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## ANALYSIS OF REGIONAL SECURITY !

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## OURVIEWPOINT



### The Cry for meaning

In the course of history, from epoch to epoch, new traditions and values are added to the accumulation of human heritage known as "civilization". We in the Arab and Muslim worlds have made our fair contribution to this wealth. Yet, today, we in the Middle East feel alienated and left out, and at best, we are marginal to the march of times. It is a basic necessity for us to reflect on our role in the current civilization and to re-assess the value system in which we live. We need to feel at ease with the modern world, and to feel we are a real part of it. To do this, we have to look at our past, not to replicate it, but to learn from it; to re-incorporate in our lives those vital elements in our history which will add meaning to our lives today. We do not believe that any of the social, economic, and political changes that have taken place in the last few decades, or any that now seem eminent, have invalidated or can invalidate our Islamic heritage or make it irrelevant to our modern times. On the contrary, we are convinced, that we need to recapture and re-emphasize and bring to bear upon our present problems, the wisdom, insight, and vision embodied in our tradition and culture. We are deeply concerned that our headlong plunge into the abyss known as the 20th century civilization will bring only more torment and confusion. We believe that the voices that may recall us to sanity are those which come from the depth of our culture and civilization. We want those voices to be loudly heard - not because we want to go back to antiquity or to the 7th century, but because of how much we can learn from them. If only we could live those ideals so well embedded in our heritage.

We are quite aware that we do not live in any time but the present; and distressing as the Arab present is, we would not care to escape to any other epoch. We only want the voices of a magnificent past to be heard again because we think that they will help us lead a better life today.

## Saleh invites investors to finance agri-business Al-Beedh urges rationalization of water use



During his tour last Monday to Al-Mahweet Governorate, about 150 kms.northwest of the capital Sana'a, President Ali Abdulla Saleh inspected the progress of the current construction and asphalt-ing of the road in an area 81 kms.long being executed at an estimated cost of YR 400 million.

This project will facilitate traffic movement and will link some of the major towns in the region, will serve transportation and marketing of the agricultural products, and will attract local and foreign tourism.

Before leaving Sana'a for Mahweet, President Ali Abdulla Saleh, accompanied by his deputy, Ali Salem Al-Beedh, inaugurated the "tree plant-

ing season" which has become an annual tradition observed over the past decade. On this occasion, President Saleh said that this year's season is significant as it comes after the achievement of Yemen unity and the declaration of the Republic of Yemen.

President Saleh urged the farmers to give greater care to tree planting and to increase of agricultural output. "We suffer from an economic crisis coupled with the return of one million Yemeni emigrants to the homeland," he said.

"We seize this opportunity to call upon the Yemeni people, and all investors to give priority to investments in agricultural areas. Our land in Hadhramaut, Shabwa, Beihan, Marib, AL-Jawf and Tihama are waiting for investments which will provide the water needed for agriculture. We have to exert more efforts in the field of agricultural development to achieve food self-sufficiency as far as possible instead of depending on imports. Yemen imports an average of 600/750 tons of wheat per annum, and such a product can be grown on our soil," President Saleh



said.

President Saleh stressed the importance of coffee plantation which is the symbol of the civilization of "Green Yemen", and urged all officials concerned to concentrate on more coffee production and its export.

Referring to Government priorities given for agricultural development, President Saleh said, "We have achieved self-sufficiency in fruit production and hope to realize the same in other agricultural products, notably, wheat." The government consistently called for the formation of cooperative agricultural associations to facilitate the introduction of modern machinery because of the

Continued on p. 4

## TANZEEM ATTAS-HEEH ASHA'ABI ANNASIRI TO STAMP OUT CORRUPTION & WASTE

The YEMEN TIMES continues its survey series of the political parties in Yemen. In this issue, we will shed light on the Tanzeem Attas-heeh Asha'abi Annasiri.

Roughly translated, the Tanzeem Attas-heeh Asha'abi Annasiri stands for the Corrective Popular Nasserite Organization (CPNO). On January 31, 1991, the Democratic United Corrective Front and the Nasserite Organization of Yemen were united to create the CPNO. The party draws its philosophy and ideals from two major sources - former Egyptian President Gamal Abdul Nasser's thoughts and ambitions, and former Yemeni President Ibrahim Al-Hamdi's hopes and aspirations. Evidently, the party has a definite pan-Arab and pan-Islamic orientation.

The party's leadership is composed of the following:

1. Mujahid Mujahid Al-Guhali, Secretary-General
2. Abdul-Fattah Saleh Al-Baseer, Assistant Secretary-General
3. Abdul-Wahab Mansoor, Director of Political Department
4. Abdullah Sallam Al-Hakeemi, Director of Thought (Ideology) and Information.

This party has one of the most extensive network apparatus which has facilitated expanding its membership quite dramatically. Local representatives are groomed to promote the

party using the Al-Hamdi image. In light of this, their primary source of attraction is their avowed fight against corruption and exploitation. The buzzword has been "tas-heeh" meaning "to rectify or correct". Former president Al-Hamdi has also become their symbol, which is a major source of attraction. As a result, the membership drive has yielded fantastic results. Starting from a few hundred, then several thousand just six months ago, to almost one hundred thousand today. On a visit to the office of the party, one cannot help but notice the daily flood of would-be members. Major membership concentration areas are Sanaa, Al-Jowf, Hajjah, Dhamar, Aden, Ibb, and Hadhramaut. Tribesmen and farmers constitute the majority of the members, although the party also has substantial members among students and government employees.

The objectives of the party are clear and practical. In the short run, the party hopes to achieve the following goals:

1. To cleanse the government bureaucracy from wasteful and corrupt officials.
2. To control the exploitation of citizens by checking on increases in prices, rents, fees, etc.
3. To reform the educational system.
4. To call for the election of the national assembly (parliament) which will

be authorized to draft the country's permanent constitution.

5. To unite the political parties into a national alliance that will lay down the political and socio-economic infrastructure of the system.

In the longer run, the party's objectives include:

1. A contemporary interpretation of Islam. The party insists that Islamic tenets form the basis for its thoughts, but it calls for a modern understanding of those tenets.

2. To create a system of checks and balances that will stop any one group or line of thought from dominating and controlling the system. In addition, there must be an administrative over-haul for the sake of productivity and efficiency.

3. To create the foundations for safeguarding the liberties, rights and democratic values of the people.

4. To establish a welfare system based on social justice and harmony in an effort to remedy the problems of poverty.

5. To promote pan-Arab unity.

The CPNO has called on the other Nasserite parties (there are three of them all in all) to join hands and create a united front in the upcoming elections. In international relations, the party calls for an independent political system that is not aligned to any country, although it wants to build friendly, yet correct, relations with all sides.

## LOCAL ECONOMIC BRIEFS

### ■ Propitious Signs from Wadi Hadhramaut

A branch of the "Co-operative Agricultural Credit Bank" (CACB) was recently inaugurated in Seyun town, Hahramaut Governorate. Over 300,000 citizens in the area are expected to benefit from low interest loans and easy terms. The bank aims to develop agricultural output in an area covering 300,000 acres.

Abdulla Abdul-wasaa Al-Barakani, Chairman of CACB described the inauguration of the branch as of "particular importance".

Wadi Hadhramaut is one of the vast agricultural areas. CACB targets in its funding program to increase the production of grains, fruits, vegetables, palm trees, the famous douaani pure honey, date canning industry, poultry and food processing projects, Barakani said.

Pointing to the bank's policy, Barakani said, "CACB loans will concentrate on funding agricultural machinery and equipments, food production industries and irrigation networks."

The inauguration of this branch in Hadhramaut brings up the total CACB branches to 22 and 3 offices in different parts of the Republic. Total cash loans dispensed during the past few years, reached 1.7 billion riyals

### ■ Wheat Production in Hadhramaut Increased.

Wheat production in Hadhramaut Governorate, during the agricultural season (1990) is expected to reach 1,565 tons, an increase of 198 tons compared to the previous year.

A responsible source in the Yemeni Soviet project told Yemen News Agency. "The harvest area is expected to cover 1,868 acres."

### ■ New LPG Filling Stations

In a statement this week, Fathi Salem, Director of Yemen Oil Company said, "Very shortly LPG filling stations will be opened in a number of governorates, and the necessary cylinders for such an operation have been made available."

Referring to the impact of the Gulf War on gas supplies, Fathi Salem said, "It has left a direct effect on gas supplies, as is the case in other petroleum products, leading to high prices which reached USD 460 per ton."

Fathi Salem added, "Since the beginning of the Gulf crisis, the company has been keen to place import orders with the exporting companies based on a strict time schedule in order to avoid any shortages of supply particularly during the fasting month of Ramadhan."

At present the company is working on a plan to establish a filling station in Sanaa City with a production capacity of 84,000 cylinders per day using gas from Marib. When this project is completed, it will help considerably to meet the high demand of gas.

### ■ Marketing Yemeni Oil:

The USA SUN Company is reported to have signed a 1991 term contract to purchase 20,000 barrels a day of light crude Yemeni oil produced in the oil-fields of Marib. The pricing of the total annual volume is subject to a quarterly review. The price agreed upon for the first is US\$0.25 above the SPOT price of dated Brent crude.

Other term customers of Yemeni crude oil include Germany's Mobil Oil, Italy's Agip, and Austria's OMV.

On the other hand, the Government of Yemen agreed to sell 100,000 tons of crude oil to the Kingdom of Jordan in an effort to meet the shortfall faced by Amman. It is worth mentioning that Jordan used to receive oil supplies from Iraq by land routes. The Amman-Baghdad road has been put out of service by US-led aerial bombing.

