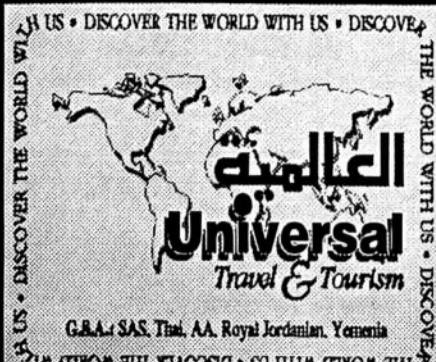


DISCOVER THE WORLD WITH US • DISCOVER THE WORLD WITH US • DISCOVER THE WORLD WITH US



العالمية
Universal
Travel & Tourism

G.S.A., SAS, Thal, AA, Royal Jordanian, Yemenia
GIA CITROM THE KACOSIS • SI FLIA CITROM

YEMEN TIMES

DISCOVER THE WORLD WITH US

العالمية
Universal
Travel & Tourism



G.S.A., SAS, Thal, AA, Royal Jordanian, Yemenia
Tel: 275028/30 - 275129/30/20

• 20th through 26th January 1993



Volume: III, Issue # 3 • PRICE: 10 Riyals •

OUR VIEWPOINT

Taiz and the President

Over the years, Taiz and President Ali Abdullah Saleh have evolved a close relationship. Mr. Saleh spent many of his early adult years in that governorate and Taiz folks think of him as one of them. In 1979, Mr. Saleh left Taiz to assume the presidency of the country. In the first few years of his presidency, relations with Taiz remained warm and strong. Then around the late 1980s, relations began to deteriorate, not because of something the president did, but primarily because of many things he did not do. As the people of the governorate started feeling neglected, and also mistreated, many began to develop a grudge. But this did not come out given the conditions existing then. Unity came in 1990, and it offered more freedom for all Yemenis to express their feelings. Many of the Taiz people used this opportunity to voice their grudge more openly. To add fuel to the fire, political rivalry allowed many competitors of the PGC to work to create a distance between Taiz and the President. Partly by playing on the grudge of the people of Taiz, some of which is genuine, and partly by raising new hopes and expectations and then telling the people that the regime and its top man are the main obstacles to their fulfillment. As the distance between Taiz and Saleh grew, mainly due the president's preoccupation with other concerns, Mr. Saleh increasingly lost ground in Taiz. These developments climaxed in the recent violent events in which some Taiz people expressed their wrath and anger with the president. Now, there is a turn of events. The president is keen on mending fences with Taiz. To succeed in this endeavor, two things need to happen. First, the president has to address the genuine grievances of the Taiz people and rectify the wrong done to them. Second, the Taiz people need to sort out the truth about what they are being told about the president and the system. Towards this end, President Saleh is reaching out to Taiz individuals who he sees as independent and reasonable. Next week, he plans to meet around fifty of these persons, this writer included. God Speed.

The Publisher
SPS

The PGC and YSP Split the Pie - Two Ways, One More Time

The People's General Congress and the Yemen Socialist Party are these days in cozy relations. Some over-ambitious persons are even talking of a merger. This new relationship is evident in the deal they have cut which calls for their candidates to run in a joint slate. In other words, the two parties are at their best, doing what they best know to do - partition the cake between them. The other parties are scared stiff of this development, as most of them counted on doing better by playing each of the ruling parties against the other. If the PGC-YSP agreement holds, they are sure to command a majority in the coming parliament.

In an Exclusive Interview with the Yemen Times, Sudanese President Omer Al-Basheer:

"We have no illusions about the intentions of the West in our region!"

H. E. Lt-General Omer Hassan Al-Basheer, President of the Sudan, stated that his government had no illusions about the intentions of the West vis-a-vis the Third World.

In an exclusive interview with the Yemen Times, President Al-Basheer said that the Salvation Revolution replaced a fragmented "civil" system which was more of party-crazy than a democracy. When they took over, the people were dying of starvation, corruption was rampant, safety and security was non-existent, and the insurgents in the "South" placed a heavy toll on the nation. "All in all, the ordinary Sudanese was frustrated and helpless. On the contrary, you can see that today, morals are high; we export food, the government over-ran the insurgency strongholds, and honest administration is gradually being put in place."

President Al-Basheer urged Egypt not to escalate the Halayib problem between Egypt and Sudan. "Confronted with the Egyptian steps to create new realities by importing (Egyptian) military and civilian personnel into the



Halayib triangle, we took up the matter with the UN," he said. "We neither persecute the Southern Sudanese nor do we export Islamic jihad fundamentalism to others. We are just trying to develop our country peacefully," he added.

Read more details on page 9

What the Serbians Are Doing to the Bosnians is a Disgrace to the Christian Civilization, and A Shame to the Muslims

Serbian thugs and militias have inflicted the worst form of inhuman and degrading abuse on the Bosnians, just because they are Muslims. The keepers of law and order, mainly the USA, have yet to act to stop the Serbian atrocities. The genocide, the mass rape, and the collective evacuation have yet to move a world that is obsessed with Iraqi trespassing into a border zone with neighboring Kuwait. The double standards of the West, however strongly it is refuted, is evident. The horrifying stories coming out of Bosnia are shaking the Western populations, but their politicians have not yet budged. The atrocities of the Serbian ethnic and religious "cleansing" process are bound to haunt the whole world, especially those who could have done something, and they didn't. Is this the way the world is going to end this bloody century?



Documenting Yemen's Silver Jewelry. p. 4

Continuation of the Regulations to Streamline Public Expenditures. p. 5

Top Sudanese Officials/Thinkers talk to the Yemen Times. p. 7

Development Through the SOFD p. 14

Permanent Features:

• Review of Local Press: p. 6



• Letters to the Editor: p. 8



• French Pages 10 + 11



• English Lessons: p.: 15

English Lessons

This space is available for your advertisement.

Call us at 240-466 to make arrangements to reserve it.

BAZARA CORPORATION

Travel Agents
GSA: KLM Royal Dutch Airlines
BAZ TOURS
Tour Operators
Phone: 272143/270879/76968/275021
Facsimile: 967-1-270880
68 Zubeiry St., P O Box 12519, Sanaa

النقل الدولي السريع

ARAMEX INTERNATIONAL COURIER

WE HIT YOUR TARGET ANYWHERE IN THE GLOBE

Sana'a - Tel: 208887/243925
Aden - Tel: 255683-55683 / Taiz - Tel: 213489
Hodidah - Tel: 218168-218675

السَّفَارِي
EL SOFFARY

YEMEN TIMES

An Independent Economic & Political Weekly



Post Office Box: 2579
Sanaa, Republic of Yemen

Telephone +967 (1) 240.466 / 271.811
Facsimile # +967 (1) 272.558

Editorial Board:

- Chief Editor Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf
- Economic Editor Ameen Nouisser
- Political Editor Dr. Ahmed N. K. Al-Madhagi
- Science Editor Amjed Abdul-Hamid
- Educational Editor Dr. Abdullah Al-Thaifani
- Social Editor Fatmah S. Rawah
- Cultural Editor Saad Salah Khalis
- Press Review Editor Basbar G. Askar
- French Editor Emmanuel Giroud

English Editors:

- Jéanna Stroble, Kristi Klovanih and Douglas Anke
 - Administrative Personnel
 - Yahia Yoseuf. Al-Hodeidi, Public Relations
 - Issam Y. Al-Saqqaf, Accounts
 - Lora Ali Abdulla, Exec. Secretary
- Publisher: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf



Layout Graphic Design & Technical Support by
Abdulla Faris & Associates, Inc. Sanaa, Rep. of Yemen

Continued from page 16

تغيير جواز السفر

"We started distributing the new passport and gradually withdrawing the old from circulation. with the new passport and as for the old passports issued by the previous authorities, they are valid up to their expire dates and then are replaced by other new ones.

Q. The issue concerning the pilgrims in groups to Mecca is a new method. Another point that the Yemeni pilgrims during their ritual performances are liable to losing their passports. What is your solution for such cases and what are the procedures?
A. Honestly, the past two years witnessed a new method in grouping pilgrims leaving Yemen to the Holy Lands in Mecca which proved prospective to some extent. As for lost passports, the office of immigration has issued an identification card to be carried together with the passport. In case of losing the passport, the card is enough to facilitate his task abroad besides there is a committee of passport and immigration bureau who travel with the grouping of pilgrims too.

Q. The phenomenon of forgery has spread lately. What are the measures/procedures taken to tackle it?

A. Such a case is universal but according to the laws, rules and regulations we have to full authority to take the suitable measures in protecting our citizens and sentence any forger to prison according to the law.

Continued from page 14

Cultural Harvest: 1992

Albakri of Egypt and "The Mountain" by Hana Al-yass of Palestine. "Business" by Nouri Buzaid of Tunisia and "Naji Al Ali" of Egypt, made a lot of dispute, while "Oral Messages: by Abdul Latif Abdul Hamid of Syria and "The Night" by Mohammed Malass of Syria also, made a considerable success among critics and spectators. Confusion is the main theme in Arab literary and Artistic production of the past year, because shadows of the Gulf War are still prevailing in addition to the cultural violence coordinated by the assassination of Egyptian writer and journalist Faraj Fuda by a radical religious movement. Arab writers are still seeking the right way to deal with the new transformations in the world. A confusion that will not be banished, in my opinion, until the turn of the century. Yahia Haqqi, the Egyptian novelist passed away at the end of the year while Najeeb Mahfoudh celebrated his 80th birthday.

HASSAN ABDO JAIED GROUP OF COMPANIES

HASSAN A. JAIED TRADING & INDUSTRY CORP
Ring Road, Opposite Ministry of Finance-Sana'a - Y.A.R

P. O. Box : 10614 Tlx: 2819 JAIED YE Tel: 244065/243715 Telefax: 009672/263064



Comando con rinvio ad angolo
Commande à renvoi d'angle
Unit with right angle gear



POMPE ZANNI
Via G. F. 5 - Tel. (052) 87226-82314 - Fax (052) 82328
42048 RUBIERA (Reggio Emilia) - ITALY

JAIED & MASSOUD TRADING CO. LTD

Tel: 265225 - 265341 Sana'a Opposite to Finance Ministry

P. O. Box 12035 Sana'a - C. R. 983 / 21

Tlx. 2994 - Telefax (009672) 263064



ABBOTT LABORATORIES S.A. (GENEVA)
MIDDLE EAST/ AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE
P.O.Box 75080 GR-176 10 Kallithea, Athens, Greece
Telex: 216971 ABL GR, Fax: 952 2188



The Green Yemen Industry & Trading Co. Ltd.

Tel: 266500 Fax: 266499 P. O. Box (19532) Sana'a Tlx: 3356 GYITCO
C. R. (1310/21)



GENERAL ELECTRIC

**Top-Mount
No-Frost
Refrigerators**



- Energy Saver Switch
- Dual Temperature Controls
- Adjustable Porta-Bin Door Shelves
- Vegetable / Fruit Pans

Available in Different Capacities from 10 to 24 cu.ft.

Fresh Thoughts On Food Storage



We bring good things to life



National Trading Company

NATCO

Sana'a: Alkaser St. Tel: 272901
Taiz: opp. Chamber of Commerce & Industry Tel: 214948
Hodeidah: Almina Street. Tel: 217573

Outside it's Yemen.



The Fort of Al-Dahi in the Tihama

Inside it's exquisite Indian.



Tandoor Indian Restaurant

Located on the Swimming Pool, Open from 7:00 PM nightly (Closed on Sundays)
For Reservation Call Tel. 237590/8 Ext. 8729



**Sheraton Sana'a
HOTEL**

**ITT Sheraton
THE NATURAL CHOICE.**

P.O. BOX 2467 SANA'A, YEMEN R., TLX. 2222 OR 2644 SHSAN YE PHONE 237500/8 FAX 251521

NEST 92

1992: Record Year for Dubai as Gold Capital of the Middle East

The year 1992 has been a record one for the tiny sheikhdom of Dubai, the gold capital of the Middle East and a vital trans-shipment point in the global trading network for the yellow metal. According to the statistics of the World Gold Council, a voluntary, non-profit association of gold producing companies from fourteen countries headquartered in Geneva, Dubai's gold imports for 1992 were in the range of 300 tons, 80% higher than the preceding year.

"This is the highest import figure for gold into Dubai so far, securing it a place among the top five importing markets in the world," said Andre Bisang, Director, Middle East Office, Dubai's 1992 gold imports are representative of a rising general trend in the emerging gold markets in the Indian sub-continent, China, Iran, Turkey, Taiwan, Thailand and the Arab World.

"In 1991, the Western world mined 1,781.6 tons of gold, while China, countries of the former Soviet Union, North Korea and Mongolia produced another 375 tons," he said. "We have a situation where supply has stabilized at the same level this year, while demand for gold by the jewelry industry is expected to have exceeded this total supply by at least 200 tons by year end." Final statistics have yet to be lined up.

Among the emerging markets, India and China are the two countries with a voracious appetite for the yellow metal. Eighty percent of India's official gold imports and perhaps a larger percentage of unofficial imports into that country of 850 million and with an annual gold market of 400 tons are, according to trade sources, transacted through Dubai. Indians form the bulk of an expatriate population that makes up about three-fourths of the 2 million population of the United Arab Emirates, which groups Dubai with Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm al Quwain, Fujairah and Ras al Khaimah. As a result of a feeble buying power and a difference of approximately \$20 higher price than the internationally prevailing price on 10 grams of gold, per capita purchase of gold in India is lower than half a gram per year.

On the other hand, a resident Indian in the Gulf with substantially higher income tends to buy an average of 30 grams per year. This highlights the tremendous growth potential in the Indian market and the consequent benefits for Dubai as its major supply point.

With the liberalization of gold import regulations in India, since February 1992, a non-resident Indian can carry back home up to five kilograms of gold with reasonable customs duty, and 60 grams of duty-free gold jewelry for women and 30 grams for men.

In addition to this, Dubai is an important gold junction for the neighboring markets in the Gulf Co-operation Council countries as well as for Iran, Pakistan and Bangladesh, all of which are growth markets.

Algerians to Vote on New Constitution

Algeria's acting head of state, Mr. Ali Kafi, promised a referendum on the future on North Africa's largest country whose security forces have, for the past 12 months, been mired in ever bloodier confrontation with radical Islamic groups. The referendum would submit to the Algerian people a draft new constitution and seek their endorsement for a transitional arrangement before a new constitution was enacted.

Mr. Kafi promised that political parties would be invited to give their views on future strategy but added that "all those who practised or supported violence" would be excluded.

This was a clear reference to those Algerians who support the Islamic Salvation Front which was banned last February after Algerian leaders cancelled the second round of elections the party was poised to win.

Other smaller Islamic parties such as Ennahdah would, however, be asked to join in such talks.

Mr. Kafi is a founding member of the five-man High State Council (HSC) which has acted as the country's collective presidency since the former head of state, Mr. Chadli Bendjedid, resigned a year ago.

He has chaired the HSC since the slaying of Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf, who returned last January from 28 years' exile in Morocco to become acting president. Mr. Kafi did not suggest any precise date on which the referendum might be held, but most observers assume it is likely to take place later this year.

The High State Council members have proclaimed on more than one occasion that they did not wish to hold office beyond December 1993, when Mr. Chadli's third term of office was due to end, nor would any of them stand in any future presidential election.

Meanwhile, the visit by Mr. Roland Dumas, the French foreign Minister, to Algiers last week, and Algeria's Defense Minister Khaled Nezzar's present visit to Saudi Arabia, have helped to overcome the semi-quarantine the country's leaders have been held in since last January's events.

Mr. Dumas promised that France would "Express its friendship by other means than mere words."

This can be taken as a strong pointer that his government will extend a helping financial hand to a country whose foreign debt service ratio of 73% leaves it scant room to import the raw materials necessary to increase industrial output.

The Algerian evolution is being closely watched by more-Islamists as well as the traditional governments in the area. Many Islamic movements have described the turn of events in Algeria as a set-back to the world Islamic movement and a blow to their ambitions to take over power through the polls. Most use the Algerian experience to show the West's double standards in terms of supporting elections in the Muslim World.

The Legacy of the Braer

The rapid dispersal of the 84,500 tons of oil from the wrecked Braer has been "a minor miracle", the Shetland Islands Council said last week.

Maps drawn up daily at the council's emergency center at Sumburgh Head, the southern tip of the islands where the tanker hit the rocks, show that the slick has shrunk sharply since over the last two weeks. Most of the original patches of thick black oil have been broken up under the impact of ferocious weather into thin sheens and patches of "grey lines".

Oil is still visible on a handful of beaches, specifically: the area around the tanker including Quendale Bay; the Bay of Scousburgh; St Niniam's Bay; and Bigton Wick. Surprisingly, dispersal has been much faster than in many other oil spills because the Braer's cargo was relatively light Norwegian crude oil.

