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ADEN: An Ancient Gateway Opens New Opportunities

By: Yemen Times Team:
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Mervat Duweikat
and Al-Izzi Asselwi.

"We are fighting against three groups of people who have serious misconceptions as to what a free zone is all about. They have joined hands in fighting the idea and its implementation, and that explains our slow pace of progress," complained Abdul-Qader Ba-Jammal, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Yemen Free Zones Public Authority (YFZPA).

"The first group thinks that free zones is about loose women, night clubs, and low morals. The second group thinks free zones entails a loss of sovereignty, and therefore, the return of imperialism. The

care of the rest. We have offers to build the harbor, the airport, the infrastructure,

Aden is a modernizing city. It exhibits major landmarks of a glorious past such as the Tanks of Taweelah, the Ottoman forts, etc.

third group thinks the free zone idea means the return of that horrible concept of 'Aden for the Adenis.' Our job is to correct these misconceptions, and gain the support of all segments of the population," said the YFZPA official.

According to the consultants nine-volume report, the Aden free zone project is quite promising. A newly-released brochure describes the potential as limitless.

Yet, before any of the benefits can be reaped, some US \$ 5,793 million will have to be invested - distributed over the four phases of the development plan of the Aden Free Zone. "Where will the money come from?" we asked Ba-Jammal. He must have confronted this question before as his answer was more than ready.

"Just let the government give us the land, and we will take

and every thing. All we have to do is put down the specifications, and issue the tenders. We have so far received firm interest from Mohammed Mahdi Al-Tajir's IDC, Raytheon Group, seventeen British firms including John Brown, Indonesia's SPC (supraco) and Petronyaga, Kenya's Sheikh Taher Abu Hatim and Sheikh Salim Abul-Alaa, France's Soplum, and many others. European Business Services has written offering an \$80 million loan at 8% interest. We have even been approached by several South African companies. On this last offer I wrote to the Minister of Foreign Affairs to advise on the best course of action," explained Mr. Ba-Jammal.

Let us start with the advantages Aden has to offer.

Aden is a modernizing city. It exhibits major landmarks of a glorious past such as the Tanks of Taweelah, the Ottoman forts, etc. But more importantly, Aden is a blend of the region's civilizations - Yemeni, Islamic, Indian, Persian, African, and of course, a touch of British.

The locational advantages of the city do not escape even the most casual observer.

Thus, Aden is looking towards the future with confidence and hope. Yemen's fabled and ingenious traders have embarked on what is seen as a most important business decision yet - the creation of the country's first

free zone at Aden.

What has been achieved so far?

Much has already been done. All the required legislature has been enacted, and implementation is underway.

A full-fledged master plan has been completed envisaging a four-phase 25-year projection into the future. The whole thing is set on a vision of creating a major sea-air cargo hub that capitalizes on the locational advantages and the

"We are fighting against three groups of people who have serious misconceptions as to what a free zone is all about."

-- Abdul-Qader Ba-Jammal
Chairman of the Executive Board
Yemen Free Zones Public Authority

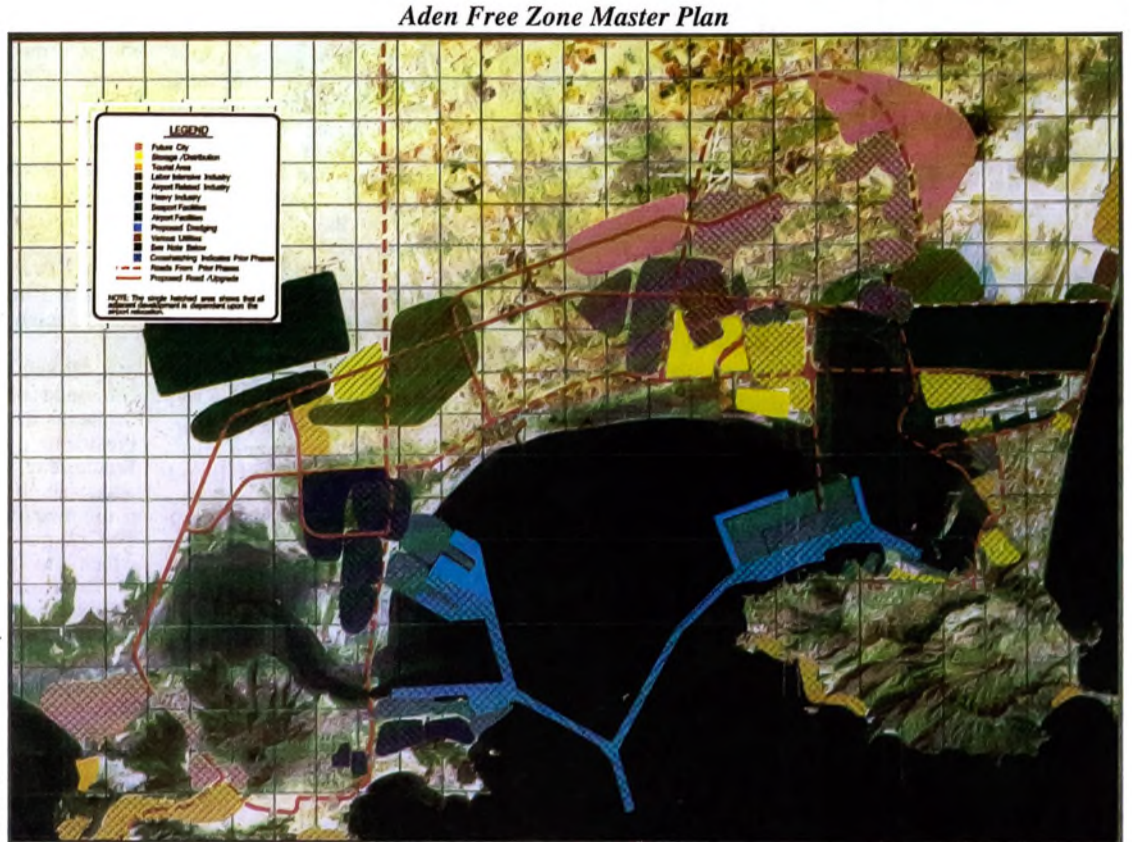
proposed facilities and incentives of Aden.

"The vision is based on pragmatic calculations and real possibilities," insists Ba-Jammal. "We have not left a stone unturned in our efforts to come up with a workable plan for the Aden Free Zone. So we have produced some 3000 pages of documents, over 400 maps, a 14-minute video film, and several brochures and booklets. We have a good idea, and we will sell it," said the YFZPA chairman confidently.

Selling, he is trying to do. So far, the buyers have been alluring him, partly because he has yet to take charge of the area designated as free zone.

"I know we have a problem, but we have almost overcome even that. We have just signed a memo-randum of understanding with the governor of Aden," he said.

Continues on page 14



LEGEND
Public City
Industrial Zone
Tourist Area
Labor Intensive Industry
Export Oriented Industry
Heavy Industry
Support Facilities
Proposed Dredging
Proposed Embankment
Proposed Road/Highway
Sea Water Barrier
Commuting Intensive Free Zones
Special Free Zone Phases
Proposed Road/Highway

NOTE: The map showed area shown that of Aden Free Zone.



INSIDE

School Girls Produce Beautiful Porcelains
p. 4

Yemen's First Women's Voluntary Society
p. 5

Yemenization of Education
p. 7

Indonesia Celebrates National Day!
pp. 8 + 9

Fat is Beautiful, or is it? p. 12

The Aden Free Zone
p. 14

Plus Our Permanent Features



European Leaders Plan Visits to Yemen

Sana'a, Yemen Times:

Yemen Times learned that the French President Francois Mitterrand plans to visit Yemen

during October. In a telephone contact with a French Embassy source in Sanaa, it was learned preparations are fully underway for the visit.

At another level, British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. Douglas Hogg, also plans to visit here in November, almost a full year since his December visit, last year. Mr. Hogg's visit will probably coincide with the call of the Royal Yacht, the Britannia, to Aden.

Yemen's relations with the West, in general, and Europe, in particular has seen major improvements recently, following the downturn after the Gulf Crisis.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

The Returnees: Three Years Later

Government statistics say that almost a million Yemenis have been kicked out of the Gulf countries, notably Saudi Arabia, following the policy blunder of our rulers. The country has applied for foreign assistance to cope with this matter, and has received some money for this purpose. Yet, the conditions of the returnees are still unbearable, to the extent that the camps of the returnees are becoming fertile ground to breed anti-state, and even anti-society ideas and potentially, actions.

The lack of jobs, the high prices, absence of any services, and the general neglect which the returnees feel has left them prey to many destructive behavior. The 60,000-strong camp of Salakhanah, notoriously called Saddam Camp, and the neighborhoods around it have become safe havens for criminals and thugs. The security personnel are wary of going in there without the backing of a large contingent. Why has the situation deteriorated to this extent? Why did we not do the minimum for them. The anger can be felt immediately as you walk into the camp, as did the Yemen Times team, last week. They almost beat up the reporters whom they described as "useless." Who listens to what you write, the team was repeatedly asked in a threatening tone.

Three years of hell has created a group of people who have no fear of facing any force. The government and society better watch out. These men, women and children are the victims of our own neglect and lack of attention. One day not too far away, they will command our attention by force. They will behave in ways that will make us pay attention to their needs.

The question is, "Why wait until the moment of crisis?" Why can't we work to diffuse the anger and wrath before it turns into destructive behavior. The returnees have waited for three years for our attention. Can anyone blame them if they turn against any minute now?

The Publisher
عبد العزيز

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Sawt Al-Ummal Summoned by the Press Prosecutor's Office

For the third time, the powerful newspaper Sawt Al-Ummal (Voice of the Workers) has been summoned by the Press Prosecutor's Office in Aden based on a request from the Ministry of Information. Yemen Times will report the details of the case as they evolve.

Lawyers' Syndicate Prepares for Elections

The powerful Lawyers' Syndicate has called on its 400 registered members to participate in the coming elections of the Executive Board of the syndicate. It has also invited all lawyers who are not members and interested in participating may complete membership formalities. The elections are scheduled for next month. Already there are several candidates who are lobbying among the members. The elections will be highly politicized, although the bulk of the lawyers are traditionally liberal conservative.

Counterfeiters Caught

The Central Organization for Political Security has apprehended last week a group of persons involved in counterfeit money, specially the US dollar. No details are available, and the criminals are being interrogated.

Two Mig 21s Crash

The Yemeni airforce has lost two Mig 21 aircrafts last week which went down during military manoeuvres killing their pilots. The two planes were doing vertical loops off the Hodeidah coast, but were given low altitudes, and thus went under.

It is worth mentioning that the airforce suffers from visible spare part and maintenance problems. Except for a few American F5s, all the equipment is Russian.

Prime Minister Kicks Off First Medical Council Meetings

Prime Minister Haidar Abubakar Al-Attas inaugurated on Thursday, August 12th, the First Meeting of the Medical Scientific Council, which is a non-governmental organization. "I do not understand what are the reasons that make the Minister of Health abstain from such an important get-together," the Prime Minister said pointing to the rising differences between the Islam minister and YSP-dominated Syndicate of Physicians and Pharmacists, which is the host of the meeting.

The Prime Minister then pointed to a number of fields of potential cooperation with the government. "I do not accept the traditional excuse of scarcity of resources. Much can be done with the existing resources," he said.

City-Cleaning Fashion Catches On

The Sanaa-inspired effort of city cleaning has now caught on in other cities, notably Aden and Taiz. The effort in Sanaa has paid off well. The city of Sanaa has been divided into six neighborhoods with specific teams assigned to them to help out in the cleaning process. The army and security forces have also sent their men to help out.

Taiz Hosts Yemeni-Saudi Border Talks Today

The city of Taiz plays host to the fifth round of negotiations that start there today regarding the Yemeni-Saudi border talks.

The two sides, after four rounds of talks, are still talking about how to talk. No substantial matter is being discussed.

Vice President Al-Beedh in a Photo Meeting with Al Gore

Mr. Ali Salem Al-Beedh, Vice Chairman of the Presidential Council, has met US Vice President Al Gore, on Wednesday, August 11th, in what has been termed as a photo meeting.

The purpose of the meeting which was held at the request of Mr. Al-Beedh, was for the two men to get acquainted, according to sources.

In a press conference following the meeting, Mr. Al-Beedh said that he had conveyed an invitation to Mr. Gore to visit Yemen. He also invited American businessmen to invest in Yemen.

He spoke of the Yemeni ambitions to link-up with the West in promoting economic development.

In an interview with Voice of America, aired on the same day, Al-Beedh stressed Yemen's commitment to democracy and political pluralism. He also said that the Yemeni people are appreciative of the support and encouragement they and their democratic experiment get from the West.

