

"This little world, the great Cairo ... the most admirable and the greatest city seen upon the earth ... the Microcosmus of the greater world ..."
William Lithgow, 1614.

Founded on the site of Babylon, near the ruins of ancient Memphis, Cairo has been the largest city in Africa for centuries. Modern Cairo encompasses many former cities and their monuments; the pyramids of the pharaohs; early Christian monasteries and churches; Salah al-Din's Citadel; mosques of the Mamluke and Ottoman sultans. Five thousand years of culture are concentrated here, at the centre of three continents.

Egyptian Civilization and Culture

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south, the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez to the east, Palestine and Israel to the northeast and Libya to the west, between latitudes 22

Deg and 32 Deg north, longitudes 24 Deg and 27 Deg east. The Mediterranean coastal line is 995 km long and the Red Sea coast is 1941 km.

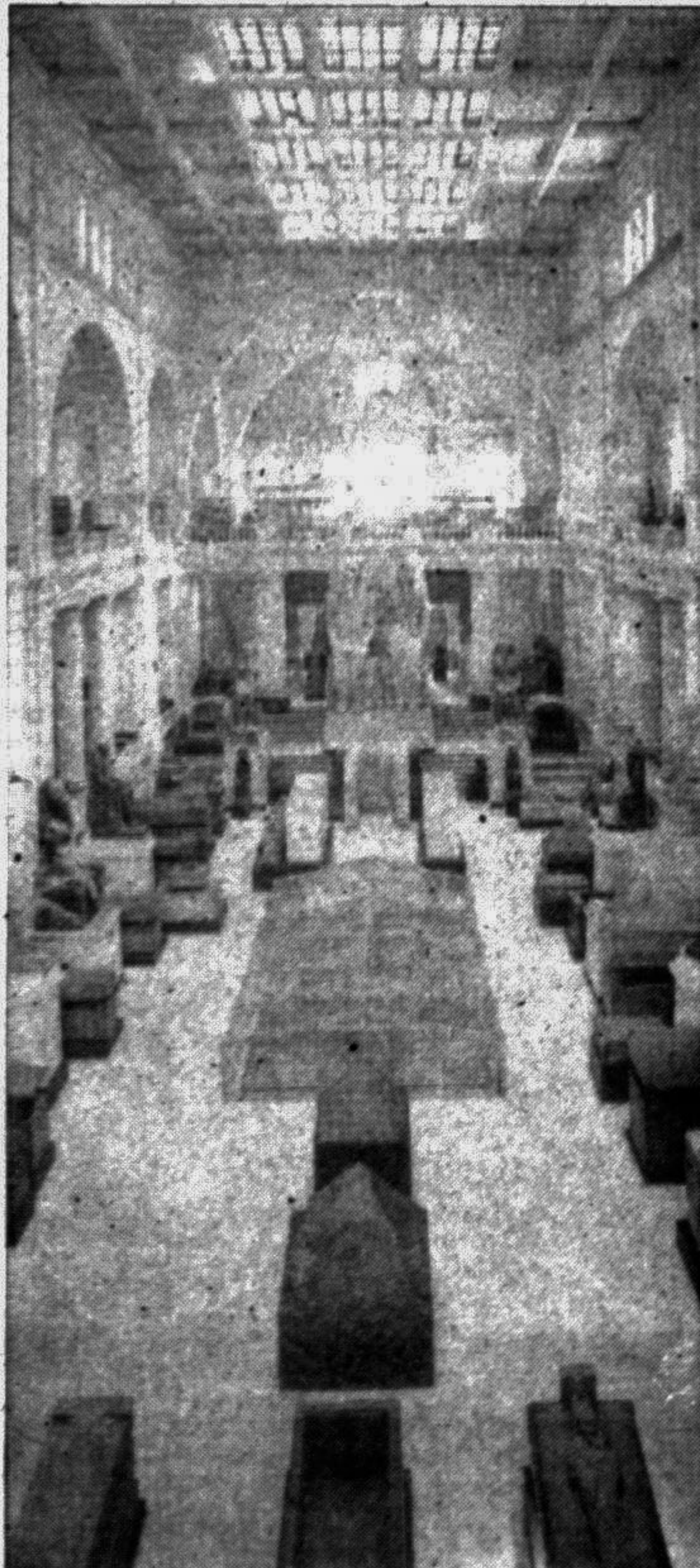
Egypt could embrace most of the world's civilizations and cultures. On the good land of Egypt the Greek civilization lived, the Roman prospered, the Coptic flourished and finally the Islamic civilization came. Egypt has been able to preserve all the product of the different civilizations as the biggest Monuments Museum in the whole world. This richness of civilization was further blessed and perfected by the presence of the name "Egypt" in most holy heavenly Scriptures sent down by God to his messengers and prophets.