Scientists in the Shetlands are becoming more confident that much of the Braer's heavier "bunker" or fuel oil has also dispersed. The council said, "It is some days since bunker oil appeared on the maps except in the immediate vicinity of the wreck - although it is not impossible that some may still be on board".

The massive pounding by the waves has broken the oil into ever smaller droplets, enabling it to sink into the water, where bacteria then break it down. To monitor exactly how fast the particles are spreading, scientists from the Scottish Office of the Agriculture and Fisheries department have been on board the research vessel Clupea since January 11. They will take samples of sand, water, shellfish and plankton for another week.

Mr. Barry Lester, of the Department of Transportation's marine pollution control unit, which is in charge of the Shetland clean-up, said yesterday, "It is too early for scientists to give conclusions, but it seems highly unlikely that much oil has settled on the sea bed."

Although the rapid clearing of the oil confounds some early predictions of ecological disaster, fishermen and environmentalists are still scanning the seas for signs of longer-term effects.

A week ago the Scottish Office banned fishing or harvesting of salmon in a 400,000 square mile area surrounding the spill. The sixteen salmon farms in the affected zone account for about a quarter of Shetland's salmon farming, which last year was 10,500 tons and was worth 33 million British pounds.

Mr. Scott Findlay, of the Shetland Salmon Farmers' Association, said, "The way it looks now, only farms within the closure zone are affected by the sheen, and rigorous scientific testing is now under way to determine the effect on the fish."

He continued, "There have been no salmon mortalities whatsoever, and there is no immediate danger of such a development predicted at this time."



YORK

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

- SPLIT AIR-CONDITIONERS
- PACKAGE UNITS
- CENTRAL PLANTS
- COLD STORES

MAKING YOUR PLACE A MORE COMFORTABLE PLACE.

YOUR LOCAL AGENT:



NATIONAL TRADING COMPANY (HVAC DIVISION)

P. O. BOX 1108 SANA'A.
TEL: 204275 / 209294 FAX: 209576

THE TAJ SHERA CELEBRATES THE YEAR OF THE CHICKEN

Festivities are on at the Golden Peacock to bring in the Chinese New Year.

An elaborate selection of delicacies from the kitchens of the orient.

A three day culinary journey through the exotic east.

BUFFET DINNER

Golden Peacock

8.00 pm ONWARDS.

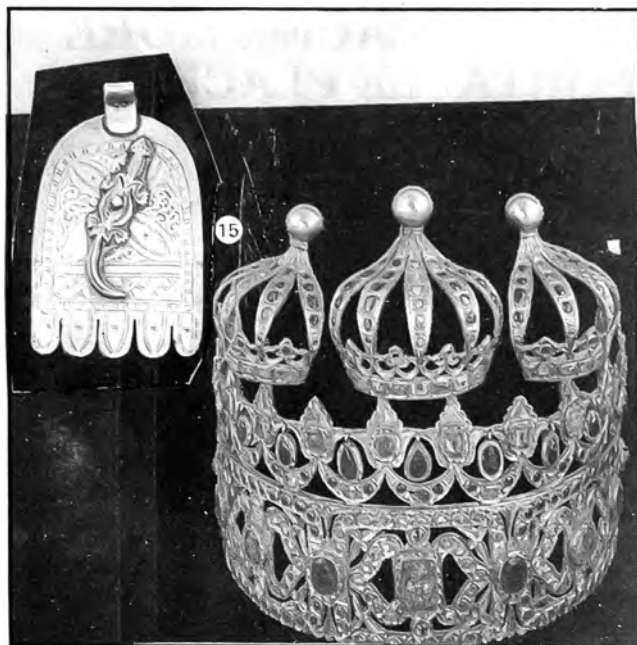
23rd to 25th
January 1993

In Search of Financing to Produce A Catalog on Yemeni Silverware

By: Dr. Saod Ayoub, and Ms. Susanne Osthaff, German Archaeological Institute, Sanaa.

Yemen is one of the countries of the Arabian Peninsula most involved in silver jewelry from time immemorial. In many Yemeni towns, silversmiths have started shops to service a large consumer base. As a result, many schools of artisanry and guilds have evolved. The specialist can easily detect the changes and fashions over time.

financed through a number of external organizations. We ourselves have embarked on the long and arduous job of finding the minting of silver, the artisans and craftsmen, the guilds and other aspects of the silver jewelry industry. Our qualifications as archaeologists, and our long stay in Yemen have enabled us to collect information through first-hand field visits and in-depth study that covered many parts of the country. We were also able to inspect the treasures of



As modern Yemen prospered since the 1970s, women have preferred more valuable assets, especially gold. As a consequence, many former silversmiths have become goldsmiths or have quit this profession altogether. Today, we can see a major flow of silver jewelry from households to the market. These are either purchased by investors (merchants) and tourists, or they are melted and the silver is used for other purposes. Therefore, magnificent and splendid artwork has been lost in the process. The drain of Yemeni silver jewelry - to the melting pots or the outside world - has quickened pace to such an extent that documentation would be almost impossible in a few years.

It is doubtless that other countries in the Arab World (such as Syria, Egypt, Morocco) have been subjected to these same changes. But in those countries, the officials and interested parties have taken steps to regulate the change and to document the craft and product by text and pictures. As a result, one can find in those countries, today, catalogs of the products, the skillful artisanry and the industry itself.

Here in Yemen, some preliminary efforts have been done. These efforts were

Yemeni silverware held by collectors such as Dr. Saad Al-Jadir, which truly include exquisite and splendid Yemeni silver products.

We are now looking for sources of funding for a full-scale project that will enable us to complete the documentation process - by text and pictures - and work towards issuing a catalog on Yemeni silver jewelry.

We found exceptional and tremendous response from the owners and collectors of these masterpieces. We also have the blessings of the Yemeni officials who see in this effort as an important documentation of a critical aspect of the civilization of Southern Arabia. The tourist and other ramifications also have not escaped them.

The party/parties that will agree to finance this project will be entitled to choose the publisher most convenient for their needs. Our job ends with the production of the catalog - in multiple languages for the benefit of a larger circle of people.

Editor's Note:

I hope some of the oil companies, banks and commercial households of Yemen respond to this call. The Ministry of Tourism and Culture will also chip in. It is a worthwhile effort.

BILL BADLEY: THE CHERISHED LUTE PLAYER

By: Fatmah S. Rawah, Social Editor, Yemen Times.

Bill Badley, a 31-year-old lutist from England, arrived in Yemen on the 9th of this month and has just finished his tour of Yemen. He left for Oman. This is Bill's first visit to the Middle East countries, although he has performed in many places all over the world. After Oman he will visit Qatar, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. After studying Medieval Studies at Exeter University, Bill spent two years studying the lute at the Royal College of Music. He started playing lute when he was 19 years old, which he considers quite late. Yet, he plays the lute so well that it is as if he was born to it.

Besides playing the lute, Mr. Badley also has other plans. He did research in music, and recently he got involved in preparing the music background for several TV films and radio programs. He recorded many song and entertainment pieces. "I started playing Latin music for television films, and that is the new area I am very much interested in pursuing," he said.

There are two things which made Bill become interested in the Arab World and the East in general. Bill started playing the lute at the time he was studying history at the university, and he developed a romantic notion about this instrument, and by extension, the Arab World. "When I started, I knew very clearly the connection with the Arab world. But as I became more interested and began playing and studying more medieval music, I could no longer ignore the richness that comes from this part of the world, the original home of the instrument. I had to come here and see where it had all started," he said.

For Bill, this journey is like discovering the roots of the music and instrument he has known for a while.

"Coming to this part of the world is like the realization of a yearning and a dream. I am especially gratified to come and see the lute being played in its original context," said Bill, after an exchange of notes and a joint singing with Yemeni musicians in the 'Mafraj' of Dar Al-Hamd Hotel.

The music that Bill plays is 500 years old. It was popular in England during the reign of Queen Elizabeth the first. He must be congratulated for the hard work of making part of his country's history come alive. "There are many differences in lute playing among musicians in Europe and here, although both utilize the same instrument," said the British singer.

In Europe, the lute appeared around the 11th or 12th century and has developed into many other instruments; however, the lute here has kept the same shape, while the music has developed new forms.

Mr. Bradley touched on another difference in playing the lute in Yemen and Europe. "The way you play here is wonderful. The musician and audience sit together and as the lute player comes to certain parts of a song, the people join in by clapping or singing. So musicians and their audiences are one. It is so natural and much nicer than European concerts' tradition, where a musician has to put on smart clothes, sit alone in the light, while the audience is far away in the dark. The European audiences is not expected to participate. In fact a feeling of detachment permeates the atmosphere during the whole performance time.

Talking about the kinds of audiences to which he



plays, Bill said "I think for this kind of music one needs to sit down and give it a little time. The old and young folks have that kind of time, but middle age people are very busy with their daily activities. "That's why I prefer to play in schools, although I'm paid little, rather than in concerts where I am paid more."

He explained that the visit has been quite a deep and profound experience. "All I have seen and heard really made me start reexamining what I am doing as a musician and how I am going about it."

I think the same must have happened to the Yemeni musicians after Bill's visit to our country. They must

have learned some points from him because he plays so well in different tunes - English, Spanish, Italian. I feel his music expresses so many things: Happiness, sadness, love, depression, and whatever is on your mind at the moment you were listening to his music. The best part is when he explains the history of some of his music before he plays it. I remember one song based on the story of their infamous king who had six wives. Bill played this one at YILI, and the students were very happy Bill performed in many places in Sana'a and Aden. He couldn't forget that his favorite audience was at schools. He went there too.



YOUR SECURITY
Branches

Sanaa, Aden, Taiz, Hodeidah
Head Office: 150 Zubairi Street,
P. O. Box 2284, Sanaa
Phones: 206114; Fax: 206118; Tlx: 2789

The Property Centre

Sana'a: Hadda Street, P.O. Box (2) - Tel. 215714, Fax. 245301
Aden: Malla Street, P.O. Box () - Tel. 42128, Fax ()



APARTMENTS FOR RENT

ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS, FURNISHED AND UNFURNISHED, IN OR NEAR THE CENTER OF TOWN.

ALSO AVAILABLE, STUDIO APARTMENTS FROM \$300 US DOLLARS A MONTH.

LONG AND SHORT TERM RENTS AVAILABLE.

PRICES RANGE FROM \$500 TO \$1200 US DOLLARS FOR A LONG TERM RENT, AND \$600 TO \$1500 US DOLLARS FOR A SHORT TERM RENT.

ALL THE APARTMENT BUILDINGS PROVIDE:

- A GUARD ON DUTY TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY
- A CLEANING SERVICE (MAID SERVICE)*
- WILL SOON HAVE A SATELLITE DISH TO RECEIVE FOREIGN PROGRAMS SUCH AS CNN, CFI, ETC...

ALL THE APARTMENTS ARE INHABITED BY EXPATRIATES WORKING FOR THE VARIOUS FOREIGN ORGANIZATIONS IN SANA'A

*: THE CLEANING SERVICE IS ONLY INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE FURNISHED APARTMENTS.

Resolutions: Vehicles, Exchanging and the State

Continued from the last issue.

Article (18):

It is not allowed for any of the partners of a money changing company to do the following:

- A- Withdraw any amount exceeding their share from net annual profits from the company.
B- The exchanger must have a current account or guarantee accountancies in the company.

Article (19):

It is not allowed for any of the partners in the exchange companies to borrow from the company or give a loan without getting a previous written approval from the bank.

Article (20):

It is not allowed for the exchanger to continue illegitimately dealing in foreign currencies or precious metals in any way or means including announcing faked or falsified claims or spreading it or selling/purchasing those currencies and precious stones in circumstances leading to confusion when raising its price or decreasing it.

Chapter Five The Rules Of Supervision/ Sponsorship

Article (21):

The exchanger submits to the sponsoring of the bank and he must commit to the statistic of the bank and he must commit to the statistic system/procedures with an introduction to circular statements of his financial position or of the total processions of pur-

chasing and selling foreign currency and banking, tourism cheques or precious stones.

Article (22):

The conditions provided in the companies of the first and second sect are licensed to start the activity of exchange according to the following conditions:
A- The capital of the company or institution at any time must not be less than the minimum.
B- An account book must be kept regularly according to the valid laws.

Article (23):

The bank has the right to ask an official or officials to inspect the first and second sect. Companies licence when it seems necessary and the exchanger and all his clerks should produce the books, accounts and the required documents and any necessary facilities for achieving the check completely. All the information of the exchangers' dealings is regarded secret for the banks usage.

Article (24):

The exchanger from the first sect should nominate a legal licensed accountant to review his account and supply a copy of the balance to the bank at the end of each financial year clarifying the profits/losses that year and a financial report by the legalized/licensed accountant within four months of the financial year.

The exchanger should also publish his annual account in a neutral daily paper after being licensed for publication by the bank.

Article (25):

If the exchange of the second sect is late in his nomination of a licensed accountant according to Article (24) of this bill, the bank has the right to nominate a licensed accountant for the exchanger and even to decide his fees.

Article (26):

The exchanger from the second sect should have legal accounting books which submit for inspection on a rotating basis by central bank and the accounts of the bank should prepare a general balance for exchanging.

Article (27):

The companies of licensed exchange should take care of not keeping a fund of foreign currency exceeding the sum paid. It is the duty of the companies to report to the center of foreign currencies about the sum it is allowed to have according to this article on the foundation of its accountancy Thursday of every weekend. It is to relinquish the surplus of the fund at a date not later than the daily hours of work on the Saturday following the date of preparing the account

Chapter Six Final Rules

Article (28):

The governor of the central bank in a case concerning the general interests has the right to stop the work of exchanging companies or part of its activities when he sees fit.

Article (29):

Anyone who violates the rules for the conditions included in the issued resolutions of licences is to be punished ac-

ording to the laws of banks No. (36), 1991 and with the other valid laws.

Article (30):

The persons licensed to start exchanging activity in Yemen according to this bill are allowed to establish an association within their membership. The association will be a means through which the members will approach a communal opinion among the exchangers, the bank and the rest of the authorities and government bodies. The purposes of the association should be the following:

- A- A study of the problems the exchangers face in the field of their activities and recommendations introduced to the specialized bodies.
B- Trying to work on solving the problems which arise among exchangers in the association.
C- The facilitation of contact between the bank and the exchangers in the matter of generalization of the regulations, organizing the act of exchanging, and other issues related to exchange in Yemen.

Article (31):

The governor of the central bank, according to the cabinets approval, has the right to issue the regulations implementing the bill.

Article (32):

It is valid from its issue date of publication in an official paper.

Issued by the president of the cabinet.
Bated & Rajab 1413 A.H. 31/12/1992

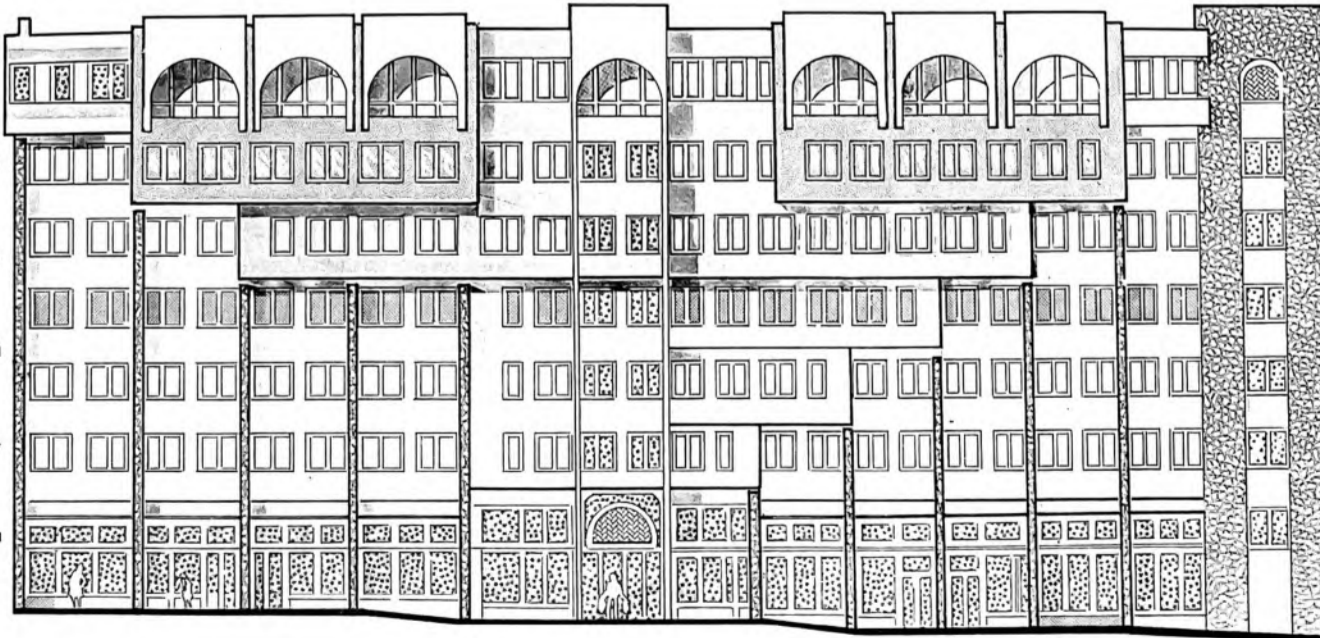
Haidar Abu Bakir Alattas
Prime Minister

تعالوا معنا إلى مبنى الشرق

للشركات
ورجال الأعمال
للمكاتب
التجارية والفنية

وحدات فاخرة
للإيجار
بأرقى موقع
بمدينة عدن

مخارج خاصة للطوارئ.
موقف خاص للسيارات.
ثلاثة مصاعد كهربائية.
حراسة طوال ٢٤ ساعة.
شبكة اتصالات دولية.



