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YEMEN TIMES

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OUR VIEWPOINT HIGHWAY ROBBERY

Incidents involving car thefts and robbery have occurred at an alarming levels recently. The main victims are the expatriates, although many Yemenis have also been victimized, including the government itself. The fact that the government is helpless to stop this joke indicates that certain influential people may be implicated in the whole thing.

One meets victims, almost on a daily basis. The Yemen Times itself was victimized when its car was stolen. Last week, I received a call from Radda Barnen. On March 11th, Gunilla Wingo, a Radda Barnen specialist who flew into Yemen two weeks earlier, and a local assistant were stopped in Sanhan area, a few kilometers on the Taiz road. A car carrying five armed tribesmen overtook them and, at gun-point, ordered Gunilla and her companion to get out of the car. It was another hijacking. But, the bandits also stole a lot of training and work material, equipment, and the personal belongings that were in the car. A CBR training program for handicapped children which was planned for May 20th is under risk of cancellation if the material in the car cannot be retrieved. Radda Barnen has appealed for the return of, at least, the material.

The kidnapping of cars has reached scandalous levels. It is difficult to explain the helplessness of the authorities, unless these actions are by their design, or unless they are implicated.

I am told that several insurance companies are studying a decision to refuse coverage of certain types of cars - specifically the four-wheel drive Toyotas and similar-sized cars.

The oil companies which have suffered enormously from this problem, have minimized their land transportation, and at the same time enhanced security precautions, especially the employment of bodyguards. There are many questions which need answers. What are the legal consequences for a person who kills a would-be hijacker? Will the Ministry of the Interior license special private security squads? What is wrong with the tribes?

The Publisher
عبدكريم

More Achievements by the NCFE

Mr. Mustafa Noman, Chairman of the National Committee for Free Elections, told the Yemen Times that some 800 persons have been trained in seven separate governorates. "The next training effort will start on April 15th," he added.

Meanwhile, the NCFE is under enormous pressure to succumb to PGC demands to re-shuffle its executive board or face dire consequences. Qadhi Abdul-Kareem Al-Arashi, Chairman of the Supreme Electoral Committee, has already indicated that "the country can do without local observers."

At another level, the Chairman of the Yemeni Organization for Human Rights Chairman, Qadhi Hamood Al-Hitar, said that his organization will field 2009 observers in the elections.

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TO MERGE OR NOT TO MERGE,
THAT IS THE QUESTION !!!

The YSP Calculates Its Options

These days, there are meetings long into the night at the headquarters of the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP). The top echelon of the party is obsessed by merger project with the People's General Congress (PGC). One YSP group has agreed to the merger. It sees it as an acceptable mechanism to avoid the recurrent confrontation between the YSP and PGC. As the jittery flank of the YSP, it also sees the merger as a safety valve against a possible slide, however small, of the YSP standing in the election results.

But there is another group - larger in size and more powerful in influence. This other side sees the "undemocratic" internal structure of the PGC itself as an omen against which to work. It also says that Yemen's political pluralism will be at risk if the two big parties join hands.

It also worries about its own if it were to be in full association with the PGC. What can be done? Is the YSP headed towards a split? That is a likely scenario, but very remote. Jarallah Omer thinks that the YSP has learnt to live with differences within its own rank. "We have with- in the YSP today at least four political trends. These are: the social democrats, the centrists (pan Arabists), the liberals and the "enlightened" Islamists. There is a lively debate and dialogue among these trends regarding this (merger) and other issues," he pointed out. In other words, the YSP is becoming more open and more tolerant of divergences within itself. Be that as it may, the PGC is pressing for a clear answer on the merger. Has the YSP got an answer? Yes, it has. Apparently, they will talk the PGC and themselves

all the way upto election time. "Then the election results will offer objective evaluations of the weight of each side and who to co-habitate with." There is another sneaky feeling that goes with this attitude. The pressure to merge is caused, "not by a real and objective need, but by the scare the elections are creating." Thus, by continuing to talk, the YSP hopes to appease the PGC, keep its options open (for merger) and hope to ride through the merger storm. Will it work? Only time will tell. Observers describe YSP positions as playing parts in a neatly assigned role distribution among its leading members. Others say the YSP is actually doing a genuine soul-searching in its transformation process. In the meanwhile, high level coordination for the elections is in full swing.



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Unrest Among Unpaid Army Units

Delays in payment of salaries to the army has caused major unrest among many units in different parts of the country, notably in Aden. The delays in payment have extracted a heavy toll in the social relations of the soldiers and officers as they fail to meet the Ramadhan and Eid Al-Fitr obligations for their families. To add insult to injury, the delays in payment of salaries make the soldiers and officers victims of the sky-rocketting prices at this time which react to the increasing demand in view of the Eid. It has become customary for the government to pay the army over halfway through the next month. The salaries for February were paid on March 18th. Another group that also suffered from delayed payments are the teachers whose February salaries were paid in mid-March. The delays are ostensibly created by a shortage of liquidity at the Central Bank of Yemen.

Yemenis Listen Most to the BBC

According to a survey carried out in February 1992, 15% of all persons interviewed said they listened to the BBC. The sample of 2997 adults are urban dwellers from various Yemeni cities. The other stations to which the audience said it listened to were: Radio Baghdad (12%), Saudi Arabia BS (9%), Radio Monte Carlo (8%), Voice of the Arabs/Cairo (7%), Radio Moscow (6%), VOA (5%), Radio Cairo (5%), Radio Jordan (4%), Radio Emirates (3%), Radio Khartoum (2%), Radio Kuwait (2%), etc. The BBC, which claimed the largest registered audience for any foreign broadcaster in the country, commands the attention of almost a quarter of a million adult Yemeni listeners.

Training of Election Delegates Concluded

The Supreme Electoral Committee (SEC) has concluded the training of the 301 delegates, about 2000 persons, who are charged with the duty of receiving candidatures, processing them, and supervising the election campaigns. The delegates will be at their posts starting from Saturday 27th March and will remain there until April 26th. This is the second phase of the elections process.

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فاكسيل: ٢١١-٨٨٣
ص ب رقم ٤٨٩٤ - الحديدة

ترقبوا فروعنا في المكلا، عدن، تعز، إب

CLINTON DELIVERS ON 'GAYS IN FORCES' PROMISE

President Bill Clinton last month ended the American military's practice of asking new recruits whether they are homosexual and suspended disciplinary hearings against gays and lesbians in the armed services, pending cancellation of the military's blanket ban on homosexuals.

But he was forced to shelve his campaign promise to outlaw discrimination against homosexuals in uniform immediately. Instead, the matter will be considered over the next six months, he said, during which time Congress and the Pentagon would be able to study the "real practical problems" surrounding his proposal.

Speaking at the White House Mr. Clinton reiterated his objective of ending discrimination on the basis of sexual preference. "I have directed the Secretary of Defence to prepare a draft executive order by July 15th which would end the present policy of exclusion from the military solely on the basis of sexual orientation and establish rigid standards of personal conduct for all military personnel," Mr Clinton said.

The president admitted that the compromise, forced upon him by, among others, Democrat Senator Sam Nunn, was "not everything I would have hoped for or everything I would have stood for, but it is a substantial step in the right direction." he remained committed, he said, to the principle of ending discrimination against homosexuals and expected to fulfil his campaign pledge to that effect within six months.

"The issue is not whether there are homosexuals in the military. Everyone concedes that there are. The issue is whether people should be excluded from serving their country solely on the basis of their status. I believe they should not. They should be able to serve their country unless their conduct disqualifies them."

This decision meant that new recruits would no longer be quizzed about their sexual preferences. Secondly, current disciplinary hearings by the military against homosexuals would be held in abeyance. Dismissals from the service would also be stopped through the six-month review period.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS ARE FULLY UNDERWAY

On Sunday, March 21st, the first phase of the French legislative elections were carried out. Given that the French system is based on a two-phase winner-take-all system of simple majority, the main round of elections is going to be the second phase, scheduled for the 28th of March.

According to the results of the first phase, the conservatives are making a decided comeback at the expense of the Socialists. Already the mood in Paris is one in which all circles have resigned themselves to a right-dominated parliament.

Although President Mitterrand will continue to preside over the Fifth Republic, the French "cohabitation" will see another manifestation in the near future.

Meanwhile in Sanaa, the French Embassy arranged on the evening of the 21st, a get-together of journalists, parliamentarians and other interested persons which allowed them to closely follow the results through a satellite transmission network as they were released from Paris.

At another level, the Yemeni observer group which was supposed to travel to Paris to get a first-hand look at the elections, may, after all, be unable to go. The snag is the result of an in-fighting at the Supreme Electoral Committee (SEC).

The French Embassy had invited two members of the SEC to go. The Embassy proposed Jarallah Omer and Abdul-Malik Al-Mikhlafi, a choice described by Dr. Abdul-Kareem Al-Iryani, Foreign Minister, as excellent. The SEC, in a meeting not attended by those two members, sent back a letter to the Embassy saying 'invitation accepted, but the members who will go are Hamood Al-Dharihi (Al-Islah) and Abdul-Fattah Al-Baseer (lukeworm Nasserite).' Then a third person, Mr Mohammed Ali Haitham, was proposed to the embassy. It graciously accepted, but the SEC came back and said that the third name chosen by them was Mr. Qarhash.