Throughout the long history, Egypt has always been aware of the fact that its civilization is not an exclusive possession. Now a days Egypt with an area of approximately 1 million km² and a population of about 60 millions plays an important role in spreading the rightful teachings of Islam throughout the Islamic

World. The well known Al Azhar El Sharif and other Egyptian Islamic institutions and scholars had been a reference and a source of the teachings of Islam with their publications, public meetings, overseas visits and sponsoring of Islamic studies in Egypt and abroad.

In the same time Egypt has a leading role in shaping the Arabic culture and media. You will hardly find one Arab who does not know the Egyptian Actors, Writers, Journalists or tries to speak with an Egyptian Accent.

Egypt has always been a source and a centre of attention for whatever civilization and culture it has embraced, from the pharaonic to the Arabic-Islamic. And it will continue to play this important and vital role forever. It is as some critics say-the fate of Egypt.



The Egyptian Museum

TOURISM

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year weather extraordinary beach resorts, oasis, the beauty of the river Nile and visit the immortal monuments and relics.

Cairo, Egypt's capital standing where East meets West and combining the exotism of the one and the sophistication of the other, is the largest city on the African continent and the heart of the Arab world. With its "thousand minarets", picturesque oriental bazaars, Nile-side hotels and apartment blocks, and gracious residential district, it is a rare blend of a long past still throbbing with life and a vibrant modern present. There you will find the Giza Pyramids and Sphinx, One of the seven wonders of the world. You can also visit the Egyptian Museum. The unique exhibits in this world-famous museum cover well over 5000 years of ancient Egyptian history. Among its more splendid treasures are the funeral effects of Tutankhamen, the unfinished head of Queen Nefertiti; the wooden statue of King Khafra (who built the second Giza Pyramid).

In the south of Egypt you will find the treasures of the great capital cities of the ancient pharaonic dynasties. The modern town of Luxor which by train, lies some 671kms, south of Cairo is part of the ancient city of Thebes, the capital after Memphis, of pharaonic Egypt. Luxor gives the visitor a never to be forgotten chance of wandering through its, breath-taking, time defying, temples and marveling at the deep buried majesty of its tombs all lavish with inscriptions and etchings. Further, south lies Aswan one of the world's foremost winter resorts. The mild climate in winter makes it a haven of peace and relaxation in a landscape that is at once a