مبنى مصمم على أحدث
النظم العالمية.
تكييف مركزي.
مساحات تبدأ من ٨٢ متر
مربع حتى ٧٥٠ متر مربع.



The Porter's Complex

There is a folk tale being circulated among the Aden residents. This is the story of a porter who works at the harbor carrying heavy luggage all day. At night the porter would go the "luxurious" Maalla street where he would sleep under one of the tall apartment buildings. He had a wooden bed, with nothing to cushion his tiny body and protruding bones. As he went to sleep every night, he would gaze at the stars, and then at the light coming from the windows of the high apartments. He would tell himself every night that some day he would own one of those apartments and would sleep in a soft bed. With that hope, he would drowse off. Then one day the miracle happened. A resident of one of the apartments planned to travel and needed someone to take care of the apartment. He decided the porter was the right person for the job. "I am leaving for a few days, and I would like you to stay in my apartment and take care of it," he told the porter. The porter could not believe his ears, and eagerly agreed. At last, his dream was being realized. A few days later, late at night, the apartment owner came back. To his surprise, he found the porter sound asleep on his wooden bed on the street. "What are you doing here and not in my soft bed in the apartment?" he asked. "You see, when I used to sleep on the street, I dreamt of owning an apart-

ment. I had hopes of better times. But when I slept in your bed, all I could think of was your return to re-claim the apartment. This gave me a lot of uneasy feelings about losing something I then enjoyed, and gave me nightmares. So I decided to go back to my old way of life and sleep with a positive thought in my mind." Before the unification of our country, we Yemenis used to live in hope. We looked forward to the day of our unification. We had high hopes of what could be done. But now that we have unified the country, and given the difficulties, we are quite worried about losing it. More than two years after our unification, we still have major problems. Our army is not protecting our borders which are witnessing serious encroachments or patrolling our shores which are violated by shady vessels. Instead, the army is flexing its muscles among the unarmed civilians in peaceful villages. After two years, our security is so fragile that the government is announcing hefty rewards to those who will assist in arresting criminals who are pictured by journalists in qat chews right in the capital city. The country should have more wealth since we have put our resources together, yet, our people seem to have grown poorer. Even our thinking capacity, which should have expanded, is shrinking. Logic seems to be distorted as we describe those who wage war against threats to unity; those who call for economic reform are

seen as calling for re-partitioning the country; and criticism is seen as infringing on sovereignty. We are under the illusion that everybody is conspiring against us. It is as if unified Yemen needs sustenance from corruption and the plundering of real estate, and the waste of precious foreign exchange. When will we ever overcome the porter's complex?

By: Dr. Abdul-Haq Sultan, Al-Wahdawi, Sanaa, 12/1/1993

A Decisive Step Towards Elections

In two days, an important step towards elections will be taken. This is the registration procedure for those persons entitled to vote. This step is considered the hub of the elections process and of the whole democratic system. The lists that will result from the registration are permanent documents which are to be used in future voting, albeit to be modified every year by the Supreme Elections Committee. This means that in future elections, the voter will simply have to produce his/her voting card which entitles him/her to vote. It will be noted that the Constitution and elections law have treated both men and women in an equal manner in exercising their voting rights. Both have equal right to vote and to contest (run) for elections. Actually, all adult Yemenis have the right to vote and

run, except those whose right is waived temporarily or permanently according to the laws. The lists of registrants are very important documents. In the future, these will be the basis for elections. Of course, it will not be possible for just anyone to be added to this list of registrants except those young ones who have grown to be of voting age through the dynamics of the population pyramid. Therefore, it is imperative for all citizens to realize the importance of registering so that they can be entitled to participate in all future elections. The citizen will not need to register again in the future, thus saving time and energy. The state will also not incur any major expenditures in the future as it will merely call on eligible voters to cast their ballots. The role played by the central, local and subsidiary supervisory committees is critical in the registration process. Thus, it is imperative that we all should interact in a responsible and decent way. The tasks are enormous, and the consequences severe. Any neglect or misbehavior by any one of the constituencies will automatically reflect itself on the whole process. One of the critical factors in this process is time. Every minute of every day during the thirty days of registration is important. The registration stations will be open from 08:00 A.M till 01:00 P.M., and from 03:00 P.M. till 06:00 P.M. every day from Monday, January 18th,

1993, until February 18th, 1993 according to the rules and regulations of elections.

Al-Thawrah, Sanaa, 16/1/1993.

The Need for a National Open dialog

It seems that shaking our society is necessary to make the leadership move properly out of the current stagnation and indifference to something better. A new step is essential to evaluate the interrelations of factors occurring and sometimes leading to turmoil. To make my point more directly regarding what is happening I insist on an open all-round dialog. We have to study the depth of our society, understand its predicament and what it wants, promote more constructive social awareness. All the social strife, public conferences and demonstrations are signs reflecting the turmoil and points clearly to the sufferings and aspirations of our people. It is the duty of the political leadership to re-arrange its policies at all levels and start a new approach in tackling the issues before any catastrophe befalls us and leads to uncontrollable situations. What happened on 9/10 of December 1992, in some of our cities is but a natural development to the corrupt and senseless condition the country has reached. We should not be disturbed by the national/tribal conferences being held here and there in various regions of

the country. These are important feedback for the system, and they are a starting point for a board-based national dialog. All in all, the meetings/conferences and demonstrations represent clear pointers to the need for the state to attend to the people's wishes and needs. This is how a real democracy works - the state machinery is held accountable to the people. There are still shortcomings in understanding our problems, and to propose working solutions for them. We live in a new atmosphere, yet the state continues to use old tools and instruments. Faced with the new challenges, the new system should tackle the the issues with more openness and dialog, and away from self-centered decision-making mechanisms. We cannot inspire respect for the law, build institutions, and invoke high ideals among our people unless the officials serve as role models. We have already achieved much in terms of unification of the country peacefully, pursuing a democratic path, and liberal economic policy. But these cannot survive under closed conditions. We need more openness and more exchange of ideas and thoughts. What we need is a new vision from all sides as to how to tackle the great challenges facing us. We cannot afford to fail. **By: Dr. Mohammad Ali Al-Shahari Al-Thawri, Sanaa, 14-1-1993**

AEROFLOT from Aden through Moscow to the WORLD & from Aden to the southern Africa

Russian International Airlines (AEROFLOT) has the pleasure to inform you that as since 28th October started operations every Wednesday between Aden and Moscow on a new schedule in addition to the regular flights.:

АЭРОФЛОТ



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL TEL (02)243688 IN ADEN OR (01)74930 IN SANA'A FLIGHT CONNECTIONS FROM ADE VIA MOW

DEP ADE SU 448 D3..... 1930ARR.....MOW.....D40415 LT

NO TO:	FLT/NO	DEP IN SVO	CONNECTING TIME	ARR AT DEST
1 LONDON	SU241	0855	4HRS 40MIN	0945
2 BUDAPEST	SU131	0925	5HRS 10MIN	1010
3 BERLIN	SU111	0955	5HRS 40MIN	1030
4 WARSAW	SU101	1000	5HRS 45MIN	1010
5 HELSINKI	SU203	1010	5HRS 55MIN	1055
6 PARIS	SU251	1035	6HRS 20MIN	1215
7 COPENHAGEN	SU215	1100	6HRS 45MIN	1130
8 FRANKFURT	SU255	1125	7HRS 10MIN	1235
9 STOCKHOLM	SU219	1130	7HRS 15MIN	1140
10 VIENNA	SU261	1135	7HRS 20MIN	1225
11 HANOI	SU341	1705	12HRS 5MIN	1330
12 OSLO	SU635	1750	13HRS 35MIN	2020
13 TOKYO	SU575	1930	15HRS 15MIN	1105+1
14 AMSTERDAM	SU229	2050	16HRS 35MIN	2215
15 BEIJING	SU571	2205	18HRS 30MIN	1045+1

from Aden to	FLT/NO	DAY	DEP TIME	ARRIVAL TIME
Tananarive	SU459	MON.	09.30	14:15
Dar Assalam & Seychelles	SU447	WED.	05.45	08:55/13:15
Nairobi	SU445	THU	12.05	15:25
Moscow	SU460	SUN	21.55	07:05
Moscow	SU448	WED	19.30	04:15
Moscow	SU446	THU	21.10	07:10
Moscow	SU456	FRI	11.05	18:30

WE OFFER COMPETITIVE PRICES, AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES UP TO WORLD STANDARDS. PASSENGER SERVICE IS OUR MOTTO TRY US ONCE, AND YOU WILL FLY AEROFLOT ALL THE TIME. ENJOY OUR HOSPITALITY

For reservation call Aden (02) 243688 or Sana'a (01) 74930. Addresses: Aeroflot agency in Aden: P. O. Box 5100 Madram Street (main road), Ma'alla. Working hours 08-13.00 every day closed on Fridays and on official holidays. Aeroflot office in Sana'a: 26th September Street. Working hours: 08.00-13.00 and 17.00-19.00 except on Fridays and official holidays.

WELCOME ABROAD ON OUR GLOBAL FLEET

Aeroflot has a fleet of 1,300 airliners IL-86, IL-62, TU-154, TU-134 and 100 cargo planes of the IL-76 and AN-124 types. Aeroflot lines will soon put into service an A 310 -300 airliner, a product of international cooperation. In 1990 Aeroflot carried over 5 million passengers on international lines and 130 million on domestic lines.

IL-86

Flight range 5,000 km
Cruise speed 900 kph
Seat capacity 350

IL-62

Flight range 10,000 km
Cruise speed 830 kph
Seat capacity 168

TU-154

Flight range 5,000 km
Cruise speed 945 kph
Seat capacity under 164

YAK-42

Flight range 3,000 km
Cruise speed 750 kph
Seat capacity 120

TWO SUDANESE SCHOLARS SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS ON RELIGION AND POLITICS

"We do not believe in the dramatic and abrupt transformation of society. We are committed to following a closer Islamic path, but not necessarily in one or a few shots." So said Dr. Hassan Al-Turabi, of the of the most respected Muslim theologians and clergymen.

Speaking to the Yemen Times from his office in Khartoum, the headquarters of the Popular Arab and Islamic Conference, Al-Turabi stated that the Muslim world was making a comeback to the true teachings of Islam. If Muslims practise their true faith, the West has no need to fear on that account. On the contrary, World Islamic thinking has a flexible and open attitude toward the rest of the world. "Most of the leaders of the Islamic movements are actually individuals who have been trained and educated in the West, and therefore they have a liberal mind that is free from xenophobia or prejudice."

"The Islamicization process is well underway, and the sooner the West comes to terms with it, the better it will be for all sides. The West should not try to contain this development, nor should it apprehensively try to mold it according to its own perceptions," he said, World history is a well-defined pattern of cycles. A certain set of values rise, gain circulation, and then they become less appealing and then wither away. In the case of Islam it has been dormant for a while now. "It is in this light that Islamic revival has to be seen," he added.

For this purposes, the Popular Arab and Islamic Conference was created on 28/4/1991. Dr. Al-Turabi who holds an MA from Britain and a PhD from France (the Sorbonne), serves as the PAIC's Secretary-General. The PAIC has the explicit objective of "starting and supporting exchange and dialog among the various Islamic and national movements in order to evolve a unified base for thinking and reasoning as well as popular activities." (Article 3, Mechanisms in the Charter of the PAIC).

Is there a concerted worldwide coordination among the various religious movements especially the politicized ones? Mr. Al-Turabi does not think there is one, although he wishes there were. "There is a certain degree of contact and exchange among Muslim societies and movements, but I would not go as far as to call it a concerted worldwide coordination. The fact that there are many Islamic movements in different parts of the world is more of an accident due to the level of frustration and despair, is a mere accident," he said. He added that it was fair and just for the Islamic move-



ments to seek to take over power in the various Islamic countries through legal means. "In my testimony to the African Affairs Committee in the US Congress on 20/5/1992, I indicated that all persons and groups in any society had the right to try to gain power through legal and proper channels. This is what the Islamic movements are doing," he said.

"Islam today is undergoing a renaissance, which means ridding itself of the accumulation of misconstruances which have made rituals more important than the real values, morals and spiritual rectitude," Dr. Al-Turabi pointed out. In response to a question regarding the mechanism and approach in the Islamicization process, Dr. Al-Turabi indicated that the gradual approach is better. "There is no reason to introduce abrupt changes." In fact, the PAIC charter almost calls for a co-existence and cooperation between the clergy (Islamic bloc) on the one hand, and the regular politicians on the other. This is, however, a kind of interim arrangement which eventually should give way to the implementation of Islamic values.

Is Sudan a breeding ground for Islamic fundamentalism and armed Jihad movements? The answer is two-fold. "We are doing some rheological and theoretical Islamic teachings, seminars and conferences. Other Muslims do come to these meetings, just as much as Sudanese go to other states for similar purposes. However, the Sudan is not a training ground for armed Jihad movements, and we do not even condone such efforts. We believe that there are proper channels for reaching power. Although I have to add that many forces in the Muslim World, and some in the West, work openly to deprive politicians and thinkers who espouse Muslim values and thoughts of a fair chance at governing. This was most clear in the Algerian elections. Such behavior leaves very few options other than armed struggle."

With respect to the Sudan,

the Muslim thinker said that Muslims, Christians and others can live peacefully and interact fruitfully without any side infringing on the others. "Political ambitions, rather than religious or racial differences, are at the bottom of our difficulties," he indicated.

The PAIC has an office in Yemen. What are your plans for it? Dr. Al-Turabi mentioned that the PAIC office in Yemen is still not as active as it should be. "Yemen and Yemenis played a vital role in the early days of Islam. They have been blessed by the Prophet, and we expect them to play a critical role in the future growth and prosperity of Islam. We are concerned with the current difficulties of Yemen. But we do not think they are a limiting factor to what Yemen and Yemenis can contribute to the local, regional and international Islamic movement."

The second Sudanese thinker with whom the Yemen Times met was the Rt-Reverend Bishop Gabriel Roric Jur, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. "First of all, let me agree that we have our internal political problems, but this should not mean that foreign countries can interfere at whim."

Foreign interference in the Sudan dates back to the colonial time. We now say that we're mature enough to solve our own problems. Our policy is based on love and understanding. I am trying to make the point that tolerance in our country must be an integral part of our policies and approach so that Muslims and Christians live together," the Bishop said.

Mr. Jur, the son of one of the important chiefs of Southern Sudan, also wields a lot of influence through his post as a religious leader. He himself is a symbol of the interaction between religion and politics in the Sudan.

But the interaction between religion and politics is real in the Sudan. The Bishop did not express any anxiety at the call of a large group of his countrymen to apply the Islamic Sharia. "To me that

is not something disturbing because we are all children of Adam and Eve, and both Muslims and Christians worship the same God. In this country (Sudan), we also have those who are neither Muslim nor Christian. They also have their own way of worshipping God. Going back to your question, if Muslims would like to be governed by the Sharia, they have that right in the region in which they are the decided majority. They must take care, however, that minorities are not subjected to any discrimination or prejudice. At the same time, the Christians should have the right to be governed by laws reflecting their Christian values in regions in which they are the decided majority. They must take care also that minorities are not subjected to any discrimination or prejudice. Therefore, I think the federal system provides being proposed and worked out a suitable answer," he said.

Regarding the insurgency movement in the South, the Sudanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs stressed that the war, although given a religious and racial overtone in the international press, is actually a political power struggle. "The war has to be resolved within a unified Sudan. This is a



political problem and we must find a political solution. There are "Northerners" in the Southern Camp, and there are "Southerners" in Khartoum. Except for a few foreigners, even our southern people are not very serious when they say that this is a religious problem," he said.