The people at the French Embassy are puzzled by all these developments and worry about being caught in the SEC in-fighting. They may call off the whole thing.

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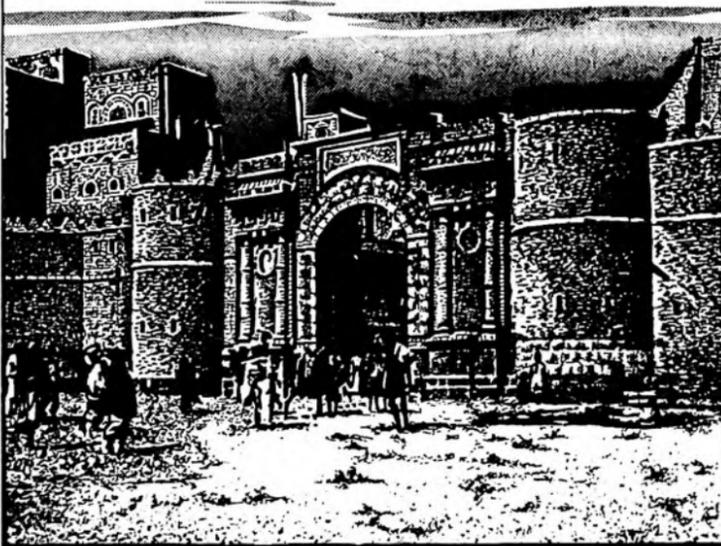
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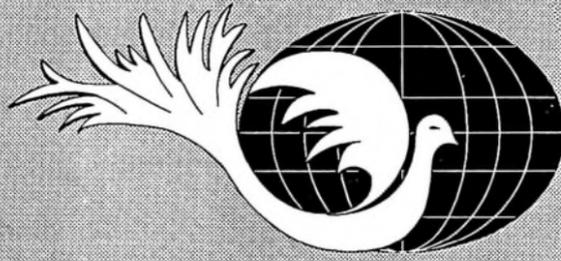
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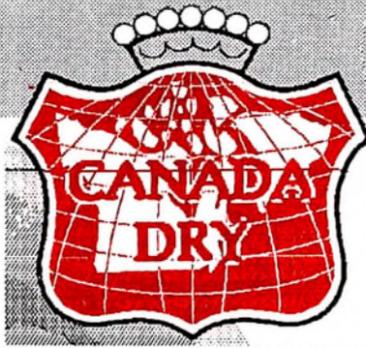


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On the Question of Power and Authority: Why Do People Obey their Rulers?

Why do people obey rules and orders? This, no doubt, was the question which Max Weber (1864-1920), a distinguished German sociologist, must have asked himself when he wrote his highly controversial and acclaimed book: 'The Theory of Social and Economic Organization'.

According to Weber people obey rules imposed on them either because they are forced to do so or simply because they believe in the 'authority' of the people who give the orders and demand compliance. Hence the distinction between power and authority.

Power is, therefore, considered a unilateral thing which enables one person to compel another to behave in a certain way either by means of strength or by means of reward. Authority, on the other hand, is a mutual thing based on the recognition by the ruled as well as the ruler of the 'legitimacy' of the ruler to give orders and demand obedience.

Weber distinguished between three different forms of authority:

a) Traditional authority - where acceptance of authority arises from tradition and custom. In this category he identified two distinct systems: one based on what he calls 'patrimonialism' and the other 'feudalism'. Patrimonial authority was seen by Weber as a system of government whereby the rulers regard their followers or subjects as no more than servants whose livelihood and remuneration largely depends on their good will and discretion. Feudalism, on the other hand, is less personalized since it was largely based on customary rules which defined the duties of both feudal lords and their tenants towards each other.

b) Charismatic authority - is Weber's second form of authority where acceptance of orders arises from loyalty to and belief in the personal qualities of the ruler. That is why modern rulers such as Hitler, Ghandi, Nasser and others are considered to be of charismatic characters by contemporary authors.

c) Rational-legal authority is Weber's third form of authority where acceptance of the rules arises out of the office or 'bureau' - hence the word 'bureaucracy'.

These rules are laid down by 'experts' whose expertise in this or that field gives them the 'authority' to make these rules binding (i.e., legal) and therefore accepted by people.

Besides the 'legality' of its rules, bureaucracy is also a system characterized by other features. For example, it is an hierarchical organization based on the specialization of work where one level of work is subject to control by the next higher level. Appointment to office is made on technical competence (i.e., merit) and officials are separated from ownership of their organizations. In other words, these

officials have no right to their positions in the organization. They are there merely because of their competence which earned them these positions. Moreover, these officials must also demonstrate impartiality towards others (i.e. recipients of their services) in performing their duties.

Most people would agree that Weber's third form of authority is the most dominant form in our modern societies. Most - if not all - modern states are structured along the main lines of Weber's bureaucratic form of authority. However, one is to admit that Weber's "rational-legal" form of authority is more established in Western democratic countries than in less developed or undemocratic countries. Sociologists and political scientists do recognize that there are countries today whose rulers resemble to a great extent those described by Weber as "traditional" but whose systems of rule are modelled, in one way or the other, along some of the Weberian principles of bureaucracy. Political scientists such as Jean-francois Medard call these regimes 'neo-patrimonial' in that a traditional form of authority is based on a 'modern' system of organization. Many of the modern (un-constitutional) monarchies

and the undemocratic regimes - including ours - can be classified as 'neo-patrimonial' regimes. Despite the fact that countries ruled by such regimes have all the trappings of modernity in terms of organized public services and modern infrastructural facilities and the like, the rulers of these countries still retain their patrimonial characteristics in their dealings with their "subjects" and also in their dealings with the financial resources of their countries. Appointments of relatives and supporters to high office are often made on the basis of loyalty rather than merit and the treatment of public funds by the rulers as their own are common features of such societies.

It is not difficult to recognize that neo-patrimonial societies are often backward and underdeveloped despite enormous resources and wealth of some of them (e.g. the Gulf monarchies). Can democracy in these societies, therefore, make a difference and change the path of their social and economic progress? By engaging in its first ever free elections, Yemen could provide some answers to this difficult question.

By:
Dr. Nabil Ahmed Sultan,
Member of the British
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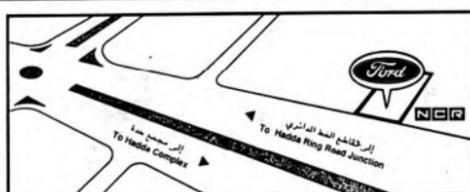
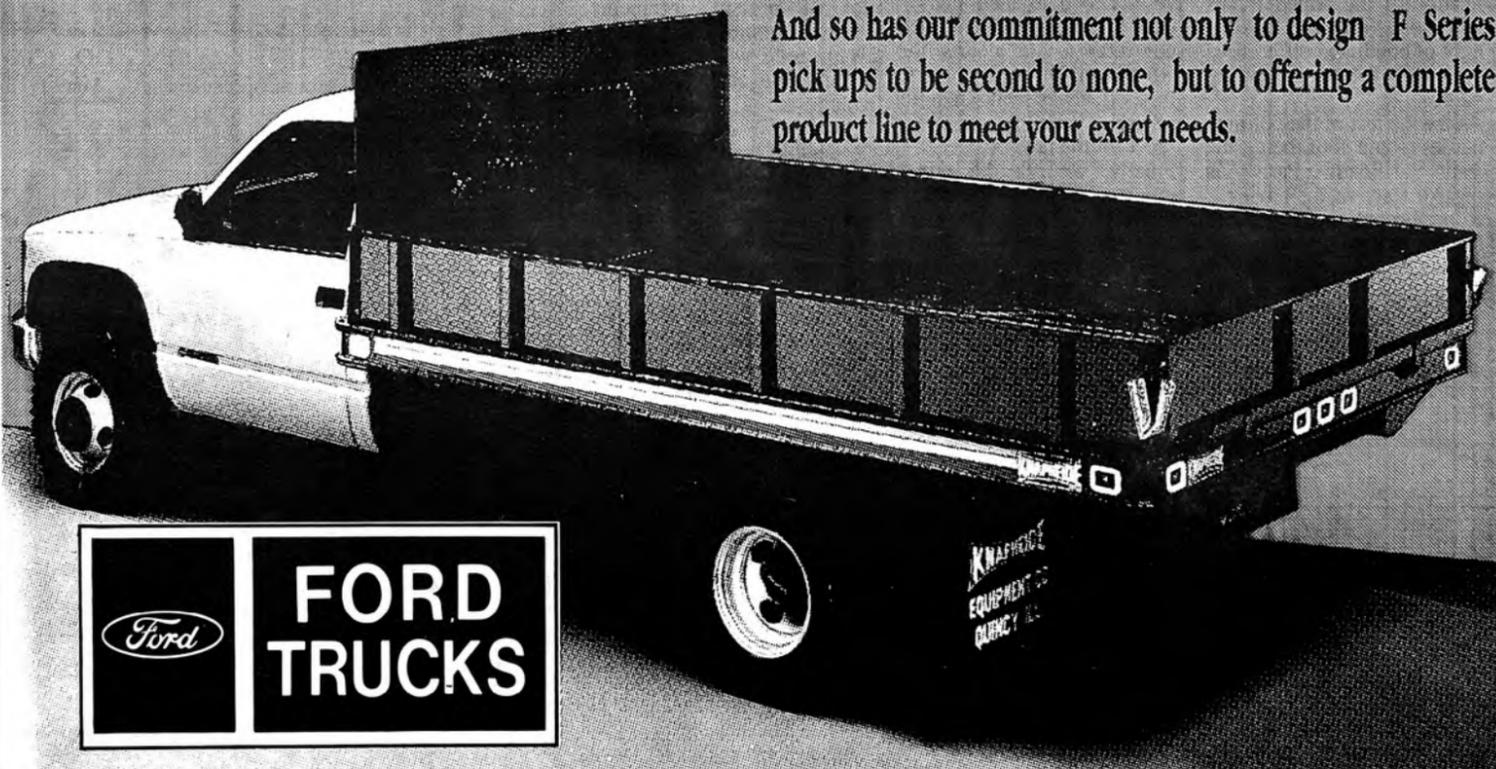
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WILL MERGER SETTLE THE STRIFE AMONG THE LEADERS

Yemen today is preparing for the first parliamentary elections. There is a certain degree of satisfaction among all the political forces that the first phase of the elections - The registration process - was successfully completed as more than two and a half million citizens have participated.

