



2017 GABR FELLOWS AT THE EGYPTIAN DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE, WASHINGTON, DC

Born from the Shafik Gabr Foundation and now in its 6th year, the East-West: The Art of Dialogue initiative organizes an annual exchange program, the Gabr Fellowship, for young emerging leaders from the East and West to join forces in developing bridges of understanding on critical issues facing the world today and tomorrow. In addition, the initiative encourages the Fellows to develop and implement projects that can create an impact on the bilateral Egypt-US relationship. The Fellowship promotes greater mutual understanding between emerging leaders from the United States and Egypt. Together, they explore one another's cultures, political realities, business trends, art, and their goals for the future.

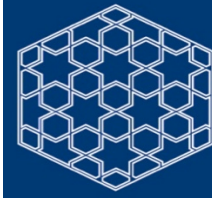
The 2018 Gabr Fellowship program is just a few short weeks away. The Foundation team and myself look forward to welcoming the American Gabr Fellows on August 31st in Cairo for the first part of the 2018 Fellowship. This year's program will take the Fellows in Egypt from Cairo, to Alexandria, to the Suez Canal. This will be followed by the US portion which starts on Sunday September 30th.

For all American Fellows, this will be their first time visiting Egypt, and for many, it is their first engagement with a country in the Middle East. Alongside their Egyptian counterparts, the American Fellows will engage in a dialogue with key thought leaders in business, government, finance, technology, and more, take part in excursions to explore Egypt's rich history, and begin laying the foundation for impactful action projects.

I have enjoyed getting to know the incoming class of Fellows through the application process and I am looking forward to witnessing their transformation into leaders through this life-changing experience.

Please stay tuned for even more updates from the Fellowship community and I hope you enjoy the latest edition of the newsletter.

M. Shafik Gabr



The
SHAFIK GABR
Foundation

The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

August 2018, Issue 13

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News and Updates...

Dalia Ihab Younis Featured in Egyptian News



Dalia Ihab Younis (2017 Gabr Fellow) was featured in *Al-Ahram Hebdo* (the biggest Francophone newspaper in Egypt). In her interview, Dalia spoke about her personal and professional life. She highlighted her transformative Gabr Fellowship experience, and detailed how she grew as a young leader through this life-changing opportunity. Through the Gabr Fellowship, Dalia was able to work closer to her goal of conveying a message of love and peace to the world through her musical action project, *Fusic*. This initiative combines English and Arabic music to highlight the joining of two cultures and musical traditions, bringing the East and West together in a truly meaningful way.

Gabr Fellows Complete Drew University Fellowship



Abdelrahman Amr, Amr Seda, Dalia Ihab Younis, Ibrahim Hammouda, and Menna Farouk (2017 Gabr Fellows) completed a three-week training program with Drew University's Institute on Religion and Conflict Transformation. This was an opportunity for them to learn more about facilitating interfaith dialogue, create intercultural bridges, and transform into ambassadors for global peace. Through a series of workshops, seminars, and trainings the Fellows are now better prepared to empower others to take the courageous steps toward peace.

Hunter King Transitions to New Job



Hunter King (2017 Gabr Fellow) has transitioned off of Capitol Hill after two years and has now taken on a new role as the Director of Federal Legislation for the National Association for Gun Rights. This organization works to highlight second amendment rights in the United States and advocates for a form of Constitutional Carry legislation. The Foundation wishes Hunter best of luck in his new role.

Anis Issa Gives Speech at Sunday School Celebration



Anis Issa (2016 Gabr Fellow) gave a speech at the centenary celebration of the Sunday School in the Great Hall of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Following a speech by Dr. Elfey, the Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Anis discussed the cultural impact of Sunday School throughout Egyptian society and its role in educating youth not only on the spiritual level but also on basic human values. The celebration concluded with a speech from H.H. Pope Tawadros II. The Foundation congratulates Anis on his participation in this historic event.

Judson Moore Gets Promoted at Trivago



Judson Moore (2015 Gabr Fellow) was promoted from Product Owner to Senior Product Owner at Trivago. In this role, he will work in stronger collaboration with senior leadership to set the strategic vision and direction of Trivago's Hotel Search product, which is used by more than 4 billion users annually. In addition, he is responsible for developing a new set of features which relate to the topic of city location refinement. Congratulations Judson on this exciting new promotion.

Magda Kura and Michelle Matus Launch Podcast



Magda Kura and Michelle Matus (2015 Gabr Fellows) launched a podcast on August 2nd called "She Gets Out," which features conversations with women from around the world about their relationship with the outdoors. The first guest will be **Basma El Baz**, a **2015 Fellow**. More information about the platform can be found on www.shegetsout.com and on Instagram. Congratulations Michelle and Magda on this exciting new project!