The Minister urged to downplay any religious differences, and "to work on the common elements we share in our religions." Bishop Jur also insisted that religion must be used to increase harmony and cooperation and to guide people towards better life.

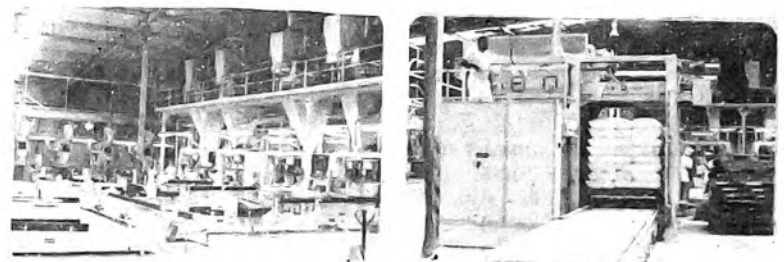
Regarding developments in Somalia, the Minister affirmed that his country will abide by the UN resolutions. "If the peace keeping force in Somalia is for the good of Somalis, we have no objections; but if the American are there to secure other goals, for example building a base, then this to me will not help the Horn of Africa."

Religion, whether Islam or Christianity, is bound to play a major role in the life of the Sudanese people. The job of the Sudanese religious men, thinkers, intellectuals and politicians is to make such a role positive and constructive rather than destructive.



THE MOHAMED ABDO RABO GROUP A GIANT CORPORATION GROWS FURTHER

Sanaa: Phone: 240702-240952; Tlx: 2780; Facsimile: 263-086; Address: P.O.Box 2528, Hodeidah: Phone: 3-232460; Tlx: 5661; Facsimile: 211551; Address: P.O.Box 4015, Khartoum: Phone: 74569/74610/74562; Tlx: 22369; Fax: 74561; Address: P.O.B. 1926 Port Sudan: Phone: 2630, 2979, 4465; Telex: 70071; Address: P.O.Box 160.



صنعا ت: ٢٤٠٧٠٢ - ٢٤٠٩٥٢ تليكس: ٢٧٨٠ ناخيل يمن فاكسميل: ٢٦٣٠٨٦ ص ب: ٢٥٢٨
الحديدة ت: ٣٢٢٤٦٠/٣ تليكس: ٥٦٦١ ابو جبة يمن فاكسميل: ٢١١٥٥١ ص ب: ٤٠١٥
الخرطوم ت: ٧٤٥٦٩ - ٧٤٦١٠ - ٧٤٦١٢ - ٧٤٦١٤ تليكس: ٢٢٣٦٩ سيحان فاكسميل: ٧٤٥٦١ ص ب: ١٩٢٦
بورتسودان ت: ٢٦٣٠ - ٢٩٧٩ - ٤٤٦٥ تليكس: ٧٠٠٧١ يارن ص ب: ١٦٠

Letters to the Editor

A SUPPORTING MESSAGE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Dear Chief Editor, Here is a supporting message to the American people on behalf of peace loving Somali people. I had the pleasure to extend my supporting congratulations to the American people and its government on the occasion of the congressional resolution to send U.S. troops to the war torn country of Somalia.

and generals. I do believe that this humanitarian action could also safeguard the defenseless, innocent war victims from those guilty "Machiavellians" who want to gain power through crisis, torture and undemocratic actions. The side effects brought about by the intermingling of the two societies culturally, which might come about later, will make your rescue unforgettable. You will always remain in the hearts of those who love peace and democracy. Democracy is best tested by those who disagree with the majority view. By: Othman Sheikh Yero, Sana'a.

Let Us Think and Ask

It is a well known fact that any society in the world is measured by its education, culture and what this society presents to its future generations. Sanaa University is considered a source of culture in Yemen, but the question is, what does this university present to its learners? Let us be realistic and ask ourselves, what techniques and possibilities are used in it? Are books, laboratories, facilities and qualified teachers absolutely available? Otherwise, we haven't asked ourselves what kind of benefits these learners may get out of their studies. I think there are many requirements for these poor students that they should take into consideration in order to get beneficial and progress for the next generation of our society. By: Adel Abdul Rub Mohammad, Faculty of Education, Hodeidah

The Communication Between Ethiopia And Yemen

Yemen has one of the oldest continuing foreign policies in the world. Yemen has been a cultural crossroad for the meeting of various cultures and civilizations over the ages. The genesis of the Yemen identity is rooted deeply in the history of its people. Central Yemen has been a major cradle of the civilization of mankind for a millennia. It played the key note in every critical stage in the progressive development of human culture in pre-historic times. The ancient Yemenis were already very active in establishing commercial relations on the Red Sea. Besides being relatively distant, Yemen and Ethiopia had a well

established contact with the ancient kingdom of Saba, in the main locations of Qataban and Hadramut. Red Sea trade widened international contacts which developed even further. Particularly with the advent of the Greeks for the following period of almost one thousand years. A Red Sea economic relationship was established with Ethiopia. The Aksumite port of Adulis on the Red Sea was the focus of Active maritime trade. Hassan Sherif Ali Al-Asbahi

WE'RE SITTING ON A KEG OF GUNPOWDER

The needs of life are getting beyond our reach. We are exhausted by daily speeches full of trite statements. Despite this, prices rise to astronomical heights because of a craze for getting rich quickly by misusing our sustenance and resources. We are under the rule of an industrial empire whose policy is to profit by pushing the poor in mire, while the government is a long way from the battle, resting her oars and disregarding our trouble. We can't watch anybody take our daily bread. Hence, we see the strike and revolt of the Yemeni people. If for the time being we set these facts at naught, the situation would not be void of anxiety or fright. Our hearts would still flutter with fear due to the elections that are coming near, afraid of what has happened ever and again. That disaster is an electoral campaign. Therefore, let's side with each other in union and fulfill our glorious dreams for YEMEN. Yours Faithfully, Abdulaziz Awer Fakir.

SOMALIA: Avoiding a Rerun of the Tragedy

BY: ALI ABDULLE OSMAN - SPIC SANA'A

International efforts to restore peace and stability to Somalia are beginning to bear fruit. The people of Somalis are thrilled to learn about the successful rounding up of the thugs and other accomplishments of the UN peace plan in many parts of the country. The people feel rested now that peace has returned to Mogadishu, Baidoa, Bardere and many other parts of the country. For over two years the people have been under siege as hoodlums were organized by unscrupulous selfish individuals calling themselves politicians. As a Somali, I feel grateful for the countries that have helped Somalia regain its sanity, and on top of the list comes the USA. I am sure the pioneers of peace will succeed in completing the job. But this is the point I am trying to raise. The Somali reconciliation conference held in Addis Ababa, as part of the UN peace plan, is an important step forward in breaking the deadlock and in normalizing relations among the various warlords. Their compromises and agreements are a good sign, and a source of some optimism. But I hope the sponsors of peace will not take the word of these thugs and accordingly. In view of the sheer size of the conflict and the proliferation of clan-based political organizations pouncing at each other's throats, the international peace keeping force must collect ALL weapons in order to achieve a lasting peace and political stability in Somalia. The international community must also help Somalis in better managing their affairs in a way fitting of the 21st century, which is just around the corner. To prevent the country from plunging back into chaos, and thus witness a rerun of the tragedy, certain steps and measures are needed.

- I suggest the following: 1. The main job would be to help regain understanding and brotherhood among the Somali people for the restoration of security and harmony. 2- Total disbanding of the military machine of all factions. 3- Punishing the gunmen without leniency and cutting off the roots of all criminal activities. 4- Banning the possession of arms across country and adopting punitive measures against the unrepentants. 5- The efforts of the peace keeping forces and diplomatic activities should be extended, and make sure that the country gradually but steadily reverts to normal life. 6- Hopefully, the international community could help bring some form of democracy to the country by putting an end to the absolute authority of overambitious leaders who enslave the people. 7- Finally, the international community should help Somalia in its development and reconstruction effort to ensure a minimum standard of living to its people. The accomplishment of these objectives is a tall order which requires a certain UN jurisdiction over the country. As a first step in this effort of reorganisation, a broad based reconciliatory committee chaired by a UN appointee with transitional authority could be set up to run the nation until such time, the situation is normalised and the internal tension is reduced to riskless levels. At that time, a national convention may be held to decide on the future fate of the country. The UN Security Council has an absolute duty and responsibility to pass the necessary additional resolutions, if the objectives envisioned in the UN peace plan and the spirit of the "Restore Hope" operation are to bring a just and durable peace and political stability in Somalia.

Personal View

The Death Of The Somali Hopes

The military intervention and the deployment of the U.S.-led coalition forces in Somalia, "The Virgin Land," are set up at a time when almost all of the Somali masses are in such poignant grief because their hopes have been dashed; their enthusiasm evaporated. Somalis are rooting for the U.S.-led forces. It was obvious that these fully-flagged amphibious armed forces could step into the breach in Somalia where there has been a scourge of civil war. Of course, there was a gory battle in every part of Somali territory, which brought famine and continued mayhem. The clergymen and the intellectuals were unable to come to grips with the gravity of the situation! In fact, it seemed to be untenable and thus 1,800,000 civilians have become refugees. In my opinion, Somalis may remember this catastrophic episode forever. The death toll in the internecine war is an estimated 3,000,000 people. Many cities are baleful and have turned into necropoli. Somalis have tasted the plights and pains of human life! They are fed up with the all around predicament, while the U.S.-led multi-national forces branch out with Operation "Restore Hope" in Somalia, which seemed all too onerous. To many Somalis, Operation "Restore Hope" seemed too impotent, unless all of the Somali gunmen are disarmed down to the ground. Because disarmament makes peace, in my opinion there could be a ray of hope in Somalia, if there is collaboration between the U.S.-led coalition forces and the Vanguard of the Somali fighting fronts based on tribocracy! There would definitely be a panacea for the Somali Plight including the unceasing pogrom. If the warlords do not go in for the operation "Restore Hope", it is quite certain that there would be no peace, security, or stability. In time, the future of all Somalis may hinge on the outcome of the Somali conciliatory conference which is being held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. If the results of the Summit Conference are in vain, it is expected that the duration of the U.S.-armed forces intervention would probably be prolonged in Somalia, and they would be able to play an effective part to resurrect the Somali Hopes. By: Mohamed Ali Shidle "Agoie" Taiz

تعلم اللغة العربية في المركز اليمني لللغات ARABIC LANGUAGE CLASSES AT THE YEMEN LANGUAGE CENTER. Classes are available for all levels mornings and afternoons. only 4-6 participants in each class. It is the only Language Centre specialized in teaching Arabic as a foreign language. CLASS SCHEDULE: MORNING: 8 AM - 12 PM AFTERNOON: 4 PM - 8 PM. TERM I JAN 02 - MAR 10 (10 WEEKS) TERM II APR 03 - JAN 30 (03 MONTHS) TERM III JUL 10 - SEP 29 (03 MONTHS) TERM IV OCT 09 - DEC 16 (10 WEEKS) MORNING: 8AM - 1 PM AFTERNOON: 4 PM - 8 PM. For more information please call or fax 209249 Sana'a Po. Box 16961- Tel: 205125

In an Increasingly Bold and Assertive Position in Regional Politics, Sudanese President Al-Basheer:

“There is no point in continuing the ‘peace’ talks with Israel !”

His Excellency Lt-General Omer Hassan Al-Basheer, President of the Revolutionary Salvation Council and Prime Minister of the Sudan, granted Yemen Times an exclusive interview at his home in Khartoum.

Yemen Times, Chief Editor Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqa and Political Editor Dr. Ahmed N. Al-Madhagy interviewed the Sudanese leader. Excerpts of the interview:

Q: The National Salvation has been in charge of the Sudan for three years now. What has been achieved?

A: I do not want to go through the development of achievements in terms of roads constructed, schools built, tons of food produced, etc. Let me simply focus on the psychological achievements. We have supplanted the feeling of helplessness and frustration that gripped the Sudanese psyche in the past, with one that is full of hope, optimism, and a tremendous dose of self-esteem and confidence.

We approached our task with the spirit of challenge and I can tell you that we have already won the day. We have stopped the insurgency movements that were advancing northwards and the process of desertification that was creeping southwards.

Q: You have mentioned in some of your speeches in the past that Sudan is being targeted by some external forces. What do you mean?

A: We have chosen to pursue policies that are homegrown, reflecting the needs and aspirations of the Sudanese people, and in light of our affiliation with the Arab, Islamic and African nations. Thus our interactions with regional and international issues are independent from the dictates of the patrons of what is being termed the “New World Order.” This is evident in our position on the Gulf Crisis, our position on the Middle East Peace Talks, and our recent position on the US-led UN intervention in Somalia, etc.

As a result we have been the target of a smear media campaign using such issues as human rights, the problem of the



South (of Sudan), international terrorism, etc.

Almost all foreign credit and assistance has dried up, including some funds which were committed by agreements. Some of the Sudanese personalities who live in a voluntary self-exile have been used to strike at their own country. But I assure you that our internal front is solid and unified, and we will withstand any such efforts.

Q: The democracy issue in the Sudan. Don't you think that despite what you achieve in other fields, this will be a black spot unless progress is made in democracy?

A: I assure you we care about democracy and we shun undemocratic practices. But this does not mean a multiplicity of political parties.

I understand democracy to mean participation of the people in running the country. Multiple political parties is simply one of the mechanisms to achieve that. It suited the West well.

I think that each society is entitled to search for the best way to enable the people to participate in the affairs of government.

We in the Sudan suffer from a compound racial and religious structure. If we start political parties, people will align themselves along religious or racial lines, which are neither democratic nor civic. So we have evolved a grass-roots, four-level system in which people elect their representatives to local councils. These then elect a higher council until you reach the national

council. The President of the republic and the members of parliament are directly elected by the people.

By the way, the system we are now evolving has been studied and discussed by the Sudanese people at various levels. Hundreds of thousands of people have contributed their opinions before it was drafted. We also studied our own past experiences, as well as the experiments of regional and international models.

When people talk of political democracy in the form of multiple parties in the Sudan, they forget the ordinary citizen had very little say, or even interest in what these parties were doing. The parties served families, like the Mahdi or Mergheny families, etc. In most cases they reflected the ambitions of a small group of urban elite. In such models, where is the democracy?

What we have come up with is a more representative and a more popular system. Any person with no preconceived positions can see this.

Q: What is new on the problem of Southern Sudan?

A: The insurgency is being fragmented, and we regained control over 90% of the South. We offered, and continue to offer, a peaceful political solution. In my opinion, Garang does not want a solution, and I have a feeling our brothers in the South have now come to realize this too. Let me give you proof of this.

The heads of delegations

that represented the South and with which the government in Khartoum negotiated, have all been killed, or have been forced to splinter off. Anybody who talks to us from among our Southern brothers can see that we offer flexible and rational solutions within a unified Sudan. We offer a federal system in which each group can find suitable means for self-expression of its values and beliefs. But the Western media accuses us of relocating the people or starving them or whatever. That kind of politicized nonsense does not stand the test of factual reality.

Q: The Sudan has taken a cautious position on the coming of American forces under the banner of the UN. What exactly worries you?

A: Let me say we have no illusions about the intentions of the West in our region. Let me use the American involvement in the Gulf as an example.

It first started as an effort to protect Saudi Arabia against foreign attacks (presumably Iraqi). Then it was transformed as a force to liberate Kuwait. Then it was used to destroy the military and economic capabilities of Iraq. And now it has become a tool to divide Iraq.

History vividly tells of Western ambitions and greed in our region. The Somalis have suffered for a long time, and the West was oblivious to their cries. We have tried to help and provided some assistance according to our capabilities.

Almost overnight, the USA began making a lot of noise about its duty to save the Somalis and to make sure that food and medical supplies reach their destinations safely. To do that, they have sent over 30,000 men. This army, in our opinion, is far beyond the needs of the expressed objectives. Thus we are expecting the quick transformation of the duties of this force in the region.

We had started working with the UN Secretary-General's former representative, Mr. Sahnoun, and he almost achieved a breakthrough in resolving this problem. But all of a sudden he was recalled and replaced, and we now

have the American forces. Hence our reservations.

Q: Egypt and the Sudan have differences over the Halayib triangle in north-east Sudan. What is the problem and why is it being escalated?

A: Egypt notified us that it has claims over this Sudanese region, and we agreed to talk about it. Our response emanated from two beliefs:

a) That all these borders were drawn up by foreign forces at a time when the Arabs were weak and could not control their area; therefore there is nothing sacred or strategic about the borders.

b) That our relations with Egypt are vital since we complement each other and there is no problem in discussing any issue in a fraternal way.