It was also reported in the media that Yemeni women's participation in the registration process was visible and strong. The lists show more than half a million women registered.

The candidate's applications for running and their media campaigns, will mark the second phase towards the completion and finalization of the democratic practices. Observers in Sana'a governate believe that the PGC headed by President Ali Abdullah Saleh will win handsomely in the ballots. Observers also expect that the Tagammu Al-Yemeni Lil-Eslah headed by Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar will come second in the elections results.

As for the YSP, there is a semi-consensus that it will not do better than third in the ballots.

Hence, political analysts suggest that this reality has imposed on the leadership of the YSP to accept merger and unification with the PGC so as to remain in position to face the Eslah. But the extremist wing headed by Gallah Omar and Mohammad Saeed Abdullah refuse the process of merger. Despite all of this, the tour of the two Alis in a number of governorates proved that merger is a necessity to strengthen the political will to confront the problems facing unified Yemen.

Yet, the majority of the YSP leadership supports the merger particularly Ali Salim Al-Beedh, Salim Saleh Mohammad, Haidar Abu Bakar Al-Attas, Yaseen Saeed Noman, Fadhil Mohsin and others. Even then, informed sources think that the unification of the armed forces will be a difficult task in light of continued differences between the two ruling parties.

As for the rest of the political parties (some 40 of them), the Iraqi al-Baath Party is regarded active for having a cultural/tribal back ground headed by Mujahed Abu-Shawarib, a well-known military/tribal personality. Western observers think that the prospects for successful elections are good and that Yemenis are optimistic in being able to improve the current conditions.

22 May, Sanaa,
17/3/1993.

DO WE ENCOURAGE INVESTORS?

All the official statements and the media concentrate on one point regarding local investments - the provision of all the guarantees, facilities and procedures.

It is beyond doubt that investment projects will provide a new source of hard currency for the country. They will also create employment opportunities for local manpower. In addition they will have positive effects on stabilizing the social/political structure.

But this beautiful picture of investment possibilities was shaken when I heard one investor describing dealing with the official bureaucracy as illogical, and that the rules and regulations were a nightmare.

The issue can be summarized as follows:

A Yemeni investor has established a major investing project costing more than half a billion shillings. He followed all the steps and procedures for the establishment of a central gas bottling plant of enormous size and which would meet a good part of the local consumption requirement.

Based on the official licence signed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Investment Authority, the investor imported the equipment/machines required by the project including a number of hauling vehicles/trucks for carrying the gas from its sources to the plant. At the Customs Department, the investor was shocked when he received a memorandum informing him that the previous customs exemptions were abolished and that he ought to pay several million Riyals within a week otherwise his trucks will be detained, and later even confiscated.

Such a situation is not an easy one if we take into consideration that the investor has spent a lot of millions on the project and his project was licenced legally. He had been informed of the full exemption of the customs duty.

But is happening now is a violation of the laws. To abolish what was agreed upon concerning the project, in terms of exemption is a matter of great consequences. How are we to encourage investors in the future when there can be no guarantees. Are investors responsible for the faults and changes of mind of our officials?

The problem lies in the fact that the system has no respect for its own laws. How are we going to motivate and encourage investors to pour their money into a country which does not refer to the courts for arbitration on such matters. In short, investments require security, stability, and respect for the law.

Finally, we ask the prime minister - who is without any doubt, a wise, capable and efficient person - to intervene and put an end to such ridiculous developments and shortcomings for the sake of the future and interest of the homeland. Any obstacles faced by the investors and investments will not serve the reform/construction of Yemen at all.

By: Abdullah Salam Al-Hekeem
Raay, Sanaa,
16/3/1993.

THE CORRUPT GOVERNMENT

Bribery, corruption, forgery blackmail and intimidation are but some of the practices seen, heard and reported through the media almost everyday. These issues are beginning to threaten our society and government.

Such phenomena began to plague not only the Third World, but many an advanced country as well and at many levels.

But when it does occur in those countries, notably in advanced countries, the relevant official resigns peacefully, and often quietly. The Examples are too many in Japan, Italy and the US. But, if we turn to our Third World the dirty officials stay on. Has any one heard of a minister resign because of an economic crime such as bribery, or fraudulent behavior? What often happens is that any individual official who becomes a hot issue by his crimes is often simply transferred to another, often, a higher position. This is exactly what happens in our Arab World where no minister possesses the decency to resign.

By: Mohammad Abdullah Thabit,
Al-Thawri, Sanaa,
18/3/1993.

RAMADHAN MEETINGS

It is evident that the leadership these days holds meetings with citizens, politicians, economists, thinkers and the ulema of the nation. It is fantastic to hold such meetings during Ramadhan in order to discuss various problems facing the country. But what is more important is to reach real and tangible solutions to all our problems and excesses.

What has the government done about the spiralling price levels and what are the solutions? What have the leadership and government done to give each citizen his/her rights? What have the leadership/government done about improving education and training of bureaucrats to serve the country? What have the leadership and government done to improve the quality of service of the official media?

There are a lot of questions which the leadership and government have to think about seriously and find solutions and answers for. To ignore these questions and remain oblivious about our worsening conditions is unbelievable as there are a lot of pressing problems without solutions.

With good will and serious efforts, we can reach good solutions. The citizens are waiting to see what our leadership and government are going to do.

Al-Balagh, Sanaa,
16/3/1993

THE CRISIS OF LIQUIDITY!

The conditions of the people of Aden were badly affected by the floods. Then, the dramatic increases in prices hit them, thus making their standard of living deteriorate steadily. The new catastrophe to hit them is the crisis of liquidity as the salaries and other allowances of nearly all the government employees have not been paid for the past 3 months.

Whether the crisis is something real or fabricated is immaterial, but the mistakes in planning the financial decisions have reached unbearable limits. Whatever the problem is, the leadership should find a quick and effective remedy.

By: Abdul-Hakeem Mahmood
Aden, Aden,
16/3/1993.

LET'S TALK ABOUT OUR DIFFERENCES... PEACEFULLY!!

There is a lot of arrogance and rashness among our people, but kinsmen and relatives are most tyrannical and oppressive of all. This means that Arabs are most tyrannical in their dealings with each other. Examples are many. In addition, the Arabs seem to have eternal differences among themselves in almost everything even in tackling their joint enemy, Israel.

But they are unified in one thing - in fighting each other. And we have seen how an Arab country conspired against another and even tried to destroyed another. Such things never happened anywhere else in the world except with us Arabs. We differed about everything.

We differed about the peace accord between Egypt and Israel. Then, we differed once again on the Gulf War. Those who took sides with the right represented a large majority and those who stood with the wrong represented the minority. But it is sufficient to note that there were differences. We continue to take sides - often the wrong side.

Even worse, we are bad at quick reconciliations. Reconciliation is important, as no one can be happy with the continued differences among "brothers" for good.

By Abdo Hussain Ahmad,
Al-Ayyam, Aden,
17/3/1993.

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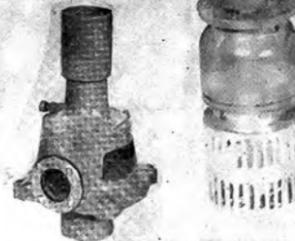
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C. R. (1310/21)

TOWARDS THE FINAL TURNING POINT... Yemeni Intellectuals and the Coming Elections

By Saad Salah Khalis

In four weeks or so, Yemen will be witnessing what can be described as the third turning point in its recent history: the first being the formation of national identity, topped by establishing the republican regime in the North, and the liberation from British colonialism in the South; the second was the consciousness of the facts of history and geography crowned by the establishment of a unified Yemen; the third and the most crucial, in my opinion, is that which we will soon witness...the first exclusive, hopefully democratic, elections in Yemen taking place in April. Its decisiveness springs from the fact that it represents the democratic option for handling power, apparently accepted by the ruling outfit, as well as being one of the priorities of popular demand.

The democratic system, in its essence and applications, means much more for the intellectuals than it does for the laymen. The latter are generally concerned with the daily quest for the fulfillment of basic life needs and unaware of the fruitful impacts of democracy on his present and future; yet, his position is the decisive one, since he and his peers comprise the major voting force determining the coming Yemen. On the other side of the equation stands the intellectual, who, in addition to his basic survival demands, carries along his dreams of freedom, modernization, and evolution.

