



Happy Homeland Bus

Noor
Book
Series

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Illustrations by:
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Happy Homeland Bus

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“This is the new republic, the republic of visions, hope, knowledge and action. This republic is powerful, without being oppressive, and peaceful, without being submissive.”

This is a golden quote from Mr. President, Abdel Fattah El Sisi

Across our beloved Egypt, we can sense and witness the features of this promising republic of which we have always dreamt.

Therefore, we felt it a duty to present to our children the great achievements on the grounds in our dear country, so that they would become acquainted with the national projects already established and to feel proud and grateful to their beloved homeland, Egypt.

The author presents the idea in a simple and attractive manner. Let’s all hop into the Happy Homeland Bus then to feel the pleasure and pride in the great achievements and always cheer together, “Long live Egypt.”

Dr. Noha Abbas

Editor-in-chief, Noor Magazine



Happy Homeland Bus

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in

THE NAC



The happy bus moved joyfully along the new roads, with the children-passengers cheerfully enjoying the views to the right and to the left and swaying while singing. A child named Dahab, wearing a beautiful Nubian outfit, rose from his seat, held the microphone, and started to chant the famous lyric, “I am the son of Egypt/I am unbreakable/I am the son of Egypt/My heart is an eagle’s/ I can’t live for a single day unless free”. The rest of the children kept repeating after him. They were eager to see the New Administrative Capital (NAC). Meanwhile, another child called Khaled passed between the seats, distributing delicious types of sweets to other children, and saying to them about the sweets they are known to be made in Damietta Governorate (like Baklava, Meshabbek, Humusiyah, Fuliyyah, Simsimiyah and Harisah): “Damietta, where I live, is famous for many craft industries besides sweets, such as furniture, and dairy products.” “How does it taste? Isn’t it delicious!” he wondered! They all laughed and added, “They’re all so good. We cannot tell which type is more delicious, Khaled”. Then, Mina asked the bus driver, “How long will it take to reach the NAC?” The driver answered, “The NAC is about 60 km away from downtown Cairo, and also 60 km away from the cities of Suez and Al-Ain Al-Sokhna as well. Anyway, we are almost there.”

As soon as the bus reached NAC Headquarters, the children were received by Engineer Wahid, one of the officials in charge of the NAC project. He took them to the guest reception hall, saying to them,

Children of the oldest ever human civilization, welcome to the NAC, the new smart city which is one of the largest projects in Egypt. This huge construction project is expected to accommodate a population of 18-40 million people by 2050. It will introduce a new concept of residential life in Egypt. The NAC constitutes a civilized bridge towards creating a new social, economic, and cultural life in the Middle East and North Africa. It would offer a prosperous economic climate and infrastructure that constitutes the nucleus of wellbeing and sustainable development for all Egyptians.





He then displayed some illustrative maps on a huge screen in the hall, saying,

The New Administrative Capital is located on the borders of Badr City, in the area between Cairo-Suez and Cairo-Al-Ain Al-Sokhna roads, right next to New Cairo, Mostakbal City and Madinaty. Its location is highly strategic, knowing that it is about 60 km away from Al Ain Al-Sokhna and Suez, and also from downtown Cairo. The Suez Road leading to Jandali 2 Road is temporarily the main road leading to the NAC until the completion of the city's main road, that is Mohammed bin Zayed Axis. Besides, the NAC area is 168 thousand acres. It is divided into a Government District, a Diplomatic District, a Residential District, and a Financial and Business District.

Thereupon, a child called Mayy asked, "What are the services available in the NAC?"

Engineer Wahid replied,

The NAC contains a large central park called Capital Park, over an area that is 1,000+ acres wide and 10+ km long. The NAC prototype was built only on an area of about 7 acres, and the capital also contains a 35 km long green river linking all neighborhoods, and running around the universities there, to mimic the Nile River in Cairo. This river is considered the largest green hub in the world. This will include central and recreational gardens on an area of 5,000 acres, and it will be open for visits free of charge. The city has the first security control center and in public safety services, with 6,000 surveillance cameras located throughout the city. The NAC project will be linked through a new railway line to all railway networks in the Egyptian Republic. Besides, the electric train project will also connect NAC to the 10th of Ramadan and Belbeis cities. There will also be an international airport on an area of 16 km. NAC will offer several other services, like a conference center, a medical city, a sports city, an exhibition city, a city of arts and culture, all implemented

on an area of 127 acres. It will also include an opera house, a music theater, and a museum of Egyptian modern and contemporary arts. This will include a wax museum that contains statues of Egyptian dignitaries, sculpture and drawing halls, graphic arts and design halls, an open theater to serve all segments of society, and a center for artistic creativity, which especially serves creative youth.

Then, a child called Muhammad wondered about the NAC key projects, and Engineer Wahid answered,

The most important NAC projects are Al-Fattah Al-^sAlim Mosque, one of the largest mosques around the world, and the Cathedral of the Nativity of Christ, the largest in the Middle East and the Arab world. This also includes hosting the first international university, represented in the international branch of the Canadian University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI). Other key projects include the El-Salam-NAC -10th of Ramadan electric train line, Capital Park, and Egypt Capitals Museum.

At the end of the meeting, the children thanked Engineer Wahid for his interesting, detailed NAC presentation. Then, they - filled with delight - boarded the bus, while carrying the Egyptian flag and chanting the national anthem, “My country, my country/You have my love and heart.”





in

Bashayer Al-Khair City



The happy bus carried the elated passengers in a new journey across the new country roads that have been built to reduce traffic congestion and cut travel time. Sweets, roses, flags and other gifts are distributed to them in celebration of the national projects that have maximized national income and contributed to the country's security and stability. This time, the bus headed for Bashayer Al-Khair City. To the children's surprise, when the bus arrived at the city, a child called Younus received them saying, "Welcome, dear friends. I am Younus, from the Fishermen's Shelter, which – in case you do not know it, is a neighborhood located at the Alexandria Western District." Younus went on,

I am eight years old. This means I am almost your age. But I have never enjoyed my childhood like you. Like many other children in my neighborhood, I lived in an area infested with diseases and epidemics. Our houses are wooden booths, where garbage is scattered around, and thus insects and mice are everywhere. My best wishes were to go to school, to learn and have fun. Unfortunately, this wish did not come true. I also wished to play football in a green field, but unfortunately this wish did not come true either. A third wish was to have a hospital where I could receive treatment in case of getting sick. I also wished to have my own room, with a bookcase, a desk, and a bed, in a beautiful house, where pictures of footballer Mohamed Salah and our army martyr, Colonel Ahmed Mansi hang on the wall. In short, my friends, these were my dreams, beautiful simple dreams, which once seemed unattainable. One day, however, everything changed and - for the first time - I felt that I was a child just like you. I did not expect the pleasant surprise when my father brought us here. On that day, he approached us shouting, "Pack your suitcase right away. We are moving to a new city, Bashayer Al-Khair, where we own a new home.

Here I came to him and hugged him tightly, and we went together, myself, my mother, and my brothers; on the way my father was explaining to us, "This is the new





city that Egypt built for us, and all the inhabitants of the fishermen's lodge will dwell in it." He pointed with his index finger while looking with careful eyes, and said, "Look! Do you see these beautiful houses? Do you see them? We would answer in one voice: "Yes, we see them, how beautiful they are!" He continued, "These are our new homes; this is the school, and that is the hospital; these are the two mosques, and that is the church; this is the Youth Center, and next to it is the bank, the post office, and the commercial, and entertainment district. I then hugged him tight. On our way to the new home, my father was telling us that the new city was built by the Egyptian government as a substitute housing area for the residents of the Fishermen's Shelter. Pointing to some houses, he noted, "Do you see these beautiful houses?" We all responded, "Sure." He then continued, "These are our new houses. The school is over there, then the hospital." As the bus went on, he showed us two mosques, a church and a youth club, next to which was a bank, then a post office. There were also shopping and recreational areas. When my father asked me how I liked city, I told him that I was so much proud of my country, and that I would study hard in my new school and will make my country proud of me too. It was the best day in my life. Therefore, I invited you to enjoy this wonderful trip. Thanks a lot to you for accepting my invitation.





