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• June 20 through 26th, 1993

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In an attempt not to repeat the mistake of sparing Saddam Hussain:

The Allied Forces are out to get Aideed, in person

For several days, the US-led allied forces wearing UN gear, are pounding the headquarters of Mohammed Farah Aideed, the strongest of the Somali warlords. Thousands of UN ground forces are combing the whole southern region of Mogadishu in search of Aideed, while warplanes - mainly AC-130 gunships have pounded the area and several villages known to be Aideed strongholds. "The main objective of the operation is to reduce the military power of General Aideed," according to a UN source. And that objective, has been achieved, according to US president Bill Clinton. The planes have blitzed many ammunition dumps known to belong to the Aideed gang.

Mr. Aideed himself, reported to have been injured during the air-raids, is reported to be in one of the hospitals. Another report states that Mr. Aideed did visit one of the hospitals to receive medical treatment due to light wounds, but his visit was mainly to raise the morale of his men in the hospital. The UN ground forces continue with their search and disarm efforts, and hope to capture Mr. Aideed himself.

At another level, thousands of Somali civilians, who were the main victims of the air-raids, took to the streets demanding the departure of foreign forces from Somali soil. UN forces continue to treat the Somali civilian-demonstrators roughly, according to reports from the capital, Mogadishu.

Confrontation between the UN forces - which came to Somalia to save the country from the destruction of a civil war led by power-hungry warlords and fought by savage bandits - and the Aideed camp flared because of the June 5th incidents. In that incident, some two dozen Pakistani UN soldiers were ambushed by Aideed's men. Other UN soldiers were also randomly kidnapped.

Indian Premier PV Narasimha Rao Plans Visit to Sanaa

Yemen Times learned that India's Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's visit is planned for September 1993. Mr. Rao was scheduled to visit here last week, as an additional leg to his trip to the fraternal Sultanate of Oman. Health complications have forced the Indian premier to cut short his trip and return to Delhi. He sent, instead, an emissary to Sanaa. Mr. K. Srinivasan, Deputy Foreign Minister for the Middle East, arrived in Sanaa on a one-day visit to deliver to Prime Minister Haidar Abubakar Al-Attas Rao's letter, and to re-arrange for the visit of the Indian Prime Minister.

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السفاري

EL SOFFARY

Parliament Members and Sanaa University Professors Join the Opposition !

In a spectacular development, several parliamentarians and Sanaa University members applied to join the National Conference (NC), the opposition bloc in today's Yemeni politics. Six parliamentarians and nine Sanaa University professors attended the exceptional meeting of the Follow-Up and Coordina-

tion Board of the NC held on Saturday, June 19th.

This step is seen as an important step in building a credible opposition in the political set-up. The NC has also taken other steps such as revamping the opposition leadership and initiating a massive media-related program to inform the public on its rights and to help build a

sharper public opinion on a number of issues. The NC has also decided to issue a weekly newspaper for this purpose.

Earlier, several lawyers and journalists had joined the NC. The policy of the opposition is to attract more opinion-makers as a means to fight the preponderant dominance of the rulers.

RALLY IN SUPPORT OF BOSNIAN MUSLIMS

Headed by Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar, Speaker of Parliament and the Chief of the Islah Party, a major rally was organized on Saturday, June 19th, in Sanaa. "Our aim is to support our Muslim brothers who are being killed and humiliated by the Serbian thugs," said Sheikh Abdullah in his address to the crowd.

Earlier, a fund-raising committee had been established, and there are serious plans to send "volunteers" to fight in the civil war of what was Yugoslavia.

"The passive reaction or even inaction of the leaders of the New World Order is shameful," Sheikh Al-Ahmar said.

YSP Holds Meeting of the Central Committee

At last, after six postponements, the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party started its meetings on Saturday, June 19th.

The 4-day meetings are expected to be turbulent. The agenda includes the merger agreement with the PGC, the coalition agreement with Islah, and preparations for the 4th YSP General Congress in which a new leadership will be chosen.

Already, two groups have evolved in the YSP camp - the first groups shoots for doing whatever is necessary to keep the YSP leadership in power, and the second group wants to dis-associate from power struggle and focus on rebuilding the party.



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OUR VIEWPOINT

Oil, Expectations and Disinformation

The political leaders of this country have repeatedly stressed that come September, Yemen's Maseela oil fields will come into production. They mention things like Hunt's gas exploitation coming on stream. The politicians and their mouth-piece journalists have pointed to large mineral extraction projects, especially gold in Wadi Madan, silver in Al-Jabaly, copper at Al-Hamura, etc., as holding great potential for general prosperity. What all this leads to is that people expect major improvements in their living standards. This, of course, will not happen; and will lead to a big disappointment and a feeling of having been betrayed and cheated among Yemenis. The politicians are wrong in stressing the role of oil and minerals in solving economic problems. If they do it to impress foreigners, they had better forget it. The foreigners know exactly how much oil reserve there is and how much can be pumped out. So the Yemeni authorities are stupid to hope to mislead foreign governments and companies. But the Yemeni authorities are misleading the Yemeni public, and that is very short-sighted and it will backfire. Already, one can hear Yemenis asking, "What have we got from all the oil the country has been pumping?" Yemen faces an economic crisis of major proportions and we all need to make sacrifices. The Yemeni people can willingly make the necessary sacrifices provided they are told the facts. Unfortunately, they are told there is a lot of oil, gas, gold, etc., out there. And then someone turns around and tells them to make sacrifices. The people will inevitably conclude that the politicians are keeping all the goodies to themselves, and they see a lot of evidence to substantiate that conclusion. For God's sake, in whose interest is it for the politicians to give wrong information on the oil potential of Yemen? The truth is that we don't have much oil, but we do have a large population base and a very backward infrastructure. Those are the bare facts.

The Publisher
عبد العزيز

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A Richmond University Team in Yemen

Nine professors from Richmond University in Virginia have concluded a one-week private visit to Yemen. The trip was organized with the assistance of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies and with the personal encouragement of Dr. Sheila Carapico, that well-known Yemenologist. The Richmond team visited several parts of the country and met with many Yemeni intellectuals, scholars, and public figures. Given the exceptionally positive impressions with which the professors came away, if the Yemeni government is clever enough, it has in its hands what could be the beginnings of a Yemeni lobby group in the US.

Britannia Calls on Aden

The British Royal Yacht Britannia plans to call at Aden harbor for one day on 24-25 November, 1993. The Yemen Times learned that the British embassy is planning a reception on board the yacht. This will help increase good will between the two countries. It should also help tourism in Aden, in particular, and Yemen, in general.

Locust Problem?

Millions of locusts have plagued the governorates of Shabwah, Al-Baidha and Marib. The President has instructed the Minister of Agriculture to attend to this matter immediately. Unfortunately for Yemen, maybe fortunately for the locusts, the mother of the minister died last week, and the minister is off in Ibb to attend to the social obligation of receiving condolences. What that means is that not much has been done on this matter. But something has been done. The government has approached donor organizations and friendly countries with a list for help. On top of the list is a request for 15 brand new 4WD Toyota cars.

President Saleh Tours Governorates

President Ali Abdullah Saleh, at the head of a long caravan, is paying visits to several governorates. He has completed visits to Hajjah, Mahweet, Hodeidah and Taiz. During the visits, the President has inaugurated many projects, laid down the foundation stones for many more, and urged the people to cooperate with the state in introducing reforms and in building the nation. The president and the accompanying delegation was warmly received by the people in all those governorates.

Tribal Wars in Shabwah

Tribal warfare in Shabwah has led to eighteen dead and almost sixty wounded, until Friday morning. According to Yemen Times sources, feuds and revenge-related tribal wars erupted in the region around Ataq over the last week. The government has supplemented its force in Ataq city with a fresh supply of forces, helicopters and other equipment to bring the situation under control. This is the first time in a long time that such trouble erupted in Shabwah. "Most people were surprised by the heavy gear the two sides used in the confrontation," one observer noted.

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PAKISTAN'S POWER STRUGGLE HURTS NATION

The Pakistani power struggle between President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has resulted in a damaging paralysis to the economy, and in a credibility problem.

President Khan, following his failed gambit to sack the Prime Minister, now faces the most serious threat of impeachment.

Sources said that the Nawaz Sharif cabinet is almost unanimous in demanding the impeachment of the 78-year old president. The ministers accused the president of "unethical" and "unconstitutional actions" to destabilize the Sharif government. The charges listed against the president include his alleged role in "harming" the national economy, and in damaging the country's democratic institutions and prestige.

To complicate matters even further, two of the provincial governors - in Punjab and North West Frontier Province, dissolved their respective provincial assemblies, thus blocking chances for Sharif to regain the power wrested by the president's men soon after the ouster of the Sharif government. Those actions are now being challenged in the Lahore and Peshawar high courts as being in bad faith (malafide). The provincial high courts have restored the assemblies temporarily by an interim order.

On April 18th, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan sacked Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and dissolved the national assembly, under the eighth amendment which grants hiring and firing authority to the president. Since then, the Supreme Court reversed the decision of the president, which it termed as "unconstitutional", the Sharif people have been itching for revenge. Sharif, himself, declared he will follow a policy of "forgive and forget" though changes will have to be made to curtail presidential powers.

Meanwhile, an official survey of economic performance for 1992-93, said the political crisis jolted confidence in business, depressed the stock exchange and hurt exports and investments. The survey puts GDP growth rate for 1992/93 at 3%, down sharply from the 6% maintained over the last several years.

The continued deadlock in the provinces, and the open power struggle in the capital, are pushing Pakistan into further instability.

At another level, a third unpredictable factor in this chess game is former prime minister and opposition leader Benazir Bhutto. Herself a victim of a presidential sacking, in August 1990, Bhutto is known to detest both president Khan and her successor, Prime Minister Sharif. Nevertheless, she has been holding talks with the prime minister's camp. In return for her support, the prime minister has hinted at the possibility of withdrawing cases of abuse of power against Bhutto which Ishaq Khan had filed in special courts following her 1990 dismissal.

A NEW IMAGE FOR CANADA

Canada is getting a new image as it moves into the post-Mulroney era.

On June 11th, some 5000 leading members of the ruling Progressive Conservative Party packed into a stadium in Ottawa to bid farewell to outgoing Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. The convention was a tribute to the man who helped keep the party in power for almost nine years by leading it to two consecutive electoral victories.

On June 14th, the conservatives elected Defence Minister Kim Campbell as leader of the party. In Canada's British-style parliamentary system, winning the leadership of the party holding the majority in the House of Commons automatically makes Campbell Prime Minister.

Campbell, 46, a blue-eyed blonde from Vancouver, is renowned for her sense of humor. She helped pay her way through college with a part-time job as a stand-up comic.



KIM CAMPBELL

As a lawyer (she graduated from the University of British Columbia), and later as attorney-general, she was able to prove herself able to handle "serious stuff" according to close friends.

In spite of her efforts to overcome doubts about her character, there were many ethical issues raised against the twice-divorced Campbell, however.

In one case, newspapers ran stories (with pictures) showing her almost in the nude. She was photographed with bare shoulders holding out her judicial robes in front of her. Although she later denied she was completely nude, she was quickly dubbed by the press the "Madonna of Canadian politics," a reference to the sexually provocative US rock star.

Campbell took the Madonna comparison in her stride, pointing out that there was a difference between Campbell wearing a "strapless gown" and Madonna wearing a "gownless strap."

In another case, in spite of earlier insistence that she had broken no laws, Campbell admitted to having smoked marijuana in her youth. That piece of information prompted a Toronto comedy club to name its political satire show *Inhale to the Chief*.

Kim Campbell must now work overtime to deal with a serious recession and high unemployment in Canada's economy, in addition to major problems in health and education. Over and above all that, she has to lead her party to victory in elections later this year.

Good luck!

SCHROEDER MOVES TO CHALLENGE KOHL

Following the resignation of Bjorn Engholm as Germany's Social Democratic (SPD) opposition leader, a power-conscious politician is seeking to land the party chairmanship, and the chance to challenge Chancellor Helmut Kohl in the 1994 parliamentary elections.

Many Germans see Gerhard Schroeder as the man who has the best chance of leading the SPD to victory next year. Business leaders are lining up to meet the 49-year old prime minister of the state of Lower Saxony and former head of the leftist Young Socialist movement.

Schroeder, who never saw eye to eye with departing Engholm, has split the party due to his ambition. Leading SPD members want to punish Schroeder for his apparent lack of support for Engholm. They also dislike his image as a cool and calculating politician unafraid to show his thirst for power.

By allowing the party's 850,000 members to have a say in the decision on who succeeds Engholm, and by arranging an extraordinary party conference for September, the SPD's 45-strong steering committee has, for now, put the brake on Schroeder's ambitions. Yet, many observers of the Bonn political scene doubt whether this will be enough to stop the qualified lawyer in his tracks.