I'm not degrading the public here, but the intellectual is and will remain the heart and soul of the society. Even in the most people-oriented ideologies, there is that thinking elite that thinks, writes, and speaks for the majority. In Yemen, this

social caste will be running in the elections, through parties and as individuals, to insure the government's leading and pioneering role in a highly colorful society. Other forces would work diligently to insure the same in the first peaceful race for power in Yemen, and also in the region.

Talking about intellectuals, considering the differences between them due to the political tendencies and classes they represent, I think we can identify some common dreams which will hopefully be fought for by all of those intellectuals who may find themselves sitting in parliamentary chairs in two month's time. I would leave the basic demands of economic security to the specialists and would progress to dream with those who envision Yemen as a major cultural power in the area in the very near future.

The first dream is "Modernization" by which I mean the creation of the right social and political conditions for all aspects of civilization to grow in. Free press, creative arts, quality literature, scientific research, and high cultural productivity are simply various faces of the same coin which are the result of a free society of distinctive identity.

Experience shows us that economic welfare alone is not enough. Some of the richest oil producing societies with the highest standards of living failed, until now, to leave any cultural prints on the history of mankind. Unable to produce a significant number of artists and scientists for decades, most of these societies live on and consume the material and cultural production of others.

Cultural evolution is a result of the social adaptation to the fast pace of Progress, which leaves no option for the laggards but to be crushed under its feet if they

fail to match its pace. Will the time when our artistic production and scientific accomplishments be read, seen, and taught all over the world ever come?

I think that it depends highly on the precedents set by Yemeni voters in the coming elections, where first stones of the high tower of civilization will be set. Will they vote for democracy and civilization, or will they simply vote for the old vision, preferring to stay in a peaceful state of stagnation?

Another dream is the flourishing of Education and scientific research. We could see schools and universities distributed all over the country, and research centers could be spread everywhere, along with cinemas and theater houses. Will the coming elections foretell the dawning of an era of planning for the evolution of a new Yemen, with its bright scientific face, where culture, food, and health care are justly distributed among all Yemenis? Will the time come when we finally see accurate statistics, for all aspects of life, openly published without all of the customary lies and fraudulent dignity?

The voters can decisively determine the future cultural face of Yemen, as well as its political and social outlook. As for the intellectuals, they must keep in mind that even if this coming election brings their dreams to fulfillment, it will establish a tradition, which is found in every civilized country, that stems from the freedom of the people to choose their own leaders, thus their way of life.

In every advanced society, civilization was once a dream in the minds of intellectuals; a dream that took a multitude of years to come true. Steps were taken to insure its evolution.

Historic turning points were effectively exploited by that thinking elite to push societies a step up at the right time. This is similar to the situation we are currently witnessing in Yemen. Will Yemeni thinkers seize the opportunity to put the right force in the right places, or will they return to their political differences and fight each other, thereby neglecting the essence of all of the problems of their country and the chance offered by the unique opportunity to set Yemen on the road towards progress and development.

We all know that intellectuals are not decision makers. They may spend years of their lives building their own utopias just to be thrown outside of their boundaries when politicians take over. Those creators are then forced to return to their ivory towers to design new utopias for new ages. Can those idealists, armed with moral values impose their honesty, and the transcendentalism of creative thought? It is doubtful, considering the wilderness they would have to reach to achieve that goal. They would have to face professional politicians armed with all of their heritage of swindling and deceit. Eventually, they might lose the bid, or turn into politicians themselves, hence losing their creative idealism.

Yet, whether the politicians like it or not, intellectuals are the conscience of the nation, they can keep societies calm or boil them to the point of explosion. But, the hard work is stimulating the real intellectuals to be a part of the ruling outfit, to lose their idealism, thus their positions as icons of public consciousness.

Despite the experiences, accumulated through bitter ages of intellectuals-versus-politicians to adopt similar rules, they have created more space for the great dreams to come true.

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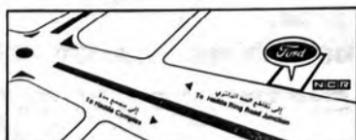
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تزف

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أطيب التهاني والتبريكات للشعب اليمني

وقيادته وحكومته وكل عام والجميع بخير

STATEMENT FROM PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR ON NATIONAL DAY

Significance of March 23rd, 1940:

The significance of March 23rd, 1940, lies in the monumental fact that this day, fifty three years ago, the Muslims of the Asian Sub-continent at a meeting of the All-India Muslim League at Lahore, passed a resolution demanding a separate homeland for the Muslims in the Muslim-majority regions of the subcontinent. Within a short period of the passing of this resolution, the Muslims of South Asia, under the able leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, were able to achieve Pakistan on August 14th, 1947.

Dawn of a New Era in Pakistan:

The present government under the stewardship of Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif has introduced revolutionary economic reforms aimed at self-reliance. Moreover,

sector. So far, two commercial banks have been transferred to the private sector. As a result of these measures, exports have registered a manifold increase; foreign investment which was \$ 218 million in 1991 rose to \$ 700 million in 1992. The Government has undertaken a number of projects including the construction of a motorway linking all the four provinces of the country. Similarly Jinnah Terminal - Karachi has been built with the latest airport facilities for passengers travelling on domestic and international routes.

The Government has formulated its labor and agriculture policies to improve the lot of the workers and farmers and to protect them from all kinds of exploitation.

4. Foreign Relations:

As an Islamic and non-aligned country, Pakistan

resolutely supports the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, and the non-use of force, as well as the internationally recognised norms of good neighborliness, peaceful co-existence and friendly cooperation for mutual benefit. Pakistan is also closely examining new realities and new trends emerging from the horizon in the wake of the recent historic transformation of international relations and is trying to accommodate and reflect their effects and dictates on its own foreign policy.

a) **Nuclear non-Proliferation in South Asia:** In South Asia, as elsewhere, a balance in the military capabilities of the regional states is essential to build and attain a viable structure of peace and security. Pakistan has made a number of proposals to India for a regional or bilateral agreement to ensure nuclear

non-proliferation. Regrettably, Pakistan has yet to receive any positive response. Pakistan has also yet to receive a positive response to its proposal for talks involving the USA, China, Russia, India and Pakistan to ensure nuclear non-proliferation in South-Asia.

b) Kashmir:

Pakistan wishes to have good neighborly relations with India. The core issue between the two countries is the Kashmir problem. Pakistan calls for the implementation of the Security Council Resolutions of 1948 and 1949 which decided that the future of Jammu and Kashmir would be determined in accordance with the wishes of the people to be expressed in a free and fair plebiscite under UN auspices. Both India and Pakistan accepted these resolutions through their communications to the Security Council dated 21st and 23rd, December 1948, respectively. Unfortunately, India subsequently refused to implement its agreement to allow the people of Kashmir to exercise their right to self-determination as envisaged in the Security Council resolutions. After enduring decades of oppression, the people of Indian-held Jammu and Kashmir started a popular movement demanding their inalienable right to self-determination. The brutal repression unleashed to suppress indigenous Kashmiri movement has failed to break the spirit of the Kashmiri people. Pakistan cannot remain indifferent to their sufferings. We are extending moral, diplomatic and political support to the Kashmiri people in their struggle for self-determination. All along, Pakistan has been inviting India for a negotiated peaceful settlement of the issue in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions and under the Simla Agreement.

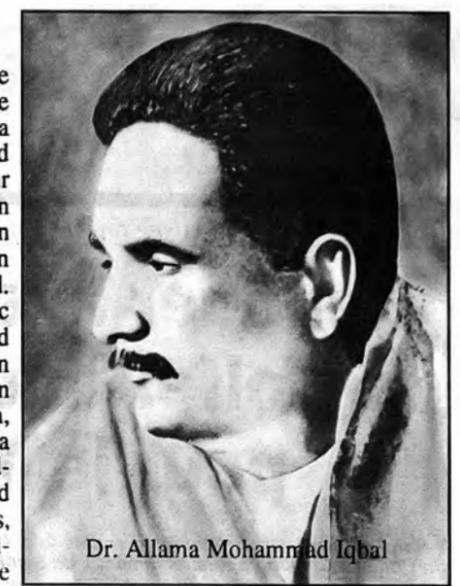
c) Destruction of Babari Mosque:

The Islamic Ummah was shocked by the destruction of the Babari Mosque in Ayodhya, India, on the 6th of December, 1992. The Babari Mosque, with its five-century old history, has been revered and kept in the highest esteem by the Muslims of South Asia and the World of Islam. The destruction of the mosque, apart from constituting a grave breach of Indian legal and moral responsibilities, carries gloomy implications for the Muslim minority community in India. The Hindu fundamentalists had also marked 4000 Muslim homes in Ayodhya for destruction.

In this connection, the Government of Pakistan highly appreciates the statement issued by the fraternal Republic of Yemen condemning the destruction of the Babari Mosque and calling upon the Indian Government to

f) Afghanistan:

With the grace of the Almighty, a peace accord between our brothers in Afghanistan has been achieved. This historic peace accord was signed in Islamabad on March 7th, 1993, with a view to ending the armed hostilities, and to facilitating the formation of a broad-based government. The peace accord is a tribute to the wise leadership of Afghanistan who have all reached mutual accommodation. The people of Afghanistan will now, Insha-Allah, return to their homes and begin the reconstruction of their country. Our hopes are high that such efforts will gain the support of the international community.



