
II. The Future Lies in Eurasia

EIR-Arabic Concludes Successful Week of Action in Egypt

CAIRO, March 20—*EIR*'s southwest Asia specialist and Arabic editor, Hussein Askary, has concluded a very successful one-week trip to Egypt to launch and promote the Arabic translation of *EIR*'s Special Report [*The New Silk Road Becomes the World Land-Bridge*](#), and the ideas within the report. The report and the presentations made by Askary were enthusiastically welcomed by top government officials, economists, and media.

The high point of this intervention was the very high-level and well attended launching of the report under the auspices of the Egyptian Ministry of Transport in a seminar on March 17 at the headquarters of the Ministry, presided over and introduced by Minister Saad El-Geyoushi personally.

Another high point was the reception accorded to Askary on March 20 by the Chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, Admiral Mohab Mamish, the man who oversaw the breathtaking building of the New Suez Canal. Mamish received Askary at his office in Ismailia, located right on the Suez Canal, and attentively listened to a detailed brief-

ing on the importance of this achievement not only for Egypt's economy, but also for the region and the global economy too, if it is utilized as a development zone and hub for the development corridors stretching from China through southwest Asia to Africa, and also as part of the Maritime Silk Road.

Askary's meeting with Mamish, in which the latter received a gift copy of the report, was preceded by a presentation to the team working under Engineer Nagy Ahmed Amin, Director of the Planning, Research, and Studies Department at the Suez Canal Authority. Askary was later offered a private guided boat tour of the New Suez Canal.

At the launching seminar, Transportation Minister Dr. Saad El-Geyoushi personally presented Askary, as the southwest Asia specialist in *EIR* and representative of the Schiller Institute. In both his introductory remarks and commentary on Askary's presentation, Dr. El-Geyoushi expressed total concordance with the idea of the New Silk Road, and his government's plans to integrate Egypt's transportation networks into the



Hussein Askary

Chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, Admiral Mohab Mamish (left), in his office with Hussein Askary.



Transportation Minister Dr. Saad El-Geyoushi

Transportation Minister Dr. Saad El-Geyoushi (left) and Hussein Askary at seminar at the Transportation Ministry.

New Silk Road dynamic. He also took the opportunity to announce that the Egyptian government is intending to invest one trillion Egyptian Pounds (\$100 billion) in roads and railways, not only to develop Egypt's transportation network, but also to connect Egypt to Asia and most importantly to Africa to its south, in a 50,000 km network.

The packed hall at the Ministry included top experts and advisors of the ministry and other institutions, and several Egyptian TV and newspapers. Interestingly, the Chinese Arabic TV channel CCTV-Arabic, was present and taped an interview with Askary. Two other TV channels also interviewed Askary.



Hussein Askary

Hussein Askary (right) presents former Egyptian Prime Minister Esam Sharaf with a copy of the Arabic language version of the Land-Bridge Report. Sharaf had just returned from a long visit to China, and said that the New Silk Road-style projects are "development corridors that can transform all societies" that the projects reach.

Sharaf's Evaluation

Two other seminars were organized, one by the Egyptian Society of Engineers (founded in 1920), and another at the Cairo Great Library, which was attended by former Egyptian Prime Minister Dr. Esam Sharaf (also a former Minister of Transport in several Egyptian governments), who was the main commentator on Askary's presentation of the New Silk Road concept. Sharaf expressed his agreement with not only the economic and scientific aspects of the presentation and the report, of which he received a copy, but also with the political, strategic, and cultural aspects too.

He stated that he had just returned from a long visit to China, and that he deeply believed that the New Silk Road is the foundation of “a new and more humane world order, unlike the current order which has degraded human existence and dignity.” He also emphasized the point raised in the report, that the New Silk Road and any other such projects “are not mere trade routes, but development corridors that can transform all societies that they reach and the nations that decide to participate in them.” He highly recommended that the current Egyptian government take this project seriously and integrate it in its developmental plans and visions. Sharaf expressed his gratitude to *EIR* and the LaRouches personally. He said he has taken note of their ideas and activities for a long time.

In addition to these events, Askary was invited to three TV shows (CBC Extra, Nile Cultural TV, and Nahdha TV) to present the report and the “New World Order” it represents.

The events taking place this week and all the discussions and debates that followed, clearly indicate that the

idea of the New Silk Road and World Land-bridge, and the utilization of them for the development of Egypt, the Arab world, and Africa, is regarded as a way to save the Egyptian economy, which has been suffering the terrible consequences of submitting to the trans-Atlantic system and its institutions such as the World Bank and IMF.

Egypt is still suffering economically and socially. In addition, its security situation has been worsened by NATO’s unleashing of the jihadist terrorist hordes in the region. The urgent demands of the people for reform and betterment of living conditions is pushing President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and his Prime Minister to resort at times to crisis-management policies.

At the moment of the writing of this report, the Egyptian government is facing a new reshuffling, with eight ministers reportedly being replaced. But the clarity of vision regarding the solutions to this crisis and the resilience and determination shown by the Egyptian people and its leadership represent a great hope for this nation and the region.

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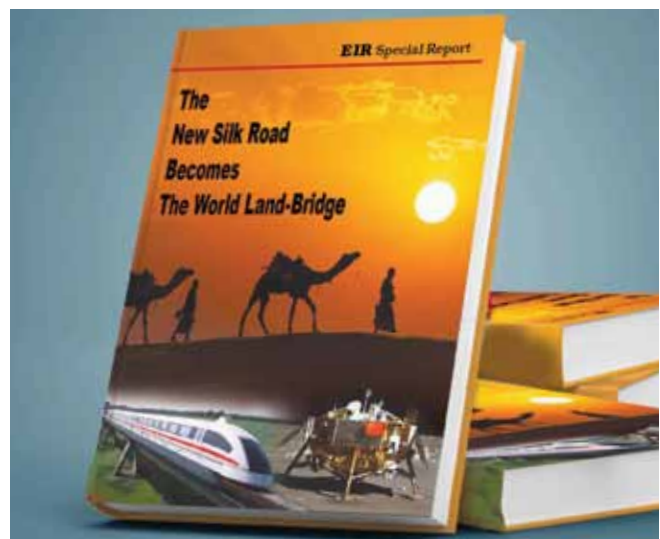
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