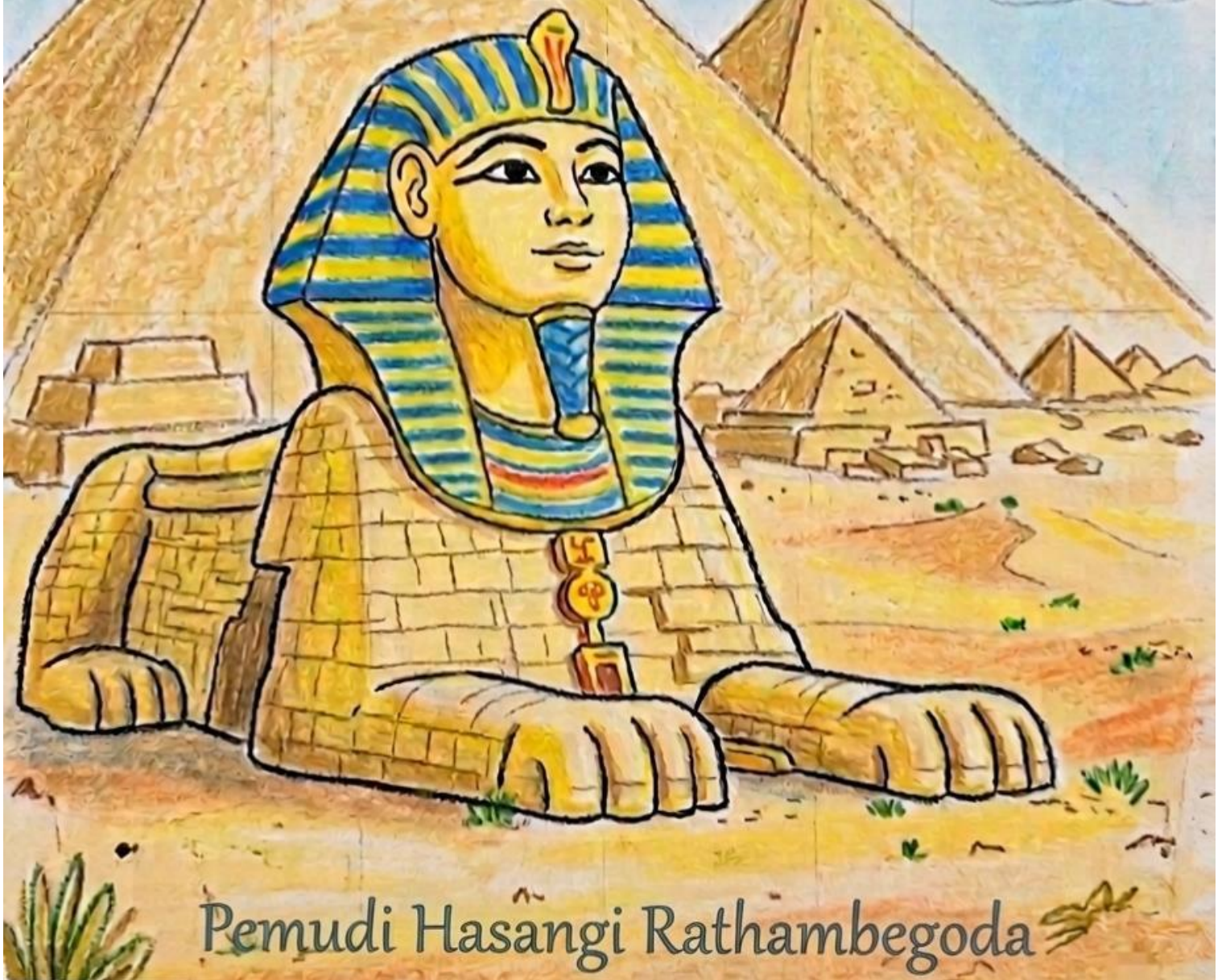


My Journey To Egypt



Pemudi Hasangi Rathambegoda

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Author

Author's other publications

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Mahamaya Girls' College Kandy

Grade 7-F

2026/05/10

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Dedication

To my beloved parents and
teachers...