Dr. Allama Mohammad Iqbal

Yemeni-Pakistani Relations:

The reunification of Yemen is a tribute to the wisdom of the leadership and people of Yemen. This has also set an example

education and economic. We are glad that a large number of Yemeni students are presently studying in various educational institutions in Pakistan. The Pak-Yemen School, Sanaa, is also rendering a valuable service to the cause of education in Yemen.

On the economic side, a framework of cooperation has already been laid down in the form of Pak-Yemen Economic Committee which has so far held two sessions, one in Islamabad and the other in



Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif

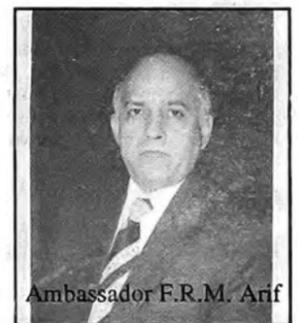
reconstruct the mosque, guarantee the safety of the Islamic holy places and protect the lives and property of the Muslims in India.

d) Palestine:

Pakistan continues to hope that the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination will be realized through a comprehensive settlement on the basis of UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

e) Bosnia Herzegovina:

The Serbian aggression in Bosnia and Herzegovina amounts to genocide against the Muslims of that country. Bosnia deserves assistance in accordance with the UN Charter's provision on self-defence. The world community must also make determined efforts to ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches the suffering people of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The world conscience must respond to the situation.



Ambassador F.R.M. Arif



President Ghulam Ishaq Khan

the body politic has been given the sure ideological foundation of Islam, the raison d'etre of Pakistan. Some of the major achievements of the present Government are as under:

1. Shariat Bill:

With the passing of the Shariat bill by Parliament, the supremacy of Quran and Sunnah in all walks of life has been established. Shariat Act also stipulates the complete Islamization of the educational system.

2. Establishment of Baitul Mal:

In conformity with the Islamic precepts, the Government has set up Baitul Mal to provide assistance and relief to the destitutes, needy widows, orphans and such other persons.

3. Economic Reforms:

Denationalization, Privatization and Deregulation are important elements of the government's economic reforms. These measures have helped increase production and revolutionize the industrial

consolidation of the unity of the Muslim World. The on-going process of strengthening of democratic institutions in Yemen augurs well for the national cohesion and progress of the country. Pakistan and Yemen are linked through ties of religion, culture and history. The past years have witnessed meaningful cooperation between the two brotherly countries in various fields, especially

Sanaa. The present trend shows that active trade relationship will emerge between the two countries in the coming years.

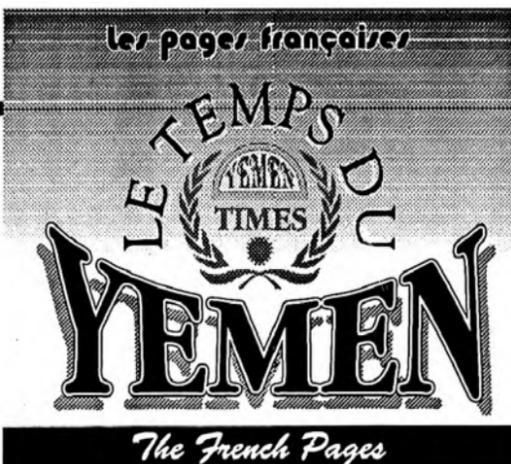
By the grace of God, the existing bilateral ties will grow further to the benefit of the governments and peoples of Pakistan and Yemen. The peoples of Pakistan and Yemen will continue striving together for unity, strength and prosperity of the Islamic Ummah and the two fraternal countries.

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Une conférence organisée par un Comité de Soutien à la Victoire du Koweït

Renouer avec les pays du Golfe: "indispensable pour le Yémen"

Mardi 16 mars dernier, pour la première fois depuis la Guerre du Golfe, le Comité Populaire Yéménite de Soutien pour la Victoire du Koweït a organisé une conférence intitulée "Péninsule arabique: l'unité politique et économique; les relations entre le Yémen et les Etats du Golfe: situation temporaire et avenir. La dernière partie de ce titre est évocatrice: depuis deux mois environ, après une longue période de tensions à la suite de la Crise du Golfe, le Yémen fait son possible pour réchauffer ses relations avec les six monarchies du Golfe et notamment l'Arabie Saoudite (lire nos nombreux articles sur ce sujet dans les éditions de ces deux derniers mois).

Le contenu de cette conférence n'était pas fondamentalement intéressant car fait de discours-fleuves sur l'histoire des relations entre les Etats de la Péninsule. Même le ministre d'Etat des Affaires étrangères, qui a effectué récemment une tournée des capitales de la péninsule après une entrevue très remarquée avec le roi Fahd d'Arabie Saoudite, n'a fait aucune révélation sur l'état des négociations; en vertu sans doute du principe, couramment répandu dans les hautes sphères yéménites, selon lequel la politique, à fortiori étrangère, n'est pas la chose du peuple. En revanche, l'organisation de cette conférence, le mystère qui l'entourait et la personnalité des intervenants étaient très intéressants...

Cela ne faisait déjà plus de doute il y a un mois, après le succès très mitigé d'une manifestation à Sanaa contre l'embargo des Nations Unies sur l'Irak organisée par un autre Comité Populaire de Soutien - à la Victoire de l'Irak, celui-ci: Saddam Hussein n'est plus en odeur de sainteté ces temps-ci au Yémen, dans la population comme dans les hautes sphères du pouvoir (lire notre reportage dans *Le Temps du Yémen* du 24 février 1993).

Or, depuis la Crise du Golfe, le Comité de Soutien à l'Irak, supporté, y compris financièrement par l'ambassade d'Irak à Sanaa, opérait au grand jour et a bénéficié longtemps d'une certaine sympathie. Dans le même temps, celui de Soutien au Koweït avait cessé ses activités et il n'était pas question de se vanter d'y appartenir... jusqu'à la semaine dernière, dans cette même salle du Sheraton qui avait vu sa naissance, deux ans plus tôt, en pleine crise du Golfe. A ce moment, le Cheikh Abdallah Bin Hussein al-Ahmar, grand chef des tribus Hached et du parti Al-Islah, soutenu par l'Arabie Saoudite, était l'un des fondateurs de ce comité. Depuis, il s'en est "désolidarisé" et la position ambiguë quant à l'Irak de cet homme considéré comme le plus puissant du pays, a découragé plus d'un sympathisant d'avouer son appartenance à ce comité. D'autant plus que le Yémen était alors réputé pour sa position pro-irakienne dans la crise.

Un comité dont les responsables restent anonymes

C'est seulement depuis l'annonce officielle par le gouvernement de ses tentatives de restaurer des liens étroits entre le Yémen et les monarchies du Golfe (jugées par les économistes comme les seuls bailleurs de fonds qui peuvent aider à restaurer l'économie sinistrée du pays) que ce groupe sort au grand jour. Et encore, seul le responsable des Relations extérieures de ce Comité a osé ouvrir le débat. Aucun autre membre déclaré, aucun président, vice-président ou autre secrétaire général... A la tribune, neuf personnalités en vue ont donc prononcé des discours sur l'histoire des relations dans le Golfe et sur les principes qui doivent guider les tentatives de réchauffement de ces relations, "indispensable

(notamment afflux de travailleurs expulsés d'Arabie Saoudite et du Koweït, abandon par ces deux derniers pays, principaux bailleurs de fonds du Yémen, de l'aide conséquente qu'ils lui fournissaient chaque année, etc.).

Ainsi, étaient présents à la tribune MM. Ahmed al-Madhagi, indépendant, vice-président d'un comité de personnalités indépendantes de surveillance des élections, Mohamed Abdul Malik al-Mutawakil, candidat indépendant et très populaire aux prochaines élections à Sanaa, Omar al-Gaoui, leader de la Conférence nationale des partis de l'opposition, Jarallah Omar, membre éminent du Bureau Politique du Parti Socialiste Yéménite (PSY), Abdul Hadi al-Hamdani, membre du Comité permanent du CPG, le parti du président Saleh, Abdulaziz al-Dali, ministre d'Etat des Affaires étrangères, Abdulaziz al-Saqqaf, candidat indépendant aux élections et rédacteur en chef de ce journal, Abdul Rahman al-Jiffri, numéro deux de l'opposition à la tête de la Ligue des Fils du Yémen et Farès al-Saqqaf, responsable des relations extérieures du parti Al-Islah.

Emmanuel GIROUD

Dans un article sur les émeutes sanglantes de décembre dernier

Amnesty International dénonce les meurtres et la torture de manifestants

Dans son bulletin mensuel de mars 1993, Amnesty International, l'Organisation Non Gouvernementale de défense des Droits de l'Homme, fait état du meurtre de 15 manifestants et de nombreuses tortures lors des manifestations de décembre dernier. Dans un reportage exclusif dans *Le Temps du Yémen* ("Ils ont tiré sur la foule") du 16 décembre 1992, nous avons évoqué les plaintes de nombreuses familles, de Taëz, notamment, qui n'ont jamais revu qu'un fils, qu'un frère, depuis la répression sanglante par les forces de l'ordre, ainsi qu'un témoignage d'un médecin de Taëz qui affirmait que le nombre de tués se montait à près de 300 !

