOSIUM ON THE ROLE OF THE AIR FORCE IN THE OCTOBER WAR (CHALLENGES AND HEROICS) PILOT BRIGADE. A.H. DR. HISHAM AL-HALABI**

Edited by: **Rodaina Nader**

In the month of October, the month of victory, pride and dignity, on Tuesday, 24 October, the Faculty of Economics and Political Science organized a symposium entitled “**The Role of the Air Force in the October War (Challenges and Heroics)**”. Under the patronage of the University President, Prof. Dr. **Muhammad Etman Al-Khosht**, and the Acting Dean of the College, Prof. Dr. **Hanan Muhammad Ali**.

The official speaker of the seminar was Major General Pilot. A.H. Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi, advisor to the Military Academy for Postgraduate and Strategic Studies, and commentator on the symposium, Dr. Rami Magdy, a teacher in the Department of Political Science at our distinguished college.

The symposium was opened with a speech by Dr. Rami Magdy, who was introduced the Major General Tayyar. A.H. Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi, and then Dr. Hisham spoke about the October victory in 1973, and about the extent of the many challenges and difficulties that faced the Egyptian army forces, especially the air force.

At the beginning of his speech, Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi asked a very important question: What can students of the Faculty of Economics and Political Science benefit from this seminar, especially as it relates to the October War and the challenges faced by the Air Force? That is, what can be gained from the 1973 October War? Therefore, we will learn the answer to this question through what was discussed in the seminar.





Dr. Hisham began by presenting many of the grave challenges that faced the Egyptian Air Force after the defeat in the 1967 war, he explained to us the general appearance of the Air Force after 1967, and the extent of anger over the occupation of Sinai land by the Israel. Therefore, talking about the Egyptian planes that were struck by Israel, the planes which were destroyed on the ground and needed what is called a demolition. Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi emphasized the weakness of aerial aircraft while they are on the ground, and that once they are in the sky, they are a powerful weapon.

The Egyptians were in a state of challenges, such as the forces emerging defeated from the 1967 war, a shortage of air defenses to protect aircraft on the ground, destroyed air bases and airports, and a severe shortage of pilots and crews. He explained the Air Force's insistence on rebuilding the Air Force again, which resulted in many challenges, including the attempt of the Army and Air Forces to work in a scientific manner, while under pressure in time. This means that the forces worked to compress time and work in short periods, which Dr. Hisham indicated that a long period is not beneficial. He has indicated and advised several times about searching for the scientific method to solve any problem under time pressure.

He also pointed out the difficult circumstances that the Egyptian army witnessed. Including political, economic, and military circumstances. Political circumstances, as Egypt was defeated before the world, the lack of military support for Egypt. Economic circumstances in terms of the high cost of aircraft and equipment, and military circumstances, because that there was a war of attrition between the two wars: which are the war of 1967 and 1973. In addition to the enemy's strength and ability to reach depth.

Moreover, we find the third advice from Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi, which is not to be discouraged by the challenges and difficult circumstances that derail us. He pointed out that the Egyptian Air Force is not broken (the un-breakability). The evidence of the un-breakability is their training on first and second-generation aircraft - despite the enemy's use of third generation aircraft - and working to reduce the crisis in the number of aircraft, the challenge of establishing new airports at the bases and corridors.





He pointed out that the Air Force was using MiG-17, MiG-21, and Sukhos-7 aircraft (of the first and second generation), while Israel uses the Phantom, Skyhawk, and MiG-3, and these aircraft have sensors, unlike Egyptian aircraft. However, despite all this, the Major General pointed out the success of the Egyptian Air Force in using first and second generation aircraft in a scientific, competent, and intelligent manner.

He pointed out that all elements of the comparison were in favor of Israel, which was confirmed by the West, as the Soviet Union confirmed that Egypt would lose all its air forces and would not destroy more than 30 to 35% of their targets, and the losses would be from 40 to 45%.

Nevertheless, Egypt achieved 95% of the goals against only 5% of the losses. This is due to the research and scientific method used with the pressure on time, their lack of sanctity for the West, and their lack of belief in their opinions.

Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi highlighted the largest air battle, the Battle of Mansoura, which lasted 53 minutes. The general claimed that people are the basis of the success equation, not capabilities. He stressed that the lack of capabilities is not an obstacle to success, but rather an incentive for creativity and achieving what we dream.

During the symposium, Dr. Hisham emphasized to us that the fighter is the basis for dealing with military power, and we enjoyed listening to a small part of Sadat and Sisi's speech to emphasize the valor of the Egyptian fighting army. In Sadat's speech, he concluded, saying: *"The Egyptian army has become a shield and a sword."* and in return, Sisi concluded, saying: *"The Egyptian army is capable of doing it every time."*





At the end of Major General Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi's speech, he gave us a fourth piece of advice, saying: **"True power begins with knowledge."** The fighter must have complete real knowledge and professionalism in the practical method while not sanctifying the West, and belief that the fighter is the equation for success.



Then, A.H. Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi and Dr. Rami Magdy provide an opportunity for student lecturers to ask questions. There was an interaction and questions, the most important of which were:

1. **"Ukraine is fighting Russia without air cover" could this affect-it?**

Major General Staff Pilot answered this question, saying that Ukraine is currently paying the price by attacking it. He stressed the necessity of military science and mastering the scientific method.

2. **Is it normal for there to be hitting errors?, as today some members of the Egyptian border surveillance with Gaza suffered minor injuries after one of the observation towers was accidentally hit by fragments of a shell from an Israeli tank.**

The doctor responded to this question, saying that it is normal to have a mistake in striking during any war. This is because of the random attack carried out by Israel, and there are many procedures, investigations and monitoring into the matter as well, to ensure that this attack was indeed wrong.

3. **Why did we not postpone the October War to fully prepare for it? Instead of it being in 1973, it could be in 1975, for example.**

Dr. Hisham responded to this question by saying that it is not in Egypt's interest to wait, due to Egypt's defeat in 1967, as well as the United States' support for Israel. In addition to the Egyptians' fear of forming and building settlements in Sinai, which will lead to many problems. It is in Egypt's interest to make the decision to go to war, as quickly as possible.



Dr. Rami continued, saying that we are in a very sensitive period, politically and militarily, and we must verify our sources and the articles that we read. The individual must be fully aware of the sources, articles, and opinions he receives.

The enriching seminar concluded with two questions from Dr. Rami:

**1. How were we able to deal with Israeli air defense systems?**

Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi responded by saying that the Egyptian Air Force has defeated many of the enemy's powerful weapons, namely Israel's professional air defense and electronic warfare. This is through the professional training of the Egyptian Air Forces. In addition to the lack of sanctity of Western media newspapers.

**2. What about the spirit of Arab national solidarity in the wake of the October War?**

He concluded that the Arab world stands in solidarity with Egypt, and the evidence of this is the oil war, where the Arab countries cut off oil and oil from enemy countries. He added that it was the most wonderful solidarity.

In conclusion, Dr. Hisham Al-Halabi provided many recommendations and advice during the symposium, and these tips are the answer to what students of the College of Economics and Political Science can benefit from this seminar:

--> **Scientific research and the scientific method.**

--> **Pressure of time.**

--> **Not broken.**

--> **Not sanctifying the West (they also make mistakes).**

--> **Lack of capabilities is not an obstacle to success.**





## PROFESSOR NAJLA EL AHWANY IS DECORATED WITH THE LEGION OF HONOR BY THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

Shawel Gebreil- Level 3- Economics - French Section

During a grandiose ceremony, Professor Naglaa Al-Ahwany, has received the Legion of Honor with the rank of a knight from the French Republic.

Congratulations to our professor who made our faculty very proud.