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### TENDER NOTICE

The Civil Aviation and MET Authority invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the construction of the OVERLAY OF THE EXISTING RUNWAY AND WIDENING THE TAXIWAY SHOULDERS at Sanaa International Airport. Interested eligible bidders may obtain the tender documents from the Projects Department at Civil Authority headquarters at the following address:

Project Department,  
CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY  
P. o. Box 1042  
Zubairi Street - Sana'a  
REPUBLIC OF YEMEN  
TELEX 2334  
FAX 274126  
Tel 272619 - 18

Cost of the tender documents is a non-refundable YR 5,000. Bids should be submitted in sealed envelopes valid for 90 days from opening date. A Bank guarantee/Bond or Endorsed cheque equivalent to 2% of the total bid value valid for 90 days should be furnished alongwith the offer.

Closing and opening date of the bids will be Tuesday 30-4-1991 at 10 am at the above address.

## ***FINE Industrial Co. (Yemen) Ltd: A Joint Yemeni-Jordanian Company***

YEMEN TIMES has promised its readers to pursue economic and business news.

In this issue, we interview and report on one of the successful joint ventures between Yemeni and Jordanian businessmen - the Fine Industrial



(Yemen) Co. Yemen Times Chief Editor, Abdul-Rahman Al-Haideri interviewed Mr. Riyadh Ahmed Abu Ne'meh, Resident Representative of the Management and filed the following text:

The investment and economic policies adopted by the Yemeni Government have encouraged joint ventures with several countries over the last decade. Success stories of joint ventures are beginning to flow in, and one of them is the FINE company. To shed more light on this company, several visits were paid by YEMEN TIMES management and editors. Following are the questions and answers:

Q: Could you please describe the beginnings of this project?

A: Fine Industrial Co. (Yemen) Ltd. was incorporated in 1985. The idea was jointly developed between a Jordanian businessman, Mr. Elia Nuqul, and a Yemeni businessman, Mr. Al-Haj Hussein Al-Watary. Thus, the company was established as a joint venture

between Fine Hygienic Paper Co., Ltd. of Amman, Jordan, and Al-Watary

General Trading and Agricultural Development Co. of Sanaa, Yemen. The Jordanian Fine company, due to its extensive expertise in this field, was asked to manage the company.

Q: What are your major lines of production?

A: We produce a wide variety of products, but notably facial tissues, pocket tissues, elastic baby diapers, feminine napkins, and similar products. In our production, we use the most modern technology and we observe strictly the hygienic and health requirements.

Q: Any problems with marketing?

A: Due to the high quality of our products, the company has no marketing problems. Our marketing policy is based on direct relations with retail sellers and consumers. Although there is considerable competition in this field, we have been able to market our products rather well.

Q: Could you describe your sales policy?

A: First of all we try to sta-

bilize prices for as long as possible. Second, we do not have any sales distributors or agents. Shop-owners and customers are free to purchase our products directly from us (the factory). Then we have an organized sales force to provide door-to-door delivery of our products. We have been trying to train our local salesmen in display and demonstration techniques.

Q: How about your production policy?

A: We use highly advanced machinery to produce these goods. We have a group of highly trained technicians who operate the machines. I am happy to inform you that most of them are Yemenis. We have, as you can see, several lines producing different products. An Accurate and well-planned production schedule helps us meet our market needs and maximize our productivity.

Q: Do you have any exports?

A: Our plans to export to the neighboring markets are restricted and limited. We hope that the government will assist us and other companies in penetrating foreign markets. However,

we have expanded our network to the southern provinces (after Yemeni unification), thus we have replaced imports.

Q: What major difficulties do you face?

A: We are subject to the difficulties imposed by the recent developments in the region, as well as by the circumstances of the country. We do not suffer from any specific difficulties peculiar to us. Of the general issues we face, I would like to mention one problem. Due to the annual budgeting system imposed on the economy in order to

the foreign currency amount, in order to establish credit and open a letter of credit.

Q: What do you suggest?

A: The ministry should handle these issues with flexibility. Budgeted foreign exchange allocations and quotas should be increased as needed by the various factories and companies. I suggest a 30% increase in our case to meet the raw material and spare parts bill.

Q: Do you have any expansion plans?

A: We are presently execut-



aportion quotas, we face shortages of imported raw materials and spare parts. Due to that, we work at the moment far below our capacity. Even when we are able to import, due to strict foreign exchange regulations and lack of credit lines, we have to deposit with the banks 100% of

ing a market study to determine the possibility and need to introduce other paper products. Due to the current circumstances, however, we may have to postpone the decision regarding opening up new lines of production.



## **PARLIAMENT APPROVES IDA LOAN FOR TAIZ URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

The Council of Deputies (Yemeni Parliament) discussed and approved a project report filed by the General Services Committee regarding the loan agreement concluded by the Yemeni Government with the International Development Association (IDA). This loan is targeted to fund the urban development project for Taiz city specially in protection against floods and

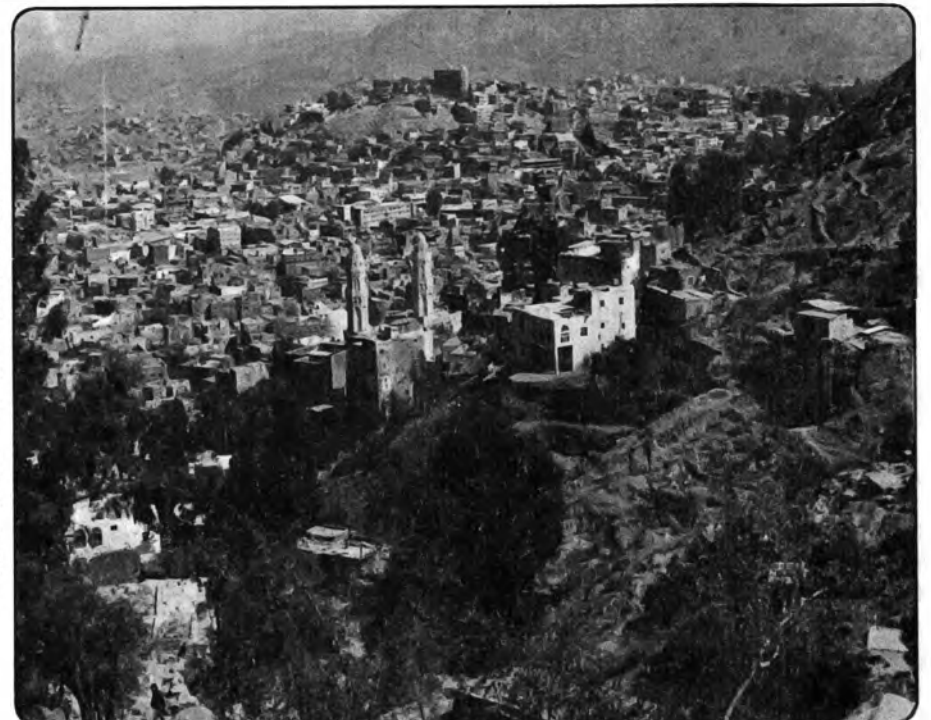
torrents.

The committee's report said, "The project intends to control rain water, floods and protect properties; to upgrade health and social services and to provide the city with the essential infrastructure to achieve free movement in the narrow streets of the old city. It will also activate domestic and foreign tourist movement inside the historic city of Taiz. In addi-

tion, it will save Y.R. 30 million that used to be spent on maintenance and repairs of various services.

The total cost of this project is reported as YR 280,800,000

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# Saleh and Al-Beedh visit Al-Mahweet

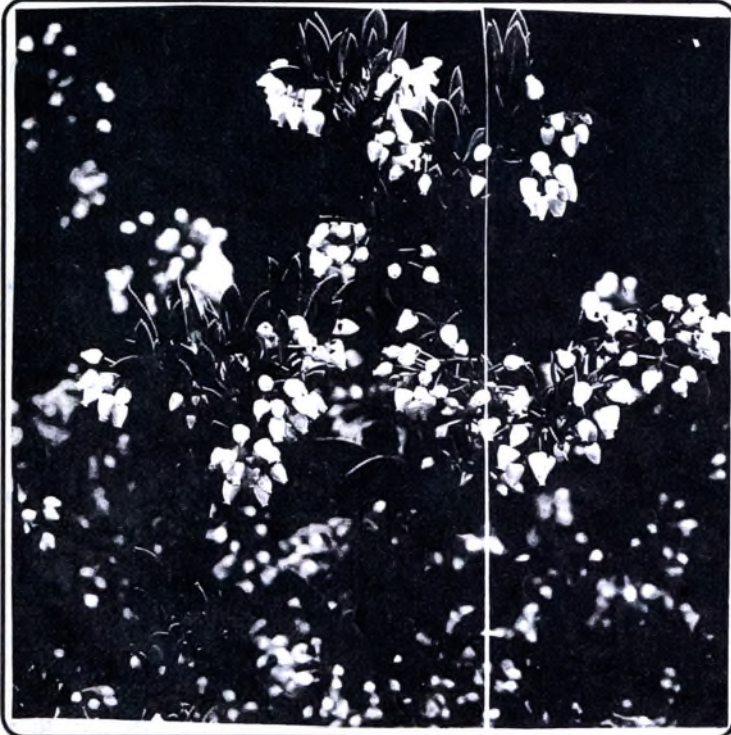
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small landownership system which leads to the failure in government efforts, President Saleh said.

process of well drilling in order to save our water resources. "Stop drilling at random and give more care to the construction

planting campaign, it is expected that at least one million trees will be planted. The government has been keen to encourage Yemeni farmers to plant more coffee trees, fruits and vegetables and provide them with improved seeds and credit facilities made available by the Cooperative Agricultural Credit Bank (CACB).