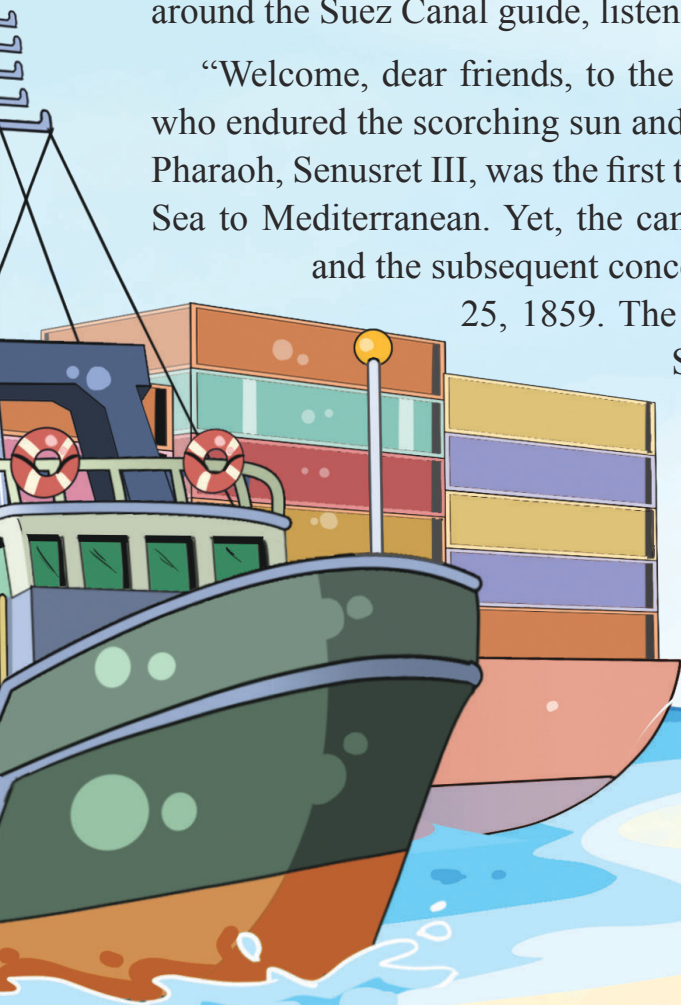
in the New Suez Canal



Our Happy Homeland Bus now moved to a new destination, this time to the New Suez Canal. On the bank of the Canal, children lined up watching and taking memorial photos of the crossing vessels. The children kept waving Egyptian flags, while the crossing ships sounded their “horns” to greet them. The ships cross the New Suez Canal in two-way traffic, the first from Port Said towards the Red Sea, beginning at 3:30 am, while the second crosses from Suez in the direction of the Mediterranean, starting at 4:00 am. After the children finished watching the accurate navigation system in the canal, they gathered around the Suez Canal guide, listening with passion, love and interest to his talk:

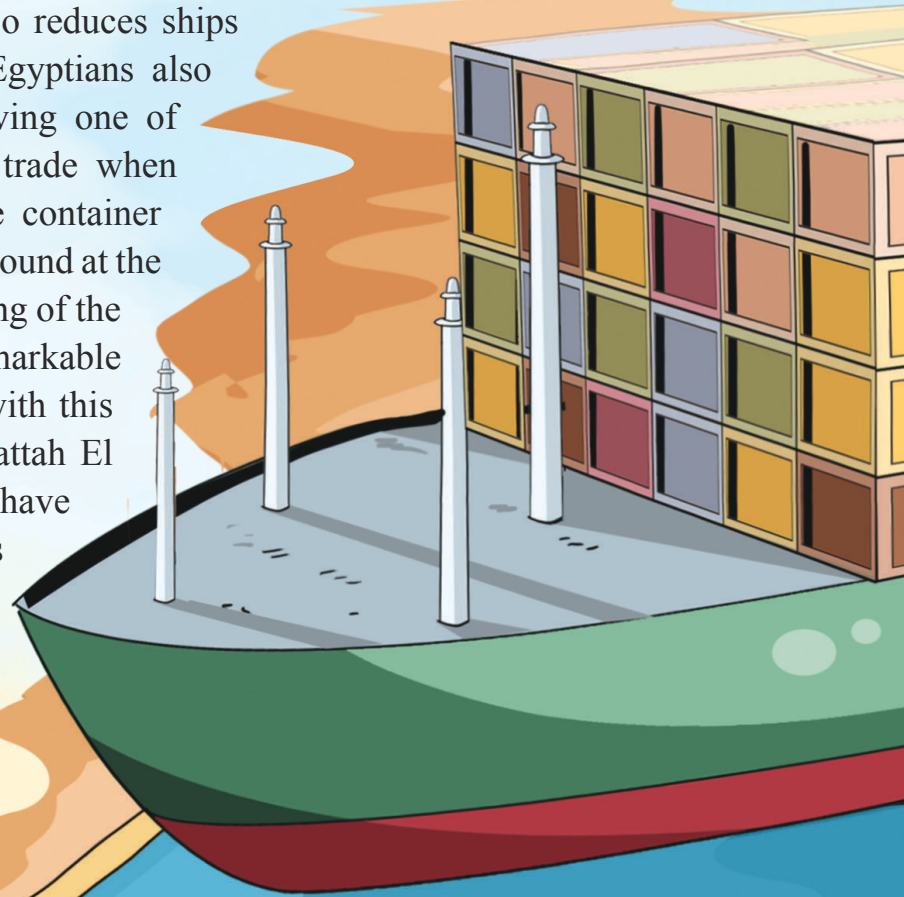
“Welcome, dear friends, to the Suez Canal. This canal was dug by your ancestors, who endured the scorching sun and the onerous task. Historians agree that the Egyptian Pharaoh, Senusret III, was the first to bring up the idea of digging a canal linking the Red Sea to Mediterranean. Yet, the canal’s actual history starts with the First Concession, and the subsequent concessions leading to the digging which started on April 25, 1859. The digging started in the city of Al-Farama (now Port Said), where 20 thousand Egyptian workers perfectly completed the task. And since its inauguration on November 17, 1869, the Canal has gone through numerous historical turning points and major developments. On top of these was the nationalization decision that restored the rights to its owners, the closing of the canal upon the outbreak of 1967 war, and its reopening in June 1975.

Once again, the Egyptians made history out of their love for Egypt, that is the new Suez Canal. Though the work was planned