Mr. Al-Beedh just returned from the US following a long private trip during which he received medical treatment.

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Nato Sets Plan to Bomb Serbs

The United States and its Nato allies have completed plans for bombing Serb targets, but when they launch the strikes remains uncertain. Diplomats from the 16 nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation have met last week to review and approve blueprints for knocking out Serb military positions to save the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo. But disagreements remained among the allies over control of the operation and whether an air campaign would help, or hinder, efforts to end the war that has left up to 200,000 people dead or missing. It appears unlikely the allies would give final approval to the air raids without a clear UN Security Council mandate. Canada and some European nations agreed only reluctantly to an American proposal for air strikes if the Serbs refused to lift the siege of Sarajevo. Canada, France, Spain, Britain and others with thousands of peacekeeping forces on the ground worry about reprisals against their soldiers if strikes were launched against the Serbs. Any air strikes on the Serbs would be the first offensive military action by the alliance in its 44-years-old history. Nato's military committee, its highest military authority, reviewed contingency plans drawn up by strategists. Sources said the plans contain types of Serb positions that could be targeted by allied air strikes. They did not give a specific hit list. Officials have said likely targets would be artillery positions, command and control communications facilities and communications lines. Serbs raised a new obstacle to easing the siege of Sarajevo, insisting UN troops occupy and control commanding heights above the city before they pull back their forces. Their call for a significant UN force rather than small teams of monitors on two disputed mountains could stretch the 3,000

strong UN peacekeeping contingent in Sarajevo. More than 1,000 international peace activists retreated from Bosnia last week after being warned of war on the road ahead and hearing of Nato plans for possible air strikes against Serbs. The peace demonstrators, mostly from west European countries and North America, had planned to drive in a procession of cars and buses to Sarajevo with its besieged inhabitants. But they stopped in Rumboci in west Bosnia and pitched tents for a reassessment of their plan after learning that rival forces were grouping for battle in the Prozor area 15 km to the east. Serb general Ratko Mladic has been warned to stop using a helicopter in defiance of the UN's no-fly ban or face the consequences, a senior United Nations official said last week. Civil affairs co-ordinator Viktor Andreyev said Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont, the commander of the UN Protection Force in Bosnia, had warned Mladic "in a very clear and forceful manner" that his use of the Gazelle helicopter was unacceptable. But Andreyev, a Russian, refused repeatedly to spell out clearly whether Briquemont had told the Serb army commander that his aircraft could be shot down by "Deny Flight" Nato planes patrolling the skies of Bosnia. "The message was given to him not to do this or the consequences are his," Andreyev said. "All the consequences were explained." He said Mladic, who has made no secret of his helicopter sorties, had said nothing in response to the warning. Senior UN military sources say the aircraft has given Mladic a clear view of his own and opposing Bosnian army positions during the recent offensive. Meanwhile, the peace process has been interrupted again as the Serbs are dragging their feet in abandoning their new gains, specially their control over mountain tops overlooking Sarajevo.

Japan Moves to a Clean Government

The Japanese parliament elected the Japan New Party (JNP) leader Morihiro Hosokawa as the 79th Japan's prime minister on August 8th. The new coalition government ends 38 years of unbroken rule by the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). The Lower House erupted in cheers from the seven-party coalition as Ms. Takako Doi, the socialist deputy, herself elected Lower House Speaker only four hours earlier, declared the 55-year-old economist and former governor of Kumamoto as Prime Minister Hosokawa won 262 votes in the 511-seat chamber. Doi, a former chairperson of the Social Democratic Party, the biggest in the seven-party coalition, ordered a second vote to choose the prime minister after the first was declared invalid due to voting complications and a filibuster by the LDP. The Lower House vote came almost five hours after parliament resumed sitting and followed a rare pre-emptive vote by the Upper House, which had no relevance on the final outcome, but also resulted in a majority for Hosokawa. In a crucial Lower House vote, rival candidates LDP President Yohei Kono received 224 votes while Japan Communist Party leader Tetsuzo Fuwa received 15. Hosokawa and the new cabinet were sworn-in in front of Emperor Akihito on the 9th.

New Cabinet of Japan

Prime Minister	Morihiro Hosokawa/JNP
Deputy Prime Minister	Tsutomu Hata/JRP
& Foreign Minister	
Justice	Akira Mikazuki
Finance	Hirohisa Fujii/JRP
Education	Ryoko Akamatsu
Health/Welfare	Keigo Ouchi/DSP
Agriculture/Fisheries	Eijiro Hata/JRP
Int'l Trade & Industry	Hiroshi Kumagai/JRP
Transport	Shigeru Ito/SDPJ
Posts/Communications	Takenori Kanzaki/Komeito
Labor	Chikara Sakaguchi/Komeito
Construction	Kozo Igarashi/SDPJ
Home Affairs	Kanju Sato/SDPJ
Chief Cabinet Secretary	Masayoshi Takemura/PP
Mngt/Coordination	Koshiro Ishida/Komeito
National Land	Kosuke Uehara/SDPJ
Defense	Keisuke Nakanishi/JRP
Economic Planning	Manae Kubota/SDPJ
Science & Technology	Satsuki Eda/USDP
Environment	Wakako Hironaka/Komeito
Political Reform	Sadao Yamahana, SDPJ

DSP: Democratic Socialist Party
 JNP: Japan New Party
 JRP: Japan Renewal Party
 SDPJ: Social Democratic Party of Japan
 USDP: United Social Democratic Party
 Komeito: Clean Government Party
 PP: Pioneer Party

Germans Lose Patience with Russians


The German government, losing patience with Russia's persistence failure to pay for goods, will stop providing export credit guarantees for trade with Russia, the economics ministry said last week. "No new guarantees under Germany's Hermes program will be granted until Moscow's payment record improves," the source said. "The high risk of default has made this step necessary," the source added. Most companies already refuse to do business with countries such as Russia, which are perceived as high risk, unless the government provides credit guarantees which ensure that they will be paid if their trading partner defaults. Until now, the German government, grateful to Moscow for allowing the country to re-unite, has been willing to do this. But as the German budget deficit itself soars because of recession and the costs of unification, Bonn had clearly decided it can no longer afford to underwrite trade with Russia. The German government had been forced to pay out DM 955 million (US \$562 million) in 1992,

and has paid out DM 2.14 (US \$1.26 billion) in the first half of 1993 alone on deals where Russia and her partners in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS = the former USSR) defaulted. The economics ministry source made it clear that Russia was the main culprit in the defaults, and that the freeze would be selectively applied so that other CIS countries will not be affected by the freeze. Around DM 500 million (US \$ 292.2 million) in interest payments alone is due from Russia by the end of coming September. Clearly Germany wants to see these payments honored before it will consider resuming cover. The Federal Republic of Germany is the main trading partner of the former Soviet Union. It has provided around DM 80 billion (US \$54 billion) to the CIS in cash, loans, and export credit guarantees, most of which went to the Federation of Russian Republics. A freeze in German export guarantees is bad news for many German companies, specially those in the former East Germany. According to press reports, the CIS already owed east German companies some DM 15 billion (US \$8.8 billion) by the end of June, 1993.

Kuwait: Search for Security Continues

Kuwait has just concluded a deal according to which it will buy some 200 Warrior and 200 Piranha armored personnel carriers made by the British GKN plc. The deal costs about 500 million Sterling Pounds (US \$750 million). At another level, Sheikh Ali Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Defence Minister, stated that he will pay a visit to Moscow to sign a joint defence agreement with Russia. The visit will take place during 23-26 September, 1993. The Defence Minister pointed out that the defence agreement, the fourth with a permanent UN Security Member state - as Kuwait had concluded similar arrangements with the United States, Britain and France - will be the last. The last permanent member-state of the Security Council -

China - had declined to sign the accord due to circumstance related to its foreign policy. Yet, agreement had been reached with China to exchange visits and expertise. Kuwait suffers from a security problem given the recent history of its neighbors. Iran had threatened Kuwait for a long period, Saudi Arabia had nibbled away on Kuwaiti territory, and Iraq had invaded and annexed Kuwait until it was forcibly dislodged. As a result, the security worry of Kuwait has dominated the country's external policy. Many observers believe that the Kuwaiti politicians have become paranoid with the issue, thus making it impossible to make up and proceed with normal relations with its neighbors. According to Kuwaiti sources, it is unlikely that relations between Kuwait and Iraq will return to normal soon.




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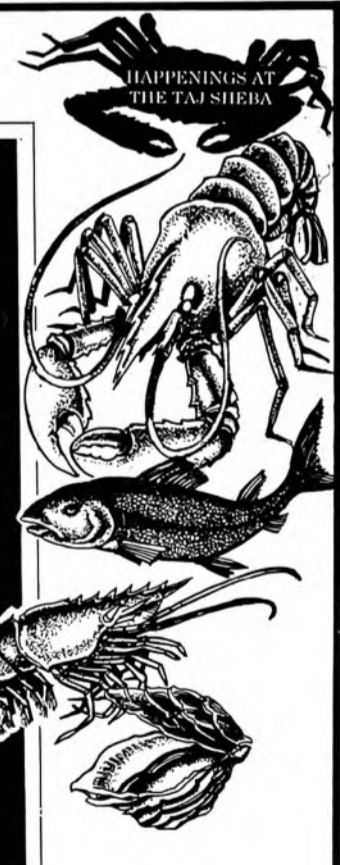
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Salim Sabbah Institute Students Exhibit their Work of Art

By: Ahmed Al-Asbahy,
Yemen Times.

The graduates of the Salim Al-Sabbah Girls' Teacher Training Institute put their work to display in a one-week exhibition. On August 4th, Dr. Abubakar

Abdullah Al-Qirby, Minister of Education, inaugurated the exhibition.

"I am happy to be here and see the excellent products of the students. I think extra-curricular activities such as these are important in the rounded development

and growth of our students and future teachers," he said.

Speaking on the same occasion, Ms. Fawziyah Abdu Rabbo Saleh, the Principal of the Institute, stated that the products were actually part of the requirement for their graduation. "Every student has to produce something of a substantive and outstanding nature in order to graduate," she added.

Redha Al-Khamisy, an arts teacher at the institute, said, "All students who have participated in the exhibition have shown great talent and abilities. They have excelled in the conceptualizing and in implementing their ideas in needle work, embroidery, painting, pottery, and even in sports."

The students do need further encouragement and a chance to prove themselves. "It is during their career life that they need the most encour-

agement and support in order to give society their best," she said.

Another teacher, Sabah Munassar agrees. "If these girls can produce such outstanding work with the meager resources and limited opportunities, imagine what they can do under the right circumstances," she said.

Most of the products on display were requested for purchase by the public. "Unfortunately, these are not for sale as they go back to the artists (students) explained the principal. The work included vases, paintings, drawings, household decorations and other products.

The embroidery was specially beautiful, although it was the glass paintings and the porcelain products that attracted the most attention.

The occasion was attended by the parents of the students, educators, and many interested persons and companies.

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الجمهورية اليمنية
Rep. of Yemen



A Women's Voluntary Society is Formed

Economic, social and political changes in our society today created many social problems that must be dealt with.

Therefore social voluntary work in the field of women, family and childhood has become an absolute necessary in order to deal with some of such problems. On the other hand, the involvement of the general public in actively participating in the implementation of a Master Development Plan is a concept that no doubt inspires and motivates all types of help from the society to enthusiastically work towards improving on the basic services that are provided to all sectors, segments and classes of society.

For those and other reasons the Yemeni Women Voluntary Society was created recently.

Under the leadership of Aisha Al-Saqqaf, Alia Al-Shohati, Dr. Azza Ghanem, Bilquis Gohari, and others, the organization was started with 30 members. First they were meeting in private homes, each moving to a different house, until the 15th of June 1993, when they opened an official office.

"The objective of our newly-born Society is to work hard to create a launching platform for social voluntary work that targets women. We strive to make available to women the basic services that are currently available to other segments of our society. We look forward to working with all friends and supporters in order to achieve these goals," said Aisha Al Saqqaf, the President of the Society.

Why was the Society Created?

- Working towards initiating and giving support to the projects that are put forward by the Government in the fields of social, health, educational, cultural fields and the environment.
- Taking the initiative, at a local level, to develop, improve on and to achieve a positive change in the society.
- Creating, developing, spreading and maintaining a spirit of social integration between the various members of society.
- Developing the human resources by creating a positive change in the society.
- Achieving further integration of women in the field of social voluntary work in the development projects in support of the efforts of the government in this field.
- Supporting the local efforts that are initiated and directed by the government and the public sector towards the field of voluntary work whilst working, at the same time, towards consolidating all these efforts with a view to bridge the gap between reality and ideal objective.
- Setting up general strategies and requirements for voluntary work, and drawing a list of priorities out of an analysis of a detailed development plan.
- Co-ordinating and co-operating with local, Arabic and international agencies that

are involved in the field of social voluntary work, at the same time ensuring that overlap and repetition of projects are avoided.

