

e-FREE



GREENS



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LETTER FROM G

Summer time is calling! A time to run away from our daily hustling routines for a moment of quiet appreciation; the sound of waves gushing at the beach, a cool breeze of fresh air flying in from greener landscapes and forest manifestations with sensational scents. The sounds of leaves as they crunch beneath your feet, the serene whistling of birds and light jingles of crickets, and the breathtaking panoramic view on a mountain top. We seek nature to rejuvenate our energies, find our inner peace and appreciate the beauty around us. That's why this issue is not about the 10 hot make-up tips or how to start summer with a flatter belly, but rather its about finding Paradise, how to become a greener planet, our *Garbage Dreams* and Gadget Heaven. In this e-summer issue, we will brief you about the importance of living better in order to treat our environment with love, care and caution. At the end of the day, what goes around will come right back at you, so better give a good flow to your path of energy and desist the bad!

With the holy month of Ramadan knocking on your door; arriving with its gifts and blessings, we will be seeking full reawakening for our bodies, minds and souls.

Enjoy the Summer!

Ghada El Bedeawi

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World Environment Day Egypt



www.wedegypt.com

Biodiversity sustains human life and well-being by providing the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the trees that re-oxygenate the air we breathe and the plants that are the source of our medicines, among countless vital benefits. Held this year under the theme of "Different Species, One Planet, One Future", World Environment Day aims to encourage Egyptians to replace some of their habits with other environmentally-friendly ones as well as inspire and educate people about the beauty and secrets of nature.

In partnership with the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs, WESC (Wadi Environmental Science Centre) organized the annual World Environment Day (WED) celebration at Al-Azhar Park on the 5th of June. Different civil organizations were invited to take part and more than 3000 participants attended the event. The WED 2010 celebration focused on the abundance and diversity of living organisms known as biodiversity, together with genetic diversity, assemblages of organisms and natural processes.

"It took us eight months to prepare for this event" said Eman Khamis, office manager of WESC. Attendees had the opportunity to participate in different hands-on activities such as making recycling paper, plant batteries, saving energy experiments and various other games aiming to educate through fun and exploration. "It is not a carnival where people just come and play some games, it is an educational experience," said Khamis, who expressed her gratitude for the success of the event. "Although this is not the first time for us to organize WED, this year it is different because we finally reached a partnership with the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs. We also reached the target number of attendees that we had set," she added.

More than 900 students from different governorates travelled all the way to Cairo to attend this annual event. "We, as WESC,

customarily deal with many schools and students specifically wait for this event," Khamis elaborated. Ahmed Fathallah, fourth grade student at Bani Sueif's Lamha El Beisha School, said "We came here with the school to learn more about the environment; we attended last year and had really enjoyed it." "We learned how to grow a plant and they even made us try it," the student went on. International schools also had their share of fun and learning at the event. "Students from our environmental team at school were very excited to come, especially those of younger grades," said Olga Kes, school teacher at the New Cairo British International School.

"My 12-year-old brother and his friend insisted on attending World Environment Day. I expected to find a boring event but was surprised to discover that it was actually very interesting for me too," said Aliaa El Tabie, assistant brand manager at Milkana Group. The event was not exclusively designed for children, as students from various universities attended and even helped in some organizational aspects. A group of talented AUC students entertained their enthusiastic audiences with live jazz music. "I am an exchange student from France. We celebrate World Environment Day back home but it is my first time to personally participate in it. I never expected it to be so dynamic!" exclaimed AUC's Guillaume.

WED is a UN initiative that was first launched in 1972. It aims to stimulate the political attention towards environmental matters and to encourage the public to improve their behavior towards the environment. Each capital of the world celebrates on the same day, making it a global event uniting all of humanity for the well-being of its planet and its future.

- Samar Osman

World Cup Trivia!

Although the World Cup predictions of all observers and analysts this year have failed, it did come to the logical conclusion and the Spanish national team won the title. That team whose superiority originates from the possession of a galaxy of stars enjoying the element of consistency due to the fact most of them come from the Catalan team, led by a seasoned coach, Del Bosque, who is the last of a few good Real Madrid Men.

Regardless of the shocking start for the Spanish team against Switzerland, it came together and showed its true colors later. Spain, which won the title for the first time in its history, joined the great seven; Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, England, Germany, France and Italy.

I excluded The Netherlands, the second party in the final in my previous article and did not include the nominees for the title, mainly because the Dutch team, which has always housed a group of stars through its history from Johan Cruyff and Neeskens, through Van Basten and Juliet, ending with Arjen Robben and Sneijder, has lacked the factor of luck in most of its final games. It previously lost two titles, first in 1974 and second in 1978.

But in general, no one can deny that the last World Cup is the weakest technically since I started watching the World Cup Mexico 1986 and I was then only five years old.

I saw Maradona do things with the ball, that no one else could do, Maradona who had cried twice because of the Germans, first in the final of the 1990 World Cup, and the second time this year, after the shameful defeat was inflicted by the German team.



Cheering, hugs and stardom as a player are not enough to be a world class coach, and Moreno the translator, who is considered the world's top coach today proves that. Even though I sympathized with Maradona's tears the first time, many of us owe it to Joachim Loew, and without him we would have seen a fat, naked Maradona, a view that would have been absolutely disgusting to our fans.