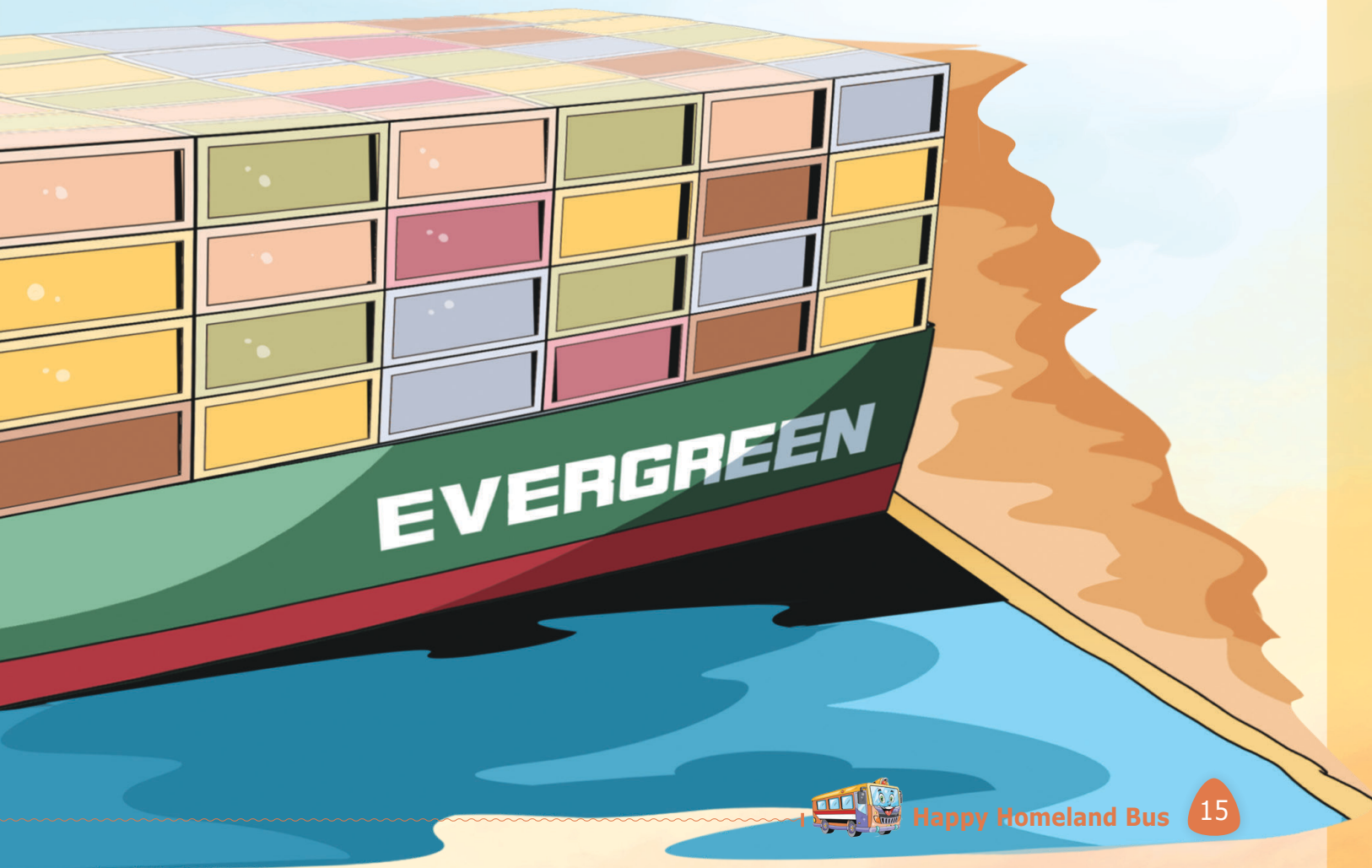




to be fulfilled in nearly three years, the Egyptians, equipped with steel mettle of the Egyptians and unrelenting determination, managed to overcome the difficulties and the challenges they faced and achieved this mega project in only one year. The Canal digging was made from km 60 to km 95, besides the expansion and deepening the branches of the Great Lakes and Al-Ballah along a total length of 37 km. Hence, the overall length of the project was 72 km. The New Canal was opened in an international ceremony on August 6, 2015. The importance of the project lies in the fact that the New Canal is a parallel channel that maximizes Egypt's hard currency earnings, besides reducing transit time to 11 hours instead of 18 hours. It also reduces ships waiting time to 3 hours. The Egyptians also ingeniously succeeded in removing one of the biggest obstacles to world trade when they refloated the wedged huge container ship, Ever Given, that had run aground at the southern end of Canal. The floating of the ship impressed the world as a remarkable event. Expressing his pleasure with this achievement, President Abdel Fattah El Sisi noted, "Today, the Egyptians have succeeded in ending the crisis of the aground vessel EVER GIVEN, despite the enormous technical complexity that surrounded the process. And by restoring matters to their normal course by Egyptian



hands, the whole world can be assured of the path of its goods and needs carried through this navigational route”. President added, “I thank every loyal Egyptian who contributed technically and physically to ending this crisis. Today, the Egyptians have proven that they are always responsible. The Egyptian ancestors dug the Canal and sacrificed their souls in defense of Egypt’s right to it. This very Canal has always witnessed that the Egyptian shall fare in direction decided by the Egyptians.”





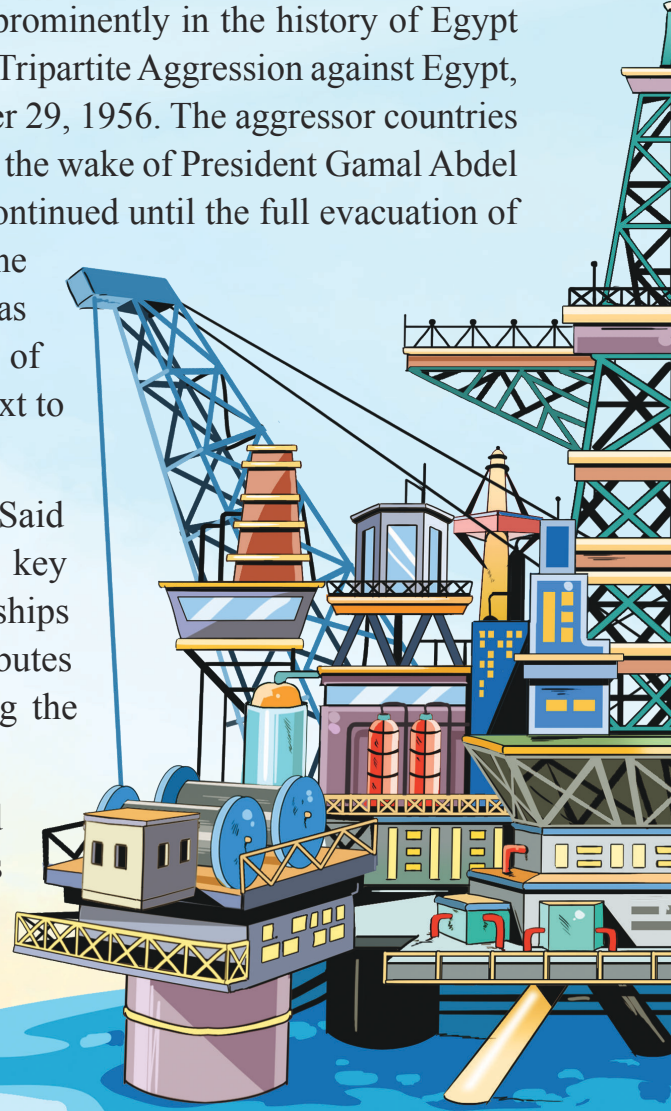
in

Zuhr Gas Project

In a new tour, Egypt's Happy bus visited Port Said, one of the Suez Canal Zone governorates, also including Ismailia and Suez. The city, that was formerly called Canal Directorate, was established in 1860. It features prominently in the history of Egypt through the decisive role it played in deterring the Tripartite Aggression against Egypt, a war that took place on Egyptian lands on October 29, 1956. The aggressor countries were France, Israel and Britain. This role began in the wake of President Gamal Abdel Nasser's nationalization of the Suez Canal, and continued until the full evacuation of the British soldiers from Port Said port in early June 1956. That day, December 23, 1956, was marked as the governorate's national anniversary. Being one of the greatest Egyptian victories, that day comes next to the great October 1973 Victory Day.

Then, a decision was issued to transform Port Said into a free zone. Hence, it became one of the key tourist hubs in Egypt, where dozens of cruise ships flock to it daily for a one-day tourism. This contributes to increasing the locals' income and revitalizing the global trade movement.

After that, the petroleum engineer got on board the Happy Homeland Bus as it continued its way to the north of Port Said He grabbed the microphone and said,