- Spreading awareness within the family and the local general public about voluntary work, elucidating the role that the family and society can play in implementing these services, pointing out existing problems and working out suitable means of dealing with such problems.
- Contributing towards improving the level of performance of volunteers working in the field of voluntary work and continuing to develop better and improved methods of working in this field.
- Contributing towards improving the level of performance of volunteers working in the field of voluntary work and continuing to develop better and improved methods of working in this field.
- Responding to dealing with



emergency problems that result from exceptional and abnormal circumstances that inflict local societies and which are caused by natural and other social and environmental disasters.

The Objectives of the Society:

- Developing and improving the educational, cultural and social status of the Yemeni women.
- Improving the financial status and health conditions of the Yemeni family, directing attention and helping the deprived segment of the society to improve on their condition within available means.
- Directing attention towards environment and health care.
- Training of the Yemeni women volunteers to participate in the various voluntary fields.
- Rehabilitating women, developing their potential, educating them and motivating them to become aware of their legal and social rights whilst, at the same time, pointing out their duties towards their family and society.

The Steps to Achieve the Objectives:

- Drawing up of general strategies that deal with the suggested and expected policies with a view to improve on areas of voluntary work.
- Encouraging the formation of women work groups that specialize in various fields and to offer them financial and moral support in order to

achieve the objectives of the Society.

- Organizing charity fairs to argue activities and the services of voluntary work.
- Organizing conferences, study and cultural courses, seminars and meetings between government officials and those working in the voluntary fields.
- Taking part in the preparation of local advertising campaigns to increase the awareness of the general public in voluntary work and the role it would play in improving numerous basic services that offered to the public.
- Publishing the results of researches and practical field studies that will be carried out by the Society and getting abreast of voluntary work in new fields that being implemented in other Arab countries with a view of implementing them after modifying them to suit our local conditions.

Although the Yemeni Women Voluntary Society was started only recently, it has been active since quite a while. It has already taken a few steps towards their aim. They divided their work into two groups:

- In-house work:**
This includes fighting against illiteracy. The society also fosters education in family planning, embroidery, handicraft, etc. Classes for these purposes have already been started.
- Outside work:**
The society plans to work with infants, old people, the handicapped, street children and women in prison. It has encouraged research on some of the above themes. For example, there is an on-going study on women in prison. The idea is to arrive at specific things the society can do to help the female inmates, and to ensure that justice and fair treatment are properly dispensed. It is believed that the rights of many of the women in prison are being compromised. The society is also promoting child-care services in order to give career women a chance to go to work. Yet, the Society is in a dire financial situation. Its main source of income, at the moment, is the YR 100 monthly subscriptions of its members, together with in-kind donations. It hopes to get help from the government, embassies, foreign and local companies, NGOs and philanthropic persons.

By: Fatma Rawah,
Yemen Times.

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- Section H. Distribution Board
- Section K. Over head line hardware
- Section R. Sectionalized and Associated Equipment
- Section T. Tools and Equipment
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Sanaa
Republic of Yemen
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Fax Nos : 967 (1) 263115 or 215670
Telephone : 967 (1) 260170 /1

The cost of the bids is US \$ 200/= (US \$ Two Hundred) or YR 10, 000/= (YR. Ten Thousand), will be received by PEC on or before 10 a.m. Yemen time on 20th September, 1993, at which time the bids will be opened and read publicly. All bids must be accompanied by a surety of not less than 2% of the total amount of the bid, and shall remain valid for a period not less than one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of opening.

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WHO WILL COME TO THE RESCUE OF EDUCATION?

Many discussions and seminars have been taking place, and many articles are being written, on the subject of education. But what will be the outcome of all this rhetoric?

It is true that our standard of education is low from kindergarten to university levels. This is due to a number of lapses in the educational process, such as lack of supervision, the spread of private tutoring, cheating, hindrances in the distribution of school text books, crowded classrooms, weak class performance and a shortage in the number of Yemeni school teachers. All of these, as well as other administrative irresponsibilities, coupled with corruption at the seams of the educational process, have been playing on everyone's mind.

Is the role of the school and the teacher concerned only with education, or does it apply to the teaching of good conduct and morals, or, on the other hand, does it encompass both of these spheres? Yes, schools form part of the educational process, while other parts depend on society, family, and good breeding. In reality, there is a difference between those who lay down the initial rules aiming at the reform and change of negative elements, and those individuals who are corrupt.

Regardless of our utmost estimation of the current educational leadership in all offices of education, and regardless of their concern and struggle for change, their current performance up to now has not shown much prospective in fully tackling the chronic faults and shortcomings within the system. We also recommend the introduction of new blood to assume some of these positions, to take the place of the old, traditional leadership. There should be an application of the principle of reward and punishment, and a ridding of unproductive components. A sudden and unexpected tearing at the seams of the educational apparatus would also lead to change and to an attempt at credibility. Finally, if we want education slowly to develop, it is our duty to start right at the beginning, and our criticism should be constructive.

**Abd al-Kader Hashim al-Khalid,
Raay, Sana'a,
3/8/1993.**

POETRY, CRITICISM, AND THE STATE

The literary editor of al-Wahdah weekly talked to the critic Abd al-Rahman al-Ahdal. Here are excerpts from the interview:

Q: How did you find yourself being drawn into the realm of criticism?

A: It began with a comprehensive study of poetry, short stories, novels, and criticisms, but criticism was my main criterion.

Q: You also have some interest in poetry, and have written poems, although you are known chiefly as a critic. What part does poetry play in your literary journey, and in what criteria do you find it

applies to you?

A: I think that, to a great extent, the statement that 'poetry is the father of all the arts' is sound. I would say that poetry is a language, but criticism is knowing that language, and this is essential. Thus, the other subjects, the other 'languages', come as aids to the critic - the fields of fine arts, for example, or psychology, philosophy, sociology and so on.

Q: When you write poetry, do you play the role of the critic on what you write?

A: At first I let myself fly in the realm of my imagination and my own sensations. Criticism comes within the evaluation of what is beautiful, but if it goes further, affecting my moment of inspiration, I put a stop to it and bring it to an end.

Q: Through your constant follow-up of poetic creation in our country, what would you say are its features and achievements?

A: Achievement usually lies in materialistic elements, while creativity is something spiritual, and its influence on people's feelings, emotions, morals and social values is clear. I don't agree with those who say that poetry motivates the public media or topples governments. What is clear is how to direct society in a moral sense. And if it happened that a certain poem in this or that country has a political impact, it would be due to the politicians who choose to make of such poems a cause or a justification to provoke the media into leading an uprising which could serve their political cause. This does not mean that poetry has no interaction or impact on readers' emotions, but, as I see it, it has this moral, or sensational, impact.

Q: As a critic, how do you interpret the absence of critical seminars, and does this have an impact on the movement of creativity?

A: I don't agree with those who combine literary productivity and criticism. There is no necessity to practice criticism in every literary publication. Any literary work that does not appeal to your feelings will not be creative if you try to get to the bottom of it. Also, I don't believe that criticism feeds creativity; we are not preachers, preaching directly to the talented.

Q: How do you assess the role of the cultural foundations? What is required?

A: It seems that the official cultural foundations in the Arab nations are founded in order to place impediments in front of cultural development. Our country is no exception. We need to stop causing harm to the talented, creative people among us.

Q: The Yemeni Literary Union exists in a state of idleness and inactivity. What is your comment on this?

A: The Union lacks a cultural project. Before Yemeni unification the whole process was concerned with unification and what this embodied. After unification, and with the practice of democracy and democratic thought, some disharmony and the replacement of the old secretariat by a new one had some influence on progress.

Q: How do you assess the role of the other Arab literary unions from your participation

in their conferences?

A: To me, I feel there is political control by the Arab regimes at these conferences. Believe me, these meetings can make you feel as though you are attending a foreign ministers' meeting.

Q: How do you view your appointment as a cultural consultant to the Ministry of Culture?

A: I thank the President for his nomination, but I am convinced that the Ministry of Culture provides negative culture, and we can best serve this cause from outside the official apparatus.

Q: What are the major trials of the cultural media?

A: Without a doubt, the problems are inter-related, and we must adhere to the issues of the nation and make clear the harm corruption in the state apparatus does to the country. If we are to specialize, then, it must be in a refusal to accept the failure of the authorities to correct us.

**Al-Wahdah, Sana'a,
4/8/1993.**

ARMED REPRESENTATIVES

I don't know how best to describe the scenes before the House of Representatives.

Are our politicians overcome with fear, or is it a crisis of credibility? Where, then, is the thinking mind to grasp the reality of the catastrophe that might, at any moment, befall these henchmen, all armed to the teeth, gathering in their hundreds and waiting at the House? This is a real violation of the law, of security, and of safety.

What has happened to the new members of parliament, that they are left looking over their shoulders in all directions? It is as though nothing unites them to the people except for those doubtful looks and glances.

What we want and believe in is an empathy, a tolerance and an accountability between the nation and its politicians. But when fear prevails, the space between us becomes crowded and suffocating.

Any friction, any failed arbitration leading to the use of arms, whether light or heavy - or even the use of explosives - just think of the consequences if such a conflict should occur before the House of Representatives! The thought is unimaginable. Who would be the arbitrators if such a violation occurred in front of the House? Naturally, the members themselves are responsible, but who might provoke or tempt them to act in this way?

Is it the fear of the absence of a system of law that has imposed such behavior on them?

It is worth mentioning that these new representatives are affiliated to political parties and organizations, and that they are civilized folk, and since they are civilized and educated why is this appearance of violence emerging? Does having armed bodyguards add a kind of kudos? Why not appear among the public just like any other ordinary citizen?

**Abdu Hussain Ahmad,
Al-Ayyam, Aden,
4/8/1993.**

A MEDICAL CURE ABROAD?

These days the party-affiliated media often speaks of the phenomenon they call the 'season of foreign medical treatment tourism' at the government's expense.

Informed sources refer to the tens of officials who have traveled abroad under the official banner of medical check ups and remedy-seeking, but the sources disclose that these treatment trips are merely for the purpose of taking a foreign vacation. The sources also add that these tours drain a lot of state funds, reaching millions of dollars, for most of these traveling cure cases do not warrant travel or treatment abroad.

In addition, most of them take with them their wives and children, and even their henchmen. It is a total waste of general funds. On the contrary, logic necessitates a reduction of expenditure and a strict stand vis-à-vis administrative and financial corruption and wastage.

It is worth mentioning that Yemen is a poor country, and suffers from an inflation rate reaching 1000%, with debts estimated at more than seven billion US dollars. Sources also note that this practice of traveling to Europe takes place in the summer months. Security sources regard such behavior as exceeding official authority, and say there is a new phenomenon in post-unification Yemen, the thinking that there is a green light for any budget expenditure that does not inflame political differences. It is to be expected that some members

will soon introduce the case into parliament, since it is difficult for our poets and philosophers to get one riyal towards a check-up or a cure even inside the country.

**Abd al-Salaam al-Burkani,
Al-Naba, Sana'a,
5/8/1993.**

IS THERE A SECOND WIND FOR YEMEN?

Praise by a foreigner, even when that praise is hypocritical or stems from mere flattery, makes us happy. We have no faith in ourselves unless someone else proves the point for us. We like boasting and exaggeration more than any other people on earth, and when talking about our past we never get fed up with repeating statements about the greatness of our history and culture. We never stop talking about the superiority of Yemeni this and that, from clothing and folklore up to our division of authority, and anyone who says anything different will be accused of active treason. He who dares to say ancient Greece was the fount of wisdom and philosophy will be looked on as an American spy or (in the past) a Russian agent, or even a Freemason, for we, and we only, are the nation of faith and wisdom. When the elections took place we claimed we had attained one of the greatest achievements of humanity.

In reality, what we think of as an achievement is a natural thing in the rest of the world. We should take note of our real situation. On the political, economic, and social levels we are still taking the first steps, for half our people, frankly

speaking, are dying of hunger and cholera. We are all waiting for the welfare oil will bring, including the end of unemployment. Our cities have no need for suspension bridges; we do not need the transfer of a Disneyland to Yemen. What we want is the transfer of our bags of decaying garbage from our houses to where they belong. We want to be rescued from disease.