On the other hand, the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, during the past few years, established many agricultural extension service plots all over the Republic staffed with professional engineers. According to sources in the Ministry of Agriculture, Yemen achieved self-sufficiency in fruits and vegetables. Moreover, success in export of agricultural products to Saudi Arabia, The United Arab Emirates, Italy, France and some of the Scandinavian countries has been achieved. The estimated export value per annum is said to be USD 100 million. Until very recently, Yemen used to import fruits from East Africa, Europe and South America, worth of over USD 100 million.



Vice-President Ali Salem Al-Beedh also delivered a similar statement and said, "Yemenis are well-known for their 'love of the homeland and their farms; therefore, it is not difficult for them to direct their attention to agricultural development." AL-Beedh affirmed the necessity of exploiting the available potential, and experiences in our efforts for an agricultural development in order to double the production of various products.

of dams and wells. More attention should also be given to agricultural marketing in a well organized shape." President Saleh and his deputy Al-Beedh have inaugurated the dormitory of the female students of Sana'a University. The dorms consist of 183 rooms designed to take in 500 students. The total cost of this government-financed project is reported at YR 20 million.

Vice-President Ali Salem Al-Beedh added, "We ought to find better means and introduce successful agricultural reforms as applied in our homeland. Our efforts should be oriented towards programs based on Yemeni circumstances and taking into consideration the national interests and the Islamic heritage." In response to a question on the plantation of dates, Vice-President Al-Beedh said, "I repeat what President Saleh has already stated - cooperation is our tool to develop agriculture either in the field of palm-trees or other products."

Al-Beedh reaffirmed the importance of rationalizing water use, and urged everybody concerned to supervise and direct the

In this year's tree-

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### WHAT IS GOOD LITERATURE?

A literature book differs from other types of books for the simple reason that it is pure imagination recorded by the author. It is full of varieties of characters. In libraries, literary books are shelved separately from the other books. Usually people do not pick literary books for reading purposes, they go to the other books first. A book is judged by its quality, not by its cover. The quality is called "good literature". What is meant by "good literature"? Good literature trains our minds to think before we act. This training of our minds is important because we save ourselves from many mistakes. There are other forms of literature such as films, drama and poetry. In a film we usually engage ourselves with every move the actor makes. We don't always know what thinking he does. Films are often adaptations of novels. They are usually condensed to two or three hours. In order to do this, unnecessary parts are discarded. These parts are often the thoughts of certain characters. Plays have "asides" which give us important details. Poetry would set us thinking as it sometimes contains narrative or ambiguity. We gain experience when faced with ambiguity or allegory. Good literature opens our minds to new ideas and self discipline. Fiction books indicate that knowledge has no limit. This is amplified by films and drama. Finally, I can say that "good literature" teaches us truths which we often take for granted.

Nagat Nouman Elduais,  
Teacher of English

### PRESIDENT SALEH INAUGURATES HOSPITAL AT ALMAHWEET

Within his tour of the various regions of the country, President Ali Abdullah Saleh inaugurated on Tuesday March 5th the Al-Mahweet General Hospital. The President issued his directives that the Al-Thawrah General Hospital in Sanaa take charge of the new hospital. The Al-Thawrah Hospital will also be responsible for providing to the Al-Mahweet Hospital its needs of medical and technical equipments. While also in Mahweet, the President instructed the Ministry of Education to construct a secondary school in the city.

### AL-BEEDH CHAIRS PARTY MEETING

Mr. Ali Salem Al-Beedh, Vice President and the Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party, chaired the first session of the party meetings in Sanaa, yesterday, March 5th. The party's agenda for this meeting includes several items regarding its vision and plans for the shape of things to come, and the structure of socio-political systems in the Republic of Yemen.

## FINE

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Telex: 2791 FINE YE

# THE NEW YEMENI CONSTITUTION: PART II

**YEMEN TIMES continues to publish the text of the constitution which is going to be voted upon by the Yemeni people shortly. The translation is sponsored by Yemen Times and is not an officially approved text.**

## Part II: Basic Rights and Duties:

### Article (26):

Every citizen has the right to participate in the political, economic, social, and cultural activities of the country. The state guarantees freedom of all forms of thought and expression within the law.

### Article (27):

Equal treatment in front of the law is guaranteed for all irrespective of sex, color, racial origin, language, profession, social status, or religious beliefs.

### Article (28):

The law organizes citizenship in Yemen. The nationality of a Yemeni cannot be withheld at all; and citizenship once awarded (to a naturalized Yemeni) may not be withdrawn except in accordance with the law.

### Article (29):

A Yemeni national may not be handed over to a foreign power.

### Article (30):

Political refugees may not be turned over to other parties.

### Article (31):

Criminal offense is a personal responsibility (non-transferable).

Punishment for crimes is determined by law, and no criminal may be tried by a law promulgated after the date of the crime. Any accused party is deemed innocent in the eyes of the laws until proven guilty by a court of law.

### Article (32):

a) The state guarantees the private liberty of the individual, which may only be violated by a decision from a court of law.

b) An individual may be searched or put under arrest only if caught red-handed in a crime. Otherwise, the law requires a court order or an injunction from the public prosecutor's office to search or arrest an individual. It is illegal to place any person under surveillance except as stipulated by the law. In all cases, physical and psychological torture is totally forbidden. No person may be held up except at locations designated for such purposes. All prisoners have the right to a lawyer, and no prisoner may be forced to sign confessions of crime.

c) Any individual accused of any crime may not be held up for more than twenty four hours, during which time he/she must be taken to a court of law. In all cases, the judge must explicitly inform the individual of the accusations brought against him/her, and must give him/her the opportunity to defend him/herself. The court then decides whether to release the accused person or to extend a prison sentence.

d) In case a person is arrested, a person of his/her choice is to be notified immediately. In case such a person cannot be reached, the arrested person's closest relatives are notified.

e) The law determines the proper punishment against those (officials) who violate these stipulations, and it also determines the appropriate compensation for the persons whose rights have been violated.

### Article (33):

Inhuman and savage methods of punishment are illegal, and may not be made legal.

### Article (34):

All individuals have the right to go to court to protect their legal interests. They may also refer their complaints to the various government offices.

### Article (35):

Residences, houses of worship, and educational institutions have a sanctity which may not be violated (through surveillance or search) except as stipulated by the law.

### Article (36):

The state guarantees the privacy of communication by mail, telephone, telegram, etc., all of which may not be searched or delayed except by a court order.

### Article (37):

All citizens have a right to education which is guaranteed by the state through building schools and cultural centers, with the aim of providing religious, mental, and physical

education in order to safeguard against deviations, and to allow for the full achievement of capabilities and potential.

### Article (38):

Freedom of transportation and movement within the country is guaranteed for all citizens, and may not be strained except by law under conditions necessitated by the security and safety of the people. Yemeni law regulates entry to and departure from Yemen. No citizen may be expelled from or refused entry to Yemen.

### Article (39):

In accordance with the constitution, the citizens may organize themselves along political, professional, or union lines. Associations in scientific, cultural, social groups may be formed in order to achieve the goals of the constitution. The state guarantees these rights, and will take the necessary measures to enable the citizens to exercise them. Furthermore, the states uphold the freedom of political, union, cultural, scientific, and social organizations and agencies.

### KEY OFFICIALS VISIT POLLING STATIONS:

Several high ranking officials have visited the polling stations to observe the progress of work, and to register themselves in their districts. Among such officials are H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, Member of the Presidential Council, and H.E. Dr. Yaseen Saeed Noman, Speaker of the Council of Deputies (Parliament). The aim is to encourage the citizens to participate in the upcoming constitution referendum.

### NEWS OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY

The Government of Kuwait celebrated its national day last week. On this occasion, President Ali Abdullah Saleh sent a cable of congratulations to his brother His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Sabaah, the Emir of Kuwait. Sheikh Jaber sent back a thank you cable to the Yemeni President.

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The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco celebrated its national day last Sunday. On the occasion, President Ali Abdullah Saleh sent a cable of congratulations to his brother His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco. The King sent back a thank you note to President Saleh.

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The Government of Bulgaria celebrated its national day last Sunday. On the occasion, President Saleh sent a cable of congratulations to the Bulgarian President. The Bulgarian Ambassador in Sanaa, Mr. Alexander Olchveski held a dinner reception on the occasion.

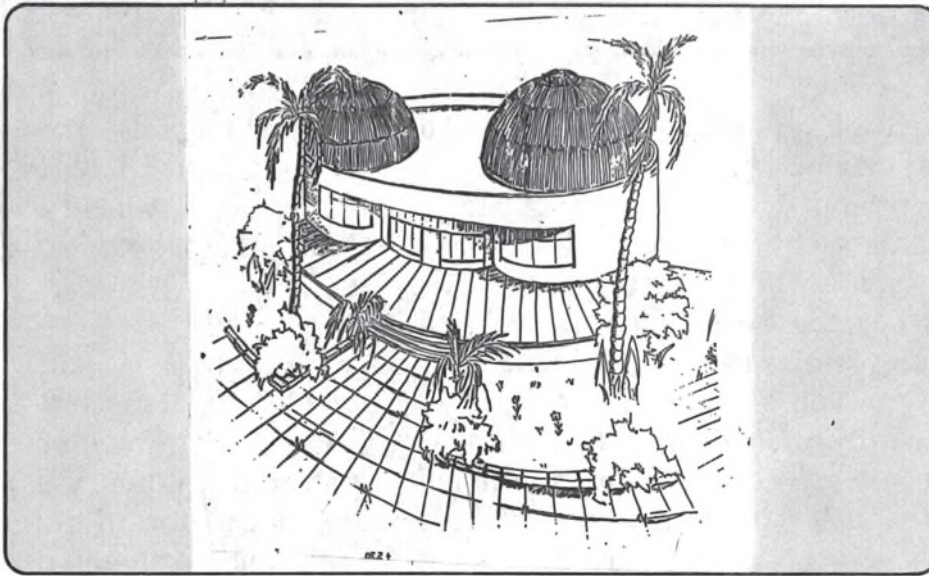
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On Saturday March 2nd, the heads of the diplomatic corps in Sanaa held a meeting attended by the Director of Protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the meeting, H.E. Ambassador Abubakar Bannoonah introduced the Yemen Times to the diplomatic community. According to Mr. Bannoonah, the diplomats were very happy with the paper, and expressed that it will be helpful to them in their work.