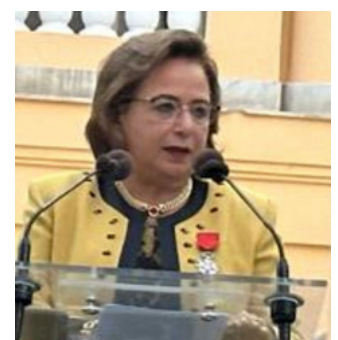
Prof. Naglaa has led a career that had plenty of prestigious positions in various reclaimed institutions.

Dr. Naglaa has been a professor of economics at the Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences since 1998. She has worked at the faculty since her graduation from the economics department, and then hired as a Teacher's Assistant in 1973. In addition, she held the position of President of the board of trustees of the French university alongside her work at Cairo University and the Supreme Council of Universities.

Furthermore, she worked as an economic advisor for the American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt, at the office of the International Labor Organization, at the Economic and Social Committee of Western Asia at the United Nations (ESCWA). She also worked at the Arab Planning Institute in Kuwait.

In addition, she has served as the Minister of International Cooperation in 2014 as well as a Deputy Director of the Center for European Studies and the Egyptian Center for Economic Studies. She was an advisor to the Prime Minister on economic affairs for several periods, a member of the board of directors and the monetary policy committee of the Central Bank of Egypt since January 2020. She is a member of the advisory board of the research center of migration and development at the British University of Coventry, the board of directors of the "Irada" initiative within the Egyptian Council of Ministers and the Arab Society for Economic Research. She has also occupied numerous other important and prestigious positions.

A career full of remarkable and reflective achievements distinguishes all those who belong to our great edifice, A Faculty of Commitment, Excellence and Class.





## PALESTINE : THE STORY OF RESILIENCE AND AGRESSION

Mariam Elsafty, Senior, Political science [mariam.yasser2020@feps.edu.eg](mailto:mariam.yasser2020@feps.edu.eg)

The day of October 7, 2023, was known as the most important epic in Palestine, named the Al-Aqsa Storm, where the Palestinian resistance stormed by land and air towards the Gaza Strip. Hamas announced Al-Aqsa Storm operation against Israel, in response to the continuous raids on the West Bank cities and the continued siege on Gaza. A group of Al-Qassam Brigades seized several Israeli military vehicles and captured several soldiers, and many marches came out to support the Israeli resistance and celebrations began for the Palestinian gunmen to storm the various cities. The Palestinian resistance continued to launch new rocket batches towards Israeli sites and cities, including Ashkelon, and events escalated by storming several military bases, including the headquarters of the Israeli Gaza Division.

Al-Aqsa Storm operation began with a rocket attack, as thousands of rockets were directed toward various Israeli settlements from Dimona in the south to Hod Hasharon in the north and Jerusalem in the east, and coincided with the launch of these rockets with a land invasion by the resistance fighters through four-wheel drive vehicles, motorcycles, gliders, and others. To the towns adjacent to the sector, which are known as the Gaza envelope, where they took control of several military sites, especially in Sderot, reached Ofakim, stormed Netivot, and fought violent clashes in the three settlements and in other settlements as well as capturing several soldiers and taking them to Gaza in addition to seizing a group of Israeli military vehicles. And on October 9, the Israeli occupation army announced that it had regained control of all the towns that were seized by factions of the Palestinian resistance in the Gaza Strip envelope with some scattered skirmishes continuing,



and Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Galant announced the start of a comprehensive siege on Gaza, including banning food and fuel entry.

### Reactions in Palestine:

The President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, stressed the need to provide protection for the sons of the Palestinian people, and to enhance their steadfastness and stability, affirming their right as a people to defend themselves, in the face of the terrorism of the settlers and the occupation forces. The Permanent Representative of Palestine to the Arab League, Muhannad Al-Aklouk, submitted a memorandum that includes a request to hold an emergency meeting of the Council of the League of Arab States at the level of Arab foreign ministers in an extraordinary session as soon as possible, to discuss ways of political action at the Arab and international levels to stop the Israeli aggression and hold its perpetrators accountable and provide international protection for the Palestinian people and achieve peace and security based on international law and resolutions of international legitimacy and the Arab Peace Initiative. The Palestinian Minister of Health declared a "state of emergency" in all Palestinian hospitals, requested that the ministry's warehouses and blood banks supply hospitals with the necessary medical supplies and medicines, and added that all hospitals in the West Bank are ready to receive the wounded from the Gaza Strip.

### Reactions in Israel:

Former Prime Minister and opposition leader Yair Lapid, National Unity leader Benny Gantz, Israel Beiteinu leader Avigdor Lieberman, and Labor Party leader Merav Michaeli issued a joint statement expressing full support for the Israeli army and unity with the government, saying: "At times like these, there is no opposition or coalition in Israel." Magen David Adom, an Israeli medical organization, appealed for blood donations. It also carries out genocide in Gaza, where it deliberately and continuously kills members of the Palestinian group, using aerial, land, and naval bombardment, and directly targeting civilians, children, women, elders, journalists, and paramedics, in addition to causing serious physical or mental harm to members of the Palestinian group using weapons prohibited internationally, such as phosphorus and cluster bombs, and injuring thousands with serious wounds and permanent disabilities. It also deliberately subjects the Palestinian group to living conditions intended to destroy it materially in whole or in part, by continuing to impose a severe siege on Gaza for 16 years, cutting off electricity, water, food, fuel, and medicine from its residents, and forcibly displacing members of the Palestinian group from their homes and lands, using demolition, bulldozing, land grabbing and house seizure.







### Reactions in the Arab world:

The reactions of the Arab countries to the Al-Aqsa Storm varied between support, condemnation, and calls for restraint. Some Arab countries expressed their solidarity with the Palestinian people and their right to defend themselves and their sanctities and denounced the Israeli raids on the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the attacks on Palestinian citizens. Among these countries are Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Algeria, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Iraq and Libya. Some Arab countries stressed the need to stop the escalation and dialogue between the two sides and warned of serious consequences for the tension in the region. Among these countries are Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Tunisia. Some Arab countries praised the Al-Aqsa Storm operation and considered it a decisive response to the crimes of the occupation, and sent a message to the international community to pressure Israel to stop its violations. These are the most prominent reactions of the Arab countries to the Al-Aqsa Storm so far.

### Reactions internationally:

The reactions of the Western countries to the Al-Aqsa Storm were mostly in favor of Israel, as they expressed their solidarity with its right to defend itself and denounced the rocket attacks launched by Hamas and other Palestinian factions. Among these countries are the United States, France, Germany, Britain, the Netherlands, Poland, the Czech Republic, Austria and Portugal. Some Western countries called for a halt to the escalation and dialogue between the two sides and warned of serious repercussions for the tension in the region. Among these countries are Italy, Switzerland, Belgium and Greece. Some Western countries did not issue any official comment on the Al-Aqsa Storm or were content with referring to following the situation with concern. Among these countries are Canada, Spain, and Sweden.





### **Popular reactions to the ethnic cleansing carried out by Israel in Gaza:**

The popular reactions to the ethnic cleansing carried out by Israel against the Palestinian people are diverse and varied, reflecting the extent of solidarity, anger, condemnation, and resistance from the Palestinians, Arabs, Muslims, and free peoples of the world. Demonstrations and protests in various Palestinian, Arab, Islamic, and Western villages and cities denounced the Israeli crimes and still demand an end to the aggression and siege on Gaza, protection of Al-Aqsa Mosque, and the right of return for refugees. There were also many donations and humanitarian, medical, food, and other assistance provided by institutions, bodies, and individuals to the Palestinian people in Gaza, the West Bank, and Jerusalem, to alleviate their suffering from the bombing and siege. In addition to media, awareness and solidarity campaigns carried out by organizations, associations, and activists on social media and media outlets, to highlight the facts of ethnic cleansing in Palestine, and expose the lies and deception promoted by Israel.