At first I was frustrated when I learned that folk abroad don't know anything about our democracy or our constitutional amendments. Then I began to ask myself, why do they tell us we stand before the eyes of the world? Who cares? Yes, the state is preoccupied with amendments, mergers, blocks and reconciliation, but corruption has spread, and there is an increase in the rate of taxation and unemployment. We are the only people who celebrate five national Eids, with twice as many unofficial ones. He who complains and criticizes the praise we receive is regarded as a traitor to the nation. This is intimidation in itself. Nationalism does not spring from anthems. It comes through hard work on behalf of the country. The Japanese have created success without anthems.

Yes, we are on the first step of a comprehensive awakening, and nothing will pull us further unless we acknowledge this. Serious work towards evolution, progress and construction is what we need more than anything. We don't need to carry on talking about our enlightened past.

**Izz al-Din Saeed Ahmad,
Sawt al-Ommal, Sana'a,
5/8/1993.**



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SCABIES: That too is on the Rise!

Dr. Yasin Al-Qubati,
Dermatologist and Director,
NLCP, Taiz.

It all started one day when a young man, about 18, entered my private clinic. He was rubbing his skin harshly. "It is itching me," he said without raising his head. He was busy looking at the result of his scrubbing. A quick inspection gave away the whole story. The whole body was full of spots,

I began to go back to my files, and I discovered that the number of patients who came to me with scabies has risen sharply recently. I picked up the phone and called fellow dermatologists in Taiz and Ibb, and they confirmed my fears - there is a dramatic rise in the cases of scabies referred to them.

Scabies is basically a poor man's disease. It comes from lack of proper sanitation, lack of washing and facilities for physical cleanliness. Yet, in Yemen, some of the patients are among the well-to-do in society, which explains the cultural problems regarding adequate care in cleaning up the living environment of the family and the individual. Finally, as a contagious disease, scabies can easily affect the family if one member gets it.

If that is the case with individuals and families, you can imagine what the situation is like in places of group lodging such as prisons, military camps,

etc. I would reckon it is a serious problem, which unfortunately, is not given enough attention.

Scabies is a skin disease caused by a parasite called *Sarcoptes Scabiei*. It causes skin rash and leaves behind reddened skin spots on various parts of the body.

Let me list ten reasons why I think the incidence of this disease has been on the rise:

1. The supply of clean water has been inadequate, specially in cities. For example, in Taiz city, water is piped to the homes once every week.
2. Congestion of houses and the increasing density of people in cities due to the high rural-to-urban migration rate.
3. The group living and working conditions (military camps, industries, schools, etc.) which are new to us.
4. The high cost of living, and the continued deterioration in the standard of living. Thus, the poorer segment of the population are exposed to many problems because they can't

afford to buy the necessary protection and/or medicine.

5. The Ministry of Health no longer provides free or subsidized medicine which had been critical in helping the poor among the patients. Thus, imported medicine costs a lot of money, specially in light of the fall of the Riyal from 4.5 to the dollar to 45 to the dollar over the last decade or so.

6. The absence of proper controls in the medical services and in the kind of medicine

mentation and reporting of the problem. A patient would live with his/her problem thus creating the likelihood of infecting the persons around him/her.

9. The system of re-sell of used/old garments within washing/cleaning them. At the same time, you can see the new owner of a used garment put it on without also washing it.

10. The arrival of many people in large numbers from neighboring countries without proper medical inspection or certification.

Returnees and refugees have become the bearers of many medical problems, including scabies.

There are a number of things that be done by individuals and communities to fight this issue. But they need two main

things:

- a. They need to be educated on the subject, and I think the media and schools can play a major role in this.
- b. They need the government to assist them in better management and planning, and in providing the minimum of the services required to combat the disease.



citizens are offered. Thus pharmacies and drug stores sell products which are ineffective for many reasons, particularly because they have expired.

7. Improper sanitation and hygiene, specially in prisons. We have observed in the Taiz, Lahej and Ibb prisons that nearly 60% of the inmates have scabies.

8. The absence of proper docu-

The Yemenization of Education

By: **Laila Noman,**
Lecturer, Post-graduate studies,
University of Sana'a.

We are now a new and very young democracy - we are also a developing country. Much has to be done in all fields, but two of the most important fields in any country are those of education and health. These two areas tend to give a fairly accurate idea of the level of development or lack of it - in a country. I am glad to see that we have two young, vigorous ministers in charge of these ministries, Dr. Abubakar Al-Kirby and Dr. Nageeb Ghanem. We look forward to the necessary and persistent changes in the near future.

To be a successful democracy, it is important to be as self-sufficient as possible with regard to manpower. While we are most grateful for the foreign assistanceso critical to our country, we must strive for more independence in these basic services and infrastructure. When we talk or even think about Yemenization, the very first step we have to think of is training. Without adequate training of Yemenis, we cannot begin to organize and establish ourselves as an independent, democratic country in the true sense.

One of the most obvious places to begin is in the field of education, for education is the key to development. It has to be the right kind of education, of course, and to have the right kind of quality. It is no use having thousands of graduates with a poor level of education, therefore we have to think of QUALITY and not of mere QUANTITY as a vital part of our educational system. It is also important to have different levels of training. Not everyone can be, or needs to be, a university graduate. People need to be made more aware of the need for the skilled and semi-skilled worker alongside the graduate. One cannot function without the other.

So where should we begin? There are many areas, but the University of Sana'a would be a good place to start. On the subject of Yemenization there are many questions we need to ask ourselves:

- Why do we have so many foreign staff members?
- Why is the infrastructure for the training of Yemeni staff so poor, in fact almost non-existent?
- Why are the rules for in-service promotion so rigid and inflexible?

- Who perpetuates the 'diploma disease', or should I say PhD disease, which is so apparent within the university system?

Is it possible that among 14 million Yemenis we cannot find enough able people to staff our universities and schools? The law of averages would probably not support this fact.

As I mentioned earlier, while we are very grateful to our foreign friends, we have to plan for the future of our children and our country. With all due respect, only a Yemeni can truly understand and appreciate our needs. Therefore we need more responsible, qualified Yemenis making decisions on education for our children, who are our future.

We should also think of the incredible cost of foreign staff and experts, who are paid in foreign exchange. For a foreign currency-starved nation, we cannot afford to go on ad infinitum paying foreign currency. In any case, do we really need so many foreigners with PhDs teaching undergraduates, for example?

It is always easy to criticize in a general way, but maybe some of the following specific suggestions will help improve the situation, or at least give food for thought:

1. Improve the system for local staff training, at least to the Master's level.
2. Improve local salaries and benefits.
3. Examine syllabi within the various faculties, and streamline courses so that maximum benefit is gained.
4. Make periodic examinations of what is happening in the lecture-hall: what is being taught, are students monitored, does the lecturer attend regularly?
5. Make regular assessments of the country's needs regarding graduates in different areas - do we need thousands of law graduates every year, for example?
6. Have an honest, realistic system of entrance qualifications: only capable students should be given university places.
7. Ensure job opportunities for graduates in their specialized fields after graduation. Why study history and go into business?

We often give lip-service to the phrase 'the right person in the right job'. What about 'the right Yemeni in the right job' as a goal for the next five years - in the field of education as a beginning maybe?

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

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INDONESIA ON ITS 48th NATIONAL DAY: A Nation Looks into the 21st Century

ISSUES IN POLITICAL & ECONOMIC POLICY MAKING

1. INDONESIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

The principles underlying Indonesia's foreign policy were expanded for the first time by Mohammad Hatta on September 2nd, 1948, at Yogyakarta, Central Java. In a session of the Working Group of Central National Committee of Indonesia, the forerunner of Indonesian Parliament, Vice President Hatta, concurrently Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, clarified the government's stand on various domestic and international issues. Refuting the premise of the People's Democratic Front of Indonesia's Communist Party that the best foreign policy for Indonesia would be to side with Russia in the Cold War between Russia and America, Hatta stated: "Do we, as Indonesians, in the struggle for freedom of our people and our country, only have to choose between Russia and America? Is there any other stand that we can take in the pursuit of our ideals?" The government is of the firm opinion that the best policy to adopt is one which does not make us the object of an international conflict. On the contrary, we must reserve the right to decide our own destiny and fight for the whole of Indonesia." The above statement was an indication of the middle road taken in international relations, which later became known as "mendayug di antara dua karang" or rowing between two reefs.

This principle is the base of Indonesia's foreign policy. This is both independent and active. The policy is independent because Indonesia does not blindly side with any world power. As a matter of principle, its decisions are dictated by the country's national philosophy and identity as guided by Pancasila. The foreign policy is active to the extent that Indonesia does not maintain a passive or reactive stand on international issues but seeks active participation in their settlement. In other words, Indonesia's independence and active foreign policy is not a neutral policy, but it is one that does not align Indonesia with any super power on a fixed basis, nor does it bind the country to any military pact. Essentially it is a policy designed to serve the national interest, while simultaneously allowing Indonesia to cooperate with other nations to abolish colonialism and imperialism in all their forms and manifestations for the sake of world peace and social justice. This explains why Indonesia was one of the founding members of the Non-Aligned Movement. Any country's foreign policy is a reflection of its national aspirations vis-a-vis the rest of the world. It is a component of the country's geopolitical strategy. Based on these premises, the primary objectives of Indonesia's foreign policy are:

- a. To support national development with priority to economic development, as set out in the Five-Year Development Plans;
- b. To preserve internal and regional stability conducive to national development;
- c. To protect the territorial integrity of Indonesia and safeguard the people's place of abode.

2. INDONESIA AND THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

The roots of the Non-Aligned Movement lies in Bandung, Indonesia, in the Asian-African Conference held in April 1955, which is acknowledged as the conceptual precursor of Non-Aligned Movement. Indonesia had the honor of hosting this conference. The stages, facts and documents of the Conference are still preserved in the Asian-African Conference Museum in Bandung. The final document of the Conference, the Bandung Declaration, which was later known as Dasa Sila Bandung (The Ten Bandung Principles) was adopted in a meeting which brought together President Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia, President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India, and Indonesia's President on July, 18-19, 1956. The first summit of Heads of states or governments of the Non-Aligned Movement countries held in Belgrade, September 1-6, 1961, endorsed the Bandung Declaration. Looking back at the history of the Non-Aligned Movement, it is obvious that Indonesia, along with Egypt, Yugoslavia, India and Ghana played a leading role.

However, Indonesia today is deeply saddened by the tragic chain of events that has engulfed one of the founding members of the movement - the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Unfortunately, the country has been divided into separate and independent states, with the Bosnia-Herzegovina situation reaching alarming levels. The fighting is exacting a high and horrifying toll in innocent lives, especially among the Muslim population; in the wanton destruction of historical and religious landmarks; and in the atrocious eviction and detention of indigenous inhabitants. Indonesia long before the First Belgrade Summit in 1961 and the Asian-African Conference in 1955, had committed itself to Non-Alignment. It was 45 years ago, in September 1948, when then Prime Minister Mohammad Hatta first proclaimed Indonesia's active, independent and non-aligned policy as the central tenet of Indonesia's external policy. "A nation which adheres to the principle of free and active foreign policy and is bound by its constitution, is obliged to participate in implementation of world order based on freedom, lasting peace and social justice. In September 1992, Indonesia hosted the Tenth Summit of the Heads of States and Governments of the Non-Aligned Movement and is presently chairs the Non-Aligned Movement.

Indonesia believes that the Non-Aligned Movement is still relevant to present international relations, because there is no more pressure to be aligned to any political and military camp. President Soeharto emphasized in his inaugural address to the Tenth Summit that the Ten Bandung Principles have remained as valid and as relevant to today's world as they were 38 years ago. "Our world is still far from being a peaceful and secure place. So the Non-Aligned

Movement has to play a visible role in creating the new world order. We must also ensure that this new world order - to which leaders of industrialized world often refer - does not turn out to be a new version of the old patterns of domination. A document of the Jakarta Summit, "The Jakarta Message: A Call for Collective Action and The Democratization of International Relations," stressed that the present new era in international relations has renewed hopes for building a new and equitable international order, hopes for stable peace and common security, and hopes for economic and social justice. Such a new order must be firmly rooted in the rule of law, the principles of the United Nations Charter as well as on equitable sharing and joint commitment to global cooperation and solidarity. The voice of the Non-Aligned Movement must be heard without inhibitions, in such a way that a new world order, based on multilateralism and international democracy is clearly established. Towards this end, President Soeharto as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, has started a dialogue with the Group of Seven (industrial) nations in order to activate the North-South dialogue. Thus, President Soeharto acting on an invitation from Prime Minister Miyazawa on behalf of the leaders of the G7 went to Tokyo and for dialogue with them. He submitted a document for dialogue with the G7 entitled "An Invitation to Dialogue: A Message to the Leaders of the Group of Seven by the Chairman of Non-Aligned Movement." Mr. Koichiro Matsuura, who arrived in Jakarta and met with President Soeharto

3. THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STAGE OF INDONESIA

With the establishment of the NEW ORDER GOVERNMENT of Indonesia in 1966, the country quickly re-established constructive relationships with key multilateral organizations so as to enable it to attain high economic development growth rates. The NEW ORDER GOVERNMENT emphasized the importance of economic development and put in place a series of measures establishing the groundwork for a modern economic system. The Guidelines of the State Policy incorporated in the Five Year Development Plans provide the basis for Indonesia's economic development program. Democracy and political stability are essential prerequisites for investment.

