



GABR FELLOWS MEETING WITH CHARIMAN SHAFIK GABR IN CAIRO IN FEBRUARY 2021



The
SHAFIK GABR
Foundation

The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

April 2021, Issue 45

IN THIS ISSUE

Cultural Diplomacy

On 3rd April, the world witnessed a spectacular event, when 22 mummies belonging to Ancient Egypt's kings and queens were moved from the Egyptian Museum to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Fustat, Cairo, near the Citadel.

As some of you may know, I have been a lifelong advocate of cultural diplomacy. It is critical in the world we live in today.

It is my belief that by listening, looking, and learning with the objective of understanding cultural, religious, and ideological differences we allow for a better world by constructing bridges of understanding between all the peoples of this Earth. This is more important than ever, especially with the advent of social media, fake news and C19.

And it is precisely through the exchange of ideas, art, culture and history, that nations and their people can get to know each other and foster deep mutual understanding.

At the same time, we Egyptians need to learn to appreciate and learn about our own rich history, in order to reinforce our movement forward to a more prosperous and proud future.

M. Shafik Gabr

In Brief...

- **Ahmed Radwan's** Play Comes Out
- **Bryan Griffin** Establishes Kombucha Venture
- Article: **Egypt Mummies** Pass Through Cairo in Ancient Rulers' Parade
- **Leah Moschella's** New Base and Job
- **Leisel Bogan** Is Now a Harvard Belfer Center Fellow
- **Marwa Abdalla's** Film Success
- **Question of the Month:** A Pulse of the Gabr Fellowship Community
- Gabr Foundation **Reading Corner**
- **Zeyad Kelani's** PhD

Leisel Bogan Is Now a Harvard Belfer Center Fellow



2016 Gabr Fellow **Leisel Bogan** was accepted to the Harvard Belfer Center for Technology and Public Purpose Fellowship. The fellows will spend 10 months in-residence at Harvard University engaging with a range of experts to provide independent and rigorous analysis on some of today's most pressing challenges regarding technology and society.

More information here:

<https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/announcement-2021-2022-class-tapp-fellows>

Bryan Griffin Establishes Kombucha Venture



2017 Gabr Fellow **Bryan Griffin** recently opened a business in Tampa. Alongside his two business partners, Bryan opened Flower Crown Kombucha in January of this year. The three self-proclaimed “Booch Boys” are friends who met at Radiant Church in Tampa.

Bryan's business is getting some good local publicity. Here is the article:

<https://www.tampabay.com/life-culture/food/food-news/2021/03/17/peek-inside-tampas-first-kombucha-taproom/>

Ahmed Radwan's Play Comes Out



2015 Gabr Fellow **Ahmed Radwan's** play is now out – it is the Arabic adaptation of the masterpiece movie “Reservoir Dogs” that was directed and written by Quentin Tarantino and he is playing the character “White”.

Zeyad Kelani's PhD



2014 Gabr Fellow **Zeyad Kelani** will officially be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy from Claremont Graduate University in the USA in Political Economy and Computational Analytics in May 2021. Zeyad's Ph.D. dissertation was about Quantifying and Predicting Political Risk using Big Data and AI.

Marwa Abdalla's Film Success



2018 Gabr Fellow Marwa Abdalla's first film project as a producer "Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner" has been selected to participate in the pitching sessions of the 2nd edition of Dot.on.the.map Meeting Point, a co-production, training and networking forum that brings together producers, directors and scriptwriters from countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea with international film professionals. Dot.on.the.map Industry Days will take place from the 21st to the 23rd of April 2021, in a virtual environment, in the framework of the 19th Cyprus Film Days IFF.

Marwa also finished a new research paper about the latest technologies in the visual media content industry in the Arab world. The paper will be published in the framework of the 26th international academic conference of faculty of Mass Communication - Cairo University.

Leah Moschella's New Base and Job



2015 Gabr Fellow Leah Moschella recently relocated to New York City and accepted a new role as Senior Education Designer with the Education Design Lab located in Washington DC.

As a member of the Lab's leadership team, Leah's role will involve developing a national strategy for competency-based education and micro-credentials in a growing skills-based economy. Working at the intersection of education and workforce development, this work will support education leaders to meet the evolving needs of modern learners and the economy.

Sponsor a Gabr Fellow



Sponsoring a Gabr Fellow for the Fellowship Program helps build bridges of cross-cultural understanding between the East and the West.

The sponsorship package costs \$35,000 which includes the sponsoring of a Fellow who can carry the name of the individual, organization or corporation making the contribution.

Sponsors will be recognized in all Foundation publications, marketing materials, and events. Contributions of any amount, big or small, are encouraged and welcomed with sincere gratitude.

More information can be found here:

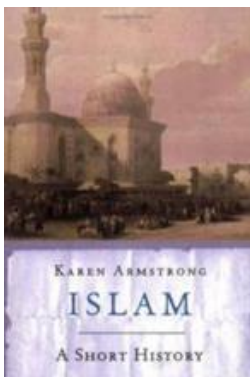
eastwestdialogue.org/fellowship/how-to-support

Gabr Foundation Reading Corner



The Foundation Reading Corner encourages Fellows to critique the books that have been recommended to them in each issue. For this issue, Mr. Gabr recommends *The Big Nine: How the Tech Titans and Their Thinking Machines Could Warp Humanity* by Amy Webb and *Islam: A Short History* by Karen Armstrong.