The Foundation Hosted the White Paper Delegation from Egypt



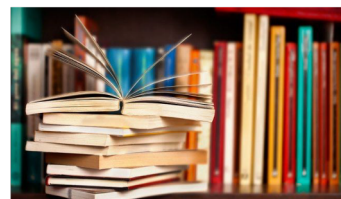
On Wednesday July 25, 2018 the Foundation, in conjunction with the Congressional Friends of Egypt Caucus, organized a roundtable discussion on Capitol Hill with members of Congress and the White Paper Delegation headed by Major General Mohamed Elkeshky, Assistant Minister of Defense for International Relations of Egypt. This was an opportunity for open and honest dialogue about the historic relationship between the two countries, issues of common interest, areas of mutual cooperation, and more. After a brief presentation by Major General Elkeshky, Congressional representatives were able to ask questions and receive responses from members of the Delegation. The Foundation looks forward to hosting more events and serving as a source of education and information for thought leaders and the general public alike.

The Foundation Makes its US Fellows Selection



As the planning for the 2018 Fellowship continues, the Foundation is pleased to announce the selection of the US Fellows. After a rigorous application process, marked by a series of interviews and action project revisions, the Fellows have now begun preparing for the program, which kicks off on August 30th. The Fellows represent a variety of sectors and industries, including the United Nations Foundation, the House of Representatives, the US State Department, Glover Park Group, the United Nations Association, the Ladies Professional Golf Association, and more. All Fellows exhibit a dedication to intercultural dialogue and are committed to implementing innovative and impactful projects. The Fellows' profiles are presented in this newsletter in greater detail. Please visit the website for more details on their biographies, areas of interest, and the Fellowship schedule!

Gabr Foundation Reading Corner



The Foundation Reading Corner is encouraging Fellows to critique the books that have been recommended over the past many issues. For this issue, Mr. Gabr recommends *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu and *World Without Mind: The Existential Threat of Big Tech* by Franklin Foer. Franklin Foer is a staff writer at *The Atlantic* and a former editor of *The New Republic*. Sun Tzu was a Chinese general, military strategist, and philosopher who lived in the Eastern Zhou Period of ancient China. Please write back with your feedback and any reading suggestions!

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.

Question 1: Was the meeting between Presidents Trump and Putin positive for peacebuilding?

Yes: 13% of respondents

No: 74% of respondents

I don't know: 13% of respondents

Question 2: Do you think the tariffs between China and the United States will lead to positive or negative economic ramifications?

Positive: 13% of respondents

Negative: 78% of respondents

I don't know: 9% of respondents

Question 3: The US spends over 4% of its GDP on NATO. Is it fair or not that the NATO allies/ other member countries spend 2%?

Fair: 52% of respondents

Not Fair: 26% of respondents

I don't know: 22% of respondents

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.

In Focus...

Inglorious Empire: A Book Review

Basma El Baz, 2015 Gabr Fellow

Disclaimer: The views presented in this article are the author's alone and do not represent the opinion of the Foundation.

The left-wing British journalist Richard Gott once described his country's imperialism by saying that the "British empire was essentially a Hitlerian Project on grand scale, involving military conquest and dictatorship."

To some this might seem as an "exaggeration", but after reading the truth about what the British did in India in Shashi Tharoor's book "Inglorious Empire" you'll fully understand what Gott was talking about.

As an Egyptian reading this book I could feel my blood boiling, for my dear country was too colonized by the British, however little did I know about the horrors they did in other countries.

During the 200 years when India was colonized by Britain it suffered economic exploitation, ruin to millions, destruction of thriving industries, systematic denial of opportunities to compete, elimination of indigenous institutions of governance, transformation of lifestyles, and obliteration of the most precious possessions of the colonized, their identities and their self-respect.

So, let me in a few points below – based on what's mentioned in the book - try to mention few examples showing the horrendous consequences of the British colonization to India:

1-India's share of the world economy was 23 per cent. By the time the British departed, it had dropped to just over 3 per cent.

2- Britain's rise for 200 years was financed by its depredations in India. The British industrial revolution was built on the destruction of India's thriving manufacturing industries. The British systematically destroyed India's textile industry, substituting Indian textiles by British ones manufactured in England. They cut off export markets for Indian textile. British soldiers broke the thumbs of Indian weavers so they could not ply their craft. Moreover, they imposed 70 to 80% tariffs on whatever Indian textiles survived. Rural poverty was a direct result of British actions.

