

YEMEN TIMES



YEMEN'S ONLY ENGLISH - LANGUAGE WEEKLY

SANA'A; 1-7 MAY 1991; VOL I, NUMBER 10

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OUR VIEWPOINT



Planning for the Future

The last five-year development plan of the formerly South Yemen ended in 1990, and the last five-year development plan of the formerly North Yemen ends this year. Yet, no steps have been taken to prepare for a new and comprehensive five-year plan for the country. Everybody knows that preparations for a development plan take one-to-two years. That means that if we were to start preparing for the new plan immediately, it will be ready only at the end of 1992. So, why is nobody attending to this matter?

As a corollary to this effort, it might be appropriate to re-structure the financial system of the government. Most of the senior officials I have met (ministers) complain against the Minister of Finance who, they see, as exercising veto power over their allocations. The Minister of Finance himself is, of course, trapped between the meager resources at his disposal and the unsatiable demands of his colleagues and the other officials. Yet, there is a way out of all of this. Why don't we adopt a zero-based budgeting system to plan for government expenditures. According to the current system, justifications and negotiations are only necessary for the amounts over and above the last allocations (last year's expenditures). So the discussions involve only the increments which are in the neighborhood of 10% annually. The problem is that most of the already existing allocations contain a lot of inefficiencies and corruption. So in the zero-based budgeting system, every Riyal will have to be justified. If there are misappropriations, they will be discovered. I am certain this system will disclose large amounts which are currently wasted and misplaced. There is no doubt that the new system will require more work and more time. But this is the whole point, let us start our planning, whether for the whole economy, or for the finances of the government at once. Why wait!

One more thing. The government need not depend on its own skills alone. It could draw on the expertise existing in many organizations. First and foremost among these are Sanaa and Aden Universities, and many individuals and groups in the private sector. The question is "Will it listen!"

The Publisher

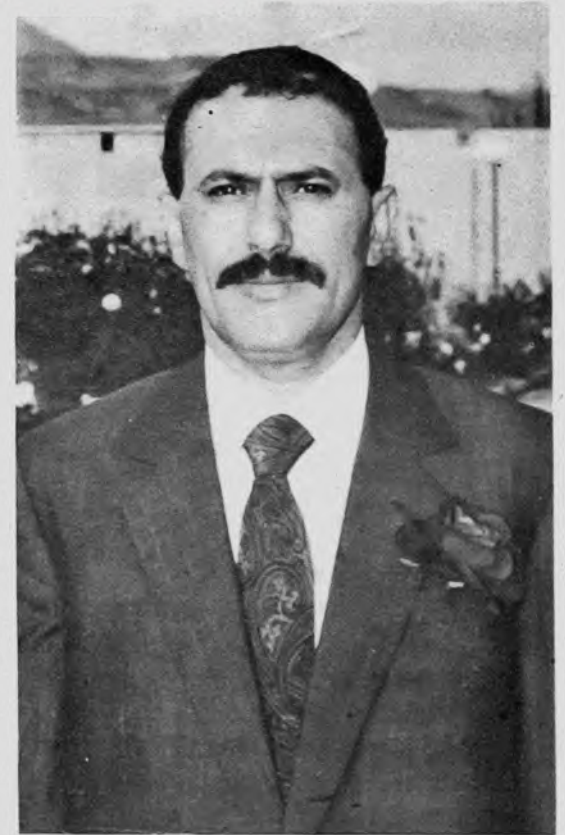
Saleh, "WE ARE WILLING TO WORK WITH ALL PARTIES TO ACHIEVE A BROAD BASED COALITION!"

"The problems facing the Republic of Yemen are basically inherited from the time of colonialism and Imamic rule. The political leadership and the government are aware of the economic problems and will adopt all means to tackle this crisis," said General Ali Abdullah Saleh, Chairman of the Presidential Council.

In an interview with Austrian Television, President Saleh confirmed that Yemen's present policy is directed mainly towards agricultural production and the exploration of natural resources such as oil and minerals. "We are hopeful about the future and can see Yemen's prosperous future in the horizon. The promise comes from mineral wealth and the intensive efforts in comprehensive agricultural development.

In foreign policy, President Saleh added that Yemen has good relations with all brothers in the Arab homeland, Islamic countries and other friendly countries. "We are also looking forward to end the rift between the Arab family and heal the wounds created by the Gulf crisis. President Saleh appealed for Arab solidarity, and demanded an end to the state of dispute that prevailed prior to the Gulf crisis and called upon the Arabs to seek restoration of Arab solidarity. "We should re-establish all the bridges which collapsed as a result of the Gulf crisis," he said. Referring to Yemen's stand on the Gulf crisis, he expressed deep regret over the media distortions of Yemen's position. He also blamed the policy which is based on the premise that "He who does not take my side is against me." President Saleh affirmed that Yemen always condemned the Iraqi presence in Kuwait, and demanded their withdrawal from Kuwait in several opportunities. Yemen also demanded the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the region.

In response to a question on steps being taken towards the establishment of a wide national front, President Saleh said, "We have no plans to substitute democracy by dictatorship of any party, but work for the success of this experiment. We will collaborate with all the political forces in the country to create a Yemeni national coalition between the political parties and organisation during the coming period."



Concluding his interview, President Saleh said that the constitution clearly defines that the transfer of power from one party or group is to be done peacefully, and in accordance with the constitution. "Our people will reject resorting to brute force in reaching power," he said.



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PERSONAL VIEW

YEMEN'S FREEDOM OF THE PRESS



Nagi A. Al-Harazi
Journalist

I am increasingly impressed with the improvements in the caliber of the Yemeni press and the atmosphere within which it works.

I am specially impressed with the **Yemen Times**. As an example let me point to the Yemen Times "Our View Point" column published in Vol I, No 8. I was impressed by the in-depth as well as the candour of what had been published. People may say, "Okay, it is already an achievement that such items are now being published, but what has come about as a result." It is true that the impact is limited at this stage. I am confident, however, that the effectiveness of the press will grow, specially if it is published in an English newspaper. The government will be ashamed as the foreigners become more and more aware of what is going on in the Yemeni society. It is my belief that the Yemeni government is more sensitive regarding how the foreigners feel and what they think than it is about how Yemenis feel.

Back to the view point of the Yemen Times. When the publisher mentioned that "Senior government officials and military/police officers break the law", we should not close our eyes and allow them to get away with it. We should do everything possible to expose them and fight corruption at every level. We should raise public awareness and interest in such matters. We should work hard to reward those who do good deeds, and to punish the wrong-doers so that as a rule nobody is above the law. This will help us achieve the right way of living as in other countries. We are proud to say that we are enjoying our freedom of the press and it means a lot to us.

TOURISTS ARE BACK

Mr. Abdul-Malek Ahmed, Sales Director at Sheraton Sanaa, told Yemen Times that tourism is picking up steadily. He said that his hotel has been receiving steady flows of reservations for individuals as well as groups who are planning to visit Yemen. Starting from late last month, the Sheraton has been gearing up for the rise in business. The first group that came in after the Gulf crisis was 241 persons from Germany, he said. He said that additional groups are also being organized by YATA. To prepare for these and other customers, Sheraton has re-introduced most of its former special services. First, the Nour Al-Negoum Supper Club is reopened starting April 25th, and guests are once again welcome to enjoy fine dining and dancing to the music of the Platinum Band. Second, Barbecue luncheons by the poolside are available for the first time every Friday afternoon. Live music entertains the guests as they enjoy their meals. Finally, the Tandoor Indian Restaurant is reopened to serve exquisite Indian dishes for dinner.

It is worth mentioning that the Sheraton Sanaa hotel has been leading the campaign to restore international tourist interest in Yemen. The General Manager, Mr. Parmar, has travelled to Europe to promote Yemen as an appropriate tourist destination. His efforts, and those of others have well paid off.