The media and many of the Germans who would like to see change come to Germany's top job, are quick to grant Schroeder their support. That doesn't sit well with Chancellor Kohl. The Chancellor has had little difficulty since winning power in 1982 in seeing off three previous SPD challengers - Hans-Hochen Vogel, Johannes Rau, and Oskar Lafontaine. In the case of Schroeder, however, he would be up against a man very much his equal in terms of staying power, political awareness, and tactical finesse.

Schroeder comes from a working class family - his mother was a cleaner. He himself has gone through the hardships of life. After attending a state school, he worked in a store before completing his secondary education at night school. He later studied to become a lawyer.

An active member of the SPD from the age of 19, he became head of the Young Socialists for two years 1978-80. Then for six years, 1980-86, he was a deputy in the Bonn parliament.

Then he went to Lower Saxony where in 1990, he replaced Christian Democrat Ernst Albrecht as state premier.

For the last three years, he has functioned exceptionally well in this northern German state. He has been able to win the support of unions as well as the industrialists. The unions are impressed by his willingness and ability to intervene to save jobs, especially in the shipyards. The industrialists are happy with his pro-business attitude.

Should the SPD pin its hopes on Gerhard Schroeder, next year's elections may bring change to Germany.



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Look, No Candles!

"Black Comedy" by Peter Shaffer
Directed by Nicholas Linfield

There are those of us who become paralytic at the mere mention of ITMA or French and Saunders, and who can quote whole chunks from The Goons or Monty Python. But although British humor is not everyone's cup of tea, there was no shortage of audience appreciation for Nicholas Linfield's production of Peter Shaffer's farce "Black Comedy" at the Yemen Hunt Theater, overheating and crying babies (at the Friday matinee) notwithstanding.

the German millionaire, and Clea's impersonation of the charlady - and drink mix-ups contribute to impending disaster in what should be the greatest evening of Brindsley Miller's life. Brindsley (Nick Hillman) hopes simultaneously to win the hand of Carol Melkett (Annie Tostevin) and sell his sculptures to the millionaire George Bamberger (Jens Ipsen). Stealing his neighbor's furniture to 'improve' his apartment gets him off to a bad start, and from there events go from bad to worse, culminating in the final denouement when Mr.



Power cuts may be familiar, and anticipated, in some parts of the world, but the characters in Black Comedy are caught without any candles, which leaves them floundering in the dark. The stage itself remains well lit - as long as the lights are 'out' - so the audience can appreciate the hazards - indeed, much of the humor hangs on audience anticipation. We know the gate-crashing girl friend creeping over the 'dark' stage will eventually reveal her presence, we know the precariously positioned, priceless porcelain Buddha will crash to the floor, we know that Harold Gorringe will discover he is sitting on his best sofa, stolen from his next door flat. One must commend the lighting crew for coordinating the light switches, dimming them when a light went 'on' in the manner of a photographic negative. Identity mix-ups - mistaking the 'little man from the Electricity Board' for

Schuppanzigh (Eberhard Schanze), a Polish electrician and erstwhile student of philosophy at Heidelberg, 'traps' Bamberger just before playing God and turning the lights back on. Of the cast, who all brought over Peter Shaffer's humor with scarcely a dropped line, particularly notable were Nicholas Linfield's crusty Colonel Melkett, Andrew McNab's camp Gorringe, Hootoski Tyabji's outraged Clea, and Pauline Wetten's lovable Miss Furnival. Nicholas Linfield will offer us one more production in Sana'a before he leaves next month. This will be John Mortimer's "The Dock Brief", a one-act comedy to be presented at the Taj Sheba Hotel as a Dinner Theater performance on June 30 and July 1. The Yemen Times wishes Nicholas and his family all the best in their new post in Amman.

Reviewed by:
Jenny Jobbins,

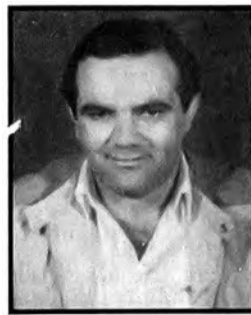
A ROMANTIC JOURNEY IN THE HISTORY OF A VERY INTIMATE CITY...

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

A very interesting publication by the French Center for Yemen Studies (Centre Francais d'Etudes Yemenites) appeared in Yemeni book markets this week under the title "Wasf Sana'a" (Description of Sana'a) by Jamal-Eldin Ali bin Abudllah bin Al-Qasim bin Al-Mu'ayyad Billah bin Al-Qasim bin Muhammad Al-Shahari, who died around 1176 A.H. It has been revised and reviewed by Abdullah Mohammed Al-Hubaishi, and published in an elegant paperback edition in 1993.

Represented in French by Frank Mermier and in Arabic by Dr. Ibrahim Al-Samara'ey of Sana'a University, the book has 101 pages divided into 13 chapters and sub-chapters to provide us with vivid pictures of one of the few cities in the world that kept its style over the ages.

In his introduction, Mr. Al-Hubaishi describes how he first acquired the manuscript entitled "Almansurat Aljaliya" (Clear publications) from the author. He fell over it by accident while inspecting microfilm rolls at the Ba-theeb Center in Aden, which led him to seek the original manuscript kept in the library of Sana'a Mosque. "Almansurat Aljaliya" was found to comprise eight publications, of which the third was chosen by Mr. Al-Hubaishi for publication under the title of "Wasf Sana'a". The author was mentioned by the historian Zabarrah in his "Alarf", p2, page 250 stating that he was sent by Al-Mansur Al-Hussain in Al-Mutawakkel with an army of the Bakil tribe to punish a group of Yemeni tribesmen who looted the town of Beyt AlFaqih in 1142 A.H, a task he accom-



plished with success. He was also mentioned in "Nafahat Al-Anbar" as an appointed governor of Khamir, and in "Al-Nafahat" when he was imprisoned for fifteen years in 1166 A.H. During his life he wrote five books, and extractions from the fourth one are the subject of our book.

In his presentation, Dr. Al-Samara'ey states that this account of Sana'a three centuries ago bears the utmost benefit as well as pleasure for readers concerned with the history of Yemen, as well as kinship and relations of its inhabitants. It is also an invaluable source of cultural and architectural data to be stored in the memory of mankind. Dr. Al-Samara'ey feels pity for those old remains filled with the fragrance of history, threatened by the anarchy of civilization with all its cement-made ugliness, for the old stones surrounded by that new wave of concrete, lacking all the characteristics of eternity that are still a sign of Yemeni cultural and artistic significance. Calling on scientists and researchers to fight for those remains and the glorious implications they still hold.

Abdullah Al-Hubaishi, as one of those fighters, goes on to sweep away the dust from the most impressive features of the mysterious city of one of the most controversial civilizations. Before starting with the original manuscript, Mr. Al-Hubaishi reviews the descriptions of Sana'a by reputed Arab historians and travelers. He extracts from "Ala'alaq Alnafisa" by Ibn

Resta (3rd century A.H.) that, "There is no city in Yemen, Tihama or Hijaz as great as Sana'a, neither in terms of population, honor, fortune, or welfare".

It seems that it had no wall at the time, and that it was divided into two halves by a main street. Its great mosque was built of stone by the order of the prophet Mohammed in his time (page 150).

He also describes its gardens and orchards, and the wide variety of fruits, vegetables and lovers thereof. He quotes from Ibn Alfaqih Alhamadani's "Albuladan" (page 340) that Sana'a was built by Azal bin Yaqtun, and from Alastakhri (died 346 A.H.) who speaks about the great Ghamdan palace, and Alhamadani Alhussain bin Ahmed (third century A.H) who claims that Sana'a's old name was Azal and that it was established by Sam (Shem) the son of Noah, and is thus one of the oldest cities on earth. There are also quotations from Almuqdasii (4th century A.H.), Alrazi (died 460 A.H.), Alidrisi (died 560 A.H.), and many others, who all agree that Sana'a's climate, people and magnificence were unique in the whole area. The subject manuscript starts with a general description of the Arab land and peninsula, rivers and seas... etc., describing Yemen as the blessed region of Arabia which has the largest population, greatest kings and most courageous men.

The land where Sam built the great palace of Ghamdan, the "first building on earth after the great flood." He goes on to describe nearby towns and villages and their origins, and detailed image of Ghamdan palace and the great mosque built from the latter's stones; he explains the progress of building, and the flourishing role of the city in the Islamic era. We then read of its cleanliness and organization, housing and plentiful water,

fertile mountains, and climate. The author then takes us to the Sana'a mosques, 50 at that time, their great gates and ceilings and unique architecture, introducing us to certain prayer rites and study circles. The next chapter takes us into Sana'a's houses with detailed descriptions of building styles and architectural features, explaining the differences between elite and public housing. He also mentions the khans (inns), shops and specialized food market. He then turns to the markets and the wide variety of supplies there, such as clothes, silverware, glassware... etc. Sana'a, during the nights of Ramadhan, is another subject, covered in another chapter that is one of the most interesting in the book, with all details of life and traditions of that very special month in a very special place. The mosques of Sana'a during Ramadhan nights and days are covered in interesting detail, as well as the ways and traditions of prayer.

The cleanliness of Sana'a is in a major aspect of this city, "that cannot be described due to its magnificence". A detailed account of the "hammams" (bathing places) of Sana'a follows, then a romantic description of the city's gardens and orchards, described as "paradise" with all kinds of trees, plants and fruits in addition to its waters and fountains. The last section of the book gives a brief account of the author's agony while in prison, claiming it to be a test on his patience by the Almighty, to be prohibited from seeing all that beauty and glory we have just read about. Mr. Al-Hubaishi has effectively utilized a considerable amount of references that help to explain various vital points of the original manuscript, making his marginal notes invaluable material for the reader to digest, and helping one gather much more needed information on the subject of Yemeni history.

I would join Dr. Al-Samara'ey in the call to defend the rich inheritance of this land from the destructive attack of modern times. And I warmly congratulate Mr. Al-Hubaishi for the hard work he has undertaken in allowing such interesting and enriching material to come to light. The same is true also for the Centre Francais d'Etudes Yemenites.

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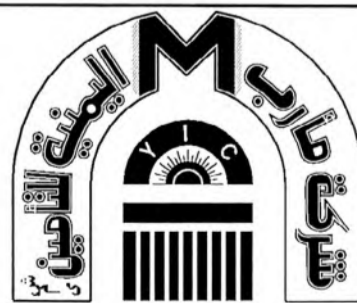


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The Moral, Legal and Historic Aspects of the Bosnian Nightmare

This summer, some 4000 Muslim Bosnian women will give birth to children of Serbian fathers. These are part of the tens of thousands of women who were raped. The world responded very meekly.

The fact that one group of human beings should inflict so much humiliation and suffering is beyond the comprehension of anyone. The world powers are unable and unwilling to take any action against the Serbs - why? Primarily because they are fellow Christians and the victims are Muslims.

These powers are even unwilling to see the Bosnians armed to defend themselves, let alone fight their war for them.

European and American politicians express regret at what the Serbs and Croats are doing, but they are not doing anything about it - in sharp contrast to their reaction to Muslim thugs like Saddam Hussain, Mohammed Aideed, etc.

The Serbian atrocities today are not a spontaneous action triggered by the heat of the moment; they are pre-meditated and well-planned steps.

In 1980, thirteen years ago, the Serbian Academy of Sciences in Belgrade disclosed a national program aimed at reviving Greater Serbia. It also clearly manifested fanatical nationalist feelings by proposing the following measures:

1. A Serbia with ethnic integrity and purity must be created.

2. Ethnic purity can only be achieved through the "cleansing" of Muslims in Sandjak, Kosovo, and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

3. This "cleansing" should be realized through the annihilation of Muslims and Turks as an ethnic group and the forced emigration of those who manage to survive the massacre.

When asked by the international press to explain this genocide and ethnic cleansing, a Serbian sociologist said that it was historically justified.

But, what exactly happened in history?

In 1389, a great army of crusaders under the command of the Serbian king Lazar was defeated by the Ottoman army of Sultan Murat I at Kosovo. Lazar was taken prisoner and his allies fled.

In 1448, a second battle took place in Kosovo. At the same location, a crusader army led by the

Crown Prince of Hungary, Janos Hunyadi, was defeated.

Fifteen years later, in 1463, the Ottoman Sultan Fatih Mehmed (The Conquerer) annexed all of Bosnia-Herzegovina and this state became part of the Ottoman Empire.

With the Treaty of Berlin (1878), as the assets of the Sick Man of Europe were being distributed among the rising powers of Europe, Bosnia-Herzegovina was left to the control of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and it was officially annexed in 1908.

With the disintegration of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and based on the re-arrange-ments following World War II, Yugoslavia was created, with Bosnia-Herzegovina one of its six member states.

