



IH CAIRO NEWSLETTER

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A word from the Managing Director

Dear Students,

Welcome to our latest newsletter, the first of this year, of which we hope will keep you updated on our latest news and provide you with vital linguistic and cultural tips. We hope you've been enjoying the Christmas break, with plenty of quality time with family and friends. A very warm welcome to the 2017 academic year, with a special welcome to our new students; we hope you will get the most out of your stay here! Here at IH Cairo we've certainly had a productive first month, launching our 'Survival Arabic' crash course and attending various events, ranging from smoking Cuban cigars with the Cuban embassy, remembering Mahatma Ghandi's death with the Indian embassy and attending the NileTESOL event on English education (yes, we teach English to Egyptians!) at the American University in Cairo. You will be reading more about our past and upcoming events in this newsletter. Moreover, with Valentine's Day falling this month, we have a special focus on phrases and songs about love, to insure you can express your emotions in Arabic as well. Wishing you all the best in your (study) adventures here in Cairo!

Aimen Hassanien.



IH Cairo Launches Crash Course in Survival Arabic

Learning Arabic can be hard and frustrating, especially for those working in high-demanding jobs and trying to settle in. Needless to say that Arabic, as the official language of over 23 countries with more than 400 million native speakers, has a great importance in the world. That makes being able to communicate even more awarding when starting to develop your linguistic skills. However, moving to a country may not always lead to learning the language, especially when you have integrated yourself into an English-speaking bubble. IH Cairo targets busy bees with its new program in Egyptian Colloquial Arabic: an **8-day (20 hrs.) crash course in Survival Arabic**. Scheduled in the evenings, this course can be combined with your professional activities. The creator of this course, Nancy Fahmy Ayoub, tells us about its core focus.



Nancy Fahmy Ayoub

How did you come up with the idea, what will a student learn and how is this course different from your General Egyptian Colloquial Arabic Course?

We wanted to create a course for those who lack enough time to learn the Arabic language in depth. If you are moving to a country where English is not the primary language, even if it is widely spoken in your surrounding circles, it is important that you are able to engage in basic social interactions.



The sooner you start meeting local people, the more quickly you are likely to settle in. Understanding the basics will allow you to meet locals, discuss key things about your new home and assist when shopping. Our survival course teaches you how to exchange personal information such as telephone numbers and your address; complain of illnesses or non-functioning items in an apartment and shop in public markets and grocery stores using money language. It also focuses on the days of the week and adverbs of time and how to ask about places needed for daily needs, along with asking for directions and getting on a taxi. This is all done by using routine verbs in the present tense. The survival Arabic course differs from our general course in that it focuses on learning speaking skills only, not reading and writing. In the general course you will learn the Arabic alphabet and focus on grammar as well. Furthermore, our survival course teaches you about Egyptian culture, so as to avoid any misunderstandings when communicating with Egyptians that do not speak English.



All of that in just 8 days! How is that possible? What is your best study tip?

You do not need to be blessed with 'the language gene,' all it takes is a good teaching and study method! Here at IH Cairo, we use the communicative methodology by setting role-plays and class activities, so as to teach you in a way that helps you memorise. Our class material also includes audio so that the students can listen to activities again at home. My study-advice: surround yourself with the language; let your ears pick up words by listening to Egyptian music or watching Egyptian series. Be in the culture: surround yourself with Egyptians who don't speak English and never be scared to speak in Arabic!

OUR SPECIAL

**EASTER OFFER
IS HERE**

SIGN UP TODAY



**Guarantee a 10% discount on our 2 or 4 weeks, single or combined courses and serviced accommodation!
Courses start on 2nd of April.**



Discussing the hardships of Arabic with the Ambassador of the Philippines!

On the 15th of January, the Cuban Embassy invited IH Cairo for a special cigar connoisseur's Cuban experience at the Nile Ritz- Carlton hotel, with exclusive commemorative cigars, food and live music! It was a lovely event and great to be able to promote the Arabic language among such a crowd!



Attending the NileTESOL conference at AUC.

On the 23rd and 24th of January, IH Cairo attended various lectures and workshops on English Language Teaching. We discussed storytelling, the role of culture in language teaching and the changing role of the teacher with regards to the new demands of 21st century education. It was wonderful to share innovative, inspiring and empowering ideas!



The great Mahatma Gandhi.

On the 30th of January, IH Cairo was invited to remember Mahatma Gandhi's death on Martyr's Day commemoration by the Embassy of India. We were truly honored, as he was an inspiration for us all and we try to run our institute by his saying: 'Education which does not mould character is absolutely worthless.'

Top 10 Phrases Celebrating Cupid's Month

I think of you as more than a friend.
فصحى: أعتبرك أكثر من صديق.
عامية: بأعتبر اننا أكثر من أصحاب.

We were meant to be together.
فصحى: كان مقدرأ لنا أن نكون معاً.
عامية: مكتولبنا نكون مع بعض.

You make me want to be a better man.
فصحى: أنت تجعلي أريد أن أكون رجلاً أفضل.
عامية: أنت تخلييني عايز أبقى واحد أحسن.