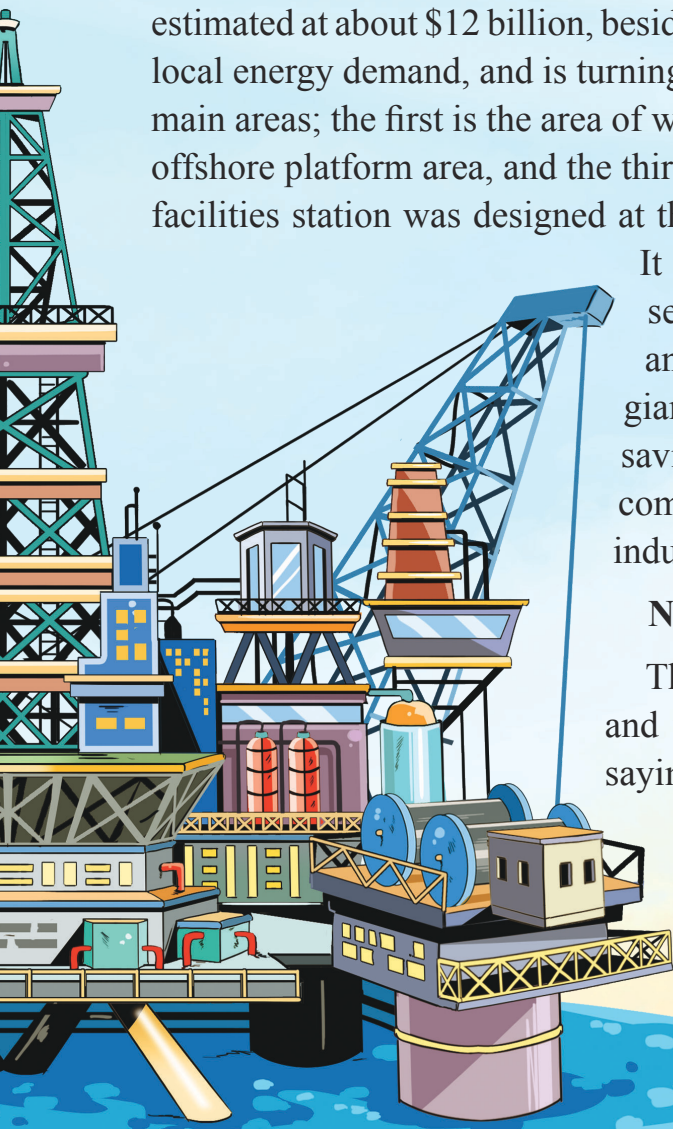


“Hello, children of Egypt! We will now head to a large area in the eastern Mediterranean called “Shorouk”, where the Zühr field is located. It is the largest offshore natural gas field in Egypt. Its reserves are estimated at about 30 trillion cubic feet, which makes 5.4 billion barrels of oil equivalent. The field’s reserves represent more than 135% of the current reserves of crude oil in Egypt. This project is thus of paramount importance to the national economy. It also offers job opportunities. Overall, it attracts foreign investments estimated at about \$12 billion, besides increasing the Egyptian gas production. It meets the local energy demand, and is turning to foreign export. This giant project is divided into 3 main areas; the first is the area of wells and subsea production facilities, the second is the offshore platform area, and the third is the onshore treatment plant. The early production facilities station was designed at the highest level, and it was equipped in record time.

It consists of 4 main sections: the de-sulfurization section, the sulfur production section, the extraction and refinement of fluids, and the utilities section. This giant project aims to achieve natural gas self-sufficiency, saving \$ 220 million per month. It attracts international oil companies to work in Egypt, sustains the petrochemical industry, and provides new resources for the country.

Now, get ready, we have arrived.

The engineer took the children on a tour around the field, and they were impressed by the progress of the project, saying, “We are pleased with the greatness of Egypt.”





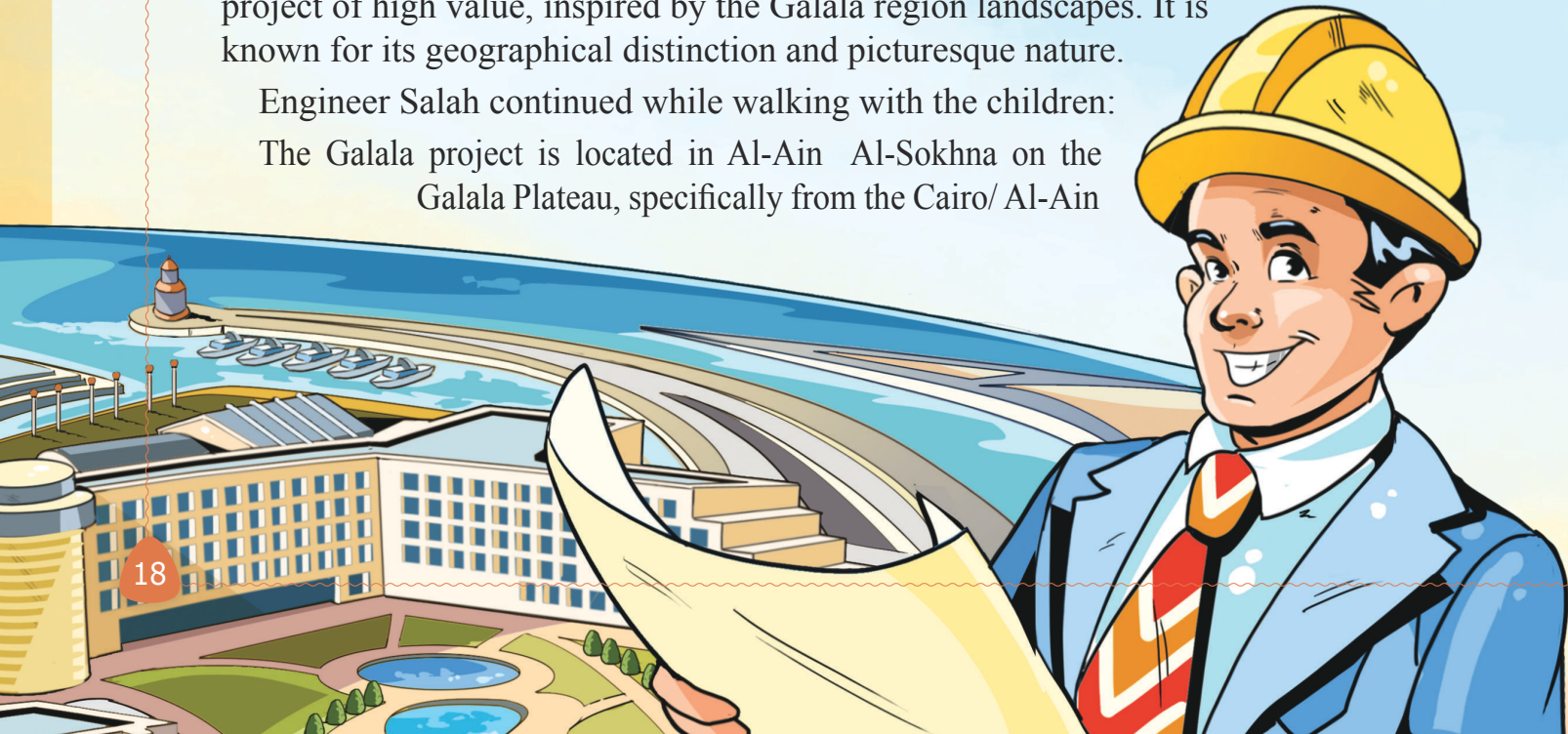
in the new Galala City

In one of its tours around Egypt to inspect the country's ongoing mega projects built by loyal Egyptians, the Happy Homeland Bus visited Galala City. The bus stopped at Al-Ain Al-Sokhna, on the Galala Plateau. Getting off the bus, the children's eyes fell on a large welcome sign that read, "Welcome to the new Galala City". Some supervisors affiliating with the city council were there to greet the children, offering them flowers, chocolates, water and bakeries. One of the supervisors addressed them:

I am Engineer Salah, one of the new city supervisors. I am pleased to accompany you on your tour around Galala, which is one of the largest national projects that add up to more than 253, deployed across Egyptian governorates. This project includes the Galala City and Galala-Al-Ain Al-Sokhna Resort which overlooks the Gulf of Suez, and Galala University, and finally the Al-Ain Al-Sokhna-Zafarana Road which goes through the Galala Mountain. This is an integrated and developmental project of high value, inspired by the Galala region landscapes. It is known for its geographical distinction and picturesque nature.

Engineer Salah continued while walking with the children:

The Galala project is located in Al-Ain Al-Sokhna on the Galala Plateau, specifically from the Cairo/ Al-Ain



Al-Sokhna Road and up the top of the Plateau, to Wadi Haaul area, 770 m high.

Then, Modi (one of the children present) gazed with shined eyes as he saw the outstanding architectural style of tall buildings and beautiful urban dwellings. He then wondered, “Why is this new Galala Project established?” Engineer Salah answered, “The importance of the project lies in its being integral to development in Egypt, through the establishment of new urban communities.” Thereupon, another child called Celia intervened, “So, what are the main characteristic features of the Galala Mountain-Al-^sAin Al-Sokhna Project?”

Engineer Salah replied, “The Project is located in a distinguished geographical area that directly overlooks the Red Sea.”