All along, the various ethnic groups in the state have lived in relative peace and reasonable prosperity together.

The disintegration of Yugoslavia has allowed the Serbs to let their hatred out.

The Serbs began their campaign of ethnic cleansing and genocide in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the spring of 1992. At the time, the Bosnian population was 4.5 million - 44% Muslim, 31% Serbs, and 17% Croats.

Since the savage campaign, of the Muslim population, some 200,000 people have been killed and half a million wounded, and 1.5 million forced to flee their homes. According to a case-by-case documentation by the UN, some 30,000 Muslim women have been raped, with 13,000 of them left pregnant.

Today, the Bosnians are scattered in Germany, Hungary, Turkey, and in concentration camps. Some 100,000 Muslims have been taken prisoner by the Serbs,

and they continue to wither away from hunger and maltreatment.

While the UN enforces an arms embargo on Bosnia, the Bosnian Serbs receive large shipments of arms from their next-door kings in Serbia.

The Bosnian Serbs, using heavy artillery and armor, have systematically eliminated the cultural, religious and historical heritage of the Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Thousands of historical buildings, including some 600 mosques, have been razed to the ground. Two of these mosques were five hundred year old monuments built by the Ottoman Sultan, Suleyman the Magnificent. The UN and world community has reacted very passively towards these atrocities and crimes. Even the "Safe Areas" designated by the UN have come under severe attack, as Serbs and Croats continue with their policies of territorial gain through force and ethnic cleansing.

The US and European powers continue to vacillate in their reaction to the Serbian atrocities. at the same time, one billion Muslims are unable to muster the necessary courage to stop the mad genocide.



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FOR ESTABLISHING AN OPPOSITION BLOC!?

Last month witnessed a chain of condensed meetings of the National Conference (NC) which devoted its discussion agenda to the procedures necessary for establishing an opposition bloc from the National Conference parties. This would work within a framework over the next five years aimed at stabilizing the values of freedom and democracy, and would resist any attempts leading to retreat, marginalization of the pursuit of democracy or any violation of basic human rights. In the light of the electoral experiment and the outcome of the elections, a number of issues have become clear in the political field. It disclosed the exploitation by the ruling parties of the potentials of the state, and their placement under their control. Starting with these criteria, the NC is now busy evaluating the whole electoral process, its legislation and practices, and is laying down the required amendments to the electoral law.

In fact the ruling parties were able to control the details of the electoral process through their employment of the local authorities, the general funds of the state, the armed forces, and the official media. The opposition bloc will start its activities outside Parliament House.

Al Shura, Sana'a
13/6/1993

THE AUTHORITY AND THE OPPOSITION

We confirm that parliamentary opposition is not just for the sake of opposing the authority as represented in its ruling parties, and it is not followed just to attract attention.

We have to point out that we have no personal vengeance, grudge nor prejudice against their position.

Any opposition without substitutes or solutions for accumulated problems and issues cannot be regarded as an opposition. This is what we have said repeatedly, and on different occasions. Thus, our viewpoint will remain as it is within its practices and techniques. We are not going to change our standpoint, since the rulers are determined not to change their practices, their political conduct or their method of ruling. The short period since the elections and what followed, the formation of the new House of Representatives chaired by Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar, the formation of the cabinet chaired by Abu Bakar Al-Attas, the formation of the parliamentary bloc from the three ruling parties, all of these affirmed the point that we are still living in the third transitional period and with the same concepts of senior officials. And since this the issue up to now, it means that the authorities might tighten their grip over the opposition and might their democratic march.

Confirmation that we are still ruled under aspects of totalitarianism is the formation of the new government (PGC, YSP, Islah) in a coalition government. We have no objection to it, but the ministers of this government are compliant to general policies and are not given the right to deviate from these, nor to

protest or object publicly to cabinet resolutions. This means also that the parliamentary bloc with its ministers in the cabinet is adherent to general policies before the government introduces any bill to parliament for discussion, and that there is an agreement about it beforehand.

The establishment of the parliamentary bloc means marginalization of democracy and putting restrictions on the role of opposition inside parliament. Such an issue means that independent parliamentarians will not have the capability of abolishing any legislation on behalf of the interests of the people. Thus there will be no role for the opposition in parliament, since the parliamentary bloc possesses the majority of votes.

What is left of importance is leading the opposition outside parliament, by all available democratic and peaceful means, to hinder any legislation which might harm the people's interests. Any system not acknowledging the role of the opposition from outside parliament is not a democratic system.

Editorial,
Al-Haq, Sana'a,
13/6/1993

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE

Our people have granted you our trust to practice your authority. You should exercise conscience, a feeling of responsibility, and honest dealings with the issues related to the interests of the people.

Don't be afraid to tell the truth or to defend it, and you will see that the people will stand with you. But he who fails to tell the truth lays his personal interest above all other consideration, and will inevitably be cursed. Think of those who gave you their votes, for they are waiting for a lot of changes. Remember the people's agony, pain and suffering. Our people have undergone poverty and instability. Lead yourself away from tribalism, cessation and regionalism. Remember that you represent not only your constituencies, but you represent a homeland as a whole. Thus, your voice in parliament must truly represent the people who are ambitious to construct an institutional state.

There are many things to be done, and people are waiting. So proceed to rescue them from the grips that tighten them.

Dr. Ja'afar Muqbil,
Sawt Al-Ummal, Sana'a,
10/6/1993.

EXAM PAPERS

The scandal of the leaked English Language preparatory examination papers in Taiz last Thursday is not the first, and probably won't be the last, since there is too much tolerance altogether towards irresponsibility. These corrupt components go unpunished in spite of their grave violations of our cultural life.

Such cases concern the whole of our society, and are not limited or isolated. Their should be a public trial of the culprits, and those students who leaked the papers should be deprived of exams

for the year so they can realize the severity of the crime they have committed against themselves and their country. To show tolerance is to tempt others to repeat the crime. To tell the truth, we are ashamed of ourselves when we talk about our qualifications, for some of our brother states accuse us of getting through them by means of cheating, forgery and bribery.

Due to this low regard for our qualifications, we have no choice but to disclose the corruption at its roots. It seems that cheating and corruption are not regarded as important here.

Congratulations to those students who refuse to follow such low conduct. Congratulations for their serious approach, the exertion, and the effort they put in depending on their capabilities. Congratulations to all those citizens in our country who remain honest and decent.

Mohammed Rawah Shaibani,
Al-Gumhuriyah, Taiz,
14/6/1993.

PLUNDER WHEREVER YOU LIKE!

It is unjustifiable for certain situations to continue to rumble along the same lines. It is a fact that various institutions of the public sector have been inflicted with the disease of plunder. All aspects are frozen, work performance has come to a standstill, labor morale has been destroyed, and all initiatives to rescue this worsening reality have been doomed. Things have been left to the frivolous, those without conscience. It is disastrous to see the public sector being destroyed and plundered, with no blame laid on those components responsible for steering our institutions in this direction. Who, in the long run, will be responsible for the loss of efficiency and of experience? It is a crime which no one is doing anything about. To be more specific, the process of impediment on these sites and in these factories is continuing without any solution, as though the issue has reached a point for which there is no remedy.

The corrupt administrative leadership on some of these sites continues to perpetrate crimes against property and personnel.

These corrupt officials sell off property and even land. They threaten laborers with the sack. We are tired of statements constantly repeating shiny solutions. The issue requires a clear directive from the government. It is for parliament to give its word to put an end to these cases.

Ali Hussein Yahia,
14th October, Aden,
14/6/1993

A NEW OFFICIAL MEDIA

It is self-evident that our media is facing new challenges due to various factors, whether local, regional or worldwide. Among these factors are the transformation to democracy, which requires a new consideration of the practice of freedom and of giving the citizen his right to challenge political authority. In addition, the official media could play a role in local, regional and world

dimensions in the process towards development.

Thirdly, that development which accompanies the profession of information-giving should push us to deepen our knowledge of the means by which this information reaches us, and to revolutionize those means.

Fourthly, direct telecommunications impose another vital dimension of challenge. Television is no longer just a local media. Now when you turn on your T.V. set you can watch more than 60 channels. Its widespread use in our country brings a real challenge to our local production.

Our new society today is in great need of an information system to cope with the all the changes in the world. Such a system should be able to contain challenges, and respond to them.

By: Iskandar Al-Asbahi,
26 September, Sana'a,
10/6/1993.

INDEPENDENCE IS A CASE REFUSED

Independent candidates standing at the elections represented nearly three quarters of the candidates, the rest being members of official parties. The results showed that independents won 20% of the seats, and official parties 80%. There is grave doubt as to whether these independents will remain independent, without announcing affiliation to any one of the major parties or to the blocks that supported them. Probably only a very small number of them will retain their independency.

There is no such thing as independency in a sense, or as a concept, for independents realize the influence of the parties on the public media. Whatever the potential of the independent might be, he remains unable to cope with the march towards giving a balanced performance. He will need to reconcile his ideas in order to contribute to the country's evolution.

Yes, independent candidates sacrificed a lot of money and time for the sake of others. It is time for the official parties to back them so as to help them create a new area of contribution. We offer deep consolation to all those potential decision-makers who were impeded by the parties when they endeavoured to help their country. Can we say that the independents and the cause of independency have become a lost cause?

If the independent cannot find his place in the political field here, then where will his place be? This is a point for discussion.

Ahmed Kaid Hussein,
Al-Islah, Sana'a,
14/6/1993.

BOSNIA'S TRAGEDY DISCLOSES A WESTERN CONSPIRACY

The NATO meetings held in Athens ended without reaching any agreement on a plan to end the fatal strife in the former Yugoslavia, a strife which affects Moslems in particular.

The massacre of Moslems is part of a planned conspiracy against Islamic nations and is being perpetrated through different means. The embargo on Iraq, the inhumane assault on

Somalia, the tragedy of the Palestinian issue, all the policies of humiliation piled on the Moslems are all implemented under the new world order, which the United States has approved under the umbrella of the United Nations. This ethnic and geographical liquidation is part of a war aimed at bringing down the will of the people. It is a real catastrophe, but what can we do in the face of such violations?

We can strengthen our influence on international committees such as the Islamic Congress, the Arab League and all the other committees working within a framework, to reconsider our relations with the West, thus launching a new perspective. We call on our government to play a role in world events, particularly in hot areas such as Bosnia.

Editorial,
Al-Gamaheer, Sana'a,
14/6/1993

AWAY FROM THEORIZATION: The Tasks of the YSP

A. Before May 22:

Before the unification of the country on May 22, 1990, the Yemeni Socialist Party was doing business as usual - the normal way that is part of its approach and philosophy. Its tools were known, its system clear and relations with the members were obvious.

No member could hold back the membership fees, no member could stay for too long without sending open letters (of support) to the party. In short, any body - even at the top of the party - who drifts too far from the party line withers away.

There was always some central force that draws everybody around it and everthing falls in place.

B. After May 22:

No one can deny the stagnation and near-paralysis that have become the order of the day in YSP activities. When this fact was brought up to the party bosses, the answer was lots of justifications mainly that the "reunification of the country has reflected itself on the party..."

This situation has brought to the forefront a central problem within the YSP - namely that some of its leading members are more concerned about the promotion of their own personal careers (read, interests) in the form of senior posts in the government. This has come at the expense of the party, its prestige, and organizational abilities.

Such leading members fall back on so-called struggles of the 'ancient' times and which have been by-passed by time and space.

C: The Facts:

At a time when the People's General Congress has tried hard to avoid the re-use of old faces in the structure of the new state apparatus, the YSP has unfortunately distributed all senior posts assigned to it to the leading members of the party. This has distanced these people from the party and its supporters.

Moreover, work in the state, and specially government, apparatus requires full devotion in time and energy to these tasks. How can a member then run the government and the party at the same time, each of which is a full-time work.

As a result, I think it is appropriate that these persons devote themselves to their new tasks in government, and thus relinquish their party positions.

This kind of dual role has shown many shortcomings. To the contrary, the PGC - even with its limited experience - has seen the viability of having full-time government officials representing it, and at the same time, different full-time people to run the party. This has allowed to do much better than the YSP. It is, therefore, imperative that the YSP elect a new breed of leaders who will work for the party full-time without the constraints and demands of government duties.

D. Opinion of the Rank and File:

The YSP needs a soul-searching review of its experience over the last three years. This must be done through the Fourth General Congress which must be convened soon. If this is not possible, then an expanded meeting of the Central Committee and the Secretariat of the Party must be convened in all governorates to discuss the merger steps with the PGC and other vital issues.

We must also work towards the restructuring of the Politbureau on the basis of not combining Politbureau membership with a senior government position or membership in the House of Representatives, with a few exceptions to this rule, if needed.

This is the opinion of the majority of the rank and file. I think such opinion may have not been communicated to the party leadership, or if it has been, it did not take its proper and adequate attention, as the party bosses are busy with some other things, which everybody knows and which I do not care to elaborate here.

