



# CARAVAN

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## Two SU members run in upcoming presidential elections



Hassan Hassan / CARAVAN STAFF

CANDIDATE # 1: Karim Hazem wants to provide useful services to AUCians and build more bonds with government institutions.

BY SALEH EL AZAB  
*Caravan Reporter*

Two candidates are running for president in the Student Union's (SU) annual presidential elections from May 6 to 10 at the American University in Cairo (AUC). This year's candidates are Karim Hazem, an electronic engineering senior, and Seif Abou Zaid, a political science senior.

Hazem is the current SU treasurer while Abou Zaid is the current SU public relations chairperson.

In order to run in the SU presidential elections, the candidate must be a full-time student with more than 45 credit hours and a GPA above 2.5.

Hazem said that he sees the SU as an institution that attempts to serve the student body but that sometimes offers services that students don't want. Along with his team of campaigners, he drew out a plan and vision for next year. Their goals, focus on serving the students with what they need and what they ask for.

He added that the SU should not only work internally but should also represent the AUC community on external issues. Hazem and his team are planning to build more bonds with government institutions and ministries to be able to form successful conferences that represent AUC and the way AUCians think.

He also highlighted the importance of cooperation between the SU and other AUC clubs; they should not be two separate things. They should work as a whole for success in their events rather than competing with each other, he said.

On the other hand, Abou Zaid said he sees the SU as an institution with a mission statement to serve, represent and entertain students. "But I want to add development for the students to the mission statement," he said, adding that he would include academic, social and career development.

"We should make students feel affiliated with the SU. Students should feel it represents them," said Abou Zaid, highlighting the importance of introducing more student services.

Abou Zaid said that he will be able to reach his vision for a better SU with the help of a team that will lead the SU. One of the important members of the team is the vice-president whom Abou Zaid has already chosen: Ali Bouchellih, who is the current managing director of operations for Entrepreneurs' Society. "Bouchellih will play an important role in leading the SU for more success," said Abou Zaid.

A debate will take place this Wednesday, May 3 in Ewart Hall during assembly hour where both candidates will explain their plans in full and take questions from the audience.



Yasmeen El Mallah / CARAVAN STAFF

CANDIDATE # 2: Seif Abou Zeid wants to add student development to the SU's mission.

### Science honors criteria changed

BY YASMEEN EL MALLAH  
*Caravan Editor*

The criteria for the school of sciences and engineering's honors assembly at the end of each semester will change next semester when students must have a major GPA as well as an overall GPA of 3.4 or above, according to Amr Serag El-Din, the mechanical engineering chair.

The current cut-off for students to be acknowledged at the honors assembly is an overall GPA of a 3.4 or above.

"We wanted a different ceremony from the [university] graduation ceremony. Students should be honored according to their achievement within their major and not just as an AUC student with a 3.4 GPA," said Serag El-Din.

Out of 308 mechanical engineering students, 44 will be honored this semester and only two will be affected by this new change, said Serag El-Din.

The other science departments, which include actuarial science, biology, chemistry, computer science, electronics engineering, construction engineering, mathematics and physics, were unsure how many students would be affected by this new decision.

Originally, the school wanted to implement this change for this semester, however Bassem Raouf, the academic committee chairperson of the Student Union wrote a petition and had 60 students sign before giving it to the dean of the school, Medhat Haroun. Haroun then asked his council, which is made up of the chairs of the nine

sciences departments, for their opinions and decided to postpone this change until next semester.

Mina Milad, an electronics engineering senior, will be affected by this new decision. "I worked hard on maintaining my GPA of a 3.4. My major GPA is approximately 3.3 which makes me ineligible...I don't agree that this change should be applied to seniors, but to new students," he said.

Haroun was unavailable for comment.

"The postponement is mainly due to the fact that the school has re-looked into the matter and considered the petition signed by the students...In fact, I see that in itself as a good example of exchange of points of views and dialogue within [the] AUC community," said Mohamed Abou-Zeid, the acting chair of the construction engineering department.

"We have been discussing this for several years," said Serag El-Din.

"What annoyed us was that they [university] take decisions without telling the students. They shouldn't make changes in the rules and decide to go through with them without notifying the students...We appreciate, though, that they took our petition into consideration," said Raouf, who is also an electronics engineering senior.

Serag El-Din added that a large number of students are honored but aren't able to hear their name during the honors ceremony because there are so many. "It's not fair for those who truly deserve to be honored," he said.

### AUC reacts to Dahab Explosion

BY CHEREEN ZAKI  
*Caravan Reporter*

Students and faculty at the American University in Cairo (AUC) found a security alert in their e-mail on the evening of April 24, after three bombs exploded in Dahab, a popular resort in the Sinai peninsula. The bombs killed 30 and wounded more than 115 people.

The security alert was issued by Paul Donoghue, vice-president of planning and administration at AUC, approximately two hours after the explosions, which occurred at 7:15 pm. Donoghue advised the AUC community to "maintain a heightened awareness of [their] surroundings" and said the AUC community would be notified immediately about

anything that directly impacted the university.

Dahab served as a vacation spot for many AUC students over spring break and the Sham El Neseem holiday.

Ahmed Fahmy, a business administration junior who visited Dahab during his spring vacation, said that he was informed of the explosion when his friend sent him a text message. "I was very disappointed. I don't know who would do this," he said, adding that the bombings only ended up hurting Egyptians.

According to Fahmy, people will stop going to Dahab after the attacks despite the fact that it has become a popular and flourishing

See DAHAB, 2

### SU proposes grievance committee

BY CHEREEN ZAKI  
*Caravan Reporter*

The Student Union's (SU) student affairs committee has proposed forming a grievance committee to deal with the hundreds of complaints the SU receives from students, said SU president Walid El Sallab.

The proposal was presented to the university senate after its meeting at the American University in Cairo (AUC) on Wednesday, April 12.

Bassem Raouf, the academic committee chairperson of the SU, said that since there is a faculty grievance committee, it is only fair that one be formed for the students.

According to El Sallab, in cases of discrimination, some professors fix their mistakes and apologize, but most cases of discrimination are ignored.

"Although there are good faculty members and professors, there are those who exploit their positions," said Donia El Khouli, a mechanical engineering senior and a SU member. The proposed committee will allow students to file a complaint against such professors.

Students attending the meeting told stories of the allegedly biased and unfair treatment they experienced from various professors, which shocked faculty members present.

"I can't imagine this would happen," said Awad Khalil, a computer science professor.

To deal with such issues, faculty members suggested that students file their complaints to the specific

See GRIEVANCES, 2

### Arabic courses reduced to two

BY REHAAM ROMERO  
*Caravan Reporter*

Controversy spread through the American University in Cairo (AUC) as students and professors complained about an administration proposal to cut the number of Arabic Studies courses in the new Core Curriculum.

The initial proposal decreased the number of required Arabic Studies from three to one, but after discussions with the academic committee of the Student Union, the number of required courses was increased to two, said John Swanson, assistant provost and director of the Core Curriculum.

The changes will be implemented in 2007/2008 at the earliest, said vice provost Ali Hadi in a senate meeting held on April 12.

"This [change] will confuse students even more. We want the Core to be as it is. If anything, they should be adding more Arabic courses," said Hussein Marei, a history senior, adding that many AUC students are unaware of their cultural and historical heritage. "Some students, myself included, can barely read an Arabic newspaper."

"The Arabic Studies department and I wrote up a petition for students and a petition for parents against removing the Arabic Studies courses," said Marei. "We had approximately 300 students sign that petition."

The two courses required would fall under the academic umbrella of 'Arab World,' and students would be able to take any two current Arabic Studies courses.

The current Core Curriculum requires students to take an Arabic literature, Arab history and Arab society courses.

The controversy expanded beyond AUC's walls when journalist Makram Mohammed Ahmed criticized the change in his daily column in Al-Ahram on April 4.

Ahmed attacked the AUC administration for proposing to "remove these Arabic courses or limiting them to a minimum."

Ahmed's article criticized the changes to the Core, but defended AUC's cultural mission to teach students about their heritage and give them a liberal arts education.

"Provost Tim Sullivan sent a response to the...article in Al-Ahram," said Swanson. "I have also met with representatives of the news media to ensure that the story is reported accurately."

Provost Sullivan was unavailable for comment.

"One thing that distinguishes AUC from other universities is our mission to acquaint students with their literary heritage and their history," said McKinney. "The students here are leaders and if they don't have an understanding of their cultural heritage, then it's a shame."

"The changes to the Core undermine that mission," said Robert McKinney, professor of Arabic Studies and member of the AUC Senate.