Then something peculiar happened. The Egyptian side escalated the problem by sending in military forces as well as civilian residents into the Halayib. That torpedoed the ongoing talks, and cast a shadow of doubt over the real intentions of Egypt. We responded by sending a letter to the UN in which we expressed our reservations regarding changes in the population structure. Please remember that the present boundaries which Egypt is contesting were not drawn up by Sudanese. Actually no Sudanese was there to participate or to approve of what was done. Britain and Egypt took care of everything.

We still believe that Sudan and Egypt can work out a solution that is acceptable to both sides on this matter. We know that we can compromise with each other. You know that the Sudan gave away large chunks of land and even relocated a large number of its northern population to make way for the Nasser Lake which is an Egyptian water reservoir. We provided critical documents to Egypt in its Taba negotiations with Israel as these were left behind by the British in our archives. Their planes and other vital army and strategic assets were all in the Sudan during the war with Israel. What I am saying is that we need each other, and there is no need to act in ways that will cause long-lasting damage and animosities.

Q: You take what is often referred to as an extreme position on the Middle East Peace Talks. Can you explain your position?

A: Simply stated, we believe that Israel will never withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza, and probably not even from the Golan Heights. We believe that these talks, which have entered their second year this week, are not going to lead to anything substantive.

Israel, in the meantime, continues to alter the geography and population structure in the area. Israel today owns 60% of the West Bank.

So peace talks or no peace talks, give me one reason why Israel should give back the territories. Give me one reason why they must listen to our rhetoric. The American mediation is neither impartial nor sympathetic to our needs and aspirations.

Therefore, we voiced our opinion that the talks are simply a way of gaining time by the Israelis until they finally complete their plans in the region.

Q: Relations with Yemen - how are they evolving? Recent press reports in Yemen mentioned that Usamah Bin Laden (a Saudi national of Yemeni origin presently living in Sudan) was connected to the Aden explosions?

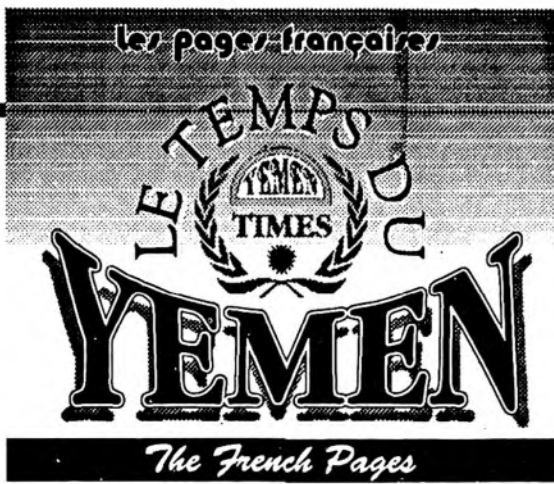
A: First of all, relations with Yemen are excellent. I hope we can work to make them stronger and more fruitful.

Yes, Usamah Bin Laden lives in the Sudan, but he is forbidden to engage in any political activities. I do not think he is involved in anything of the sort you mentioned, but if you have any proof, or anybody else has it, we would like to look at it.

Usamah Bin Laden had a fall-out with the Saudi authorities regarding money raised (primarily through the contribution of friends and the Sudanese living in Saudi Arabia) to finance the Khartoum-Atbara highway. That was just before the Gulf Crisis. The Saudis first gave us excuses, and finally froze the money.

Mr. Bin Laden is helping out in constructing this “Challenge Highway.”

In short, the Yemeni-Sudanese relations continue to improve.



Alors que Sanaa "regrette" le recours à la force des "alliés" contre l'Irak, Venus évaluer les moyens de renforcer la coopération franco-yéménite

Vers une nouvelle Guerre du Golfe ?

Dimanche soir 17 janvier, les Etats-Unis ont lancé une trentaine de missiles de croisière depuis des navires patrouillant dans le Golfe sur une usine de machine-outils dans la banlieue de Bagdad. Washington, qui opérait sous couvert des résolutions des Nations-Unies, affirme que cette usine fabriquait également des composants d'équipement nucléaire à objectif militaire. Le Pentagone a fait savoir que cette attaque répondait à une série de provocations de la part de l'Irak: plusieurs accrochages aériens ont eu lieu ces derniers jours, des infiltrations irakiennes ont été perpétrées au Koweït, Bagdad a déployé des missiles près de la zone d'exclusion décidée par l'ONU et surtout, Saddam Hussein refuse de se plier aux résolutions du Conseil de sécurité concernant la liberté de survol du territoire par la commission spéciale de Nations-Unies chargée du désarmement de l'Irak, selon la Maison Blanche.

Cette attaque intervient quatre jours après le bombardement d'objectifs militaires irakiens dans le sud du pays par les forces aériennes alliées (Etats-Unis, Grande-Bretagne et France). Mais Paris a tenu à se démarquer de la stratégie de Washington en qualifiant l'attaque de dimanche dernier d'"opération américaine".

La presse arabe et une frange de la presse occidentale, notamment française, qualifient la stratégie de l'ONU et de Washington de "politique de deux poids deux mesures", faisant allusions aux résolutions du Conseil de Sécurité de l'ONU encore non appliquées par Israël, concernant les droits du peuple Palestinien.

Dimanche soir, vers 20h00 locales (17h00 GMT), la flotte américaine qui croise dans le Golfe a effectué des tirs d'une trentaine de missiles de croisière Tomahawk (un million de dollars pièce) sur une usine de la banlieue sud-est de Bagdad, soupçonnée par Washington d'être l'un des maillons de la chaîne de fabrication d'armement nucléaire. Une heure et demi après, les missiles atteignaient leur cible, malgré le déclenchement d'une importante batterie de missiles de défense anti-aérienne près de Bagdad.

Selon l'Irak, l'un des missiles américains, touché par la DCA

irakienne, se serait abattu sur un grand hôtel de la capitale, l'hôtel Al-Rachid, faisant deux morts et de nombreux blessés civils. La chaîne américaine CNN a montré les dégâts occasionnés et filmé un fragment de missile américain dans l'hôtel. Le Pentagone laisse penser qu'il pourrait s'agir d'une manipulation, sans pour autant démentir la version irakienne.

Cette attaque, intervenue le jour du deuxième anniversaire du déclenchement de la guerre du Golfe semble avoir accru la détermination de Saddam Hussein qui a prononcé un discours d'une heure et demi, exhortant son

Paris se démarque

La France a rapidement précisée, dimanche soir, que l'attaque menée sur la banlieue de Bagdad était une "opération américaine", alors que Londres soulignait qu'elle avait été "décidée par la coalition". Le ministère français de la Défense souligne que "aucun moyen français n'ayant été engagé, le ministère n'a pas de commentaires à faire". La rapidité de la réaction officielle française laisse penser que Paris avait des réserves sur cette opération, malgré un entretien Bush-Mitterrand. La presse nationale adopte des commentaires critiques sur la stratégie américaine.

armée à "frapper les agresseurs", son peuple à la patience et a fait vibrer une nouvelle fois la fibre nationaliste arabe contre "la domination colonialiste" de l'Occident.

L'attaque est intervenue trois jours avant l'investiture officielle du président des Etats-Unis Bill Clinton, qui a donné son accord à George Bush pour l'attaque et qui semble déterminé, lui aussi, à poursuivre la politique américaine actuelle dans le Golfe. A l'heure où nous mettons sous presse (lundi soir), l'Irak, qui a pourtant promis une riposte, n'a toujours pas réagi à l'attaque.

(D'après AFP)

Des membres du Sénat et de la Mairie de Paris reçus "chaleureusement"

Une délégation de deux sénateurs français et d'un conseiller de la Mairie de Paris a séjourné au Yémen du 11 au 18 janvier dernier, dans le cadre du Groupe d'amitié France-Yémen du Sénat. L'objectif de la visite était de montrer aux yéménites que le Sénat français, sans concurrencer les relations d'Etat à Etat entre les deux pays, était à leur écoute pour développer tout type de coopération. Les sénateurs français ont affirmé qu'ils aideraient les politiques et les hommes d'affaire français à mieux connaître et comprendre le Yémen, afin de favoriser les relations déjà étroites entre les deux pays.

Surtout, les officiels yéménites se sont montrés très intéressés par le système de parlement bicaméral à la française, pour créer, sur le modèle du Sénat, une deuxième chambre qui serait l'équivalent d'un "Conseil des sages" et des hommes expérimentés du pays.

La délégation française comprenait MM. Bernard Barbier, Sénateur-Maire de Nuits-Saint-Georges et président du groupe d'amitié France-Yémen au Sénat, Roger Chirac, Sénateur-Maire du 18ème arrondissement de Paris, Premier Vice-Président du Sénat et Vice-Président du groupe France-Yémen et Michel Junot, Préfet honoraire et représentant du Maire de Paris, M. Jacques Chirac, auprès des villes jumelées (rappelons que Sanaa et Paris sont jumelées depuis 1985). Bien entendu, cette délégation a été "pilote" pendant tout son séjour par l'Ambassadeur de France au Yémen, M. Marcel Laugel.

L'idée de la visite a germé il y a deux mois lors de la création du groupe d'amitié France-Yémen au Sénat - à l'image de celui qui existe déjà à l'Assemblée Nationale - et qui a connu des débuts fulgurants: dès la création du groupe, celui-ci recueillait 60 adhésions de sénateurs! M. Barbier espère réunir bientôt une centaine d'adhérents, soit environ le tiers du Sénat (321 sièges). Devant cet engouement, MM. Barbier et Chirac ont jugé opportun de "découvrir ce pays que personne ou presque ne connaît" et à proposer duquel circulent un tas d'idées toutes faites. Les trois personnalités françaises ont été particulièrement impressionnées, selon leurs propres termes, par la maturité politique de ce pays et par le réel processus démocratique qui s'y est engagé, malgré les heurts et les obstacles récents (report des élections, grèves, manifestations sévèrement réprimées...). Ils ont affirmé au Président Ali Abdallah Saleh, qui les avait reçus tout spécialement, que "la France soutient particulièrement le Yémen dans cette démarche très difficile mais courageuse", et lui ont présenté tous leurs vœux de réussite pour les élections à venir, le 27 avril prochain. Le Président a insisté sur la nécessité du renforcement des relations entre les deux pays, déjà très importantes.

Une "Maison De Gaulle" à Aden ?

Lors d'une récente visite à Paris, le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères du Yémen, M. Abdul Karim Al-Iryani, a fait sensation en annonçant que le Général De Gaulle aurait séjourné à Aden, pendant la Seconde Guerre Mondiale, au cours d'une de ses visites aux Forces Françaises Libres qui combattaient au Moyen-Orient.

La délégation de sénateurs et du représentant de la Mairie de Paris s'est montrée vivement intéressée par l'existence à Aden d'une petite maison où le

Général aurait séjourné de 15 jours à un mois selon les yéménites (alors que les Mémoires du Général n'en font pas état). La maison a été retrouvée et l'on envisage, après enquête de confirmation à la Fondation De Gaulle à Paris, d'y apposer une plaque commémorative et de l'appeler "Maison de Gaulle", si l'hypothèse d'un séjour assez long se confirme. Un témoin serait encore vivant: le cuisinier yéménite du Général: reste à trouver ce personnage, témoin unique...

TRIBUNE LIBRE

Un concert de "louanges": les "tasâbih" de la nuit

Par Jean Lambert

Visiteur du Yémen, toi qui découvres ce pays pour la première fois, ne t'étonne pas d'être réveillé par les prières nocturnes qui s'élèvent des minarets: ce sont les "louanges" (tasâbih) que les Musulmans adressent à Dieu. Avant l'appel à la prière du matin, avant que prenne fin la nuit froide et inquiétante, les Croyants lancent par trois fois un cri d'admiration pour le Monde que Dieu a créé, pour la grandeur que cette Création manifeste, et le contraste qu'elle fait avec la petitesse des hommes. Les voix se répondent d'un minaret à l'autre, par deux ou trois, en un véritable "concert". Le troisième des tasâbih dit notamment:

"Louange au Souverain qui ouvre (toute chose) (...)

Louange au créateur des âmes

Louange à Celui qui a pourvu d'ailes les oiseaux

Louange à Celui qui a fait partir la nuit et a fait venir le jour (...)

Louange au Très Elevé, au Très Haut

Ecouter les tasâbih de la nuit n'est pas toujours un plaisir pour les insomniaques. Mais ce sont surtout les amoureux qui les entendent, disent les gens de Sanaa, car ils sont condamnés à ne pas trouver le sommeil...

Pour ma part, depuis que j'ai pris connaissance du contenu des tasâbih, sa majesté m'a souvent apaisé, et m'a permis de me rendormir. Est-

ce si différent de ces veilleurs de nuit qui rassuraient les gens dans nos villes médiévales: "Dormez, bonnes gens, il est quatre heures et tout est calme!". Ne faudrait-il pas faire figurer leur texte dans les guides touristiques? (1)

Il est vrai que les voix des tasâbih s sont d'une texture assez déconcertante, de même que leurs mélodies: c'est un cri, une pure exclamation qui, pour l'Islam zaydite, ne saurait être assimilé à la musique. C'est pourquoi ils se démarquent volontairement des appels plus mélodiques que l'on peut entendre en Egypte par exemple. Mais c'est précisément cette austérité qui fait la beauté du tasâbih, pour qui sait la saisir.

Il reste que les haut-parleurs n'adouciennent pas ces voix poignantes. Dans le passé, les muezzins de Sanaa n'avaient pas de micros. La ville était calme, et l'on pouvait s'entendre d'un bout à l'autre de ses remparts.

Aujourd'hui, si les minarets font porter si haut leurs voix, c'est qu'ils sont concurrencés dans la journée par les klaxons des voitures. Les Croyants ne font ici que retourner contre elle les armes de cette technique importée qui se préoccupe bien peu des la paix des hommes. Souhaitons que cette émulation sonore se termine dans la sagesse...

(1) Le texte complet se trouve dans le livre de R. SERJEANT, Sanaa, un Arabian Islamic City, page 310.

Les officiels yéménites, eux, se sont déclarés très intéressés par le modèle français de Parlement bicaméral et par l'existence d'un Sénat. Cet intérêt est revenu comme un leitmotiv: le gouvernement prétend que de nombreux politiciens et hommes d'expérience se retirent régulièrement de la vie publique et qu'il serait bon de les inclure dans une sorte de "conseil des sages" qui s'inspirerait du Sénat français et qui comprendrait également la composante tribale, très importante dans le pays. Les deux sénateurs ont promis d'envoyer des experts pour permettre d'élaborer, pour l'avenir, les textes constitutifs d'une telle assemblée.

E.G.

حليب الهناء بالهناء والشفاء



AL-HANA MILK

The family's favorite milk

For your tea, coffee,
and for your early morning drink.

You can also use it to prepare various recipes

Des fouilles archéologiques franco-yéménites dans le gouvernorat de Shabwa

Les trésors du wadi Dura'

par Jean-François Breton*

En 1984, des paysans effectuant des travaux de terrassements dans le wadi Dura', au sud-ouest de 'Ataq, la capitale du gouvernorat de Shabwa, mettent au jour des objets d'une grande valeur: des bassins et des louches en bronze, des pots en albâtre et, surtout, une remarquable coupe réhaussée de bandes d'or... Ces pièces sont alors déposées au Musée de 'Ataq, par les soins de Khairân az-Zubaydi, responsable local du service archéologique. Puis, la Direction des Antiquités d'Aden réunit les crédits nécessaires à une fouille de sauvetage qu'une équipe franco-yéménite entreprend en décembre 1985.

C'est une succession de tombes, étagées dans l'épaisseur des limons, que la fouille révèle alors. Une sépulture intacte livre, disposées sans ordre autour du squelette, des armes, notamment une épée au fourreau d'argent, trois poignards, une hallebarde, des coupes en verre, un coffret d'ivoire, des autels et des bassins en bronze. On connaît le nom du personnage inhumé là, grâce à son sceau en or et à son épée: il s'agit de Yafa'hum, du lignage des Tafarum. C'est ce même Yafa'hum qui signe une boîte en argent décorée de rinceaux dorés et munie d'un couvercle orné d'une méduse. Ces dhû-Tafarum sont attestés par ailleurs, puisqu'un membre de ce lignage, Lîidhara', voue une coupe et une louche en argent doré au dieu Sayyin dhû-Lîim. D'autres personnages sont également connus par ces pièces d'orfèvrerie: un certain Hawfi'athat, du lignage des Ratabum, laisse son nom sur des boucles de ceinture en argent.

Les spécialistes émerveillés par l'habileté des orfèvres yéménites

Les spécialistes du Musée du Louvre qui étudièrent ces objets, furent émerveillés par l'habileté des orfèvres yéménites. Ceux-ci ont soigneusement imité des motifs fréquents dans l'art gréco-romain, notamment des petits animaux ailés dont la partie postérieure jaillit de feuillages. Des pièces d'orfèvrerie étrangères circulaient donc au Yémen au début de notre ère. Et François Baratte, conservateur au Musée du Louvre, de souligner: "Les objets de Dura' constituent, par leur qualité et leur originalité, un apport très important à notre connaissance de l'argenterie antique".