To my loving mother and father,
who opened my eyes to see the
world,

And to my dear teachers, who
taught me to read life and
illuminated the path I walked,

I dedicate this book with
immense devotion and respect.



Foreword

In an increasingly complex global future, the "Hemamala Upahara" book project, led by Mahamaya Girls' College, stands as a turning point in girls' education. Over a decade, it has successfully nurtured thousands of children to become young authors.

This year, by collaborating with other schools, we aimed to provide students with a wealth of new experiences. The goal was to develop multi-faceted skills, including communication, values, and creative growth. As a result, children have written books that pay tribute to Princess Hemamala, who brought the Sacred Tooth Relic—the supreme symbol of the Buddhist world—to the Hill Country (Kandy).

I extend my gratitude to everyone involved, including the students who contributed their creativity and the teachers who guided them.

Shashikala Senadhira

Principal

Mahamaya Girls' College

Congratulatory Message

It is a great honor for me, as the Governor of the Central Province, to send a congratulatory message for the launch of the books created through the Hemamala Tribute Book Creation Project initiated by Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy.

Education is the fundamental foundation for the progress of society, and it is further strengthened through books and literary creations. It is clearly commendable that students' talents, creativity, and intellectual abilities are emerging through projects such as this.

I believe that this book creation project will provide valuable knowledge and a precious literary contribution not only to the students but to the entire society. Furthermore, I hope that through such efforts, future writers who will bring pride to Sri Lanka will emerge.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation and blessings to the Principal, the academic staff, the students, and everyone involved who dedicated themselves to this successful endeavor. I wish this project and the book launch ceremony great success.

Sarath B.S. Abeykoon

Governor, Central Province

Emeritus Professor, University of Peradeniya

2026-05-10

Congratulatory Message

I highly appreciate the noble and outstanding effort of the Principal and the academic staff of Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy, the student daughters, the students of other participating schools, and everyone who dedicated themselves to plan and implement this book publication project. The project was organized under the leadership of Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy, with the participation of other schools in the Kandy Zone, with the aim of encouraging children toward book creation within the current school system, as a tribute to Hemamala Kumariya who brought the Sacred Tooth Relic to Sri Lanka.

For several decades, Sri Lanka has been committed to providing free, compulsory, quality, and equitable education to all children, thereby producing a future generation of intelligent and skilled citizens. In such a context, this book creation program for school children helps develop creative ability, critical thinking, and other positive qualities for a balanced and well-rounded personality, and contributes to building a future knowledge-based society.

May all activities of the Hemamala Tribute Book Creation Project be successful through the blessings of the Sacred Tooth Relic.

Pradeep Nilanga Dela

Diyawadana Nilame,

Sri Dalada Maligawa.

2026.05.10.

Hi I am archaeologist.

Well still not an archaeologist. I am training to be a archaeologist these days.

So as we learn there is a lesson that we have to go for a Nadar country. To learn about their cultures and their history.

We have to be group and pick a country. My team has 10 members including me.

We choose to go to Egypt because they are many things to learn about there cultures and their traditions and history about Egypt and many ancient items and pyramids and many other things.

First we got tickets to airplane.

In 2025 April 5 was our first day to go to Egypt. We went to the airport and we got on the plane. Our flight was at 10 o'clock in the morning. And the flight begins to go it was a 9 our flight.



We landed on Egypt and the time is 7:30 .

When we got out from the airport we were too tired to travel on the night. So we got a hotel to stay it was very beautiful we could almost see the pyramid of Giza from our hotel.

It was not an actually a hotel it was like and house it was like and cottages.

We brought something to eat. And we all get the around on the front porch and set there and eat noodles .it was very tasty.

We got them from the city of Egypt .We also got a guide to help us to travel.

We got good night sleep.

Then we walk up in the morning it was 6:00 a.m. in the morning.

We drunk tea and we had our breakfast .

It was pancakes and waffles with honey and blueberries .it was delicious.

Then we started to travel .we went on and Jeep With our guide and the driver and my group.



The guide set some facts about Egypt. He said Egypt is a transcontinental country linking northeast Africa with Middle via the Sinai peninsula is renowned as the arable of one of the world's civilizations.