At last this world event is over, and all we have left is the Egyptian league. Now the whole world be scrambling to obtain the services, not of Iniesta and Casillas, but of Paul *the Octopus*, either on loan or buying him for thirty thousand Euros to see who will be the champion of any of the leagues of the world. I find that we will be the only country that is not in need of the services or predictions of Paul, we have a contest whose champion is always known in advance!!!

AFRICA

African football left a negative footprint, except for Ghana which made the black continent proud and had the most exquisite performance. For the first time in the history of the World Cup, the host country South Africa is ousted in the first round, followed by Cameroon with a shameful exit, then the Nigerian scandal and Côte d'Ivoire's naive joy at the victory over North Korea with three goals. Finally Algeria, who is joined by Honduras in being the only two teams who have not scored a single goal.



EUROPE

As for European football, its performance showed that it is no longer the powerful force to be reckoned with. Italy, France and England have crumbled, and if it weren't for the seriousness of the Germans, the power of the Dutch mills and the way that was paved for the Spaniards, Europe would have been history.

SOUTH AMERICA

On the Latin front, only Uruguay, accompanied by Suarez' hand and Forlan's skills, defended the continent's reputation. Brazil left without putting up a fight, so did Argentina, with Paraguay leading the way out.

ASIA

Now the Asian contribution was weak, except for the Korean and Japanese teams as we predicted in the previous article. That leaves New Zealand, which earns credit for being the only team unbeaten in the World Cup, only that is not enough, you are also required to win to avoid coming out in the first round, which is what happened to it.

World Cup 2010 Statistics

Team Goals

- 16 Germany
- 12 Netherlands
- 11 Uruguay
- 10 Argentina
- 9 Brazil
- 8 Spain
- 7 Portugal

Individual Goals

- 5 Thomas Mueller
- 5 David Villa
- 5 Wesley Sneijder
- 5 Diego Forlan
- 4 Gonzalo Higuain
- 4 Robert Vittek
- 4 Miroslav Klose
- 3 Luis Suarez

Golden Ball

Diego Forlan (Uruguay)

Golden Boot

Thomas Mueller (Germany)

Golden Glove

Iker Casillas (Spain)

Best Young Player

Thomas Mueller (Germany)

Fair Play Award

Spain

World Cup Winners

- 1930 Uruguay
- 1934 Italy
- 1938 Italy
- 1950 Uruguay
- 1954 West Germany
- 1958 Brazil
- 1962 Brazil
- 1966 England
- 1970 Brazil
- 1974 West Germany
- 1978 Argentina
- 1982 Italy
- 1986 Argentina
- 1990 West Germany
- 1994 Brazil
- 1998 France
- 2002 Brazil
- 2006 Italy
- 2010 Spain

- Mohamad El Shazly is a graduate of the faculty of Engineering Ain Shams University, and an avid football fan. He is a construction manager at a telecommunications construction company. He is also a football commentator with Goal FM, and an amateur sports writer

**Agyad College
announces**

RAMADAN WORLD CUP TOURNAMENT



**Select your team
Score your goal
Win your prize**

**Make a difference this year
Play to share
Play for good
Play... to make them smile**

Dr. Tarek El Ghazaly divulges the battle between:

Samsung Galaxy S vs iPhone 4 (Part 1): A Clash of the Titans for the New World



On the ninth day of the year 2007, something “magical” happened: The first iPhone was announced. It wasn’t a 3G phone. It only had a 2 megapixel camera that didn’t work at night, couldn’t zoom in or out, or even capture videos. It couldn’t multi-task nor did it support Bluetooth file transfer. Phone calls were frequently inaudible, and the device quickly became notorious for its dropped calls. So why was it “magical”?

Throughout those 3 years, and driven by competition from Google’s Android phones; Apple had taken upon addressing its money maker’s shortcomings, one line of software and another piece of hardware at a time. And today, with all its brilliance, iPhone 4’s ease of use remains its main selling point. However, with simplicity comes sacrifice in functionality. Where every iPhone looks like its sibling, your Android could be whatever you want it to be. It can even be an iPhone; albeit a more useful one. We herein take a closer look comparing the high-end Samsung Galaxy S phone running Android 2.1, versus Apple’s new golden boy: iPhone 4.

HOMESCREEN EXPERIENCE

iPhone 4

Let’s get this out of our system: iPhone will always lose in this department when compared to any Android phone. Simply put; iPhone doesn’t have a homescreen. When turned on, iPhone greets you with a grid of icons representing shortcuts to all your apps; and that’s all the information you’re getting. To check your upcoming appointments, click on the calendar app. To know the weather, exit the calendar app and click on the weather app. To read your facebook feed, exit the weather app and click on the facebook app; you get the picture. It’s simple, as everything on iPhone is; but also greatly limits what you can do with your phone, and the amount of information you get at a glance.

In a nutshell, it was ridiculously easy to use, and brilliant at what little things it was capable of pulling off. Back then, especially in North America where Nokia didn’t have significant market share; that was enough.