At this moment, a child called Ihab asked, “What about Galala University in Sinai? People speak about it everywhere?”

Engineer Salah asserted, “Galala University for Science and Technology is one of the scientific edifices that will occupy a prominent academic position inside and outside Egypt and shall feature well in international rankings of universities. It will include several disciplines, such as science, engineering, medicine, dentistry, media and other key disciplines.

Ihab then noted, “I wish I could join it.”

Everyone laughed, saying to him, “You are still too young.”

A girl child called Reem also asked, “What about the international city on the Galala plateau?”

Engineer Salah replied:

Galala City is located on 17,000 acres on top of the highest mount plateau in the area across the Gulf of Suez, at an altitude of 700 meters above sea level. That is why the temperature there is nearly 10 degrees lower than its neighboring areas. It is also marked by its charming beaches. The city is divided into three sectors, A, B and C.

Finally, the children thanked Engineer Salah for the valuable information. He bade them farewell, wishing to meet them again.





in the New Alamin City

Once the bus arrived at the New Alamin City, the children were surprised upon seeing a crowd of engineers, workers and builders in their beautiful uniforms, carrying the flags of Egypt, and chanting, “Long live Egypt; long live Egypt.” They were gathering to welcome the children, who were thrilled at the surprise, and thanked the crowd for their efforts and “contribution to building our country and making our future.” They all lined up in front of the city’s Memorial Plaque to take group photos with the workers.

As soon as the wonderful reception ended, Engineer Mahmoud was waiting for the children at the New Alamin City entrance gate. He approached them saying, “Welcome to the New Alamein City, Egypt’s gateway to Africa, and one of the fourth-generation cities. Let me board the Happy Bus with you to show you around the city. Come on all, get on the bus. The bus then swiftly moved towards the tourist walkway on the beach. There, it stopped, and everyone got off.

Engineer Mahmoud came out and started to give them a quick briefing about the city:

“It is located within the administrative borders of Marsa Matrouh Governorate, extending along 48 km far from the Alexandria-Matrouh International Highway.

The first phase involves two main sectors over an area of about 8,000 acres, i.e. the coastal sector, which includes a global



tourism hub, and an archaeological and urban hub. We are now standing in the tourist walkway, an area that extends for 14 km long. Over there, you can see several pedestrian and vehicle bridges.

A smile brightened his face as he was asking them, “Would you like some refreshments?” They all looked gratefully at him. He continued, “Well, let’s take a break for refreshments, and then go on a short tour around Egypt’s gateway to Africa.” They went away while happily having the delicious refreshments. Next, they got on the bus, heading for the hotels’ area. After a quick tour there, they viewed the impressive towers and high-rise buildings. They were invited for lunch by Engineer Mahmoud at a restaurant in the hotel area. During lunch, Engineer Mahmoud informed them that the hotels’ area competed with parallel areas in leading world cities, and that it would host several ceremonies. He also informed them that a water desalination plant will be implemented in the city, with a capacity of 150,000 cubic meters per day. He added that it would be powered by solar energy. Besides, a high-speed electric train, with an operational speed of 250 kph, would also be implemented to connect the 6th of October City with the Alamin City. It would extend for about 221 km, parallel to Wadi El-Natron-Alamin Road and Alexandria Off-Road that goes through Borg El Arab city and passes by Borg El Arab Airport, which is 99 km long. It also connects the 6th of October city with Alamin through a 244 km line that goes through Borg El Arab and the Alexandria 46 km off-road.

With this, dear children, our trip to the New Alamin City comes to an end. What do you think about it? They all answered,

We are very proud of our homeland. We cherish living on its land and under its sky. We promise to work hard so that our country will be proud of us too. We will also invite our friends everywhere to come to visit the beautiful New Alamin City and see these mega projects in our beloved homeland. These projects represent a miraculous achievement, knowing that they have been established in a record-time.

The children then thanked Engineer Mahmoud for the short though enjoyable trip, which will stick to their memory for so long.





in Damietta Furniture City

The Happy Homeland Bus then headed for Damietta as part of its tours around Egyptian Governorates to explore the national projects taking place across the country in the last few years. Then, Khaled left his seat in the bus and moved to the middle of it, addressing his fellows, “Didn’t I tell you that my town is not only pioneering in manufacturing sweets, but is also famous for many industries, thanks to the skill and dexterity of its citizens! The governorate is pioneer in furniture industry for example, producing the finest furniture in the country.”

Mody interrupted him, “Well, tell us more about Damietta, Khaled!”

Khaled immediately responded: Damietta is Egypt’s first gateway on the Mediterranean coast. It is located north of the delta, on the eastern bank of the Nile. It is a peninsula embraced by the Mediterranean Sea in the north and Manzala Lake in the east. The Nile River divides it into two halves. To the southwest of it, delta farms and plains extend. The logo of my governorate is a boat with two sails, referring to the coastal environment. Damietta is divided into six divisions Damietta, Ras El-Bar, Faraskour, Kafr Saad, Zarqa and Kafr Al-Bateekh. These administrative divisions are further divided into 60 villages. The governorate celebrates its National Day on May 8th each A year in commemoration of the sacrifices it offered during resistance to, and triumph over, the Crusader forces in 1250. We’re now approaching Damietta Furniture Compound, one of the national mega projects.

The children expressed their admiration of the beautiful furniture compound. Once the bus stopped inside the compound and the children got off, a supervisor, who was waiting for them, welcomed them saying:

Welcome to one of the national mega projects, and the first and largest industrial zone specialized in furniture industry. It is established on an area of 331 acres. We are now in the Shata area at the intersection of the International Coastal Road and Port Said-Damietta Road. The compound contains all the requirements for the furniture industry, including various factories and workshops for the manufacture of furniture and supplementary industries, service centers and administrative and investment areas. There are 1,348 furniture factories and workshops in this compound. It also includes a Furniture Technology Center, 5 service centers that have central workshops to serve small craftsmen, shops, administrative offices, a bank, a police station, a fire station, and a medical clinic.

When the supervisor concluded his presentation, the children cheers, “How beautiful is our country! Long live Egypt!”





in

The Burullus Black Sand Project

The Happy Homeland Bus wheel keeps rolling. The dream is still budding in the country's rich garden of aspirations; and national mega projects are innumerable. This time the journey set off to Kafr El-Sheikh Governorate, which is named after Sheikh Talha Abu Said At-Tilmisani Ash-Shadhuli, whose shrine is seated in the town of Kafr El-Sheikh. At-Tilmisani came to Kafr El-Sheikh from Morocco in 600 AH. Later on, it was called Kafr El-Sheikh Talhah for a while before finally taking Kafr El-Sheikh as its formal name. The governorate is located in the north of the country, between the two branches of the Nile, along the 100 km Mediterranean Sea coast. It is bordered by Rashid Branch to the west, over an 85 km line, Dakahlia Governorate to the east, and Gharbia Governorate to the south. Its area is 3,466.7 square kilometers. Burullus is one of the main administrative centers in the governorate, and its capital town is Baltim. The town, which is affiliated with 10 villages, locates at long the narrow strip between Burullus Lake at the far north of Egypt and the mouth of the Nile River, and the Mediterranean Sea. Burullus is the second largest natural lake in Egypt, and it abounds with natural environments, especially salt marshes, reeds and sandy plains. There are also high sand dunes on the lake shore. The soil of each of these environments has special features in a way that reflects their importance. They offer habitat to approximately 135 terrestrial and aquatic plant species. Besides, the humid weather attracts migratory wild birds.

