

# Gabr Fellows Ten-Year Reunion 2012 – 2023

28 April – 1 May 2023  
Cairo and Luxor, Egypt

## Impressions

From Friday 28th April to Monday 1st May, The Shafik Gabr Foundation held its first ever Gabr Fellows reunion, with 60 Gabr Fellows from the United States and Egypt travelling to Cairo and Luxor for a four-day get-together.

The guests of honour during the ten-year Reunion were Mr. Dale Buxton, a global investor and technology expert, and Mr. Sean Cleary, a seasoned diplomat who is Chairman of Strategic Concepts and Executive Vice-Chairman of the FutureWorld Foundation.

Here is what some of the Fellows had to say about the experience:



### **Jeremy Pesner, 2022 Gabr Fellow**

The reunion was a wonderful chance to go deeper both with the country and the fellowship, especially for me as a fellow who had participated so recently. Luxor was a fascinating change of pace from Cairo, and gave me the education and background on ancient Egypt that was less emphasized during my initial trip. It was exciting, although overwhelming, to meet so many previous fellows at once, and I hope there are more chances to do so in a bit more of a structured fashion. It was also wonderful to not only hear from Dale and Sean as speakers, but for them to actually travel with us and participate in events, almost like they were fellows themselves! This allowed for more in-depth and casual conversation than would have otherwise been possible.



### **Michael Goff, 2014 Gabr Fellow**

The Gabr Fellowship Reunion of April 28-May 1, 2023 was a very positive experience. We had two guest speakers, Dale Buxton and Sean Cleary, who joined the group for most of the reunion. They both had engaging and informative presentations, provided some great conversation, and in my opinion ought to be considered honorary Gabr Fellows. I had previously visited Egypt in 2014 as part of the fellowship, in the aftermath of the 2011 and 2013 political events. The appearance of the infrastructure and the feeling of order and safety had both noticeably improved in the intervening nine years, and this was gratifying to see. I am very grateful to be a Fellow and to have participated in the reunion, and I look forward to the next event.



## **Wessam Baher, 2022 Gabr Fellow**

The Gabr Fellowship reunion was a unique experience for me. It allowed me to be connected to a huge number of Fellows which was beneficial in sharing knowledge and in having insightful conversations about everything in life and in global affairs.

For me, it is a life-changing experience and it emphasises the main goal of the fellowship in bridging the gaps and building concrete connections between the US and Egypt through investing in emerging leaders who can change the world to be a better place.



## **Leah Moschella, 2015 Gabr Fellow**

The Gabr Fellowship reunion was a phenomenal chance to reconnect with a new sense of energy and urgency for global dialogue. Being able to share ideas with talented fellows across ten years of the program reminded me of the brilliance and depth of this network. It was an honor to have distinguished global leaders and thinkers spark our conversations. Discussing the future of geopolitics and rapidly accelerating technology while exploring the world's earliest innovations in Egypt left me inspired by the world of possibilities the Gabr community brings.



## **Ahmed Naguib, 2014 Gabr Fellow**

When you have an opportunity to live the same great moments that you had 9 years ago with Mr. Shafik, his family and the fellows and also have the chance to meet the new fellows and extend new awesome memories and connections, you will be happy and definitely hungry for more.



## **Samer Kirolos, 2022 Gabr Fellow**

The reunion for me was a very good chance to get to know the previous Fellows, and strengthen my connection with them and with Fellows from my own cohort. Also, the program was very rich with very interesting activities and talks.

I can say that the reunion was exceptional, full of fun and serious discussions and it was really hard to say goodbye to our dear fellows but looking forward to more with Mr. Gabr who did an amazing thing to all of us that I will always remember.



### **Assem Bolbol, 2022 Gabr Fellow**

The reunion was an incredibly beneficial and fulfilling experience as it provided an opportunity to reconnect with old friends and colleagues (Fellows), as well as meet new faces. The exchange of experiences and stories created a rich and diverse environment where we could learn from each other's successes and challenges. It was inspiring to witness the growth and accomplishments of everyone since our last meeting. The reunion not only rekindled old connections but also forged new ones, fostering a sense of community and support. With such a positive and invigorating experience, we eagerly anticipate the next reunion, eager to continue this journey of shared learning and camaraderie in this prestigious program.



### **Magda Kura, 2015 Gabr Fellow**

The reunion was absolutely exhilarating! It presented an extraordinary chance to forge stronger bonds with both new and old friends, immerse ourselves in the timeless spirit of Egypt, and discuss our future with the foremost experts in the field of AI, technology and foreign policy.



### **Pascal Rathle, 2022 Gabr Fellow**

Reunion 2023 was a tapestry of positive disruption. The ancient Pharaonic epoch met Gabr modernity as tomorrow's inevitabilities merged with today's unprecedented need for 25th century leadership. Joy, truth, reflective reorientation, friendship, and an influx of knowledge with leading global interdisciplinarians sparked new pursuits challenging Fellows to reframe, reimagine, and recalibrate.



### **Ahmed Radwan, 2015 Gabr Fellow**

The reunion was a great chance to meet with fellows from different years whom i never got the chance to meet before. It was also a reminder of the old golden days of the fellowship and we got to reunion with my fellowship batch. It's a pleasure being part of this great successful community.



### **Eze Redwood, 2015 Gabr Fellow**

The Gabr Fellows reunion was a great chance to learn from global thought leaders about topics immediately relevant to our world, while sharing in the genre-bending art & ideas of fellows from different years.

Our reunion, much like the fellowship, was a place where you're surrounded by a community of people with the creative intelligence to change the world. The reunion is where those talented individuals solidify their bonds as a family.



### **Reham Gamal, 2017 Gabr Fellow**

The reunion was a heartwarming experience that brought together old friends and new colleagues, creating a strong sense of belonging and community. Also, it was a unique opportunity to reflect on the impact that the fellowship had on our personal and professional growth.



### **Omar Raafat, 2022 Gabr Fellow**

The reunion was an opportunity to connect bridges between the different cohorts, achieve networking, and benefit from a distinctive cultural program to learn about the ancient Egyptian civilization. The meetings contributed to raising important issues related to technology, politics, and economics.



### **Ibrahim Hammouda, 2017 Gabr Fellow**

Given the opportunity to reunite with my fellowship batch and meeting fellows I did not get to know since they joined in different years provided an amazingly motivating environment to know them better and share more interests that keep our ties together for a better future.