## INVESTMENT IN A TOURIST VILLAGE AT AL-URJ IN TIHAMA ENTERTAINED

The Ministry of Tourism has just issued its approval for the execution of the Al-Urj Tourist Village, some forty kilometers north of Hodeidah on the way to Saleef. A group of investors headed by Alwan Shaibani and Co, the Yemeni Finance and Investment Co. and the Yemeni Libyan Holding Co., have sponsored a through study completed in October 1990 by Addar Exp. Consult. Since then, and due to the new developments, "Mr. Alwan Shaibani declared, "The project has been scaled down, and possibly temporarily shelved."

The original project details call for a total investment of Y.R. 260 million in the construction of a tourist village with complete services able to entertain about 50,000 yearly tourists starting from 1995. Execution of the project would take roughly three years (1992-94). The total project area is 1,317,20 square



The area stretches 1,790 meters along the sea coast, and 680 meters deep inland. The Al-Urj Tourist Village envisages the construction of 100 Yemeni style villas (hut style), and 150 European style villas. The vil-

lage will have all the modern accessories and amenities notably in the domain of water sports and facilities.

The recent developments in the region have forced the scaling down of the project, if

at least due to lower expectations of tourists. However, Mr. Shaibani indicated that the services and facilities will be laid down as if the full-fledged project were to be executed. The smaller size of the project, is seen as a first stage implementation.

The Al-Urj Tourist Village will provide a much needed tourist facility in Yemen, notably in the Tihama. In addition, it is a model which can be replicated elsewhere, specially along the shores of the Arabian Sea in the southern provinces.

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## REVIVE THE YEMEN ECONOMIC SOCIETY

In 1986, the Yemen Economic Society (YES) was established by 31 Yemeni economists. The charter and by-laws were drawn up, the financial system was organized, and the board of directors was elected - all under the supervision of the then-Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. By 1987, there were 321 members. YES activities during the years 1986-89 involved the following programs:

### A. The Lecture/Seminar Series:

The YES co-sponsored and co-organized eight major lectures and seminars, notable among them were:

1. The Insurance Business in Yemen

(Carried out in collaboration with the insurance companies)

2. The Role of the Media in Business Activities

(Carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Information)

3. An Evaluation of Yemen's Foreign Trade

(Carried out in collaboration with the College of Economics and Commerce at Sanaa University)

4. Education and Development

(Carried out in collaboration with the PWPA)

### B. Field Survey:

The YES during 1978 carried out a field survey of the secondary cities. The total sample size was 1,300 households, and the survey intended to analyze living and working habits in an effort to determine urban growth rates and trends.

The conclusion was then published in a book edited by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, entitled: "Urban Development in Yemen: An Analytical Field Survey of Ten Secondary Cities".

### C. Regional Cooperation:

The YES developed contacts and links with many sister organizations in the region. Notable among these were the Union of Arab Economists which sponsored annual conferences in which the YES actively participated.

Today the YES is dormant, partly because it was limited to the northern part of Yemen. This message is a call to revive this organization and to re-structure it on the basis of the new developments in Yemen.

## ADEN MOVENPICK HOTEL



## فندق عدن موڤنپيڪ

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- 1, Stay a minimum of 5 persons & 3 nights
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فندق عدن موڤنپيڪ الاختيار الاول في عدن العاصمة الاقتصادية والتجارية في الجمهورية اليمنية يشرفه ان يقدم لكم البرنامج السياحي المحلي بالاسعار المناسبة لغاية ٥ ابريل ١٩٩١م.

للشخص الواحد - نصف التسعيرة ٢١ دينار (٥٤٦ ريال)  
للشخص الواحد - تسعيرة كاملة ٢٥ دينار (٦٥٠ ريال)  
للمزدوج - تسعيرة كاملة ٤٠ دينار (١٠٤٠ ريال)

التسعيرة اعلاه تحتوي على الآتي:

- الإقامة
- فطور/ وجبة غداء/ وجبة عشاء (تسعيرة كاملة)
- فطور/ غداء او عشاء (نصف تسعيرة)
- بوفيه موڤنپيڪ الخصوصي في المطعم الرئيسي في طابق الميزان
- استخدام حمام السباحة مع ملاعب التنس الارضي.
- البرنامج العائلي:
- الاطفال لثلاث سن الثانية عشرة ويسكنون في نفس الغرفة مجاناً شريطة ان لا يزيد عددهم عن اثنين
- المواصلات من وإلى المطار

### الشروط

- هذه التسعيرة الخاصة صالحة لـ:
- (١) اكثر من خمسة اشخاص واثلاث ليالي
- (٢) لا يوجد خدمات الغرف فيها
- (٣) الاشياء الاخرى دفعها نقداً
- (٤) تخفيض في الوجبات الغذائية (٥٠٪) للاطفال ما فوق سن السادسة ومجاناً ما تحت الخامسة.
- (٥) يتبع نظام الحجوزات
- (٦) أ- جميع الوجبات تقدم في المطعم فقط
- ب- اي طلبية الى الغرفة تحتسب بتسعيرة قائمة الطعام الرسمية.
- لحجوزات اتصلوا بالوكيل الخاص بكم او:
- (٢٢٩٤٨/٣٢٩١٣/١٢٩٤١/٣٢٩١١/٣٢٠٧٠)
- خور مكسر - ص. ب ٦١١١ - تليفون: ٣٢٠٧٠ - فاكس: ٣٢٩٤٧ -
- تلکس: ٢٣١٩ عدن - الجمهورية اليمنية

# MOROCCO ON ITS NATIONAL DAY

## I- BACKGROUND:

The word Morocco, in Arabic Al-Maghrib, means sunset. Roughly translated, Morocco stands for the "Land of the Setting Sun". The name is derived from the fact that this was the westernmost part of the Arab/Islamic state. It is located at the north-western corner of Africa, and forms a physical bridge into Europe. Its area covers 710850 square kms, with a population of almost twenty five million in 1991. Half its people is under 15 years of age. Also half the population lives in the countryside, while the other half lives in urban centers like Rabat, the seat of government, Casablanca, the commercial and business capital, Fes, the center of learning and theology, Merakish (Merrakech), the historic capital, Meknas, Tangier, Tetouan, Agadir, and Alayoune. Today, Morocco leads a stable life even with the dynamics of change and progress.

## II- THE HISTORY:

The original settlers were the Berbers, who according to historical evidence are tribes that migrated from South Arabia (Yemen). Extensive social, ethnic, and anthropological studies provide additional confirmation to that. The first foreign conquest of Morocco came in 50 BC with the advent of the Romans. Roman rule continued until the coming of Islam to Morocco in 683 AD. The Islamization of Morocco also incorporated with it the Arabization process.

Morocco was the seat of several Islamic kingdoms which extended from Timbiktu in the heart of West Africa all the way into Europe, thus encompassing most of the Iberian Peninsula. Major dynasties include the Moravids (Al-Murabitoon), the Mohads (Al-Muwahidoon), and the Marinids (Al-Mariniyeen). In those epochs, such important urban centers as Fes (with its Qarawiyeen University - the first in the world) and Merakish with its magnificent markets and caravanserais were built. The gradual end of Arab/Islamic rule in Andalusia, with its culmination point with the expulsion of Muslims in

1492, brought with it the decline of Morocco. From then on, Morocco was a weak country which had to accept indirect, and later direct, foreign interference in its affairs. Even during this period, however, Morocco enjoyed a high international stature such as during the reign of Moulay Ismail (1675-1727) - the founder of Meknas, and Moulay Abdul-Rahman (1822-1859) who sent troops to fight off French soldiers who were trying to subdue the Algerian patriot Al-Ameer Abdul-Qader.

By the 20th century, French and Spanish forces were colonizing the country. Spain occupied the northern stretch and the southern desert regions, while France occupied the Atlantic coast, the inlands, and the highlands. In the modern history of Morocco, the 18th of November 1927 marks a very important date, which is when HM the Late King Muhammad V ascended the throne. Immediately, the King mobilized the people and gathered around him patriotic Moroccans to struggle for independence. The French authorities exiled the King to Madagascar (another French colony at the time) for more than two years between 30/8/1953 and 16/11/1955. By 1956, the country regained its independence.

The 3rd of March 1961 also stands out in the history of Morocco. On this date, HM King Hassan II was throned king following his father's death. The Kingdom of Morocco immediately embarked on a program to reclaim and re-unite all regions of the country. Central Morocco was regained in March 1956, the northern part (including Tangier) were regained in April 1956, Terfaya in 1958, Sidi Ifni in 1969, and the Moroccan Sahara (Saqiya Alhamra and Rio D'Oro) in 1975. Morocco has placed its claims to the two city-enclaves of Sebta

and Melila, now under Spanish rule.

## III- THE SYSTEM:

Morocco is a constitutional monarchy. It is based on universal adult suffrage, and guarantees political participation through a multi-party system. Freedom of expression is exercised through the many independent and party newspapers, independent judicial and educational



systems, and the many unions and associations.