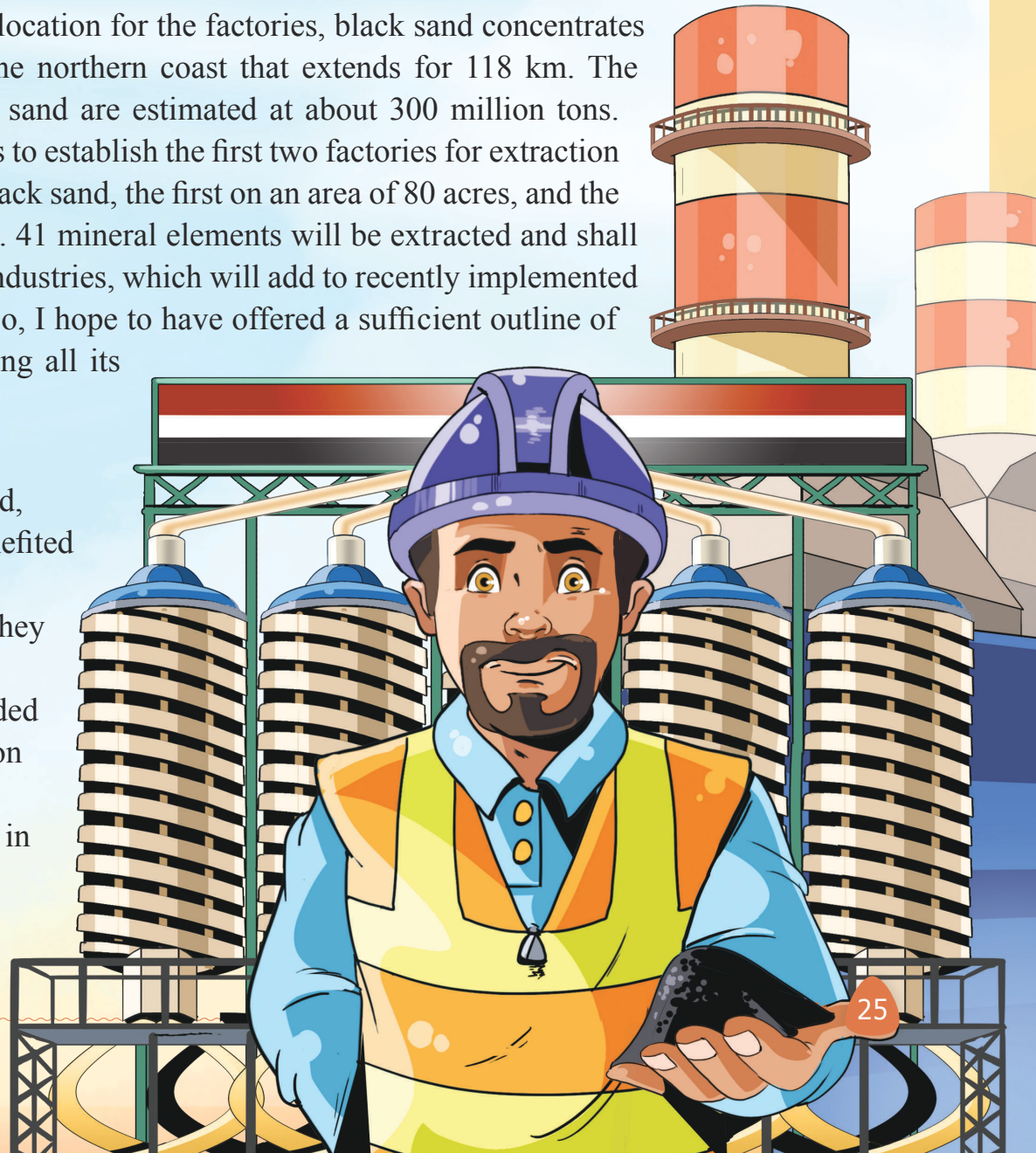
The children were enjoying the charming scenic views from the bus windows. When the bus arrived at the location of the mega project, they quickly got off.

A group of young workers in distinctive blue clothes were waiting for them, led

by Mr. Hossam, the project manager, who approached them saying:

Welcome to Burullus. You may know that Egypt is one of the key black sand sites in the world. That is why major projects to extract minerals from black sand, factories and workshops were established to manufacture extracted minerals. On this spot, which is as a location for the factories, black sand concentrates in high rates, on the northern coast that extends for 118 km. The quantities of black sand are estimated at about 300 million tons. There are also plans to establish the first two factories for extraction of minerals from black sand, the first on an area of 80 acres, and the second on 35 acres. 41 mineral elements will be extracted and shall sustain important industries, which will add to recently implemented national projects. So, I hope to have offered a sufficient outline of the project, covering all its main features.

Then, one of the children commented, “Sure, we have benefited a lot from this presentation.” So, they happily got on the vehicle, which headed for a new destination to witness another major achievement in their homeland.





in

Benban Solar Park

Solar energy means the light and heat emitted by the sun, and it is one of the renewable energy sources. No matter how much it may be used, it never depletes, not to mention its respective low maintenance costs compared to electricity. It is also free God-given energy. Moreover, it can substitute basic electric energy for domestic uses, significantly reducing the financial burden of electricity bills.

Scientists found out that one hour of sunlight that the Earth's atmosphere receives is enough to power all electricity needs of the entire humanity for a whole year.



And because our dear Egypt lies between latitudes 22 and 31.5 north, it is at the heart of the global solar belt. Thus, it is one of the richest world countries in solar energy. That is why the Happy Homeland Bus is visiting this solar energy project. It is worth noting that Aswan is Egypt's southern gate, and its total area is 34,605 square kilometers. With a population of 1.014 million, the governorate consists of five administrative centers, 10 towns, 30 rural municipalities, 102 villages, and 429 hamlets. It is a top tourist destination that sustains then national economy. It is also a top world destination for winter tourism, due to its moderate dry climate and sunshine throughout the year. This makes it an ideal climate for recreation, and a global center for recreational therapy.

The bus stopped about 35 km northwest of Aswan, specifically in the village of Benban, affiliated to Draw center. The children got off the bus only to find their friend Dahab waiting for them in his beautiful traditional costume. Dahab warmly welcomed them, offering them hibiscus drink, which has a distinctive flavor, and tasty Aswani dates. He then led them to Benban Solar Park Project, where they met the engineer in charge of the project. The engineer welcomed them saying:

Welcome to the Benban region, where the sun shines all day throughout the year. This region is now called the world solar energy capital as it encompasses the largest solar power plants complex, adding up to 40 plants with a capacity of 1,465 megawatts. Hence, 8 thousand acres have been allocated to establish the Benban solar station. The project construction began in 2015. It has recently become one of the most important and largest world electrical projects. With a generation scheme of 2,000 megavolt-amperes, the park produces 90% of the High Dam generated energy.

The children thanked the engineer for the valuable information and for the interesting presentation. They then boarded the bus, which took them to a new interesting destination.





in

Medicine Compound «Gypto Pharma» in Khanka

The bus now arrives at Khanka area, one of the administrative centers of Qalyubia Governorate, within the Greater Cairo region. The area encompasses one of the top national projects implemented by the state within its endeavor to possess modern technological and industrial capacity. This is manifested in Medicine Compound, “Gypto Pharma.” As expected, the compound officials were waiting for the young passenger to accompany them on their tour in the city and to provide them with a full outline of the stages of establishing Gypto Pharma. They were received by Dr. Mounis, who cordially addressed them, “Welcome to one of the top national projects.” He then took them on a tour around the city, showing them advanced medical constructions, facilities and equipment. Standing amidst them, he went on:

Gypto Pharma, my dear, is one of the largest of its kind in the Middle East. It is built on a total area of 180,000 m² along two phases. The current phase only covers the construction on an area of 120 thousand m². As You see, the current stage includes a construction of buildings for traditional medicine production, administration, industrial services, and networks.