However, most governments of Western countries still support what Israel is doing in terms of destruction, killing, and terrorism, and refuse to stop firing from Israel's side; where the United States voted veto against a draft resolution in the UN Security Council condemning the war between Israel and Hamas in October 2023, and the reason behind that was that the project did not mention Israel's right to defend itself, according to the US ambassador to the United Nations, who said she was disappointed to reject this text, describing it as a missed opportunity for the Security Council. This position provoked criticism from some other countries that voted in favor of the project, such as France and Brazil, which said that the project was good and balanced, as some human rights organizations considered that this vote showed the impudence of the United States in preventing the Security Council from moving on Israel and Palestine. The Security Council also rejected two Russian amendments to the project, one of which called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, without mentioning Hamas. The Russian ambassador said that humanitarian truces would not contribute to stopping bloodshed, only a ceasefire could achieve that.





## HUMANITARIAN CATASTROPHE, OR POLITICAL WAR?

Rodaina Nader\_4th year\_ Political Science

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Our eyes are on Noble Jerusalem, the first of the two tribes, Palestine, the pure and holy land, about which there has never been and will never stop talking about its sanctity, its people, their patience, their courage, their perseverance, their endurance, and their patriotism.

Palestine is exposed to many inhumane attacks and assaults by the Israeli government and police. In addition to disrespecting the pure Al-Aqsa Mosque, the Israeli police attacked worshipers in the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, in what the Israeli police described as a response to riots...

Moreover, the occupation forces prevent all ambulance crews from entering the Al-Aqsa Mosque. In addition to many unannounced attacks.

This is what we have always heard and read about. However, on October 7, 2023, the Hamas movement announced a military operation against Israel called the "Battle of the Aqsa Flood", in response to the continuous incursions into West Bank cities, the continued siege of Gaza, and the Five-Day War in May 2023.

In May, Israel launched an attack on The Palestinian Islamic Jihad Movement (Hamas), which led to the outbreak of a five-day war between the Israeli army, the Islamic Jihad Movement and other armed groups in Gaza, and killed thirty people, four Palestinians and an Israeli woman.

Hamas fired 5,000 rockets from Gaza at Israel and their settlements early on Saturday, October 7, and the leader of the Hamas military wing, Muhammad Deif, added: "We have decided to say enough is enough."

The Palestinian resistance surprises the whole world. For the first time in fifty years, Tel Aviv is shaken, and the Islamic Party initiates a large-scale war.

The real attack is not only in the sky, but rather an air, land, and sea incursion, as the attack is considered an unprecedented incursion into Israeli territory. The Israeli army announced the infiltration of an unspecified number of terrorists into Israeli territory from the Gaza Strip, with the destruction of many Israeli tanks and military machines, and the seizure of many of their ammunition and military equipment, with thousands of Israelis escaping in dramatic scenes.



### **Escalation of the war, and reactions from many parties:**

In response to what happened, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu confirmed that they were in a state of war, warning that Hamas would pay an unprecedented price. Israel does not intend to conduct any negotiations and must enter Gaza.

Then, Netanyahu's forces engaged in ground combat in several locations around Gaza against fighters who infiltrated using gliders by sea and land. Food, water, and electricity were cut off from the Gaza Strip.

In addition, the war will begin on the Lebanese border, where Hezbollah claims that it bombed two Israeli barracks, as the Lebanese Shiite movement, supported by Iran, announced that it bombed two Israeli barracks "in response" to the killing of three of its members by Israeli bombing. Hezbollah said they used 'guided missiles and mortar shells' and hit the target directly. Israel bombed southern Lebanon after announcing that it had killed several suspected militants who had infiltrated its territory. Hence, fear and terror spread about the occurrence of conflict and wars in Lebanon, and the possibility of violence spreading to the Israeli-Lebanese front.

The United States' support for Israel is one of the most important factors in the strength of the Zionist movement, and Iran's support for the resistance on the other hand, which leads to an escalation of the problem.

A lively struggle existed between two forces of unequal strength. Israel will adhere to its position in dealing a major blow to Hamas in Gaza, and thus American support for Netanyahu will increase significantly. On the other hand, Iran did not allow its allies to be eliminated so easily. Netanyahu did not stop bombing Gaza and killing children and civilians who were helpless.

### **Statistics of the dead in Gaza so far:**

The death toll in the Gaza Strip has risen to more than 7 thousand people died so far, in addition to more than 12,000 wounded so far, and hundreds have been killed in the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital accident in Gaza. Moreover, about 10 media professionals have been killed so far. A million Palestinian citizens have so far lost their homes due to explosions and missiles coming from Israel.

Benjamin Netanyahu stressed that Israel will not prevent the entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza from Egypt through the Rafah crossing, and the Israeli forces carried out 'Israeli bombing' to prevent the reopening of the vital crossing to supply Palestine with supplies and aid. "Egypt has not closed the Rafah crossing since the outbreak of the crisis, but Israeli bombing from the Palestinian side prevented it from opening." This is what President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi indicated in the context of aid and supplies to the Palestinian people.





To confirm the US support for Netanyahu, on Wednesday, October 18, President Biden visited Israel and announced that Egypt would open the Rafah crossing for aid to pass through Gaza. Hence the escalation of the problem to Egypt, and the repetition of the scenarios of 1948 and 1973.



Israel is working to turn its strategic defeat into gain, by pressuring the Palestinian people to leave Gaza and seek refuge in Sinai. Therefore, it summoned 300,000, or two-thirds of its reserve forces, to besiege Gaza with Operation Iron Swords. Nevertheless, neither male nor female Palestinians want to leave, nor will Egypt allow the Palestinian issue to be lost and turned into an issue of refugees in camps outside Palestine. Even when Cairo demanded that both Tel Aviv and Washington open safe corridors for the exit of Palestinians, Egypt turned the idea into corridors for aid to enter the besieged Gaza Strip. This does not mean that Netanyahu's attempts in this regard will end, but this position reveals Egypt's continued ability to thwart this effort. Because it will turn into a bloody historical scene that has never been seen before. However, did Hamas launch the "Tofan al-Aqsa" operation without any planning, or at least thinking about what would happen next..! It certainly has full planning and huge expectations for the Israeli reaction. It is clear that Hamas is prepared and supported with various equipment.

Going through, as Emmanuel Macron said, nothing can justify the bombing of a hospital, as it is an act against international law. Therefore, why can Israel do this and continue to be supported in various ways: militarily and politically?

Nothing can justify targeting civilians. Therefore, France condemns the attack on a hospital in Gaza, which claimed the lives of many Palestinian victims. However, why, when "Tofan Al-Aqsa" began, did France in the capital light up the Eiffel Tower in the colors of the Star of David and the national flag of Israel in honor of the victims of the recent Hamas attack, on October 9, 2023?

Hence, we can talk about the absence of Western awareness, and the lack of transparency of the Western media about what is happening in Gaza, to the point that the West is strongly convinced that what is happening to Israel is what is happening to Gaza, and nothing more. There are many lies and media propaganda on the West side. All they know is that bombing hospitals is an act that violates international law, and what about violations, explosions, and other crimes, and what about the violation of the human rights and killing people and kids...!

The Western world is completely out of touch with real reality. If we look at the West, we will realize that they are like a herd, like a herd behind what rules their country. If the main ruler is also absent from what is happening, or in the correct sense is aware, but the interests of his state require him to stand with the Zionist entity. American support for Netanyahu was clear from the first moment on all political and military tracks. Militarily, The United States helped Tel Aviv raise its military capabilities in the wake of the attack, as it helped Israel by diverting an aircraft carrier to sail towards Israel with its crew of about 5,000 individuals, as part of deterrence measures, as well as placing 2,000 soldiers on "state of alert."