At another level, Yemen Times, has learnt that flights into Yemen are heavily booked, especially those originating from Europe. Of course, some of the passengers are returning diplomats and businessmen and officials stationed in Sanaa. But quite a few are also tourists. By the same token, Universal Travel is launching a number of packages to entice tourists to visit various parts of the country. With the unification of the country, it has become possible to link several interesting sites in the northern and southern provinces of Yemen.

PARLIAMENT DISCUSSES BILL ON POLITICAL PARTIES

YEMEN TIMES has attended the special session held by the Council of Deputies last Monday (April 29th) to follow up the council's discussions on the 33 page report filed by the Committee on Liberties and Human Rights regarding the bill regulating political parties. Discussing chapter two of the bill and relating to the general objectives and principles of the political parties in the country, the deputies affirmed the right of groups to organize themselves within the country's multiparty system. No means should be adopted to hinder the freedom of the citizens to exercise such a right. The comments and remarks of the deputies have also stressed on the right of individuals to voluntarily join any party or organization in accordance with the rules of law. The political parties exercise their activities through peaceful and democratic means with the aim of achieving specific and declared programs to promote the political, economic, social and cultural well-being of the Republic. The council, at the end of its first session, referred the remarks of the deputies regarding the establishment of political parties to the Committee on Liberties and Human Rights. The committee is gathering comments from the deputies as well as from the political parties in order to draft the text of the bill, which once adopted, will regulate political activities in the country.



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KIRBY: "BRITISH AID TO YEMEN UNAFFECTED BY THE GULF CRISIS."

Yemeni-British relations stretch back several centuries, and they have seen their ups and downs. Over the last few years, these relations have stabilized and cooperation has evolved rapidly and steadily. Yet, Yemen and Britain did not see eye-to-eye in the recent crisis in the Gulf, and this strained relations somewhat. However, things are getting back to normal, as much as that is possible given the way events unfolded. To talk about the Yemeni-British relations, **YEMEN TIMES** Mr. Gordon Kirby, Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Britain in Sanaa.

Q. How do you assess Yemeni-British relations?

A. As you know Yemeni-British relations are longstanding, and both sides are striving to consolidate and improve these. We have several levels of cooperation - foreign aid, trade, oil investments, cultural and educational programs, sponsored visits, etc. I think that Yemeni-British relations are sound, although I feel they could be improved by efforts from both sides.

Q. Could you evaluate British aid to Yemen?

A. British aid to Yemen is on several footings -- on a nation to nation and multi-lateral basis. Our annual bilateral aid has been in the range of 12-14 million dollars essentially in the fields of veterinary assistance, forestry, irrigation, land survey, agriculture, electricity distribution and generation, and education. We also offer English language training to the media. This month, a team from UK will visit Sana'a to assist Yemeni television in electronic news gathering so that the news can reach the viewers as quickly as possible and before it gets old.

Q. Has British aid to Yemen been influenced by the Gulf war?

A. I must say that the aid is continuing as much as possible from the practical point of view. During the crisis, because of the events of the war and due to certain incidents in Yemen, most of our technical cooperation experts

and their families returned to Britain as a precautionary measure. Slowly most of them are returning to Yemen. I am happy to say that the chief of the veterinary project and the chief of the survey project returned to Yemen last week (mid-April). In two weeks, most of the people who left will have returned to Yemen.

Q. Has there been a specific or explicit decision on the part of the British Government to halt aid to Yemen because of its stand on the Gulf crisis?

A. I can say affirmatively that there has been no such decision taken by the British Government. In February, in the British Parliament, questions were asked about the Government's attitude on aid to Yemen. The aid minister, Mrs. Linda Chalker, replied that aid to Yemen would continue. I would like to add that a critical factor in the continuation of British aid to Yemen is how much benefit the Yemeni government and people get out of it. Unfortunately, we have encountered administrative difficulties especially when importing equipment for our experts to do their jobs properly. Under the terms of the memorandum of understanding, the equipment is used by our experts during the project and once the project is over, this is given to the Yemen government. There have been times when enormous delays have been encountered in clearing such items through customs and sometimes items just disappear.

Q. Could you please be specific about delays in clearing aid equipment?

A. Let me give you examples. Two fully-equipped land-rovers have landed at Hodeidah harbor on 24/2/1989 as part of our aid program. They are still there. Also, eleven consignments of health equipment and medical material were landed at Hodeidah harbor on 29/10/1986. They are still there. We have equipment and aid packages at Hodeidah harbor since 20/5/1981 - almost ten years. In all cases, we presented the relevant sets of original documents to the Foreign Ministry. They always take immediate action



sending them to the CPO (presently Ministry of Planning). But the documents somehow get lost or are misplaced in the formalities between the CPO and Department of Customs (Ministry of Finance). We estimate that equipment and material sent as part of British aid to Yemen worth US\$200,000 is lying deteriorating at Hodeidah harbor. I took this up with the Yemeni officials several times, and I have personally visited Mr. Al-Aghil at CPO for this purpose last September. A lot of promises were given, but there are no results. At a time when there is greater competition for aid world-wide - Eastern Europe, the Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, etc. - this kind of waste does not encourage donors to give more aid or even to maintain present levels.

Q. Are there other difficulties in dispensing British aid to Yemen, or for that matter, in facilitating British business in Yemen?

A. I don't know of any insuperable difficulties, but of, course, there are the usual complications of paper-work and bureaucratic requirements.

Q. Of course, you will kindly realize that each country has its own system. If the system is cumbersome, and I am sure ours is, it is applicable to all parties. My question is whether the British Embassy or citizens are singled out with any extra demands.

A. No, it is not a case of being singled out, as much as not making it easy on people to do business. Let me

give you an example. There are many British enterprises in Taiz and generally when the British businessmen and their families, return to Yemen, they usually drive down to Taiz from Sana'a. It makes sense now to fly into Aden and then drive up to Taiz as it is much closer.

Just three weeks ago, the wife of the British director of a company arrived in Aden and experienced a lot of difficulties with the Immigration and the Customs authorities at Aden airport because she had left Yemen via Sana'a and came back via Aden. The incident was reported to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and I am grateful that officials there are as concerned as we were.

Q. It was recently reported that Yemenis living in the UK were subjected to certain difficulties in light of the Gulf crisis? Could you comment?

A. I cannot speak with authority on this as I am not sure if the stories reported are true. There are approximately 120,000 people of Yemeni origin living in the U.K and this speaks volumes on how they feel about life there.

Yemenis are the longest established Muslim community in Britain and are well integrated. Britain is a democratic multinational society and each group is free to practise its own religion, beliefs, etc. I am confident that there are no special measures against the Yemeni community in Britain.

Q. Has the Embassy here changed the visa requirements for Yemenis wishing to visit the UK?

A. No, there has been no change in the visa requirements for the Yemenis. It has always been our endeavour to make it simple and easy for our Yemeni guests to obtain visas for the UK. If all documents are in order, it does not take more than 48 hours to get a visa. My only appeal to people requesting visas is that

they plan their journey ahead of time and apply with all the required documents. Generally one needs a return ticket, a valid passport and proof of sufficient funds to take care of expenses in the U.K. In case of a genuine emergency supported by proper evidence, visas can even be issued within one hour.

Q. The British media has menaced Yemen on its position on the Gulf crisis, although, as you are aware, Yemen's position has been very balanced and fair. Yemen rejected Iraq's annexation of Kuwait, and demanded its withdrawal, and continued to recognize the independence and sovereignty of Kuwait. You will kindly remember that the Kuwaiti Ambassador was in Sanaa all along. Can you comment?