As a result, and in light of the oil-boom in the 1970s, the growth rapidly of the Indonesian economy accelerated. The regular five-year development plans have provided a baseline for action and decision-making, both at the private and government levels. Next year, 1994, Indonesia will embark on its Sixth Five-Year Development Plan, which targets Indonesia as the new industrialized country of the region.

The Indonesian economy has already become increasingly driven by value added in the industrial sector. The extracting industry has done extremely well. Oil production grew by an average of 6.7% yearly, while oil exports rapidly increased to more than six-folds reached to \$33.9 billion in 1992. A similar success is achieved in the manufacturing sector. The manufacturing sector is growing rapidly, and for certain products the annual growth rate was more than 50%. The goods manufactured in Indonesia consist mainly of consumer products. The principal industrial products are textiles, garments, leather goods, cigarettes, automobiles, motor cycles, furniture, televisions, radios, cassette players, pharmaceuticals, basic metals, steel, tinplate, chemicals, wood, cement, fertilizer, crumb rubber, heavy equipment, tractors, machinery tools, engineering goods, plastic goods, glass products, yarn, industrial textiles, electronic equipment, aircraft and ships. Today the manufacturing sector employs some eight million people or over 10% of the total work-force.

Yet, it is agriculture which provides employment for the majority of the country's workforce - some 53%. The main agriculture products are rice, cassava, corn, palm, rubber, coffee, tea, sugar, spices and cocoa beans, while the fish products are mainly shrimp and tuna.

Trade plays a vital and growing role in Indonesia's economic well-being. Statistics reveal a steady growth in Indonesia exports, from an initial base of agricultural products, through large and growing oil and natural gas exports, and finally, to rising exports of manufactured products. Together, these exports have grown to become the largest source of foreign exchange earnings for the country. Over the past few years, rapid expansion in Indonesia's productive capacity has allowed the country to meet a higher proportion of its domestic consumption and investment needs, and to still leave behind a large volume of goods for export. The Government has introduced many measures to stimulate the production base and the export potential of the country. As a result of sound management and political stability, Indonesia enjoyed rapid economic growth and positive trade flows.

According to Central Bureau of Statistics, Indonesia earned \$14.9 billion from exports during the five manufactured goods. This year, the government is organizing the 8th "RESOURCE INDONESIA '93". This is a drive to aggressively market Indonesia products in potential markets. There is a large exhibition of products organized in the country during 26-31, October, 1993. It will be a forum through which buyers, traders, businessmen and manufacturers can establish and strengthen their contacts. The last exhibition "RESOURCE INDONESIA '92" attracted more than 3,000 businessmen from 80 countries. Brochures for the exhibition are available at the Indonesian Embassy in Sanaa.

BASIC FACTS



INDONESIA: The Land and the People

Indonesia is the largest archipelago in the world. It consists of five major islands and about 30 smaller groups. Altogether there are 13,667 islands and islets, of which about 5,000 are inhabited. The archipelago is a crossroad between two oceans, the Pacific and the Indian, and bridge two continents, Asia and Australia. This strategic position has always influenced the cultural, social, political and economic life of the country. The territory of the Republic of Indonesia stretches from 6°08' north latitude to 11°15' south latitude, and from 94°45' to 141°05' east longitude. The Indonesian sea area is about 1.9 million sq km. The sea area is about 7.9 million sq km (including an exclusive economic zone) and constitutes about 81% of the total area of the country. The five main islands are: Sumatra about 473,606 sq km; Java -Madura, about 132,107 sq km in size; Kalimantan, about 539 sq km in size; Sulawesi, about 189,216 sq km; and Irian Jaya about 421,981 sq km is part of the world's second largest island. Some 130 different local languages are spoken in the archipelago divided into three groups. The islands of Java, Sumatra and Kalimantan, and the small islands in-between, lie on the Sunda shelf which began on the coasts of Malaysia and Indo-China, where the sea depth does not exceed 200 feet. Irian Jaya which is part of the island of New Guinea, and the Irian Islands lie on the Sahul shelf, which stretches northwards from the Australian coast. Here the sea depth is similar to that of the Sunda shelf. Located between these two shelves is the island group of Nusa Tenggara, Maluku, Sulawesi, where the sea depth reaches 15,000 feet. Coastal plains have been developed around the islands of Sumatra, Java, Kalimantan and Irian Jaya. The land area generally covered by thick tropical rain forest, where fertile soils are continuously replenished by volcanic eruptions on the island of Java. After the Peoples Republic of China,

India and the United States of America, Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country. According to the 1992 census, the population was 180 million and an average annual population growth during the decade of the mid-1980s was 2.1%, which dropped to 1.9% in the end of 1990s. The population policy is directed toward development of the population as human resources in order that national development can be effective and valuable, while the quality of life gradually improving. Meanwhile the control of population growth is carried out through efforts to lower the birth and mortality rate, especially that of infants and children. These efforts in particular have been implemented through family planning programs which also have the purpose of improving the welfare of mother and child and at the same time create small, happy and prosperous family. There are about 383 languages and dialects spoken in the archipelago. They normally belong to the different ethnic group of the population. Some of the most widely different local languages are: Achinese, Batak, Sasak, Sundanese, Javanese, Ternate, Dayak, Minahasa, Toraja, Buginese, Halahala, Amakone, Seramese and several Irianese. To make the picture even more colorful, these languages are also spoken in different dialects. The national language of Indonesia is BAHASA INDONESIA. Originally it was Malay language mainly spoken in Riau Islands. Its spread throughout the country, its vocabulary and idioms have been enriched by a great number of local languages. To keep pace with religious, social and cultural progress, many words and terms have been derived from foreign languages, including Dutch, Chinese, Sanskrit, Arabic and later, Portuguese. Although Bahasa Indonesia has become the lingua franca, local languages and dialects continue to be spoken and will not be abolished.

ISLAM IN INDONESIA

The population of Indonesia is the fourth largest in the world after China, India and the United States. The number of Indonesia's population is 180 million of which 90 percent are muslim or equivalent with 160 million or the first largest muslim country in the world. Though Islam is the majority, recognized and treated equally as it is required by the Indonesian 1945 Constitution as well as Indonesia state philosophy PANCASILA. PANCASILA or Five Principles is interrelated principles and the first principle is BELIEVE IN ONE AND ONLY GOD reaffirms that Indonesian believe in God and that God exist. This also implies that Indonesian believe in life after death. It emphasizes that the pursuit of sacred values will lead the people to a better life in the hereafter. To break down the first principle, it is embodied in the 1945 Constitution article 29 section 1 that The guarantees the freedom of every citizen to embrace his/her own religion. Consequently there are Christianity, Buddhism and Hinduism in Indonesia and they are treated equally with Islam by the Government of Indonesia and live in peaceful co-existence with Muslim and provide them an opportunity to practice and develop their own religion. The latest findings of Indonesian historical experts give proof of the fact that Islam was introduced to the population of Indonesia in the century of Islamic era (Hijriyah) or between the Seventh and Eight Century of the Christian era. The part of Indonesia which first came into contact with Islam was the coast of Sumatra and after Islamic Kingdom had been established in Aceh, Islam spread out to western part of the Indonesian territory. According to these findings, Islam came into Indonesia through Arab merchants directly from where Islam was born namely Saudi Arabia and the merchants from southern part of Arabia peninsula (south Yemen). When Islam was introduced by these merchants, in fact Hinduism and Buddhism had been existed and they had particularly Hinduism and Buddhism their own Kings such as Sriwijaya in Sumatra, Gajah Mada Empire in Java. First Indian migrants, who introduced Hinduism, came to Indonesia in first century and Indian who introduced Buddhism came in the first and second century. The Kingdom of Gajah Mada was the most powerful and it had contact with Champa Kingdom in North Vietnam, Kampuchea and the Philippines (1331-1364). It lasted only until 1520. On the other hand, Christianity was introduced by Portuguese in 1511 after they conquest of the Islamic Kingdom of Malacca on the Malay peninsula. The Portuguese was followed by Spaniards and Dutch in 1602 as the beginning of Dutch colonialism. After the fall of Majapahit in 1520, Islam spread further east where the Sultanates of Bone and Goa in Sulawesi were established as well as Sultanates of Ternate and Tidore in Maluku islands. By this time, almost all part of Indonesia had been under the control of Islamic Sultanates. According to those historical facts, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Christianity have been embraced by Indonesian since long time ago. All these religious adherents have been living in peaceful co-existence and during the war against the Dutch they had cooperated to gain Indonesian struggle for independence and the success of Indonesia's development programs were supported by religious harmony. Indonesians believe that religious harmony is a precondition toward national unity, national resilience and national integration in order to be able to carry out national development programs on all fields. In this connection, the Government emphasized the necessity of Three Harmonies namely: Internal Harmony among religious adherents; Harmony among different religious followers and Harmony between religious communities and the government. To achieve third goal policy steps have been taken with regard to schools of beliefs, missionary activities, religious propagation etc. As a reflection of religious harmony in Indonesia, an inter-religious consultative body has been formed and a code of ethics provided for relations between various religious adherents.

INDONESIA'S TOURISM INDUSTRY

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT

With 1991 officially designated as "Visit Indonesia Year" tourism arrivals were expected to surpass the two million mark by the early 1990. The mighty archipelago of Indonesia and the multiplicity of culture and traditions found throughout its 13,667 islands gives Indonesia a spectrum of tourism options virtually without equal. Whether in search of culture, rugged adventure, anthropological or biological studies or more relaxation amid beautiful and graceful surroundings, visitors to Indonesia will find an enormous variety of tourist choice.

TOURISM IN THE ECONOMY

In 1987, Indonesia for the first time welcomed over one million visitors in a single year. By 1989, that number had jumped to over 1,440,000, the current projection for the early 1990s of two million arrivals provides strong evidence that tourism in Indonesia is continuing to accelerate rapidly. By the "Visit Indonesia Year 1991" campaign, the number of tourist arrivals in Indonesia is projected to reach 2.5-3 million a year by 1993. Due to the geographical location in Southeast Asia, the profile of tourist arrivals to Indonesia reflects regional proximities. In 1989, visitors from Japan topped the list of arrivals as both tourist and business visitors. Next were tourists from other countries such as Australia, Singapore and Malaysia. In addition, there are growing number of tourist arriving from North America-the United States and Canada, together with a showing Western Europe as well.

Medan, Batu Ampar on Batam Island; Tanjung Priok in Jakarta; Tanjung Perak in Surabaya, Benoa in Bali, Ambon in the Moluccas and Bitung in North Sulawesi. A number of major international cruise call regularly at Indonesian ports, including Royal Viking Line, Seven Seas, Ocean Cruise, Oriental and CTC. The state-owned shipping company, PT PELNT, is the major carrier of inter Indonesia passenger ships which travel daily to all major ports throughout the archipelago.