3-The British extracted 18 M £ each year from India between 1765 and 1815 and this was a result of the unbelievably high taxes forced upon the Indian subjects. "Tax defaulters were confined in cages and exposed to burning sun; fathers sold their children to meet the rising rates. Many were tortured to pay up, and millions of villagers lost their lands after being confiscated".

4-The British officials in India were paid enormous sums of money which they did not deserve and did not match any salaries the Indians themselves earned. The salary of the Secretary of State for India in 1901 – which was paid by Indian taxes – was equivalent to the average income of 90,000 Indians!

5-Divide and rule: Precolonial groups/communities in India were less likely to be antagonistic to each other. They have become so only as a consequence of their "definition" by the British who classified people by religion, caste or tribe. This later was a tool to serve colonizers' interests by creating perceptions of difference between groups to prevent unity amongst them. The result was social separation that soon manifested itself as a psychological separation leading to a physical separation, making demands for self-governance rise as well as political fragmentation. Each community was encouraged to fear that its self-interest could be jeopardized by the success of others.

For example, during elections the British arranged separate electorates for Muslims of India, where Muslim voters could only vote for Muslim candidates, Sikhs for Sikhs and Christians for Christians. Also, every effort was made by the imperialists to highlight the differences between Hindus and Muslims to persuade the latter that their interests were incompatible with the advancement of the former. Separation of Muslims and formation of Pakistan was therefore a direct result of divide and rule.

6-Thanks to economic policies ruthlessly enforced by Britain, between 30 and 35 Million Indians died of starvation. During the 1876-77 famine, millions of tons of wheat were exported from India to England. The British Viceroy at the time refused to make any reductions in the price of food. When some Englishmen with consciousness

mounted relief operations, the British government threatened them with imprisonment.

7-Even when it came to committing crimes Englishmen had the advantage over Indians. The death of an Indian at British hands was always an accident, while that of a Briton because of an Indian's action always a capital crime. An Englishman who shot his Indian servant got 6 months in jail! It was estimated that Indian prisoners' sentences exceeded those for Europeans by a factor of 10 for the same crimes.

After all these appalling things Britain did in India, I disagree with the writer's suggestion that the British reparation should be symbolic. Tharoor said "India should be content with a symbolic reparation of one pound a year, payable for 200 years to atone for 200 years of imperial rule". I believe this is leniency in the rights of the many Indians who suffered or lost their lives under the British rule.

However, I agree when Tharoor says: "German schoolchildren are shepherded to concentration camps to see the awful reality of what their forefathers did, same should be taught to British schoolchildren about what truly made their nations and the legacy of their former empire. Similarly, all of the looted Nazi-era art was returned to their rightful owners in various Western countries. Why is the principle any different for looted colonial treasures from India?"

The British should take moral responsibility in what their nation did especially since many of the British public are ignorant of the realities of the British empire.

The book dives deep in the colonial era of India, read it if you are interested in history of Britain and its colonies, how the 'divide and rule' concept began and how it was in practice in India, a thing that could explain the separatist movements in previous colonies in today's world.

Stay tuned for more articles and thoughts from Gabr Fellows in the next newsletter.

2018 Gabr Fellows - US



Allison Feikes

*Legislative Assistant, Congresswoman
Barbara Comstock
Hometown: La Porte, Indiana
Age: 26*



Lauren Ziegler

*Legislative Assistant, Office of Congressman
Brian Babin
Hometown: Orlando, Florida
Age: 29*



Charles Truxal

*Military Legislative Assistant,
Congressman Matt Gaetz
Hometown: Ft. Lewis, Washington
Age: 25*



RJ Johnson

*Non-Profit & Healthcare Administration
Executive, RISE Community Services
Hometown: Shreveport, Louisiana
Age: 34*



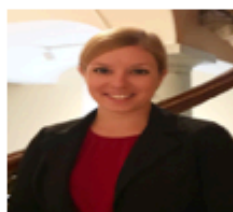
Fabrice Guerrier

*Office Management Specialist, US
Department of State
Hometown: Coral Springs, Florida
Age: 26*



Sarah Walker

*International Affairs Associate,
Glover Park Group
Hometown: St. Louis, Missouri
Age: 25*



Hayley Rose

*Program Associate, International
Development Non-Profit
Hometown: Bethel, Ohio
Age: 25*



Wes Rogerson

*Officer for Global Health Advocacy,
United Nations Foundation
Hometown: Ashburn, VA
Age: 28*



Julie Yang

*Consultant, International Public
Relations, Ladies Professional Golf Association
Hometown: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Age: 33*

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



Egyptian Girl, Jean-Léon Gérôme

Connect with us



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