The guide said we are going to see the most famous places in Egypt and other places also .the main things are iconic pyramid of Giza , the sphinx ,and luxurious Nile Cruise and luxor , Aswam and Abu symbol Temple and also mummies, Nile river, Karnak Temple.

First we went to see the mummies. Egyptian mummies were created through a 70 days embalming process designed preserve bodies for the afterlife and the guides said we need to find out by ourselves how this mummies were made? It was quite easy and hard also but we could manage it .and find out the answer. Our answers were correct. I am going to tell the actually the correct is answer.

this is how you say the answer and this is the correct answer key steps included removing internal organs, drying the body with natural salt for 40 days, staffing it for shape and wrapping it with hundreds



of yards of line bandages coated with protective they also apply oil and perfume that's the method of making a mummy the correct way .

Then we went to the Great Pyramid of Giza the time was 12:00 p.m. the pyramids were crowded with people the pyramids was so big these are some facts about pyramids. The guide said the pyramids of Giza were located on the outskirts of Giza, Egypt , are ancient , 4,500 years old royal tombs for built for pharaohs Khufu, Khafre and Menkaure during the 4th dynasty it was built around 2560 BCE. Then there was a great opportunity to me and my group we got a chance to go inside the Great Pyramid of Giza but there was a problem because there are many people in the morning but when it came to lunch time people got less as this was very secret mission to go inside to the pyramids so no one can't see where are we going in to the pyramid as people got less we went inside the Great Pyramid of Giza the way to go was very small we couldn't take pictures or video clips it was very hard to go through the small space my backbone was hurting it was a long walk around the pyramids as we saw the King's chamber (holding a red granite sarcophagus) Queen's chamber , a grand gallery and subterranean



chambers they are currently empty as they were 100 ten in ancient times.

(the height of the pyramids)

. Great Pyramid of khufu = originally 146.6 m (481 ft) currently now 136.5 m = 138.8 m(454 ft= 455 ft)

. Pyramid of khafre = originally 143.5 m (471 ft),currently now 136.4m (448 ft)

. Pyramid of Menkaure = originally 65.5m(215ft),currently now 61m=62m(200ft=203ft)

The pyramids were made using millions of limestone and Granite blocks, likely moved on sledges by a highly organized permanent workforce of 20000= 30000 skilled workers , rather than slaves but today the pyramids are iconic , durable ruins missing their polished white limestone casing , surrounded by their suburban sprawl of Cairo ,subject to on-going preservation . To find out about the length the height it took some time because as an archaeologist we need to find out everything by our self that make us a good archaeologist I am so happy about finding out everything by myself because I know I am genius now the time with 6:45 p.m. it



was getting darker we went to the hotel we have some food left because we went to the market yesterday there was some steam vegetables some noodles and a Pizza and Coca-Cola it was enough for the 10 of US we sing songs we watched the beauty of the pyramids from our back porch and the beauty of the sky we found out many star design it was and fun night as the time was 10 o'clock we went to bed and had a good night sleep hoping tomorrow will be a nice and fun day like today and find out many things like we did about the periods.

OMG! It's already morning it was 7 7:10 a.m. in the morning exam out of the bed and one to brush my teeth and wash my face we got breakfast we got serial and milk and an orange juice and some fruit to health. Because yesterday we couldn't have lunch so we are packing lunch for just in case we packed yellow rice, chicken, vegetable salad then we went to the sphinx in Egypt . The Great sphinx is a massive 4,500 years old limestone statue in Egypt featuring a lion's body and a human dead (likely pharaoh khafre), measuring 240 ft loan and 66 ft height. I wonder why the sphinx was so special and I asked from the guide why it was so special? He said don't you know I said I couldn't actually remember