A. In my view, Yemen appeared to have had a double policy. At the international level, what you say is correct. But internally, that policy was not maintained. The Yemeni media, in my opinion, did great disservice to the country during the crisis reflecting almost completely an anti-Western and pro-Baghdad view. Many foreign diplomats in Sanaa felt, because of the way the media reported events, that Yemen was a I agree with you, Yemen's official and international position was balanced. But what I observed here daily was different.

Q. On the occasion of the approaching first anniversary of Yemeni unity, do you have any message?

A. I want to say that we have emerged from a difficult period for all of us in the Middle East. But this is now behind us and we can continue together along the path of peace and cooperation. We have always found our Yemeni hosts to be hospitable, courteous and find Yemen to be a safe and beautiful country. Then, and on behalf of the British Government, the Embassy and the British community in Yemen, I take this opportunity to congratulate warmly the leadership and the people of Yemen on the occasion of Eid Al-Fitr as well as the approaching first anniversary of Yemeni unity.

THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES: SANAA UNIVERSITY'S BRIGHT SPOT

The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences is probably the jewel of Sanaa University. With a total investment of about



US\$30 million paid for by the fraternal State of Kuwait, this is the latest major addition to Sanaa University. The prestige and aura of awe impresses the visitor as he/she enters the campus, that sits on top of a hill on the way to Wadi Dhahr. The buildings are magnificent, the equipment ultra-modern, and facilities exceptional. The place brings together the cream of high school graduates, the best of the country's MDs, PhDs and support staff, and of course, a good collection of expatriates. To shed light on this faculty, YEMEN TIMES paid a visit to the faculty and spoke with Dr. Abdullah Al-Huraibi, the Dean. Dr. Huraibi is an outstanding professional physician. He is the country's first graduate (having graduated in 1962 from Cairo), and he is one of the high ranking surgeons. Excerpts from our interview follow:

Q. Could you please give us a brief background on this faculty?

A. The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences grew out of the Faculty of Science. Its original plan was simply to be limited to medicine, but it has finally grown into four faculties - almost a university on its own. We have four distinct fields - Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Nursing, Faculty of Laboratory Technologies, and Faculty of Pharmacy. Originally, the plan was

for this faculty to absorb three hundred students, today we already have over sixteen hundred students.

Q. What is the male-female distribution among students, and how do you assess their performances?

A. We have an assortment of male and female students. I think about 60% are male students. Our students are very hard working and industrious as indicated by the reports of external examiners, visiting professors, and our own conclusions. They work very hard to make-up for the short-comings of earlier education.

Q. How sufficient are the facilities (like equipment, books, journals, etc.) for your needs?

A. We are well-provided for at the moment. But if we look ahead, we will need more facilities in the future. Maybe two more lecture halls, some more equipments, vehicles, and similar items. You see it is not enough to have what we need today, we have to plan ahead. The constraint

we face is both financial and administrative. At the financial level, we are tied to the university bureaucracy, which itself is controlled (in financial matters) by the Ministry of Finance. At the administrative level, we have problems in impressing relevant authorities on the need to give us the needed flexibility in doing our work. We, after all, train students to take care of people's health, which is a most precious possession.

Q. How far have the negotiations on a university hospital come?

A. We have raised this matter with the Kuwaitis and have raised the matter with the Japanese Embassy (in order to re-equip the Al-Jumhuri Hospital and convert it into a university hospital), and we have been talking to the Ministry of Health (regarding the Athawrah



Hospital). We continue to talk to these and other parties, but upto now, to no avail. At the moment, as you know, our students receive their practical training at the Athawrah Hospital. I think the facilities there are adequate, and we can do a good job (in terms of service to the patients) if it were handed over to us.

Q. What is the composition of your teaching staff?

A. It varies from field to field. In the basic sciences, the Yemeni teaching

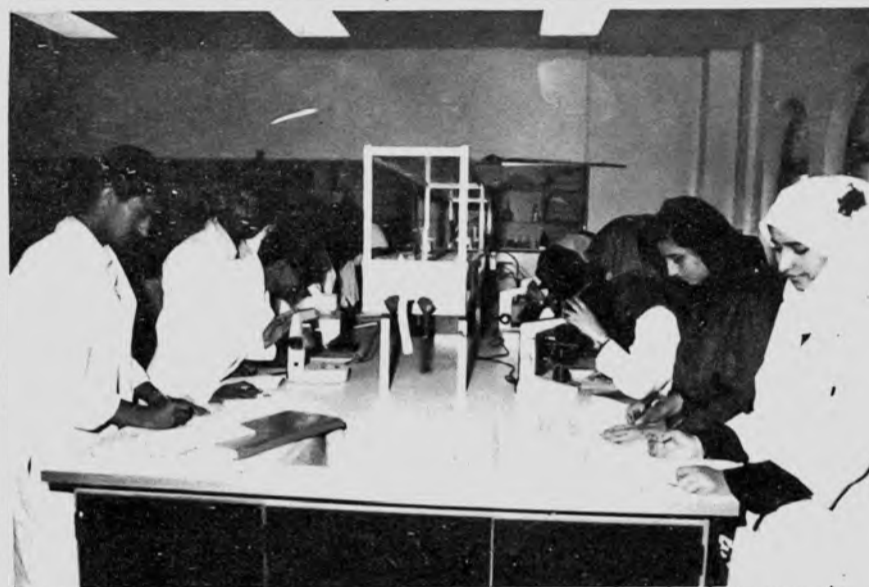
faculty and the Aden Medical College?

INDEPENDENCE FROM SANAA UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION WOULD ALLOW BETTER GROWTH AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

staff make up 30% of the total, while the expatriate staff is 70%.

In the clinical field, it is the reverse: the Yemenis make up 70%, and the bal-

A. Of course we meet and exchange notes at a personal level, but there is no real coordination. They follow a different approach. Their approach is



ance are expatriates. The best among the Yemeni MD are associated with us. Among the expatriate

more classical; ours is more practical and community-oriented.

Q. What do you mean community-oriented?

A. I mean that we send our students to the various clinics and health centers to study the disease itself not the patient. Why a disease is prevalent in a certain area, what are the factors that are associated with the disease, etc. It is a comprehensive approach. We went to the Dhela'a Health Center, for example,

and we plan to go to all regions and governorates. Of course, we will need facilities like transportation, lodging arrangements, etc.

Q. What is the one thing you wish for to facilitate steady and fast growth?

A. There are two things. One, I wish we were independent of the Sanaa University administration. Second, I wish that officials in the Ministry of Finance (even in the government) would understand better our mission, and give us priority in their decisions. Through hard work, this institution can evolve into something all of us can be proud of.



TREK ACROSS THE EMPTY QUARTER

Three diplomatic families have ventured on a trek from Safer in Mareb province headed eastwards until Saiyoun in Hadhramaut province. On Monday morning 29th April, they embarked on a trip that will take them into the southern fringes of the Empty Quarter. The three families are the Dunbars (USA ambassador and wife), the Kumars (Indian ambassador, wife and son) and the Barthes (the General Manager of the French oil company TOTAL, wife, and two children). The gutsy families are bracing some hardships, but they say the trip is worth. Getting lost in the desert is a real possibility, even with the caravan of cars led by an "expert" guide. However, the thrill of going places where few humans have been before is worth the hardships.

It is to be noted that there are parts of Yemen to which few people have been before. There are already a few Euro-American "experts" who are willing to share their experiences and expertise. They are, of course good, but be a bit careful. For adventure-lovers, Yemen provides the opportunity of a life-time. It may be worth exploring these remote parts.

REFERENDUM ON THE CONSTITUTION ON THE 15th AND 16th MAY

A Presidential decree was issued on Thursday (April 26th), in which the dates of the referendum on the constitution were fixed for the 15th and 16th of current May. The decree also extended the registration period by another five days. Thus, the new deadline for registration (a necessary prerequisite for voting) was Tuesday, April 30th, 1991.