One reason given for the change is that it will shorten the time it takes students to complete their degree program, said McKinney.

Ahmed Eissa, a mechanical

See ARABIC STUDIES, 2

## Paving the way for future entrepreneurs

BY MOMEN MOHAMED  
Caravan Reporter

If we depend on foreign organizations and the Egyptian government, we will not accomplish anything, said Maged Abaza, the Entrepreneurs' Society's (ES) faculty advisor and a marketing professor at the American University in Cairo (AUC), at the opening of the third annual Entrepreneurship Convention on April 9.

"The aim of the opening is to spread entrepreneurship awareness to AUCians who are interested in running a small business," said Mahmoud Abdel Mageed, the ES chief executive manager, adding that the convention is one of ways that ES encourages students to create business plans through skill enhancement lectures and sessions.

The convention has five main councils that simulate essential

aspects of successful entrepreneurship. The five councils include the intrapreneurship council (teaching students to become entrepreneurs within a multinational company), small business simulation, guerilla marketing warfare, product innovation simulation and the newest addition, an import and export simulation.

"Through [these] five councils, we will be able to simulate what [entrepreneurship] is all about," said Ali Bouchilleh, the ES managing director of operations.

Unlike other opening ceremonies, which spotlight ministers and elite businessmen, ES created a talk show with their guest of honor, Hajj Mohamed Madbouli. He is the owner of Madbouli bookstores and publishing house who Abaza introduced as an "example of a businessman beginning from nowhere."

"I slept [on the streets] for 15

years with my brother to be what we are now, but this required patience, will and bearing all the negative consequences that a person could face," said Madbouli.

He explained that he and his brother both started as street vendors and then began selling books at a kiosk before gradually buying two bookstores and a publishing house.

According to Madbouli, when he lived on the streets he was illiterate but with motivation, was able to teach himself how to read and write. "I was not educated, but with the business I am in, I had the motive to educate myself," he said.

"It was very interesting that they got Hajj Madbouli as an example. I think he truly represents what an entrepreneur is," said Nina Gaber, a political science junior and a member of the intrapreneurship council at last year's convention.



Momen Mohamed / CARAVAN STAFF

ES TALK: Left to right: Hajj Madbouli, Professor Maged Abaza and ES chief executive manager Mahmoud Abdel Mageed discuss what entrepreneurship is all about.

## Posters ignite controversy on campus

BY NADINE EL SAYED  
Caravan Reporter

The Cairo International Model Arab League (CIMAL) removed posters and banners of Saddam Hussein, the former ruler of Iraq, that were used to promote the organization because of the psychological trauma it caused Iraqi students at the American University in Cairo, according to Rami Effat, the CIMAL organizing committee head.

The controversy first started when an Iraqi student came to the CIMAL booth and screamed at the members and urged them to remove the poster, saying that she had suffered from trauma because under Hussein's regime, her family was tortured, according to Effat.

"We did not mean to offend anyone. When it caused trauma for one of the Iraqi students, we instantly decided to remove it," added Effat.

Besides the trauma that the Iraqi student had, other Iraqis complained that the posters were pro-Hussein.

"It was a misunderstanding of the message. It was not [meant to serve as] propaganda for Hussein but most people understood the message behind it," said Mohamed Mosalam, the CIMAL secretary head. "The confusion came because the picture only had 'Try Again' written on it and so some thought we were pro-Hussein."

The pictures were part of a series of banners under this year's CIMAL theme 'Destiny Rejected; Try Again'. Hussein's picture was part of a teaser campaign of pictures representing the Arab status, including a picture of a torn Egyptian pound representing the state of the economy.

"We couldn't understand the message 'Destiny Rejected' at first and it upset us to see him [Hussein]

all over campus. They could have explained the message clearly from the beginning," said an Iraqi political science senior student Raya El Hassan.

According to Effat, an Iraqi student removed all the banners and posters from the CIMAL booths during the first week of the campaign and then complained about them to the OSD which in turn called for CIMAL members to discuss the matters together.

"They agreed on removing the banner," said Mohammed Dabbour, director of the Office of Student Development (OSD).

Although CIMAL members were not forced to remove the banners, the members thought it was not appropriate to keep the posters if they psychologically harmed some students, according to Effat.

"The campaign was meant to challenge the people to think more about the topic and the poster was just a teaser, but not to the extreme of causing personal trauma and although we were not legally forced to remove it, we did it because we did not want to torture people," said Effat.

Students' reactions to the banners varied. Some were not aware of it at all, some were indifferent about it and others liked it.

"I did not notice them anywhere around campus," said Fadwa Tobbala, a business administration senior.

Nahla Anwar, a political economy senior said, "They [CIMAL] should not remove the posters as Hussein represents a major factor for the attack on Iraq and he is a renowned personality."

Other students liked the banner but thought it was not appropriate to keep it if it was offensive to Iraqis. "It sent the message that Hussein was an important character worldwide. I liked it, but if it hurt people, then they did the right thing by removing it," said Hani Seleim, a business administration senior.



Mahmoud Hafiz / CARAVAN STAFF

DANCING SHOES: The AUC *Dabka* team proudly displays the famous Palestinian dance during International Day.

## AUC showcases world's cultures

BY MAHMOUD HAFIZ  
Caravan Reporter

The 22<sup>nd</sup> International Day, which was held on Wednesday, April 12 in the Greek campus at the American University in Cairo (AUC), included 26 booths offering artwork, food and music from different cultures.

"The purpose of this striking event is to enrich the AUC community with cultural diversity," said Tomader Rifaat, the director of the International Student Services Office (ISSO).

The ISSO contacted students willing to participate in the event, and sent letters to their country's embassies and consulates and ask if they were willing to take part in the event.

According to Rifaat, the university student body includes students from approximately 65 different nationalities.

"I was glad when I [was] asked by the vice-president to represent my country, as this is the first time ever to [have] a booth for South Africa," said Nicolette Reichl, a South African political science sophomore. "People here are highly educated and open to [the] diversity of cultures compared to other communities in Cairo."

"We baked Pulla sweet Finnish bread and smoked salmon, which is a big part of the Finnish diet," said Amina Bahgat, a Finnish political science freshman and first-time participant in International Day.

## On The Wire

Thirty people were killed and more than 115 were wounded in three explosions at Dahab, a seaside resort located on the eastern coast of the Sinai Peninsula, on April 24.

The explosions occurred at approximately 7:15 pm in the center of the city, which was packed with tourists and Egyptians celebrating the national holiday, Sham El Neseem.

The majority of those injured were Egyptians. Others injured included tourists from the U.S., Palestine and France.

Divers collected human remains from the sea while Egyptian police stayed in the area on Tuesday to clear debris left by explosion.

Officials are still uncertain why the attacks were carried out and whether or not the explosions were executed by suicide bombers or timed bombs.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak sent his condolences to the victims' family members and promised to conduct an investigation to identify the attackers and punish them.

This attack is not the first to take place in the Sinai Peninsula, however. Taba, a resort on the peninsula, was attacked in October, 2004 and Sharm el-Sheikh, another resort, was attacked in July, 2005.

"What happened in Dahab is horrible but I am in Sharm el-Sheikh and there is a lot of security and everything is safe right now."

- Mary Hanna,  
BADM senior

"The Minister of Interior Affairs should be fired. There have been enough disasters because of the lack of security in the country!"

- Ahmed Abdoun,  
Undeclared sophomore

"I think the people should start doing something to fight the increasing acts of terrorism [because] clearly the government is not doing anything to stop them."

- Lamia Hassan,  
JRMJ sophomore

"It's ironic how the attacks are always on a national holiday as April 25, July 23 and October 6, which are all liberation days for Egyptians."

- Heba El Samouly,  
BADM junior

Did you hear about the explosions in Dahab?

YES | NO  
57% | 43%

### DAHAB: CONTINUED FROM 1

tourist destination.

"I was in my room and heard a couple of bangs," said Bassem Khalifa, a computer science graduate who was vacationing in Dahab during the bombings, adding that people were calm for the most part.

"Some people tried to get out, but some stayed and are sitting on the beach," he said, adding that he was unable to leave Dahab because authorities had closed the roads leading out of it.

### ARABIC STUDIES: CONTINUED FROM 1

engineering senior, agreed with that: "I can't be an engineer and sit there studying Naguib Mahfouz... I'm wasting money taking things like that. Engineering should be four years, not five. The Core sets me back an extra year doing things I don't need."

However, the changes to the Core Curriculum are not limited to Arabic Studies. According to Swanson, the new Core Curriculum will address AUC's mission to "promote international understanding" by adding a course in international studies.