he said few work and I could remember again he said and I it is one of the world's most and I could quickly remember why it is so special it is because it is one of the worlds largest and the oldest Monolithic statues. And I ask that again from the guide why it is inspired as a lion and a human? He said search it for yourself it will help you to learn more about the sphinx. We all said yes together as our faces were filled with excited the time was the time was 10:12 a.m. in the morning this could take a while but it's okay we begin to find out why it is inspired by lion and human. Time went like birds we all were finished and it was already lunch time each of use had different answers but somewhere someone I was in the right group my answer is the most clearest answer the guide set this is my answer the Great sphinx of Giza merges a lion body with human head to represent the pharaoh as a divine guardian, combining royal intelligence with untamed strength. And he ask that anyone tell when it was built my friend Jasmine said 2558= 2532 BCE he said good that's great but she added more to the list for pharaoh khafre ,this "living image " was designed to protect the Giza necropolis and embody the sun god Rajorakhty . The guides said ok thank



you. It was 2:35 p.m. it was our lunch time we said there and eat our lunch and we finished eating lunch and there was another task it was we need to find out what happen to the nose of sphinx our faces like what is going on why we have to find everything and one of my friends stand up and said why do we need to find out everything and I said why it is so good to find out from ourselves because that could help use a lot of things he said yes that's right what I was thinking and the guide laugh said why did you laugh and one of my friends said because do you don't know anything about this he said actually not I am also an archaeologist we all were frozen standing without no words he said he once he was also a train for be an archaeologist he also choose Egypt and he also Discover everything by this self it was not a group task it was and self task the all said sorry to the guide and we begin to search what happened to the nose of the sphinx in Egypt. it took us 1 hour we all finished searching the all have different ideas but there were all correct and the guides I will tell you about this one by myself he told us the answer nice and clear this is the answer that he gave use . The late 14th century (1378 AD) by a sufi Muslim named Muhammad saimal - Dahr, who was upset



by local peasants making offerings to the monument and deemed it idolatry Examination show the nose was deliberately troops as popular myth suggest . Then we all said wow and suddenly my other friend Nick said who built it feel all laugh and said don't you know we said his name like 100 time it is Pharaoh Khafre during Egypt old Kingdom. but the fun begins now we have got a chance to go inside the sphinx how cold is that there are four ways to go from the top to the bottom the inside looks like this inside the sphinx of Giza is not hollow but contents small mostly solid carved rocks with a few narrow, sealed shafts and shallow tunnels these include a 27- foot tunnel behind the head, a small, vertical shelf down to a chamber and a now-sealed tunnel on the north side. It was 5 p.m. o'clock

We went to the Nile Cruise it was large very large but so beautiful it is like and house on a boat there were expensive bedrooms expensive food and there are pools , party rooms and other various types of things game room also.

Luxurious Nile Cruise for 2025 offer internet high end experiences with top picks including the Oberoi philae, sanctuary sun boat iii & iv, and the modern



soleil Nile cruise . We are going to stay there for like to one day or two days we can't tell the days that we are going to stay in The Nile Cruise we are going to eat dinner it is 7:10 p.m. we eat dinner this is what we got for dinner we got cheese pasta and fried rice and lobsters and desert we got ice creams and juice and jelly and biscuits it was delicious than we went to sing some songs in the party room we all saw dance and we came back to our rooms and we got sleep it was it was it was 10:15 p.m. we all slept peacefully.

It is morning the time is 6:00 a.m. it was so good sleeping in that Nile Cruise there was an AC so goodness from the heat of the sun it's good to have an AC we got dressed and then we went to eat our breakfast they have prepared lot of things we all eight different things but I eat some something simple I hate some waffles with Blackberry and honey and some fruits and some oats with out milk nice and crispy Yum that was delicious it was 7:00 a.m. we went of to Luxor .

Luxor is located in Southern Egypt. Luxor is a primer destination known as the "world's greatest open Air museum" Built on the ruins of the ancient



capital , Thebes . It houses iconic moments like Karanak temple, Luxor Temple and the valley of the kings and values of the Queens and divided by the Nile in to the “city of the living”(East bank) and "city of the death" (west Bank).

And the guide asks that anyone can tell about the history of Luxor everybody knows about the history of Luxor so I quickly raise my hand. And the guide picks me to say about history of Luxor I said

Luxor is known in antiquity as Thebes was the capital of upper Egypt during the new Kingdom (C.1550 - 1070 BCE) then we went to the Luxor air museum. The time was 10:00 a.m. in the morning.