FORMATION OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR DOCUMENTATION

President Ali Abdullah Saleh signed a republican decree to establish the consultative body for the national documentation center. Ten persons representing relevant ministries were named as members of the said body.

YEMEN TIMES To Provide English Texts of Yemeni Laws

YEMEN TIMES has embarked on a major effort to provide interested parties with the English texts of the various laws promulgated by the Republic of Yemen. The laws are mainly those organizing the economic and financial activities in the countries. YEMEN TIMES has started a listing of the companies interested in obtaining copies of the said laws. Priorities will be on the basis of the number of requests.

كامران

السيجارة الأكثر مبيعاً في اليمن



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DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY

EMBASSIES & CONSULATES

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Algeria 247755/56
Bulgaria 217244
China 275337/40/41
Cuba 217304
Czechoslovakia 247946
Djibouti 265469
Egypt 275948/9
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Hungary 216679
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Iraq 216681/790
Italy 73409/78849
Japan 207356/208753
Jordan 216701
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Kuwait 216317/319
Lebanon 203959
Libya 208815/6
Mauritania 216770
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Pakistan 248813/14

Palestine 217306/348
Qatar 217488
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Vietnam 216998

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Germany 33607/758
India 53000
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Italy 31848
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AIRLINES

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KLM 78093/76968/270879
Kuwait Airways 272503/4
Lufthansa 272583/667/678
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Royal Jordanian 275314/275028
Sabena 205865
Saudia 240958/9/60
Sudan Airways 272503/4/5
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Zubeiry Office 260834/5
Abdul Moghni 274803/4
Shoab Office 250833
Head Office 232381-9
Airport 250868/831
Reservations 250800/1

HOTELS

Sana'a (02)
Sheraton 237500/1/2
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Hadda 215214/5

Aden (0911)
Movenpick 32947/32070
Gold Mohur 324171

Hodeidah (03)
Bristol 239197
Ambassador 231247/50
Al Burj 75852

Taiz (04)
Mareb 210350

Marib (063)
Bilquis Marib 2666-2371

Sadah (051)
Al Mamoon 2203/2459

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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YBRD 271623/4
Banque Indosuez 272801/3
Government Offices:
Foreign Affairs 202544/7
Interior Affairs 252701/7
Immigration 250761/3
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TV Station 250001/03
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Tourism Ministry 271970/2

YEMEN'S HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS: A GROUP SOCIETY WISHES TO FORGET!

by Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

In all societies, there are those unfortunate persons who have to live with a handicap - whether congenital or acquired. By any standard, they do not lead a full life. Even worse, they are cheated out of their rights by those of us who are more fortunate. In Yemen, some 11% of the population suffers from a handicap. Of these, those with sensory problems are the majority. Another 2% suffer from physical deformities. Almost half the cases are congenital, while the other half result from accidents. In the rural areas, such accidents relate to



falling off trees and buildings, and many cases of fire burns. In the cities, most cases are related to traffic accidents.

Whatever the case, the Yemeni society is trying to forget these individuals. Many officials treat this issue as a problem; and they can be easily irritated if pressed on. It seems they have a problem, and then their problem becomes the problem of the handicapped.



To shed more light on this issue, I went to the Yemeni Association for the Physically Handicapped to discuss with them some of the major outstanding issues.

In a meeting that included



seven male handicapped and two female handicapped individuals, it was very clear from the very beginning that these individuals enjoy a cheerful spirit and enthusiasm, not paralleled among many of us. They threw at me a couple of jokes, and I started to feel more at ease. I learnt the association was formed three years ago. The Government is providing it with YR10,000 per month to cover the rent and other expenses. A similar amount comes the Sanaa Mayor's Office. The association serves 806 handicapped persons, about a hundred of whom are females. What are your major difficulties, I asked. Othman Asselwi answered, "We want them to give us a chance. Many government agencies refuse to employ the handicapped, although there many things that we could do. We could operate telephones, do typing and many other kinds of office work. With some training,

the scope of things we could do would expand." Then there is the housing complex which President Ali Abdullah Saleh had ordered. "Housing in Sanaa is very costly, and the President had kindly ordered

that the government finance a housing complex. But nobody is interested in doing so. To shed more light on this issue, I went to speak with Dr. Azza M. Abdo Ghanim, who did her PhD dissertation on the handicapped.

Q. Could you tell me a little bit about the handicapped in Yemen in light of your studies?



A. I did my research in 1982. According to that study, the percentage of handicapped persons in Yemen is about 8% of the

were the dominant.

Q. In your opinion, what legislations are required to be taken by the government to protect the rights of the handicapped?

A. There are various types of legislations related to the handicapped in society. In Yemen, as far as I know, the only law existing is the one relating to the nondiscrimination against the handicapped in employment. By law, 16% (Other sources said 10%) of the work force should be reserved for the handicapped. This law is not implemented. As far as legislation in education is concerned, the law should state that the handicapped should be provided with

their needs of education. Finally, the most important legislation is related to the rehabilitation and training of the handicapped. We

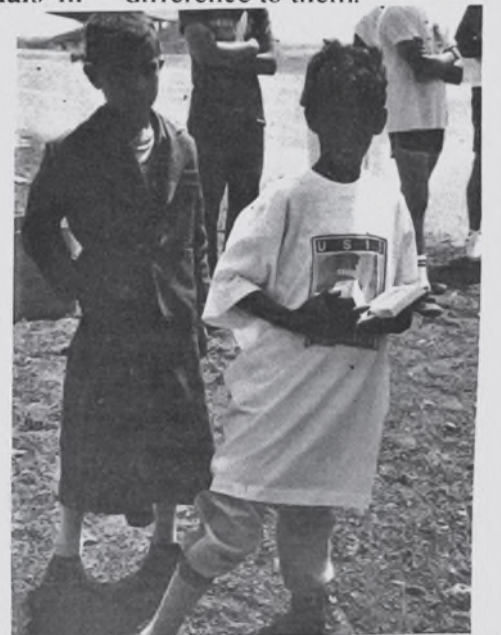
THE HANDICAPPED FACE REGULARLY EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION

total population, which is quite modest compared to other developing countries. The most recurrent form of handicap is related to the senses - the inability to properly see, hear, talk, etc. In another study carried out by the Faculty of Education at Sanaa University, the students found that in their respective villages, the incidence of the handicap was around 13%. Other studies were carried out by students from other faculties. Notable among these is the study carried out by the Faculty of Medicine. In this study the handicap incidence rate was reported at around 10%. In all those studies, the common factor was that the incidents related to sensory handicap

should provide them with the skills that would allow them to earn their living just like everybody else. Finally I went to speak with several officials in charge of the administration of services and facilities to the handicapped. Although sympathetic to a patronizing degree, none of them is capable to do anything. "The available resources are not sufficient to meet even the basic requirements," I have been repeatedly told. Is the private sector chipping in? "NO!"



None of the millionaires (merchants or industrialists) have the philanthropic attributes of their counterparts in the other countries. There have been a few times when certain individuals gave some support. Jamal Abdul Haque gives YR. 1000 monthly to the Association of the Handicapped, The Shaibani Chemico Factory (which produces paint in Taiz) once gave YR. 30000, and Ikhwan Thabit made a donation. The more significant contributions had been coming from foreign charity and volunteer organizations, the most notable ones being OXFAM and USIS. Yemen Hunt Oil used to make regular contributions, but these have now stopped. Nobody knows why, and the handicapped have been asking why. The little donations that the handicapped used to receive had a significant effect on their lives. I ask those who are able to help to please do so. We all are responsible for every member of society, and there is a genuine need for assistance. The small amounts that could be donated will make a major difference to them.