Three years into this fairytale, a lot had happened. Palm rose up from the aches with its attempt to kill iPhone with its Palm Pre. This ended with Palm going out of business and being acquired by Hewlett-Packard (HP). However, and more importantly, Google had announced its own smartphone plans, unveiling its mobile operating system “Android”. Unlike Palm’s attempt, Android wasn’t one phone, but an endless number of phones; high-end, low-end and mid-range, with and without keyboards. It was the anti-iPhone.

Samsung Galaxy S



Fig. 1 Cnet.com

As an Android phone, Galaxy S offers the most useful and functional homescreen experience on a smartphone. You get to have 7 desktops which you can swipe between and fill with shortcuts to your favorite apps, web bookmarks and contacts. Most importantly, you can place “widgets” on the homescreen. Widgets are small “window” programs that run in the background on the homescreen while displaying data pulled from both the phone and the internet. With a facebook widget on your homescreen, you can read your feed or update your status without opening any special apps. You can play music or run the radio straight from your homescreen’s music widget. Instead of opening a weather app to

know the weather outside, you can just place an auto-updating weather widget on your desktop. Widgets can also be static photo frames of your significant other, “hanging” on your homescreen. You can add, drag or delete hundreds of widgets available for free on the Android Market. Think of your Galaxy S as your PC. You don’t have shortcuts to all your programs on your computer’s desktop, do you?

Android offers hundreds of live wallpapers to choose from. Live wallpapers range between a realistic water pond that ripples when you touch it (Fig 1), to weather wallpapers that change with real time and weather changes, making your phone’s homescreen a beauty to look at.

Borrowing from iPhone’s simplicity, Galaxy S attempts to simplify the Android experience by offering a row of permanent icons along the lower border of its homescreen (Fig 1). These icons take you to your Phone, Contacts, and Messages apps, as well as a fourth “Applications” icon which shows you a very iPhone-esque grid with all your other apps available on touch.

NOTIFICATIONS

iPhone 4
Notifications are what you get when you receive a new email, message, or missed call. Again, iPhone 4 does not have a notification system. Whenever you receive an alert, you’ll get an obtrusive alert in the middle of the screen (Fig 2). You’ll have to stop whatever you are doing to either read it, or dismiss it. When you dismiss it, it’s gone. At most times, you won’t have any indication that you



Fig. 2 iPhone notification

haven’t read it yet, and will need to remember which app it originated from to manually check it later.

Samsung Galaxy S

Like any Android phone, Galaxy S has a notification bar located everywhere on the top of the screen (Fig 1), regardless of what you’re doing – unless you’re watching a full screen video. The notification bar displays your missed calls, and unread messages or emails. It also displays any alerts you’ve set to show up there, like an Adhan – prayer alert. You don’t need to stop what you’re doing, or exit an app. Whenever you want to deal with a notification, you can simply drag down the bar and it will expand into a tray displaying all your alerts where you can directly deal with them without having to go their respective apps.



Fig.3 Slashgear.com

Samsung takes the notification bar a step further, providing controls to Bluetooth, GPS, WiFi, and 3G. This makes it a whole lot easier to turn those options on and off, without needing to dig through settings menus (Fig 3).

SCREEN – This is a tough one

iPhone 4

With a resolution of 640x960 pixels crammed into a 3.5” screen (noticeably smaller than that of the competition), iPhone 4 arrives with the highest pixel density on a smartphone.



Apple is calling it the “Retina Display,” and it’s so sharp that text seems to be painted onto the screen. On the grim side, however, iPhone 4 still uses an LCD screen which requires a strong backlight to light all the pixels on the screen, black or white regardless of color or light requirement. This leads to slightly poor contrasts and more importantly, a huge battery drain (with energy lost lighting black pixels, for example) compared to Samsung’s advanced screen technology. In addition to that, iPhone’s screen is shaped more like a square than a widescreen rectangle; so your movies are likely to have two huge black bars on its two sides, taking up most of the small screen.

Samsung Galaxy S

Even with iPhone’s “Retina Display,” Samsung’s gorgeous 4” widescreen display takes the crown in that department as well. With a resolution of 480 x 800 pixels, you won’t be able to notice any difference in sharpness unless you use a microscope –not even a magnifying glass - to examine it. Galaxy S is the first Android phone to feature a 4-inch Super-AMOLED screen, and it is just BRILLIANT! Instead of using a constantly-on battery draining backlight, AMOLED screen pixels light up independently, and with specific colours. As a result, life-like colours bounce off the screen and – similar to text on the iPhone - appear to be painted on, with blacks being blacker and an overall superiority in colour contrasts and production (Fig 4). Super AMOLED screens drain the battery 50% less than LCD screens, providing the phones users with a few more precious hours of phone use. Samsung’s Galaxy S takes the crown in this category not only for its much bigger 4”



Fig.4 Mobileburn.com

widescreen, but thanks to its use of advanced Super AMOLED screen technology.

INTERNET

iPhone 4

iPhone's web browser – while one of the best in the smartphone business - comes with one noticeable omission: It does not support Adobe's Flash, which means that you won't be able to view any non-youtube videos within the browser; and yes, that includes facebook videos. You also won't be able to play flash-based web games, like Farmville – if you're a fan. I'm not. To sum up; anything that moves – other than HTML5 content- on the screen of a web browser won't be viewable on iPhone 4.