HOTELS

Indonesia there exists a wide variety of accommodations for tourists and travellers. These range from simple home-stay in small towns and villages to luxury world-class hotels in the big cities and resort areas. At the lower end of the scale, simple "penginapan" -tiny hotels not formally rated by the Directorate General of Tourism - are found throughout the archipelago, sometimes for as little as US\$3 a night. In many out-of-the-way places, these and similar accommodations are available. The greatest concentration of upscale hotels in Indonesia, is of course in the larger cities, specially in Jakarta and in the resort areas of Bali. Many of the world's best-known international hotel groups such as the Inter-Continental, Hilton International, Hyatt, Mandarin Oriental, Oberoi and Sheraton - already own or operate



TOURIST ENTRY POLICIES

To increase the influx of tourist to Indonesia several policies have been pursued such as visa exemption for a period of two months to tourist from 42 countries of potential tourism market. To obtain a visa-free entry tourist are required to produce proof of outbound travel (e.g. return ticket). Those wishing to stay longer are required to leave the country but may return immediately and have the two months visa reissued. Indonesia now operates seven domestic airports equipped with customs and immigration facilities for receiving international arrivals. The three newest international airports are Batam Island, adjacent to Singapore (Batu Ampar Airport); Ambon, capital city of the Moluccas (Patimura Airport); and Biak in Irian Jaya (Frans Kaisepo Airport); Indonesia's gateway to the pacific. These new arrival points join Indonesia's four established gateway airports: Jakarta's Soekarno-Hatta Airport, North Sumatra capital of Medan and Simpang Tiga Airport at the Central Sumatra. Overseas carriers operating in Indonesia include a range of airlines from Europe, Asia and Australia, including Lufthansa, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Swissair, Finnair, UTA, Acroflot, Singapore Airlines, Cathay Pacific, Malaysia Airline System, Japan Airline, Tai Airways and Quantas. Domestic air travel in Indonesia is available in 33 large cities and more than 100 smaller towns, and is handled largely by Merpati Nusantara Airways, Garuda's subsidiary for domestic travel. In addition, a number of private airlines, including Bouraq, Mandala and Pelita, provide limited regional transportation services. For ocean travel, Indonesia has designated seven seaports as official gateways; Belawan Harbor in

hotels in Indonesia. Other well-known international hotels set to open in Indonesia in the 1990s include Meridien, Regent, Pullman and Holiday Inn. The island of Bali specifically targeted by Indonesian planners as the central point for the luxury traveller in Indonesia, currently experiences a great surge in hotel construction. The focal point of Bali's large tourist complex is Nusa Dua on the southeastern tip of the island. Among the new hotel commitments announced elsewhere in the archipelago is the U.S. based Sheraton Corporation, which is progressing



with plans to develop and operate a chain of more than 20 hotels throughout the Indonesian archipelago. These will include five-star facilities in Jakarta and Bali, together with a string of more moderately priced hotels in secondary cities. The first two hotels in this venture named Sheraton Inns will open in the late 1990s in the regional centers of Lampung in Southern Sumatra and Bandung in West Java. Tourists of all classes are most welcome to enjoy the classic hospitality of the Indonesian people.

Statement by Indonesia's Ambassador in Sanaa

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatu-Allah wa barakatuh.



Praise be to Almighty for it is only with His blessing that the bilateral relations between the Government of Indonesia and Yemen are good and cordial. First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Yemen who have welcomed me amongst them and have

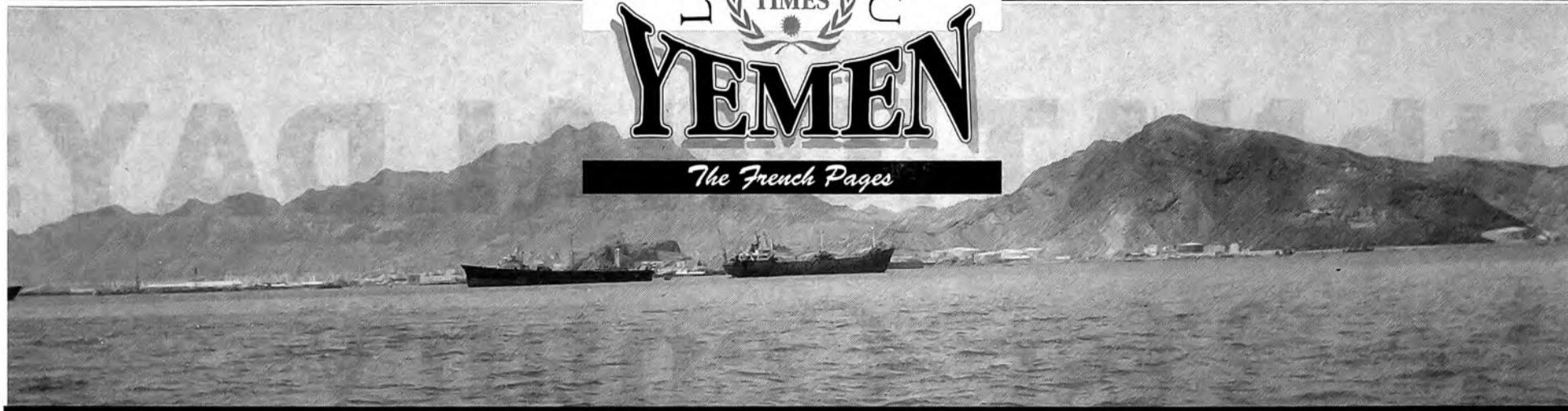
rendered a great help in the opening of the Indonesian embassy in Sanaa, in November last year. I am very pleased to be the first resident ambassador of Indonesia to Sana'a. The staff of the Embassy and myself are looking forward to the strengthening of our bilateral relations in all fields. Historically, the long existing relations between the peoples of Indonesia and Yemen have been strong. These relations have existed before the establishment of diplomatic relations between the governments of Indonesia and the Yemen. Contacts between the peoples of the two countries were focused on religious and trade exchange. Consequently, there are many Indonesian citizens who trace their origins to Yemen. They are part of the 180 million of Indonesians, of which some 90% are Muslims. Unfortunately there have been no studies to trace the historic relations of Indonesia and Yemen. Please note that many Indonesians of Yemeni origin, specially from Hadhramaut.



That historical background and the many shared beliefs and principles create common perceptions and attitudes toward national and international issues, and have provided the basic prerequisite for cordial relations between our two nations. Thus diplomatic relations and the opening of Indonesian Embassy in Sanaa, as well as Yemen's embassy in Jakarta, are there to enhance further an existing relationship between the peoples of the two countries. In the context of the present international and regional development and problems Indonesia and Yemen do share the same perception and position. This is due to the fact that our two countries are developing countries, members of the Non-Aligned Movement, Organization of Islamic Conference as well as the United Nations. The teachings of the Islamic religion have guided and brought our two countries national and international activities together.

Now let me touch upon the possibilities of developing our bilateral relations as culmination of our mission here in Sanaa. The enhancement of our bilateral relations and cooperation based on mutual understanding and benefits depends on what we do together. Yemen could benefit from the experience of Indonesia in economic and social development. President of Indonesia, H.E. Al-Haj Muhammad Suharto received awards from the United Nations for Indonesia's success in rice self-sufficiency in 1984 and for success in family planning program in 1985. Indonesia is now exporting many commodities such as air planes, computers and cars. Garments, furniture and agricultural products have become traditional export commodities which are competitive in prices. Indonesia has provided training on family planning program to many developing countries as a part of Indonesia's technical cooperation among developing countries. As Chairman of NAM and committed to the Final Documents of the 10th Jakarta Summit, Indonesia offers training in family planning program and in farming to many developing countries. Finally I would like to congratulate the Government and people of Yemen for successfully holding general elections in April this year. Let me also on this auspicious occasion to congratulate the Government and people of Yemen for the upcoming anniversary of the Yemeni Revolution. My Government and I as well as the staff of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Sana'a wish that the Government and people of Yemen continued prosperity, progress, and a promising future.

LE TEMPS DU
YEMEN
The French Pages



**SPECIAL
ADEN**

Depuis l'unification des deux Yémen, Aden, l'ancienne capitale du sud, se sent abandonnée. Désignée capitale économique du pays, elle n'en a que le titre. Tout désormais se passe à Sanaa. Deux projets pourtant devraient modifier le visage d'Aden. Le premier, la zone franche, semble plutôt mal parti. Le deuxième, la 'Maison Rimbaud', est en cours de réalisation, après une longue période d'incertitude.

Zone Franche: le projet fantôme

Trois ans après son lancement, le projet n'a guère avancé. La loi instituant les zones franches a bien été votée en mars dernier, mais à Sanaa, personne ne semble beaucoup croire à l'avenir de la zone franche d'Aden. Tout reste à faire.

"Je suis optimiste sur l'avenir de la zone franche d'Aden", répète inlassablement, comme une formule incantatoire, Abdul Gawi Mohammed Rashad, membre du Comité des Zones franches. Et pourtant le discours qu'il tient ensuite ne prête pas à l'optimisme.

**Manque
de volonté politique**

Les difficultés de la zone franche d'Aden, où les entreprises seraient exemptées de droits de douanes, se résument simplement: "Pour attirer les investisseurs étrangers, il faut mettre en place les infrastructures qui font défaut à la ville, c'est-à-dire, tous les services: l'eau, l'électricité, les routes, les télécommunications, les égouts. Les routes ont été construites il y a trente ans. Il

faut une nouvelle centrale électrique. Aden a aussi besoin d'hôtels et même l'organisation des administrations doit être améliorée", explique le membre du Comité. Vaste programme.

Le problème, c'est que le gouvernement yéménite ne veut pas mettre un sou dans l'affaire. "Nous devons trouver de l'argent auprès des investisseurs étrangers pour développer les infrastructures". Véritable cercle vicieux.

La volonté politique nécessaire à la création de la zone franche à Aden ne semble pas au rendez-vous. A Sanaa, le téléphone du Comité des Zones franches ne répond pas. De quoi décourager les investisseurs potentiels.

"Beaucoup de pays sont intéressés, mais il fallait voter la loi et attendre que les élections législatives soient passées. Nous avons beaucoup souffert de la période de transition", déclare Abdul Gawi Rashad. Plusieurs fois ajournée, cette loi instituant les zones franches a été votée en mars dernier. Désormais, il n'y a plus d'excuse pour expliquer les retards du projet.

**Le port d'Aden
est désert**

A différents endroits, au bord de la route, des panneaux noirs indiquent la future zone franche. Mais c'est bien le seul élément visible du projet. "Nous n'avons pas commencé les travaux d'infrastructures. Avant, il faut que nous connaissions ce que recherchent les investisseurs". Un plan et un programme de développement ont été réalisés

par une entreprise américaine, United Engineers International et ont été présentés à la presse en avril. "Ce plan n'est qu'un début, 90% du projet reste à faire", a reconnu l'ingénieur américain qui présentait le dossier.

**Des atouts
un peu minces**

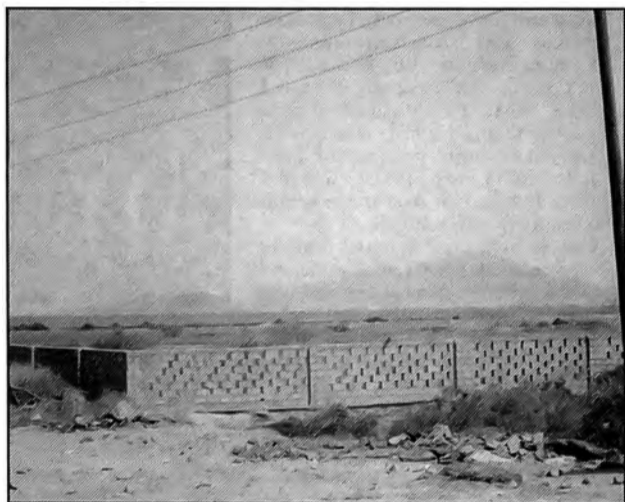
Il est impossible de connaître le nom des "nombreuses" entreprises étrangères intéressées. Les quais du port d'Aden sont déserts. Le trafic se résume à quelques bateaux par mois. "C'est vrai, les navires préfèrent aller à Hoddeidah et même à Mukallah", reconnaît

Abdul Gawi Rashad. "Les formalités administratives sont trop compliquées à Aden et les services sont de meilleure qualité à Hoddeidah", ajoute-t-il.

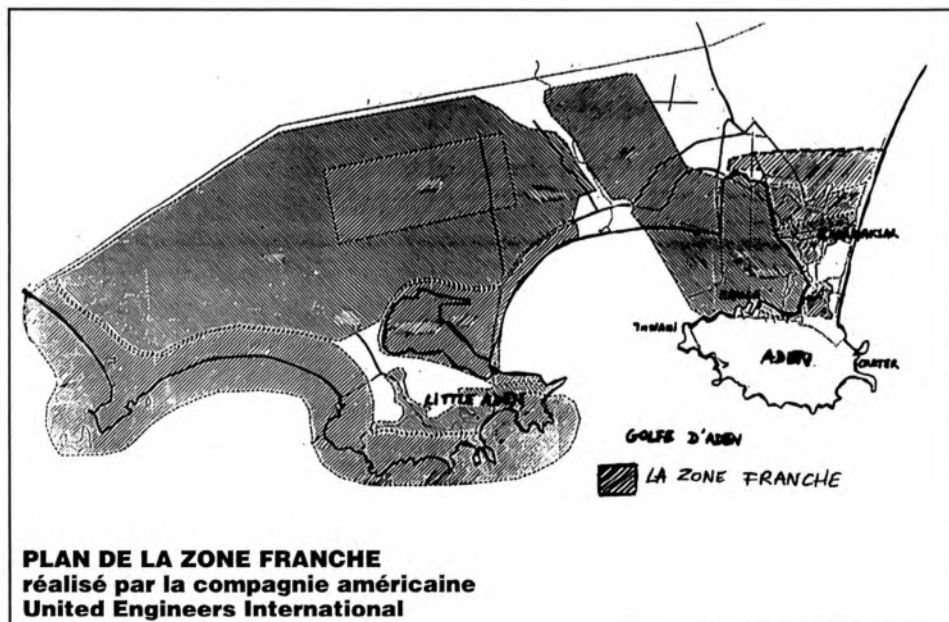
Les atouts d'Aden paraissent bien minces au regard des inconvénients. "Aden a une longue réputation de zone franche qui remonte au 19e siècle avec le canal de Suez. Aden est habituée à être un port franc et bénéficie d'une position stratégique". Mais que vaut cet attrait historique face à la zone franche de Dubaï. Et puis Aden n'est pas le seul port au Yémen à postuler au rôle de zone franche. Hoddeidah, dotée d'équipements modernes a les faveurs de beaucoup d'entrepreneurs.