E: What Does the Party Leadership Want?

Most of the YSP rank and file repeat this question in all their meetings. They are not interested in the declarations and media statements made by the party bosses for general public consumption. The party members want to see actual programs put to action.

Most of us want a clear line of action and vision for the party. If merger with the PGC is decided, then there must be a time-table and program for this objective to be realized before the end of this year.

Many would agree that the period of coordination and alliance between the YSP and PGC did lead to more stability, which may be consolidated once the new party is born out of the two parties. We all would support any steps that will bring more stability to Yemen and would lead to a modern state. But if the merger does not take place, I think we may see other parties may shoot off from the current two parties.

These are all scenarios of possible events in the near future of the country's political evolution. We are interested in the well-being and prosperity of our country, and we will push ahead for the great civilizational project of modern Yemen.

Hussain Mohammed Nasser Al-Jadeed, Abyan,
16/6/1993

Al-Jadeed newspaper is an official organ of the YSP in Abyan governorate.

Looks Like Changing the Gender is Easier than Changing the Rules:

Yemeni Women in Politics

By: Dr. Wahiba Ghalib Fariee, College of Education, Sana'a University.



There is a general consensus that democracy means a conscious, responsible participation by all individuals in society in a change for the best. In this light it is initially of great importance to refer to the fundamental role of women in our society, particularly since the unification of Yemen, which paved the way for women substantially to practice their electoral rights. Under political pluralism, it is significant to understand the trends of various political parties concerning the future role of Yemeni women in society.

The democratic concept of women's political participation is sometimes mixed up with a number of other political and social criteria. Such trends could be classified into what we call progressive and conservative trends.

The progressive parties regard democracy as being the participation of women in electoral candidature, without taking any practical steps towards granting women responsible leadership. The conservative parties, on the other hand, interpret democracy as mere participation in the election, and no more.

Regarding democracy as a cultural means for organizing governing affairs in general, it is significant to refer to it as an outcome of male and female strife in Yemen.

It is also significant to note that the roots of tribal tradition rest in collective principles, and that accordingly Yemeni women's participation in government is not something unnatural. Indeed there are many examples to show that a number of women ruled Yemen both before and after the coming of Islam.

We still remember Queen Bilquis and Queen Arwa as unforgettable and prominent figures in our history. The demand of today's Yemeni women for political participation is objective, and does not stray that far from Islamic doctrine in seeking to award her a full position in society. It has to be mentioned that the women of Yemen bore many hardships in their struggle for progress before unification, and that struggle did not raise the percentage of administrative posts to more than 3%.

Yemeni law ensures equal rights for all its citizens in education, work and other social and political spheres, but in regard to women the interpretation of the law frequently violates these rights, with the justification that the traditional rules and regulations which govern our society do not permit such rights.

With the unification of Yemen in May 1990, and the joining of the constitutions, we noticed that the merging parliament included among its members nine women, all from the southern regions.

When the transitional period was over and it became possible, as well as necessary, to elect free representation for the new parliament, Yemeni women expected that this democratic transformation would grant at least 5% of the votes for their benefit, thus

stabilizing the presence of women in the political arena. Surprisingly, the conservative element during the referendum on the constitution insisted on taking women's views into consideration on political issues: the point is that no women participated in this unique political parade in Yemeni society. While we have seen that a majority of women who lean towards the conservative side participated in the electoral process, leading to the success of a number of its candidates. In any review of the constitutional laws organizing women's rights, we notice that there is a generalization of the procedures concerning women's participation in political activities. It is also to be mentioned that this generalization does not include for negotiation of women's rights to be safeguarded by the constitution. It is clear that in theory electoral law awarded women their responsibility of registration, participation and candidature according to the constitution. It was certainly a positive step in the direction of correcting the legal conditions of women.

The party campaign manifestos dealt only briefly with women's issues. The campaigns of the major parties lacked substantial proof of their support for women. It would seem that the participation of women was weak, and even used as a front, a show piece. In a sense this resulted from a lack of trust in the parties, and the contradictions are clear when put into action. With the exception of the PGC and the YSP, who up to the end of the transitional period had, within their leadership, a number of leading figures, the other parties without exception were afraid of venturing into sensitive areas during the elections. They fielded only a few women candidates under their party umbrellas.

As for the conservative parties ISLAH and AI-HAQ, with their general religious trend, their concern focused on safeguarding women's dignity and education, but tended to contain women's participation in the political field to a minimum.

It seems that Yemen is regarded as outstanding in its regard for human rights, equal chance, and justice, particularly in its full approval of international accords on pluralism, democracy, and its detente policy after the Gulf War crisis. Here, Yemen has proved its ability to comprehend changes in the world. This phenomenon has deepened through the legislation of a number of laws regarding education, labor, the press, political parties,

elections and whatever else proves Yemen is following a path towards the implementation of its principles.

It is true that women were exposed to exploitation in the past. Even the right to take part in elections meant a right to cast a ballot or a chance to stand as a candidate, but without the support a man finds in a man's world. Even women's organizations were contained within the Yemen Women's Union, which was put under government patronage.

Women's efforts, and women's role, were absorbed within the parties and were thus less important. Such a disregard for the role of women has led to many constitutional violations of her position in society.

Women's contribution in the economic field is well substantiated. It has increased continually, and by 1992 the total participation of women had reached 22% of the total manpower in various fields. In the agricultural sector women form about 42%, 9% of "craftsmen" are women, women take up 11% of managerial positions, 3% of commercial positions, and 3% of all official positions. All in all, 700,000 Yemeni women play a role in the country's progress, a role which cannot be ignored. Among these figures rest other, incalculable data. It is unfair to think that women are idle and bring no benefit to society. On the contrary, with many males migrating to neighboring oil states, women remain to guarantee the traditional Yemeni economy, lending a hand in helping out during the economic crisis.

As for the educational aspect, women form 38% of the total number of students joining educational institutions at all levels.

Despite the high illiteracy rate among women, which exceeds 92% as against 75% among males, we see that women's participation in higher education reached around 17% in 1991/2. Women occupy various posts up to that of dean or professor in both Sana'a and Aden Universities. Women form about 51% of the population, and such a percentage must wield a good deal of influence. Around 3.2 million women have the right to electoral registration, while half a million of these actually voted in the elections. That is, 16% used their right to vote, and many of these were able to vote for women. It is noteworthy that women candidates in all parties numbered no more than 49, while male candidates numbered 4732. These figures show that the state and the ruling parties must stabilize their standpoint from now on, and should avail themselves of the presence of women in the formation of a government.

Otherwise there is no choice for women but to form a new social and political order, which would adopt the cause of women through union activities and creative organizations, using a combination of time-honored and modern ideas.

Women are required to re-organize themselves, not necessarily through the political parties, to create a voice for their rights.

MOTHER EARTH AND THE NUMBER OF HUMANS IT CAN SUSTAIN

By: Amjed Abdul-Hameed, Science Editor, Yemen Times.

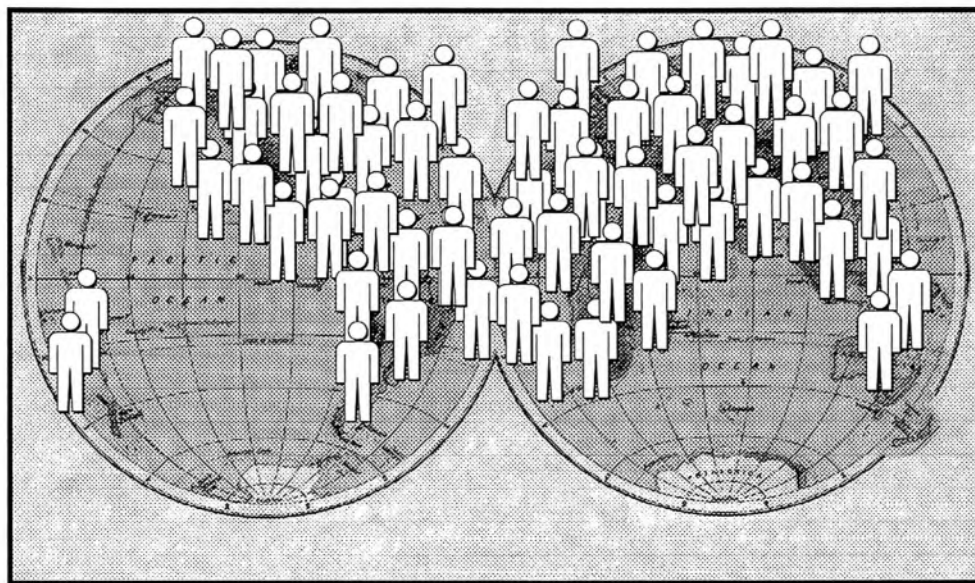
According to a United Nations report, some 5.3 billion people lived on our planet in 1990. By now the figure will have increased to 5.5 billion. There are people trying to plan for the future. Analysts and computers have tried to figure out what might happen if current trends persist. Based on the assumption that future world fertility rates will remain as they were in 1990, the consequences are

Earth can not feed the 694 billion people projected for 2150.

In the 18th century the English economist Thomas Robert Malthus argued that human numbers always increase more rapidly than food supplies and that humans are condemned always to breed to the point of starvation. During his time the human population was about one billion and today it is 5.5 billion. Malthus would be astonished at the relative well-being of many parts of the world, thanks to the reclama-

provide ecosystem services such as decomposition of organic waste and the regeneration of oxygen).

Actually, different limiting factors may interact to impose an early limitation. For example, high-intensity fertilization of farmlands may pollute water supplies while increasing food output. Computers have made it practical to study how limiting factors interact, and in recent years complete computer models have become available to clarify what will happen if certain



startling. By 2076, the human population would pass 46 billion. By 2150, planet Earth would have 694.2 billion people covering its surface.

There in 2150, the projections of the UN stops. Perhaps they stop because there is no meaning in going on calculating any farther. Anyhow, there, in 2150, a year probably our grand children would live in. Earth would be inhabited by 4,000 persons on every square kilometer of land or 1000 people for every square kilometer of Earth's surface - the oceans included. In other worlds humans have to build on all the land's surface the way Hong Kong is built now to make room for everybody. That would not leave any place for trees to grow and rivers to flow, so probably the buildings would have to be double or triple the height one can find these days in a city like New York.

Scientists know that humans cannot continue with a positive rate of increase indefinitely. The inexorable arithmetic of compound rate leads to absurd results in a calculable period of time. Logically humans must have a rate of growth equal to zero in the long run. That will be a law which no country or region is exempt from. According to every plausible calculation,

tion of new lands, mechanization, fertilizers, pesticides, better water control, and improved seed/gene varieties of plants and animals.

The failure of the Malthus theory does not prove that it will remain wrong in the future. Many modern scientists have adopted the Malthusian assumptions, and forecast similar conclusions. The reason is that the geometric and exponential growth of population cannot be matched by a similar growth in resources and output. For example, the yield of a crop field is limited by the paucity of nitrogen in the soil. If nitrogen is added, the field's output rises until it is again limited by the shortage of another essential nutrient, such as phosphorus. If phosphorus is added to the nitrogen, the output jumps again until, say, the crop becomes water-limited. In this way, the cycle is repeated until output is limited by the most constraining factor in a whole series of limiting factors. By analogy, meeting the needs of growing human population is limited by land (for farming, living, and recreation), food (from marine as well as as terrestrial sources), fresh water, energy, and biological diversity (to

assumptions about the future turn out to be true. Most models conclude that agricultural production is ultimately limited.

The human population that could be properly supported by Earth's capacity to produce food has been estimated by many scientists, with different results. If food is taken as the limiting factor, the potentially supportable population equals the potentially arable land area times the productivity per unit of area compared to the consumption needs per person times the total population. Easy enough. Estimates of the supportable population have ranged from a low 30 billion to a high of 147 billion.

The idea that every human being represents hands to work and not just another mouth to feed is wrong. For the productivity of each additional pair of hands depends on other factors of production that are not currently infinite supply and they are, sooner or later, subject to diminishing returns: land to work or live on, air, fresh water, geologic deposits, and others. When all other factors are available an additional human being is a great asset, otherwise one more human being may represent one more perennially empty stomach.

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YOUR WINDOW ON THE WORLD

The Dawn of Personal Network Systems TeleYemen Takes Yemen into the 21st Century

This is the dawn of the age of the personal communication system. Your personal mobile telephone will not just be a number, it will be an integral part of your life. This is the message brought to us by TeleYemen, whose job it is link Yemen with the rest of the world.

It has been a busy and productive year for TeleYemen. The Sanaa satellite international facilities are being upgraded and the mobile telephone network has been expanded to include Sanaa, Aden, Taiz, Hodeidah, and Mukalla. Aden, is to be joined - via Djibouti - to the undersea cable extending from Marseille to Singapore. Yemen's bit will cost it some US\$ 15-20 million.