Samsung Galaxy S

Galaxy S's web browser is currently just as fast as the iPhone's. And similarly, it supports multitouch finger gestures, like pinch-to-zoom. It does, however, support flash. That means you'll be able to view the web

– including videos and animated content- almost exactly the way you view it on your computer.

VIDEO PLAYBACK AND BATTERY LIFE

Both phones can crunch through 720p HD movies fluently. However, the iPhone is limited to supporting H.264, m4v, .mp4, and .mov formats. This means you'll have to convert most – if not all – of your movies before "porting" them from your computer. On the other hand, Galaxy S supports – in addition to the aforementioned codecs: HD Divx, Xvid, Avi, MPG, MKV, FLV video formats. This comfortably comprises the majority of video codecs used for all downloadable TV shows and movies online (which we're presuming you've acquired legally). Moving files is as easy as "copy and paste". You can also wirelessly stream your HD content straight to your HDTV, using the Samsung Galaxy S wireless HDMI output.

iPhone 4 battery testing revealed 68 hours of total operation time, a day shorter than what Galaxy S had been able to achieve (84 hours). Tests included video and music playback, gaming, browsing, navigation, image and video capture, as well as voice calls and general use. An additional advantage for the Galaxy S is having a removable battery, as well as swappable memory cards. This officially makes the Samsung Galaxy S the best mobile phone for watching movies on the go (Fig 5). Its 4" screen uses the best technology in the

business, it supports DivX and XviD out of the box and has a much longer lasting replaceable battery. Is there really anything else that you would need?



Fig.5 Gsmarena.com

INDUSTRIAL BUILD and VOICE QUALITY

iPhone 4



With glass on both its front and back, iPhone 4 – even with its sharp edges and boxy structure, looks gorgeous and feels expensive. It's also the slimmest smartphone on the planet at 9.3 mm (half a millimeter thinner than Galaxy S), with a few reservations:

Depending on how closely you've been following the news, you've probably heard about its design flaw which leads to the loss of all signals when held in a sort of common grip, earning the name "grip of death". This happened thanks to Apple's decision to have the antenna surround the phone on the outside, providing more room inside for a beefier battery to drive its 1Ghz A4 processor. That said, a free – but rather ugly bumper case solves this issue, but sacrifices the phone's eye pleasing aesthetics, and makes it thicker than the Galaxy S (Fig 6).



Fig. 6 iPhone 4 with bumper, compared to Galaxy S

Samsung Galaxy S

Looking at the Galaxy S from a distance, you'd think you were looking at an iPhone 3GS. It has a neat finish to it, but also has the 3GS "plasticity" look. The phone has rounded edges and a very slim waistline of 9.9 mm, half a millimeter chubbier than iPhone 4. It's also very light; 15% lighter than iPhone 4 although it's 14% bigger. The Hummingbird 1Ghz processor resting inside is hands-down, the most powerful smartphone processor out there. Needless to say, Galaxy S will not need bumper case to work reliably as a phone.

VIRTUAL KEYBOARD and VOICE RECOGNITION

iPhone 4

Since its announcement in 2007, iPhone has been known to have the best virtual keyboard on the market. It does however, come with very limited voice recognition input, which pales in comparison to Android's.



Fig. 7



Like any other Android phone, voice recognition is an integral to the Galaxy S experience. Everything from searching on Google, to navigation, typing sms or emails can be done using voice input through one click on a Google homescreen widget (Fig 1).

Moreover, its 4" screen makes for a more comfortable typing experience, and comes with "Swype" technology which intelligently allows single touch word entry by connecting the letters to each other (Fig 7). This is – by far, the fastest method of text input on a touchscreen.

In **Part 2** (Greens, Issue 4), we will take a closer look at Google's free navigation system, as well as iPhone's impressive app store, and a lot more.



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Mai Iskandar's documentary film and directorial debut, *Garbage Dreams*, has won her to date; twenty-four International and local awards. The film follows the lives of three garbage collecting teenage boys from the zabaleen of Manshiyyet Nasser, Cairo's biggest garbage collecting community, over the span of four years.

Skillfully woven, *Garbage Dreams* is the simple story of three boys and their journey of self-discovery to unravel what it meant to be a garbage collector, a zabbal, by birth. An informative documentary that brings to the spotlight the traditional Cairene garbage collector's life and livelihood, portraying and breaking down the waste cycle and its phases in Cairo's zabbaleen quarters. Highlighting the importance of re-cycling to this community, the film emphasizes how successfully they have mastered it and its vitality to their livelihood. Iskandar pushes the film further into a bigger framework by choosing her fourth main character, the young active female social worker, that brings us closer to the zabaleen community and some of its random but active members. But unfortunately she fails to show where the boys stand within this community as they are hardly ever seen interacting with its members who mostly seem to be the boys' parents' generation. Instead what she creates is a sense of the present, which is this

middle-aged community of zabaleen, soon to be the past, and the boys; the future of this community. However, she over compensates this weakness with an attempt at delving deeper into the human aspect of these boys' lives showing details of interaction with their families in small, tight and bare red-brick homes, trying to capture intimate moments on camera, but also occasionally hindering the smooth pace of the film.