Write at the air museum it was so big that we couldn't find the entrance there was so many things to see they were all expensive items we begin to go inside the air museum. We came back or from the museum it was 12 o'clock noon. We saw Stunning quartzite structures of Amenhotep iii, Tutankhamen's items and two Royal mummies (Ahomose | , Ramesses |) and the reconstructed Akhenaten temple wall and the cacnette hall and all so mummification tools and animals



Then we went to the Karnak Temple. To get us anyone knows about Karnak temple . Everybody raised hands except my friend Lily. The guide asks from one of our friends she told the correct answer. The answer is Karnak temple in Luxor the largest religions complex ever constructed serving as the centre of worship for the Theban triad (Amun - Ra , Mut and Khonsu) spanning over 200 acres and build over 2000 years, it is renowned for the massive Hypostyle hall , 134 colossal columns and it's Royal as the most select of place the Karnak Temple Complex was not built by one person but rather over 1500 Years by over 30 different pharaohs , starting 2000 BCE in the middle Kingdom and continuing through the Ptolemaic period . Then we went inside we saw the 134- column Great Hypostyle hall the towering obelisk of Hatshepsut and the scenic sacred lake . And it was 2:30.p.m.

Then we went to the kings of Valley

The valley of the kings is a renowned UNESCO world Heritage site near Luxor Egypt where pharaohs of the new Kingdom (1539 - 1075 BCE) were buried in rock - cut tombs . We went inside and we saw over 60 underground tombs of new



pharaohs. It was 4 o'clock and it was our lunch time we got a pizza for eat because it is easy to eat because we have to go to the valley of the Queens which finished eating lunch and then we went to the valley of the queen. Valleys of the Queens is and ancient Egyptian burial site in Thebes were queen , princess and high - ranking officials were buried between 1560 BC and 1130 BC we went inside and there were the exceptionally preserved , high - fee tomb of queen Nafertari (QV 66) , a long side several beautiful decorated tombs Royal Princess. Then there was something that we need to find out from our self it was who built it. I know the correct answer. The answer was. It is Ramess i , who began the necropolis and Ramesses i and Ramesses iii . It was quite along day so we went back to Nile our Cruise it was 7 o'clock at night with took a bath and there we eat dinner we got macarons and chicken it was Yummy. We took a swim in the pool. And again we need to bath it was 10:30 p.m. o'clock we went back to sleep.

He asked do anyone knows about Aswam . As I was a genius I raised my hand. And the guide pick me to say something about Aswam . I said aswam is serene, historic city in southern Egypt on the east



bank of the Nile, famous as the ancient frontier and gateway to Nubia .

Want to see in a swam . The guides said there were the island - based Philae temple the massive unfinished obelisk the comprehensive Nubian museum and the vibrant Nubian villages.

First we went to the Philae temple.

The guide us that anyone knows about the Philae temple.

Actually this time I did not know.

And this time even nobody was raising their hands .

The guide gave us a Weird face that we have melted into the devil. He said good job good job a wonderful job that you did.

We all stare at each other. I wish like
mmmmmmmm.....

The guide said about the Philae temple.

Philae temple is stunning ancient Egyptian temple complex dedicated to the goddess Isis, located on Agilkia Island Aswan.

The guy said. Find out when it was built and who build it?. It was easy because we have learnt it many times. The answer was to when it was built. 332 - 30 BC.

And the answer for who built it was.

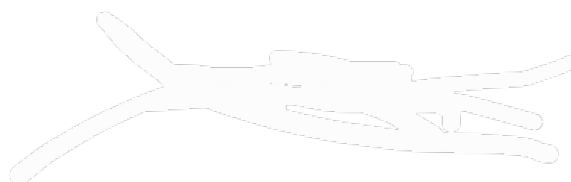
The Ptolemaic kings of Egypt castrating with Ptolemy ii Philadelphia, 285 - 246 BC.

We went to the temple. We sawed

The massive first pylon, the Birth house of Horus the intimate sanctuary of Isis , and the picturesque kiosk of Trajan .

The time was 12 p.m. o clock.

We thought to go to the Unfinished obelisk . So we started to go.