Mais d'où provenait la fortune des possesseurs de telles pièces? Du commerce des aromates? Peut-être, mais essentiellement de la mise en valeur des terres. Depuis longtemps, on savait utiliser les crues torrentielles



Le tell de Hajar am-Dhaibiyya, site des fouilles de la mission franco-yéménite.

(saya ou flash-flood) qui dévalent des hauteurs, creuser des prises d'eau dans le roc, aménager des canaux au pied des montagnes, construire des partiteurs en pierre et veiller que chaque champs, d'amont en aval, reçoive la même quantité d'eau. Dans le wadi Dura', ces travaux sont consignés dans plusieurs textes gravés sur des rochers; les plus anciens remontent au IIème siècle avant notre ère, les derniers au VIème siècle de notre ère.

Au fil des années, prospectant la région de 'Ataq en vue d'établir une carte archéologique, nous sommes revenus à plusieurs reprises dans le wadi Dura'. A chaque fois, de nouveaux objets sortaient de terre: des vases en céramique, des pots en albâtre, des bracelets, des louches en bronze et quelques fragments d'inscriptions. A chaque fois, la colline principale de la région, dénommée Hajar am-Dhaibiyya, retenait notre attention. Les personnages dont les tombes attestaient la richesse n'avaient-ils pas élu domicile dans cette ville qui semblait importante?

Après accord de la Direction des Antiquités de Sanaa, la mission archéologique française décida d'entreprendre une fouille à Hajar am-Dhaibiyya. Un topographe de la Compagnie Générale de Géophysique dressa le plan du site et de la nécropole voisine. Et la fouille débuta en novembre 1992 avec une trentaine d'ouvriers. L'équipe réunissait alors, sous ma responsabilité, Brigitte Coque, professeur de géologie à l'Université de Paris VII, David Warburton, directeur de l'American Institute for Yemeni Studies, Augusta Macmahon, Khairân az-Zubaydi, Ahmed Saïd 'Amir et Muhammad al-Qays.

Afin d'obtenir une chronolo-

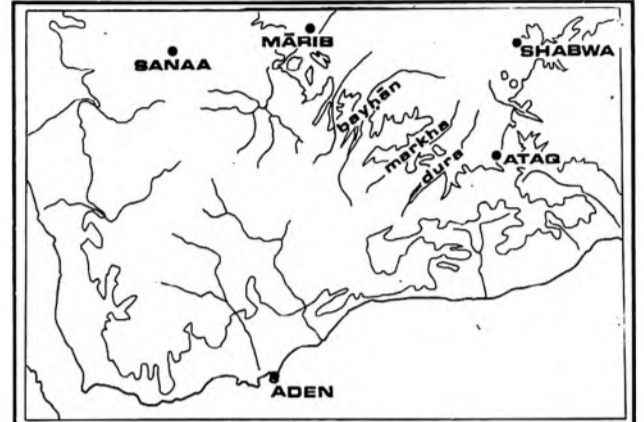
gie des niveaux successifs d'occupation, il convenait d'ouvrir une large tranchée sur l'un des plans du tell, haut de quinze mètres. Bien vite appa-

raient les puissantes fondations d'une maison importante, précédée d'un talus soigneusement empierré. Et, en contrebas, une autre maison livrait, dans ses différentes couches d'occupation, des jarres, des clochettes en bronze et de nombreuses monnaies. Ces dernières, en cours de nettoyage au Musée d'Aden, nous permettront sans doute de dater plus précisément cet habitat antique.

Dans le même temps, Brigitte Coque entreprenait l'étude du milieu géologique et anthropique, indispensable à la compréhension de la richesse du wadi dans l'antiquité. Le cadre naturel est grandiose: les granits roses et gris forment des dômes à grandes dalles

raissaient les puissantes fondations d'une maison importante, précédée d'un talus soigneusement empierré. Et, en contrebas, une autre maison livrait, dans ses différentes couches d'occupation, des jarres, des clochettes en bronze et de nombreuses monnaies. Ces dernières, en cours de nettoyage au Musée d'Aden, nous permettront sans doute de dater plus précisément cet habitat antique.

Dans le même temps, Brigitte Coque entreprenait l'étude du milieu géologique et anthropique, indispensable à la compréhension de la richesse du wadi dans l'antiquité. Le cadre naturel est grandiose: les granits roses et gris forment des dômes à grandes dalles

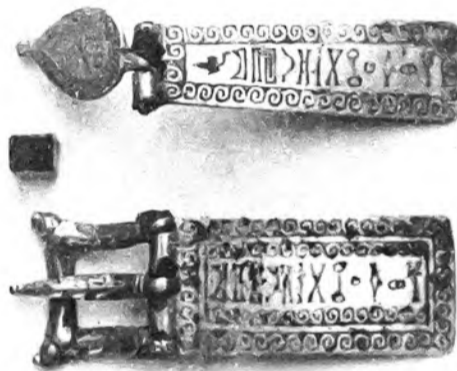


Dans le volume actuellement sous presse consacré au wadi Dura', Muhammad Abd al-Qadir Bafaqih, Président Général des Antiquités, consacre un long chapitre à l'histoire mouvementée de la région. Pour lui, les possessions awsanites, dont le coeur se trouve dans le wadi Markha, s'étendent à toutes les régions méridionales du Yémen. Vers le milieu du VIIème siècle avant notre ère, un souverain sabéen, Karib'il Watar, détruisit 'Awsan. Et un fragment

de Dura'. L'un de leurs souverains fortifiée même une ville dans le wadi Dura', dénommée 'Abar ou 'Ubayr, l'actuelle Huwaydar. A partir du Ier siècle de notre ère, le royaume de Qataban reflue vers les hauts-plateaux, sans laisser nécessairement place au Hadramawt. En effet, les mentions de Sayyin dhû-Lîim, la divinité principale des Hadramites, sur les pièces d'orfèvrerie, ne suffisent pas à prouver l'existence de leur domination sur la région de Dura'. A cette époque, on sait seulement que les Dhû-Tarafum et Ratabum y sont installés. Par la suite, au IIIème siècle, des principautés, dans la mouvance de Himyar, se forment dans toutes ces régions. Les plus célèbres de ces princes, les Banû Yaz'an (ou Yaz'anides) étendent même, à la fin du Vème siècle, leurs possessions du Zufâr (ou Dhofâr) aux bords de la Mer Rouge. Dans le wadi Dura', ces Yaz'anides sont cités dans une grande inscription mentionnant le creusement d'un canal dans le rocher. Il reste à trouver leurs traces sur le site même de Hajar am-Dhaibiyya. C'est l'un des objectifs des campagnes à venir.

* Jean-François Breton est un archéologue français, chercheur au Centre National de Recherches Scientifiques (CNRS) et responsable de la mission de Dura'.

Sur les antiquités de la région de Shabwa, on peut lire:
- Les témoins inscrits de la région de Shabwa et l'histoire. Fouilles de Shabwa, I, par Jacqueline Pirenne, Geuthner, 1990.
- Fouilles de Shabwa, II. Rapports préliminaires, édité par Jean-François Breton, Paris, Geuthner, 1992.
- Trésors du wadi Dura', édité par J.F. Breton et M.A. Bâfaqih, Paris, Geuthner (à paraître en 1993).

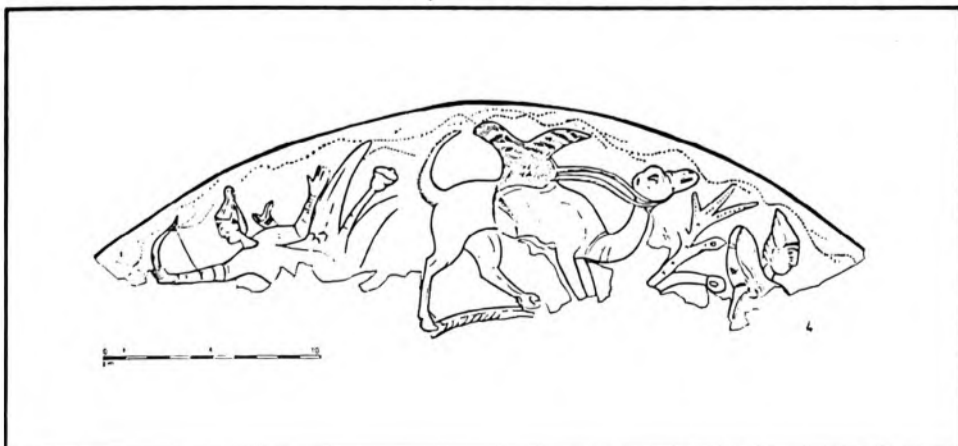


Boucles de ceinture en argent décorées d'inscriptions.

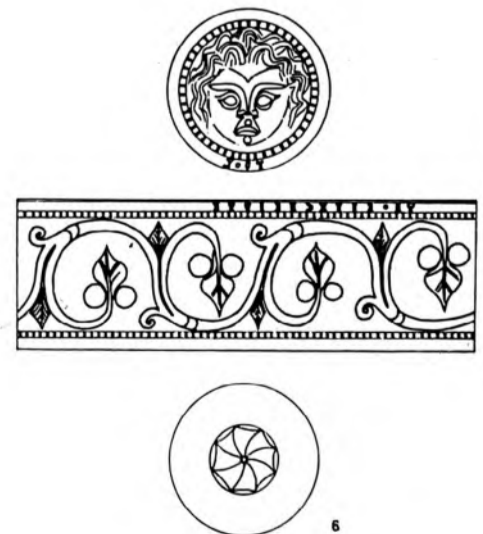
d'inscription découvert à Hajar am-Dhaibiyya témoignerait peut-être de cette domination sabéenne. A partir des IIIème et IIème siècles, ce sont les Qatabanites, dont la capitale est Timna', dans le wadi Bayhan, qui dominent la ré-

Découvrir l'histoire mouvementée de la région

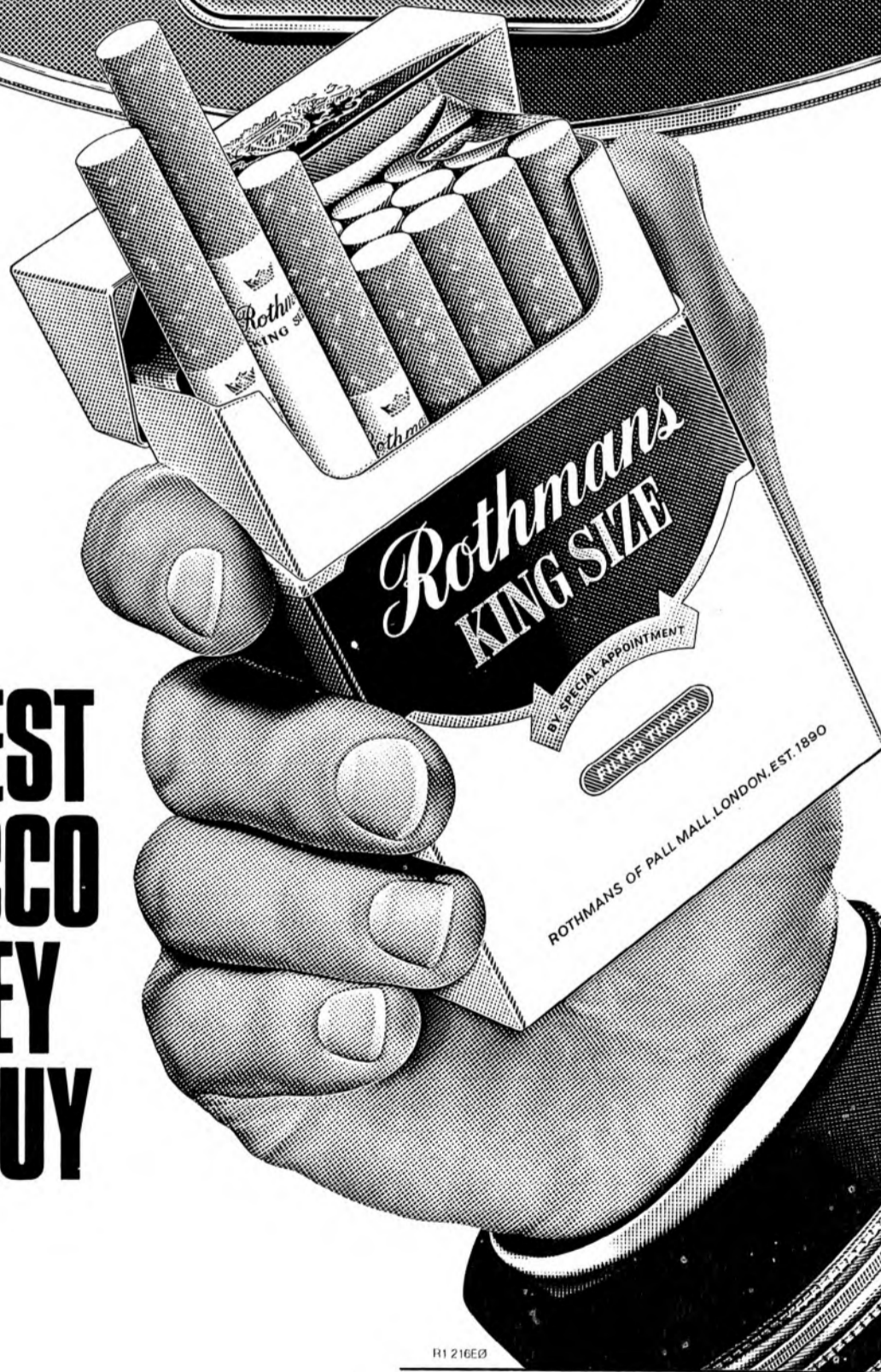
Après la rupture des systèmes d'irrigation, ces terres fertiles sont abandonnées... jusqu'à l'apparition récente des moto-pompes. Les champs sont alors nivelés par des moyens mécaniques et remis en culture. Mais l'organisation communautaire de la mise en valeur des terres, fondée sur un partage équitable des eaux, a disparu. Seules les grandes crues décennales alimentent encore les canaux de terre soigneusement entretenus par les municipalités riveraines. Cette année, Pierre Gentelle, géographe au CNRS qui a longtemps travaillé sur l'irrigation en milieu désertique, notamment à Shabwa, étudiera en détail les modes d'utilisation des crues dans le wadi Dura' et tentera de proposer une chronologie des différents périmètres irrigués.



Coupe en cuivre avec un décor de chameau et d'archers (dessin Rémy Audouin).



Boîte en argent décorée de rinceaux et munie d'un couvercle à tête de méduse (Dessin Rémy Audouin).



**THE BEST
TOBACCO
MONEY
CAN BUY**

Cultural Harvest: 1992

By:
Saad Salah Khalis,
Cultural Editor,
Yemen Times.



We Arabs received 1993 with pleading hands praying to God for peace and prosperity for this world. We said "Goodbye to 1992" which left us torn and miserable.

A cultural review of 1992 in Arab countries and even the rest of the world, also leaves one with a sad conclusion. It was also a bad year for freedom of the press. Based on horrifying statistics published by House of Freedom Institute of Washington, DC, of which the catastrophic details would summarize all what I want to say. The statistic goes as follows:-

Number of journalists killed in 1992 during performing their tasks is over 80, 27 of them were killed in ex-Yugoslavia, 12 in Turkey and 10 in Peru. Fifty six journalists were injured, 199 were subject to physical assault and beatings, 69 received threats of killing, films and articles of 88 were confiscated, 17 publishings and radio stations were closed down, 28 were subject to various forms of attack, 30 were occupied while another 82 were forced to seize activity. Of over 177 countries in the world, 67 have free press, 60 partly free and the number of countries that do not recognize freedom of press has decreased to 50, the number was 65 in 1991, which is a promising sign.

Those figures are based on what is known, but what is not known is far more horrifying. This means that while the world is leaping towards scientific perfection and virtual unification some parties are more determined than ever to hold on to past practices of regression.

Back to major cultural and artistic features of 1992, from my personal point of view, I will start with the most important book of the year, which in my opinion was Francis Fukoyama's End of History. Being one of the most controversial, this book foresees that the world history is heading towards the unsurpassable point which the western world has achieved. Concepts such as democracy, which now form an over-riding world current, cannot be stopped or opposed by any other ideology. The book is on the internal drive of man which gives the incentive to create. America's superiority after the demise of communism is his main proof of what some sympathizers of the book are trying to elaborate as a new ideology. Many oppose these ideas, while others support them, hence making the book one of the most controversial in the present American literary circles.

