













## **بدون انفعال المغرب وتحفيف نـاءـاعـيـات ومحـنـتها**

أطاح الزلزال المدمر بالعلباد والبلاد، وبالبشر والحجر، وضرب العديد من المناطق المغربية وعلى رأسها مراكش الأثرية... آلاف الضحايا والمصابين راحوا ضحية الكارثة الطبيعية في وقت كانت تستعد العاصمة مراكش لاستقبال الاجتماعات السنوية لجلسى محافظي مجموعة البنك الدولي وصندوق النقد الدولي ومحافظي البنوك المركزية، وزراء المالية والتنمية، والبرلمانيين، وكبار المسؤولين من القطاع الخاص، وممثلى منظمات المجتمع المدنى، والأكاديميين من حوالي ١٨٩ دولة، ذلك خلال الفترة من ١٥-٩ أكتوبر المقبل.

وكانت المغرب تعد العدة لخروج تلك الاجتماعات فى أبهى صورها، لكن تأتى الرياح بما لا تشتهى السفن، ليست رياح عارية، وإنما أقوى وأعنف زلزال وجهته البلاد منذ قرن، الذى امتد على مساحة كيلومترات جبال الأطلس فى المغرب.

وفى الوقت الذى تسارع فيه المغرب للملمة جراحها من خلال العديد من التدابير الإغاثية لتداعيات الزلزال المختلفة، تسعى المدينة الأثرية مراكش جاهدة لنفس أثار الركام لاحتضان اجتماعات صندوق النقد والبنك الدوليين فى المواجهة، بعدما تضررت أماكن تراثية وتاريخية فيها.

استدعت هذا الأمر وصول فريق لحفظ التراث والذى يتبعد منظمة اليونيسكو لتقديم حجم الأضرار التى أصابت وأطاحت بمبان تاريخية والمسنفة تراثاً إنسانياً فى مدينة مراكش الأثرية، والتى يمتد تاريخها إلى ١٣ قرناً إذ انهارت أجزاء من أسوار العاصمة وتضررت أطراف من ساحة الفنا السياحية الشهيرة وسط المدينة التى يزيد عمرها على ألف

رسالة..  
كما تهافت مبان في الحى اليهودي التاريخي  
المعروف باسم الملاح، وطال الدمار دعامتين مسجد  
تنميل التاريخي فوق جبال الأطلس وهو القدام فى  
المنطقة كلها، ويعود تاريخه إلى فترة نشأة دولة  
الموحدين بقيادة المهدى بن تومرت فى القرن العاشر،  
وتصدرت قصبات عتيقة فى أغادير وتارودانت جراء  
الزلزال، وهى بنيت بين ١٥٢٨ و١٥٤٠ ولم تزل منها  
زلزال سابقة كان أقواها زلزال عام ١٧٥٥ الذى دمر  
لشبونة عاصمة البرتغال وامتد إلى سواحل المغرب.  
وبالرغم من الكارثة التى تتعرض لها الدولة تتشبث  
حكومتها وتريد المضى قدماً لعقد الاجتماعات  
السنوية للصندوقي والبنك الدوليين فلا يوجد أفضل  
من هذا التجمع لتوحيد قوى المجتمع资料وى لمناقشة  
حجم المساعدات والإعانات والتضامن资料ى عالمى مع  
المغرب فى محنتها، وقد يساعدها فى تخفيف  
التداعيات الاقتصادية والاجتماعية التى لحقت  
بالبلاد والعباد.

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الحكومة الأمريكية  
تتفق على تسجيل جامعة  
هولى صوفيا القبطية