"Last year saw a 24% increase in the customer base for international services. The demand for such services is a good indicator of the level of commercial activity in the country," says John Linfield, General Manager of TeleYemen. At the moment, some eight hundred international calls can be made simultaneously. Linfield stresses that Yemen's development hinges on the continued availability of good quality commu-



change, Mr. Ali A. Basahi, Deputy General Manager said, "An exchange is expected to last for more than ten years. But the telecommunications technology is not static. The exchange in Sanaa was put in place in 1986. Yet, we are moving on. We expect this new one to take us into the 21st century, but it may not complete its ten-year course owing to major changes in technology and consumer demand."

Regarding the change in consumer demand patterns, Basahi indicated that with the exception of three countries - Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and USA - there are more outgoing calls than incoming calls. Part of the reason is the facility, but another part is the cost. With a continuously depreciating Riyal, prices are relatively lower in Yemen. That also means that TeleYemen has to make more and more hard currency payments while collecting in Riyals. "Our cost-base is in hard currency, while our revenue-base is Riyals," sighed a visibly concerned Basahi.

"One of the things that produced the rise in demand for the international service is the considerable expansion of the PTC over the recent years. Even then, however, the total number of telephone lines is just over 200,000 for a population of 14 million - a mere 1.5% which is among the lowest in the world. Of this telephone subscription



base, some 15% have need for international calls. The numbers are, however, rising steadily.

At another level, and in response to an urgent need for telephones, TeleYemen introduced the cellular mobile telephones. Given the background against which the mobile phones were introduced, they have now evolved to create their own demand even in areas where regular telephone services are available.

he cellular mobile telephone service is an excellent example of the dynamic nature of our business," says Mr. Linfield. "The cellular telephone service was started here in Sanaa in July, 1992. In October, 1992, the capacity was doubled, and now, not even a year after starting, it is undergoing another expansion. A similar expansion has taken place in

signals, just like two way radios. But unlike two-way radios, cellular phones employ a pair of radio frequencies, so the caller can talk and listen at the same time, just like in a regular telephone conversation. Each area where a cellular service is available is divided into smaller geographically distinct radio coverage areas known as cells. Each cell has a central transmitter/receiver linked to computer-controlled equipment which is responsible for receiving and transmitting voice radio signals to and from cellular phones travelling within its boundaries.

Even within the same location, dividing an area into smaller individual radio coverage areas allows each cell to use only a portion of the available cellular radio frequencies, thus allowing other, distant cells to use the same frequencies. What this means is that the caller could be moving from one cell to another, from one frequency to another while on one call. "The fact that a call can be made on any one of hundreds of different frequencies, and changes frequency on hand-over, provides security against anyone attempting to listen in. The cellular telephone is more secure than most other types of telephone," explains Linfield.



A cellular telephone system is controlled by a cellular radio-telephone switching computer linked to the radio equipment in each cell. This computer provides the link between cellular phones and the telephones in our homes and workplaces.

When a call is dialed to a cellular phone from a regular telephone, the call is routed through the telephone switching computer. The computer takes care of establishing and maintaining a radio link with the correct cellular phone through coded signals. Each phone is always on the alert, scanning the range of signal channels until it locks on the strongest one it can receive. It remains on this channel for a few seconds, listening to determine whether it is being paged, then repeats the scanning process. If the phone receives a coded

radio signal that matches its own number, it radios the cell site equipment, which informs the switching computer that the phone is ready to receive/transmit a conversation. As the switching computer which has, by now, located the cell from which the cellular phone is responding, routes the call. A pair of radio frequencies is assigned to the call, and the cell site equipment completes the connection over the established radio link. The cellular phone rings, the recipient picks up the phone, and the conversation takes place. Certain logistics have to be employed when choosing sites to install the cellular equipment. That is why certain "pockets" within the coverage area may not get a quality service, or even at all. They are in the shadow of the path of the wavelength of the

frequencies. In Sanaa, the Haddah area, and in Taiz, the Usaifira area are examples of areas which fall in this category. The new Aiban cell (Sanaa Cell 4 on the chart below) will improve the position in Haddah," explains Basahi.

"We are often asked about the future of the mobile telephone in Yemen as the fixed network expands," said John Linfield. "The mobile telephone is not just a fixed network substitute, although it does often provide services in places where the provision of fixed network is difficult. Yet, customers who normally

have fixed telephones in their homes or offices, find the mobile telephone beneficial, and those benefits will become recognized more and more. It is truly the mobile nature of the telephone which makes it attractive. You can already carry your telephone with you and use it wherever you are in five cities of Yemen, and we will be expanding to more locations each year. We are even well advanced in a study for providing a special service in remote areas by attaching a cell by a direct satellite link to our exchange in Sanaa. There is a significant future

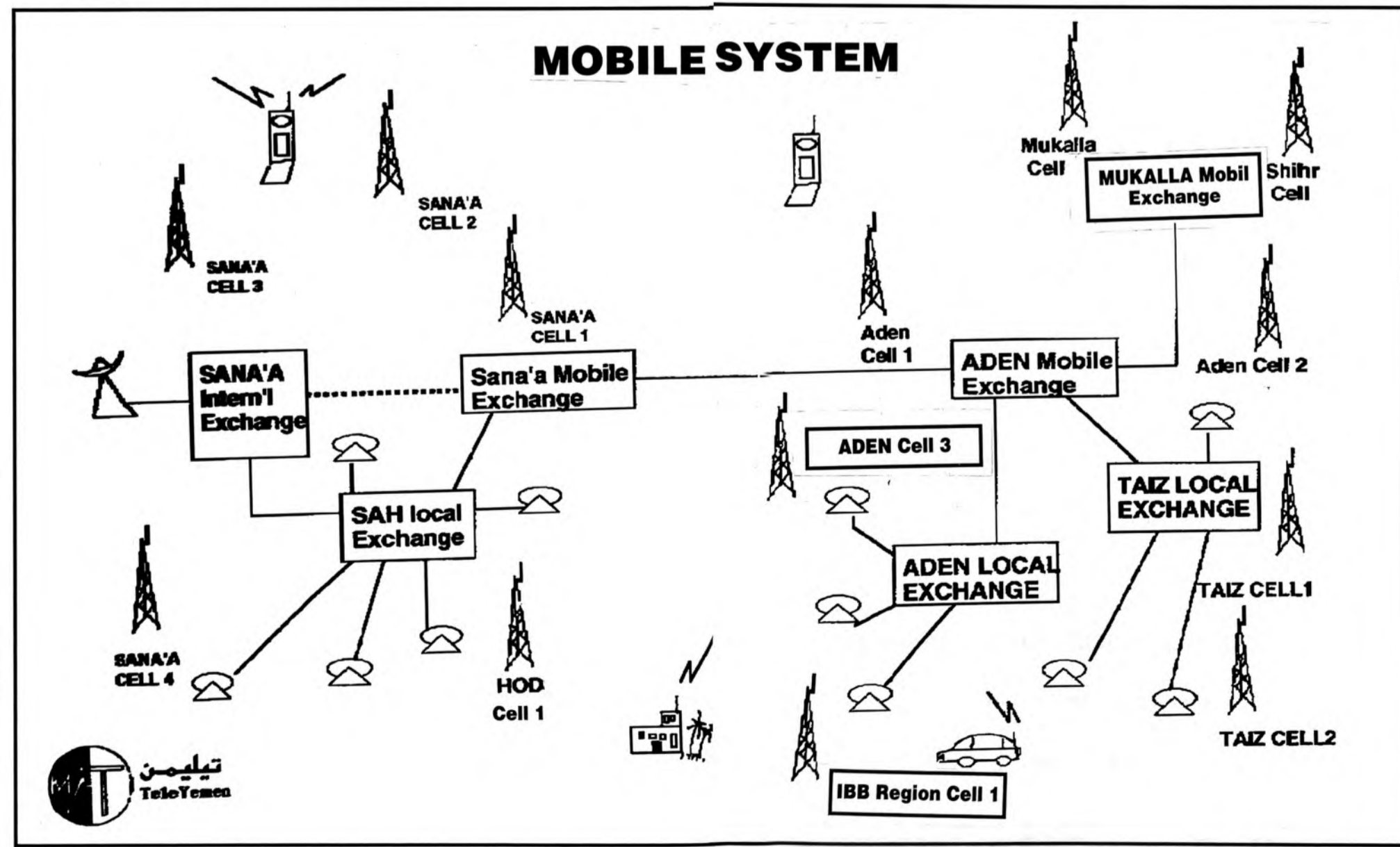


for cellular mobile telephones," elaborated Linfield. "It is a world trend," comes a supporting statement from Ali Basahi. "All the communications experts who do research in the field tell us this is the future. In fact, on a worldwide basis, you are going to have the PCNS - personal communications network systems. It becomes the lifeline for needs in business, politics, security, and even for the family. Having a phone on you gives you the access you need wherever you are, at any time. It gives you the peace of mind to call home for

whatever reason. It allows better planning for businessmen, and more efficiency for investors and industrialists," Basahi adds. TeleYemen is committed to a steady expansion of the coverage area of the mobile phone, and a simultaneous upgrading of the facilities - each time introducing more sophisticated technologies. "It is a dynamic process. We are always expanding and changing the system. It is a necessary component of Yemen's progress and evolution and its march into the 21st century," concludes Linfield.

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KERMESSE DE L'ECOLE FRANCAISE

Sur les pelouses de Hadda

Il y avait des promenades en âne, un lapinodrome, un stand maquillage, du tir à la carabine... Vendredi 11 juin, l'Ecole française de Sanaa donnait sa kermesse annuelle sur les pelouses de l'hôtel Hadda.

Le joueur paraît concentré. Lunettes de soleil sur le nez, casque de balladeur sur les oreilles, parapluie sous le bras, il brandit une fléchette, s'arrêtant quelques secondes pour viser le centre de la cible. La fléchette s'écrase malheureusement à côté. Il fallait 45 points pour gagner un lot: une petite voiture, un pin's... L'Ecole française de Sanaa donnait vendredi 11 juin sa kermesse annuelle. Cette année, les organisateurs avaient choisi les pelouses de l'hôtel Hadda pour avoir plus de place.

Une ambiance de fête foraine

Dans une ambiance de fête foraine, les visiteurs avaient le choix entre différents stands. Les plus petits pouvaient se faire barbouiller le visage au stand maquillage. Deux pommes bien rouges tracées sur les joues et cette petite fille s'en va toute contente de son nouveau "look".

Les adultes préfèrent s'étriper au lapinodrome. Le lapin est placé au centre d'un cercle formé par dix boîtes. Chaque joueur a choisi une boîte dotée d'un numéro. Le gagnant est celui dont la boîte a été élue par le lapin. Pendant quelques secondes, chacun crie son numéro, frémissant quand l'animal tourne la tête vers sa boîte. Une femme voilée de noir vient de gagner. Son lot ne semble pas la satisfaire: un parfum pour homme, "One man only". "Vous n'êtes pas mariée?", lui demande l'animateur du stand. "Non", lui avoue-t-elle. Elle part tout de même avec son lot sous le bras.

Il y a de la triche dans l'air au jeu de l'âne. L'objectif



Le stand maquillage a beaucoup plu aux enfants.

est de trouver, les yeux bandés, l'endroit où placer le fil de coton noir représentant la queue de l'âne qui est dessiné sur une grande feuille de papier blanc. Certains se font tout simplement souffler le chemin à suivre par des camarades coopératifs. De quoi agacer la jeune animatrice du stand qui ne

s'attendait pas à ce que l'on gagne à tous les coups.

Aux sons d'une musique rock, quelques yéménites dansent. D'autres attendent avec impatience le tirage de la tombola. Il y a des billets d'avion à gagner, pour Paris, Francfort, la Californie...

Jérôme BERNARD

Les gagnants des concours de l'APAY

Le concours organisé par L'APAY (Association pour le patrimoine architectural et culturel du Yémen) a remporté un vif succès. Une centaine de questionnaires ont été renvoyés et il a été très difficile de départager les premiers qui se tenaient dans un mouchoir de poche.