"Knowing something about the world outside of the Arab region is increasingly vital... The world is now a global village: hence the importance of international studies," said Swanson.

Student reaction towards the decreased Arabic Studies requirements was mixed. According to Eissa, students need to be more "open-minded and internationally aware," while Moudhi Il Teweji, a biology sophomore, argued that Arabic Studies courses are necessary and without them she "wouldn't have known many things about Arab history or heritage."

The Senate meeting held on April 12 was supposed to be the deciding date for the changes, but the discussion was postponed to May 10 when Swanson hopes the Senate "will render its [final] judgment."

### GRIEVANCES: CONTINUED FROM 1

department chairs instead of having a student grievances committee.

"No student is ever satisfied with his grade," said Khalil. "We are here to serve you. You don't need to declare war against the faculty for these problems."

The students currently utilize the online student evaluations at the end of each semester for their complaints, said Eskander Tooma, a management professor.

"The student evaluation is a general evaluation," said El Khoulil, adding that what is written in the evaluations is used for future reference and changes. A committee for students that includes SU representatives, faculty members, and the members of the Senate will discuss and solve specific individual cases.

Ralph Berenger, the chair of the student affairs committee, said that his committee is still trying to decide which Senate committee will be assigned to follow up on the proposal.

Members of the SU academic committee met with President David Arnold and Provost Tim Sullivan on Wednesday, April 19 to discuss the procedures needed to get the proposal approved.

According to El Khoulil, the proposal will be presented at the provost's council meeting in May for further discussion. "The president is generally accepting of the fact that this proposal addresses real student needs," she said.

## Wanted: Caravan Editor-in-Chief

Applicants for Fall 2006 should submit the following to Caravan advisor Janet Key at the JRMJ department (SS 030):

- One-page resumé
- One page of ideas for the Caravan
- A writing sample
- A filled out application form that can be downloaded off the Web site or picked up from the Caravan (SS 023).

Deadline is 1 p.m. Thursday, May 11.

## Add 'spice' to your food

BY NADINE EL SAYED  
Caravan Reporter

While Cairo has become a hub for a variety of restaurants serving international foods, it's the more exotic choices like Indian cuisine that will catch your eye and give you a true taste of the country.

One of the least expensive Indian restaurants, Tandoori in Mohandiseen, offers a tasty collection of fish, lamb and chicken dishes cooked with Indian spices that range from mild to spicy. The restaurant is rather modest, with a friendly and homey atmosphere. Although nothing there screams India aside from the name, its menu is full of Indian delicacies and the quality of the food is delicious. You could go for the house's special *tandoori* chicken, marinated in yoghurt and spices cooked in the clay tandoor oven, or the chicken *biryani*, covered in tomato sauce and flavored with turmeric, garlic, masala and ginger. Prices range from LE 15 to LE 50.

With a similar style but a more hip setting, Bukhara is a simply-decorated take-out restaurant offering a variety of foods, including a vegetarian menu. Located in the heart of Maadi, the restaurant is usually visited by foreigners or upscale customers looking for a quick and simple taste of India. The staff is dressed to reflect the general down-to-earth and youthful atmosphere. With prices ranging

from LE 25 to LE 60, the menu offers *paneer pakora*, slices of cottage cheese dipped in butter and made for vegetarians, as well as a wide range of salads and appetizers. If seafood is your thing, go for the *tandoori* prawns.

In the busy streets of Mohandiseen lies the gateway to India, the upscale Kandahar. A huge and dull building hides the restaurant, which is uniquely decorated to give customers a true Indian experience, with statues and art pieces scattered everywhere. Once you enter, a waitress dressed in a traditional Indian costume welcomes you while Indian tunes can be heard in the background. The dim lights and floating candles in a pond of flowers give the restaurant that calm and spiritual ambience of a Hindu temple. With prices ranging from LE 20 to LE 100, the menu offers large portions served in traditional copper trays to keep the food warm.

The chef's specialty is the *Kandahari daal*, a traditional Indian plate made up of black lentils in tomato and garlic sauce. Another mouthwatering Indian meal offered is the *beainger bhanta*, a dish made up of eggplant surrounded by onions, tomatoes, and green peas. While dessert choices may sound strange at first, you should go out on a limb and try them; they are worth it. Give the *gulab jamun* a try, a dessert of fried dumplings made of reduced milk and cottage cheese with sugar syrup.

Finally, one of the most expensive and upscale Indian restaurants is Chingari, which is located in the Grand Hyatt hotel. With décor that is more modern than Indian, the restaurant offers delicious plates that are authentically Indian, with an aroma that overwhelms you. Add an extravagant view of the Nile and the atmosphere is nothing short of perfection, but be prepared for an expensive menu, reaching LE 200 for a main course. The delicious classic *murgh makhni*, chicken breast served in curry sauce with tomato, butter and fenugreek spices, should be enjoyed with a side order of rice, which isn't served with the meal.

"The food is so different and delicious and it smells really good too," said May El Sherbiny, a business administration senior.

Wherever you decide to enjoy this exotic food, a definite Indian classic you must try is black lentils. It tastes a bit like *foul* but is simply delicious and filling.

- Tandoori :**  
11 Shehab St. Mohandiseen.  
Tel. no.: 7486301
- Bukhara:**  
43 Misr-Helwan St. Maadi  
Tel. no.: 3755999
- Kandahar :**  
3 Gameat El Dowal St.,  
Mohandiseen  
Tel. no.: 3030615
- Chingari :**  
Grand Hyatt Hotel.  
Tel. no.: 3651234



Nadine El Sayed / CARAVAN STAFF

TASTE OF INDIA: AUC student May El Sherbiny flipping through Chingari's packed but pricey menu.



Nadine El Sayed / CARAVAN STAFF

THE BEST MONEY CAN BUY: Tandoori provides excellent food at very reasonable prices.

## Piercing: the hottest accessory

BY FARIDA HELMY  
Caravan Reporter

Piercing is still considered a taboo to many Egyptian people, who see it as a sign of *enheraf*, or being wild. But recently, many of the younger generation are becoming curious about body piercing, and want to find the best places to get it done, and so more places in Cairo are willing to adorn your body with artistic and stylish body piercings.

The body can be pierced anywhere imaginable, and in many countries, piercings are carried out in the most unique places on a person's body. But because piercing is a relatively new craze in Cairo, it has begun as a more mainstream practice, focusing on ears, nose, lips, eyebrows and belly buttons.

Looking around campus, you can see that, surprisingly, a lot of guys are getting them. Guys have become more daring and original than girls when it comes to location. Some of the new but weird places include different areas on the chin and lips, on the wrist and the back of the neck. A painful as it may sound, these pierced body parts define a person's uniqueness.

The options for finding a proper place to get piercing done are limited, and four or five places reign as the top —and hygienic— piercing shops. If it's your first time to get a piercing and you want a place that you will feel safe in, visit Dr. Soha Mekkawi in Heliopolis. An experienced medical surgeon for 10 years, she runs her practice from a hospital, giving you an assured sterile environment. Her price is set at LE 250 for every piercing, regardless of its location.

For those living in

Mohandiseen, Dr. Nahed Samir and Dr. Heba Hussein reign as the best body piercing specialists in the neighborhood. Both have the same price range, starting from 30 L.E. up till 150 L.E depending on the type of piercing and its location.

"[Dr. Heba's clinic] is a surprisingly clean place; it's a beauty center and piercing is just one part of it. I pierced my belly button and tongue," said Ola Abdul-Eyoun, a political science senior.

As for those in Maadi who may prefer a foreign touch in their piercing, visit Dr. Allan. Rumored to do everything, Dr. Allan's practice ranges from body piercing in any place you choose to real tattoos done at any size.

"Allan does everything: he can do tattoos with your own designs and he has funky accessories for piercings," said Samira Gebriel, a mass communications sophomore.

Although these places have opened and become successful in Cairo, many AUCians would still rather pierce their bodies abroad where they feel it is more hygienic and professional. Yet with the popularity of the different piercing doctors in Cairo and their assurance that their practice is safe, more students are becoming willing to get their piercing done here.

**Dr. Heba Hussein and Dr. Nahed Samir:**  
3 Ashgar El Batal Ahmed Abdel Azziz, Mohandiseen  
Tel. no.: 7612083

**Dr. Soha Mekkawi:**  
El Montazan St. behind Heliopolis Hospital  
Tel. no.: 0127990707

**Dr. Allan:**  
Graphink, Road 82, Maadi

## De-veiling raises questions



Heba Hassabou / CARAVAN STAFF

MIX OF BOTH: From left to right: Mai Nassif, Maha Brence and Nazly Kholy enjoying each other's company in the Greek campus.

