

TEACH WITH LOVE

During the 2023 summer, I had the opportunity to travel to Egypt for 10 days with a teacher travel group called Teach with Love. This group is committed to “teaching from a space of deep love. Not the empty ‘I love all my students’ but the intentional, culturally-informed actions that will Lift Other’s Voices Everyday.” (www.teachwithlove.com)

I arrived in Egypt and instantly felt connected to the other educators and group leaders. Our days were a blend of site seeing led by a local Egyptologist and connecting with native Egyptians to learn directly from them.

One moment that was particularly special for me was having dinner with a Montessori kindergarten teacher named Sharook. It was so wonderful to learn about all the similarities between our two education systems oceans apart. She was passionate and kind and felt like an old friend I have known for years.

Reflecting on this trip, one of the biggest takeaways I observed was how Egypt is a collectivist society, as opposed to a typical American individualist society. This means Egyptians prioritize the needs and wants of everyone in the group, rather than just themselves. An example of this was the roads and how people travel in Egypt. Through an American lens, it looks like the roads are a chaotic mess with people, animals, bikes, and cars all weaving around each other. However, when observing a little more closely, you can see even without stop lights or sidewalks, there are no accidents. Cars do not speed or drive recklessly because they understand they are sharing the road with many other people and have a responsibility to take care of them.

The 10 days in Egypt I was fully immersed in their culture and history. It was truly a once in a lifetime trip. Thank you to AO and the Teacher’s Fund for this opportunity to travel and learn in Egypt!