According to the 1972 constitution, the king is a national symbol and the supreme executive authority. Morocco is an Islamic state, Arabic is its official language, and it is part of the Greater Arab Maghreb and the African continent. Thus it is a member of the Union of the Arab Maghreb, the Arab League, and the Organization of African Unity. It is an active member of the world community with strong and historic ties with the West, and correct relations with the East. The country's attitude and approach to the various issues are influenced by its Arab-Berber culture, its Islamic values, proximity to Europe, and African geography. The end-result has yielded liberal policies, and a government-guided capitalist structure which have gained the country a reputation of stability and moderation. The King

himself commands great respect in the world.

## IV- THE ECONOMY:

Morocco has a multi-sector economy quite balanced in terms of the contribution of each to GNP. The following summary, sheds light on the most important sectors.

### A. Agriculture:

Agriculture, long the most important sector, continues to employ about a third of the labor force, although it contributes some 18% of GNP. Most rural inhabitants are farmers and herdsman. In 1963, the country introduced land reforms which helped the small farmer through improved services, credit lines, and basic infrastructure. The main products are grains (mainly wheat and barley), fruits and vegetables. Large plantations and coop farms produce primarily cash crops, especially for the export market. The harvest for 1989-90 was very good, thus enabling the country to reduce its food import bill considerably. Of the total land area, about 10% is covered with forests which are home to rare animal and plant species.

### B. The Extraction Industry:

Morocco is the world's largest exporter of phosphate rock. Its reserves amount to a staggering 59,000 million metric tons. The extraction industry includes iron ore, lead, cobalt, zinc, manganese, and silver - all of which are mined in large quantities. Additional mining is done to produce coal, rock salt, uranium, and copper. The major constraint on this industry is the massive initial investment required for exploitation.

### C. The Manufacturing Industry:

Manufacturing accounts for over a third of GNP, and continues to provide the most promising outlet for more employment. This sector includes both light and heavy indus-

tries. Among the major products are textiles, shoes, tires, motor vehicles, and a variety of consumer and durable goods.

The packing industry has also created a strong agri-business potential. The country presently produces over half a million tons of fish, most of which is canned and exported.

### D. Tourism:

Tourism is one of the most important economic activities in Morocco. In 1989, over 3.5 million persons visited Morocco thus contributing almost ten million dirhams or 22.2% of the foreign exchange earnings of the country, and 13% of the government earnings of foreign exchange. Investments, employment, and value added from this sector are enormous.

### E. Other Sectors:

There are major contributions from other sectors, of course. Notable among these are the transfers of Moroccan immigrants working abroad, foreign aid, and external investments. The service sector is the dominant sector in the economy, but since it is primarily government financed, its contribution to GNP vacillates with the conditions of the budget.

## V- RELATIONS WITH YEMEN

Yemen and Morocco enjoy very close relations. Over the last few years, these relations have grown and developed. Recently, several agreements have been signed between the two countries. These include a cultural agreement, a commercial agreement, and a technical/economic agreement. An agreement covering cooperation in the field of tourism is under preparation. The Kingdom of Morocco has established a commercial center in Sanaa with the aim of fostering more cooperation in this field. H.E. Mr. Abubakar Bannoonah, in an interview with Yemen Times on this occasion, also explained that the embassy is finalizing preparations for a Moroccan cultural week to be held in Yemen during 1991. Also during this year, the first meeting of the Yemeni-Moroccan Joint Committee will be held in an attempt to foster better understanding and more cooperation.

# # # # #

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## PERSONAL VIEW

### IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE WAR



**Yahia Abdul-Raqeeb,**  
Director-General of Information,  
Prime Ministry of Yemen

The fact that Iraq was able to stand-up to the USA, and confront the US-led international force gathered from thirty countries is a victory. And the fact that it was able to hold them off for so long and withstand their on-slaughter for forty days is another victory of which we have to be proud. The Gulf war was a litmus test which exposed the deep-seated animosity of the West, in general, and the USA in particular, towards the Arabs. It exposed their intentions, and it also exposed the subservient regimes in the region.

Iraq, through its superb management of the crisis, was able to show the whole world the hypocrisy of the USA, and the helplessness that has overwhelmed a world which has become dominated by one superpower. It also proved to us the ruthlessness of the methods of the "civilized" West.

Irrespective of the Iraqi losses, the people of Iraq continue their loyalty to their leadership. If the USA is thinking of dividing the Iraq people, it is in for a surprise. Iraq is still a leading force to be reckoned with in the region.

Now the war is over, and we are waiting to see how genuine the West is in solving all the pending problems of the Middle East. Iraq was the catalyst that has forced the world to attend to the Palestinian people's rights.

Although the war was difficult, the aftermath is more difficult. The inter-Arab hatred and animosity that the war left behind is hard to overcome easily. Already press reports in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and elsewhere speak of punitive action against those countries that did not support the alliance. Yemen was mentioned. Such an unhealthy attitude reflects the haughty and high overbearing of those parties. Yemen is willing and ready to be a partner on an equal footing in efforts to serve the Arab causes and aspirations and on the basis of clear and patriotic principles.

*Editor's note: This article was abridged, condensed and modified with author's consent.*

## REVIEW OF THE YEMENI PRESS

### AL-AYYAM

#### LAND IN ADEN TO COMPENSATE FOR NATIONALIZED PRIVATE RESIDENCES

Four million Riyals has been provided for the survey and levelling of all lands in Crater, Tawahi, Sheikh Othman and Mansoor. These lands have been set aside to compensate all those whose private houses were nationalized during earlier times.

This was stated in an announcement made by Mr Muhammed Ahmed Salman, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning who explained that instructions had been given to the Ministry's branch in Aden to commence such a survey and levelling operation in pursuance of Law No. 18 of 1990.

Mr. Salman added that a further amount of ten million Riyals has been provided for providing electric supply for lighting purposes in the commercial area in the Economic Capital, Aden.

With regard to the macadamization of the streets of Aden, a contract has been concluded with the Public Roads Corporation for YR32 million to start immediately with the macadamization of Aden streets. Concluding his statement to "Al Ayyam", the Minister said that all these efforts come with the intent of solving the problems of private housing. Macadamization and lighting of Aden streets comes within plan to prepare Aden to become a free zone. We are therefore exerting all efforts to improve its image so that the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning may keep up with the development of the leading port of Yemen and the significant role it is expected to play.

"Shortly", he added "lands will be handed over to investors so that they may commence construction." Additional amounts have also been allocated for the survey of lands in areas near the buildings which are randomly built and not befitting the aesthetic landscape of the Economic and Capital and which conflict with the housing and services plans.

### ATHAWRA

#### THE CONSTITUTION AND THE 80TH CENTURY BATTLE

As our battle with the constitution it will also be our battle at the end of the century. Our forerunners, the free Yemenis (The Constitutionists) the best of the strugglers of the Yemeni people offered their heads to tyranny as sacrifices in defense of the constitution. They were falsely and unfairly accused of being constitution maniacs, i. e. infidels and apostates and of attempting to abbreviate the Quran.

Then came the revolution of the Yemeni people in September and October. Yemeni Unity was, however, realized only through the constitution. Our people offered sacrifices so that the country may have a constitution to regulate the political life and affairs of the people.

The charge directed today against the constitution this time is no different than the substance of the earlier charge. Secularism is the other side of infidelity, abbreviation of the Quran and deviation from the command of God.

Rejection of the constitution is rejection of the legal, political, juristical and legislative basis on which the unity state stands. This makes the vicious campaign against the Constitution a campaign launched against the unitary state.

Opposition to the Constitution can be understood within the framework of "the other opinion".

We must accept that this "other opinion" has been guaranteed by the Constitution. Therefore, the parties which reject the constitution, reject, first and above all, the freedom of expression and the other opinion. They reject what has been

achieved democratic practice, freedom of multiparty system, freedom of the press and freedom of expression - the very rights and liberties on which their opposition stands. We must also realize one other problem caused by opposition to the Constitution; i.e., that this Constitution, in spite of its deficiencies and discrepancies, is the basis of the unity state. Thus opposition to the basis stands entails no political participation in the various instruments of the state. It is impossible elsewhere, other than in Yemen, to oppose the legality of the state and its constitution and then participate in it.

The naive linking of opposition to the constitution with opposition to imperialism and Zionism and opposition to the multinational forces is a kind of political childishness which does not conceal the ignorance of its sponsors. Hostility to the constitution is no less than hostility to unity and hostility to the imposition of the modern Yemeni State and of its authority and control over Yemen. It is a substantive rejection of modernization, advancement, technology, general improvement of conditions and the consolidation of unitary procedures. We are well aware of the demands of imperialism and its followers in that regard. It is an acute tendency towards backwardness unassociated with the contemporary spirit and ambition of Yemenis to set up our national, democratic and modern state.

The constitution of the unity state will remain as our bridgehead to the twenty first century and this is one of the major achievements and accomplishments of the Yemeni Revolution.

Abdul Bari Taher

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WEDNESDAY**

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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# THANK GOD IT'S OVER, BUT WHAT NEXT?!

## AN ANALYSIS OF REGIONAL SECURITY



**Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf**

Over the last few days, I have been torn from within. I was a divided person, strongly shocked, and deeply overwhelmed by frustration which evolved later into disillusionment. Many questions crept into my mind, but all I could find was more questions. The soul-searching process finally changed course - from going back to the past, I began looking into the future. What next! Here is what I see coming.