There are many questions about the extent to which the Middle East was affected by this war. The current moment represents a turning point in the Middle East. As if, the Middle East woke up in 1948. This war will affect the entire Middle East, as at exactly two in the morning on October 19, Israel launched raids on areas in southern Syria and Lebanon.

This is not just a conflict, but also rather a bloody war between Netanyahu and Hamas. There is a big difference between conflict and war, and there is no doubt that Israel will seek to decapitate the military leadership of the Hamas movement. Through inhumanity and genocide of the entire Palestinian people. If there is no plan drawn up with a specific tactic.

Israel does not attack an army, but rather attacks and fights civilians who do not have weapons. It throws houses where are people. It follows the principle of collective punishment and works on genocide.

Civilians are the brave, oppressed people. They bear responsibility for a war between the Palestinian opposition resistance (Hamas) and Netanyahu. On the other hand, Hamas's failure to think about the consequences of Operation's "Tofan Al-Aqsa" on civilians as well is a matter of indifference. With Israel, there is no religion, no humanity, no rule, no law, no promise, and no trust. Israeli anger flies like missiles without thinking, as if they are adopting the anarchist theory, flying missiles of anger overwhelming humanity, peace, and negotiation.



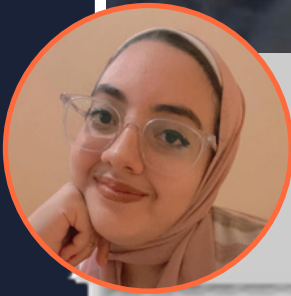
Ultimately, I would like to ask many questions that haunt me: Where are Hamas now, where are they with these explosions and shells on hospitals? What about the huge number of victims, and the attacks on hospitals and first aid, which are violations of international law, will these actions be punished? What about the global political situation, especially the impact of this massive conflict on the economic aspect for the entire year, what about the refugee crisis that the world will be exposed to later?

This will open many questions about the Saudi normalization of Israel, as it is possible that Saudi Arabia will become greatly isolated from the Arab and Islamic world if it undertakes normalization after the Al-Aqsa flood.

The Palestinian issue is not over yet... Rather, it is the beginning of many global political, economic, and social questions. Hence, I want to add a tool, from my point of view, one of the most important tools for salvation, which is supplication and prayer for the Holy Land. Praying for Palestine and the people of Palestine. Supplication and prayer are the power hidden within each one of us. Prayers for Jerusalem and its brave people.

**Peace to a land, which was created for peace and has never seen peace.**

*(Mahmoud Darwish)*



## ETHNIC CLEANSING 101

Salma El Bukhari-Junior-Political Science-salma.elbokhary2021@feps.edu.eg

I have spent the better part of my week trying to find a way, a sentence, to begin this article. I even tried to write a poem but could not finish. I opened all sorts of social media to try and find inspiration to write such an outstanding, mind-blowing report. I could not. I only found videos of dying innocents. I still vividly remember the first time in prep school, when we were shown pictures of the Deir Yassin Massacre. I felt such a great deal of anger, helplessness and suffocating injustice. I remember thinking: "What kind of world would let them get away with this?". Right now, I'm piecing it together.

On the 7th of October 2023, Hamas broke down the "Iron Wall" separating The Gaza Strip and entered Kafr Aza, a colonized settlement in Palestine. They sent down a few bombs, killed some militants -all "Israelis" are recruited by the IDF- and took some, hostage.

What happened next cannot be described as anything less other than a complete genocide. Immediately after the Hamas attack, the mindless propaganda started. The Zionist entity brought out all its weapons; material and non-material ones to "retaliate". For example, there was a false spreading of lies by the CNN about 40 beheaded Israeli babies, that was later denied by the entity's officials and retracted by the CNN.





# PALESTINE

The Zionist Entity then started to actually bomb the Gaza Strip mercilessly. Till exactly this moment on the 24th of October, the city is still being bombed and the people are getting massacred. Schools, hospitals, mosques and even churches were flattened to the ground. Al- Ahli Hospital, a Christian run hospital, was shelled and thousands were killed inside which The entity took credit for initially then erased the statement and blamed the Palestinians instead, which of course is a blatant lie. The oldest church in Gaza was bombed on the 20th of October, it had been an important historical building as well as a place for the displaced to stay. The IDF issued evacuation orders from the north of Gaza but bombed the evacuation routes and a convoy of trucks transporting the Palestinian citizens.

My friend Ranin Al Qudwa of four years, had both her houses bombed and is currently living in a school basement. I try to talk to her every day, just to make sure she is okay, but what she reports back to me is horrifying. I asked her yesterday if she was okay, but she asked me to rephrase the question

into “Ranin, are you still alive?”. The mosque near the school that Ranin is staying at, was blasted and hundreds of people were killed while she was awake and listening to the sounds of her fellow citizens taking their last breaths. Ranin’s childhood best friend was massacred in cold blood, and she was not able to be there with her, because she was trying to stay alive.

Absolute horror spreads throughout the social media platforms in forms of laughable propaganda by the entity. Ethnic cleansing is not just the act of murder itself, wiping out families, dynasties and ripping away children from their parents and friends from each other, but it is also the ability of the ethnic cleanser to completely dehumanize an entire ethnicity, so that no one cares. That is exactly what the Zionist Entity is trying to achieve. After the incidents of the 7th of October, the entity capitalized on the murder of their “civilians” by making a promotion deal with a mental health platform called “BetterHelp” calling out for free therapy sessions with a promotion code by their “government”. Their TikTok account is full of clickbait propaganda videos that are, unlike pro-Palestinian





videos, not shadow banned by the algorithm showing their soldiers laughing, eating and drinking, while the IDF has completely cut off water, electricity and food off in Gaza. There is evidence that they called up influencers and offered to pay them for further propaganda videos. This supposed “state” has social media, that’s how ridiculous this entity is, giving grounds for genocide via TikTok.

The media is a battlefield on its own; and this time, the Zionist Entity is losing and they know it. When Hamas released two of the hostages, a video was released that showed one of the hostages shaking a Hamas fighter’s hand and saying “Shalom” to him, she then went on to say, in a press conference, that they treated them extremely well; getting them medicine, doctors and ate the same food Hamas ate themselves. On one hand, after the embarrassing attempt by the UN to call for a ceasefire and was brutally vetoed by the U.S., some celebrities wrote a letter to Joe Biden calling for a ceasefire and they all signed it. Not to lie, it gave me hope. But unfortunately, an even bigger group of celebrities wrote another letter calling for “no hostages left behind” while thanking Joe Biden for “standing with Jewish people” and how they support his decisions regarding the situation in Gaza. In the end, an important disclaimer has to be made. This is textbook ethnic cleansing. This is not a religious



Thank you to all of the incredible Israeli companies, volunteers and individuals who are coming together to help as many people during this horrific time.

@betterhelp, a company which offers therapy is providing 6 months of free therapy to those affected by the war in Israel.

As you’re aware, the people of Israel are currently fighting not just a war against Hamas terrorism at home, but also in the battle to tell their story to the world.

During these times, your voice is needed.

Our group has created a [library of explainer videos](#) that can be used directly on your platforms with hashtags #HAMASisISIS or #StandWithIsrael.

Top Influencers and Creators already supported: [Kim Kardashian](#), [Madonna](#), [Gal Gadot](#), [Casey Neistat](#), [Amy Schumer](#), [Kylie Jenner](#), [Jerry Seinfeld](#), and many others.

Your voice can help make people more aware of the truth of what’s happening in Israel and the war against terrorism.