BY REHAAM ROMERO  
Caravan Reporter

In recent years, more and more girls have begun donning the Islamic headdress or *hijab* and students at the American University in Cairo (AUC) were no exception to the trend. But recently, the opposite trend is taking hold, as girls who were once veiled are now removing the religious symbol.

"I took [the veil] off because the person I was when I put it on is not the same person I am now at 21," said Nora Labib, a philosophy senior who took off the veil after three years. "I'm now against expressing a social statement to the world that everyone has a different definition of."

According to numerous sources, however, the environment at AUC plays no part in their decision to wear or take off the veil.

"AUC is a very varied community, so it's friendly to both girls who have it on and who don't have it on," said a source who wished to remain anonymous because of the topic's sensitivity. "I took it off because I didn't have the strength nor the willpower to keep it on... I still believe it's a *fard* (Islamically obligatory)," she said.

Gehad Abdel Khalik, a philosophy junior who has been veiled since the age of 13, agrees that keeping the veil on is difficult and has considered taking it off many times. "It's very hard, but the thing that keeps me going is faith.. It's what kicks in when I think of taking it off," she said.

While she originally disrespected girls who removed the veil, Abdel Khalik has become more accepting of the phenomenon.

"I've changed my mind about [girls taking it off] as I came to understand why they do it," she said. "They all have different reasons, but many come to feel alienated by it, because it [does not represent] who they are

anymore. Others feel burdened by it."

According to Labib, the veil limited her vivacious personality. "When I was veiled, I was always criticized for being loud and extroverted," she said, adding that people judged her more harshly as a veiled girl than when she was not.

Reactions to girls de-veiling varied. While some girls found that reactions were neutral, Labib received tirades of negative criticism for her decision to take off the veil.

"I was getting anonymous letters saying: 'You let us down, how could you do that? You threw your values out of the window. The people who followed and respected you don't anymore. You were the closest thing to perfection,'" said Labib. People also called her mother asking if there were any problems at home. According to Labib, taking off the veil never changed her values or morals.

Chad Haines, a professor of anthropology who supervised a student's independent study about the veil, believes that the decision to remove the veil is probably harder than the decision to put it on.

"A lot of the veiled debate is articulated by men, but the way it's practiced is not tradition from what I see: it's inventing tradition, which is what most traditions are," said Haines. "It's about how we articulate ourselves through our clothing. It's about women and their place in the public sphere and visibility."

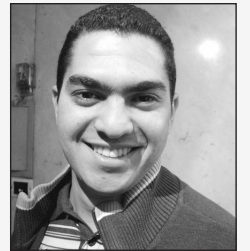
"A person should be a new person each day, through what they wear and who they are," Labib said, adding that she believes that the veil limits an individual's self-expression.

The veil is today's hot topic worldwide. Everyone from Islamic radicals to Western liberals has voiced their opinion about it. While some may view the religious headdress as an Islamic obligation, others view it as a tool of oppression. Yet, according to Labib, "there are so many other things that are more important to be spiritual."

## Q & A

### QUESTION:

Did the CAPS office help you find a job?



"I applied constantly. The first interview I got was in 2004."

- Hisham Sharaf  
Fall '02 POLS graduate



"They didn't help me. All they did was tell me the skills I have."

- May Kassem  
Spring '05 PSYC graduate



"You always have to make the second phone call."

- Aly El Samra  
Spring '05 JRM graduate



"I only went to understand what my options were."

- Khaled Badrawi  
Spring '99 POLS graduate



"I applied once and they didn't help."

- Ahmad Nabil  
Spring '04 MES graduate

# The Voice

Although no specific person or group has been held responsible for the bombs that exploded in the east Sinai resort of Dahab last Monday, the bombings have been condemned by Egyptians, tourists, the government and members of the AUC community.

The objectives of those responsible for these acts may not be clear, but it is almost sure they were based on ignorance. Those who turn to violence for solutions may do so because it seems to bring results and because other methods don't seem to be as effective.

However, terrorist acts that target tourists and Egyptian civilians are not only ineffective, but are also unjustified. What they bring is anger, indignation and, frequently, counter-reactions that are equally violent.

Perhaps those responsible don't know any better and believe in the causes they work toward. But their lack of education and perspective prevent them from trying alternative methods.

The AUC community consists of individuals who not only receive a good education in a variety of fields, but who also receive a liberal education. They are therefore privileged to be able to see all sides of a situation and assess it soundly. Perhaps it is time we use that education to become more active in taking the initiative to avoid these incidents in the future.

- CARAVAN STAFF



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The Caravan welcomes letters to the editor responding to published material or commenting on subjects that are of interest to the general community. Only e-mailed letters ([caravan@aucegypt.edu](mailto:caravan@aucegypt.edu)) not exceeding 400 words will be accepted. All letters must be signed with the student's name, ID number, major and year. Subject headings of e-mails must distinguish between e-mails that are personal comments to the newspaper and publishable letters to the editor.

We reserve the right to edit any submission to the Op-Ed section for libel, grammar, punctuation, clarity, and space. The Caravan is under no obligation to print all pieces submitted.

Submit your letter by Sunday at 6 p.m.

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Submit your corrections by Sunday at 6 p.m.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Justice will prevail

The Student Union Academic Committee has been working on a proposal to establish a Grievances Committee for students at AUC. The proposal tackles the frequent problems that students face in their academic lives at AUC as a result of discrimination and unfair treatment by members of the administration and faculty. It is aimed at establishing a Student Grievances Committee to replace the current grievances procedures at AUC, which have proven to be ineffective and unable to aid students. The committee is a way of enforcing transparency in every single aspect of a student's educational life and ensuring that all his/her academic rights are granted by providing an entity that is able to receive and investigate cases submitted by students who feel they have been wronged, in any way, in their academic pursuits at AUC.

A grievance claim, in cases such as receiving no explanation for a grade, receiving a penalty without obvious reason, or any form of ill-treatment, discrimination, or unjustified negative or hostile action taken against the student by a member of the AUC administration or faculty, would then have to go through a filtering committee and then through the Student Grievance Committee itself, both of which would have student representation. The student would then be granted his/her rights, whatever they may be, if the case is investigated and proven to be an act of willful wrongdoing towards the student by an administrator or faculty member.

This Student Grievances Committee would be the answer to many students' problems and concerns. This is why the Student Union needs the support of the entire student body in this matter. Student support is seriously needed for the approval and success of this proposal.

Donia El-Khouli  
*Academic Committee member*

### Ballots and Bullets

"Democracy can be as tyrannical as dictatorship." These are not my words. I heard them during a class discussion. I first thought that it was a purely philosophical and meaningless thought developed by the old and rusty mind of my aging professor. His point was that voting ballots can become shooting bullets in a democratic regime if there is no Bill of Rights. His example was that the ruling majority can unjustly throw the minority in jail and it still would be democratic since it is the rule of the majority. He concluded that the necessity of the existence of a Bill of Rights is more important than the implementation of democracy itself.

I blamed myself for my previous conclusion about my professor's statement. As it turns out, it is my mind that lacks proper education. There are certain concepts that are subconsciously in our brains, or at least mine, and automatically categorized as right or wrong. We neglect to question their validity in any discussion and we always take them for granted. Let's take democracy. It is always thought that people would never disagree about such a concept, but why? Or take a word like communism. People won't implement or support such a destructive method, will they? How many of those who support democracy know enough about it to throw their opinion into a conversation, or [how many of] those hating communism have at least read, "The Communist Manifesto."

We have to distinguish between minds that read and are flexible enough to question and change inherited concepts and minds that do not have the ability to learn and to change. People's unwillingness to learn has caused a decline in the desire to understand and be educated. Students here only care about going to class so they won't lose attendance points.

I have alienated myself from this shallow community. Interacting with such an environment will definitely make me less anxious to know or to simply be educated. There are a few who share that same opinion: some have acted upon what they believe while others have chosen to adapt and blend into this phony environment.

Adham AbdelAal  
*Economics sophomore*

Have an opinion?  
Put it here.

Send your thoughts to:

[caravan@aucegypt.edu](mailto:caravan@aucegypt.edu)

or

[yasmeenelmallah@gmail.com](mailto:yasmeenelmallah@gmail.com)

## Reaching Out

### Marriage has become a mountain

RAYA SHOKATFARD  
*Editorials Editor*

Her tears run down her face as she talks about her love for the man she cannot marry. The problem—he is five years younger!

They get along, understand and love each other, but his mother won't even see her. She is too old for him. Her mother is likewise concerned.