Abdul Gawi Rashad est conscient des difficultés. "Nous ne pourrions réaliser une zone franche immédiatement à Aden. Cela se fera par étapes. Nous devons commencer par les zones proches du port et de l'aéroport", explique-t-il. "Nous sommes allés visiter des zones franches en Syrie, à Lattaquié, à Singapour, en Chine, à Shenzhen, en Corée du Sud. Finalement, je reste optimiste pour Aden".

Jérôme BERNARD



Des panneaux noirs ont été plantés pour marquer la zone franche. Tout reste à faire.



بسكوت أبو ولد الأفضل لتغذية الصغار، ولضيافة الكبار



For nourishment of the little ones in the family,
and for entertaining your guests

ABU WALAD BISCUITS

CULTURE

La Maison Rimbaud fait peau neuve

La maison où a séjourné le poète français Arthur Rimbaud à Aden est en travaux depuis quelques mois. Enfin! diront certains. Ce projet, "vitrine" de la France au Yémen, a en effet connu beaucoup de retards. Le rez-de-chaussée accueillant l'agence consulaire française et le centre culturel français devrait être inauguré d'ici la fin de l'année. Coup d'oeil sur la rénovation dirigée par l'architecte José-Marie Bel.

Grâce à deux millions de francs dégagés par la France, le projet de la Maison Rimbaud va pouvoir enfin devenir réalité. Les travaux de rénovation ont commencé en avril. D'ici la fin de l'année, le rez-de-chaussée devrait ouvrir ses portes. Il accueillera l'agence consulaire française, installée jusque-là dans l'enceinte du consulat allemand et le centre culturel français. Situé actuellement dans le quartier de Khormaksar, ce dernier n'était pas facile d'accès pour les amoureux de la langue française.

Le 1er et le 2ème étages attendront

Le projet de la Maison Rimbaud a pris beaucoup de retard. L'idée avait en effet germé avant l'unification des deux Yémen. Des poètes français et arabes s'étaient retrouvés en mars 1990 pour poser une plaque sur une maison coloniale à Crater, le quartier populaire d'Aden. Désormais, ce comptoir de commerce ayant appartenu à Alfred Bardey devenait la Maison Rimbaud, ce lieu où le poète français avait séjourné épisodiquement entre 1880 et

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comptoir de commerce ayant appartenu à Alfred Bardey devenait la Maison Rimbaud, ce lieu où le poète français avait séjourné épisodiquement entre 1880 et 1891.

Deux ministres français, Roland Dumas et Jack Lang avaient inauguré le lieu en 1991, devenu Espace culturel et poétique franco-yéménite. Mais les années passant, les ambitions ont été réduites.

"Il faudra attendre pour les deux étages supérieurs. Mais c'est vraiment dommage", déclare José-Marie Bel, chargé de la rénovation. La chambre de commerce d'Aden, qui occupe les lieux, refuse en effet de partir.

La "Maison" se trouve à côté du stade de Crater. Au moment de notre visite le mois dernier, la pièce du rez-de-chaussée avait été mise à nu. La première étape, qui consistait à enlever les strates successives accumulées par le temps est terminée. Les murs à arcades sont maintenant à l'état brut. Ils ont perdu les couches de peinture et d'enduits qui les recouvraient. "Un toilettage rapide de la 'Maison' avait été fait pour la visite des deux ministres. Ce coup de peinture sur la pierre m'a consterné. Il a empêché celle-ci de respirer", soupire l'architecte. Au plafond restent encore accrochés les ventilateurs installés pour l'inauguration de 1991.

Des dalles de basalte noir recouvrent le sol. "Il y avait cinq sols différents avant ces dalles en basalte. Il a fallu retirer du ciment, du carrelage très laid et des plaques de marbre italien". Les ouvriers ont descellé certaines dalles. Le sol est en effet gondolé par endroits en raison de l'humidité. Il faudra donc couler du béton.

Une maison qui a une histoire

En mettant à nu le rez-de-chaussée, José-Marie Bel a pu comprendre comment la maison avait été construite. Et il est intarissable sur le sujet. "Ce n'est pas du bel ouvrage. Ce bâtiment, construit dans les années 1850-1860 était un comptoir commercial. Les Anglais ont voulu construire vite", explique-t-il. Les murs sont fait d'un mélange de briques et de pierres. Des morceaux de bois sont insérés dans le mur à certains endroits. "Ces éléments en bois me rappellent une croyance qui veut que les planches de bois aient des vertus anti-sismiques. Autre explication: ils peuvent correspondre à des étapes d'un chantier."

Pour José-Marie, le souvenir le



La grande pièce du rez-de-chaussée a été mise à nu. Arthur veille sur les travaux.

plus émouvant est peut-être la découverte de grains de café dans les trous d'un mur au fond de la pièce. "Ces trous permettaient de soutenir les poutres d'une mezzanine. Manifestement, les sacs de café y étaient entreposés. Quelques grains de café ont dû se glisser dans les trous. Quel âge ont-ils? On peut rêver".

Autre "rendez-vous avec l'histoire", José-Marie a fait appel à des chameaux tirant des charrettes pour dégager les tonnes de gravats retirés de la maison. "J'ai voulu soutenir cette profession qui disparaît et qui existait certainement du temps de Rimbaud".

Maintenant, la deuxième étape des travaux va pouvoir commencer. Pour lutter contre l'humidité, un produit isolant va être injecté dans les murs, qui seront ensuite recouverts d'un enduit blanc. Les boiseries peintes en marron vont retrouver leur bleu d'origine et des vitraux avec un jeu de trois couleurs, de style adénite, vont être posés.

Du mobilier des années 1930

L'architecte compte faire refaire du mobilier des années 1930 pour meubler l'intérieur. Pour cela, il est allé chercher des vieilles chaises sur le toit du Crescent, cet hôtel au charme désuet situé dans le quartier de Tawahi. Enfin, la façade sera entièrement ravalée.

Au premier étage, il est prévu de faire une bibliothèque. Mais pour l'instant, la climatisation de la chambre de commerce tourne toujours et l'eau coule goutte à goutte sur le sol, ce qui abîme le carrelage. Du balcon en fer forgé, on a une vue sur le vieux minaret blanc décrit par Alfred Bardey dans ses Mémoires. Plus haut, sur le toit de la maison, des meubles gisent éventrés. Le toit est fissuré. Une petite pièce sert de salle d'archives. Certaines remontent du temps des Anglais. "L'idée serait de faire sur ce toit un espace temporaire destiné à la poésie". Mais personne ne sait quand tout cela pourra être réalisé.

"J'espère que la restauration de cette maison donnera l'envie aux Adénites de restaurer leur patrimoine et contribuera à réhabiliter l'architecture coloniale".

Jérôme BERNARD

Sur les traces du poète

Les Mémoires d'Alfred Bardey, l'employeur d'Arthur Rimbaud à Aden, ont notamment permis de localiser la maison où avait séjourné le poète par haltes successives entre 1880 et 1891. Ci-dessous, un extrait de ces Mémoires où Bardey décrit sa maison.

"Au milieu de la place, un bâtiment couvert de tuiles rouges, c'est le seul, est le Tribunal ou Court (Palais de justice). A côté de cette construction bien anglaise se dresse un long minaret blanc terminé en petite coupole surmontée d'un croissant doré. Le gouvernement l'entretient soigneusement, bien qu'il ait démolé la mosquée dont il faisait partie.

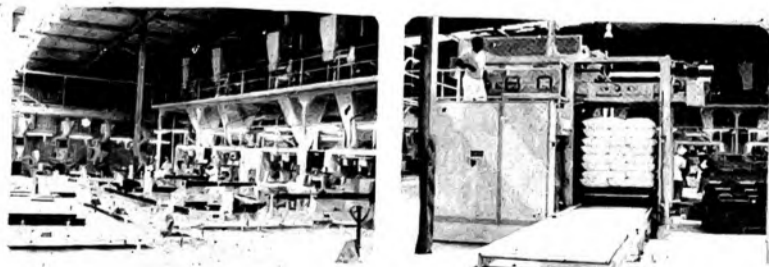
M. Suel nous fait remarquer une grande maison située vis-à-vis. Les arcades de son rez-de-chaussée supportent la véranda du premier étage, surmontée de frontons à cintres renversés, à raison de deux par largeur d'arcade, ce qui donne à la façade un bel aspect symétrique. Elle est à louer. A près un examen de ses logements et de ses vastes magasins nous décidons d'établir là notre agence."

Barr Adjam, souvenirs d'Afrique orientale 1880 1887, d'Alfred Bardey, éditions du CNRS.



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صنعا ت: ٢٤٠٧٠٢-٢٤٠٩٥٢ تليكس: ٢٧٨٠ ناجيل يمن فاكسميل: ٢٦٣٠٨٦ ص ب: ٢٥٢٨
الحديدة ت: ٣/٢٢٢٤٦٠ تليكس: ٥٦٦١ ابو جبة يمن فاكسميل: ٢١١٥٥١ ص ب: ٤٠١٥
الخرطوم ت: ٧٤٥٦٩ - ٧٤٦١٠ - ٧٤٥٦٢ تليكس: ٢٢٣٦٩ سيحان فاكسميل: ٧٤٥٦١ ص ب: ١٩٢٦
بورسودان ت: ٢٦٣٠ - ٢٩٧٩ - ٤٤٦٥ تليكس: ٧٠٠٧١ يارن ص ب: ١٦٠

Délégation palestinienne au Yémen



Pour la première fois, une délégation palestinienne des Territoires occupés a été reçu pendant deux semaines au Yémen. Composée de quatorze personnes et dirigée par le Dr. Jamal Amr, elle était composée d'étudiants en architecture, venus trouver des sujets pour leur mémoire de fin d'étude. Ils viennent de repartir vers les Territoires occupés.

En Bref

Presse: L'agence de presse du Maroc Maghreb-Arabe-presse (MAP) et celle du Yémen (SABA) ont conclu récemment à Rabat une convention prévoyant le développement de leur coopération en matière d'information et technique ainsi que de formation du personnel et d'échanges de visites. La convention donne droit à chacune des deux parties de distribuer aux abonnés de son réseau national les informations produites par son partenaire.

Pétrole: Le gisement pétrolier de Massila, au sud-est du Yémen, devrait être mis en exploitation en septembre prochain. Il produira 120 000 barils par jour. Le niveau actuel de la production de pétrole du Yémen est actuellement de 180 000 barils par jour et doit doubler avant la fin de l'année.

*** Mohammed Mahdi Al-Tajir:**

Well-known businessmen Mohammed Mahdi Al-Tajir arrives in Sanaa next week for investigating the possibility of participating in the establishment of the Aden Free Zone. Mr. Al-Tajir of the United Arab Emirates, has had a strong hand in the establishment of Jabal Ali (UAE) and Gushum (Iran) freezones.

*** Abdul-Jaleel Ali Ahmed:**

Abdul-Jaleel Ali Ahmed has been named as Executive Director of the Yemen American Cultural Center (YACC) established last month in Dearborn, Michigan, USA. The center was established to serve the substantial number of Yemeni-Americans who live in north Michigan and upstate New York.

*** Dr. Abdulwahab Makki:**

Dr. Abdulwahab Makki, Cultural Officer of the American-Yemeni Friendship Society, held extensive talks with Mr. Abdul-Wassa Hayel Saeed Anam, Chairman of the Yemen American Friendship Association, and Professor Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, the Media/Cultural Director of YAFA.

The topics of discussion were to coordinate cooperation between the two sister-organizations, especially the proposed visit of a YAFA delegation at the head a large cultural/folklore delegation to the USA. "We are interested in linking up and coordinating our efforts since we have the same goals, Makki said. Dr. Makki left Sanaa on his way back to Washington, last week.