FATHY SALIM: YEMEN HAS ADEQUATE STORAGE FACILITIES FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Petroleum products have become an essential part of our daily consumption in this current civilization. Although in varying degrees, all nations have become acutely aware of the strategic significance of petroleum and its derivatives. We in Yemen have also developed our own addiction to these products. The Yemen Petroleum Company is responsible for supplying the country with its needs. To find out how the demand for these products is met, and how this company functions, YEMEN TIMES went to speak Mr. Fathy Salim Ali Al-Baidhany. Mr. Al-Baidhany graduated from Czechoslovakia in 1973-74 and went on to do his MA in the U.S.A. His almost fifteen years of government services have taken him to NIPA, then to the CPO as Deputy Minister and finally his present post as General Manager of the Yemen Petroleum Products. Excerpts of the interview follow:



all our domestic requirements in all these products from our own oil wells and refineries. Our annual turnover is approximately six billion Yemeni Riyals and this makes the country's largest company.

Q. Over the last few weeks, there has been a general shortage cooking gas (LPG). What are the reasons for this shortage and what have you done to remedy the situation?

A. Until recently, the country's demand for LPG was far more than the supply. A crash program was adopted by the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources to set up manual LPG filling stations. Most of them have now come in operation. We are now in the process of buying more cylinders from Brazil and Saudi Arabia, and hopefully the problem will be completely solved within the next two months.

Q. What is the annual consumption of LPG?

A. The estimate for this year has been 180,000 tons. There is a phenomenal growth in the demand for LPG. Two years ago, total demand was only 100,000.

Q. How many cylinders are in circulation in the country today?

A. I guess there are around 700,000 cylinders in circulation today, while our actual need is for about 1,200,000 cylinders. As I said earlier, we are going to receive a new shipment from Brazil shortly. So we will be able to meet local needs for the near future.

Q. What is the volume of consumption of gasoline in Yemen?

A. Our consumption is around 50,000 to 57,000 barrels per day and this includes all products such as gasoline, gas oil, etc.

Q. How do you determine prices (i.e., the pricing mechanism) for the oil products?

A. The pricing mechanism is a cost-plus system. Before the Gulf crisis, our costs were based on the international import prices to us, plus our own expenses and profit margin. At present, we value the crude in the equivalent export price, and we add to it our expenses and the profit margin. Our prices are based on the market, and the only minor subsidy is for LPG.

Q. Your company has been merged with its counter-part in the former South Yemen. What has been the outcome?

A. After the unification, oil companies in the former North and South Yemen were merged into one company. This was in line with a cabinet decision and the merged company employs today about 3000 persons. I have been named the General Manager, and my counter part from the former South Yemen is the Deputy General Manager.

Q. How sufficient are the storage facilities in Yemen?

A. Before the unification, the storage facilities were undependable and limited. Today, we have adequate storage tanks and the facilities have improved very much. I assure you, we have a very adequate reserve supply for the country.

Q. Are you moving into additional downstream products such as lubricants?

A. Yes. A plan is almost finalized by the Ministry and Corporation to set up a government-owned lubricant plant and company.

BAJAMMAL: EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF THE FREE ZONES AUTHORITY

A Republican decree was issued on Thursday (April 26th) establishing the Free Zones Authority with financial and administrative powers independent of the government bureaucracy.

The members of the board of directors are:

1. Abdul-Qader Abdul-Rahman Ba-jammal, Executive Chairman,
2. Dr. Mohammed Assaeedi, Vice Chairman,
3. Abdul-Qawi Mohammed Rashad, Board Member,
4. Dr. Anwar Shamsheer, Board Member,
5. Dr. Ahmed Abdullah Al-Qadhi, Board Member,
6. Husain Ba-wazeer, Board Member,
7. Dr. Abdul-Qader Ba-haroon, Board Member.

The newly established Free Zone Authority will attend immediately to the organization and implementation of the Aden Free Zone. Among its first priorities is to draft the by-laws of the authority, and its organizational structure, as well as to assess its financial and infrastructural investment requirements to carry out its tasks. The board will also be responsible for inviting local and foreign investments and to seek expert assistance in providing the necessary incentives and working atmosphere.



Office for Project Services (OPS)

of the

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

wishes to announce prequalification notice to international and local contractors for two distinct contracts:

A) Project PDY/87/Co1 - Potato Seed Production: Scope of work: Construction of Stores, workshops and houses in Al-Had, Daman and Mukairas for a center specialized in the production of potato seed.

B) Project PDY/87/Co4 - Sheep & Goat Development: Scope of Work: Rehabilitation of existing buildings, and construction of new office blocks and staff housing units at Mujahid Goat Station, and construction of an animal shed and a staff housing unit at Swarri Research Station near Saiyoun.

C) Prequalification documents can be obtained from the UNDP office in Sanaa at the following address:

UNDP,

Al-Khorashi Building

Opposite Auqaf Housing Complex

Sanaa

Telephone: 215171

D) Two copies of completed prequalification documents in English should be returned to the above address within fifteen (15) days of this announcement. Documents received after this date might not be considered.

Furthermore, OPS is not committed to shortlisting all contractors expressing interest.



Q. Could you shed some light on the major activities of the Yemen Petroleum Company?

A. This company was established in the 1961 as a private company. After the (1962) Revolution, it became a government company and later was transformed into a share holding company between the Yemen government and the Yemen Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Today it is a 100% government owned company affiliated to the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources. We specialize in the marketing of petroleum products, mainly gasoline, gas oil, fuel oil, aviation fuel, LPG, etc. I am happy to tell you that we now cover

LETTERS TO THE PAPER, LETTERS TO THE PAPER, LETTERS TO THE PAPER,

Our Note:

We appreciate the flow of letters which has been coming to our mail box. We also appreciate the beautiful sentiments and words of encouragement expressed in those letters, as well as in telephone conversations. Below are responses to those letters and extracts thereof:

To: Maria Editha Christo Sana'a:

Thank you for your nice letter. Enjoy windsurfing.

To: Mohamed Ali Al-Asbahi, Sana'a.

Thank you for your letter and we are pleased to publish your maxims below:

"Everything bows to success, even grammar."

Victor Hugo.

"We all labor against our own cure, for death is the cure of all diseases."

Sir Thomas Browne

"The miserable have no other medicine but hope."

William Shakespeare

"Unless an individual is free to obtain the fullest education with which his society can provide him, he is being injured by society."

Wystan Hugh Auden

"A few honest men are better than numbers."

Oliver Cromwell

To: Budoor A Al-Mawiri, Sanaa:

Many thanks for your kind letter. We print below part of your message:

"Fierce debates have been raging in Yemen recently regarding the status of women in society. Islam has given the woman all her rights and privileges, and all we are asking for is the full implementation of Islamic teachings. As we all know, Islam has given women the right to full partnership in public as well as in private life. In public life, she can start her own business in trade, industry, or other activities, she has participated in the public office, and has even participated in the war efforts. In the private life, the woman is a full partner in the household. She has the right to choose her partner (husband).

Therefore, we cannot deprive women of their rights and speak in the name of Islam."

To: A.Rashid Yacoob, President, Pensioners' Association, Aden:

Many thanks for your letter and supportive words.

We print below the part of your letter relating to your pensioners' requests.

"Several members of the Pensioners' Association worked with the British in Aden prior to independence for a long time. On retirement soon after independence, they received and continue to receive insignificant "Monthly Loan Advance" for services rendered. This amount has not changed since its first payment in the year 1971.