The 31-year-old AUC graduate student is devastated and unable to study and concentrate on her projects due to a broken heart. She asks why? What have I done wrong? Her friend comforts her, "You are not at fault, my dear friend."

Many have forgotten the sunna of the Prophet Muhammad. He married his first wife, Khadijah, who was 15 years older. He loved her so much that even after her death, he would not stop talking about her and praising her.

Had the Prophet concerned himself at the beginning about Khadijah's age, he would have deprived himself of the companionship of a great woman.

So, why are we now so judgmental about others' ages in marriages? We turn them away before we even know who they really are. Could we be missing other Khadijahs? Didn't the Prophet say, out of four categories of women to choose for marriage, choose the most God-fearing over beauty, wealth and family status?

Why is getting married something that has become so difficult in Egypt? Why are there so many singles? Some parents turn away a pious, sincere and hardworking male because he cannot afford to offer huge sums of money, jewelry and an expensive flat as marriage gifts, yet they would accept a wealthier man even though he may not be the right person for their daughter. I wonder if this might be one of the main reasons for an increase in the divorce rate here in Egypt. What is wrong with a girl's parents accepting a small token as a marriage gift and letting the couple live in a humble flat and slowly build up savings instead of putting such a huge burden on the man?



## The Truth

### A day for all

ETHAR SHALABY  
*English Copy Editor*

Although I have been part of the student body at the American University in Cairo (AUC) for three years now, this year was my first time to watch the International Day on the day before our spring break.

No one can deny how pleasurable it was to see a camel walk around the Greek campus, to try a variety of foods from 26 different countries and see students dressed in lovely clothes representing their countries.

The atmosphere was filled with enthusiasm and was very lively. Cultural dances and performances were given while students, staff and outsiders both participated and enjoyed.

However, I noticed something that was really ridiculous and which ruined the day for some students. Although classes from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. were officially cancelled on International Day, some professors insisted on holding classes as usual. Some even gave their students midterms.

Whatever the reasons were, I don't think those professors have the right to force their students to attend classes on that day and even hold midterms because classes are officially cancelled during the celebration. Students should be encouraged to enjoy this day because this is one of the events that differentiates AUC from other universities in Egypt and it is held only once a year.

So, how come some professors disregard the university's regulation and still hold their regular classes? How strong are the reasons to deprive students of their right to International Day? And why don't these professors take advantage of the opportunity, enjoy the cultural experience, and take a break from their academic load?

I wonder why we, as students, pay such a high tuition if we are deprived of enjoying events like the International Day that defines and distinguishes our university. I also wonder if there are certain rules that could prevent professors from holding classes at times like International Day and assembly hour since classes are officially cancelled then.

International Day is a wonderful experience that makes our student body unique and expands our horizons. I really hope that one day all AUC professors will allow us to feel that our university is one of a kind.



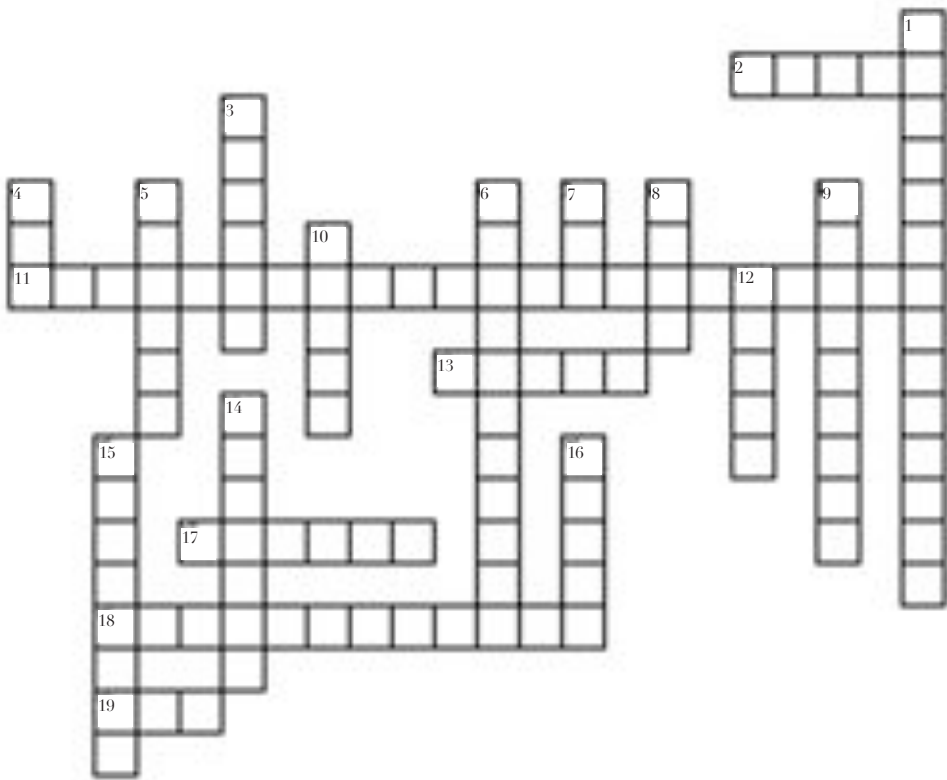
## We love AUC April 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 *Class Cancelled	5	6 *Exam Responed	7	8
9 *Doubt Responed	10 *Project Expiry	11	12 *Semester Day	13 *Class Cancelled	14 *After Club Concert	15 *Harris Trip
16 *at Spring Break	17	18 *Semester El-Shakh Trip	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 *Class Cancelled	28	29
30						Salmonsau

## HOW TO TELL YOU'RE EGYPTIAN... PART 1



## CROSS WORD: TRIVIA



### Across

- 2) Where did pasta originally come from? (5)
- 11) What is the tallest building in the U.S.? (3,6,5,8)
- 13) What is the only food that doesn't spoil? (5)
- 17) \_\_\_ is the first Sunday after the full moon after March 31.
- 18) How many bones are you born with? (5,7)
- 19) What mammal sleeps the most in a day? (3)

### Down

- 1) Where did hamburgers originally come from? (7,7)
- 3) Which continent doesn't have a single desert? (6)
- 4) What is the only mammal that flies? (3)
- 5) What is the oldest of all man-made foods? (6)
- 6) The widest river in the world is...? (6,5)
- 7) What part of your body stays the same size from when you're born? (3)
- 8) How many stomachs does a cow have? (4)
- 9) What is George Orwell's, author of Animal Farm and 1984, real name? (4,5)
- 10) Who was the first group of people to make coffee? (5)
- 12) Which flag is only one color? (5)
- 14) What is the most common first name in the world? (7)
- 15) What cosmetic contains fish scales? (8)
- 16) What are the fastest growing hairs on the human body? (5)

## WORD SEARCH: AUC PROFESSORS

L D I Z N A T T A L E K I M K W P N N J  
 G D S N R V I V Y N J Y G K B D J L Q K  
 L A H A B L B P R M A G E D A B A Z A K  
 H A E D C H R F J M C G K R T B C L A Q  
 N S R A H E A C Y D M A H D A M E T X L  
 H A I M A S H M T Z D Q K Q Y M H K N L  
 D L F A R H I T O K N C B K R L L H X V  
 K I A R L A M M M O G W F L E J A R D Q  
 C E B M E M S B K P T K M E Z W K A Q M  
 Y L D A S H A H L K F R N V A M K M O K  
 N M E H D E L L A M A M E D X K W Z L B  
 Q N L D A G E G R A Y M K D A W Z W C D  
 D M A A V A H L A A B H A L N I L R H Y  
 F L Z Q I Z K W M N A D E L R A L Y G K  
 H N E W D Y Y B O L R K U N L L K N N X  
 V T E J S P O W I H E M E L K A K S F J  
 T N M V O N G L M R J L H P L M K T E M  
 N Y V V N R Y F A G E C B H J A J A C R  
 M Y M M R X T S H V F T Y L N H P N C  
 P L Q B I L L E V E N H O U S E Q G H Y

- |                         |                        |                           |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Adham Ramadan</b>    | <b>Eskander Tomma</b>  | <b>Maged Abaza</b>        |
| <b>Amal Lakany</b>      | <b>Helen Rizzo</b>     | <b>Mike Lattanzi</b>      |
| <b>Awad Khalil</b>      | <b>Hesham Hegazy</b>   | <b>Rasha Abdullah</b>     |
| <b>Bill Evenhouse</b>   | <b>Ibrahim Saleh</b>   | <b>Sami Omar</b>          |
| <b>Charles Davidson</b> | <b>Kathleen Myambo</b> | <b>Sherif Abdel Azeem</b> |
| <b>Emad Hamdy</b>       | <b>Leila Saad</b>      | <b>Tarek El Akkad</b>     |

## بريد القافلة

## كلنا إخوة في مجتمع واحد

يبدو أن مجتمعنا تحول إلى مجتمع طائفي يكره فيه المسلم أخاه المسيحي ويمقته ويكرهه المسيحي أخاه المسلم. فلماذا يوجه هذا الشباب طاقاته نحو تدمير المجتمع. لماذا لا توجه هذه الطاقات نحو نصرة إخوانهم في العراق. وماذا عن المآسي التي تلم بإخواننا الفلسطينيين الذين تذهب أرواحهم هدرا كل يوم. قد تقولوا لي (ملناش دعوى بلي بيحصل بره مصر).