Kindly send us a link to your post, and we’ll prude to repost and increase engagement.

conflict. This is not a Muslim-Jewish situation. If it was, the churches would not be bombed and the Christian Palestinians would not be displaced side by side with the Muslims. Israel is nothing but a colonial settlement, an occupation that is not retaliating but is actively carrying out a genocide with the whole world watching. For a successful ethnic cleansing, brainwashing is not enough, you have to inspire people to actively resist the truth and choose to remain ignorant and uneducated. You need to force them into picking your side by staying neutral. Thank you, this was ethnic cleansing 101, we hope you have found our course instructive for your next mass murder and please, pray for Ranin Al Qudwa.



## THE STORY OF THE OLIVE BRANCH

Menna Walid- Level 3- Economic- French Section

At a glance, I hesitated to write about the current events because of their severity and my inability to follow the news that are getting worse every moment. But everything around reminded me of the case. The colors, the people on the street, the fruits, everywhere I look it reminds me of what is happening all around us, and I keep trying to spread awareness as much as I can.

Yet, I am aware that we cannot actually defend the accurate side under the current international circumstances, that in fact, make us even doubt our position. Not to mention, the mass and social media are continuing to try and force us to hold us back from speaking our minds, the truth. They have failed before and they will fail again from doing so.

Since the beginning of the appearance of independence movements in the twentieth century, The West forces have learned that from now on they will not need to occupy the land and citizens, but they will occupy our minds. That is why we have turned into some dolls in the hands of old colonizers. We follow their plans while being independent of their governments even though they continue blocking the truth and restricting our freedom of speech, but this time some people woke up and broke the silence, so we started diffusing and sharing in hopes to make any change no matter how big or small. That's why I decided to participate through the story of the olive branch.





I'm not one to sit and often contemplate on an issue for a long time, until one day I came across this one store's name that caught my attention. As I entered the shop, I was amused and filled with many questions about its origin and history. The first question that came to my mind was, "why the olive branch?" to which I got an answer that left me amazed..."This is a symbol, my dear, a symbol of peace and love"

"The Olive Branch story started a very long time ago. You know that the olive branch was a special icon for the Greeks? These civilizations did not use it like us, but they knew it was a symbol of strength that's why they made it the logo of the Olympic Games."

I was inspired by the answer of the shopkeeper that made me eager to ask more questions and dive deep into research about this unique name of the little shop.

The olive tree is a plant that needs very special care and conditions in order to grow healthy and bloom, be able to bear fruit, and remain perennial that lives over a thousand years, which is more than those who keep trying to come on its land and try to steal its branches.

Its prosperity in some civilizations meant peace, and in the case of wars, its growth is not complete but it remains steadfast and clinging to its roots; the land is its land and no one can deny its existence.

Some are trying to ruin its image and justify the importance of eliminating it because of its damage, which is not real, and to defend their environment that needs another tree. And to make matters even worse, here comes the help of those with powerful authorities, officials and the international organizations who seek to clean the environment, and do not defend, in fact, the importance of this distinctive plant that has the right to live and grow like the rest of the trees on the planet. Therefore, neighbors from the region prefer oil more than the branch itself and each one is looking after their own benefits and self-interest, so no one minds removing the tree and the olive branch as long as it is not located in its own land. Except, they don't know what would happen to their trees if the roots of this perennial tree died.



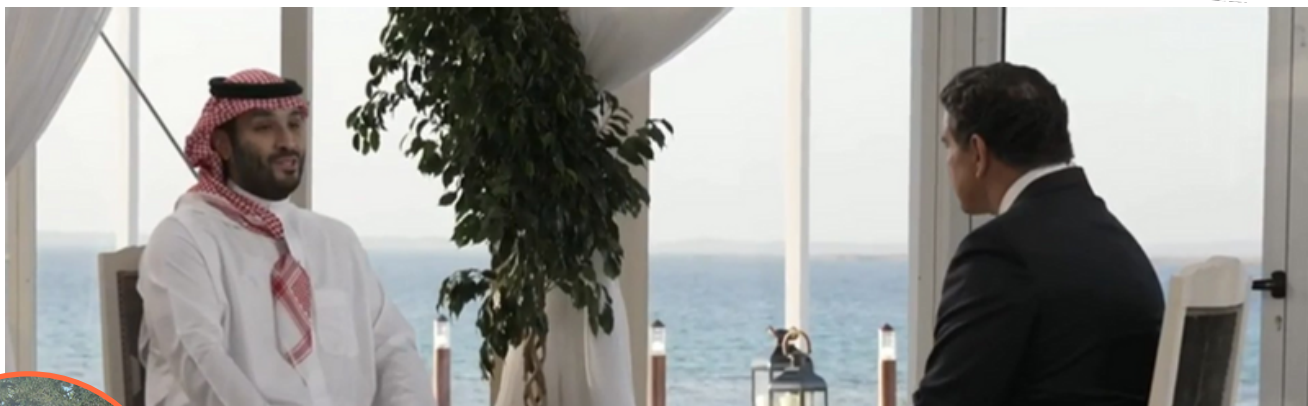


But who will save it? When the crisis has lasted for more than half a century, and some of its branches had already died, while the oppressors continue trying to defeat the tree, yet it remains standing, big and strong. The world has failed it. The olive tree has been let down by humanity and fake international laws, which only preserve its other issues. Neighbors let it down and continue their silence because of their weakness and lack of power. If they defended the tree, they would lose some support, and they needed it.

The Olive Branch is a story that does not end. A mighty and a stubborn generation will rise from the heart of despair. Every time the story revives again, the world wakes up from its unawareness and ignorance. Every time The Olive Branch reminds us that its case is not an individual issue, but the issue of speaking up against injustice and oppression.

It's been more than two weeks and children are being killed, families have been displaced, houses are being evacuated, and the genocide continues...Don't stop spreading awareness, people may die but the case never dies.





## ANALYTICAL REVIEW FOR THE SAUDI CROWN PRINCE'S INTERVIEW WITH FOX NEWS.

Habeba Mahmoud, fourth year, political science

"We have lost so many opportunities in the past, and we are not seeking to lose more," This's how Saudi Crown Prince, Mohammed bin Salman or MBS, opened his talk and answers in the interview conducted by Bret Baier, chief political anchor, on Fox News Channel. It is worth noting that less than half a century ago, the kingdom of Saudi Arabia witnessed the incident of the Storming of the Grand Mosque in Mecca, led by Jahman Al-Otaibi in opposition to the reform efforts under King Khalid bin Abdul Aziz. Today, in 2023, the kingdom is undergoing deeper and more far-reaching reforms, especially on the social level, than ever before, led by the "de facto" ruler of the country, Mohammed bin Salman. In a first - of - its-kind interview hosted on Saudi Arabia's Sandal Island, the interviewer and interviewee discussed the Saudi-US relations, Iran's nuclear ambitions, course of negotiations with Israel, and dynamics of the Saudi economy.

In our point of view, the interview carried more than one message through which bin Salman sought to re-promote himself and increase the promotion of his kingdom to the world in general and to decision-makers and the Western media in particular. At the forefront of these messages is the Prince's attempt to deny and rectify his image portrayed by the Western media and international human rights organizations due to the human rights violations his record and the tightening of the noose on political and human rights activists. As such, Saudi Arabia has been subject to repeated and massive campaigns led by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and others against it, to the extent that Mohammed bin Salman topped the list of human rights violators around the world in the International Conference on Freedom held in Oslo 2022. Therefore, it was not surprising that the interview included questions about the heinous murder of Khashoggi and the execution of a citizen because of a "tweet" he posted, about which the crown prince felt sorry, but the judicial system applies the laws, which he believes in need to be reformed to be more realistic, but more realistic for them "as Saudis, not for foreigners".