"It's all in the timing," and this is precisely what gives *Garbage Dreams* its edge. The director's choice of timing of when to tell these boys' stories are the key to the success of her story. Three teenage boys whose lives are about to change as they make their steps from boy to man, set against a major turning point in their world as they and their ancestors knew it, that they are forced to make a change to survive. Their parents' and grandparents' ways no longer suffice to assure their survival and they have to make the choice to compete with "modernity" and challenge the new system or surrender to join its forces.

The film cleverly documents a transitional point in the history of garbage collection and waste disposal in Egypt. The tragic ending to our hero, the zabbal, as Egypt signs new contracts with European waste disposal companies that threaten his every existence and mark a new era for him and Cairo, *Garbage Dreams* is a statement on modernity. It poses the question of what is real modernity versus borrowed modernity. Can other societies' modern solutions and systems work for us? Is it not rather that a people's modernity is in discovering their own inner workings and building on that to create an ecological and economical, circular, self-sufficient community? Ideally, the answer would be yes.

Eman El Naggat, a young independent film producer, has been involved in a myriad of short films rendering from social cases of autism to abortion, she generally tackles states of human conditions in Egypt. At the moment, she is in pursuit of her Masters degree in Islamic Art and Architecture at the American University in Cairo.



How to Choose a Summer Program

Those were the days my friend...

During the holidays, the perfect environment for a child to have fun while acquiring new abilities and skills is a summer program. In addition, memories of these amusing days will last in his or her mind for a lifetime, not to mention the new friends encountered during these unforgettable vacations.

Today, a myriad options are available that attend to different ages and address various skills. The abundance of well trained counselors makes it possible to have an outstanding summer program with a plethora of games, excursions and ideas to implement -- making the decision to favor a specific program a daunting task for any parent. Here are few tips on how to commence your research and what to look for when choosing a program for your child this summer.

As a start, determine your strategy in selecting any program. You can find out what your child prefers and enroll him or her in a program that focuses on his or her preferences, or you can go the opposite way and get your child involved in something completely new and unfamiliar.

Having decided upon that, the second consideration is scheduling. Schedule the program time away from any family vacations and commitments. This will ensure that your child won't miss out on any days of the program and will extract full benefit out of it. Moreover, you child will still be involved in the

family events which are just as important as the summer program.

Now you can start your search for as many programs as you want that attend to your child's interests and fit your schedule. You can rely on the Internet, brochures from kids' stores and word of mouth from friends and other family members. Check for professionalism in everything related to the program including the program's website, brochure, and even the professional manner in answering the phone. While a lack of professionalism doesn't necessarily equate a bad program, it is usually a good indicator.

Pick your top 3-4 programs and pay them a quick visit to meet with the program's director who should help you answer the following questions which, while not exhaustive, should guide you in making a final selection.

1. What is the adopted philosophy/pedagogy in the program?

Pedagogy refers to the "teaching methods" employed. You want to choose programs that adopt group learning and informal teaching settings. Children had enough lecturing during the academic year and it's time for them to run the show and be more involved in their own learning. More recently, virtually all the pioneers of modern education have developed systems of teaching based on more than merely verbal pedagogy.

2. Counselors

How the counselors are recruited and what educational background they hold. Many programs recruit amateurs who love working with children but lack the necessary educational experience to deliver the program's objectives to your child.

3. What do they expect the children to learn and acquire?

There should be a concrete plan in place. NEVER send your children to a program that can't provide a clear plan for what's going to take place!

4. What's the counselor to children ratio?

Based on your child's age group, this ratio will vary. For toddlers it's usually accepted to have a ratio of 1:3, while for preschoolers it can go up to 1:5. As the age group grows, so does the ratio. A reasonable ratio (under 1:8) ensures that your child gets enough attention and care during the program.

5. Where is the program conducted?

Is the location suitable for the designed program and equipped with all necessary items? Is it considered a safe environment with enough adult supervision? What provisions are in place in case of emergency?

6. Logistics

How do they attend to the basic needs of the children? What provisions are available for meals and drinks? Clean drinking water and readily accessible washrooms are a must.

7. Transportation

Is the program providing transportation to and from the location? If not, is the location in a close proximity to you so it would not disrupt your daily schedule as you drop off your child and pick him or her up? If you're late in picking up, what measures are in place to ensure your child is safe until you arrive?

8. Cost

Though the cost of summer programs can vary hugely, remember that more expensive does not necessarily mean better. Are there any hidden fees or costs above and beyond the standard cost? What is the return policy?

9. Reference

What do the parents who have used the program before have to say? Many programs plan an open house and invite parents of returning children to speak in the event. It's a good practice to try attending these events and interact with these parents to know a first-hand opinion about the program.

10. FUN

Will your children have fun? Will they enjoy themselves? It doesn't take much to tell whether or not your children enjoyed their time; if they don't return on the first day with lots of stories on the dining table, then you should seriously reconsider the program.

- Mohamed El Daly

المراوي

Rana Salah exposes

The Tricks and Secrets in Islamic Civilization

Sciences, the environment, concerted action and cultures synergy are the different aspects that contributed to the flourishing of the Islamic civilization, during the period from the late 700s till the late 1200s AD.