حسنا لماذا لا يتكاتف هذا الشباب من أجل الوقوف في وجه حكومة سلبته معظم حقوقه وتركته فقيرا منكسرا معدا لا يجد قوت يومه مقيدا مسلوب الإرادة والحرية. كل هذه التساؤلات تدفعنا للتفكير في ما حل بشباب مصر.

أظن أن بعض شبابنا يعاني من جهل يدفعه للإعتقاد بأن تدمير الممتلكات أو الإعتداء عليها يعتبر إنتصارا لدينه لكن ديننا إسلاما أو مسيحية دين محبة وتسامح وسلام، يقوم على احترام معتقدات وتقاليد الآخرين والعيش معهم في سلام. إن الإسلام أمرنا بمعاملة أقباطنا معاملة تتجاوز المساواة إلى البر والعدل والسماحة والتقبل والمسيحية أمرت أتباعها بالتسامح والسلام. إن ما حدث أمر خطير للغاية عواقبه ستكون كبيرة على المجتمع المصري ككل مسلميه وأقباطه وإذا لم تدارك تلك المشكلة سنعرض أمن بلدنا للتهديد

وسنعرض مستقبلنا للخطر.

شيريهان عمرو

رابعة هندسة الكترونية

سمعنا عن الأحداث المؤسفة التي وقعت حديثا في الإسكندرية عندما قام شاب قيل أنه (مختل) بالهجوم على عدة كنائس قبطية والإعتداء على مصليها بالسكين، مما أدى إلى وفاة رجل وإصابة آخرين.

تعجبت من هذا الخبر، فكيف تمكن هذا الشاب من الهجوم على ثلاثة كنائس قبل تمكن الشرطة من القبض عليه. كيف تمكن من مغادرة أول كنيسة دون التعرض له أو محاولة الإمساك به رغم وجود حارس لتلك الكنائس. بل إن هناك روايات تقول أن حارس الكنيسة الثانية ساعد الجاني على الهرب عندما حاول بعض الأهالي الإمساك به.

دفعتني هذا للتساؤل. هل كان هذا الشاب مختل عقليا فعلا طبقا لرواية الأمن، وهل كان الحارسين وعناصر الشرطة الذين تقاعسوا عن القيام بمهامهم الأمنية مختلين عقليا ولنفترض أنهم أقلية يعانون من مشاكل عقلية، فماذا نسمي المتظاهرين الذين قاموا بالإحتجاج والإعتداء على مساكن ومتاجر قبطية ومسلمة وعلى أصحابها مما أدى إلى وفاة شاب مسلم حاول التصدي لبعض شباب مسيحيين كانوا يقومون بمضايقة فتاة محجبة حيث قام هؤلاء الشباب بضربه على رأسه مما أودى بحياته. هل كان هؤلاء أيضا مختلون عقليا.



## هلوسة

## التكسيات: أبيض في أسود وألوان

شيرين الجزائر  
محررة

وبيني وبينكم التاكسي في مصر رخيص والبترول رخيص أيضاً فمصر البلد الوحيدة التي يباع فيها لتر البنزين بسعر أرخص من ثمن زجاجة المياه.

فالتكسيات في بيروت مثالا هي وسيلة المواصلات الأساسية ويأخذون أجرتهم عادة بالدولار وعندما ذهبت هناك كدت أتحسر على ما كان بإمكانني فعله أو شرائه في مصر بثمان هذه التوصيلة! ووقتها سخرت من نفسي عندما كنت أتشاجر مع سائق التاكسي في مصر على بضعة جنيهات!

وفي العاصمة الأسبانية مدريد النظام غريب فبدلا من العداد الرقمي يستخدم السائق دفتر كبير به جميع أسماء المناطق والشوارع مسعرة من الحكومة. متى يجيء الوقت يكون فيه نظام يحكم بين السائق والراكب؟ نظام غير ده أجنبي وهيدفع، أو فلان خليجي ومعاه فلوس...أو... نظام التاكسي الجديد نعم أغلى ولكن أعدل فمرحبا به.

وحدقت النظر في هذا العداد الرقمي الذي يوجد بجوار السائق. هذا العداد الذي (سيحان الله) لأول مرة أجده يعمل في مصر! واستمر العداد في الصعود حتى وصلت. بدأ العداد بثلاثة جنيهات ونصف واستمر في الصعود حتى وصل إلى ضعف ما أدفعه عادة للتكسيات الأخرى ورغم ذلك كنت سعيدة بالخدمة. فهذا العداد بالنسبة لي، بمثابة العدالة التي أخيرا طبقت.

فإنتهت الأيام التي كان فيها السائق يحدق النظر إلي ليري هل أنا فقيرة أم من بنات الذوات وبناءً على هذا يحدد الأجرة. إنتهت الأيام التي كان علي أن أقول للسائق (تحرير) بدلا من (الجامعة الأمريكية) حتى لا يغالي في الأجرة. إنتهى وجع الدماغ والإستماع إلى الموسيقى الصاخبة رغماً عن أنفي وإنتهت أشياء أخرى كثيرة! فضلاً لهذا العداد عداد العدل!

(تاكسي مهندسين) هكذا استقل يوميا التاكسي من أمام أسوار الجامعة ويمر ما بين ١٠ و ١٥ سائقا منهم من لا يعطيني أي إنتباه ومنهم من يتكلم ويقول لي (لأ) ومنهم من ينظر إلي كأنني قد جئت لطلبي أن أذهب إلى هذا المكان في هذه الساعة من اليوم. وهناك سائق من نوع آخر يسألني (تدفعي كام يا أنسة؟) ومنهم من يتجرأ ويقول (عشرة جنيه) وأنا لا أحب هذا النوع من السائقين وأتركه وشأنه.

وفي يوم تكرر هذا الموقف وكدت أختنق من شدة الحرارة وكثرة التلوث فمر بي (تاكسي العاصمة) فأوقفته وقلت لنفسي لأدفع ما أدفعه! وأتذكر أول شيء قاله لي السائق البشوش، المهنهم (هل درجة حرارة التكييف مناسبة؟) وشمرت أن السائق فعلاً يطبق شعار (راحة الزبون فوق كل شيء) وهو يفعل ذلك بحماسة وضمير أيضاً.

بصراحة  
رينا يستر

عمار نوح  
محرر



أضافت الكثير للحزب الوطني. رغم كل ذلك إلا أنه لا يمكن بأي حال من الأحوال أن يكون هو الرئيس القادم لمصر لسبب بسيط للغاية وهو أنه ابن الرئيس. أكد على ذلك جمال مبارك نفسه في مقابلة تلفزيونية قائلا أنه ليس لديه النية أو الرغبة للترشيح لهذا المنصب كما أكد الرئيس في آخر لقاء مع قناة العربية قائلا لا للتوريث وبالتالي فهذا الملف مغلق على الأقل مؤقتا.