**نادر شكري**  
مع افراح عشية عيد النيروز، أرسلت حكومة الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية بولاية كونيكتيكت خطاب التهنئة بالموافقة على تسجيل جامعة هولى صوفيا التابعة للكنيسة القبطية الأرثوذكسيّة كمؤسسة جامعية بكل خصائصها.  
وبهذه المناسبة يتم الإعلان عن فتح باب التقديم لشهادة الدكتوراه في اللاهوت وفتح تخصصات جديدة في درجات الماجستير.  
وجامعة «هولى صوفيا» تم تأسيسها بحسب نظام الجامعات الأمريكية التي تقدم دراستها ON LINE، وهي جامعة قبطية أرثوذكسيّة ورئيسها هو الأنبا دافيد، أسقف إيباراشية نيويورك ونيوإنجلاند، الذي يهمه نشر الفكر القبطي الأرثوذكسي في العالم، ولذلك الجامعة تتبع إيباراشية نيويورك ونيوإنجلاند القبطية التي تخضع مباشرة لقداسة البابا تواضروس الثاني الرئيس الأعلى لكل الجامعات والكليات والمعاهد القبطية الأرثوذكسيّة في العالم.  
وجامعة هولى صوفيا قد تأسسها القمص د. إبراهام عزمي «مارس الطب البشري بالولايات المتحدة لعدة سنوات قبل رسامته كاهناً ثم درس الدكتوراه في كيفية إنشاء جامعات مسيحية من جامعة سى سى يو بفلوريدا» وقد أخذ تأسيسها عدة سنوات على مراحل وتم افتتاحها في ١ يوليه ٢٠١٩، وتم البدء الدراسي بها أون لاين في ٢ سبتمبر ٢٠١٩. حالياً يشغل القمص د. إبراهام عزمي منصب عميد الجامعة الإداري، وتضم الجامعة كليات: التعليم المسيحي بالإنجليزية، وكلية اللاهوت القبطية الأرثوذكسيّة باللغة العربية، كلية المشورة المسيحية باللغة العربية، وكلية الدراسات الكتابية باللغة العربية.



A black and white photograph showing two men seated behind a long, light-colored wooden table covered with a white cloth. The man on the left, wearing a light-colored blazer over a dark shirt, is gesturing with his right hand while speaking into a microphone held in his left hand. The man on the right, wearing a dark blazer over a light-colored shirt, is looking towards the speaker. A bottle of water sits on the table between them. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

A black and white photograph of two elderly men standing side-by-side, smiling at the camera. The man on the left is wearing glasses and a light-colored blazer over a white shirt. The man on the right has a prominent mustache and is wearing a dark blazer over a white shirt. They appear to be at a social gathering, as other people are visible in the background.

الفائز: فهد النقاش - خالد القاء كامنة



من اليمين الناقدة الفنية ماجدة موريس ومحررة «وطني»  
والاعلامية سلوى ذكري

مِنْوَعَاتٍ وَطَنِي

ة مطبات النادي للفنان: أنيس رزق الله

لكن ما أقل اللواتى يستطيعن الاحتفاظ به..!  
جبران «العيوب»

ليس عيباً أن يخطئ الإنسان أو يفشل..  
بل العيب أن يصم على خطأه وفشلـه..!  
**الجهـل**

الجهـل صغير ولو كان شيخاً والـعالـم كـبـيرـ..!  
لو كان حدثاً..  
**الصـمت**

الصـمت أحياناً يكون له طعمـ الحـبـ..!  
**حـاـجا**

نزل حـاجـا من القـطـار ووضعـ الحـقـيـبةـ  
بالـقـرـبـ مـتـهـ وانتـظـرـ حـضـورـ الشـيـالـ.. فـجـاءـ  
الـلـصـ وـحـمـلـهاـ وـمـشـيـ، فـتـبعـهـ حـاجـاـ وـهـوـ  
فـرـحـانـ.. فـلـماـ اـقـتـرـبـ مـنـ مـنـزـلـهـ أـخـذـ الحـقـيـبةـ  
مـنـ اللـصـ وـقـالـ لـهـ أـشـكـرـ يـاسـيـدـيـ.. فـهـذاـ  
هوـ بـيـتـيـ!!

■ لحظات...  
- بلحظات الحب الصادق نعيش حياتنا..  
 فالحب هو العزاء.. والحنان..!  
 ■ الجمال...  
- الجمال هو الشجرة التي تستظل بها  
 نفوسنا..!  
 ■ أنت...  
- أنت فقط تستطيع أن تفتح لنفسك أسباب  
 النجاح وهي العمل والصبر والحب...  
 ■ البخل...  
- البخل يعيش عيشة الفقراء في الدنيا..  
 ويحاسب حساب الأغنياء في الآخرة...!!  
 ■ الشعر...  
- الشعر حكمة تسحر القلب...  
 ■ ما أكثر...  
- ما أكثر النساء اللواتي يستعنن قلب  
 الرجل..

لك الذي لا يسود ولا  
 مران لا ثالث لهما هما  
 يتالم وقلب يتأمل..  
 للقاء..  
 فلنقطن بابتسامة..  
 فهم لا تعلن شيئاً..  
 لي حقائق.. أما الأوهام  
 عمدة..!