We have arrived at unfinished obelisk . It was 1 o'clock. And the guide said do you know about unfinished obelisk . Well some of us said yes and some of us said no. Then the guide said okay. Then I will say. He said Unfinished obelisk is the largest known ancient Egypt obelisk, designed to stand - 42 meters (138 ft) tall and weigh over 1,200 tons . We all gave him a round of applause . He asks do you know who builder and when it was built. I said I know who build it. Vinuli said I know when it was built. I said first. I said. The person who built it was Queen Hatshepsut. And Vinuli said. It was built over 3,400 years ago (reigned c. 1478 - 1458 BC) . The guide said wonderful job that you have done, We have a ride at the Nubian museum it was 3 .50 o'clock.

The Nubian Museum is a premiere cultural institution inauguration in 1997 to preserve Nubian history and culture , featuring over 3, 000 artefacts spanning form prehistoric time to the modern era.

Who built it was DR. Mahmoud EL - Hakim.

We saw in the museum. A 20,000 year old human skeleton, colossal statues of Ramesses ii and



authentic Nubian village reconstruction and 3,000 arty facts .

It was 6:30 p.m. we were tired then we went to and hotel and we got sleep without eating. We work up at the next morning it was 6.a.m. we brash our teeth and wash our face and we eat breakfast. We ate sandwich and milk.

Today we thought a girl to Nubian and Nubian village .

The history of Nubian.

It history is defined by rich gold deposits , formidable archers , the powerful kingdom of kush and a complex relationship with neighbouring Egypt .and it was built in 744 - 656 BC .

We can see in Nubian the vibrant village, ancient temples and rich desert culture .

First we went to see the vibrant village.

Vibrant village is of fer a striking contrast to the bustling, historic cities , showcasing authentic local culture , bright colour and deep traditions .

We can see the siwa oasis in western desert.



Siwa oasis a remote and breath taking destination 50 km from the Libyan border.

We swim there for like ever I couldn't even go for the beauty. It was so fun I am so happy but also sad today 12 p.m. o'clock we have the flight to go back to Sri Lanka.

Then we went to the Nubian Ancient temples.

The ancient temples are iconic Egyptian monuments built along the Nile river in southern Egypt and northern Egypt .

Then we went to the rich desert culture

The rich desert culture is a vibrant, ancient desert civilizations indigenous to the Nile valley in southern Egypt and northern scuba .

With some activities and they are. taking a motorboat right , going to the colourful villages like gharb soheil , shop for handmade crafts there were so many crafts like hats, bags and many more , enjoy traditional Nubian cultures , riding a camel By The River was the amazing thing I ever did .



We went back to our hotel and pack our bags and we got some rest .

And we eat some dinner .and then we are getting outside and go to the airport.

Then we got into the plane and it was 11 o'clock.

Before we got into the plane. We said goodbye to the driver and the guide that who help the so much.

I was so sad to leave my new friends that I made from the villages and driver and guide.

But what to do and we start going. We all sleep in the plane. Then we landed on Sri Lanka from 9 or 12 hours of flying.

Then we went back to home and talk about everything a moment of the journey that I went.

That journey.is journey to Egypt

The End!..



Afterword

With the approval of the Ministry of Education, this research-based project has empowered thousands of student authors for over ten years. Educationists recognize it as a program that significantly enhances the quality of school education.

In alignment with modern educational reforms, encouraging students to author a research work is a milestone in this journey. In this digital age of "Smart" technology, the modern school must demonstrate through research that books and technology should be used together. This is because the unique joy a child receives from a book cannot be replaced by anything else.

To prevent children from drifting away from books—which remain our primary educational tool and storehouse of human knowledge—Mahamaya Girls' College has spearheaded the "Hemamala Upahara" project for many years. Its primary objectives are to foster academic discipline, promote values, and pay tribute to Princess Hemamala, who fulfilled a historic mission to empower women.

We express our gratitude to the Principal, teachers, parents, alumni of Mahamaya Girls' College, representatives of other schools, the Diyawadana Nilame, and the staff of the Sri Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic) for their support.

Seneviratne Mahalekam

(Project Creator)

