



## Akira and Meki in Cairo

Dr. Mohamed Abou El-khir

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At Cairo airport, the Japanese plane landed with Meki and Akira. They were welcomed by Adam and Robo, who are members of the “Japan-Egypt Friendship Association”. The association aims to make culture exchange between the two countries. It is also a bridge to love and peace.

Adam and Robo said: Welcome to your country, Egypt.

Akira said: Thank you, how beautiful this trip was. Wow, I dreamed to visit Cairo.

Meki said: I have read a lot about Egypt, and its civilization.

Adam said: thank you. However, now we must exit the airport and then go directly to the hotel.



They arrived at the hotel in downtown Cairo to be close to the places which will be visited. Robo went to put the bags in the room and returned to the reception of the hotel. He found Akira had given a gift to Adam.

Meki said: Please, this gift from Japan "Osaka Castle with Sakura Blossoms," and in Arabic, Cherry Blossoms.

Adam said: Thank you for this attractive gift, which reminds me of the Japanese love for nature, especially the art of flower "Ikebana". It aims to arrange flowers, the consistency of their colors and the container in which they are placed, as well as the place around them.

Akira said: Thank you.

Adam said: As I promised you that we will visit historical places in Cairo, so tomorrow, we will start the program at 8 o'clock.

Robo said: we will leave you for dinner, and we'll meet tomorrow.



Meki said: How beautiful is this castle! How magnificent are these high minarets in their organization?!

Robo said: The Citadel of Saladin was built on top of the Mokattam hills in 572 AH / 1176 AD.

Adam said: It is a model of the Arab architecture because of its distinguished position, thick walls, strong gates, and high towers. It was a symbol of war power in the Middle Ages.

Akira said: The views from here are wonderful and allow visitors to see the amazing views of Cairo.

Robo said: The Citadel witnessed difficulties during various historical events in the Ayyubid, Mamluk eras, and the French campaign in 1798 AD, but it remained solid.

Adam said: We are proud of it, and that is why it has been restored and preserved, because it is the heritage of Egypt and the world.



Inside the castle, they visited Al-Gawhara Palace, which is decorated with Ottoman motifs, colors, and engravings, and it has a watch hall that includes a collection of rare clocks with their creative shapes. Outside the castle, they saw Muhammad Ali Mosque, and stood in the courtyard of the mosque, enjoying the fresh air and the bright sun.

Robo said: Muhammad Ali Pasha built this mosque between 1830 to 1848 AD in the Ottoman style.

Adam said: It is sometimes called the Alabaster Mosque because of the frequent use of this type of Alabaster in its walls.