### A. The New Rules and the New Setting:

The USA is finishing the last touches of what it sees as the new order of things. The new system is going to reflect American vision and interests in the region. Here are what I see as its main components:

#### 1. Limitations on Military Hardware:

An important part of the new policy is to limit the inflow of military hardware to the region. This would primarily apply to sophisticated arms and mass-destruction weapons. A system of coordination of the major arms exporters could evolve under the auspices of the USA. The application of this rule would definitely be on a graduation system which allows different arms flows to different countries in the region. This would mean that countries like Israel and Turkey would be entitled to arms other countries cannot get. Thus, some countries in the Middle East would always be militarily stronger than others. Another reason for such disparity is the ability of those same countries to produce quite a few of the weapon systems internally.

#### 2. Fighting Pan-Arabism and Pan-Islamism:

The waning of Iraq has dealt a serious blow to pan-Arab aspirations. The war itself was a definite proof that pan-Arab and pan-Islamic feelings and loyalties have become subservient to feelings and loyalties to the nation-state. In any case, the new alliances and re-groupings will definitely avoid pan-Arab or pan-Islamic lines. Even before

the crisis, although Arab and Muslim leaders often spoke in terms of pan-Arab and pan-Islamic associations, they often practised policies against such ties. The new order of things will, evidently, fight ties along Arab or Islamic lines.

#### 3. The Non-Arab Axis:

The new arrangements will tend to give the non-Arab countries of the Middle East the upper hand in shaping the region's future under the aegis of the USA. Israel, Turkey, and Iran are expected to play a more visible and active role. Although both Egypt and Syria actively participated in the Gulf war alongside the allied forces, their commitment is not perceived as total, final, or fully reliable.

On the other hand, the non-Arab countries are seen as more reliable, specially in fighting off an Arab country. Turkey, even under extreme domestic pressure, came through in the war. Israel, although it was under attack for the first time in its history, took the heat and obeyed US orders not to be openly drawn into the war. And Iran, for all its anti-American rhetoric, agreed to stay out of the war in return for a share in the spoils.

#### 4. New Leaderships:

The new system envisages changes in the leaderships of some countries in the region. Most obvious are efforts to change the leadership of Iraq, and later on, probably some of the Gulf states. Even in cases where the person of the leader continues, some form of collective rule is envisaged to give these countries a semblance of democratic practices. Thus, we will witness the establishment of many councils of elders and consultative councils, and other such bodies. By a double stroke, the hegemony of family rule will be reduced to give breathing space to the aspiring key figures in the business community, the military, and the intelligentsia.

#### 5. The Redistribution of Wealth:

There is a firm conviction

that peaceful coexistence cannot be achieved in a region if it suffers from a marked disparity in fortunes. Thus an institutionalized mechanism - on a regional basis - would be created to ensure a minimum standard of living for all people in the area. The purpose is to create within the new system, a stake for all nations in an attempt to preserve it. An extension of this issue is the reconstruction commitment. Iraq and Kuwait have to be helped in their reconstruction efforts, but other potential recipients include Egypt, Turkey, Israel, Jordan, Yemen and the Sudan. Excluding any country because of its stand in the crisis would simply increase and deepen the animosity and grudge.

### B. Yemen's Strategy in the 1990's:

The Republic of Yemen's position has been misunderstood intentionally or unintentionally. As early as August 3rd, President Ali Abdullah Saleh told visiting Iraqi First Deputy prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadhan that Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait. (Refer to the BBC broadcast coverage on this). Today, Yemen is treated as if it condoned the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. This situation is the result of efforts to discredit a small country that has achieved what most other regional countries could not; i.e., internal political stability and harmony, democracy and a multi-party system, and unity through peaceful means. So the deliberate misinterpretation of Yemen's position is due to the desire of some countries to discredit these achievements. In any case, I see Yemen's immediate needs in foreign policy and security matters to include:

#### 1. Overcoming the Image Problem:

Many reporters, most probably hired by certain governments, wrote commentaries presenting Yemen as an anti-Kuwait, anti-Gulf nation. Of course, Yemen did not consent to the U.S.-led military on-slaught, but

that does not make it an enemy of Kuwait or Saudi Arabia, or any other country, for that matter. By cornering Yemen, those reporters actually created a more difficult situation. Today, one of Yemen's first efforts should be geared towards overcoming this image problem.

#### 2. The Isolation Issue:

Some neighboring countries are trying to isolate Yemen. This is a very short-sighted policy. Yemenis are proud people, and they want to be respected as they respect others. By trying to isolate Yemen, these countries may create a time-bomb. It would be more appropriate to incorporate Yemen in any regional arrangement. After all, Yemen has more people than the rest of the Arabian Peninsula combined. The new order does not need policy-makers with vengeance, but it needs policy makers with vision. If some think they will throw Yemen to the dogs, they are badly mistaken.

#### 3. Points of Friction:

Yemeni policy makers need to embark on a major study to identify the potential points of friction with the outside world. Yemenis working abroad, the foreign debt, credit lines and foreign assistance, border demarcation, the regional alliances are examples of where trouble could be expected. Options and scenarios must be developed to prepare policy makers for any eventuality in these and any other points of potential friction..

#### 4. Regional and International Cooperation:

Yemen participated (along with Jordan, Egypt and Iraq) in a regional cooperation format known as the Arab cooperation Council. A cost-benefit analysis of this effort shows it was a losing project. Besides, this endeavor did not present any specific goals and plan of action which could be achieved only with this structure. It would be wise to abandon this format and to concentrate on bilateral cooperation arrangements in the near future. It is crucial to continue to develop

strong bilateral ties with different countries, notably Jordan, Sultanate of Oman, the Sudan, Iraq, Egypt, Syria, Iran, Algeria, Morocco, Turkey, Ethiopia, Pakistan, India, and of course the Gulf States. At the international level, efforts should be exerted to improve and consolidate ties with Europe (notably Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and France), with the Far East (China, Japan, Korea) and of course the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. The choice of ambassadors and other personnel is of great importance in Yemen's new strategy.

### C. Final Words

The U.S.A. is leading the world into a new epoch. Is it going to parcel the area into "good guys" and "bad guys" or is it going to welcome the participation of all? If Iraq, Jordan, Yemen, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia, Mauritania, etc. are excluded from the new order, will it survive for long? Will there be punitive measures against those countries? All I can say is, I hope the Middle East will not go through a Versailles treaty of its own. We can not penalize important actors and exclude them from the game and expect the play to continue smoothly. It is not a major accomplishment for the 30-nation alliance to win a war against a small third-world country. However, winning the peace would be a major accomplishment. The Middle East needs an enlightened approach. We need people of vision, not people of vengeance. Humility, far sightedness and forgiveness are remarkable human attributes which would be most useful and handy to the allies now. Let by-gones be by-gones! Let us draw the lines and rules, and let all the countries join-in on an equal footing to rebuild the area. Will we have the wisdom, patience and far-sight to overcome the short comings of the past? Only time will tell.

## Choosing the Right Books for Your Children!!!

Special to the Yemen Times

Book lovers young and old know there is no pleasure exactly like the moment when book and reader meet and are just right for each other. The roles of children have changed substantially over the years and so have the kinds of books published for them, but the moment of enchantment is the same, and the instantaneous sense of wonder and satisfaction is the same. To choose the right book, of course, we have to know the children's needs and the kinds of books.

Children are engaged in a continuous process of learning about themselves and their world. As they mature, that world expands from the home and parents to siblings to peers, and eventually, to people and places they know about but which they never may actually see. In order to function successfully in society, children must learn to know themselves, to achieve self-identity. They must also learn about social interaction and recognize ways in which they are similar to and different from others. Those are psychosocial ways of thinking.

Then there is the book selection process. Books meant for children are usually bought by adults. Often parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, friends, etc. buy books for children. But how can adults know what book a child is going to enjoy? Actually they can't know with any degree of certainty. A book may be judged as appropriate, but if it is not, we should face the fact that youngsters are skilled at rejecting what is not for them. If a book is beyond children's understanding or too subtle or sophisticated for their level of appreciation, they can turn it down with a strong indifference which leaves adults baffled and grieved. They need not mourn. A couple of years later, a child may accept with enthusiasm that very book. Through this gradual induction with time, children catch the theme and savor the beauty or the subtle humor or the meaning that eluded them at first. Some times, adults have the privilege of seeing this discovery take place. The child's face comes suddenly alive; his/her eyes shine. He/she may be anticipating

an amusing conclusion or a heroic triumph. There is a sudden chuckle, or breath is exhaled like a sigh. The book has moved him/her, perhaps even to laughter or tears - in any case there is a deep inner satisfaction. The child will turn to books again with anticipation.

Adults must know a great deal about books in choosing them for children and in guiding children to them.

The best way to know books is to read them. Book selection guides can help and lists of awards are useful, but these are no substitute for reading. To make wise selections and to stimulate children's interest in this most wonderful of hobbies - reading books, one must know why. Parents should not feel restricted - in choosing book themes - by the child's immediate interests, because these are often narrower than they need to be, and because these can change quite quickly. Often, children's reactions are immediate and personal, and they usually adhere conservatively to a known literary experience such as horse stories, fairy tales, science fiction, etc. Adults should motivate them to explore old and new books. But for an adult to develop judgments that are reliable and useful, they should look closely at books, not only to appraise their total effect, but also to examine the elements that produce that effect. Such elements include the setting, point of view, characters, plot, theme, style, etc.

Making the right decision in choosing your children's books is very important for their growth and development. Making the right choice can also provide one more bridge for the bonds of understanding and communication between you and your children.

Abridged and condensed from chapters 1-3 (pp. 4-55) in *Children and Books* by Zena Sutherland, Dianne Monson, and May Arbuthnot (Glenview: Illinois: Scott, Foresman & Co., 1981), 6th edition.

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## TAKING THE STING OUT OF CRITICISM

The word criticism by itself is enough to make many people edgy and frightened. Only a small percentage of individuals see the positive side of criticism. To be on the receiving end of criticism is many times transformed into a nightmare. Here are a few tips as to how to minimize our sensitivity towards criticism.