Selon Amnesty International, en décembre dernier, les forces de sécurité auraient tué au moins 15 personnes (11 morts et 87 blessés selon le gouvernement mais, dans les deux cas, le chiffre est sans aucun doute beaucoup plus élevé), lors des manifestations contre l'augmentation des prix des produits de première nécessité et l'ensemble de la politique économique et sociale du gouvernement.

Ces manifestations ont duré

quatre jours, du 11 au 14 décembre, mais Amnesty International affirme que des personnes ont été arrêtées plusieurs jours après les événements: des étudiants en majorité, mais aussi des fonctionnaires, des ouvriers et du personnel militaire.

Détentions arbitraires et mauvais traitements

La plupart ont été relâchés sans inculpation quelques jours après, mais au moins cinquante étaient encore en détention fin 1992, dont deux officiers de l'armée de l'air, Mohamed Yahia al-Sabri et Sarhan al-Muhayya, maintenus au secret au centre de détention du renseignement militaire de Sala, à Taëz.

Outre ceux qui ont été tués, un grand nombre de manifestants ont été blessés quand les forces de sécurité ont ouvert le feu. Parmi les victimes, Amnesty International évoque le cas de Khaled Mohamed Sasaah, étudiant: un soldat aurait tiré sur lui à bout portant, à Taëz, alors qu'il tentait d'empêcher

l'arrestation d'un camarade. En janvier 1993, il était encore dans un état critique à l'hôpital. Fin janvier, la commission parlementaire chargée d'enquêter sur ces meurtres n'avait pas encore achevé ses travaux, selon Amnesty International.

On a signalé l'usage répandu de la torture et des mauvais traitements infligés aux détenus. Selon Amnesty, un étudiant, Mohamed Farhan al-Tubi, aurait eu la mâchoire cassée par les coups qu'il aurait reçus dans un centre de détention de Maydan al-Sabeen, près de Sanaa. A Hodeidah, Fouad Mohamed al-Faqih et Aadel Mohamed al-Kuhlani, deux pêcheurs, auraient reçu des décharges électriques et des coups continus pendant leur détention dans un service du renseignement militaire.

En janvier, 20 détenus ont comparu devant le tribunal de première instance de Sanaa sous l'inculpation d'homicide et de dégradation de biens publics et privés. Tous ont nié, affirmant que leurs déclarations avaient été arrachées sous la contrainte.

E.G.

Au Cine-club du Centre Culturel Français de Sanaa

Mars

Mardi 30 mars, 19h30.

APRES LA GUERRE
de Jean-Loup Hubert, 1988.
Avec Richard Bohringer.
Après la guerre, deux gamins entament une fugue...

Avril

Mardi 06 avril, 19h30.

LE PLAISIR
De Max Ophüls, 1952. Avec Gaby Morlaix et Jean Gabin.
Film à sketches d'après trois nouvelles de Maupassant...

Mardi 13 avril, 19h30.

LES INNOCENTS
D'André Téchiné, 1988. Avec Sandrine Bonnaire, Simon de La Brosse.
Jeanne quitte son village pour partir à la recherche de son petit frère...

Mardi 20 avril, 19h30.

LE JUGE ET L'ASSASSIN

De Bertrand Tavernier, 1975. Avec Philippe Noiret, Michel Galabru, Isabelle Huppert.
Le sergent Joseph Bouvier tue celle qu'il veut épouser, avant de se faire justice...

Mardi 27 avril, 19h30.

COUP DE FOUDE

De Diane Kurys, 1983. Avec Miou Miou, Isabelle Huppert, Guy Marchand.
Deux destins de femmes avant et après la guerre...

Mai

Mardi 04 mai, 19h30.

LES FANTOMES DE LA LIBERTE
De Luis Bunuel, 1974. Avec Asti Adriana, Julien Bertheau et Jean-Claude Brialy.
Suite de sketches étonnants, farfelus...

Mardi 11 mai, 19h30.

POUSSIERE D'ANGE
D'Edouard Niermans, 1987. Avec Bernard Giraudeau, Fanny Cottençon.
L'inspecteur Blount est en pleine dérive, il rencontre Violetta...

Mardi 18 mai, 19h30.

MONSIEUR KLEIN
De Joseph Losey, 1976. Avec Alain Delon et Jeanne Moreau.
Sous l'Occupation allemande, Robert Klein s'enrichit. Un jour, le hasard va changer son existence...

Mardi 25 mai, 19h30.

C ET OBSCUR OBJET DU DESIR

De Luis Bunuel, 1977. Avec Rey Fernando, Carole Bouquet.
Un homme d'un certain âge rencontre une fille beaucoup plus jeune que lui...

Juin

Mardi 1er juin, 19h30.

LE PASSAGE
De René Manzor, 1986. Avec Alain Delon.
Jean Diaz vit seul avec son fils qu'il adore...

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Alors que les négociations de Washington sont au point mort

Les colons israéliens font la loi dans les territoires occupés

Oeil pour oeil, dent pour dent. Les colons israéliens ont décidé de faire la loi dans les territoires occupés à la place de l'Etat. La semaine dernière, ils ont saccagé près de 200 voitures palestiniennes et ont incendié une station d'essence tenue par des Palestiniens. Ils ont dressé des barrages pour empêcher des ouvriers palestiniens d'aller travailler en Israël. "Nous ne nous barricaderons pas chez nous. Nous continuerons à nous agrandir et à construire. J'espère que M. Rabin a enfin compris et va prendre les choses en main, mais je n'ai pas grand espoir", a déclaré l'un des principaux des colons d'Uri Ariel.

Par ailleurs, les colons de la bande de Gaza ont décidé d'entourer leurs implantations d'une clôture électrique et de remplacer leurs ouvriers agricoles palestiniens par des chômeurs israéliens.

A l'origine de la colère des colons, l'incapacité du gouvernement israélien à faire

face à la multiplication des attentats contre ses citoyens. Depuis le début de l'année, quatorze Israéliens ont été tués et 29 ont été blessés par balles ou à coups de couteau par des Palestiniens (durant la même période, 43 Palestiniens ont été tués et près d'un millier ont été blessés par des Israéliens dans les territoires occupés).

Yitzhak Rabin avoue son impuissance

La traditionnelle panoplie de mesures répressives utilisée par la police et l'armée n'a pas eu les effets escomptés. Le gouvernement israélien a d'abord bouclé pendant une semaine la bande de Gaza. En vain. L'armée a ensuite multiplié les barrages sur les routes reliant Israël à la Cisjordanie et a accru ses patrouilles dans la bande de Gaza. Sans résultat. Enfin, le gouvernement a décidé d'embaucher 2000 policiers, mais cette mesure n'aura d'effet

que dans six mois. Yitzhak Rabin, le Premier ministre israélien, a reconnu son impuissance: "contre un Palestinien jamais fiché par les services de sécurité et jamais impliqué dans une action terroriste, et qui devient brusquement un assassin, on ne peut rien faire, même si on ferme la bande de Gaza".

En visite à Washington la semaine dernière, pour tenter de relancer le processus de paix en panne depuis quatre mois, Yitzhak Rabin a écourté son séjour en raison de ce climat de violence.

Au sein de la population israélienne, la psychose des attentats a entraîné une ruée sur les armureries. Le chef de la police, Yaacov Turner, a appelé les Israéliens titulaires d'un port d'arme à ne plus sortir sans leur arsenal: "La présence de plusieurs milliers d'armes supplémentaires dans les rues est un facteur de dissuasion irremplaçable contre les terroristes". Sa prise de position a toutefois été désavouée par le gouvernement. Un haut responsable militaire a estimé qu'"un laxisme dans la distribution des permis de port d'armes entraînera l'anarchie. Si tous les Israéliens se promènent avec une arme, il y en aura plus qui seront tués par leurs concitoyens que par les terroristes".

Selon un sondage, 82 % des Israéliens sont favorables à l'application de la peine de mort aux Palestiniens auteurs d'attentats en Israël et dans les territoires occupés.

53 % des Israéliens pour un retrait de Gaza

Cependant des voix au sein du gouvernement israélien s'élèvent contre les exactions des colons. Le ministre de l'Education, Shulamit Aloni, dirigeante du parti de gauche Meretz, a estimé que "ce que font les colons est une honte. Ils sont irresponsables, provoquent des désordres. Ce sont les éléments les plus dangereux pour la

sécurité de la population". D'autre part, selon un récent sondage 53 % des Israéliens sont favorables à un retrait unilatéral israélien de la bande de Gaza.

De leur côté, les Palestiniens ont sollicité mercredi dernier la

protection de l'ONU. Le "numéro deux" de la délégation palestinienne aux négociations de paix, Sa'eb Erakat, a estimé que le gouvernement israélien "faisait preuve de faiblesse face aux colons et que ces derniers se croyaient donc tout permis".

L'objectif des colons est de pousser le gouvernement à prendre des mesures draconniennes de sécurité. Cela forcerait ainsi les Palestiniens à mettre un terme aux négociations de paix. (d'après AFP)

Jérôme BERNARD

Trois mois dans la boue et le froid

Trois mois déjà. Les quelque 400 Palestiniens expulsés par Israël vers le Liban ont marqué mercredi dernier le troisième mois de leur expulsion en brûlant symboliquement une petite tente et en mettant en berne un drapeau des Nations Unies. "Nous disons aux Nations-Unies: le cercueil de votre crédibilité est enterré à Marj Ez-Zouhour", s'est exclamé Abdel Aziz al-Rantissi, porte-parole des bannis et figure de proue du mouvement islamiste Hamas.