In this context, he added that Saudi Arabia was "conservative" but reforms are coming. Considering what Saudi Arabia has witnessed since 2015 until today, we find remarkable radical developments on the social level, from expanding the scope of entertainment such as concerts and others, empowering women by dropping the guardianship over them to travel, giving them greater rights regarding family affairs, allowing them to drive, releasing a number of human rights activists such as Loujain al-Hathloul, and welcoming visitors from LGBTQ+ communities.



The second message that was reflected in several times through the interview, is the Prince's affirmation that he is a friend and ready to shake hands with everyone in order to achieve stability in the region in support of his domestic reform plan. As for relations with the United States, the crown prince explained that Saudi Arabia and the United States are close friends and have mutual interests, for example, Saudi Arabia is the largest importer of weapons from the United States and is therefore essential in the American economy.

This may be one of the cards that Saudi Arabia is playing as a key card during its normalization negotiations with Israel, which are exclusively auspicated by the United States. For bin Salman's relationship with the current US President, Joe Biden, it was initially tinged with a kind of tension, which the US president expressed before where he announced that he would deal directly with King Salman and not with the crown prince, in addition to the public reprimands by them to each other. Yet the common interests imposed by the developments in the international situation led to a kind of rapprochement in the end. As bin Salman mentioned, the only constant thing in politics is change, and therefore it was wise for the American side to deal with Saudi Arabia because of its growing economic, military and political influence globally and as a cornerstone in the Middle East. Currently, Saudi Arabia and the United States share a number of common interests in investment, construction, space and technology, and most importantly, the American mediation in Yemen and in the Saudi-Israeli negotiations, which, if completed, would be a major diplomatic triumph for the Biden administration in the upcoming election campaign. In this context, he also explained that there is no need to worry about the Kingdom joining the BRICS, as it is not a bloc against the United States or the West, but aims to achieve economic gains.



As well as rapprochement with China and accepting its mediation in negotiations with Iran was normal being one of the most important players on the world stage, "if China falls, everyone falls, including America". About the decision to voluntarily reduce oil issued in June, about which some felt kind of pressure on the West supporting Ukraine in favor of the Russian bear, the prince acknowledged that this decision came in response to the requirements of supply and demand in the global oil market only. On the relationship with Iran, Saudi-Iranian relations have always been fluctuating, but currently they are witnessing a breakthrough as a culmination of efforts that began in Iraq and continued at Xi Ping's initiative until the signing of the Riyadh-Tehran agreement in March 2023, which restored diplomatic relations between the two countries that had been severed since 2016 after Iranian protesters attacked Saudi diplomatic missions in objection to the execution of a Shiite dissident, Nimr al-Nimr.

The crown prince expressed the current situation between the two countries that the negotiations have been "good" so far. When asked about the prospects of Iran acquiring and developing nuclear weapons, the Prince rejects nuclear weapons in principle; he sees them useless because in the end they cannot be used, but he stated that if Iran obtains a nuclear weapon, the kingdom will in turn obtain a nuclear weapon for the sake of the balance of power in the region.

Perhaps one of the most important issues mentioned in the interview was the course of Saudi-Israeli relations and about the imminent normalization. The Saudi crown prince described the peace with Israel as "the biggest historical deal since the Cold War", making it clear that he does not mind dealing with Netanyahu or anyone else. Israel has become an important player in the Middle East, and if a deal is secured guaranteeing the Palestinians their rights and needs and brings peace to the region, MBS will deal with whoever. Regarding the march towards normalization, bin Salman said it crystal clear that "every day, we are getting closer". Normalization will undoubtedly benefit everyone whose interests are intertwined with it.

Saudi Arabia is seeking security guarantees, support for a domestic nuclear program, weapons from America, as well as stopping settlement expansion in Palestine, and Israel is seeking to secure major economic interests with the kingdom being the most important country in the Arab region at the moment, not to mention that this normalization will strengthen Netanyahu's legacy and the legitimacy of his government, which has been widely criticized following the recent judicial reforms, and of course the electoral gains awaited by the American side, as we have mentioned.



This issue may become even more important nowadays, after the Toofaan Al-Aqsa operation that acted as a strong blow to the normalization efforts to the extent that some analysts went to believe that Hamas's operation has mainly aimed at obstructing this normalization; as they fear that their cause would be forgotten in the new security arrangements and alliances in the region. Ismail Haniyeh, head of the Hamas political bureau, sent a message that as signals to the Arab countries in general and Saudi Arabia in particular that normalization cannot resolve the conflict and that the Zionist entity cannot provide any benefits to them because it simply could not protect itself against Hamas fighters.

Of course, the scene is becoming more complicated, especially after Saudi Arabia's decision to postpone normalization negotiations and refusing to condemn the Tofaan Al-Aqsa operation. In addition, it adheres to the negotiations to give the Palestinians their rights and rejects the acquisition by Israel of any new lands within the Palestinian state, which is no longer possible today in the light of the forced displacement and extermination practiced by the Israeli government against Palestinian civilians. In any case, predicting the fate of normalization is no longer simple, but it is certainly no longer "every day, we are getting closer".



The third message brought by the interview was embodied in bin Salman's desire to reduce dependence on oil as a key engine for the economy and diversify the sources of economic growth within the framework of 2030 Vision. Therefore, it was not surprising to host the interview on Sandala Island, one of the projects of Neom city, which His Highness aims to transform from a desert into a city powered by a 100% renewable energy. And this diversification is not only through the creation of smart and sustainable cities to attract investments and tourists alike, but also through various entertainment sectors such as football.

As a result, some accused the kingdom that what it is doing in football is nothing but sport washing, but bin Salman has a different opinion that if sport washing will increase the GDP from 1 to 1.5%, then he does not mind this label, not to mention the expansion it represents in the areas of soft power. The unprecedented efforts led by MBS to diversify the sources of the economy are part of the economic rivalry between Saudi Arabia and the UAE to attract investments from multinational companies and develop tourist cities, which itself is in turn part of a larger rivalry between the two sisters for leadership of the region.

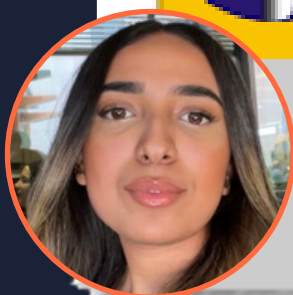




As final message that can be drawn from this interview, we can say that Mohammed bin Salman is confident about his abilities and the capabilities of his country, which he has expressed more than once during the interview. He believes that Saudi Arabia is the greatest success story of the Twenty-First Century. It can also be seen through his answers and the strong presence of Saudi Arabia in all the crises that erupt in the Middle East that it promotes itself as the patron of the region and that those who want to deal with the Middle East had to deal with it first. It stands head-to-head (tit for tat) with Iran in terms of the regional hegemony and even its chances to

overcome the latter are increasing in light of the isolation experienced by Iran, which is offset by a noticeable openness from the Saudi side to all parties. In the words of His Highness, "everyone in this world has directly or indirectly something to do with Saudi Arabia". Finally, the figure of bin Salman is one of the most controversial and important figures in the Twenty-First Century, and this is not my talk, but this is how Bret Baier introduced him. He is a smart, ambitious and visionary leader, who you can consider as such, or you can consider him "dangerous", as The Economist described, but in the end the world will have to or will have the pleasure to deal with him for many years to come.





## BRICS....FROM A POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE

rana Ahmed- Fourth year- Political Science- rana.farooq2020@feps.edu.eg

BRICS is an economic grouping that brings together Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, as well as six new countries such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Argentina, Ethiopia, and Iran.