We wish to draw the attention of the local authorities as well as the British Authorities to this genuine claim, and to revive the case for an increase in pension. There were individual approaches to the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) in U.K. for an increase. In reply the ODA always wrote back to state that "Loan Advances" do not qualify for increases under the Pensions Increase Acts 1971 issued in U.K. They also stated in reply to these individual approaches that there was no immediate prospect of HM Government reaching an agreement with the Yemeni Government to take over Aden Pensions as there was little cooperation from Aden on this matter. We strongly feel that the new unity Government of Yemen should intervene to redress the complaint of

these Pensioners for their services prior to independence as it involves hundreds of old legitimate pensioners. Perhaps it could also bag some more hard currency for the country. The Association's contacts locally in Aden have not been fruitful."

To: Younes H. Ebrahim, Othman Abdo Secondary School, Aden:

We appreciate your letter and support for the YEMEN TIMES. We print below parts of your letter

"Many Yemenis left their own country to work in other countries such as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries. They lived there for many years and worked hard to earn their living. They had actively participated with the citizens of those countries in their development and prosperity, especially in Saudi Arabia. After the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, most of the Yemeni emigrants had to leave Kuwait with only their personal belongings and had to leave behind other assets and vast amounts of money.

Yemen's objection to the presence of foreign military forces in the region led the Saudi Government to adopt certain measures against

Yemenis. The majority of the Yemenis left the Kingdom. The scene at the Haradh border was pitiful with people waiting in long queues for inspection by Yemeni customs and security authorities.

Most of the Yemenis who returned are jobless. The government is doing its best to help the returnees. The Ministry of Education issued instructions to accommodate the children of the returnees in schools and universities. Those who had completed secondary education were appointed as teachers in schools.

The emigrants are anxious to know if the Yemeni government:

1. can request the countries concerned to compensate them for years of service in those countries.
2. is capable of providing them with jobs.
3. can provide them with plots of land at reasonable prices to enable some of them to practise their trades.
4. can simplify procedures for import of the necessary machines.
5. can reduce taxes and import duties on machinery imported by them.

I hope we will get answers to these questions.!

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فاكس: ٢١٨٠٠١
تلكس: ٨٨٦٠



ص. ب. (٢٣٠٩)
ت. ٢٠٦٩٣٩/٩٤٧, ٧٧٣٩٥/٧٠٣
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PROBLEMS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING (ELT) IN YEMENI SCHOOLS

by: Abdul Rahim Qassim Al Salwi, PhD

PART II: IMPROVING ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

The question of why some foreign language learners attain greater proficiency than others in similar environments has been and will continue to be a subject of research and debate among language researchers for many years to come. Researchers have tried to find an acceptable explanation for the fact that some individuals can successfully learn a foreign language while others fail. An early attempt was oriented towards explaining this phenomenon by individual variations; i.e., by measuring language learning aptitude. Some believe that individual variations in language proficiency occurs only among second language learners and rarely among first language learners, mainly because first language learning takes place subconsciously via informal methods such as natural exposure, while second language learning is learned consciously through formal methods and within classroom settings. This may explain why most people are proficient in their first language. But this does not fully explain why among second language learners there exists a lot of variation in the degree of proficiency.

It is true that some learners have more mental capacity to learn languages. Not all language learners with language aptitude are good language learners and the converse is also true. The fact that everyone acquires a first language is proof that we have the aptitude for language learning. Thus, only to a certain extent can language aptitude explain the variance in second language proficiency. Others believe that the most successful learners are those who have talent and high level of motivation for learning. An examination of the literature on second language and its pedagogy shows that the field has moved from a belief in grammar translation, habit formation, rote learning, and stimulus response conditioning, to what we presently call the communicative approach. A continuum in pedagogy shows at one end a concern for teaching the mechanics of language and on the other a concern for humanistic and socio-psychological aspects of the learners and the learning process. Debates about the ideal learning environment or ideal second language teaching methods or techniques have not been resolved. But with the advent of interactive technology, such as personal computers, many researchers found that students' achievements rise significantly higher if supplemented with good educational software.

ELT A FAILURE?

In reality, low English language proficiency levels plague the majority of stu-

dents in the Yemeni public schools and universities. The results of standardized English language proficiency tests administered to Yemeni high school leavers, attest to the fact that after six years of English, almost 90% of the graduates have not attained a minimum proficiency in English and therefore cannot communicate in the language. ELT policy makers in Yemeni public schools and at Sana'a university seem to be happy with the status quo and reluctant to deal with the root of these problems, thus contributing to the ongoing waste of scarce human and capital resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The factors that are responsible for the plight of ELT in Yemen are surmountable, although numerous. If the ELT policy makers in Yemen are ready and bold enough to implement the following radical changes in both public schools and the university, they can augment significantly the country's return on ELT investments.

FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1. A greater effort should be made to stop the ongoing wastage of human, material, and capital resources by reducing the compulsory six years non intensive ELT education to three years of intensive ELT education (3 class hours and 3 PC lab hours minimum). Thus, ELT should be introduced only at the secondary school level students.
2. Policy makers should establish in each secondary school a PC (Personal Computer) lab facility for a minimum of 30 students (29 work stations and one server) and a set of excellent language learning courseware. The aim is to produce more positive attitudes towards the study of this language among a broader base of Yemeni students (with good English proficiency levels).
3. Policy makers should be fully aware that Yemeni students display a learning motivation instrumental in nature. Therefore, it is highly recommended that EFL policy and programs stress the learning of English geared towards specific purposes - academic, scientific, vocational, etc.

FOR SANAA UNIVERSITY

1. Sana'a university and its various colleges should re-evaluate their present position on foreign language requirements for admission and for course work. Intensive ESP (English for Special Purposes) and EST (English for Science and Technology) is strongly recommended for hard and natural science majors.
2. An effective EFL or EAP program (English for Academic Purposes), intensive in nature, is strongly recommended for non-English and non-hard/natural science majors. This should be coupled with the establishment of a PC lab facility for a minimum of 40 students (39 work stations and one server) and a set of excellent language learning courseware.

YEMEN'S FIRST FEMALE UNIVERSITY DEAN: DOING A GOOD JOB AS WELL AS ANY MAN!

Dr. Azza Mohammed Abdo Ghanim is the country's first female dean. She is the Dean of Education at Sanaa University's Faculty of Education in Sanaa. In its policy of highlighting the contribution of career women to the development of Yemen, YEMEN TIMES went to speak with Dr. Ghanim. Following are excerpts of the interview:

Q. Could you give me an assessment of your first year as dean?

A. My first impression was that there has been a great deal of indifference, irresponsibility and carelessness. In educational institutions, we should have a better atmosphere. We should have more responsible persons who can appreciate the problems and think deeply about the appropriate solutions. We are supposed to be educationalists with responsibility for educating a whole generation. I think we can do a lot better if we pursue good policies in administration and management. Let me give you an example. In our society, we have never accepted the idea of reward and punishment. As a result, a person may work very hard without any appreciation or recognition. At the same time, no matter how bad a person is, h/she is never punished. Look at the university. It is very difficult to get a job at the university, but once a person is in, no matter how bad he/she is, we can never get rid of him/her.

Q. This year, the Faculty of Education has introduced the Two-Year post-secondary teacher training institute. This is half-way solution between the university graduates and high school graduates. Is this your answer to meet the country's need for teachers?

A. I do not know if it is going to be an answer or a blunder because nobody has studied the matter sufficiently. We are using staff from all over the university just to meet the immediate requirements and this new project. We have started something without enough preparation or sufficient resources and facilities. We find ourselves in a situation where there is no building, no teachers, no facilities etc. But we have to make do; we have to find answers to society's needs.

Q. If you were to systemize the problems, what is the most pressing problem you have as dean?

A. The most pressing problem is the lack of proper administration. We need an administrative restructuring within the faculty and in relation to the university. In my opinion, this will be a step in the right direction. If we have a good infrastructure right from the registrar's office down to the lowest level, with graduates doing the job, that will help a lot. At present, we have people holding primary school certificates doing very sensitive and critical work. As a result most of the teaching staff have to do clerical jobs, and spend a lot of time supervising and redoing bureaucratic work. There are also problems regarding clerical matters, classrooms, etc.