The children were amazed at what they were witnessing. They took some group photos to commemorate this historical event. Then, Dr. Mounis continued:

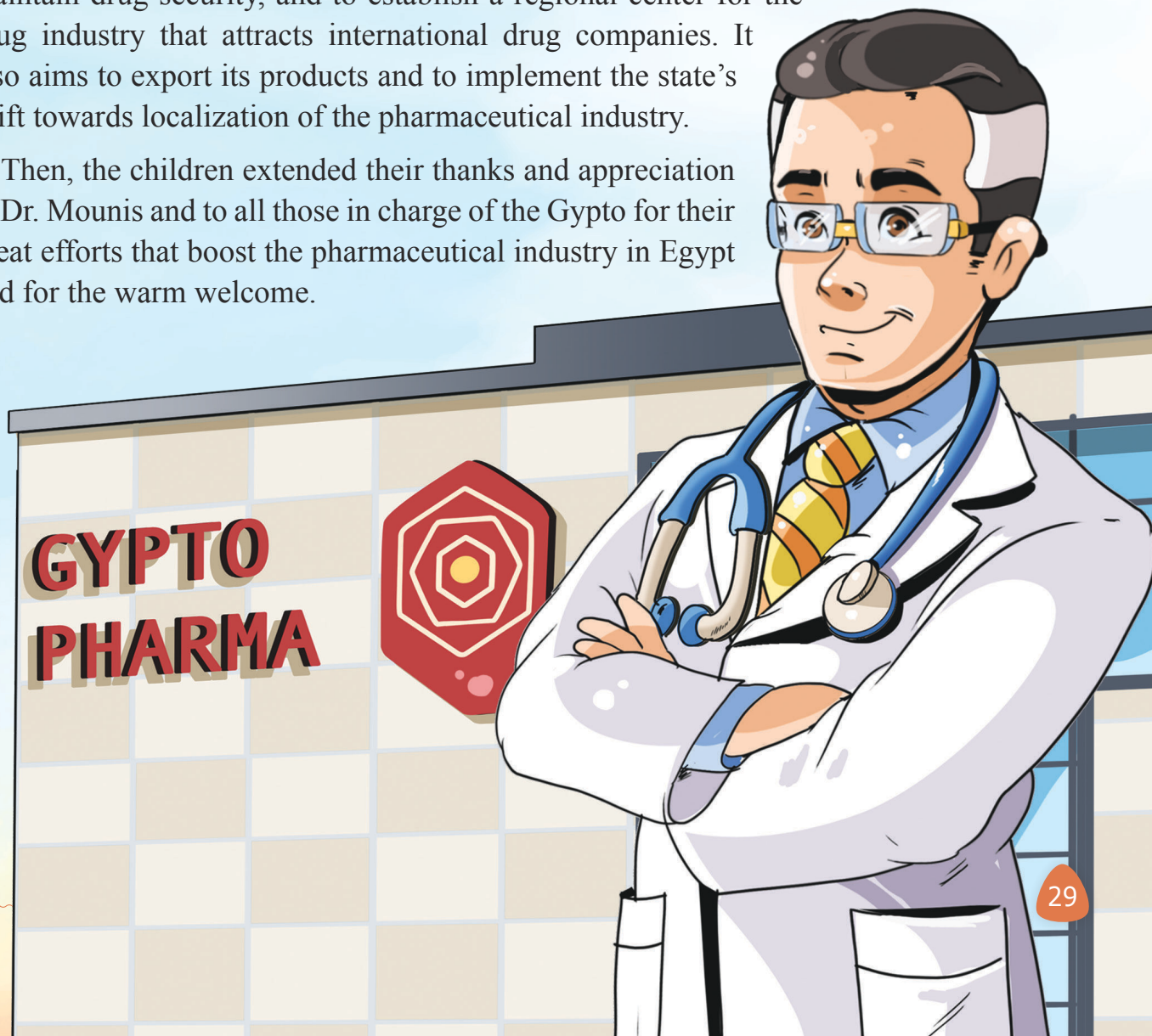
As for the future stage, it involves constructions on an area of about 60,000 m², including a factory for the production of hormone medicines and another for vaccines. The traditional medicine building contains a solid medicine factory, a semi-solid medicine factory and a semi-solid medicine factory. This covers production

pipelines for ointments, creams, suppositories, gelatin capsules, syrups, and oral drops. Another area is assigned for the production of eye drops, dental anesthetics, ampoules, intravenous solutions and vials.

Dr. Mounis concluded:

The project aims to provide an effective, safe, and high-quality medical treatment to maintain drug security, and to establish a regional center for the drug industry that attracts international drug companies. It also aims to export its products and to implement the state's shift towards localization of the pharmaceutical industry.

Then, the children extended their thanks and appreciation to Dr. Mounis and to all those in charge of the Gypto for their great efforts that boost the pharmaceutical industry in Egypt and for the warm welcome.





in

Artifact Replica Factory in Obour City

As soon as the Happy Homeland Bus reached the gates of the Artifact Replica Factory in Obour city, one of the factory's senior officials, who was waiting for them, received them saying:

Welcome to the Artifact Replica Factory. This edifice is the first of its kind in Egypt and the Middle East. Its total area is about 10,000 m². The construction of this great project began about a year and a half ago to keep pace with local and international market demands. The project aims to present the Egyptian industry to the world and contribute to the Egyptian civilization and cultural heritage, knowing that the work is done at the hands of competent and highly-skilled Egyptian artists and specialists who maintain optimum international standard. It also aims at protecting the intellectual property rights of Egyptian antiquities. Besides, it contributes to the environment preservation and proper exploitation of the national resources. We first started with a production line for recycling as waste materials, like eggshells, tree leaves, etc., are reused in paintings. Each



artifact replica produced in the factory bears a special seal of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, which certifies that it is a replica and that it is manufactured by the Ministry. Hence, each artifact has a barcode through which all the information about this piece can be identified in Arabic and English.

The children toured the different sections and workshops in the factory, including casting and reproduction, drawing and coloring, woodwork, inlay, metal works, sculpture, ceramics, and packaging. They also saw the latest devices and equipment for mechanized operation and manufacturing and for designing and printing. They witnessed how robots carve solid rock blocks, and they expressed their great admiration for cutting-edge technology used in the factory.

At the end of the tour, they expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to the official who accompanied them in their tour around the factory for his thorough presentation and interesting information. They all agreed that what they witnessed “reflected the greatness of our Egyptian ancestors; this experience will stick to their memories, and they will convey it to all their friends.”





in

The National Aquaculture Project

The bus is now moving on the Mediterranean coast towards the east, specifically in Birkat Ghalioun area, the sandy area of Al-Jazirah Al-Khadrah village, Motobas Center. The area that extends along the International Coastal Road includes a natural, renewable triangular water pool. There, the bus stopped. The new destination is a national fish farming project, whose location is selected due to its proximity to the Mediterranean coast and to the Nile River as well. It is one of the rare rich areas in natural elements. As usual, one of the project officials was waiting for the children. Warmly welcoming them, he noted:

The national Aquaculture project in Kafr El-Sheikh is one of the top mega projects in Egypt, and the largest marine fishery in the Middle East and Africa. We are in the process of constructing a 55-acres industrial and administrative area, which includes a research, training and development center, a hatchery for the production fish and shrimp seeds, and condensers that include ponds for intensive fish farming. It also includes housing areas for workers, divided into seven residential buildings, a recreational area, playgrounds, living spaces, accommodation and laboratories. Besides, four factories will be built, including a foam factory to produce foam containers, an ice plant to preserve fish during transportation, a processing plant, which involves fish production, preparation and packaging, and a fish feed factory, which includes a specialized feed unit for marine fish. This mega project aims to provide five thousand job opportunities and produce high-quality shrimp and mullet to achieve self-sufficiency locally and to export surplus abroad. We also aim to reach

a 3,000 tons production per acre, in a single cycle of up to 18 months, and the production of 2,000 tons of shrimp in a single cycle, in less than 6 months, given that shrimp can only be raised in summer. Project aquacultures include other types of fish, like mullet, grouper, seabream and seabass. These types will be offered for sale in the local market, while the surplus will be exported through the armed forces distribution centers.

“Now that you have seen the factories,” concluded the project official, “you are all invited for lunch.” Enjoying their lunch, the children gratefully commented, “How delicious is fresh fish. We really enjoyed lunch! Nothing is better than our country’s products.”





in

July 3rd Naval Base

When the bus stopped at July 3rd Naval Base, the children stepped out and headed for the base's gate. There, they met some chivalrous naval officers in their white military uniform, who welcomed them and expressed their pleasure with their visit. The officers also offered souvenirs to the children. Then, the officer in charge of ceremonies in the naval base accompanied them on an introductory tour around the base. He gave them a brief outline about the history of the Egyptian Navy, which abounds with heroic records. He told them that the Egyptian Navy is one of the main branches of the Egyptian Armed Forces, and that it is responsible for protecting more than 2,000 km of the Egyptian coastal strip in the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. He added:

The Navy is also responsible for securing the maritime borders, the navigational course of the Canal Suez, all 21 Egyptian ports, and other 98 maritime points, in addition to the sea-coastal points. The Egyptian Navy shall maintain its distinctive strength as integral to the fabric of the Egyptian Armed Forces, ranking sixth globally.