The importance of the integration of the economy lies in the fact that it comprises the decision to 40% of the world's population, and constitute about 25, 9% of global GDP for the year 2022, and resulted in the establishment of the Bank Asian Bank of development as an alternative to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund

All this comes within the framework of strengthening the economies of these emerging countries (ex) and ending the American hegemony, so the goals focused on creating a global balance in the framework of the economy, strengthening infrastructure, enhancing political and economic integration of these countries

On the surface, it seems strongly consistent due to what has been mentioned, but this vision may be narrow because it depends only on the economic dimension. However, if we look at the political side, we will find a structure that includes countries that are not only different visions but competing or greatly contradictory. For example, if we look at the founding countries, we find India and China United despite their border disputes as well as their disputes over water resources, which is also an existing problem between the two newly acceding countries: Egypt and Ethiopia.

The question remains: Will the coalition be able to put aside these political differences or will they stand in the way of achieving its goals



## UNIVERSAL VALUES: BETWEEN CHINA AND THE WEST

Abdelrahman Mohamed Ismail-Economics- Third Year- English Section

In 1989 hundreds of thousands of Chinese students protested in Tiananmen Square. They shouted for democracy and made a statue similar to that of Lady Liberty in New York and named it the Goddess of democracy. However, they did not really mean democracy in the literate meaning of the ruling of the majority, according to one of the leaders of the movement in an interview with BBC. Instead, they were asking for freedom, liberty, human rights, peace, social progress, equal rights, and human dignity. The communist party's decision in the end was to label them as enemies of the party and the nation and evacuated the square using force.

These claims were not claimed by the Chinese students only. First adopted by the west, they have spread everywhere else. Statues that symbolize liberty stand in many other countries like Hungary, Indonesia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, and Latvia, and from the fall of Berlin wall to the Arab Spring, people all over the world shouted for these values, which makes these values universal. However, the Chinese government argued back then- and still does- that these values are western rather than universal and are not applicable for every nation, especially China.

A change in the tone of government officials in Beijing is increasingly being noticed. They used to say that they needed more time to reach these values whenever questioned about them, but responses of such tone are no longer being given. Xi Jinping has been questioning the validity of the idea of universal values in People's Daily, The CCP's daily newspaper, claiming that these are just western plots to intervene in other countries and are western rather than universal. Consequently, he also believes that "forcing" these "western values" on the rest of the world is racist. He also says it is a lie since western countries themselves do not even abide by these values, pointing out to the colonial era and the discrimination against black people in the west. He believes that rather than universal values there are common values instead. He argues that values such as development and peace are common among all countries but can be interpreted in a different way in each country. Xi Jinping is also falsifying history by arguing that the concept of universal values was made by the west after WWII. His words are music to the dictators of the south. But all these allegations are shallow. The real reason he does not like these values is because these values are usually either a cause or a result of transition to democracy.



Though universal values have indeed been used by the west to intervene in some countries, this does not mean that they should be shunned. Take Afghanistan for example, its people are starving and live in constant fear under the rule of Taliban, which pictures the US as the source of all the evil. People started to run and crowded at the airport as soon as it had become official that the US would withdraw all its forces and that Taliban would take over. They were so desperate that some even stuck to the wheels of an airplane as a last resort, before falling from the sky. Being ruled by an invader was far better for the people of Afghanistan than being ruled by the terrorist group. Another example is Iraq, though it is true that the chaos caused by the invasion by the US was far worse than the regime of Saddam, it does not mean that Saddam's actions or decisions were right. We are not punishing the west by abandoning these values, we are punishing ourselves.

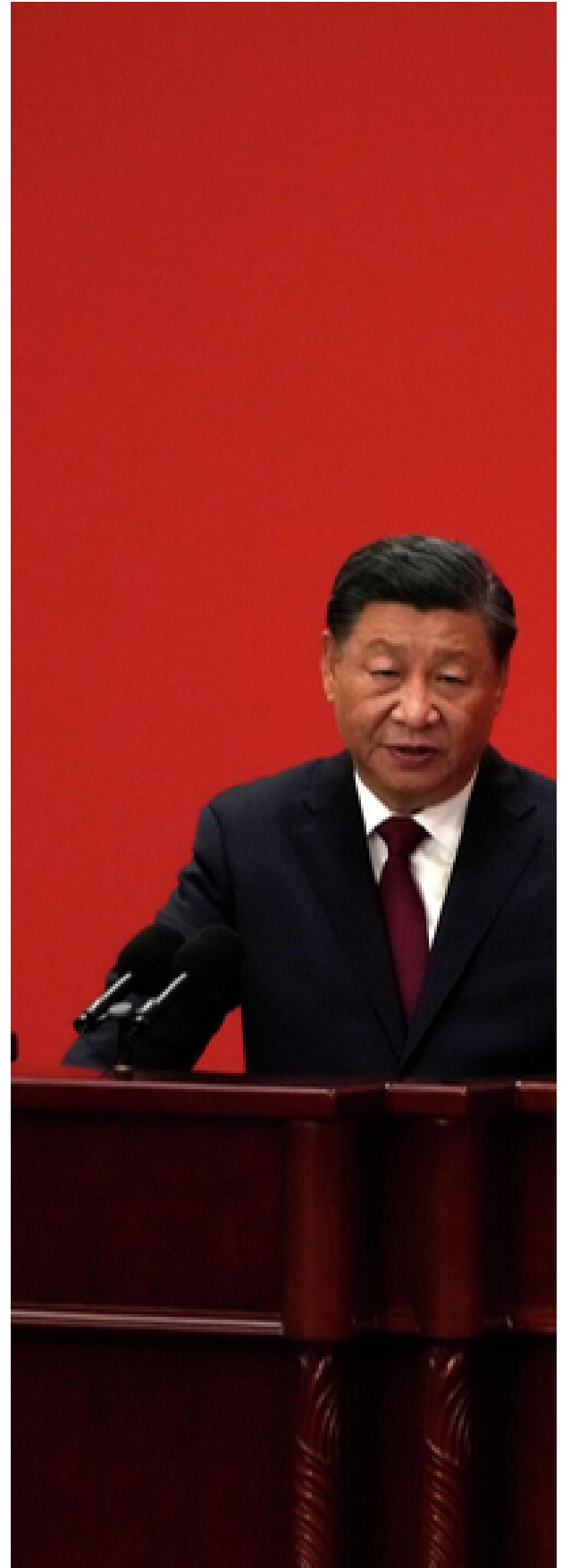
And the fact that the west adopted these values first does not mean that these values are western. India, Turkey, and Brazil and most importantly Taiwan offer good examples. Taiwan's people are mainly Chinese, and they have adopted democracy while the mainland hasn't mainly because the elite and leaders do not want to lose their status or to have to defend themselves in front of courts for their crimes. Democracy is indeed for everyone, though it might be easier to implement it in some countries due to certain conditions and circumstances and comes in steps as well. But these circumstances and steps can be

overcome by any nation. Countries fail to achieve the transition to democracy because the small proportion of the people that benefit from authoritarian regimes manage to subordinate the rest of the people.

England transition to democracy started by the victory of the nobles over the absolutist monarchy and the issuance of "magna carta", Medieval Latin for "Great Charter of Freedoms", and the conflict resumed for centuries. They did not overcome the absolutist monarchy because English people are more capable and qualified for democracy, but because the balance of power was in their favor against the monarchy. Moreover, claiming that liberty and freedom are not for all humankind and only suitable to the west is what actually pure racism is, since it implies that some nations are superior and more capable of making their own choices while others cannot. Also, the crimes that the west has historically committed- and sometimes still does- do not imply that these values should be shunned. It is actually due to these values that the enslaving of black people ceased to exist. It is also due to these values that black people now have equal right in the west, while China is purging the Uyghurs. These values are both part of the sociological, political, and economic development of humans and the path to more development as well. From the Roman Republic to medieval Venice, history is full of examples of nations and civilizations that developed and grew rapidly under these values and started to decline till eventually falling as soon as these values had been abandoned.