I got a crush on you.
فصحى: أنا معجب بك.
عامية: أنا معجب بكى/انا معجبة بيك.

Words can't describe my love for you.
فصحى: لا يمكن الكلمات أن تصف حبي لك.
عامية: مفيش كلام يوصف حبي لك/لكي.

You mean so much to me.
فصحى: أنت تعني الكثير بالنسبة لي.
عامية: أنت بنسبة لي كل حاجة.

Will you be my Valentine?
فصحى: هل يمكنك أن تكون رفيقي في عيد الحب؟
عامية: تقبل تبقى حبيبتي / حبيبي في عيد الحب؟

You are my sunshine, my love.
فصحى: أنت لي شروق الشمس، يا حبي.
عامية: انت نور الشمس حبيبي / حبيبتي.

You are so handsome.
فصحى: أنت جميلة جداً / أنت وسيم جداً.
عامية: أنتي حلوة قوي / نت حلو قوي.

A hundred hearts would be too few to carry all my love for you.
فصحى: مئة قلب لن يكونوا كافيين لحمل حبي لكى.
عامية: مئة قلب مش كافيين لحبي.



Sing a Song!

In light of Valentine's Day this month, we chose the romantic song 'Sabahak' by the Alexandrian underground band 'Massar Egbari', which means 'Compulsory Detour'. The name intends to reflect how society forces people to think and live their lives in a certain way. Massar Egbari mainly sings about social problems and pokes fun at typical social norms and trends. They regularly perform at Cairo Jazz Club, in malls or at art festivals such as in El-Sawy Culturewheel or Darb1718. Crowds go crazy during their concerts! A guaranteed fun night out! Click [here](#) to listen to the song.

Massar
Egbari

مسار أجباري - صباحك

صباحك ضحكة بتسكّر
سعاتي الجاية من يومي
صباحك عين بتختلني
بذوقها الحلو في هدومي

تدوم الضحكة دي و يدوم
وجودك كل أول يوم
لأن الشمس مش بتقوم
حبيبتي قبل ما تقوم

ازاي يا حبيبتي
بتقدر
تبقى الحياة و ما بعدها
تبقى الشوارع كلها

ازاي يا حبيبتي
بتقدر
تبقى المساكن
و الأماكن
والغني

ازاي يا حبيبتي
بتقدر تبقى أنا

Massar Egbari – Your Morning

Your morning is a smile which makes
my day sweeter
Your morning is an eye which
chooses my taste of style in clothes

May this smile last forever
As well as your existence every
morning
Because the sun doesn't even rise
before you wake up, my love

How my love,
Can you be the space between us
Be the life and after life
And even the streets?

How can you be the houses and the
places
And the singing?

How my love
Can you be myself?





IH Cairo Events

Conversation classes: sign up and improve your speaking skills with a teacher! You can agree on a date and time with Mrs. Abeer at registration. Lessons run on a daily basis and a one-hour session costs \$20. It is also possible to book half an hour.

Please note that if you want to book a class with your friends, all should approximately be at the same level.

Organized Trips:

Friday 10th February: Giza Pyramids and Sakkara

Saturday 11th February: Old Cairo

Friday 17th February: Alexandria

Saturday 18th February: Sound and Light Show

Friday 24th February: Cairo Museum and Khan el-Khalili

Saturday 25th February: Islamic Cairo

For more information about the trips schedule, prices and minimum amount of participants, please check our weekly email update.

Other Events this Month



Thursday 26 January – 10 February: The 48th Cairo International Book fair at Fair Grounds in Nasr City – With 670 publishers from 35 different countries Egypt's biggest literature event. This year will host Morocco as a guest of honour and poet Salah Abdel-Sabour as the person of the year. You will find many Arab intellectuals and poets participating!

Thursday 2 February, 6.00 & 8.00 PM: Om Kholthoum Puppet Theatre in El-Sawy Culturewheel – Enjoy beautiful songs of Egypt's internationally famous singer and film actress Om Kholthoum, one of the greatest and most influential Arab singers from the 1920s to the 1970s. She was given the honorific title كوكب الشرق ('Planet of the East') and is arguable the most prominent Arab woman in contemporary history!

Saturday 4 February, 4.00 – 7.00 PM: Cairokee in El-Sawy Culturewheel Another underground band, the name aspired from both the words 'Cairo'

and 'karaoke' which means singing along with Cairo. They are mainly influenced by the works of Pink Floyd and The Beatles. Their concerts definitely guarantee a fun night out!

Wednesday 8 February 1.00 – 2.00 PM: Lecture by Bernard O'Khana at ARCE – Author of The Mosques of Egypt (AUC Press, 2016), discussing Egypt's Islamic architectural heritage.

Sunday 12 February, 4.00 – 7.00 PM: Sculpture for Beginners Workshop at Darb1718 – learn the basics in this fun practical workshop, that runs from the 12th of February to the 22nd of March. You will learn three dimensional sculpting skills, including relief work. Mind you: the first session on the 12th is a free introduction session!

Tuesday 14 February, 8.00 – 10.00 PM: Valentine's Concert at the Cairo Opera House – Take your loved one on a date and enjoy songs of the beautiful talente pianist Pascale Rozier!