A strong southern fleet has been established, being properly furnished to engage in modern wars and confront the threats surrounding Egypt. It participated in the “Martyr’s Right” operation to eliminate the hotbeds of terrorism in Sinai. Likewise, new naval bases have been established that keep pace with the latest military constructions and designs globally. We also secure new explorations in oil and gas fields in coastal borders and economic territorial waters. Here, dear children, we are in one of the world’s most gigantic army constructions, that is July 3rd Base, which is located in Jajoub region, on the northwest coast of Egypt. The base, which was inaugurated by President Abdel Fattah El Sisi, is expected to host a national project that shall place Marsa Matrouh on the map of world trade and tourism. This comes within a plan to develop the northwest coast of Egypt, and to accommodate 40 million Egyptians in the next four decades. The July 3rd Base, my dear children, is the latest Egyptian military base on the Mediterranean Sea. It secures the country’s northern and western strategic borders, safeguarding its economic capabilities, securing shipping lines, and maintaining maritime security through combat groups of surface action units, submarines and aerial support.

As the children witness an example of how powerful the Egyptian Navy is, they declared that they are “so much proud of our Navy Forces” and that they “take pride in our powerful Egyptian Army.” They then maintained that they will “convey the experience in all its details” to their friends so that they may know how powerful the Egyptian Armed Forces is!





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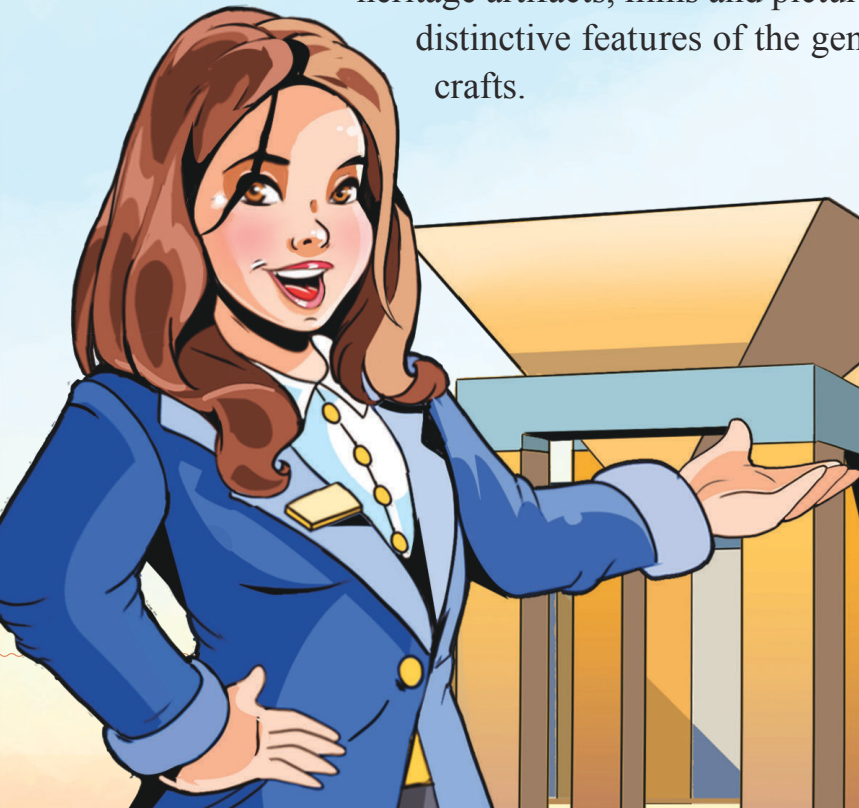
the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization

The children lined up in front of the Happy Homeland Bus that was waiting for them, listening very carefully to the instructions of the trip supervisors. When done, they began to board the bus orderly, and once they all got in, the bus set off to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization. The children were quite delighted, some singing, and others cracking jokes, while the driver was looking at them in the large mirror in front of him and smiling. As soon as the bus arrived at the gate of the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, the children began to get off, led by the trip supervisors. At the museum gate, one of the supervisors received the children and showed them around the museum. He began to give them a brief outline about the museum saying:

Welcome to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization. This is one of the top national mega projects in Egypt. As one of the largest international museums, it is located near the Babylon Fortress, overlooking Ain Al-Sira in the heart of the historic city of Fustat, in the Old Cairo region. The foundation stone of the museum was laid in 2002. Besides being one of the major antiquities museums in the world, it is the first museum specifically dedicated to the Egyptian civilization. It contains more than 50 thousand artifacts that reflect the stages of the development of our civilization, from ancient times and up to the modern era. The museum holdings are displayed in a major permanent exhibit that represents the key achievements of the Egyptian civilization. It contains six other exhibits that represent the themes of civilization, the Nile, hieroglyphics, the state, the society, culture, creeds and ideas.

There is also the exhibition of the royal mummies, spaces for temporary exhibitions, as well as an exhibition on the development of modern Cairo. Moreover, the museum includes service, commercial, and entertainment buildings, and a research center for the science of ancient materials and restoration.

On the evening of April 3, 2021, the procession of royal mummies (22 mummies of 18 kings and 4 queens) from the Egyptian Museum in Tahrir Square, in central Cairo, to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Fustat, south of Cairo, attracted global attention. Upon their arrival at the National Museum, the procession was received by President Abdel Fattah El Sisi and the Honor Guards fired 21 rounds of salute to the kings of Egypt in front of the museum. Now, my friends, let's have a look at the different halls of the museum. We are here in the Egyptian Crafts through the Ages Hall. The area of the hall is 1,000 m², and it displays the products of four crafts, pottery, wood, weaving and embroidery. These artifacts, which amount to 400, belong to different eras. The hall also contains a large number of heritage artifacts, films and pictures that reflect the distinctive features of the genuine Egyptian crafts.



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF
EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION
المتحف القومي بحضارة المصرية



The children were watching the museum's objects with great admiration and astonishment. So, the supervisor took them to the main hall, noting:

This is the main exhibition hall in the museum, and it thoroughly showcases the major achievements of the Egyptian civilization through the various eras, starting from prehistoric times, through the Pharaonic, Greek, Roman, Coptic, and Islamic eras, all the way to the contemporary and modern eras. Now, dear friends, let's move to the central hall or the Royal Mummies' Hall, which is specially designed to display the mummies of the ancient Kings and Queens of Egypt that mimic the Kings' Valley region where the mummies were originally resting and thus give the visitors the feeling of strolling down the Kings' Valley.

Next, the supervisor took the children to the Capital Museum which showcases the history of Egypt's capital that is now the Greater Cairo. Then, they visited the Dawn of Civilization exhibition hall. There, the supervisor pointed out, "Here we learn about the early beginnings of the Egyptian civilization through a rare group of human skeletons of ancient Egyptians." Then, she took them to the Nile Exhibition Hall, which showcases the story of the Nile River in Egypt. She also led them through the Cultural Exhibition Hall, which is one of the historical proofs of the greatness of the ancient Egyptian ancestors who excelled in various sciences. They also toured the State and Society Exhibition Hall, which showcases the history of the Egyptian states, the role of women in society, and Egyptian institutions, such as the judiciary, the army, and the police. There, they got acquainted with some social customary traditions related to marriage, holidays, etc. through the ages. She then led the children to their final stop at the Thought and Creeds Exhibition Hall, where they were acquainted with the beliefs and religions of the Egyptians through the ages, and how they recognized the power of God. With this final stop, the supervisor concluded, "Our tour of the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization ends. I hope you have benefited from it." The children delightfully answered, "Indeed; and we are



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Happy Homeland Bus

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Dear children,

With every sunrise, our love for our dear homeland, Egypt, is renewed and our sense of belonging to it is deepened. It is the seat of divine messages, the home of prophets, and the gate of history. Every day in Egypt witnesses a new achievement that stuns the world. So, let me invite you to board the Happy Homeland Bus for a delightful and interesting tour so that you may learn about the national mega projects and witness the miraculous level of achievements that will boost your sense of pride in your country that is carving these glories on the slate of history.

Ihab Al-Qastawi



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