Awarding the Nobel prize to Derek Walcott was another major event of the past year. This Caribbean poet was and still is little known all over the world. This year also witnessed the death of Alex Healy, the author of the famous "Roots." His last work was editing the biography of Malcom X, the reputed black activist, as narrated directly by the latter. Another faded name was Isaac Adhimov, the science fiction giant.

In the enchanted world of cinema, the fantastic seventh art, violence was the master of the scene. As Academy awards have become a world-wide standard of the worthiness of any motion picture, a criteria not acceptable to many, Oscars and Oscar films could be considered the most important.

"Silence of the Lambs" grabbed most Oscars. An FBI trainee tries to solve the puzzle of complicated crimes depending on the guidance of a killer condemned for similar crimes. Cannibalism, violence, psychological disturbance and aggression are all combined to create the dark scenes of the movie in which the young female detective (Jodie Foster) and the cannibal doctor (Anthony Hopkins) collected the awards for the best actress and actor, and the best film. Women's violence was dominant in Oscar 92.

"Thelma and Louise," where Jeana Davis and Susan Sarandon perform a considerable amount of female violence. Other important films were Oliver Stone's "J.F.K." on the assassination of John Kennedy, "Malcom X," Spike Lee's interesting biography on the famous black activist which surprisingly was a success in terms of financial revenues. There were also "Hawk", "The Fisher King," Robert Eltman's "The Player," "Basic Instinct," "The Addams Family," "Bugsy," "Batman Returns" the breaker of ticket-windows of 1992, Ridley Scott's "Alien 3" and "1492, Conquest of Paradise" which ment to celebrate the memory of the discover of America, not very entertaining in my opinion in spite of its superstars like Gerard Depardieu and Sigourney Weaver. Western movies were back through Clint Eastwood's "The Unforgiven" which achieved considerable success.

Continues on page 14

Shape Up Yemen Times

You claim to be an "Independent Economic & Political Weekly," but it was very unfortunate to read about the Aden Bombings in your paper because it was not your journalistic effort but you simply re-enforced the view acknowledged to be the mouthpiece of the YSP.

We buy your paper because of the reputation you have developed for fair journalism and to know your views on any issue. So if you do not have the resources to make an "Independent" research on what exactly happened, then that should be it, so that no one can blame or criticize you. If you did want to mention the views of Sawt Al-Ummal then you should have put their views in your pages of "Review of Local Press" where it rightly belongs. Or are you advertising for that paper?

It is very harmful that you use other's views in disguise to portray your stand, since it does not appear to be your view as you are simply re-quoting them. Spreading rumors is very dangerous and against the "Sharia" (Islamic-Law). Please, henceforth, refrain from indulging in matters that are beyond your scope. If an issue makes the front pages of your own effort. And when you discuss an issue we need your analysis and the reasons behind it. There is a saying that "The pen is mightier than the sword" so use it and be "Fair and Just."

Now if I may present my view on the events that led some people to carry out the bombings. Ever since the two ruling parties have been bombarding the general public about those who are against the Revolution and the Unity of Yemen. They basically ment the "Ulema," the elders who are well acquainted with the Quran and Sunna, and those who supported the view that the new Constitution was Un-Islamic and had to be revised. Almost 400 Ulema had signed a statement which asked the government to make the necessary changes to the Constitution, It was refused, and anyone who said that the Constitution was wrong was immediately labelled as ANTI-REVOLUTION and/or ANTI-UNITY.

Well, the five days of ramsackings and disturbances in Taiz, Sana'a and other cities in December 1992 showed us who exactly is for Unity and who is against it. Everyone knows that what happened in those days and the tension of the following days - and mind you it is still not over - was solely due to in-fighting between the PGC and YSP. It turned out that the very people who were making all the noise about Unity were now at each others' throats and may well be leading the country to civil war, or worse yet, a break-up. Who has intervened between and pressured the 2 Alis to remain united? It was the tribes under the guidance of the Ulema, because the Ulema saw that Yemen's Unity was facing its greatest threat both from external and internal forces. And now the government has invited American forces to Aden, may Allah forgive them for that. Economists and Politicians may plainly see it in terms of economics and say, well that is fine as long as we get the hard currency which is what our politicians badly need these days. But here our religion and everything we as Muslims stand for is at stake.

Believe it or not but what ever we as Muslims do to please the Americans, or for that matter the West in general, will never be enough to please them. Allah, in numerous verses of the Holy Qur'an, has asked us not to follow the ways of the Jews and Christians because whatever we do they will never trust us or accept us. Turkey is a very good example. Moreover, the Turks ar using all their facilities and resources to help the west in humiliating and penalizing fellow-Muslims and neighbors, whereas they see what the Christian Serbs are doing daily to their kinsmen and kinswomen in Bosnia. As much beholden to the Christians as the Turks may be, they will never be accepted by them. Everyone knows how hard it is trying to get into the EEC but the European Counties remain doubtful, simply because it is seen as an Islamic country. Allah alone knows what the Americans intention in Somalia is, it is a known fact that they never venture into anything unless there is something in it for them.

Also the advertisements that papers like yours carried for the Aden Hotels for the New Year's eve, were enough reason to do what was done. Even I prayed to Allah that the parties of the New Year with their belly dancer, ect., would somehow be stopped. Every time I read the ad., my heart bled. What has happened to us Muslims? Gone are the days when the Yemenis were on the forefront as the carriers of the banner of Islam. The entire east coast of Africa and down to South and East Asia as far as Indonesia, Islam, through dialog and honest trade was spread by Yemenis through their decent daily lives. Now we invite people to Alcohol and dancing and all that is shameful. Oh Muslims, let not the wrath of Allah come upon us. Whin Allah says in the Holy Qur'an that there is no compulsion in religion, it does not mean that you let people do what they want and even worse invite them to unlawful things.

No Yemeni, who loves his religion and country can bear to see American forces on our soil. the repeated sufferings of the Iraqi people at their hands must remain in our minds and hearts we Yemenis are known for our patriotic love of our religion and nation it is just that the events of the past two years - leading to the arrival of the American forces on our soil - were too much for some of us. who loves this country? The party that invited the Americans and invited people alcohol and dances, or the party that got the Americans packing the very next day. You be the judge.

Yemen times can provide a page or even half a page weekly to spread the Teachings of Islam. I am sure you will find many well translated books an all aspects of Islam in the English language.

By: Nasser F. Adam Ali

Editor's Note:

Dear Reader:

It is customary for newspapers to quote each other or any other media if there is an interesting story. The article's location in the paper is determined by the story rather than by the source or who wrote it. I Hope you understand.

The Maglevs: Magnetically Levitated Trains

By:
Amjed Abdul Hamid,
Science Editor,
The Yemen Times.

The idea of riding atop a surflike magnetic wave is almost as old as this century. A scheme for magnetically levitated transportation was proposed in 1909 by Robert Goddard, the rocket pioneer, when he suggested that cars could be suspended and propelled by the "magic power of magnetism". It was only a few years later, in 1912, that the French engineer Emile Bachelet, patented the first design that somewhat resembled the current maglev prototypes, Bachelet's 15kg. model levitated above a continuous row of electromagnets supplied with alternating current.

In 1966 a paper was presented by James R. Powell who designs nuclear reactors, and Gordon T. Danby a physicist, their main insight was that sufficient lifting force could be obtained by using superconducting magnets, the kind used in particle accelerators, where coils of wire cooled to four degrees Kelvins (- 269 degrees Centigrade) with liquid helium, produce a magnetic field strong enough to lift 40-50 tons. once suspended, because of the repulsion between the trains ans guideway magnets, the train still has to move forward and backward. It does so with a linear synchronous motor, that is to say the same guideway magnets are pushed ahead of the train by alternating polarity generated by electrical currents to pull it forward, and vice versa. In other words the principle works just like in electrical motor where an alternative/current applied on the outside poles produces a rotary movement in the inside coils which in turn rotate the center shaft, except that in the maglev the movement is linear. In 1970 the Japanese appropriated a design almost identical to that conceived by Powell and Danby. Over the years the Japanese program has produced a series of vehicles that have been tested on a 8 kilometer experimental track. They are planning for a commercial maglev that could carry 10,000 people per hour with a speed of 600 kilometers per hour.

The Germans have their experimental maglev called Transrapid (built by Thyssen Co.) which travels with a speed of 400 km/hour.

The Americans too are trying to build their own maglevs and trying to make use of the Japanese and the German experience, for their is a compromise has to be solved. Either the maglev levitates for 10-15 centimeters from the track causing problems of instability and an unsmooth ride, or the Transrapid solution which maintains an airgap of only one centimeter between the maglev and the guideway with safety concerns of metal grazing at high speeds that may increase when the tolerances are misaligned by wing, temperature variations or vibrations. The estimated costs for this high technology means of transportation according to the American incorporations studying the subject could be as high as 20-25 million dollars per mile for a two track guideway, but it can move people as much as an 8-10 lanes interstate highways can; where in densely occupied areas like Miami the estimated needs for the year 2020 is for a 44 lane highway to carry the traffic. Another cost estimate calls for 7.4 billion dollars for a Transrapid between New York & Washington (400 kilometers) which would be the highest cost for a means of transportation but over time the cost would drop to as much as half what would a jetliner passenger for the same distance at nearly the same speed.

Still there are questions that have to be answered as to what will happen if two maglevs pass each other one meter apart? What are the effects of the noise the maglev would make? What are the health effects of such high electromagnetic fields on passengers not to reject the maglevs?

SOFD HAS DONE A LOT FOR YEMENI WOMEN IN ONE YEAR

**By: Fatmah Rawah
Social Editor**

Two years ago, the government gave permission to non-government organizations (NGOs) to be formed in the country.

This is one of a way to develop and start practising democracy, especially on women's issue. A few NGOs have been established, and are doing good work. One among them is SOFD (Social Organization for Family Development). Yemen Times talked to Ms. Basma Al-Qubati and Ms. Afrah Al-Ahmad, two of the permanent members of the organization.

SOFD was started in September 1990, by 21 registered members, with the permission from the ministry of social welfare. Later, a steering committee of 5 permanent members was created in order to direct the SOFD. They are: Basma Al-Qubati - president of the committee.

Afrah Al-Ahmedi - vice president and dealing with education programs.

Sowad Al-Hibshi - a member dealing with health programs.

Huda Baladi - a member dealing with social programs.

Umeia Gobran - a member who acts as treasurer.

The organization has many things planned, but they thought their first goal should be to help the street beggars of the community, who exist in shanty towns in different areas of Sana'a. They focussed on the Asir community for some important reasons; this area haven't received much help from NGO's or donors, and many are returnees from the Gulf War.

SOFD started a centre first at the Baghdad school, because they didn't have enough money at that time. After getting donations from different donors: Dutch Embassy, German Embassy, Indian Embassy, SNV (a Dutch NGO working in Yemen), British Bazaar, Oxfam, British Embassy, American Women's Group, Shafiq Hayel from Hayel Saeed's family, and International Women Association. All the groups donated once except for a monthly donation of 20,000 YR from the government, through the ministry of social affairs for the house rent and salaries of the staff.

From the donation SOFD rented a house and prepared a beautiful centre, 'Asir Women Centre' that in Nov. 1991 began a variety of different activities. Before starting, the steering committee did some research on information from the community. After the research they agreed to do something for these women, so they could earn quickly by practicing handicraft activities. It was



a very hard job, to convince these women about the centre, because they didn't believe they would be helped free of charge. But now there are about 109 women all together.

"When we started this organization we didn't think of reaching this far, but we have done it, and now we feel the need to do more and more. We will really feel proud if we do not see women going to the streets anymore, and we see children go to schools," said Basma.

Activities at the centre include: SOFD started convincing women from Asir community, to come to the centre for training either in basket weaving or sewing with a compulsory literacy class. The centre also provides mother and child care in the mornings and a clinic in the afternoons three days in a week.

For mother and child care, volunteers from different nationalities go and help to wash the babies. There is a good bathroom with baby soaps and shampoos, then they give free clean second-hand clothes if needed, and provide food like bananas, and carrots, milk, vitamins, and bread (sandwiches). They teach the mothers how to wash their babies by using little water, since they live in areas where there is a lack of clean water. If any volunteer notices some kind of disease, she writes a report, and informs the doctor. "This section is very tiresome because many mothers have about 6 or 7 children," said administrator of the centre Ms. Hayat Al-Hibshi.

In the afternoon the clinic is opened to treat mothers and children who have problems. Two doctors from Al-Thawra Hospital Dr. Ameen and Dr. Amal used to go to the center after they finished their duties, on a voluntarily basis, but now a doctor and a nurse are appointed by the hospital to work three days at the clinic. The medicines are given free. Ms. Basma Al-Qubati expresses their special need, which is children's medicines.

There is also a kindergarten at the centre and a play-

ground for all the children who go their with their mothers. So the centre has six activities: sewing, basketry, mother & childcare, clinical aid, literacy classes and kindergarten.

The women are also getting free food after every two months; one bag of corn, cheese, cooking oil, and sugar. This is from the International Food Program from UN, through the ministry of social affairs.

The centre is very well organized. "We have arranged the mornings for production work where the women are paid by piece, whenever they finish a basket or a dress, and afternoons are for training only. Basketry, sewing, and literacy classes," said Ms Al-Qubati. All the women at the centre must be registered, with a brief history of their family, ie. the name of their husbands and what they do for their income, how many children they have, whether they have been vaccinated or not, etc.

Not every woman can use the centre. It is only for those who are registered. Basma, the president of the steer committee, explained her worries, since

there is no continuation of donations, "what will happen after we finish all the donations? How will we continue with our centre? Especially important are medicines for the children, which are very expensive, and we use a lot, because these children are coming from an area with a lot of diseases and most of them didn't get vaccinated before."

"We really want to work on the health education now at the centre, and not only medicines. We're trying to instill health awareness in all other activities. So we're planning to develop programs for home visits and health awareness in the centre itself in different classes," said Ms. Afrah Al-Ahmad.

The steering committee has a big meeting every December to discuss their previous activities, their future plans, and whatever is necessary for them to be accomplished. They are looking for somebody to help raise funds for the organization to establish an office.

"We would like to encourage local donors to help also; so far we've been helped by foreign donors only." Said Afrah.

**Continued from page 13
Cultural Harvest: 1992**

Interesting cartoons were also in evidence such as "Beauty and The Beast" and "Cold World." Many distinguished stars failed to get expected awards such as Robert De Niro and Jesseca Lange in "Cape Fear," Sean Connery in "Medicine Man," Warren Beatty in "Bugsy," Kevin Costner in "J.F.K." and Tom Cruise in "Far and Away." In general, American cinema was dominant all over world festivals in terms of awards and financial revenues.

The past year witnessed some flourishing in the cultural life of the Arab world especially in Cairo and Beirut. The latter has started to regain its former leading cultural role in Arab art and literature through the increasing number of Art galleries, symposia, plays and its ever sparkling publishing movement, where Lebanese published books are still dominating Arab book markets. Syria, Jordan and Gulf States witnessed an increasing movement of Art galleries and symposia. Jordan hosted the 18th conference of Arab writers in Amman and a series of symposia in its historical city of Petra. The Kuwaiti "Alem Al Maaref" series is back in full force, some theater plays of United Arab Emirates were shown and the first cartoon was produced in the gulf under the sponsorship of G.C.C. A conference for female writers was held in Morocco followed by a similar one in Beirut, while Tunisia held its annual Carthage film festival in which the Syrian film "The Night," directed by Mohammed Malass, was the winner of the award. Iraq, Libya and Algeria had no distinguished cultural events last year due to political circumstances, while Yemen witnessed a grad-

ual, progress in the media of theater plays, literary production, and Art galleries with far larger scale than the year before. As for Egypt, many important symposia took place such as "Future of Arab culture in view of international transformations," Najeeb Mahffouh literature. There was also the yearly international book exhibition in Cairo and the symposia related to it, in addition to normal literary activity of poetry and novel with noted superiority for the latter. Cairo also celebrated the centennial of the Al Hilal publishing house, one of the most reputable and productive in the Arab world. The most disputable book of the past year was, in my opinion, the one published by the Ghada Assaman where previously unknown love letters by the Palestinian writer Gassan Kanefani to her were published. Critics divided over the issue for various ideological, social and sentimental reasons, but to read this book was a rewarding experience indeed. "Irhab and Kebab" of Sharif Arafa and Adil Imam was the market leader in the Arab film market, followed by a group of well arranged films like "A mission In Tel Aviv," "Ice Cream In Gelem" by Khairi Beshara, "Beggars and Nobles" by Asma Al Bakri and "Why, Lily Flower" by Radhwan Al Kasf which gained a remarkable prize in Cairo International film festival.