1er prix: Fawzia Al-Saar, Université de Sanaa.
2ème prix: Boushra Affara, Centre culturel français d'Aden.
3ème prix: Sahar Mohd'awd, Centre culturel français d'Aden.
4ème: Mélissa Maru Stanton, Ecole internationale d'Aden.
5ème: Abdel Al-Matari, Université de Sanaa.
6ème: Hani Sultan, Université de Sanaa.
7ème: Raber Raber, Université de Sanaa.
8ème: Ishrak Al-Ahmar, Université de Sanaa.
9ème: Ahmed Al-Asbary, Université de Sanaa.
10ème: Ferdos Al-Kabous.
11ème: Gasser Nasser Mohamed, Université de Sanaa.
12ème: Nadia Hassan Alyfee.
13ème: Pascale d'Auzac, Centre culturel d'Aden.
14ème: Hani Jamel, Université

de Sanaa.
15ème: Yassir Garfof Y. Rais, Université de Sanaa.
16ème: Ashwak Nasser, Université de Sanaa.
17ème: Aleksandra de Cizancourt, Ecole française de Sanaa.
18ème: Sarwat Al-Attas, Aden.
19ème: Ahmed Hassan Ahmed Mohamed, Université de Sanaa.
20ème: Abdul Ghani Ghaleb Hassan, Université de Sanaa.

Le concours de dessin

Nous ne publions ici que les premiers prix dans chaque catégorie, étant donné le nombre élevé de gagnants.
Maternelle: Ecole française. Maya El-Ghouayel.
Concours libre 5-6 ans: Max Stanton.
Série paysages gravés sur aluminium. 8-9 ans: Mohsen Ajer.
Série verres peints (CE2): Cla-

ra Breton.
Prix spécial vitraux: Laetitia Chappelart.
Série verres peints (CM2): Mohamed Dargham.
Prix Secondaires, livres: Aude Fourcassie.
Prix "Les Grands": Taylor Julio.
Prix spécial du jury "l'APAY et la fête" décerné à Karine Lefrancq.
Prix spécial "l'APAY à Hadda" décerné à Charlotte Collet.

L'APAY exposera toutes les oeuvres en septembre prochain au Centre culturel d'Aden, puis très certainement à Paris.

Pour les différents concours, les lots sont à retirer aux heures d'ouverture: A Sanaa, au service culturel de l'ambassade de France, à Aden, au Centre culturel français.

VISA

Bienvenue au Bénélux

Pour obtenir un visa du Bénélux, les Yéménites doivent venir à l'ambassade des Pays-Bas avec 6000 dollars en liquide pour un séjour d'un mois. Une façon de les décourager.

Il y a de multiples manières de faire comprendre aux gens qu'ils sont *persona non grata*. Mouchir Mohamed, un architecte yéménite, l'a appris à ses dépens en voulant obtenir un visa pour entrer en Belgique. Le représentant de ce pays à Sanaa est l'ambassade des Pays-Bas. Celle-ci demande aux Yéménites qui veulent un visa de prouver qu'ils ont les moyens financiers de vivre pendant leur séjour. Elle estime que la dépense quotidienne s'élève à 200 dollars par jour. Un Yéménite qui veut rester dix jours aux Pays-Bas doit donc venir avec 2000 dollars en liquide à l'ambassade. Une façon de décourager les visiteurs éventuels.

Mauvaise volonté

"Je ne comprends rien. L'an dernier, je suis parti à la même époque en Belgique. Je n'ai eu aucun problème pour obtenir mon visa de l'ambassade des Pays-Bas. J'avais une invitation de la RTBF (Radio télévision belge) et cela suffisait", explique Mouchir.

Cette année, il a été en-

core plus prudent. Il avait en poche deux invitations d'amis belges avec les tampons des villes de Bruxelles et de Tournai pour les officialiser. Mais cette fois-ci, l'ambassade refuse et réclame 6000 dollars pour un séjour d'un mois. Malgré l'avis favorable du consul honoraire de Belgique, l'ambassade réitère son refus. Elle peut délivrer un visa avec les invitations, mais il lui faut des papiers justifiant les tampons des municipalités. Mouchir partant dans une dizaine de jours n'a pas le temps de les obtenir.

Il se plie donc aux premières injonctions de l'ambassade et rassemble 6000 dollars auprès de ses amis pour aller les présenter le lendemain. Peine perdue, on ne veut plus lui délivrer de visa. Désormais, il lui faut absolument les papiers officiels justifiant ses invitations.

Cette mauvaise volonté paraît surprenante. Elle est due, semble-t-il, à l'acharnement de certaines personnes à l'ambassade des Pays-Bas. A moins que cela soit une nouvelle façon de freiner les échanges Nord-Sud.

J.B.

En BREF

L'OPEP s'est fixé un plafond de production de 23,6 millions de barils par jour: Les douze pays membres de l'OPEP se sont mis d'accord jeudi 10 juin pour fixer leur plafond de production au troisième trimestre à 23,6 millions de barils par jours. Ils veulent ainsi favoriser la hausse des prix du brut. Cependant le Koweït n'a pas signé l'accord, rejetant la hausse de 10 % de son quota, de 1,6 actuellement à 1,76 mbj, que lui proposaient ses partenaires. Le Koweït réclamait un quota d'au moins 2 mbj.

Un Britannique et un Allemand condamnés à huit ans de prison en Irak: Deux Européens, un Britannique et un Allemand, viennent d'être condamnés à huit ans de prison en Irak, après avoir été arrêtés à la frontière koweït-irakienne, pour "entrée illégale en Irak". Deux autres Britanniques sont détenus depuis l'été dernier en Irak sous le même chef d'accusation.

Le président Rafsandjani réélu en Iran: Ali Akbar Hachémi Rafsandjani a été élu pour un deuxième mandat de quatre ans président de la République iranienne avec 63 % des voix. Le scrutin s'est déroulé vendredi 11 juin. L'ancien ministre du Travail, Ahmad Tavakkoli, proche des milieux conservateurs du Bazar, a confirmé sa percée en obtenant 24 % des suffrages.

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YEMEN

Deux ministres de plus pour l'Islah

L'Islah a estimé que quatre portefeuilles ministériels ne lui suffisaient pas. Le parti islamiste vient d'obtenir deux postes supplémentaires. Le Conseil présidentiel a ainsi nommé jeudi 10 juin le secrétaire général de l'Islah, Abdel Wahab Ahmed Al-Ansi, au poste de vice-Premier ministre et Abdel Salam Khaled Karamane ministre pour les Affaires juridiques et parlementaires.

Les tensions au sein du parti islamiste expliqueraient cette faveur de dernière minute accordée à l'Islah, alors que le nouveau gouvernement avait déjà été publié. Ce dernier comprend désormais 31 ministres dont 14 nouveaux. La semaine dernière, nous vous avons présenté l'histoire de cinq de ces nouveaux ministres, nous continuons cette semaine.

Abdel Salam Karamane Affaires juridiques et parlementaires

Le nouveau ministre des Affaires juridiques et parlementaires (Islah) est né en 1944 à Mikhlaf Char'ab, dans le gouvernorat de Taëz. Après des études primaires et secondaires en Arabie Saoudite entre 1953 et 1960, Abdel Salam Khaled Karamane décroche son baccalauréat au Caire. En 1963, il est membre fondateur du Mouvement des Frères musulmans yéménites dans la capitale égyptienne.

Il part ensuite poursuivre ses études universitaires à

Abdel Rahman Bafadel Approvisionnement et Commerce

Le nouveau ministre de l'Approvisionnement et du Commerce est né dans le Hadramaut. Il est âgé d'une quarantaine d'années. Abdel Rahman Abdel Qader Bafadel, membre de l'Islah, a poursuivi des études universitaires en France, où il a décroché un diplôme de docteur en économie.

Par la suite, il a été employé à la Banque islamique de Djeddah en Arabie Saoudite. Il a également été homme d'affaires.

Bagdad, où il décroche un diplôme en droit et en sciences politiques. De retour à Sanna, il devient directeur du département juridique de la Présidence en 1971. De 1972 à 1975, il est secrétaire général du premier conseil d'Al-Chourah et membre du comité constitutionnel chargé d'élaborer la Constitution d'un Yémen unifié. De 1980 à 1982, il est membre de la Cour d'Appel de Taëz. Il fait également partie du comité national chargé d'élaborer le programme politique du CPG.

De 1982 à 1990, il exerce le droit en tant qu'avocat privé et en 1991, il est nommé membre de la Cour suprême. Abdel Salam Karamane est l'un des membres fondateurs de l'Islah, mais il n'occupe pas de poste dirigeant.

Naguib Ghanem Santé

Naguib Ghanem, nouveau ministre de la Santé, est âgé d'une trentaine d'années et est originaire d'Aden. Ce membre de l'Islah est docteur en biologie et il a été professeur de chimie à la Faculté de Médecine de l'université de Sanaa. Il est peu connu dans les milieux politiques.



L'Islah est arrivé en deuxième position à l'issue des élections. Ci-dessus, l'affiche du parti islamiste représente deux mains tenant un Coran.

Ghaleb Al-Qorachi Waqfs

Né à Cha'ab, dans le gouvernorat de Taëz, le nouveau ministre des Waqfs (Islah) est âgé d'une trentaine d'années. Ghaleb Abdel Kafi Al-Qorachi a fait ses études secondaires à Taëz et il est docteur en sciences juridiques, diplômé d'une université saoudienne.

Ghaleb Al-Qorachi a été professeur de sciences juridiques à la Faculté de droit de l'Université de Sanaa. Il était également responsable des questions culturelles et de presse au sein du "Parti du Rassemblement Yéménite pour la Réforme", plus communément appelé Islah.

Ahmed Al-Sallami Electricité et Eau

Agé de 49 ans, Ahmed Ali Al-Sallami, nouveau ministre de l'Electricité et de l'Eau (PSY), est né à Rada'a, dans le gouvernorat d'Al-Baydah. Après un passage à l'école coranique de son village, il poursuit ses études au Soudan de 1954 à 1961. Il rentre à Sanaa au moment de la révolution du 26 septembre 1962 et décroche un diplôme à l'Académie de Police (il a le grade de lieutenant) en 1965.

De 1966 à 1967, Ahmed Al-Sallami est responsable de la Sécurité du gouvernorat d'Al-Baydah. A la suite des évé-

Des voisins plus conciliants

L'horizon commence à s'éclaircir pour le Yémen. Le réchauffement de ses relations avec le Koweït et l'Arabie Saoudite progresse chaque jour. Mohamed Saleh Basindwa, le nouveau ministre des Affaires étrangères yéménite devait rencontrer lundi 14 juin à Vienne son homologue koweïtien, Cheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah. L'objectif de cette rencontre était la normalisation des relations entre les deux pays. Cette rencontre sera la première entre les chefs de diplomatie des deux pays depuis le début de la crise du Golfe. Elle doit avoir lieu en marge de la conférence mondiale des droits de l'Homme de l'ONU.

Autre nouvelle que le Président Saleh s'est empressé de faire connaître: l'Arabie Saoudite va financer un complexe hospitalier à Hajjah pour un coût total de 10,4 millions de dollars. Ali Saleh a estimé que cela constituait "le symbole d'une coopération fraternelle et constructive entre des (pays) frères".

Mohammad Dammaj Administration locale

Né à Nakhlân, dans le gouvernorat d'Ibb, le nouveau ministre de l'Administration locale est âgé d'une cinquantaine d'années. Mohammad Hassan Dammaj est un des membres dirigeants de l'Islah.

Au cours de sa carrière, il a dirigé plusieurs gouvernorats. Il a en effet été gouverneur de Sanaa, de Dhamar, de Saadah et enfin d'Al-Mahrah.

Agé de 49 ans, Ahmed Ali Al-Sallami, nouveau ministre de l'Electricité et de l'Eau (PSY), est né à Rada'a, dans le gouvernorat d'Al-Baydah. Après un passage à l'école coranique de son village, il poursuit ses études au Soudan de 1954 à 1961. Il rentre à Sanaa au moment de la révolution du 26 septembre 1962 et décroche un diplôme à l'Académie de Police (il a le grade de lieutenant) en 1965.

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DEPART

T'en vas pas Manu

Emmanuel Giroud, le précédent rédacteur des pages françaises du "Yemen Times" quitte le Yémen dans quelques jours. Il y sera resté 19 mois.

Il avait alors 25 ans. Tout frais sorti de son école de journalisme, le Centre de Formation des Journalistes à Paris, Emmanuel Giroud vint poser ses valises de reporter à Sanaa. C'était un jour de décembre 1991. Sa mission: être le rédacteur des pages françaises du "Yemen Times" pendant seize mois. Ces pages venaient juste d'être lancées par le seul journal en anglais du Yémen, avec le soutien du service culturel de

l'ambassade de France. Les débuts n'ont pas toujours été faciles pour Emmanuel. Problèmes techniques et barrière de la langue, il y a eu beaucoup d'obstacles à surmonter. "Parmi les postes de coopérants-journalistes, celui du Yémen est à mon avis le plus intéressant", nous a-t-il confié. Ses souvenirs les plus forts sont certainement les réfugiés somaliens à Aden, qu'il a couverts durant l'été 1992. Il y a aussi les

émeutes de la faim de décembre dernier. "J'étais à Bab-Al-Yémen, au milieu des manifestants, quand soudain les militaires ont tiré. Je n'ai jamais eu aussi peur de ma vie", raconte-t-il.