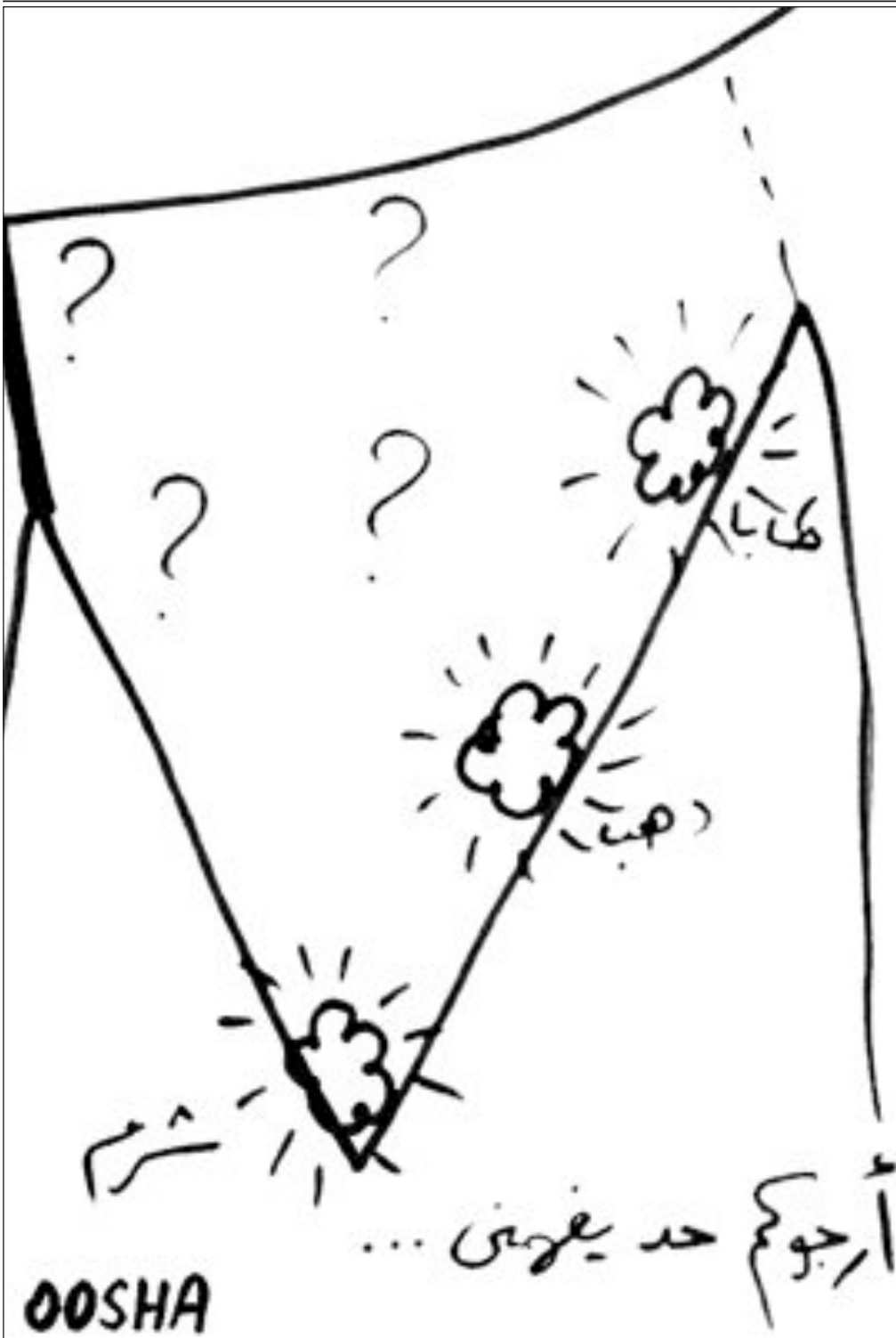
إذن من البديل. في الحقيقة لا يوجد أي بديل حاليا وذلك يعود إلى أن الحزب الوطني الحاكم خلال السنوات العشرين الماضية قام بعملية إخضاع سياسي لكل الكوادر التي كان من الممكن أن تشكل صفا ثانيا من القادة ربما تحتاج إليهم مصر في يوم من الأيام وتم تحويل الحزب إلى مجموعة من الأفاقين المناقذين والمنفعين... إلخ من الصفات الجميلة خالص خالص إلا من رحمه الله لأن هناك أقلية كويسة في الحزب الوطني، لكنهم يظلوا أقلية.

ليس هذا فحسب ولكنه أيضا (الحزب

صرح الدكتور أسامة الباز مستشار الرئيس مبارك مؤخرا بأن الرئيس سوف يترك الحكم إذا وجد من يستطيع أن يتحمل أعباء المنصب وأكد الرئيس في مقابلة تلفزيونية سابقة على أن حكم مصر ليس بالسهولة التي يتخيلها البعض يبدو (إن الموضوع كبير أوي).

المعنى الوحيد الذي يفهم من تلك التصريحات هو (إن مافيش رجاله في البلد). أي لا يوجد أي شخص يمكن أن يصلح لمنصب الرئيس في الوقت الراهن.

إذا كان هذا هو الحال في بلد يتعدى تعداد سكانه ٧٠ مليون بني آدم فتلك مصيبة كبيرة لأنه في أي وقت من الأوقات قد نحتاج إلى ذلك الشخص الأسطوري الغير موجود حتى يحكمنا وحتى تسير دفة الأمور في بلدنا. بالتأكيد لا يوجد من في مثل خبرة الرئيس مبارك (٢٥ سنة الله ينور) وبالتأكيد الشخص الوحيد حاليا الذي يكاد يكون الأقرب إلى المطبخ السياسي المصري هو جمال مبارك ابن الرئيس. وهو في رأبي إنسان مثقف وسياسي له رؤية إصلاحية جيدة أظن أنها



للسنخة الالكترونية زوروا موقعنا

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# القافلة



تصدر عن طلبة قسم الصحافة والإعلام بالجامعة الأمريكية في القاهرة

العدد رقم ٣٢ - المجلد ٨٦

الأحد ٢ ربيع الآخر ١٤٢٧هـ - ٣٠ إبريل ٢٠٠٦م

## فرقة الكورال بالجامعة تقدم عروضاً فنية متميزة



صورة مهواة من مكتب البرامج الثقافية

إحدى لوحات الرقص الشعبي التي قدمها فريق الكورال بالجامعة.

وقال أيمن شعبان -قائد فرقة نجوم الشباب الموسيقية التابعة للمجلس الأعلى للشباب وهي الفرقة التي كانت تصاحب فرقة الجامعة والتي تم التعاقد معها من قبل المكتب الثقافي بالجامعة- أن الفرقة أدت ١٦ بروفة مع فريق الجامعة وقدمت الجامعة الدعم الكامل من خلال الداعات وهندسة الصوت.

وقالت داليا بكر -ثالثة علم نفس وراقصة بفرقة الفلكلور- بأن ساعات التدريب الطويلة التي كانت تقوم بها الفرقة والمسابقات التي شاركوا فيها داخل مصر في مساكن الطلبة بالزمالك وفي الخارج مثل تركيا سوف تؤهلهم للحصول على مركز متميز بالنسبة لباقي الجامعات وأن هذا التدريب وهذه المسابقات أضفت للفرقة الكثير وأهلتهن لهذا الأداء الجيد .

وأشاد أحمد ماجد -عضو اللجنة القضائية الطلابية بالجامعة رابعة اقتصاد- بالتنظيم الجيد ودور رجال الأمن المشرف أمام جميع الحاضرين من طلبة وأساتذة وأولياء أمور وأعضاء لجنة تحكيم وقال أنه لم يتوقع هذا الحضور الغفير وهذا الأداء المتميز. وقال ماجد أباطة أستاذ إدارة الأعمال بالجامعة أنه مندهش لوجود هذه المواهب بين طلبة الجامعة وأنه كان منبهراً من الأداء الجيد والمستوى الرفيع من الفن. وعبر أباطة عن إعجابهِ بالديكور والتصميم والملابس والإخراج الموسيقي البديع.

تتمه ص ٢

## ندوة تناقش تناول السينما الأمريكية للصحفيين



من اليمين إلى اليسار ماثيو إيرليك و رالف بارنجر. تصوير خالد الضبيعي / القافلة

مقتصرًا على السينما الأمريكية بل نجده في جميع أنحاء العالم ولكن بمواضيع وقصص مختلفة).

ورداً على سؤال فيما إذا كانت السينما العربية أعطت إطباقاً سيئاً عن الصحافة والصحفيين لدى العامة، قالت رشا أنها لا تعتقد أن وصف السينما العربية للصحافة أعطى أي إطباق سيئ عنها.

وقال سمير عطالله -ثانية إعلام- أن المحاضرة قدمت له الكثير من المعلومات التي لم يكن قادراً على إستيعابها وقال أنه أعجب بتحليل إيرليك للأفلام وكيفية ربط الأحداث في الأفلام بالواقع.

### كتب- محمود حافظ

قدم فريق الكورال والفلكلور بالجامعة الأمريكية لغة فنية مستحدثة مستوحاة من الروح الشعبي والديني في مصر من خلال إشتراكه في مسابقة الجامعات للفنون الشعبية والموسيقى. أقيمت العروض في قاعة إيوارت خلال شهر إبريل تحت رعاية المجلس القومي للشباب.