Q. The faculty of education is very important because of the country's need



for teachers. Do you think this faculty is receiving sufficient priority?

A. I don't think so. It is a world phenomenon that teachers are not important as compared to doctors or engineers. People feel that teaching is simple and anyone can do it. You will get the message if you simply look at the buildings of the faculties of medicine and engineering and the facilities available to them, and compare them to our buildings and facilities. We get the worst treatment. Another problem we face is that the faculty of education is not independent. Since all our students have to learn the educational courses as well as those in their lines of specializations, they spend part of the time with us here in this faculty, and a great deal more time at the other faculties where they receive their specialized courses. A student specializing in arts, for example, has to learn at the arts faculty; and a student specializing in science at the science faculty. In doing so, we are not in complete control of the student. Unless the whole system is changed, the problems will continue.

Q. I see, you have a big plan for a new building for the Faculty of Education, is this already in the pipeline?

A. Yes. In January last year, papers were signed between the World Bank and the Faculty of Education. The project should be completed by the year 1993/94.

Q. How many Faculties of Education do we have in Yemen?

A. There are faculties of education in Sana'a, Taiz, Hodeidah, Ebb, Hajjah and Dhamar.

Q. In your faculty, how many of the teaching staff are native?

A. The majority are already Yemeni. Of the 25 odd teachers, almost 15 are Yemenis.

Q. As a female dean, how has it been?

A. It has been quite normal and I did not experience any bias. Whatever doubts there were in the minds of people when I took over must have surely vanished as there is nobody who can deny that I have succeeded.



SPORTS



ANWAR AL-HARAZY YEMEN'S TRACK RUNNER

Was ever a boy better adapted metamorphically to running the 5000 meters than Anwar Al Harazy? Possibly Awadh Saleh, though Anwar would run a close second. Life keeps putting up barriers in Anwar's way. He was narrowly upset by his opponents in this year's National Track and Field Events. Then he failed to make it to the finals due to lack of preparation. He missed it two years ago, but Anwar proved to be resilient. "He has persistence," says his running partner, Awadh Saleh, the holder of the national record for the 1500 and the reigning cross-country champion.

He keeps coming back from injury. He is going to show how long a long distance runner can go. At the last Arab Junior Track and Field Championship, Anwar demonstrated emphatically that he still has fantastic horizons to explore. Indeed he started slowly but maintained his pace through half the distance and exerted enormous efforts in the last 100 meters to put his name in the first three qualifiers for the finals.

At 5'4", 152 pounds, Anwar has an intimidating presence. He is a physical fitness fanatic who used to run from school to his house when he was a kid. Anwar grew up in a tough neighborhood in Sana'a. He was and is tough, yet distinctively stylish. At 15, he was lucky enough to be spotted by his tormentor. "He raised me," he says. "He makes you want to run track".

Anwar won his first title in 1987 as a 17 year old junior student. Last year, he sought the advice of his close friends and trained with the top coaches in the country. Since then, he has been runner-up four times and finished in the top five for the last two years. He

made several attempts to participate in the Asian Games but due to lack of funds with the Yemen Track and Field Federation, he was dropped. "I run because it is a part of me," says Anwar who lives with his family in one of the suburbs of the city. "If I don't run for a few days, I feel as if something has been stolen from me. This is my medication. When I have problems, I run and at the same time I feel my problems are running away from me."

He has a standard schedule. Anwar rises before dawn and runs for about two hours. He usually trains four days a week, but when there are competitions, he adds a long run of three and a half hours to his daily schedule. I always have a clock with me and I always look at it to

make sure that I am improving. Most of his friends appreciate Anwar's accomplishments and many of the best local runners draw inspiration from him. What Anwar is doing is incredible, says one insider from the Federation. He has a lot of energy for running and great enthusiasm for life. We have all had frustrating days but Anwar has prevailed through the years. That sums up the type of person he is. Nowadays, Anwar enters all local and international competitions and at the same time he competes in numerous other track events in Sana'a including the middle distances and sprints.

He is frequently invited to race elsewhere around the country. He teaches the young hopefuls. To the younger runners, he sums up his fitness philosophy in two words: "dedication" and "determination". Rain or shine, hot or cold, you will see him training. Anwar who is planning to go to the University and be

an engineer says that he enjoys his running and his life more than ever. His furnished typical Yemeni house is decorated with memorabilia. It is cluttered with dozens of trophies, medals, plaques and photographs. Most of them are gathering dust. But prominently displayed on one wall is the framed citation he received on winning the Arab Junior Track and Field Cup on his debut appearance. "Winning my first medal in an international competition meant very much to me," he says. Sometimes he is difficult to deal with and has no patience. On the track he always pushes so hard. "My best timings are in the 5,000 meters, but I want to make a name for myself in the 1,500, 3,000 and 10,000 meters. Anwar has enjoyed so many successes that he has difficulty in singling out one moment which he cherishes most. His triumph in the local and international competitions rank high but so do his inclusion to the National Track and Field Team bound for the Third Junior Track and Field Championship in Cairo which gave the Yemeni team third place in the team standings. His best friend Awadh Saleh, a well known trackster and cross-country specialist, is

his training partner. Anwar remembers an encounter with his Arab counterparts in Cairo. "I had my Yemeni uniform on," he says. "The well-known giant runners came over and tried to give me a hard time, teasing me because I was petite. When I told them that I was a long distance runner, they left me alone. In the actual race, you should be very careful. Some runners intentionally elbow you to knock you out of the race. It happened to me on several occasions and I have learnt my lessons on the track the hard way.

If all goes well, Anwar might break the existing national record in three middle and long distance events this year. "I always run for a medal and honor," he says in anticipation.

FOOTBALL FINALS

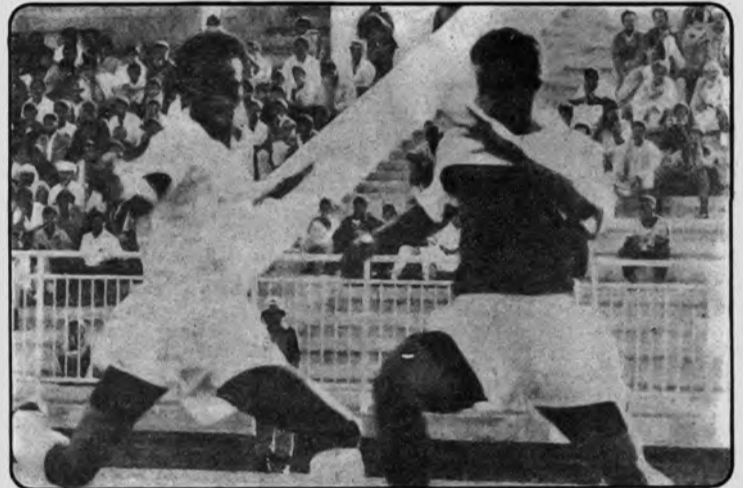
Four teams advanced into the final round of the National Football Competition. Only one team from Sana'a made it to the finals and the remaining three were from Aden. The four teams are:

Al Ahli Club, Sana'a; Al Telal Club, Al Mina Club, and Al Shorta Club, all of Aden.

The first game of the final

club. At the end of the first half, Al Mina club was in full control leading by a comfortable score of 2-0.