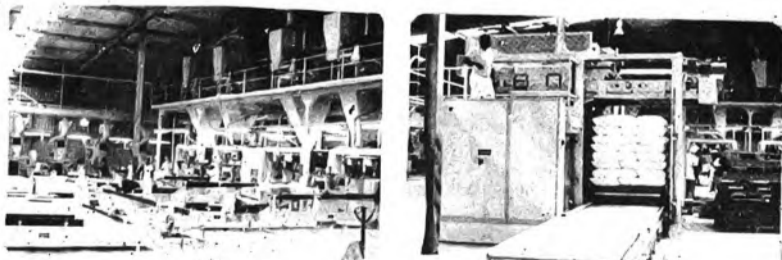
Sa mission au "Yemen Times" s'est terminée en mars. Emmanuel a voulu rester pour suivre les élections législatives yéménites. Il repart dans quelques jours pour la France.

Jérôme BERNARD



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الحديدة ت: ٣٢٢٤٦٠/٣ تليكس: ٥٦٦١ ابو جبة يمن فاكسميل: ٢١١٥٥١ ص ب: ٤٠١٥
الخرطوم ت: ٧٤٦١٠ - ٧٤٦١٠ - ٧٤٦١٠ تليكس: ٢٢٣٦٩ سيحان فاكسميل: ٧٤٥٦١ ص ب: ١٩٢٦
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Pour traquer l'information, le journaliste doit parfois des risques

LANGUAGE, KNOW-HOW AND FOOTBALL

The British Council's Role In Yemen

The British Council has a clear mandate in Yemen. It is here "to promote Britain as a respected partner in educational, scientific, technological and cultural cooperation in order to play an active, positive and recognized role in Yemen's social and economic development."

The British Council began in 1934 as a small, gentlemanly organization wishing to speak out for the values of the English language and for British culture and education, then on a low ebb under the huge black clouds looming over Europe. In 1940, in response to hostile propaganda, the Council was granted a Royal Charter.

From its small, wartime inception the British Council has grown into Britain's main cultural and educational agency, currently operating in 98 major countries world-wide. A global map shows most areas covered, though gaps occur here and there for political reasons (Iran and Afghanistan), language

even more essential when the recession hit Europe and grant increases were put on hold. Main expenditure includes costs for local, teaching and managerial staff, outlay on premises, furniture and equipment, and funding for operating activities and outreach programs.

To many the Council's main profile is its teaching program. The English teaching center in Yemen has a staff of twenty, all qualified native speakers. Forty-five hour English courses run from beginner level to the Cambridge 1st Certificate, encompassing speaking, listening, reading and writing, and making use of language laboratories and computers. Next term the Sana'a curriculum will include courses for Business English and Young Learners. "The demand for English is enormous as a result of Yemen's increasing openness, and its need for communication and political links," says the Council's Director in

students should not only have reached a higher level of language competence - though English at Level II is a pre-requisite - but should have acquired improved leadership, organizational, and decision-making skills.

The Sana'a office is also an examination center for students following correspondence or private study courses. These are increasing in variety, and include G.C.S.E. and A level, Cambridge Certificate, and British Accountancy exams.

Teaching activities do not stop at the Council premises. Cooperation with local institutions exists on both formal and informal levels. It has given language training assistance to the Faculties of Science, Engineering and Medicine at Sana'a University to help students cope with their courses, and it liaises with external examiners sent in by the Royal Colleges in the U.K., enabling Yemeni medical students to gain recognition by the British Medical Council. It is now advising on the curriculum for a new nursing degree at the University.

Another Sana'a University project, in line with the Yemeni policy to develop home-based degree courses rather than sending students to be educated abroad, is a Masters course in English language studies financed by ODA. "This project is to be sustainable and will be taken over by the Yemenis in due course," says Anthony Lewis. A similar program has been set up at Aden University.

A project sponsored by the Yemeni Ministry of Planning and Development and currently subject to approval by the ODA will involve surveying the language needs of a number of Yemeni ministries and institutions. This should be underway early next year, by which time a screening committee will have identified the beneficiaries of such a program.

For some courses of study Yemenis must go abroad, and here the British Council acts in an advisory and



liaison capacity. As well as the recognized cooperation in technical training and government scholarship programs, and in training support for the veterinary and electrical projects, many other training resources are available within the U.K. The British Council provides an initial information and interest service. It can assist with placement, matching individual requirements to what is available in the U.K. In

of talent at the academic level is to encourage local academic educational institutions to build professional links with establishments in the U.K., to their mutual benefit. Another is create an awareness of the availability of British expertise, and to pave the way for it to be applied. This is the fulfillment of the Council's motto: "Promoting cultural, educational, and technical cooperation between Britain and other countries."

18.00.

In pursuit of bridging the gap between the cultural and academic fields, the Council is supporting some archaeological exploration in Yemen. It also backed the recently-completed preliminary architectural survey of Jibla. Local funding helps finance activities which might otherwise remain beyond the Council's budget, such as supporting a small but

valuable element of its work, the export of British culture. In this it works hand in hand with the Visiting Arts Council, which invites reciprocal visits to the U.K. "One has to be hard-nosed," says Anthony Lewis, "and ask whether it fits in with the section it is aimed at, that is, does it touch areas of Yemeni society? We won't promote events that will be attended only by



exceptional cases it may then meet the candidate's costs, or share costs to assist with training. "We're talent spotters," says Anthony Lewis, "and we're on the lookout for the gifted, and those with a promising future". This U.K. training might involve a week-long conference or a Ph.D. course.

One aim of this movement

The British Council Library provides a comprehensive information service on educational courses, guiding applicants through the mass of information to find exactly what they want, whether it be a course at the right level, or how to set about establishing distance learning or correspondence courses.

The Library also has books - 11,000 of them in Sana'a, in reference, children's and lending sections - as well as a range of U.K. newspapers and periodicals which arrive late, but regularly. As the purchase of new books comes under the local budget, readers pay a modest joining fee to generate an income. The Library, in a separate building behind the sunny, spacious new British Council office and teaching buildings in the former Iraqi Embassy, is open from Saturday to Wednesday between 8.00 and 14.30, and between 16.00 and

ex-pats." A 1992 event much appreciated here was a performance by the Dufay Collective, a small group of musicians playing medieval music that itself had traveled to Europe from the medieval Islamic world, on instruments such as the drum and the lute, an adaptation of the *oud*. Anthony Lewis does not insist on a common cultural meeting point. But he is in favor of bridging the language barrier, and sees the advantage of dance, music or sport over theater and cinema. He would like to tap the vast cultural reservoir of handicrafts, and to start by bringing over a British potter. And he would love to see a U.K. football team playing against the Yemeni national team. That, certainly, would please a number of people in Yemen!

By:
Jenny Jobbins,
Yemen Times.



Mr. Andrew McNab

barriers (French-speaking Africa and much of Latin America), or historical quirks (Iceland and Switzerland). Offices range from fully fledged centers running a wide range of courses including teacher training, to English Language resource centers such as those being set up in the emerging countries of Eastern Europe. The Council's turnover in the last fiscal year was 408 million pounds sterling, which included 181 million to fund government contracts. Grants from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Overseas Development Authority (ODA) totaled 121 million pounds sterling, while 106 million was earned in revenue from Council activities. Thus, excluding the contracts, approximately 55% of Council expenditure is received in the form of grants, and 45% is earned. As all expenses are met by the British Government or the Council itself, this self-generated revenue became

Yemen, Anthony Lewis. Beside the regular language courses open to the general public the Council runs tailor-made classes for ministerial and company groups. These might be in technical language or technical report writing, or in basic management skills. Clients include the Oil Ministry and the Aden Oil Refinery, The Tihama Development Authority and the Public Electricity Corporation in Hodeidah, and the Ministry of Planning and Development in Sana'a. Teaching Center Manager Andrew McNab, whose teachers regularly attend training courses to update their skills, can now offer courses on general management, human resources management, project management and office management. At the end of each 30-hour course



Earthquake Seminar Concluded



Ali Jabr Alawi



Authman Noman



Gamal Sholan



Ismail Noman

On Thursday, June 17th, the seminar on "Seismic Hazard Reduction and Earthquake Disaster Mitigation" was successfully concluded. "Even if only for that channels of communication it opened for future exchange of information, I can say the seminar was successful," said Ali Jabr Alawi, Chairman of the Mineral Exploration Board (MEB) and Head of the National Committee of Earthquake Disaster Risk. But the technician who really ran the show was Gamal Sholan, the General Director of the Seismological Observatory Center headquartered at Dhamar.

"Immediately after the seminar (on June 19th), we are going to install the instruments for the Strong Motion network. Before the year is out, we will install the equipment for the national seismic network which connects (19) stations," Sholan explained. He also explained that many Yemenis have been dispatched to specialize in fields related to this field. "Let me also explain that we are cooperating with the Civil Defence Force in training their people in ways and means to save life and property, and the adequate response procedures," he added.

Yemen's interests in seismic and geologic studies were triggered by the 1982 Dhamar earthquake. Since then, there were other, albeit minor, earthquake in Saada and Al-Udain. Already, some US\$ 2 million has been invested in the purchase of equipment and training of manpower.

"Of course, there is no way to stop earthquakes and other disasters, but we can reduce the loss and casualties by preparing for such events, and through proper response, once they occur," said Authman Noman, Vice Chairman of the MEB. Many of the foreign participants brought with them their own experiences in this field.

The seismic station at Djibouti is the closest to Yemen in more than one sense. Ahmed Omer Ahmed who heads the Djibouti team.

expressed delight in the establishment of Yemen's seismic network, and the potential for increased cooperation. "We have already trained many Yemenis in Djibouti, and we hope to coordinate our efforts even more," he said.

The Jordanian team is headed by Mohammed Jeradat, Director of the Jordanian Seismologic Center. "We warmly welcome a higher level of cooperation now that Yemen's seismologic center has been set up," he indicated.

Dr. Robin Adams of the International Seismological Center (ISC) invited the Yemeni Observatory Center to become a member of the ISC. He said, "The ISC will use information coming to it from the Yemeni center, co-relate it with other data from the region, and then produce analysis on the region as a whole.

Dr. J. C. Lepine, who installed the Djibouti station in 1972, proposes a triangular arrangement according to which cooperation between France, Djibouti and Yemen could be initiated.

Algeria's delegate, Mr. H. Benhelliou, pounded the issue of priority till the end.

Often, the machines do not work because of lack of sufficient resources. In the Algerian example, there was not enough money to pay for the needles that were required to register/record land motion. "That is when the earthquake hit us," he stated.

The recent Cairo earthquakes also hit at a time when the seismic stations of Egypt were not working because of lack of funds to maintain them properly. Thus the first reports on the Egyptian earthquake came from Jordan.

"The seminar brought to Yemen experts and tons of information in a field that is highly technical," stated Ismail Noman, Adviser to the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources, and a person who closely followed the proceedings of the seminar.

Ali Jabr Alawi, gratified with the success of the seminar, said it represents a water-shed in the civil engineering profession in Yemen."



M. Jeradat



Ahmed Omer



Robin Adams



J.C. Lepine

Business Clips

* "FORD" Cars have made a significant in-road into the Yemeni market. Less than two years after the Hayel Saeed Anam Group secured the agency to market Ford cars in Yemen, there is already a strong marketing network, with an excellent maintenance and repair service, through a full-fledged and modern workshop, and an abundant supply of spare parts.

* Yemeni gas is a potential export. So stated a source at the Supreme Council for Economic, Oil and Investment Affairs. "By next year, the Mareb/Al-Jawf fields should produce some 40 million cubic feet per day, and by 1999, Yemen hopes to export five millions tons of LPG - liquefied petroleum gas," the source added.

* There is considerable effort to kick-off the Aden Free Zone operations before the year is out. According to sources in the Executive Board of the Authority for Free Zones, "Either we do it now, or it will never happen!" The appointment of strongman Saleh Munassar As-Saily is bound to help free Aden from the grips of the hold-overs from the past," the source added.

* A new 100 Riyal banknote is coming into circulation early next month, according to Central Bank sources. The money, which is a 'rush-order,' is being printed in Singapore, according to the same sources. This new supply of fiat money is expected to alleviate the liquidity problem that the banking sector has been plagued with. However, it is also expected to pressure the value of the Riyal downward. Hold on to your greenbacks.