Le camp de Marj Ez-Zouhour, installé sur une colline à mille mètres d'altitude s'est peu à peu transformé en une ville de toile au fonctionnement communautaire.

Coincé dans un no man's land entre les armées israélienne et libanaise, le camp des bannis est ravitaillé quotidiennement en contrebande par le Hezbollah pro-iranien et les mouvements palestiniens à partir des villages libanais alentours.

Le campement, pris dans plusieurs tempêtes de neige et de pluie, vit au rythme d'une organisation bien rodée. Une dizaine de proscrits se chargent de la distribution de la nourriture, stockée dans une tente.

A l'occasion du mois du Ramadan, l'ordinaire s'est amélioré: de la viande, des fruits et légumes frais et des pâtisseries traditionnelles ont agrémenté le menu de l'Iftar.

C'est à la suite du meurtre

d'un garde-frontière israélien que l'Etat hébreu a décidé l'expulsion le 17 décembre dernier de 418 Palestiniens, soupçonnés de militantisme actif, ou de sympathie pour les organisations de lutte islamistes.

Officiellement, il s'agit d'empêcher les organisations islamistes de "saboter le processus de paix". En fait, le gouvernement israélien voulait amadouer ses opposants de droite et d'extrême droite.

La liste des 418 bannis a été puisée parmi les 1300 Palestiniens, arrêtés par l'armée au cours des dernières quarante-huit heures dans la bande de Gaza et en Cisjordanie.

Processus de paix: l'impasse

Les négociations de paix sur le Proche-Orient sont au point mort. La délégation palestinienne a refusé l'invitation à reprendre les discussions le 20 avril à Washington. Elle réclame toujours le retour des 400 Palestiniens expulsés le 17 décembre par Israël vers le Liban. Cependant, selon le quotidien israélien Haaretz, une rencontre se prépare entre le secrétaire d'Etat américain, Warren Christopher et la délégation palestinienne. Elle pourrait avoir lieu avant la réunion des parties arabes engagées dans le processus de paix, prévue les 28 et 29 mars à Damas.

Avant de reprendre les négociations, les Palestiniens veulent qu'Israël s'engage à

ne plus procéder à des expulsions, accepte de discuter de la question des droits de l'homme dans les territoires occupés et de la question du statut de Jérusalem. Ils exigent en outre que l'Etat hébreu se déclare prêt à considérer comme base de négociations les résolutions 242 et 339 du Conseil de sécurité, prévoyant un retrait des territoires occupés. De son côté, Israël ne veut discuter que d'un régime intérimaire d'autonomie dans les territoires occupés.

Après la visite d'Yitzhak Rabin aux Etats-Unis, les Palestiniens se sont déclarés préoccupés par le ton pro-israélien des déclarations récentes du président américain Bill Clinton.

(D'après AFP)

EN BREF

Reprise du trafic aérien normal à l'aéroport d'Aden: L'aéroport d'Aden a retrouvé vendredi dernier un trafic aérien normal. Le trafic aérien nocturne avait été fermé en raison des dégâts provoqués par les fortes intempéries et les pluies torrentielles au début du mois de février. La tour de contrôle et les installations électriques et de communications de l'aéroport avaient été fortement endommagées.

Accord de prospection pétrolière entre le Yémen et une firme indonésienne: Le ministère yéménite du Pétrole et la firme Golden Energy, filiale de la société indonésienne Codell, viennent de signer un accord de prospection pétrolière dans la province de Shabwah. Golden Energy prospectera

dans une zone de quelque 3224 km². Le montant des investissements devrait s'élever à plus de 55 millions de F.

Un vaccin contre la malaria: Deux chercheurs espagnols et colombiens ont mis au point le premier vaccin synthétique contre la malaria, maladie tropicale transmise par les moustiques. Cette maladie tue chaque année 3,5 millions de personnes dans le monde. Jusqu'à présent, elle ne pouvait qu'être soignée ou prévenue grâce à des médicaments. Le vaccin baptisé "SP166" a été testé en Colombie sur 1548 volontaires.

Enquête sur une société arabe mêlée à un trafic d'armes serbes: Le gouvernement de Chypre a

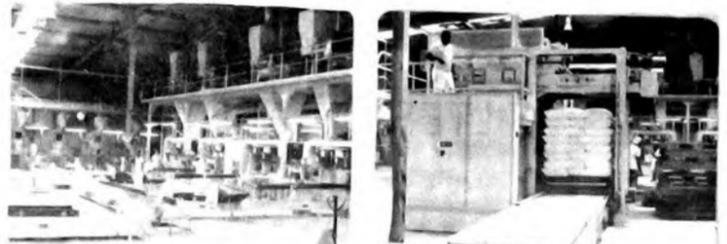
ouvert une enquête sur une société arabe, basée dans l'île, et qui serait impliquée dans une affaire de trafic d'armes serbes vers la Somalie. Le gouvernement chypriote a refusé de préciser la nationalité de la compagnie.

Koweït, projet d'organisme pour imposer les préceptes de l'Islam: Cinq parlementaires koweïtiens, de tendance islamiste, ont déposé une proposition de loi pour créer un organisme chargé d'imposer à la population un comportement plus conforme aux préceptes de l'Islam. Le projet est en cours d'examen par une commission parlementaire et par le ministère des Affaires religieuses. La proposition suscite une vive opposition dans les milieux libéraux.



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صنعاء ت. ٢٤٠٧٠٢ - ٢٤٠٩٥٢ : تليفون : ٢٧٨٠ نايجيل بين فاكسميل : ٢٦٣٠٨٦ ص ب : ٢٥٢٨
الحديدة ت. ٣/٢٢٤٦٠ : تليفون : ٥٦٦١ ابو جبة بين فاكسميل : ٢١١٥٥١ ص ب : ٤٠١٥
الخرطوم ت. ٧٤٥٦٩ - ٧٤٦١٠ - ٧٤٦١١ : تليفون : ٧٤٥٦٢ : فاكسميل : ٢٢٣٦٩ : ص ب : ١٩٣٦
بورسودان ت. ٦٦٣٠ - ٢٩٧٩ - ٤٤٦٥ : تليفون : ٧٠٠٧١ : ص ب : ١٦٠



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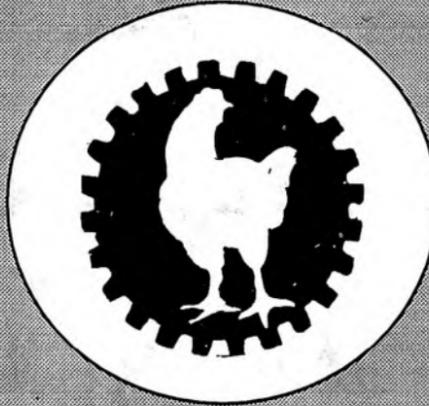
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**YEMENI WOMEN:
A Changing Profile and A Changing Role**

By: Fatma Rawah,
Social Editor,
Yemen Times.

To celebrate the International Women's Month, the American Women's Association in Sana'a and the US Peace Corps in Yemen, arranged an evening together with prominent career Yemeni women. The topic of the get together was "The Role of University Female Graduates in a Traditional Islamic Society." Some 150 Yemeni women and expatriate females met for the occasion which took place on March 16th at the Taj-Sheba Hotel.

At the rather informal get together, even a few things not on program were discussed. "The idea of this meeting is to get to know each other, we never had an opportunity to sit down together and talk and learn about each other. Something like this will be arranged again in future, because it is very useful," said Mrs. Sharon Furman, President of the American Women's Group in Sana'a.

Four among the many prominent Yemeni women who were at the meeting, gave presentations under four different themes of educated Yemeni women in public life, as follows:



Ages, and they still lag behind in comparison to many countries. Then she explained very briefly the factors that will facilitate change in the role of Yemeni women, thus leading to a more effective contribution to the development of society. These are in Education and Culture, Sharia and law, Economic Factors, Awareness and Mass Media, Health Services, etc. "In Yemen, we represent more than half of society and our role cannot be ignored," she said.

Agriculture and Projects for the Rural Development
Mrs. Fatima Hassan Huraibi has B.A., B.Sc., and serves as Advisor to the President on agricultural and rural cooperatives.

tribal area but the women there needed help," she said. The projects are still under execution and many wonderful changes have taken place. "I think the role of university women is not just to serve in offices or in clerical tasks. We should also be out there in the field as there many women who need our help," said Fatima Huraibi..

Medicine

Dr. Anisa Muhammad Abud, Ph.D., is Assistant Professor and Lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine, Aden University.

"In the past, it was awkward for a female doctor to treat a male patient. The men wouldn't have it, and at best, they thought they were getting an inferior service. But soon after Aden University's was established in 1975 things started to change. We started with only 3 (female) doctors, today there are more than 200 in different specialities," she said.

"There are many problems that Yemeni career women uniquely face. I suggest efforts to be focussed in the fields of education and health services programs," said Dr. Abud said.