### I. When Being Criticized:

When you find yourself being criticized, try to determine whether the criticism is valid or not. Tell yourself to consider the source. If the source is an expert, or is powerful - your boss, for example, you will be wise to listen. However, consider also the critic's motive. Try to gauge the emotional climate. If your critic is visibly upset, he or she, rather than you, may have the problem. Next ask yourself if you have heard this criticism before. "When we are criticized repeatedly for the same things, probably we should pay attention," says Margaret Verble, an American communication consultant.

When responding to criticism, one should avoid some well-known, yet very recurrent responses. Here are some responses you should avoid:

#### 1. Do not over-generalize:

If someone says your shoes do not go with your outfit, react only to that. The criticism has very little to do about your taste in general. If your boss asks you to be on time for a certain meeting, it does not mean you are always late, or that your boss has a negative impression of your punctuality. Stay with the specific criticism.

#### 2. Do not counter-attack:

This technique fosters nothing but ill feelings. If someone says, "You are late again," it does not do any good to counter, "What about you? You are never on time." It is hard for some of us to resist countering, but it is worth the effort.

#### 3. Do not offer excuses:

Defensiveness leads to nowhere. Even worse is to retreat in silence, which in this context is far from passive. Both responses cut off further discussion.

#### 4. Do not use dishonest "agreement":

If you appear to agree with the criticism but honestly do not, your critic will

look for evidence of change. When nothing happens, it will seem to the critic as though you have been lying.

Behaviour experts say we should avoid destructive responses like those above, and we should also "help" our critics. Here is how:

#### a) Be quiet and listen:

Rein in your emotions and try to hear what your critic is actually saying. This helps to avoid reading too much out of what is being said.

#### b) Ask for more information, if needed:

A simple "Can you be more specific?" is often enough. Show your critic you are interested in what he/she is saying and that you need more information.

#### c) Ask for a solution:

Try to solicit a solution, and seek your critic's advice. "What do you suggest? Or what would you like me to do?" is usually a good start.

When you are confronted with a valid criticism, you have one of three options. These are:

#### 1) Straightforward acceptance:

Something like "I see your point" or "You are right" is usually a sufficient answer.

2) *Delay*: Sometimes you are not fully convinced, or you feel cornered by a critic who has initiated this situation to his/her advantage. You do not have to commit on the spot, a delay tactic would be most appropriate in such cases. "I need time to think about what you said" or "Let us talk again tomorrow" would be sufficient. This option gives you a measure of control, and keeps your options open for while.

#### 3) Disagreement:

Sometimes a criticism may be valid only partially. This creates a situation in which you disagree with one part and accept another. For example, if someone says "You have misplaced something, you always do that." You can accept having misplaced something, and agree with the criticism, but you can disagree that you always misplace things.

### II. When Criticizing:

Now here are some tips if you are on the giving end of criticism. The cardinal rule in giving criticism is never to do it publicly. Do

it privately, and give the person every opportunity to save face, choose the best time to offer advice. Don't let resentments build up.

Because it takes so long to work up courage to criticize, many of us match the criticism to the courage and end up making an all-encompassing accusation instead of sticking with the much smaller criticism we wanted to make.

Separate the deed from the person and be sure you know what the deed is. It is not enough to say, "He is driving me crazy." Better identify the specific behaviour problem you want to help correct.

Since people generally change just one behaviour pattern at a time, it is best to limit criticism to a single goal. If you pile up criticism against someone, it looks as if you have targeted that person and that you are out to get him/her.

Empathize with the person you criticize. Use the pronoun "I" often. It helps if you couch your criticism in terms of "When you do X, I feel Y." Follow your criticism with appreciation for positive characteristics. If you criticize someone for constantly interrupting, be sure you also explain how much you need their ideas.

No criticism should be longer than three or four sentences. Use a structured approach whereby the first sentence is a statement of desire. The second sentence explains the effect. The third would show how useful it would be if the other party changes his/her action or attitude. Take an example. "I wish you would ring up when you are going to be late." (statement of desire). "When you are late and you don't ring up, I worry that something might have happened to you." (effect). "If you telephone when you are going to be late, I'll start dinner later." (helpful/ useful).

People who learn these basic techniques for improving the way they criticize and respond to criticism seem to go through life without the emotional upsets that plague so many of us. They believe criticism can be positive, and it works that way.

Abridged from *Reader's Digest*, (May 1989), pp. 145-47.



# SPORTS



## YEMEN'S VOLLEYBALL STAR

"To stay on the top for the last 3 years, Foolath has had to face down a lot of fears". When I went to see him, it was 4 PM at the volleyball facility of Al-wahda Club in Sana'a. One of the best volleyball coaches in the country (most of them Chinese) is there to supervise the training of the athletes, trying to figure out who among them has the potential to be in the Wahda team and national team. There on the court and preparing for his "spike" is Foolath. Before his spike, he studied the video-tape of volley ball. Foolath

Saleh Al-Badah was 16 when he first won the hearts of the people. His ability was recognized in 1988 Arab Cup Volleyball Championship and since then he is being watched in the local scene as the one to beat. But they cannot come up with the quality that Foolath has. His coach developed a program that taught him the techniques. In his practice court where he gets ready for the "net block" - one, two, three and there he goes. His performance is followed by an instant of reverent silence and a sound of applause, whistles and the crack of the chairs.

In the hard competitive sport, a good technique is highly prized. If Foolath has any chronic weakness it is the in-sults and criticism. "The problem I have" Foolath says "is in the audience." He used to be introverted. He was in a lot of turmoil. "I've seen him grow to being a very relaxed, confident, comfortable person who can deal with the media, speak in front of crowds and just be happy. When I first started coaching him, he wasn't a real kid". He was always brave and strong but he was a scared kid. Scared of so many things. Foolath is tall at eye level, at 5 feet 11 inches, a good and obedient son who used to spend most of his childhood time in the club to study volleyball technique from his favorite athletes. Some of the bold staffs ask him questions that make him scared to perform. What if they block all your spikes? What if you get nervous? What if you can't just do it? He talks to them patiently

and gently about his fears. He admits he's scared of a lot of things. Dangerous jumps and blocks that might break your wrists, new techniques that might hurt his legs and ankles, booh's from the audience, failure and success. "And drugs" he is saying as he walks around the bench.

At the moment Foolath, is looking forward to what he calls an emotional rather than a physical obsession. Can he make it, can he leave the sport with a clean record? And when should he leave? Next month? Next year? Or in 5 years? Volleyball players are said to peak in their mid-twenties and he is 20. "I am totally consumed by the



mi tations of age" he says. The younger kids on the team keep on teasing him and ask his advice about the new volleyball techniques. "Show us Papa How to do it". Last year, when there was no selection for the National team to the Asian Games, he ignored it, but deep inside him he was very disappointed. Leaving is scary in itself. It means the end. "I went through many stages" he says, "Since I was a kid at school when I first started out, this volleyball was the one era of success. So it was almost like my survival". "Today I was having fun, so really, these last 1,5 years have been for the enjoyment". He stops and smiles, then shakes his head. I never thought I could get to this point".

Early on he was exceptional. His Chinese coach has watched hundreds of grade-school hopefuls with high ambitions go to the Olympics. But he can still remember his first look at Foolath at a grade school ath-

letic competition. "I saw him when he was 15. At that time I was a newly hired coach. He had a different quality of volleyball than I seen with any one else. He was stronger. His body proportion is perfect. For 15 years old he was extremely strong. And he had a presence about him. In volleyball lies his strongest ability lies, there was no hesitancy. "I joined the Wahda club to get a good coaching," he says. I attended some seminars and summer training though the allowance is not enough for him. When he came back from Tunisia with the bronze trophy in volleyball and made the headlines, he went to visit his friends at the club and his school where he graduated and all of them congratulated him.

He always felt that his club is his second home. He never smokes or drinks. Getting disoriented in this sport can cripple the athlete's nerve. His coach recalls one time when as a very young athlete, and seized up with serious insecurity during the trial for the national championship, he made a very bad fall after the jump and broke his ankle. He was trying to learn a way to hit back the ball. This is a new technique that needed to be perfected. Finally his coach insisted it was time for him to do this technique. He went to do it, and it wouldn't go well. He'd try it again and again and back down. They got to the end of the practice, and he still didn't do it. He was trying to sneak off when his coach caught him. The coach says, "I told him he just had to learn that technique. That if he couldn't do it, he had to take his breakfast, lunch and dinner and stay in the volleyball court until he did it." Do it or else. Ask Foolath about it and he would smile broadly. "Yeah that was probably the most difficult technique I had to learn, because I had to jump so high and get a good spike without touching the net and being blocked by the opponent."

by: Gilbert SJ Maano

fused and disoriented out there" said Raul after his Sana'a debut. His teammates admired his sport-manship and coolness and the way he keeps his body in shape. He trains four hours daily at the Officers Club for 5 days. And then he coaches young hopefuls during his free time.

Raul started playing at the age of ten in his hometown. Before he was fully grown he was already a star player of his school. In 1983 he joined the JRC Bombers in Manila where he made his first appearance in a big competition. After that, the Basketball Federation noticed his potential talent and since then he became a hot property of JRC. Standing at 6'3", he is quite tall for a Filipino. He answers every question about his height with uncommon civility, and he readily jokes about his playing abilities. He seems to like the view from up there, and he also seems grateful for his view from down there at the end of the player's bench, even though he would like to sweat it out in the games every so often. Ladies may giggle at first sight of his pipe-cleaner physique, but if they watch Raul during the game, watch him cheer his teammates on, and give instructions and coaching during timeouts, watch him join the Yemenis playing. They know that Raul is more than just the tallest Filipino in Sana'a. He is a genuine hero. "I played with the CCP - Central Colleges of the Philippines for 4 years" he says. At first I don't get much attention from the team, but after I showed my worth they give me importance.