In *The Big Nine*, Amy Webb discusses how, within our lifetimes, AI will, by design, begin to behave unpredictably, thinking and acting in ways which defy human logic. The big nine corporations (Amazon, Google, Facebook, Tencent, Baidu, Alibaba, Microsoft, IBM and Apple) may be inadvertently building and enabling vast arrays of intelligent systems that don't share our motivations, desires, or hopes for the future of humanity.



Karen Armstrong's elegant and concise book traces how Islam grew from the other religions of the book, Judaism and Christianity; introduces us to the character of Muhammed; and demonstrates that for much of its history, the religion has been a force for enlightenment that promoted liberties for women and allowed the arts and sciences to flourish.

Egypt Mummies Pass Through Cairo in Ancient Rulers' Parade

by Wael Hussein
BBC News, Cairo



Egyptians have been witnessing a historic procession of their country's ancient rulers through the capital, Cairo.

The lavish, multimillion-dollar spectacle saw 22 mummies - 18 kings and four queens - transported from the peach-coloured, neo-classical Egyptian Museum to their new resting place 5km (three miles) away.

With tight security arrangements befitting their royal blood and status as national treasures, the mummies were relocated to the new National Museum of Egyptian Civilisation in what is called The Pharaohs' Golden Parade.

They were transported with great fanfare in chronological order of their reigns - from the 17th Dynasty ruler, Seqenenre Taa II, to Ramses IX, who reigned in the 12th Century BC.

Egypt experienced a sharp rise in Covid-19 infections a year ago, but following a decline in the number of cases and deaths, restrictions on open-air gatherings were later lifted.

One of the main attractions of Saturday's event was King Ramses II, the most famous pharaoh of the New Kingdom, who ruled for 67 years and is remembered for signing the first known peace treaty.

Another is Queen Hatshepsut, or Foremost of Noble Ladies. She became ruler even though the customs of her time were that women did not become pharaohs.

Each mummy was carried on a decorated vehicle fitted with special shock-absorbers and surrounded by a motorcade, including replica horse-drawn war chariots.

While ancient mummification techniques originally preserved the pharaohs, for the move they have been placed in special nitrogen-filled boxes to help protect them against external conditions. Roads along the route have also been repaved to keep the journey smooth.

"The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities has done its best to make sure that the mummies have been stabilised, conserved, and are packed in a climate-controlled environment," said Salima Ikram, professor of Egyptology at the American University in Cairo.

The mummies were discovered in 1881 and 1898 in two caches in the ruins of Thebes, Egypt's ancient capital - modern day Luxor in Upper Egypt.

"They have already seen a lot of movement in Cairo and before that in Thebes, where they were moved from their own tombs to other sepulchres for safety," Dr Ikram pointed out.

While most of the ancient rulers' remains were brought from Luxor to Cairo via boat on the Nile, a few were transported in the first-class carriage of a train.

They were housed in the iconic Egyptian Museum and visited by tourists from around the world for the past century.

Egypt's authorities are hoping that the new museum, which opens fully this month, will help revitalise tourism - a prime source of foreign currency for the country.

Disclaimer: The views presented in this article are the author's alone and do not represent the opinion of the Foundation. This article was originally published on BBC: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-56508475>

Note: If you have not seen the Pharaohs' Parade, you can watch it on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G4jXpckJLVw>

Question of the Month: A Pulse of the Gabr Fellowship Community



As the Gabr Fellows enter into leadership roles—in business, diplomacy, government, finance, and more—they will continue to grapple with significant challenges, magnified by an increased pace in technological advancement, the potential for ramped up global inequalities, and changes in governance and economic structures.

To better understand the pulse of the Gabr Fellowship community and to begin to articulate substantive dialogue, the Foundation polls the Fellows each month on the key issues facing their respective countries and the global community at large.

1. Did you watch the “Pharaohs’ Parade” in Cairo?

Yes: 53%

No: 47%

2. Do you think police brutality in the United States is a problem of individuals, or is the problem in the police system itself?

Individuals: 14%

System: 78%

I don’t know: 8%

3. March 2021 witnessed another wave of mass shootings in America. Do you think stricter gun laws should be imposed?

Yes: 89%

No: 11%

I don’t know: 0%

4. Do you think that the recent Suez ship crisis highlights the vulnerability of global supply chains?

Yes: 80%

No: 17%

I don’t know: 3%

Stay tuned for next month’s question of the month and the Gabr Fellows’ takes on current events, as our community of future leaders grapple with the most pressing challenges of today and tomorrow.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



April 4: Christi Fallon, 2013 Gabr Fellow



April 6: Maram Osama, 2018 Gabr Fellow



April 10: Ahmed Abounaga, 2016 Gabr Fellow



April 10: Casey Smith, 2015 Gabr Fellow



April 10: Heidi Green, 2016 Gabr Fellow

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



April 10: Kate Chiucchini, 2016 Gabr Fellow



April 12: Mohamed El Hawary, 2018 Gabr Fellow



April 18: Mohamed Elattar, 2016 Gabr Fellow



April 22: Basma Elbaz, 2015 Gabr Fellow



April 24: Sarah Walker, 2018 Gabr Fellow



April 30: Eze Redwood, 2015 Gabr Fellow

The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

For more information on the Shafik Gabr Foundation and its *East-West: The Art of Dialogue* Initiative, please visit the website <https://eastwestdialogue.org/>.

For earlier itineraries of the program, please see the previous years' reports at <https://eastwestdialogue.org/fellowship/brochures/>



Edwin Lord Weeks, *View of the Nile Near Cairo*, oil on canvas, The Shafik Gabr Collection

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