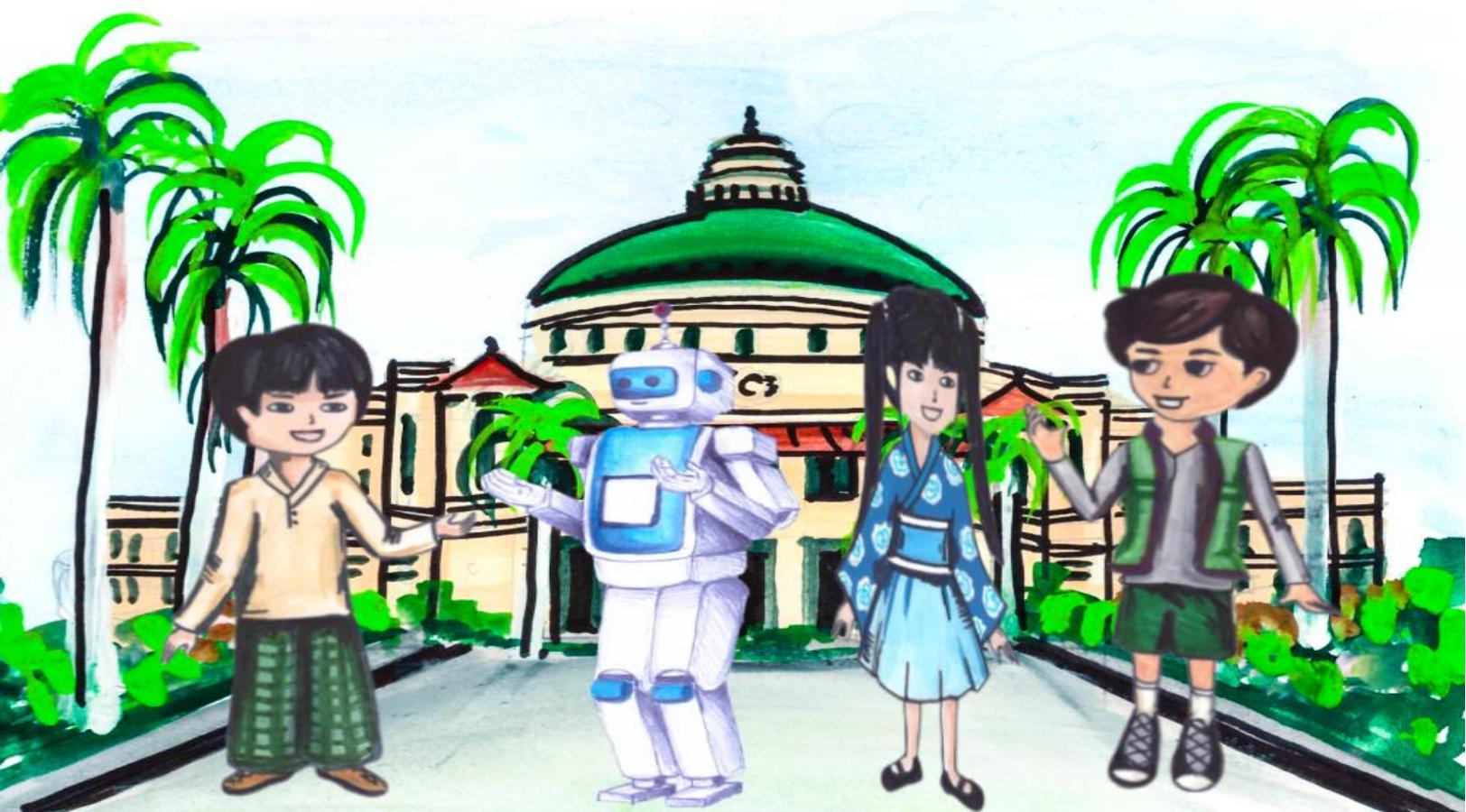


On the tour of the Nile River, Akira and Meki saw the sailboats swimming in the water and fluttering with joy. On the horizon, the Cairo Tower is lofty, and luxurious hotels and modern buildings are on both sides of the river.

Meki said: Oh, how wonderful this bright sun and lovely air! You are lucky with this natural environment in Egypt, Adam. You have to conserve this river.

Akira said: I have read in my history schoolbook that “God Hapi symbolizes the Nile River, and it means life and goodness, and whoever pollutes the water of the Nile will be suffered with the anger of God.”

Adam said: Yes, it is true. That is why I am a member of the "Nile Lovers Association". we are doing many activities such as lectures, articles through net, beach cleaning... to preserve this great river, which is one of the longest rivers in the world.



In front of the Dome Cairo University, Adam said: We are in Cairo University, which is the second oldest Egyptian universities after Al-Azhar University and the third in the Arab world after the The university of Al-Qarawiyyinin in Morocco.

Robo said: International personalities were graduated from it such as novelist Naguib Mahfouz, who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1988, and Dr. Majdi Yacoub, the international heart surgeon who won the title of "Sir" from the Queen of England, and Dr. Boutros Boutros Ghali, the sixth Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Meki said: And also, Yuriko Koike, Tokyo's Governor, was graduated from the Faculty of Arts, and she mentioned on a Japanese TV that she appreciated her study in Egypt.

Akira said: I am happy to visit Cairo University where students from different countries of the world come to receive an education. Society does not develop without knowledge.



The next morning, they reached the three pyramids of Giza, Khufu, Khafre and Menkaure. The place is crowded with tourist groups from different countries. Akira and Meki were delighted to be next to one of the wonders of the world.

Meki said in astonishment: What a magnificence, this is where the imagination stops in front of these pyramids that defy time. Despite scientific progress, no one knows the secret of how the pyramids were built yet.

Akira said: This creativity reminds me of the Great Wall of China.

Robo said: This is not strange to civilizations like China and Egypt, because they believed in building mankind through the values of knowledge, peace, and beauty.



Meki said: The Sphinx, the keeper of the pyramids, and one of the largest and oldest statues in the world, what a mythical being!

Robo said: The Great Sphinx was built around 2500 BC during the reign of King Khafre, the builder of the second pyramid.

Akira said: But Adam, why is the Sphinx the head of a human being and the body of a lion?

Adam said: It is a symbol of wisdom and strength, not only that, but the pyramids and the Sphinx are related to the sciences of engineering, mathematics, nature, and astronomy that the scholars of ancient Egypt excelled in.

Meki said: That's right, it was the first university in history to be the Aon University in Thebes.



In the hall of King Tutankhamun - Egyptian Museum - everyone stood amazed in front of the mask of the most famous king of the Pharaohs. Akira said: The life of this king was mysterious, which made stories, films and video games searching for the mystery of that pharaoh and trying to answer many questions about the history of his life.

Adam said: the British scientist Howard Carter in 1923 discovered the tomb in King's Valley in Luxor. The most beautiful thing, gilded coffins, berries mummy, masks, necklaces and rings, throne chair, chariot, and other items of everyday life were completed.

Robo said: It is surprising that in 2010, through DNA tests, it was found that Tutankhamun was the son of King Akhenaten.



In the evening, they went to Children's Theater, where everyone enjoyed the songs and acting of the play "Zizo Digital", which discusses the conflict between robots and the human world.

What an idea about the reality of our world, Robo said whispered, but why conflict, let us be complementary, so that we can develop life together for the better.

Meki said smiling: I agree with you, Robo, for life progresses is cooperation, but for whom is this picture that the actor carries?

Adam said: It is for the Egyptian scientist dr. Ahmed Zewail, who won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1999, for discovering new interactions inside the atom. It is an honorable model for students.



At Cairo Airport, Adam and Robo wished their friends Micky and Akira a pleasant trip to the homeland.

Meki said: The time has passed quickly.

Akira said: This is how the good time passes.

Adam said: We were happy with you, and I hope that there will be another opportunity to visit Egypt.

Akira said: We will return because, as you say, “Who drinks from the Nile water, will return to it.” Yes, we will return to see your beautiful country, the country of civilization and peace.