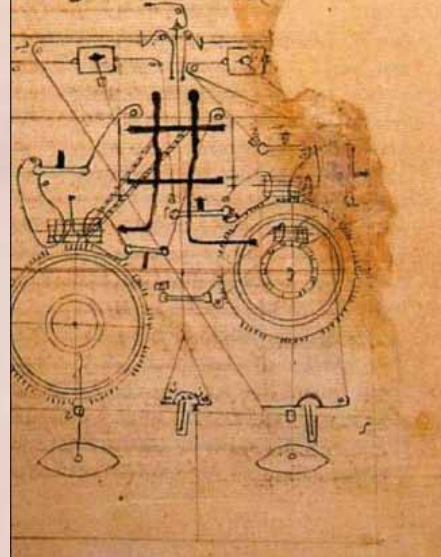
The Islamic world's scientists worked on innovations and inventions to make things easier in the various fields of agriculture, construction and astrology. The pivot of all their innovations was how to exert the least effort while generating greater power. Such inventions conformed to what we now call the green environment through "tricks". Yes, the very word used by the inventors and scholars of this civilization, as evidenced in many books written by the greatest Islamic scientists. Such "tricks" were used in a beneficial way. It's what we call now mechanical engineering. Islamic world scientists used this expression, as their inventions were similar to surreal magic when it was infact a pure science. These inventions were unprecedented to any other culture or nation at the time.

For example, the tricks used in mechanical

engineering were based on Archimedean theories of hydropower relying on displacement – like the catapult, and the use of water to generate power. Unprecedented, their inventions seemed akin to magic though they were purely scientific – and hence the term "tricks".

The Abbasid Caliph Harun al-Rashid (d.809 AD) sent various gifts and offerings to Charlemagne (d.814 AD), one of which was a clock that marked the hour by a number of knight puppets who would emerge from small doors and drop a number of iron balls according to the marked hour. Charlemagne thought it was magic, when in fact it was just another water clock. Although other nations of the time considered such devices luxurious, the idea behind each one of them has become indispensable to our everyday uses. Moreover, this infamous story assures that the Islamic world excelled in automata machines that inspired European scientists in their medieval and even industrial periods.

The innovated mechanical devices were based on Archimedean theories of hydropower. Archimedes was a Greek mathematician and inventor from ancient Greece of the 3rd century BCE, and his research was based on the theory of displacement. Of the many theories developed, he had invented the catapult, and ways of using water to generate power.



The Abbasid Caliph al-Ma'moun, who ruled from 813 till 823 AD, established Bayt al-Hikma or "House of Wisdom" in Baghdad, in order to translate all classic codices and manuscripts written in Greek, Assyrian and Sanskrit into Arabic and to increase the opportunities for innovations and creativity after assimilating the achievement of previous civilizations. The House of Wisdom is where those achievements were preserved. Space constraints dictate that we only mention just a few of the great scientists belonging to the Islamic civilization, and a sample of their "tricks".

Banu Musa Ben Shaker (sons of Musa Ben Shaker) Mohamed, Ahmed and Hassan were three brothers supported by al-Ma'moun who made a great contribution to the House of Wisdom in the fields of engineering, astronomy, earthly sciences, geometry and literary translation. Their 9th century book, titled "كتاب الحيل" or The Book of Ingenious Devices, contains illustrated descriptions of 100 tricks. Translated into English in 1979 by the British engineer and historian of Islamic technology, Donald Hill, one trick described was of an oil lamp with self-trimming/self-feeding abilities that adjusts the wick and fills oil on its own.

Another device, "The Trick Vessel", could be filled with two liquids. Once shaken, it pours out the first liquid from its outlet, once shaken again it pours out the second liquid, and the last shake pours out a mixture of the two liquids. They wrote of a statue that pours hot and cold water, which we use today with an electric heater for the hot water, known as the 'water tap'. They also made an ingenious machine that dredges up submerged objects from streams and rivers. All these devices and many more are mentioned in detail in their book.

As for the secrets of the Islamic World, or to be more precise, al-Muradi's secrets, they were not revealed until Donald Hill published his paper on Islamic technology and mentioned al-Muradi's book titled "الأسرار في نتائج الأفكار" or "The Secrets about the Results of Thoughts."

Ibn Khalaf al-Muradi, from Andalusia, wrote one of the earliest manuscripts about water clocks and automata in the 11th century in Cordoba containing models of 31 mechanical devices, 19 of which are clocks. The manuscript was disfigured, requiring extensive work to decipher the complex device details, to complete, and



mechanical engineering as a craftsman for the Artuqid Dynasty (rulers of the temporary Kurdish state).

Without the implementation of specific theories, he followed a trial and error technique, leading to the writing of his book "الجامع بين العلم والعمل النافع في صناعة الحيل" or "A Compendium on the Theory and Practice of the Mechanical Arts, in 1206 AD, about which George Sarton thus comments: "This treatise is the most elaborate of its kind and may be considered the climax of this line of Muslim achievement."