قالت داليا عيسى مدير مكتب البرامج الثقافية أن الجامعة الأمريكية تشترك في هذه المسابقة الكبرى منذ عام ١٩٨٢ والتي تقام كل عامين. وأضافت لم يقتصر الإشتراك على هذه العروض فقط بل إشتراك فريق المسرح بالجامعة مسرحية علي الزبيق إلى جانب الإشتراك في مسابقات الفن التشكيلي والخزف والنحت الحر ولوحات زيتية والفوتوغرافيا وتستمر هذه المسابقات حتى آخر مايو. قال الأستاذ يسري فهمي -مخرج الفلكلور بالجامعة- أنه رشح لتدريب منتخب الجامعة في السنة الماضية من قبل مكتب البرامج الثقافية وأن العيب كان قليلاً حيث كان مستوى الفرقة ضعيفاً. كانت الفرقة منقسمة إلى مدرستين الأولى تنتمي لمدرسة رضا والأخرى للفرقة القومية. أضاف فهمي أن المدرستين مختلفتين في الدراما وطرق التدريب والإعداد والتصميم والإخراج وحتى أسلوب إدارة الفرقة من الداخل وكانت العقبة الكبرى لديه هي توحيد المدرستين على أساس واحد حتى يتم الاندماج.

### كتب- خالد الضبيعي

ناقش ماثيو إيرليك -أستاذ الصحافة بجامعة إلينوي في الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية- دور السينما الأمريكية في تجسيد صورة سيئة عن الصحافة ودور الصحفيين في المجتمع في محاضرة بعنوان (الوصف السينمائي للصحافة والصحفيين: هل الوصف دقيق؟) نظم المحاضرة مركز الأمير الوليد بن طلال آل سعود للدراسات الأمريكية والبحوث يوم الثلاثاء الموافق الحادي عشر من شهر إبريل وذلك في مبنى الهيل هاوس . وقال إيرليك أن وصف السينما الأمريكية للصحافة والصحفيين وصف غير دقيق وذلك لأن أغلب أفلام السينما عبارة عن قصص وهذه القصص قد تعطي صورة سيئة عن الصحفيين كتصويرهم في كثير من الأفلام الأمريكية كمدممين للخمر مثلاً ولكن ليس بالضرورة أن تكون القصص واقعية.

عقب ذلك عرض إيرليك مشاهد من أفلام صورت الصحافة كشيطان من الفساد والرشاوي التي تتم بداخلها والبعض الآخر من المشاهد يصور الصحفي المثالي الذي تمسك بأخلاق المهنة. وعن تصوير الصحافة والصحفيين في السينما العربية قالت رشا عبدالله -أستاذة الإعلام بالجامعة- (هنالك العديد من الأفلام العربية التي جسدت دور الصحافة والصحفيين وهذا الشيء ليس

## الجامعة تبحث تغيير مواد الدراسات العربية بالجامعة

### كتب- نادين السيد

واعترض بعض الأساتذة على هذا الاقتراح قائلين أنه يؤثر على معرفة الطالب ببيئته وتراثه. قال أستاذ اللغة العربية فاروق شوشه أن هذا الاقتراح (يعارض بروتوكول إنشاء الجامعة الذي ينص على تقديم قدر معين من الثقافة القومية التي تربط الطلاب بواقعهم وبيئتهم وتاريخهم وإلا أصبحوا بعد التخرج منزولين تماماً عن هذه البيئة). وأضاف شوشه أن تطوير هذه المواد لمواكبة المناهج الحديثة مقبول ولكن (الذي يستعجب له الإنسان هو حذف هذه المناهج بعدما كانت أساسية للطلاب).

ووافقه الرأي محمد سراج - أستاذ اللغة العربية - مضيفاً أن (هذا التغيير لا بد أن يكون في الحدود التي لا تؤثر على معرفة الطالب بتراثه والأدب والفكر والتاريخ الذي ينتمي إليه خاصة وأن طلاب الجامعة يكونون صفوة المجتمع المصري والعربي ولهم تأثير كبير عليه ولذا فينبغي أن يكونوا على علم بأهم مكونات هذا التراث). طالب شوشه إدارة الجامعة أن تستشير طلاب الجامعة والخريجين- قبل أخذ هذا القرار الذي سوف يؤثر على مستقبلهم الوظيفي.

وقال سوانسون رداً على الاعتراضات أن هذا القرار يتم مناقشته حالياً في مجلس الإدارة والذي تشاور في الأمر مع الطلاب ومدير مكتب المنهج الأساسي وأساتذة الجامعة وممثلي اتحاد الطلبة. كما أضاف أنه بناءً على اعتراضات البعض تم تعديل الاقتراح المبدئي- الذي كان ينص على جعل مادة واحدة إجبارية بدلاً من ثلاثة- ليشمل اقتراحاتهم. وتضارب رأي الطلاب في هذا الموضوع بين مؤيديين ومعارضين. قالت فدوى طباله - رابعة إدارة أعمال - إنه من الأفضل أن تتاح الفرصة للطلاب لدراسة المواد التي يحبها بدلاً من إجبارها على دراسة مادة لا يهتم بها. وقال رامي عفت رابعة إعلام (رغم أن هذه المواد صعبة بالنسبة لكثيرين إلا أنني عرفت من خلالها معلومات لم أكن على دراية بها من قبل ولا يجب تقليل عددها لأننا في أمس الحاجة إلى معرفة هذه النبذة من تاريخنا وتراثنا).

يبحث مجلس إدارة الجامعة حالياً إقتراحاً بتغيير المنهج الرئيسي بالجامعة وتقليل عدد المواد الإجبارية في الدراسات العربية إلى اثنين فقط بدلاً من ثلاثة لإعطاء الطالب حرية إختيار المادة الثالثة ضمن المواد الإختيارية. قالت مساعدة رئيسة مكتب المنهج الرئيسي هدى جرانت أن هذا الإقتراح هدفه إعطاء حرية أكثر للطلاب لإختيار المواد المناسبة له. وأضاف رئيس مكتب المنهج الرئيسي جون سوانسون أن المنهج الرئيسي لم يحدث به أية تغييرات جذرية منذ ٣٠ عاماً. في الوقت نفسه شهدت الجامعة تغييرات عديدة وبالتالي يجب تغيير المنهج لمواكبة تلك التغييرات. وشرح سوانسون بعض هذه التغييرات قائلاً أن (متوسط عدد الطلاب في فصول مواد المنهج الرئيسي يتراوح بين ٣٠ و٣٥؛ كما أن الأساتذة الغير متفرغين يقومون بتدريس عدداً كبيراً من هذه المواد).

وأضاف أيضاً أن نصف الطلاب يتخصصون في علوم لم تكن موجودة بالجامعة منذ ٣٠ عاماً. وقال سوانسون أن لمواجهة كل تلك التغييرات تنظر الجامعة في هذا الإقتراح الذي يحقق ثلاثة أهداف. أولاً أن يدرس الطالب المواد المناسبة. وثانياً أن يتم إعداد الطالب لمواجهة الحياة العملية بعد التخرج من خلال التركيز على الدراسات الدولية حيث أن العالم قد أصبح قرية متصلة في زمن العولمة وبالتالي يتم تطبيق لائحة الجامعة التي تنص على ترويج التفاهم الدولي. والهدف الثالث هو التركيز على الجودة وليس الكمية عن طريق تقليل عدد الطلبة في فصول مواد المنهج الرئيسي إلى ١٦ طالب وتوفير أساتذة متفرغون لتدريس هذه المواد. وتتكون الدراسات العربية من ثلاثة مواد إجبارية: اللغة العربية ودراسات المجتمع العربي وتاريخ العرب. ومن المقترح أن يتم تقليل هذه المواد إلى اثنين فقط يختارهم الطالب ويترك له الحرية ليختار أي مادة أخرى لتحسب مادة اختيارية.

## طالبان يتنافسان على رئاسة إتحاد الطلبة



كريم حازم



سيف أبو زيد

يتنافس كل من كريم حازم - رابعة هندسة إلكترونية - و سيف أبو زيد - رابعة علوم سياسية - في إنتخابات رئاسة إتحاد الطلبة التي ستجري من ٦ الى ١٠ مايو المقبل. المتنافسان يشغلان الآن مراكز في إتحاد الطلبة الحالي حيث يعمل حازم في أمانة الصندوق ويرأس أبو زيد لجنة العلاقات العامة. أكد حازم للقافلة أن خطته تعتمد على تقديم كل ما يحتاجه الطلبة وكل ما يسألون عنه بينما قال أبو زيد أن خطته تعتمد على تقديم خدمات يحتاجها الطلبة و في نفس الوقت سيعمل على تطوير الأداء الأكاديمي الإجتماعي مع إشعار الطلبة بأن الإتحاد هو ممثلهم الحقيقي.