He may not be the tallest man in the league, but Raul is certainly the most applauded player. His team-mates have a lot of faith in him. "He has a nice touch from outside, and he runs as well as any big man I've seen" says one insider. Raul weighs only 64 kgs. He has a big palm and long arms which is extraordinary for Filipinos. His height really does strange things to people. Little children have been known to fall over backward trying to look up to his head. People who walk with him develop a habit of doubling their normal steps. Being that tall is the reason of course why Raul is still in love with basketball. He can play the whole period without rest. I still dream of being a star someday. "One of the things I like best about him is the way he handles himself" says one Yemeni fan.

Raul grew up in Negros, Philippines, the son of Alejandro Inoferio 5'11" Chief of police, and Onese, 5'2" housewife. His older brother Rene is 5'9". He hit 6 feet at the age of 18 and at the age of 21 he shot up to 6'3". They got their height from the father. His parents always told them that being tall was a gift and not something to be ashamed of, and that they should hold their heads up high. That's one of the things that attracted to and impressed with Oda (his wife) -her height. He likes music and is a hardworking supervisor at the Sheraton Hotel in Sana'a. Inside the court he plays coach, where he contribute his knowledge about basketball to those young athletes. Raul is a talent, a great natural athlete and

a great leader in the court. His friends believe that he can do anything. You can't give up with him. He can play center, he can play forward, and he can play guard. Winning that award in the latest league means a lot to him. That day he had the most incredible euphoria. He just wanted to hold on to it. He'd say there's nothing better than shooting and



winning and doing well. That's why basketball is always his priority. Basketball is hard work. It's hard running and dribbling the ball, but the worst part of it is the insecurity - never knowing exactly where you're supposed to be, what's gonna happen. I'm afraid of error and you can be the best person one day and if you make one little slip, the next day you're nothing. You should have the courage and patience to lead your team. Raul is taking all of this success as a stride. What he is trying to do is to bring his team down to a level where things are calm. That's why he is adored by his friends. But there is a little frustration deep inside him. Being the top scorer he had his moments against other teams. For him, the better the competition, the better he will play. When it comes to techniques, passing and shooting, there is one fact he doesn't like. Some of the athletes are maneuvering in the wrong way -like knocking the good player down. Shots that would result in three points plays against other teams don't even come close when Raul takes them against his opponent because he is usually cornered not fouled. Irritability cannot be avoided. They have talents and commitments. Other teams could play the same way but wouldn't get his team's efficiency, because their people are scattered. Throughout the league he knows some athletes and their skills. Some are smart, defensive and tough. "Accuracy and defense play a vital role in the game" he added. That's important. If you go into this thing with anything less than a full commitment, it won't work. A lot of players already know this fact. Lastly before we parted he mentioned that basketball was the grand community activity, sport, culture and entertainment, and he wants to have a meaningful role in Yemeni sports.

by: Gilbert SJ Maano

## A TALL SPORTSMAN FROM THE PHILIPPINES

Can Anyone Stop Raul?

The first time the public saw Raul Inoferio he was holding the most valuable player trophy awarded to him in the Inter-Club Basketball Tournament held at Al-Ahli Basketball Court in Bab Salam two weeks ago. Showing off his trophy to his team-mates who had cheered for him as he preformed with Al-Shaab Club of Sana'a. In the past two years Towering Raul as his friends dubbed him has grown up a bit. He said goodbye to his parents and friends in the Philippines, left his hometown to work in Sana'a. Raul also scaled down his training - he didn't go into the court until last year. So it was

on a late Sunday afternoon when Raul, 27, found himself once again on the victory stand as he was the giddy winner of the Most Valuable Basketball Player Award. This victory was almost as sweet as the one in the Philippines. NCAA. But that triumph had been expected: this one was, oh, such a surprise. "As far as my expectations go, I don't have any", he had said before the competitions. The main difference in this tournament is I have been playing with the Yemenis (since he is a member of Al-Shaab Club of Sana'a) and I am the only Filipino player in the competition. It means a lot since he pitted his talents against the

Yemen National basketball team.

In condition or out, Raul has a way of knocking out crowds as well as opponents. The hundreds of fans who witnessed local tournament between Al-Ahli A, Al-Ahli B, Al-Wahda, Al-Zohra and Shaab Clubs all of Sana'a. In the week-long tournament in which the first three finishers will get the top three honours, Raul got everybody by winning the most points and for being the top-scorer in the tournament thus outpointing the national players of the country. As good a day as it was for Raul, it was less than spectacular for his teammates. Not the best finish by Al-Shaab Club. "I felt funny kind of con-

## PARLIAMENT GIVES FINAL SHAPE TO NEW INCOME TAX LAW

A series of heated, and sometimes disorderly, debates, continue in the Council of Deputies (Parliament) regarding Yemen's new income tax law. The new law, like its predecessor, is progressive in its brackets, and divides income according to its sources into three categories. The proposal on which the Council is expected to vote in today's session is detailed below:



**SPEAKER DR. YASSEEN SA'EEED NUMAN**

### A. Salaries and Wages:

Salaries, wages, and other forms of remuneration are subjected to the lowest income tax rates. Their brackets are as under:

Monthly Income Level	Tax Rates
1. First YR 1000 of income	Exempted
2. The next YR 625 of income	3%
3. The next YR.625 of income	6%
4. The next YR.625 of income	9%
5. The next YR.625 of income	12%
6. Any other income exceeding YR.4000	15%

### B. Income from Professional Services:

The net income accrued from professional services (medical, legal, accounting, consultancies, etc.) are subjected to the following rates:

Annual Net Income	Tax Rates
1. First YR.12000 of income	Exempted
2. The next YR.7500 of income	6%
3. The next YR.7500 of income	8%
4. The next YR. 7500 of income	10%
5. The next YR. 7500 of income	12%
6. Any income above YR.42000	18%

### C. Industrial and Commercial Profits:

Taxes on industrial and commercial profits were the focus of attention and drew the greatest debate. The final version is given below:

Annual New Profits	Tax Rates
1. First YR.12000 of net profits	Exempted
2. The next YR.7500 of profits	7%
3. The next YR.7500 of profits	10%
4. The next YR.7500 of profits	15%
5. The next YR. 7500 of profits	20%
6. Any profits above YR.42000	12%

Dr. Abdul-ghani Qassim, an active member of parliament, informed Yemen Times that two thorny issues on which the Council argued extensively delayed voting on the new law. First, many members suggested that in an effort to stop rural-to-urban migration, it was suggested that all investments in villages and small towns with populations not exceeding 5000 inhabitants should be given total exemption from the income tax law. Second, it was suggested that the lowest paid elements (soldiers) in the armed forces should be exempted from income tax. The purpose of this step is to achieve a more just tax burden distribution.

## AIRLINES RESUME SERVICE TO YEMEN

YEMEN TIMES understood from special sources that international airline companies have decided to resume their operations into Yemen. Air France will resume its scheduled flights next week, Ethiopian Airlines will start flights on March 9th, ALIA (Royal Jordanian) will fly in starting the 11th. Egypt Air has already resumed flights this week. By the same token, YEMENIA will re-start its international schedule effective this week.

At another level, YEMENIA is holding an extraordinary general assembly to finalize arrangements for the merger of Yemenia and AlYemda. Mr Mohammed Al-Haimi is going to continue as chairman of the new company. The merger will be final on 28th of March. The Operation Department has unified flight schedules at both domestic and international levels.

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## JAPAN TO FINANCE OIL STORAGE TANKS PROJECT

YEMEN TIMES learnt that the General Corporation for Oil and Mineral Resources has secured financing of a major project which it had earlier studied for execution, but which was temporarily shelved. The project, which is being revised, involves the construction of four to five large storage tanks for refined oil products. The project which will cost US\$100 million is going to be financed by the government of Japan. The tanks will be located at Ras Issa, about 25 kms. north of Hodeidah.

It is worth mentioning that the Republic of Yemen and Japan enjoy friendly relations and economic cooperation. Yemen Times has learnt from high ranking Yemeni officials that the country is interested in further consolidating cooperation and understanding with Japan.

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## ABU-GHAZALEH TO CHAIR ISAR MEETING

The president of the Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA) < Mr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, left Cairo for New York to participate in the meetings of the United Nations Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR), which will be held during March 3-9, 1991. Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh will chair, for the first time, the opening session of the Working Group at the ECOSOC chamber in the U.N.

The membership of the working group consists of representatives from all continents. The discussions during these rounds will center around the role of this U.N. organization in advancing the accounting profession in developing countries. A proposal submitted by Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh and unanimously approved at the last meeting will also be a topic of discussion. It calls for international harmonization of accounting standards, which will help close gaps between developing and industrialized nations and benefit the international community overall.

Also in the previous ISAR meeting, Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh was elected Vice-Chairman and member of the Executive Bureau.

ترحب جريدة «يمن تايمز» باشتراكات الافراد والشركات والمؤسسات

بحسب الاسعار التالية:

الاشترك السنوي

الفئة

٥٠٠ ريال

للافراد

١٠٠٠ ريال

للمؤسسات والهيئات

للسفارات والشركات الاجنبية في صنعاء ٨٠ دولار

لمزيد من الايضاح يرجى الاتصال بنا على العنوان التالي:

ص. ب (٢٥٧٩) - ت (٢٣٦٤٣٤/٣٥) - صنعاء الجمهورية اليمنية

### Family Expenditure Pattern