The book, encompassing the description of 50 devices functioning without the need for either electricity or oil combustion, was translated into English by Donald Hill in 1974, giving it the title of The Book of Knowledge on Mechanical Devices. "Until modern times, there is no other document, from any cultural area, that provides a comparable wealth of instructions for the design, manufacture and assembly of machines," states Donald Hill.

Historians believe that al-Jazari's pumps were the first step towards steam engines. Among his ingenious designs, Al-Jazari created the waterwheel functioning with hydropower instead of manual or animal labor; a musical band robot to entertain guests in royal parties; fountains that automatically changed shape after a specified period of time; automatic gates; a servant robot that poured water and helped with prayer ablutions with a bird that whistled as a call to prayer.

Particularly impressive in the study of the Islamic scientific achievements is the awareness of multiculturalism stretching from the Indian subcontinent to the Atlantic Ocean and from Nice to the southern Berber regions. The Islamic scientists' contribution to technology added a strikingly practical aspect to the existing theories and inventions already existed prior to their civilization.

sometimes even guess its missing parts. A group of Italian researchers called Leonardo3 managed to revive the manuscript and interpret most of the descriptions using advanced 3D imaging techniques. They developed the project at the Qatar Museum of Islamic Art, as an exhibition to reconstruct the described models and showcase them as art. While the original manuscript resides at the Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana in Florence, facsimile and digital versions, along with virtual reconstructions of some of al-Muradi's tricks, are displayed at The Museum of Islamic Art.

Leonardo3 constructed two devices: "The Fortress Demolisher" and "The Clock with Three Characters". The manuscript describes the "Cordoba Mosque Qur'an Holder", where the holder and Qur'an are placed on a mobile shelf enclosed in a box. When the box key is turned, it opens moving the shelf out and setting the Qur'an on the holder without the physical touch of a human being.

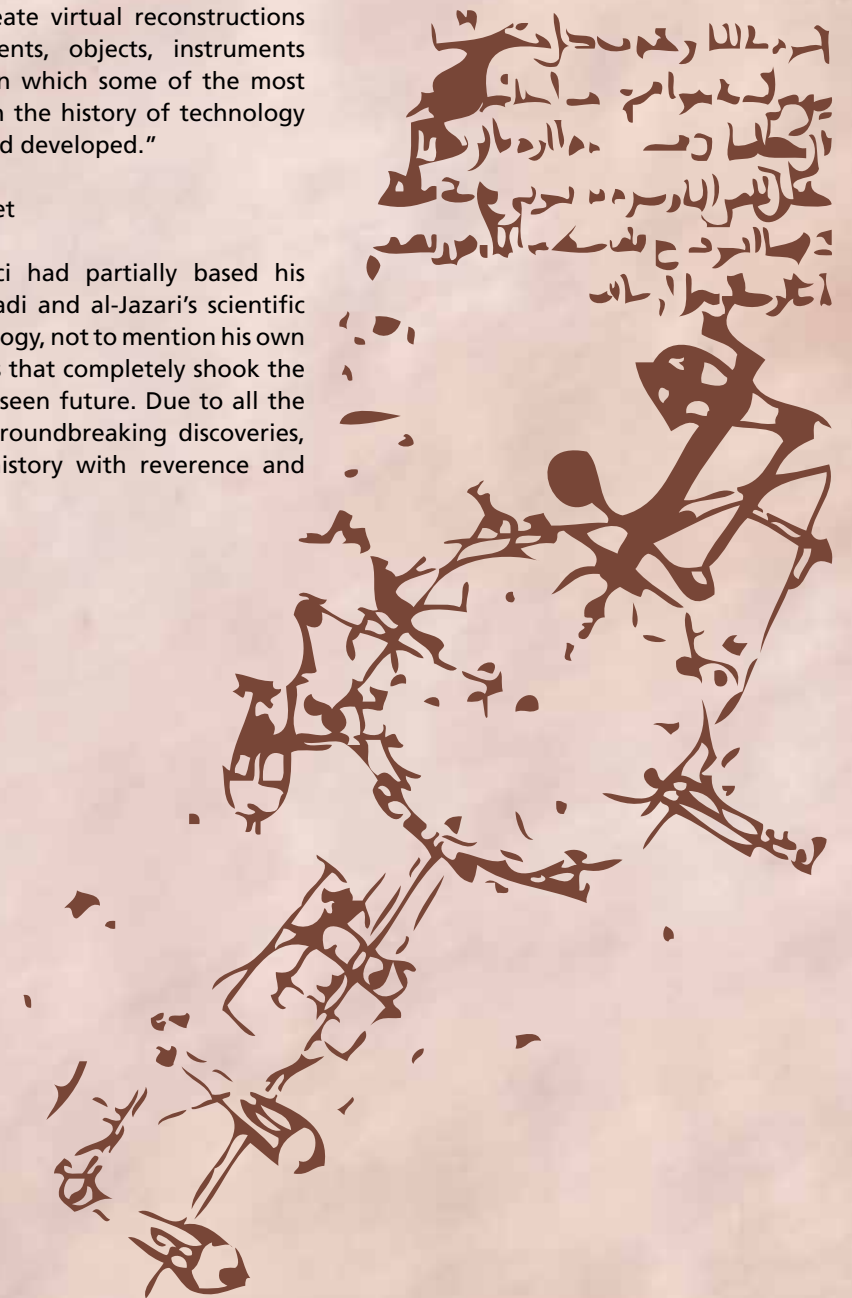
Badi' al-Zaman Ibn al-Razzar al-Jazari was a Kurd from Central Asia. Born in Diyarbakir (now Turkey), he began his journey in