At the start of the second half, the coach of Al Ahli team decided to field one of the reserves named Mukthar Al Yarimi. The direction of the game changed in favor of Al Ahli. Isam Drayban scored two consecutive goals to



round was held on 23rd March between Al Telal and Al Shorta in Aden and the second game between Mina Club-Aden and Al Ahli, Sana'a was held in Sana'a on April 26th at the Al Thawrah Stadium. Below is the report filed by our sports writer:

Sana'a, the host for the final match for the Yemen Annual Inter Club Football Tournament, turned out to be a pandemonium on the 26th of April. Strange as it might seem, if old patterns of elitism have been weakened in the process and new avenues of inclusion and diversity emerge, football in Yemen deserves some credit.

In the first game of the final round in the Al Thawrah stadium, the two leading clubs in the country, Al Mina, Aden and Al Ahli, Sana'a almost robbed each other of a place in the finals. As the fans sang in praise of their respective teams, some fanatics got into heated arguments.

It all started in the twelfth minute of the first half when Khaled Abdulla of Al Mina, Aden scored a goal. It was followed by, as expected another goal scored by Moneif Shaif, the star player of Al Mina

equalize the score. To everyone's surprise, Al Ahli followed up with another goal scored by Yahya Jirah. During the final minutes of the game, Ali Mohamed Ali of Al Mina scored a surprise goal and the crowd roared in excitement as the final whistle blew to signal the end of the game.

The schedule for the next games is as follows:

DATE	TEAMS
2/5	Al Ahli, Sana'a v/s Al Mina, Aden
3/5	Al Shorta, Aden v/s Al Telal, Aden
9/5	Loser Game 1 v/s Loser Game 2
10/5	Winner Game 1 v/s Winner Game 2
16/5	Winner v/s Winner
17/5	Loser v/s Loser

The players to watch during this six-month tournament are Sharaf Mahfooz of Al Telal Club, Aden who has been the tournament's favorite to win the Best Player Award, Abubaker Al Mas also of Al Telal Club, Monief Shaif of Al Mina Club, Isam Drayban and Mukthar Al Yarimi of Al Ahli Club, Sana'a. The Yemen Football Squad for 1991 will be selected from the participating athletes and according to their performance in these games.

WORKERS STRIKE OVER PAY!

AL TAGAMMU' weekly newspaper published in Aden on Monday (29/4/1991) said that General Ali Abdulla Saleh, Chairman of the Presidential Council, described the forthcoming labor strike as unpatriotic. In his statement aimed at the workers of Yemen, he called upon all citizens to refrain from exploiting democracy by adopting harmful practices through demonstrations and strikes. Addressing the first meeting of the third session of the Council of Deputies, President Saleh asked the council and the government to take a positive and responsible position towards the economic crisis and urged them to work closely to tackle the economic problems of the country. The Federation of Yemeni Workers had issued an ultimatum to the government. It ordered a symbolic two-hour strike on Thursday (30th April) to be followed by a general and comprehensive strike on May 06 in all parts of the Republic if the government does not immediately respond to their demands. It is worth mentioning that labor grievances over pay have been presented to the government several times already, and no action has been forthcoming. It has become customary for the government to refrain from any action until forced by a threat from the other side. Sanaa University's teaching staff have had a similar experience when their grievances were not redressed until they went on strike earlier this year..

MEMBERSHIP IN PARTIES -- YEMENI STYLE

YEMEN TIMES carried out a limited field survey of political memberships and affiliations of Yemeni citizens. The most shocking result was the multiplicity of memberships. Citizens are approached by various friends and neighbors asking them to join this or that party. Given the hospitality and friendly nature of Yemenis, they usually oblige, and agree to belong to the party to which they are invited. The process is repeated with another party, and yet another party. In one instance, one citizen had membership I.D. cards of four parties. This is true of citizens in the cities, specially Sanaa, as well as in the countryside. For the citizens, it is a convenient solution. They can always tell the victorious party (in elections, of course), that they are their members and that they voted for them. Now they need a few favors and services. Politics Yemeni style - can't beats it.

THE POLICY OF APPEASEMENT DOES NOT WORK

Appeasement policy rarely works. The Yemeni leadership is finding this out the hard way. On the matter of the amendments of the constitution, the leadership issued a statement which was supposed to please the clergy. It turns out they are not altogether thrilled by it. It does not go as far as they want, and more importantly, as Sheikh Abdullah Bin Husain Al-Ahmar indicated, it is not an integral part of the constitution. So, it is not as good as they want it to be. On the other side, this step has antagonized many of the smaller, yet vocal, parties. Many of them rejecting the statement. Several unions have also rejected it. For those individuals who are not party to the squabble, it presented the leadership as weak, and easily swayed by a few noises and threats. Whatever the results, it would be wise for the leadership to go back to the history books. Appeasement policies do not work, and it is hoped the leadership of Yemen will not make its policy in leading the new Yemen.

COMPUTER CORNER

by: Dr. Abdul-Raheem Asselwi

THE VIRUS - Part I

HISTORY

Computer viruses have continued to spread at an alarming rate throughout the computer industry since mid 1987. Like a biological virus, these ingenious computer programs attach themselves to other programs, or the operating system, in files which are copied to a disk in computer systems. Every time the affected program executes it can attach itself to other programs and wreck havoc. Benevolent viruses have been used for years in the micro computer industry, for clearly stated reasons - copy protection, file security (encryption/decryption), file transfer and storage (compression/decompression), and program enhancement. However, malevolent viruses can cause great damage to a computer system without the users' knowledge or consent - erase files, format disks, contaminate sections of programs or data, and even spread havoc in networked environments.

Most viruses cannot harm the hardware or pre-programmed firmware in microcomputers but are designed to damage software or data in some way. Various synonyms have been used in the industry for describing this phenomena -- computer virus, trojan horse, bug, worm, bomb and so on. Several authors have begun to make a distinction in terms. For example, some writers now agree that a true computer virus has some type of insidious delay which makes it more devastating and easy to pass on to another user than the traditional bomb. Most traditional trojan horses (or one of the other terms) do their havoc immediately upon execution of a program or loading into a computer system and are not stored on the disk for any length of time, if at all. The virus usually waits for some special 'event' before it is activated. This may include a time delay, the reaching of a particular date on a clock, the change in status of certain conditions in the operating system, the initialization of a particular common routine, etc. With this built-in delay it is very easy for the virus to be spread

through sharing data or executable programs with other users while both parties are unaware of the impending problem.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.

DOS COMMAND TIPS

ASSIGN - EXTERNAL DOS COMMAND

ASSIGN instructs DOS to use a disk drive other than the one specified.

FORMAT: ASSIGN x=y

REMARKS

"x" is the drive letter that current disk requests are sent to.

"y" is the drive letter that you want disk requests to be sent to.

ASSIGN with no parameters resets all previous disk assignments back to normal.

NOTE: This command assists you in using applications whose disk assignments (for programs and text files) do not match your needs. Suppose you have a program that will read and write data only on the "B" drive. If you want the data to be written to the "C" drive, specify ASSIGN b=c.

In DOS version 3, you may preface ASSIGN with the drive letter and directory path, [d:][path], where the command file can be found.

WARNING: Take care to reset disk assignments to normal when the need for re-assignment ends. Otherwise you may forget that disks were re-assigned and make a serious mistake. For example, suppose you had assigned the A drive to the C drive, via ASSIGN A=C. If you then enter ERASE A:*, you would erase all C drive files. ASSIGN should be used ONLY when necessary. It can "hide" the true device from programs and commands that rely on the actual drive information. It should never be used with BACKUP, PRINT or for normal DOS operations.

EXAMPLE: To change disk assignments so that disk requests for A drive will be sent to the C drive type: ASSIGN A=C

ANSWERS TO THE LEISURE PAGE QUIZES

MAGIC WORD

VACATION

JUMBLES

BARGE MIDGE ALWAYS CATNIP
Known for making "advances" --
ALENDER

CROSSWORDS