The claim that these values were unilaterally imposed by the west is also not true. The vice chairman of the commission that drafted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was Chinese. He used the words of Chinese philosophers like Confucius and Mencius in the debates about human rights. The first article of this declaration is: 'All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood'. And it was he himself that added the clause that all people have reason and conscience, which means they are capable of making their own decisions. It is important to note that Xi Jinping and the communist party do not represent the Chinese people, and most importantly do not represent the south as he tries to picture, though they might represent some of its regimes, which are happy to stand for each other in human rights sessions in the UN. No one would believe that it is right to take away his right of speech or freedom. From the protests in Tiananmen Square till the latest protests in Honk Kong, many have sacrificed years of their lives in jail or even lost their lives in their quest of freedom and independence from the cruelty and misery of the communist party. But they are not alone in their struggle, for they are these goals- liberty, equality, and human rights- that all people share.





## PROSPECTS OF SUSTAINABLE SMART CITIES

Dr. Shaimaa Saeed El Araby - Economic Expert - IDSC

The article presents an overview of a concept that emerged in the 21st century, namely sustainable cities, the motives for their establishment, their goals, and Egypt's experience in establishing them.

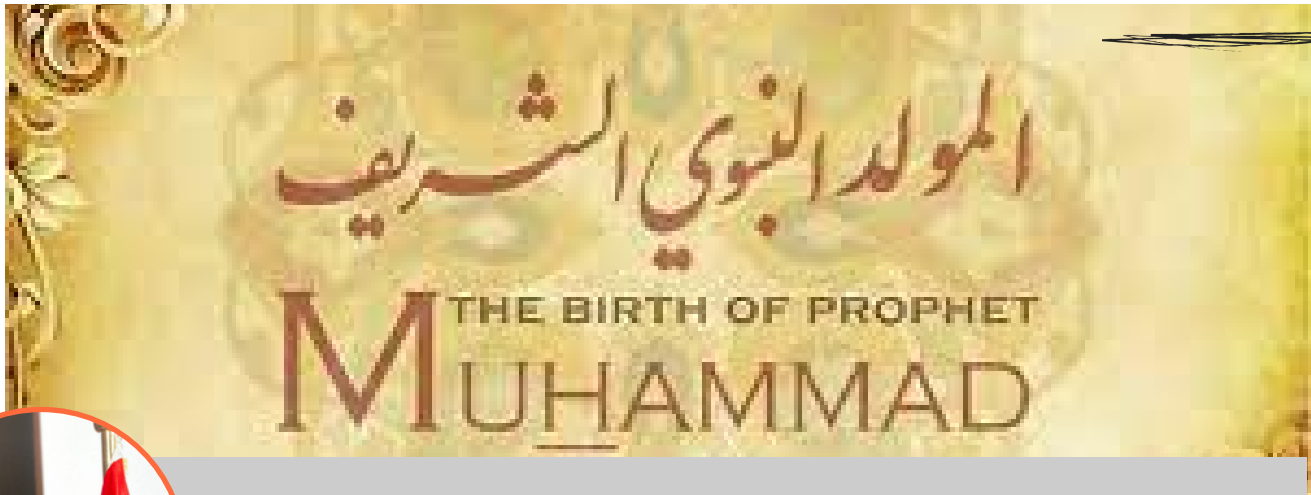
Smart sustainable cities are defined as new, green, eco-friendly cities based on the use of information and communication technologies and other means to improve the quality of life, raise the efficiency of services provided to citizens, and meet the needs of present and future generations with regard to economic, social, and environmental aspects. Smart sustainable cities are characterized by a distinctive local urban character through the environmental urban design of the city and the provision of open areas for the population. It is also characterized by providing an excellent economic base that provides suitable job opportunities for its residents by attracting local and foreign investments, presenting various educational services as well as in all services, preserving the environment, and expanding the use of renewable energy.

Smart sustainable cities aim at achieving efficiency and sustainable development and raising the standard of living for citizens. The applications of sustainable smart cities appear in the improvement of government services, transportation, traffic, energy, healthcare, water, and waste. There are three main features of sustainable smart cities. First, the infrastructure is based on information and communication technology. Second, they have a carefully defined integrated administrative framework. Third, they abound with smart users, who have the technical skills that allow them to interact with smart services and make the most of them.

There are many sustainable smart cities in the world, including Masdar City in the UAE. It is considered one of the first sustainable cities in the Middle East to adopt a green footprint for future cities and is characterized by low rates of pollution and waste. Other examples are Stockholm in Sweden, Adelaide in Australia, Sion in South Korea, Ontario in Canada, Taipei, in Taiwan, Mitaka in Japan, New York in the USA, and Vienna in Austria. It is estimated that by 2050, 68% of the world's population, 6.66 billion people will live in these cities.

The Egyptian Government has begun to establish new smart cities in the desert. It was planned to establish 13 cities with international technological standards that achieve sustainability. New Alamein and New Aswan come on top of the cities. The New Administrative Capital (NAC) is soon to be inaugurated. Such cities mitigate population density in existing cities, reduce urban encroachments in them that pressure services, and achieve sustainable development in Egypt.

NAC is the first sustainable and smart city in Egypt located in the east of Cairo. The total area of the city is 170,000 acres; it is characterized by a privileged location close to the Suez Canal area, regional roads, and main axes. It is also characterized by a strong and efficient infrastructure, the use of digital technology, and green spaces represented by the Green River. It is 35 kilometers long to simulate the Nile River in Cairo; it is the largest green axis in the world.



## ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF THE PROPHET

Youssef Mousa- Fourth year - Political science

An orphan sent by God, may God have mercy on him, to the worlds. Many books have dealt with the biography of the Prophet, and this article is only a reminder of his birth (the twelfth of Rabi' al-Awwal) and a narration of some events from his life. The beloved was born and his father did not see him. His childhood, even if his life was full of difficulties, as he lost his father, his mother, his grandfather, then his uncle, and nothing remained for him except God. The Messenger of God was born in a year called the Year of the Elephant, the year in which the Kaaba almost fell, but it was in the protection of the Most Gracious, so Abraha was unable to carry out what he sought.

The Prophet had been working since childhood, as he tended sheep when he moved to live with his uncle. He was working to earn his living due to the large number of his cousin's children and their economic circumstances. After that, he worked in trade and was called the honest and trustworthy because of the way he dealt with everyone. He used to travel on a winter trip to Yemen and a summer trip to the Sham, and when he treated people, his treatment was equal with everyone, whether that was a slave or a free person.

He rejected the evil manifestations that occurred in Mecca, such as drinking alcohol, theft, cheating, and many other evil manifestations. When Ramadan came, he would go to the cave of Hira and worship until a revelation came to him from Gabriel one time.

He later learned from Waraqah bin Nawfal that he was the prophet of this nation, hence the hostility with the infidels. The revelation came to him when he was forty. Many did not believe him at first, and he faced many obstacles in order to spread the message of Islam and eliminate all forms of evil that were happening inside Mecca. In addition, he was expelled from its people at first, but God kept his promise when he returned to it. Once again, he opened it to her.

The Prophet participated in many raids to promote the word of truth and religion. He had many positions from which we can infer his mercy, whether in dealing with his family or companions or even his companionship with his nation whom he had not seen. He - may God's prayers and peace be upon him - was always under the care of the Most Gracious, and many of the Quraysh marveled. Of the divine miracles they saw when they confronted him, such as the story of (Suraqa bin Malik, and when he prostrated at the Kaaba and Abu Jahl's desire to harm him).

The Messenger completed his message until God passed away on the same day of his birth at the age of 63 years.



# Caricature of month



by : Menna Walid-Third year- Economics - French Section