سیده

8	1	5	4	9	7	3	6	2
4	6	2	1	3	5	8	9	7
9	3	7	2	8	6	5	4	1
2	5	4	8	6	1	9	7	3
1	9	8	5	7	3	6	2	4
6	7	3	9	4	2	1	8	5
5	4	6	7	1	9	2	3	8
3	8	1	6	2	4	7	5	9
7	2	9	3	5	8	4	1	6

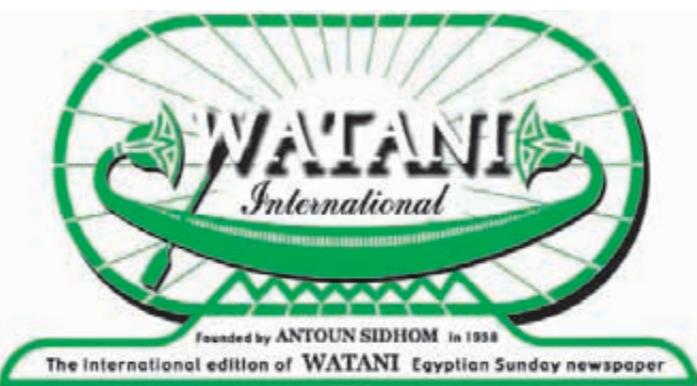
لـ الأـسـبـوـعـ الـماـضـي









**Editorial**

Problems on hold

**Well done  
Cairo University****Youssef Sidhom**

During the last two weeks, news have circulated about significant change in the field of engineering education in Egypt. Professor Mohamed Othman Elkhosht, President of Cairo University, announced that Cairo University's Faculty of Engineering will be changing its more than a century-old rigid five-year academic system, into a more flexible credit-hour based system that could allow students to obtain their bachelor's degree in some four years instead of five.

The new system, which is planned to go into effect as of the academic year 2023 / 2024, defines the requirements for obtaining a B.Sc in Engineering not through a rigid schedule of courses pre-set by the university and extending over a fixed five-year period, but through the number of credit hours a student has to fulfill, regardless of the period of time along which these credit hours are achieved.

This new system allows students the flexibility of determining the academic load they would carry every term, in terms of how many credit hours they can fulfill, provided of course the courses—which translate in pre-assigned credit hours—they choose are on offer and that the students fulfill the prerequisite conditions for the courses. The new system also offers summer courses which students may use to further their credit hour requirements. All this could mean early graduation for those who wish to do so, since they could fulfill the requirements for a B.Sc degree in Engineering in some four years instead of the classic five. Yet students still have the option to graduate after five academic years should they prefer to.

Self-evidently, the credit hour system which substitutes the five-year academic system, neither curtails nor neglects any of the foundations or elements of engineering studies. It simply embeds them within the credit hours, allowing students more flexibility and choice in their undergraduate education. This recent development in the bylaws of the Cairo University's Faculty of Engineering was approved and accredited by the Supreme Council of Universities based on a report issued by the Council's engineering studies' sector. This should come as no surprise given the relentless efforts by Dr Elkhosht since he launched the initiative years ago to bridge the education system gap between Cairo University and international universities in the US, Europe, Japan, China, or others. The outcome has been a remarkable leap in scholarly activity and effectiveness, leading Cairo University's Faculty of Engineering to rank 134th among 30,000 universities worldwide in 2022, with one of its departments, Petroleum Engineering, ranking among the top 50 in the world.

The new bylaws for Cairo University's engineering school will be making provisions for establishing new specialised programmes, revising academic curricula, and condensing credit hour requirements to between 154 and 159 hours, subject to the nature of study in each programme. In comparison, the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) requires the fulfilment of 134 credit hours to graduate with a B.Sc degree in engineering; UC Berkeley and Stanford University each require 120 credit hours; Georgia Institute of Technology, 122 credit hours; Michigan University and Illinois University, 128 credit hours.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Dr Elkhosht, President of the prestigious Cairo University for his academic zeal and arduous efforts to enhance and upgrade the university to match elite universities of the world. In this context, I must refer to the rather "hasty" response by Egypt's Engineers Syndicate to Cairo University's decision. The Engineers' Syndicate, which is responsible for accrediting the university degrees granted by engineering schools of Egyptian universities, and accordingly granting graduates membership and licence to practise in Egypt, expressed their disapproval of the initiative taken by Cairo University in a statement that read: "Now we need to brace ourselves to herald in generations of unqualified engineers"(!) My only comment on that statement is that now is a good opportunity for all Egyptian universities to follow Cairo University's lead, in their strive to modernise old regulations and systems to match standards of contemporary academic achievement. In this I say: Thank you Dr Elkhosht, and objectors please hold back.