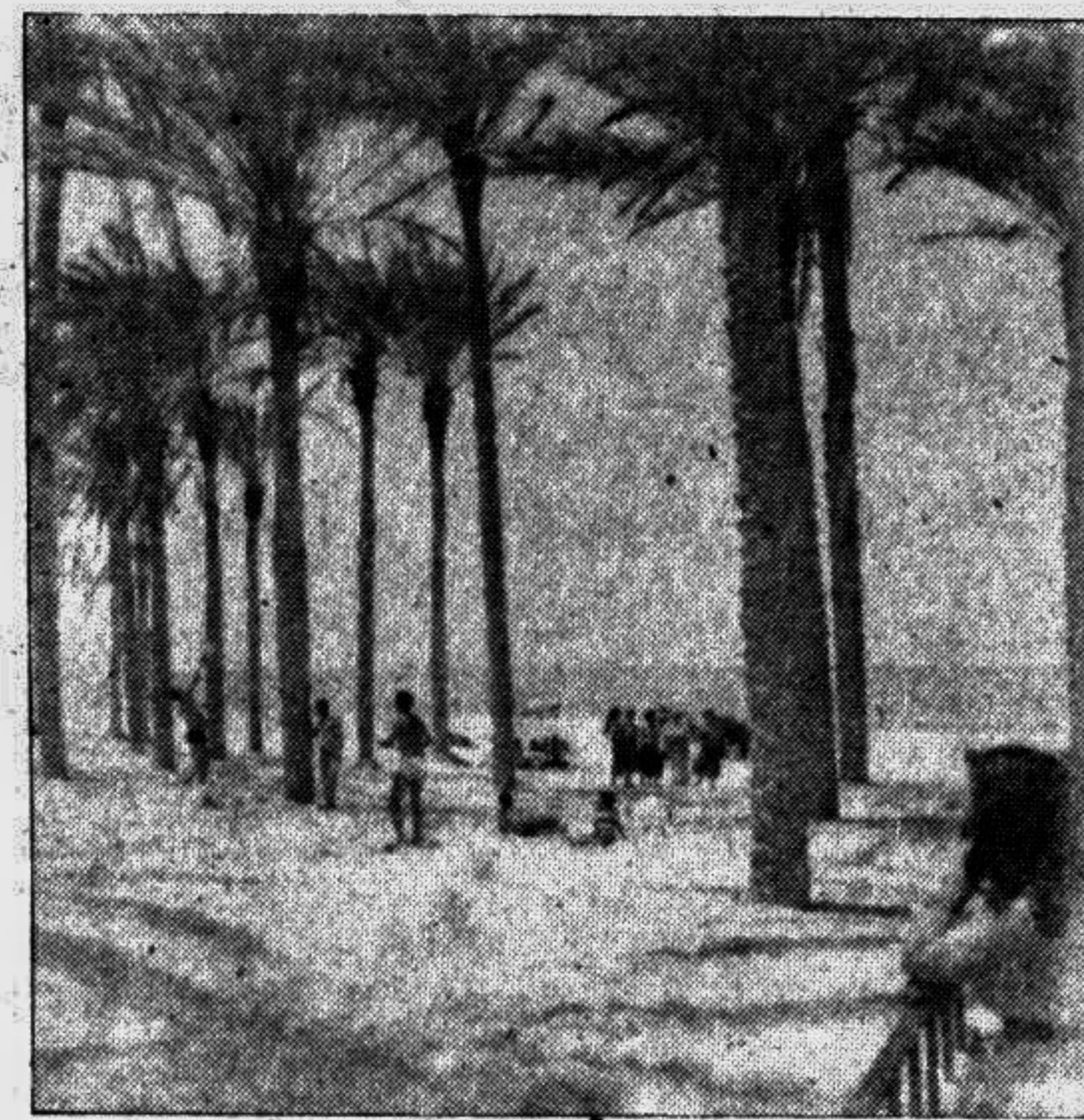
blend of the exotic atmosphere of the Orient and the throbbing vitality of Africa.

To the east you will find Sinai, the Sinai peninsula is a great triangle of land, 36000 miles in area with high granite mountains, deep chasms and fertile green oasis. It was in the Sinai that Moses received the Ten commandments, that prophet Elyah sought refuge from Queen Jezebel and that the Holy Family traveled on the Flight into Egypt. There you will find St. Catherine Monastery, built by Emperor Justinian in the 6th century to shelter Christian monks. Beyond the Monastery lies Mount Moses, where the monks built a staircase of rocks with 3750 steps leading to the summit.

In Egypt not only can you enjoy the splendours of human civilization from the dawn of history to our recent days, but one can also experience the charm of an exceptional nature. An example is the Red Sea, a virtual paradise for diving en-

thusiasts, the Red Sea is recognized by experts as the best dive site in the world. A myriad of exotic species of tropical reef fish, hard and soft unique coral formation and beautiful desert add to the charm of

the Red Seas. Resorts in the cities of Sharm El Sheikh, Dahab, Nuweiba, Hurghada and Safaga will help you having the experience of your life. So come to Egypt and see for yourself.



Al Arish beach, Sinai

Sinai is a multi-facet world centre for tourism: religious tourism with a wealth of Islamic, Christian and Jewish monuments, desert, recreational and therapeutic tourism.

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