The best civilizations are those that pay credit to their predecessors and capitalize on their heritage, for the welfare of the human race. The Islamic world capitalized on the ancient civilizations of the Egyptians and the Greco-Roman among many others -- and that is the Leonardo3 Italian Research Center's aim:

"The Leonardo3 project is based around the central figure of Leonardo da Vinci. Its intention is to create virtual reconstructions of the environments, objects, instruments and laboratories in which some of the most significant ideas in the history of technology were conceived and developed."

www.leonardo3.net

Leonardo da Vinci had partially based his studies on al-Muradi and al-Jazari's scientific heritage in technology, not to mention his own original inventions that completely shook the grounds of the unseen future. Due to all the aforementioned groundbreaking discoveries, we look at our history with reverence and gratitude.



لن تكون هذه القناة مجرد استرجاع أو معايشة لزمن جميل مضى وإنما من الممكن الاستفادة منها على الصعيد العلمي والعملى معًا. فهي تعتبر مدخلا من مدخلات كثير من الأبحاث والتحليلات. إالى يجيلك باه فى ماتش من دول ويقول ”إحنا لو كنا نزلنا اللعيب الفلانى كنا عملنا شغل زى الفل وخلصنا على الماتش من أول دقيقة“ سيتمكن هؤلاء من متابعة التطورات التى طرأت على فرقنا فى مختلف الألعاب طوال الخمسين عاما المنصرمة والخروج بخطط مبتكرة تجمع بين الحديث والأصيل، أعتبرها أيضًا مادة خصبة لعلماء النفس والاجتماع لكى يحلوا التركيبة المكونة للشخصية المصرية على مدار هذه الفترة وبالتالي معالجة الاضطرابات التى نعانيها حاليا، تناولنا للقضايا الفكرية والسياسية آن ذاك ستمكننا من إجراء قراءة حية للتاريخ وبالتالي الوصول إلى قرارات معتبرة فى طياتها الدروس المستفادة من هذه الحقبة.

أكاد أتفيس عطر هذا الزمان الآن وأنا أشاهد فقرات هذه القناة، أنا ممتنه للتلفزيون الذى رافقنى أثناء فترة الثمانينات، فانا من الجيل الذى نشأ على مشاهدة بقلظ وماما نجوى، لقد شارك بقلظ أهلى فى تربيته، ودهشت عندما علمت أنه كان يعرض منذ السبعينات، أى أنه ساهم فى تشكيل أجيال عدة وليس جيلا واحدا كما كنت اعتقد. لقد كانت برامج الأطفال فى بدايات التلفزيون أكثر تأثيرًا مما هى عليه الآن. ومن لم يشاهد منكم كل ذلك فليتابع فقرات القناة المعروضة والتى ستبين لكم الجو العام الذى عاشه أهلكم والذى استقوا منه قيمهم وربما ساعد على ظهور بعض أخطائهم وربما سيوجب على بعض أسئلتكم ”هو بابا وماما يفكروا كده ليه؟“

سيتم عرض القناة حتى شهر رمضان ليتوقف خلاله ثم يستأنف بعد انتهاء الشهر الكريم. وحدثنى نفسى أن رمضان قد أتى هذا العام مبكرًا ثلاثة أسابيع مع بداية بث قناة التلفزيون العربى، لأنها أضفت على نفسى إحساس الترابط والتآلف الذى كنت أستشعره عندما كنت أشاهد برامج رمضان قديمًا.

إنها بالفعل آلة الزمان التى ستطير بكم لتريكم أحداث خمسة عشر عاما بدايةً من عام ١٩٦٠ لتلمسوا بانفسكم حالة الوفاء والترابط بين رواد هذا الصرح لكى يقدموا لنا أجمل إبداعاتهم. ستشهدون بالفعل جواً من الروقان.



رانا صلاح تأتيكم بآلة الزمان

فى صيف ٢٠١٠



ماذا سيكون شعوركم عند رؤيتكم لأى مادة إعلامية قديمة، والتى تعكس جواً من الصفاء والوفاء وإتقان العمل فى الوقت ذاته، أكاد أجزم أنه ينتابكم شعور بالنقاء والراحة يزيل من توترات العصر، وأنكم تستشعرون صدقاً فى التعبير واحتراماً للمشاهد. لذلك سعدت كثيراً بإنشاء قناة التلفزيون العربى بمناسبة مرور خمسين عام على بدء بث التلفزيون بمصر.

هذه القناة ستكون آلة الزمان التى ستطوف بى وبكم بين طيات حقب زمنية ولت وانقضت، ولكنها أقرب الحقب إلى قلبى وأظن إلى قلوب الجميع، فمن منى لا يقول أن برامج رمضان قديمًا كانت أكثر صدقاً وإمتاعاً عن الآن، ومن لم يشهدها فليسأل من عايشها ليعرف مدى تأثيرها رغم بساطتها.





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