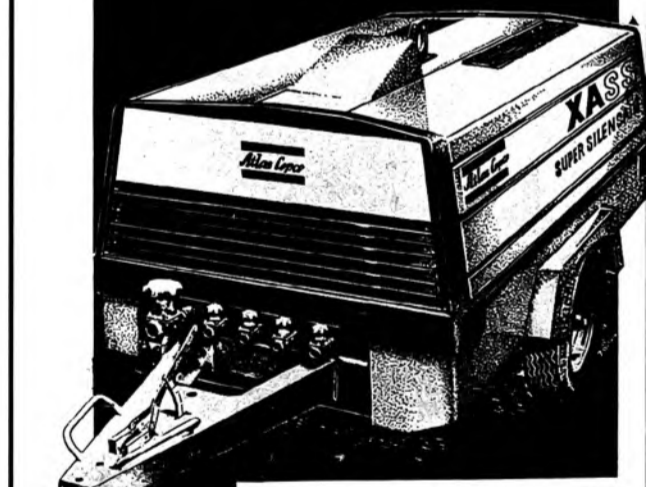
The Papers Presented to the Seminar:

1. "Yemen Seismic Networks,"
By: Najeeb Abdul-Jaleel Abdul-Razzaq,
Director of Network, Seismological Observatory Center.
2. "Seismological Elements of the Internal Structure and Present Eruptive Activity of Piton de la Fournaise, Reunion Island,"
By: A. Hirn, M. Sapin, J.C. Lepine, and A. Nercessian,
Unstitute de Physique du Globe, Paris.
3. "Palaeomagnetic Contribution to the Seismicity and Plate Tectonics of the Arabian Plate,"
By: MM El-Gamili (Sanaa University), D. Tarling (University of Blymouth, UK), M. Kafafi (Tanta University, Egypt), and H. Hamama (Mansoura University, Egypt).
4. "Statistical Evaluation of Seismicity and Seismic Hazard in Yemen,"
By: Mazin A. Al-Salim,
Research Seismologist.
5. "Hotspots at Triple Junctions and Ridges: Earthquakes, Faults and Volcanism in Afar and the Azores Island,"
By: JC Lepine, A. Hirn, M. Sapin.
6. "The Harir Earthquake of 24th July 1991 in the Northern Part of Iraq: Macroseismic Observations and Engineering Considerations," and
"The Use of Microtremors Technique for Soil Classification and Seismic Microzonation,"
By: Khadum Abid Yazia,
Geologist, Iraqi Meteorological Organization.
7. "Seismotectonics in the Republic of Djibouti - Linking the Afar Depression and the Gulf of Aden,"
By: JC Lepine and A. Hirn.
8. "Historical Review and Interpretation of Seismicity in Yemen,"
By: Khalid Al-Thour,
Department of Geology, Sanaa Univeristy.
9. "Seismological Engineering Considerations for Iraq,"
By: Sahil Al-Sinawi and Azta Al-Qasrani,
10. "Evaluating Seismic Response of Gravity-Retaining Walls Using Finite Element Modeling,"
By: Azm Al-Hamoud, (Jordan University of Science and Technology), and Robert Whitman (MIT, Cambridge, USA).
11. "Past and Future Plans for Seismic Hazards Assessment and Mitigation in the Sudan,"
Mohamed Moalla.

12. "Post-Elastic Behavior of a "K" Braced Longitudinal Frame in One Floor Steel Industrial Structure,"
By: Jalal Nemer Al-Dabbeek, Sanaa University.
13. "Seismic Micorzoning of Baghdad Metropolitan Area and Seismic Design Spectra,"
By: Dawood Mahmood, Iraq Meteorological Organization.
14. "Ompact Resistance of Reinforced Fibrous Concrete Beams and One-Way Slabs,"
By: Hamoud Al-Dafiry, Sanaa University.
15. "Algerian Telemetered Seismological Network and Seismic Hazard,"
By: H. Benhallou,
Centre de Recherche en Astronomie, Astrophysique et Geophysique, Algeria.
16. "Structural Engineering Principles for the Preservation of Historical Sites and Monuments in Earthquake Areas,"
By: Polat Gulkan,
Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey.
17. "Emergency Response to Earthquake Disasters, Socio-Economic Impact and Reconstruction Program,"
By: Muhammad S. Abid, Chief Technical Adviser.
18. "Improving the State of the Art and the State of Practice for Earthquake Risk Management,"
By: Walter Hays (US Geological Survey) and Badaoui Rouhban (UNESCO).
19. "Crystal Thickness Determinations in Iraq from Relative Teleseismic Travel Time Residual,"
By: Sahil Al-Sinawi and Emad Al-Heety.
20. "Attenuation of Earthquake P-Wave Velocities in Iraq,"
By: Sahil Al-Sinawi and Saad Al-Tikriti.
21. "Dynamic Lateral Earth Pressure and Seismic Response of Retaining Structures - An Overview,"
By: Azm Al-Homoud,
Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid.
22. "Improving Earthquake Location in and Around the Arabian Peninsula,"
By: Robin Adams,
International Seismological Center, UK.
23. "Strong Motion Stations in Yemen,"
By: Gamal M. Sholan,
General Director,
Yemeni Seismological Center, Dhamar.

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Feeling 'Left' Out

The world's estimated 8% left-handers often get a bad press coverage. Social prejudice against left-handers ranges from outright discrimination in some societies to being considered, little more than a small inconvenience in others.

Languages are full of subtle as well as open examples of these prejudices. Take the English language as an example.

The word 'sinister' has grim implications, and yet its original Latin meaning is left (in Italian sinistra). The French word for left is gauche, which comes to mean clumsy in English.

Then comes the expressions: 'a left-handed compliment' is little short of an insult; 'a child from the left side of the bed' is illegitimate; and 'left-handed business' is unlawful.

In Western culture, it is customary, when using salt, to throw a pinch over your left shoulder to keep the devil and evil spirits at bay; it is on your left side that Old Nick is supposed to lurk. Young Christians learn that Son of God is seated at the Father's right-hand side. Interpreters of the Word of God have therefore assumed that Lucifer must be on the left holding. Incidentally, most religions agree the devil is left handed.

Art historians will recall that in European religious paintings and architecture, the good and saved march off to the right, the damned descend to the left.

There is still no satisfactory explanation as to why some 8% of the world's population is different from the rest. Many believe that there are genetic reasons for left-handedness. But left-handers have been alarmed by the recent work of Professor Stanley Coren, Professor of Psychology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, who denies that left handedness is simply a question of genetics. Not only that, but in his book *The Left-Hander Syndrome*, he upholds a theory developed twenty years ago that humans are programmed to be right-handers, and that those some become left-handers as a result of

a traumatic or stressful birth which results in slight oxygen starvation to the brain.

Professor Coren's book makes pretty grim reading for left-handers. Not only are they more likely to suffer from such disorders as migraine, epilepsy, suicide and depression, but he also claims that left-handers, in general, die younger. He says many die, if at least, as a result of working in a right-handed world where all tools and heavy machinery demand that left-hander uses his/her 'weaker' hand. Not surprisingly, this is a story which much of the world's media has latched on to. Dr. Chris McManus, a senior lecturer at University College and St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, vehemently disputes the theory and says that a lot of left-handers have been unnecessarily scared.

"Researchers all over the world have tried to replicate the Coren studies and results, and they are not succeeding. Data collected on accidents show there is no difference between left-handers and right-handers, nor is there any difference regarding the age at which they die," he said.

Actually, all is not lost for the left-handers. "There are a lot of things which left-handers do better. They are more able to visualize things in three dimensions," Professor Coren says. He mentions as an example that there "many more left-handed architects than we would expect on the basis of chance. There are also more chess masters and great artists who are left-handed. One can name Michelangelo, Raphael, Holbein, Picasso, etc."

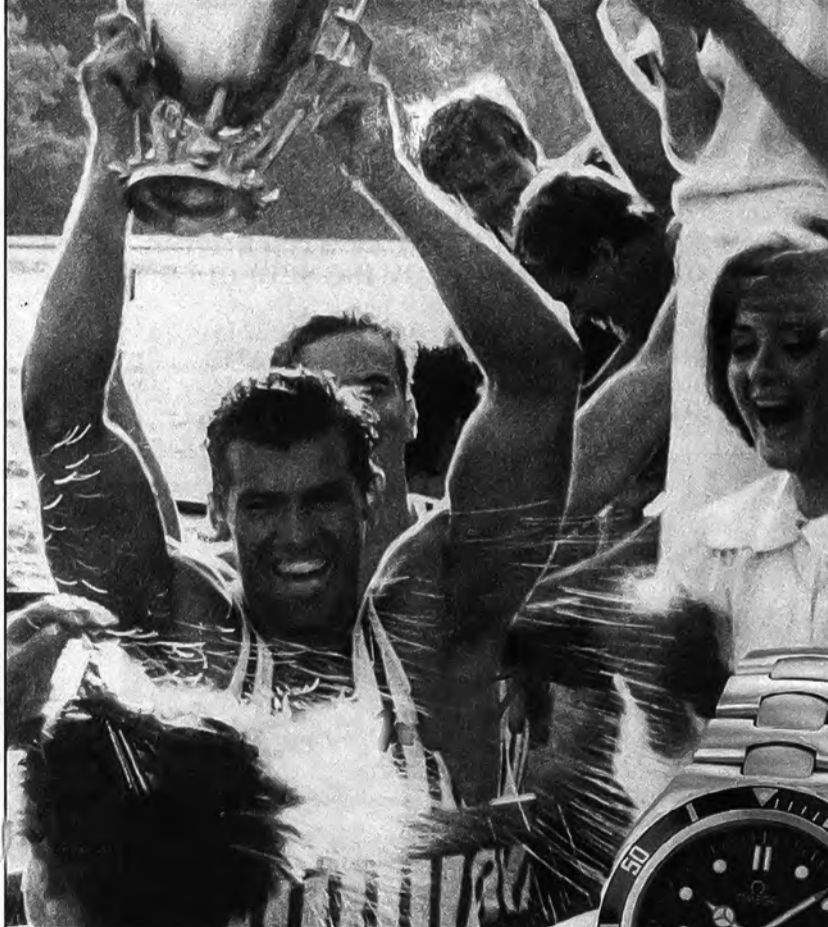
Left-handers remind us of such creative talents as Marilyn Monroe, Charlie Chaplin, Lewis Carroll, Paul McCartney, Einstein, among others. Even then, however, statistical proof at the general level remains ambiguous. Whatever the situation at the world level, one would not want to be left-handed in Yemen. You will routinely see Yemeni mothers force their left-handed offspring to become right-handed. That is because the socio-culture treats left-handed persons as 'strange' or even outright 'evil.'


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In an Attempt to Rebuild Mutual Confidence between Yemen and Kuwait:

President Ali Abdullah Saleh Offers to Open a New Chapter in the Relationship

"I would like to close the file of the Gulf Crisis once and for all. History will be the judge of who did and said what. In the meantime, let us open a new chapter in our bilateral relations." That was the message that President Ali Abdullah Saleh constantly zeroed-in in his almost turbulent interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper, the first since the Gulf Crisis. Ahmed Al-Jarallah, Editor of Kuwait's Al-Siyasah newspaper, asked blunt questions.

"Were you wrong in your position on the Gulf Crisis?" President Saleh was asked repeatedly. He dodged that question doggedly, using the occasion to explain the Yemeni position on the Gulf, the way he saw it. "We hold Kuwait - its people and Emir with great esteem, and at no time at all were we party to anything that could have harmed Kuwait. We have documents that show we strongly opposed the

Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and we worked very hard to reach a solution, within the Arab family, that would free Kuwait and restore its sovereignty and independence," the President explained. He even disclosed the Iraqi leader described Yemen's calls for Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait as blasphemous. "You will kindly note that the first spontaneous demonstration against the Iraqi invasion was on the streets of Sanaa," he added.

Yet, the Yemeni position was mis-construed and misrepresented, the President said over and over. "We can understand and excuse the anger of the Kuwaiti citizens because their homes and nation have been occupied. That was reason for us to show more compassion, even when they were wrongly accusing us." The President insisted that there was no such thing as permanent allies or enemies in politics. The interests of nations make it necessary to look for common denominators and work to strengthen them. The President went through lots of details to explain the efforts of the Yemeni leadership to act as an honest broker in order to achieve Kuwait's liberation. He also insisted that Yemen has no territorial ambitions against its neighbors. He exalted the Yemeni-Omani border agreement and expressed hope that Yemen and Saudi Arabia could strike a similar deal. He then offered to make a fresh start in the relations between Yemen and the rest of the countries in the Arabian Peninsula. "We need each other. Therefore, why can't we repair the damage done by the Gulf War?" he asked. Regarding other issues, the President admitted Yemen has enormous economic difficulties, but expressed optimism about the future. "We are confident of the generosity of the Yemeni land and the resources it has for future development," he said. He also pointed that the Yemenis have substantial savings abroad, valued at tens of billions of US dollars. Once they are confident of the stability of the country, they will come to invest in their country, he said. With respect to presidential period of rule, Ali Abdullah Saleh confirmed that he is committed that, from here on, any one president may rule only for two terms - a total of ten years.

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