Educational Opportunities for Yemeni Women

Mrs. Najwa Yahya Zabara, has B.A. and M.A., and occupies the second highest ranking job at the Environmental Protection Council. Mrs. Najwa Zabara, explained briefly, how difficult it was for a women to get education, especially at specialized and higher levels. "During the Imam's time, of course, it was much harder. But, it is still a bad deal for girls and women," she explained.

During this Women's Month, the Peace Corps focussed on the International Women's Day, which every year falls on 8th March. Ms. Fran Preneta, Associate Peace Corps Director for Health, called it "Shadow Day." On that day this year, five Peace Corps women visited local Yemeni homes and observed how they prepared Ramadhan dishes. "We hope to carry out many other events next year, it depends what kind of response we get from Yemeni women and what kind of things they would want to share," said Ms. Cecelia Hitte, Country Director, US Peace Corps/Yemen. "It has been very a successful evening," she concluded.



**Yemeni Women:
A Changing Profile**

This was a theme discussed by Dr. Azza Ghanim, who is the Head of the Department of Psychology, at Sana'a University's College of Education. Dr. Ghanim, a UK graduate, explained that; in the last twenty years, the world has witnessed dramatic changes in the status of women. But, conditions for Yemeni women reflected relations that had prevailed in the Middle

"A quick observation of rural work pattern, it can be seen that most of the work is being done by women. On the farms, almost 75% of the work is carried out by the women," she stated. In 1978, Mrs. Hassen introduced development projects in Radda area. These efforts included literacy classes, health education, as well as new seed varieties in vegetable growing. "We did the same, ten years later in Khawlan, which is a very

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**LESSON #37
Have**

In previous lessons we have looked at the verbs *take* and *get*. In this week's we will tackle a very familiar and frequently used verb--the verb *have*. One of its main uses is as an helping verb for the perfect tenses. Still, as a main verb *have* has many different uses and meanings, making it one of the most versatile verbs in the English language.

Here are some of the definitions for have:

1. to hold in the hand or in control, to own--Ahmed has a car.
2. to possess as a characteristic or attribute--Amat has green eyes.
3. to be affected by or afflicted with--I have the flu.
4. to experience, to undergo--My father is having an operation.
5. to know, to possess understanding of--We have a little German.
6. to hold or keep in the mind--Eshrag has an idea.
7. to declare or state--Rumor has it that you're in trouble.
8. to get, take or obtain--The doctor had a look at Ali's head.
9. to eat or drink--We often have tea in the afternoon.
10. to bear children--My sister just had a baby boy.
11. to cause to be--Have the tire on the car fixed, please.
12. to be in a certain relation to--Houria has three brothers.
13. to feel and show--Have pity on the poor.
14. to allow, permit, tolerate--Mother won't have any pets in the house.
15. to deceive, to cheat--Mohsen was had by the man who sold him his car.

Practice A Read the following sentences. Then choose which definition best fits the use of have in the sentence, and write the number of that definition from above.

1. The Yemen Times has it that elections will be in April.
2. Fatima and Saleh have five children.
3. I have some mathematics, but not very much.
4. Have some cake; I made it today.
5. We need to have the roof fixed before the rainy season.
6. This isn't real gold! I've been had!
7. The doctors say that my uncle has cancer.
8. At last! I'm finally having a vacation!
9. Abdul-Kareem has a bad temper.
10. The courts rarely have mercy on criminals.
11. Mohammed has a house in Aden and one in Sana'a.
12. No smoking! I won't have it!
13. Will you have an opportunity to visit me before you leave?
14. I have five uncles on my mother's side.
15. Do you have any suggestions?

Like the other verbs we've looked at, *have* plays an important role in many expressions. By adding a preposition or a few other words, *have* takes on completely different meanings. Below is list of some of the expressions with *have*.

- have at--to strike, attack
- have done-- to stop
- have had it--to be exhausted, disgusted, bored, ready to quit
- have it good--to be in comfortable circumstances
- have it out--to settle an argument by fighting or discussion
- have and to hold--to possess for life (used in wedding ceremonies)
- have (noun)--a person or nation with relative wealth (opposite: have-not)

Practice B Read the following sentences and fill in the blanks with the expression with *have* that makes the most sense.

1. You think you can solve this problem? Well, _____ it!
2. Something must change; the _____ keep getting more and the _____ are left with nothing.
3. Lucky Ali! He has a loving wife, healthy children, a nice house and a good car. He really _____.
4. Enough! Enough! _____ with it already!
5. Omar and Selwa will never divorce. They married to _____.
6. I can't take this confusion anymore! I _____.
7. The parties have been arguing for months. Now they're going to _____ in a public debate.

Have has another use which is peculiar to it. When followed by an infinitive, *have* becomes a modal, an informal equivalent of *must*. It is used frequently especially in the past tense. Look at the following examples:

I *must* study tonight. I *have to* study tonight.

To make those statements in the past tense, there is only one choice:
I *had to* study last night.

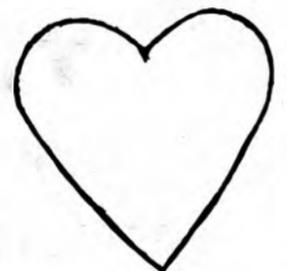
present: We *must* go. past: We *had to* go.
Ahmed *must* work. Ahmed *had to* work.

Note: In the negative *must* and *have* have different meanings

WEEKLY IDIOM

Have a heart
To have a heart means to be kind, considerate, compassionate and merciful. It is often used in the command form.

After the teacher told them how difficult the exam was going to be, the students all shouted together, "Oh, have a heart! Make the exam easier for us!"



ANSWERS Practice A 1. 7; 2. 10; 3. 5; 4. 9; 5. 11; 6. 15; 7. 3; 8. 4; 9. 2; 10. 13; 11. 1; 12. 14; 13. 8; 14. 12; 15. 6 Practice B 1. have at had it 7. have it out 2. have, have-nots 3. has it good 4. Have done 5. have and to hold 6. have

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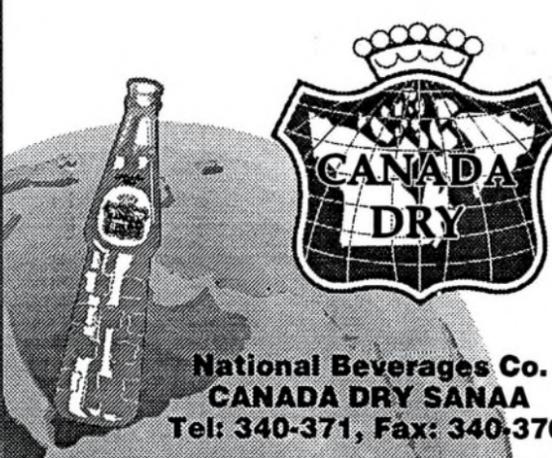
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• Analysis •

Abdul-Karim Al-Saidi:

"Standardization is an uphill battle."

Experience has shown that the application of standardization and its related disciplines (certification, quality control and metrology) has far-reaching beneficial effects to the country and its economic development. The practical effects include consumer protection, optimum utilization of indigenous raw material, reduction of production and distribution costs, easier marketing, and more confidence in local output. This service also helps control imports and promotes exports. This has led to the establishment, universal recognition, and wide adoption of standardization of goods. Here in Yemen, the beginnings are recent and the

potentials are humble. Mr. Abdul-Karim Al-Saidi, a US graduate, is Director-General of the Standardization, Metrology and Quality Control Board (SMQCB). He explains that their task is wide-reaching. "We are charged with the task of elaborating and issuing national standards for goods and services, testing indigenous raw materials and locally produced goods, certifications of products, verification of weights, volume and measures, hall-marking of articles made of precious metals, etc.," he said. Mr. Al-Saidi complained that consumers are not aware of their rights, and that they do not have any organized efforts to protect



them against fraud in goods and services. "The legal framework is not fully developed, either," he added. The SMQCB is fighting an uphill battle. To start with, it is not perceived as a priority organ in government apparatus. Second, the public is not fully aware of the consumer rights and their protection. Finally, industrialists have

no qualms about cutting corners here and there in their products. The UNDP has provided assistance to bolster the board and its efforts. "We have received a full set of machines and equipment for our laboratory from the UNDP," says Al-Saidi. "There are many products that have been disqualified and removed from the market," he insists, although in a subdued and dejected mood. The problem: law enforcement is minimal. The degree of adherence to the law on the part of the producers is a major component of our efforts," the SMQCB Director-General explained. He also indicated certain goods could increase safety

hazards, while others could lead to security risks, unless proper quality control is maintained," he added. The Board has initiated major training programs for its employees. "We have participated in many local, regional, and international workshops and seminars," Al-Saidi pointed out. There are a number of qualified persons working in this field. "It is not the qualification that is missing, but it is the realization of the importance of this task," he pleaded. The SMQCB employs 64 persons at its headquarters in Sana'a, while there are 11 persons at Aden branch and five persons in Hodeidah. The future does not seem to hold any real change for the

standardization service in Yemen. Consumers will be presented with goods and services that are inferior in quality, short in quantity/weight/volume and sub-standard in packing. "Some goods are even sold long after their expiry dates." Consumers do not react in a decisive way, and they agree to be taken advantage of," Al-Saidi complained. "It is our job to make them aware of their rights." Towards the same end, the Yemeni Consumer Protection Society was formed by a group of intellectuals last year. As yet, however, it has not been able to make its presence felt.

**By: Ismail Al-Ghabiri,
Yemen Times.**

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