The Arab film festival was held in Paris, where "The Cost of Missing Children" by Jalal Farhati of Morocco, was awarded the prize for the best film. Other prizes were awarded to "Kit Kat" by Daoud Abdulsayed of Egypt, "Beggars and Nobles" by Asma

Continued on page 2

Admiral

Home Appliances of U. S. A.

أدميرال
أجهزة منزلية أمريكية

- In Features
- In Price..
- In Value..

- We Outrank Them All...

- * Electric Ranges
- * Gas Ranges

- * Washers
- * Dryers

- * Refrigerators
- * Freezers

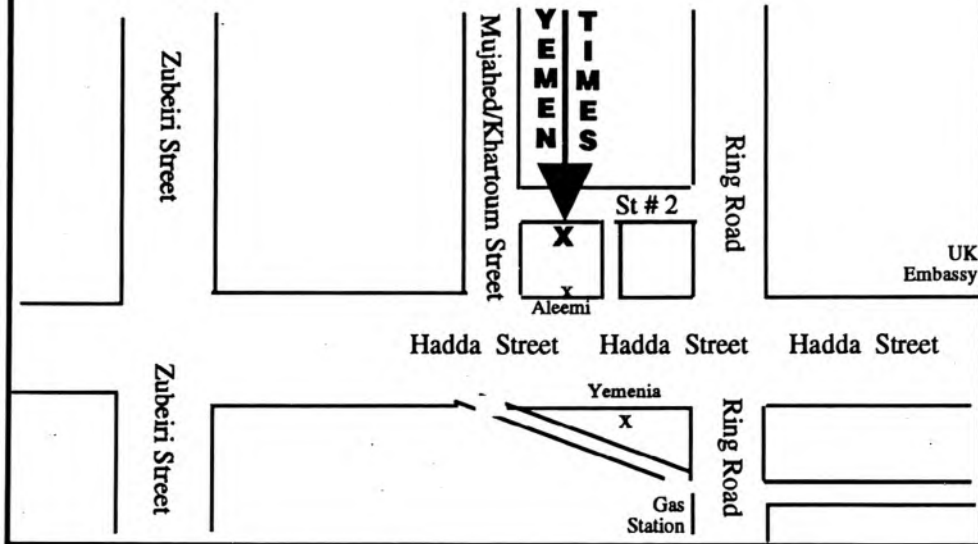
- * Dishwashers
- * Microwave Ovens

Sole Agent: **فؤاد انعم للتجارة** **Fuad Anam Trading**

Head office: Taiz, Jamal Street, Alakaba--Tel: 04-210526 Fax: (04)221511
Sana'a Branch: Al Khartoum Street Tel: 01-241639 Next to Dahman Supermarket

A Second Yemen Times Office in Sanaa:

Yemen Times has just opened a new spacious office located at Street No. 2 (connecting Khartoum/Mujahed Abu Shawarib and the Southern Ring Road), just facing the Ministry of Transportation. The telephone number is 240-466. Visitors are welcome.



LESSON # 28

So, you think you know English pretty well, have a fundamental grasp of grammar rules and a command of vocabulary. Well, one of the most difficult things about learning English is that there is always a complication somewhere. Take, for example, the word *take*. A simple word with a simple translation: **خذ**. But not so fast! There's more to this word than meets the eye...

PRETEST Read the following definitions. If the item is a definition for *take*, circle it.

1. guide, accompany
2. win
3. do
4. hold
5. need
6. choose
7. remove
8. eat or drink
9. get on and ride in a car, plane, ship, etc.
10. study

What do you think? *Take* is a frequently used verb in the English language; could it have not only more than one definition, but possibly five? ten? even more? The truth is that all of the items in the pretest are possible definitions for *take*, and that list does not include every possibility. Here are examples of the definitions chosen for this lesson:

1. **guide, accompany**--I often take my mother to visit her friend.
2. **win**--The soldiers took the city.
3. **do**--The children take walks every afternoon.
4. **hold**--The child took the puppy in his arms.
5. **need**--How much money does it take to buy a new car?
6. **choose**--Take the one you want.
7. **remove**--Who took the money that was in my bag?
8. **eat or drink**--Ali is taking a drink of water.
9. **get on and ride in car, plane, ship, etc.**--We take a bus to the university.
10. **study**--I'm taking English this term.

PRACTICE A Read these sentences and write the number (from above) of the definition of *take* which best fits the use in the sentence.

1. What does it take to get good marks in this class?
2. Take a bite of this cake.
3. Amat took two books to read.
4. Munir took his money out of the bank.
5. We took the children to the zoo.
6. Students take six classes each term.
7. The national team took the trophy for football.
8. Will you take this box? It's too heavy for me.
9. It's more expensive to take a taxi than a bus.
10. Nasser likes to take a swim in the Red Sea.

Besides having many different definitions, *take* also figures prominently in many expressions. Here is a sampling:

- to take after**--to look like
- to take down**--to lower
- to take in**--1. to receive, admit
2. to make smaller
- to take off**--1. to remove
2. to rise from the ground
- to take on**--to begin to do, to try
- to take one's time**--to go or do slowly
- to take over**--to get control of



PRACTICE B Read the sentences and choose which expression with *take* works best for that sentence. Be careful of forms!

1. The plane _____ at 3:00 a.m.
2. _____ your shoes before you come into this room.
3. Ahmed is tall and thin. He _____ his father.
4. _____. There's no hurry.
5. The coat is too big. A tailor will _____ it _____.
6. That clock is broken, so we will _____ it _____.
7. Hassan finished the university. He's ready to _____ a new job.
8. The institute is small; it can only _____ a few students.
9. After his father retires, Ali will _____ the business.

WEEKLY IDIOM--take it easy

To "take it easy" can have three different meanings.

1. to go slowly and carefully
example: Take it easy! This road is dangerous!
2. to be gentle with someone (using the preposition *on*)
example: Take it easy on Ali today; he's been ill.
3. to avoid hard work, to live in comfort
example: Father likes to take it easy on Friday afternoons.



ANSWERS PRETEST: All answers are correct. PRACTICE A: 1. 5; 2. 8; 3. 6; 4. 7; 5. 1; 6. 10; 7. 2; 8. 4; 9. 9; 10. 3. PRACTICE B: 1. takes off 2. Take off 3. takes after 4. Take your time. 5. take in 6. take down 7. take on 8. take on 9. take over

IMPORTANT Numbers

Emergency Police	199
Accident (Traffic)	194
Fire Brigade	191
Water Problems	171
Electricity Problems	177
Telephone Enquiries	118
Aljumbury Hospital	202192/3
Athawra Hospital	246970/9
Kuwait Hospital	203282/4
Red Crescent	203131/3
Central Bank	274371/3
YBRD	271623/4
National Bank	275373
Bank Indosuez	272801/3
Arab Bank Ltd.	240921-29
Int'l Bank of Yemen	272920/3
United Bank Ltd	272424

Government Ministries:

Foreign Affairs	202544/7
Interior Affairs	252701/7
Immigration	250761/3
Tourism	271970/2
Inter-City Bus Co	262111/3
TV Station	250001/03
Radio Station	200060/61

Insurance Companies:

Y.I. & Reinsurance/Aden	273311
Marib Insurance	206112/14

EMBASSIES & Consulates

Afghanistan	217691
Algeria	209688/89
Bulgaria	217244
China	275337
Cuba	217304
Czechoslovakia	247946
Djibouti	265469
Egypt	275948
Ethiopia	208833
France	275995
Germany	216756/757
Hungary	216679
India	241980
Indonesia	217388
Iran	206945/948
Iraq	216681/790
Italy	73409/78849
Japan	207356/208753
Jordan	216701
Korea (Dem)	232340
Korea (Rep)	245959/60
Kuwait	216317/319
Lebanon	203959
Libya	208815/6
Mauritania	206770
Morocco	207964
Netherlands	215626/7/8
Oman	208933/4
Pakistan	248813/14
Pakistan	217306/348
Poland	248362
Qatar	217488
Romania	215579
Russia (FR)	78272/203142
Saudi Arabia	240429/30
Somalia	208864
Sudan	265231/2
Syria	247750
Tunisia	240458/9
Turkey	241395
U.A.E	248777/78
U.K.	215630/33
U.S.A.	238842/52
Vietnam	216998
Austrian Hon Consulate	
Canadian Hon Consulate	208814
Danish Trade Office	248138
Greek Hon Consulate	272218
Swedish Consulate	207595

COURIERS

Aramex	208887
DHL	248017-249878
Life Express	207885
Skypack	77310
American Express	272435/6

AIR LINES

Air France	272895/6
Air India	272544
Alitalia	273655
Alyemda (HO, Aden)	231339
Alyemda (Sana'a)	203637
Austrian Airlines	272432
British Airways	272247
Cathay Pacific	271803
Egypt Air	275061
Ethiopian Airlines	272437
Gulf Air	272551/49/677
Iraqi Airlines	240091/240909
KLM	78093/76968/270879
Korean Airlines	272548
Kuwait Airlines	272503/4
Lufthansa	272583
Pakistan Int'l	240909/091
Royal Jordanian	275314/028
Russian Airlines	74930
Sabena	205865
Sudan Airways	272503-5
Swiss Air	272547
Syrian Airways	272543
Universal Travel	275028-30

Yemenia Branches:

Abdul-Mughni	274803/4
Haddah	204538/550
Shaob	250833
Zubeiry	260834/5
Head Office	232381-9
Reservations	250800/1
Airport	250868/831

HOTELS

Sana'a (01)	
Sheraton	237500/1/2
Taj Sheba	272372/3
Aden (02)	
Movenpick	221251
Gold Mohur	221158
Hodeidah (03)	
Bristol	239197
Ambassador	231247/50
Al Burj	75852
Taiz (04)	
Mareb	210350
Yazan	217997
Marib (063)	
Biquis Marib	2666-2371
Sadah (051)	
Al Mamoon	2203/2459
Mukalla (09152)	
Hadhramaut	2060

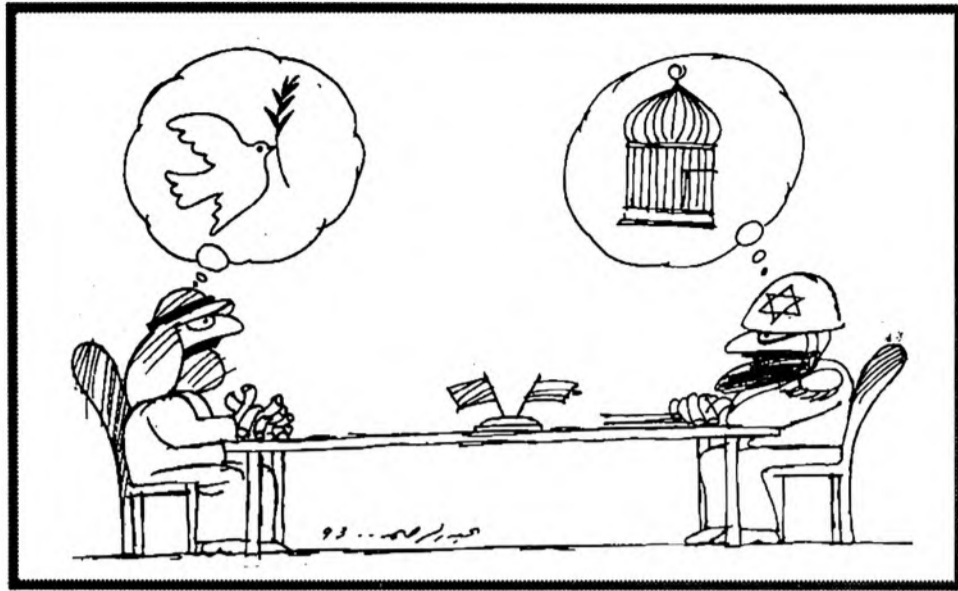
AL-ADANI TRADE BUREAU

The international professional business service company since the 1950s. Rendering "A to Z" services to companies.

For company brochure, fax to: 2+255-121, Aden.

FOR PROFESSIONAL TRANSLATION
Call:
Al-Hadeeth Translation Center at: 238733

للترجمة المتخصصه
اتصلوا بالمركز الحديث
للترجمة برقم ٢٣٨٧٣٣



A SMILE FOR A DRINK

**National Beverages Co.
CANADA DRY SANAA**
Tel: 340-371, Fax: 340-376

• Analysis •

**Colonel Shumeilah:
"The Passport Department
Has Introduced Many
facilities to Assist Investors
and Businessmen."**

By: Ismail Al-Ghabri,
Yemen Times.

The immigration and passport department carries out one of the critical functions in any modern nation. Here in Yemen, this is doubly important in light of the security and tourism efforts of the country. "We have completed many new tasks since the re-unification of Yemen," said Colonel Ahmad Hussein Shumeilah, the General Manager. He was referring to the new passports, new procedures, and even new services provided by the department. "The services we provide are important, but it also is as important how we go about providing these services, given our extensive and daily contact with the public - both local and foreign," he said. Pointing to the Investment Law, Colonel Shumeilah indicated the services and

facilities introduced by his office to make the visit to and stay in Yemen of businessmen and investors easier and faster. "It is also to be noted that our office has established branch offices in all the ports of the Republic and has provided them with instructions to deal with the investors and businessmen through flexible procedures and much understanding," he said. I would like to add another important point that we have inaugurated an office at the Investment Board in Sana'a. This office has the authorities to issue visas and residence permits. We want to confirm that Yemen is an open country and welcomes all with their investments," he added. Speaking about the complicated procedures required to issue passports to Yemenis born abroad, Mr. Shumeilah insists that "it is untrue that we hold back passports from Yemenis born abroad.

It is a natural right for any Yemeni citizen to get the passport." According to him, the whole problem lies in a series of administrative measures and procedures aimed at confirming the applicants are Yemenis. "The absence of a complete and reliable civil registry system makes us look bad, especially with Yemenis coming from abroad," he said. There is another problem in that the passport department refuses to honor the documents presented to it by other circles. "This is sometimes true. Let me explain by using one example. There are some judges who do not investigate fully during the process of granting their attestations and other documents. Say there is a person who claims to be the descendant of a Yemeni citizen who had left Yemen a hundred years ago. Now, his sons return to the homeland. These individuals often do not have any identification or other papers. We are forced to



ask many questions and investigate each case fully," he said. The government adopted a policy of encouraging tourism. Yet, there are many things that could be done by the passports and immigration department. The Colonel agrees. "In fact tourism represents an essential economic activity especially in generating hard currency. Thus, visas are issued from any port or border crossing and even on board of the vessels for those who arrive as tourist groups. There are also facilities being granted to some of the tourists travels and agencies. We cooperate fully with tour operators, airlines, hotels ticketing agencies, etc. in this field.

Continues on page 2

**VOTERS LINE
UP FOR
REGISTRATION**

The registration process is planned to start tomorrow, Thursday, 21st January, 1993 - a three-day delay on the original schedule. According to a memo released by the Supreme Elections Committee's Information Subcommittee, all polling stations will remain open simultaneously all over the Republic. The time schedule is mornings (8:00 - 13:00) and afternoons (15:00 - 19:00) every day for one month, including the holidays. The Supreme Elections Committee is expecting some four million people to register. The number of Yemenis eligible to register, and hence vote, is over seven million. Following the one-month registration period, the SEC will announce the registrants in each constituency. That will be followed by a one-week period in which people can petition and challenge the list. Then candidates will start their campaigns, which will nicely coincide with Ramadhan and the Eid holidays.

• SUBSCRIPTION FORM •

Name:.....
Title:.....
Company:.....
Address:.....
City:.....Country:.....
Post Code:.....

Annual Subscription Rates:
 Yemen = \$80.
 Middle East = \$150.
 Other Countries = \$250.

✓ Please check appropriate box, fill in the form, enclose your payment then mail to:

Yemen Times
P.O.Box: 8399
Sanaa, Republic of Yemen

Or fax your subscription to: +967 (1) 272.558

• Rates quoted are in US Dollars.

CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY S.A.L.

CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY S.A.L.

Contractors for mechanical and heavy civil projects:

Refineries, Pipelines, Petrochemical Plants, Sewage Treatment Plants, Water Treatment Plants, Water reservoirs and Distribution Systems, Highways, Offshore Structures, Underwater Works, Marine Works, etc.

Sana'a Aden
Phones: (967-1)275281 (969-1)42910
Fax: (967-1)277713 (969-1)42910

Interviews:
Judge Hamood Al-Hitar Discusses Human Rights and the Judicial System in Yemen.

As We Roll On:
Discussing Circulation with the Sanaa Traffic General Manager

Higher Education in Yemen:
Sanaa University is on Recess.

On Cells and Life:
Looking at the Possibilities of Cell Transformation.

Helping Yemeni Children:
Hashim Awnallah Talks of the Child Survival Project

"I have registered for the elections.":
A glimpse of the registration process and people's response

Plus our permanent features.

Yemen Times

We go wherever you want us to!