## At the Global Congress on Population, Health and Development (PHDC'23) organised by Egypt's Ministry of Health and Population, a national strategy on population launched



# How many children can a family have?

**Angele Reda**

regulated to avoid a "calamity" in the country.

Moving on to the figures, the Minister said that Egypt's population increased by 40 million since 2000, reaching a current 105 million.

Dr Abdel-Ghaffar cited the overall birth rate in 2023 as 2.1 per cent, down from 2.85 percent in 2021. The rate of use of contraceptives, he said, was 75 per cent in 2023, up from 66.4 per cent in 2021. This, while the illiteracy rate among over-10-year-olds had stood at 25.8 per cent, but decreased to 12.6 per cent in 2023.

Egypt's population conundrum, Dr Abdel-Ghaffar said, started in 1950 when the population reached 20.7 million. Ever since, it was an uphill battle, given that the population's needs exceeded the capacity of the country's resources; population growth always outstripped economic growth.

**Family planning: worthiest investment**

The Minister highlighted Egypt's gigantic efforts to address the needs of the growing population. He explained that among these efforts has been the building of 24 new cities and towns; also districts which replaced the country's notorious slums; cultivation of three million feddans (1 feddan = 4,200sq.m) of land reclaimed from the desert; as well as the remarkable health initiatives that came under the title "100 million health" launched in 2018, which have had spectacular results [not least being the feat achieved by Egypt in eradicating its scourge of widespread hepatitis C].

"The most significant investment project Egypt can engage in," Dr Abdel-Ghaffar said, "is family planning." Every pound spent by the State on family planning, he stressed, yields EGP151.7. These include EGP74.1 saved on education, EGP32.9 on health, EGP28 on housing, and EGP16.7 on food subsidies.

That being the case, the Minister said, it is of paramount importance to hold regular societal dialogue on the population issue. An electronic application will be launched shortly, he said, for citizens to engage in sharing views on the issue, especially young people and doctors.

During PHDC'23, a societal dialogue was conducted on drafting Egypt's national strategy for health and population for 2023 - 2030. The session saw participation of experts and

specialists including Naeema al-Gasseer, representative of the World Health Organisation; Muhammad al-Ammari and Amr Higab, deputies of the health committees in Egypt's House of Representative and Senate respectively; MPs and senators; Gamal Emeira of the Doctors Syndicate; and Kawthar Muhammad of the Nurses Syndicate. There were also representatives from Serbia which faces the problem of a dwindling population, and Nigeria which suffers from explosive population growth.

**National strategy**

An Egyptian National Strategy for Population and Development 2023 - 2030 was launched.

The strategy aims to achieve a balance between population and development by enhancing reproductive health, empowering women, investing in youth, improving educational opportunities, raising awareness on population issues and achieving social and economic well-being for all citizens.

The health strategy constituted enhancing Egypt's health systems with the objective of attaining universal health coverage for all Egyptians, and ensuring that basic international-standard health services are attainable to all; promoting health and well-being; prevention of and battling diseases; securing preventive measures, preparedness, and response to Egypt's health security; enhancing fairness, governance, leadership, and accountability in health services; and promoting innovation in digital health services.

**Resolutions**

Finally, the Congress issued its resolutions which were announced by Dr Abdel-Ghaffar.

Foremost among them is the recommendation for investment in human capital by relevant official bodies; and public, private and civil sectors. Investment should be directed at public services such as health, education, transport, energy, job opportunities and placement, social security, better gender equality, women empowerment, economic competitiveness, and environment and climate change response. The population issue should be merged into the education system. The media should take responsibility in spreading awareness of the dire population problem, and concepts of a smaller family for a better life and future.

The resolutions also stress the need for a wider role by NGOs in ensuring that family and social services—especially reproductive health services—reach the grassroots in an effective manner.

The private sector is encouraged to strongly participate and share in programmes concerned with population, health and development; especially in mobilising the required funding or financing locally and internationally. It is also required to sponsor innovative solutions to population and health problems, and to furthering the concept of smaller families.

The population dimension, according to the resolutions, ought to be included as a major element in planning and execution of projects, also as a pivotal criterion in decisions on comparative advantages of any programme or project.

An initiative was launched to start serious efforts on the population and development front in Egypt's five governorates with the highest birth rate: Matruh in the northwest; and Assiut, Sohag, Qena, and Minya in the south.

Finally, Dr Abdel-Ghaffar announced a presidential assignment to hold a second edition of the Congress next year. He said it would be held on 21 - 24 October 2024.