*** Abdul-Majeed Bin Wahdain:**

Mr. Abdul-Majeed Bin Wahdain, Chairman of the Yemeni Tourism Board, has just concluded a field visit that took him to several governorates in the Republic. The purpose was to study potential destinations for tourism.

At another level, the Board plans to issue next month the first edition of a tourist magazine. Mr. Abdul-Qader Al-Shaibani, the person charged with the task, said that the 80-100 page magazine will be bilingual.

*** Sheikh Abdul-Salam Shamsan:**

Sheikh Abdul-Salam Shamsan, chairman of the Shamsan companies, returned to Sanaa this week following a successful business trip to Beirut and Cairo.

*** Dr. Hassan Makki:**

Dr. Hassan M. Makki, First Deputy Prime Minister, heads the Yemeni delegation to Cairo to participate in the Seminar in Yemeni-Egyptian Relations. The seminar is timed to coincide with the anniversary of the September 26th Revolution.

*** Dr. Mamoon Humaidah:**

Dr. Mamoon Humaidah, President of Khartoum University, is on a visit to Yemen presently at the invitation of Sanaa University. Talks on cooperation between the universities have been underway.

*** Dr. Kurt Messer:**

German Ambassador in Sanaa Dr. Kurt Messer left Sanaa on Sunday, August 8th on his annual leave. August is a vacation month for most Westerners.

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FAT IS BEAUTIFUL

By:
An Indian Girl in Sanaa

I have been told that when a man looks a young women straight in the eye, it's time for her to do something about the figure. And if you think that's being cruel to one who's been fat all her life, take another look at the byline - a nickname my mother gave me when at 12 pounds I was whelped too bonny a baby for her comfort.

For one with a genuine weight problem like me to indulge in any levity regarding obesity would be akin to a Turk amusing himself by reading a neo-Nazi manifesto. Yet here I am, with broad brows at the butt end of my humor.

No better place to start than the snide remarks and the discrimination inflicted on us rolypolies. Right from the readymade clothes - which bear little fidelity, to my figure, much less any sympathy - to the only man who ever cared for me until he realized that caressing me felt like fondling a couple of Dunlop truck tyres.

Not that I'm blaming him for my woes... even though the problem with men of his sort has always been that they'd rather weigh us women in their arms instead of weighing us in their hearts. Frankly, it was too much on my part to expect him to accept me and invite the ridicule of his friends and family. Yes, the bitter reality is that our society, for all its 'spiritual' pretensions, suffers from that western perversion known as 'lookism' - the belief that appearance is the sole indicator of a person's value.

So much so that many of those folks who claim to 'understand' our problems, and this included those screeching Twiggy feminists, indulge in higher patronizing tokenism, or sympathize with us in about the same way as they'd do with the blind and the crippled.

That fat doesn't conform to the current stereotype of the sex symbol of women starving themselves to get a bony, tubercular look which only reinforces the saying that women who attract wide-spread. Phrases like 'woman of substance' (which I am, in more than one way) just about as much weight today as do Greer and Sontag. Air-hostesses get universally bar-racked for putting on a few extra kilos, and scrawny

models rake in millions despite looking like something the evil HIV has riveted. All in all, the grace of our age runs pretty thin.

Thus, today, it is sage to presume that it is better for a girl to be well-formed than well-informed. Forget Dottie Parker saying that men don't make passes at girls who wear glasses. The fact is men very often do make passes at bespectacled women - but only if they have sexy frames! At this stage you may well be tempted to ask that if I find the lightness of 'normal' beings so unbearable, why I don't try to slim down, diet, learn to accept every loss as a gain and save myself their cruel jibes.

Yes, perhaps I'd look more spick if I had less span; but is it cause enough for me to touch my toes and count my calories? Hasn't the interface between bulk and society's interpretation of beauty always been regulated by that wasteful, fickle thing called fashion? Wasn't bulk, too, once a criterion of pulchritude... Back in the 1950s when both Holly and Bollywood considered paunchy to be raunchy?

Centuries back, too, plump women made many a man's world go round, a fact amply evidenced by the fleshy zaftigs in the works of Reubens, Poussin and the Flemish masters. Maybe tomorrow both you and I will come to discover that fat is 'beautiful', as it was in the days of yore.

Or maybe we could wake up in the future, like Woody Allen did in Sleepers to find doctors praising the nutritional benefits of hot fudge!

Or if I'm lucky, maybe I too could get myself a few broad-minded admirers. Like that Bombay girl, Khushboo, who make it so 'big' in Tamil cinema that her fans constructed a temple in Trichy, with her as the presiding deity. But for now, however, we fat women can only dream of such appreciation as Khushboo begets.

Nevertheless, I think it's about time people gave up their shallow prejudices and motive how our favourite heroine's joyous grace and abundant charms score over her obvious handicap. And then perhaps realize that it doesn't really matter how much a woman weighs so long as she knows how to carry her weights.

Rothmans

KING SIZE

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ROTHMANS OF PALL MALL LONDON EST. 1890

Have Tourist, Will Travel

By: Jenny Jobbins,
Yemen Times.

Most of us have friends or relatives to stay now and again, whether it's cousin Leila from New York searching for her roots or the people who lived next door during your posting in Dubai. In my case it was my son, an inquiring student and not one to be fobbed off with, "Sorry, but we can't leave Sana'a in case the car gets hi-jacked!". Leaving Sana'a is easier than you might think. You call a travel agent, arrange a meeting point (at a time when most of us are still snoozing on a weekend morning), pack a couple of bottles of water, sun block and an umbrella, and you're all set. We left the Taj Sheba at eight o'clock with Muhammad, who was cheerful, well-organized and, without a doubt, Yemen's most punctual time keeper. For us there was an immediate intimacy with the rocky, flat-topped mountains on the first half of the road to Marib, since less than a week before we had flown low over them from al-Jawf to Sana'a in a light helicopter, which gave us a unique and special perspective. At bird's eye level their swirling contours resembled pots of earthy colors half stirred with a giant paintbrush. Now they were at a human level in more ways than one: half way over, Muhammad stopped to take out a pistol from his bag, and at the edge of the mountains, after the al-Fardah Pass, we picked up an armed escort, an affable young man who looked as though he couldn't swat a locust, though his Kalashnikov spoke for itself. We entered the wide, hot hazy plain of Wadi Ragbwan,

and after a few minutes the solid stone walls of Baraqish loomed on our left. Baraqish is the modern name for the Minaean city of Yathil, a fair-sized settlement founded around the fourth century BC. The outer walls are the best preserved; the stone and mud brick structures inside lie in ruins, the Minaean foundations overlaid by roughly plastered buildings contemporary with the Ottoman period. There are interesting inscriptions in the South Arabian script, and a temple probably dedicated to the principal god, Attar, has been partly excavated. Baraqish was abandoned two or three centuries ago, and looking around one can see why. What a desolate place to choose to build a city! And yet to support such a town there must once have been an intensive irrigation system here, and perhaps the bushes struggling against the surrounding desert are remnants of once green fields and pasture. Back at the crossroads we dropped our armed guard and carried on to Marib, capital of the Sabaeen kingdom. Old Marib, abandoned by all but a few families, sits like a ghost town on a rocky knoll. It was built over the centuries of limestone, alabaster and basalt stones plundered from ancient dwellings and temples, some still bearing South Arabian inscriptions. There were plenty of buildings to plunder, for in ancient times the Wadi Adhana, the plain of Marib, was irrigated so efficiently that it sustained 30,000 people. We had lunch in a colorful restaurant in the center of the twentieth century section of the town before setting off for the old and new dams. There are signs that the Marib valley was irrigated as

early as the 3rd millennium BC, but the brilliant notion of damming the river was first carried out in the seventh century BC, the dam being a mud brick affair: a hundred years later the huge North and South stone sluice gates were constructed. The dam was a feat of sophisticated engineering. The sluice gates, which had overflow cisterns on the outer side, regulated the flow of water, and were connected by a 680 meter mud-brick wall. The wall has washed away, but the banks of solid grey silt carried down by the river as far as the dam still back up to the north gate. The gate's lower walls are of smooth hewn stone, mortared during one of the dam's many renovations. The upper walls, extended because of the rising water levels caused by the accumulation of silt, are of crude stone facing filled with rubble. Several times over its thousand year history the dam fell into disrepair, but the brilliant technology used to build it was slowly forgotten, and eventually attempts to repair it were abandoned. In 575 AD, after centuries of slipshod work, the dam burst, and most of the inhabitants of the town and the valley fled. Marib became a village, and remained much the same until a few decades ago. On either side once stretched the northern and southern oases, vast, green, cultivated tracts of fruits, vegetables, grains and vineyards. What is left of the river, now stemmed by the new dam, trickles prettily through sand banks alive with sand lizards and insects, running close under the South sluice gate. Pebbles washed down by the stream are worn round and smooth by centuries of trapped water. It is a short drive to the new dam along the stream bed, once the floor of the ancient dam's artificial lake, and still bright green with shrubs and grasses. When we arrived the new lake, a pale, cloudy green, was high after recent rains. From half way across the top one has a view of the old dam. At the further end rests a blue and white boat, marooned like Noah's Ark. Muhammad whisked us quickly round the temples of Marib, both named after Bilqis, the Queen of Sheba, who reigned several hundred years before they were built. The Mahram Bilqis is renowned for its eight pillars, soaked with an unmistakable magnetic energy flow, which the local urchins will skim up and hop over in return for a few friendly words and ten riyals. The southern temple, the 'Arsh Bilqis, is closed to the public during excavation, but its five pillars and magnificent structure is worth seeing from outside. A dust storm was gathering, and Muhammad was anxious to leave. We were back in Sana'a before sunset.

Continues on page 15

The Western Mentality Works to Reorganize History and Geography

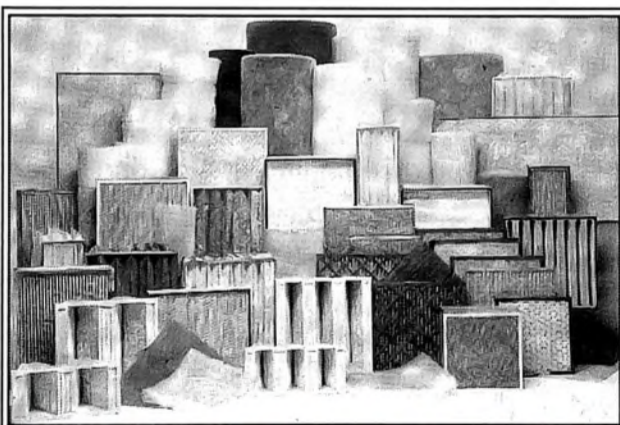
By: Saad Salah Khalis,
Cultural Editor,
Yemen Times



A book of major importance has been lately issued in its first, rather late, Arabic translation. A book that not be just a historical account as it first seems to be, nor does it represent facts of geopolitics is superficial reading thereof may suggest. It is in fact, as it seems to me, a near future vision of our area from the events makers of our time. A brief review of the book may focus some light on the other side of this very important book. First, let's take a look at the title, A PEACE TO END ALL PEACE / Creating the Modern East: 1914-1922, and at the author who is David Fromkin, a member of Foreign Affairs committee and a regular writer in the Foreign Affairs periodical as stated in the back cover of the book, which means that the man is in the heart of the American political institution. It may be worthwhile to note that the Arabic translation is done by Asaad Kamil Elias in 650 pages published in an elegant version by Riyadh Al-Rayiss Publishing House in London. The right of existence is one repeated theme in Fromkin's book, and this right of existence in his view is based on what he calls "The birth of the Middle East" which is the term he uses to describe the "creation" of the states born as a result of the British-French agreements at the turn of the twenties of this century. The Middle East in his concept includes (in addition to Arab countries and Israel) such states as Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and even the newly independent states of the ex-Soviet Union. Many of those entities are made-up, as the author clearly states, and resulted from the conflict of superpowers over areas of influence. Iraq and Jordan for examples are British inventions as well as Gulf countries whose borders were drawn by a civil servant of her Majesty's. Depending on documents and secret memos, the author draws a picture of a Middle East that was born in the period between 1914-1922, or the time when the United States of America has not yet evolved its interest in this area. The important point that the author presses upon is the fragility of the current Arab system still based on these "made-up" division. He thinks it is just normal for countries like Iraq, Jordan, Israel, Syria and Lebanon to go into a series of wars of survival due to their feeling of legitimacy and the absence of the political game. He clearly states that middle east countries (And non-Arab) are countries that haven't yet been developed into nations, just like Europe in the 5th century B.C. when the Roman Empire has collapsed, in this case the Ottoman Empire is the party that has collapsed. European conduct was the main element in creating this instability and their neglecting all

factors except their direct interests, which caused all this havoc. The start and the end of the book holds almost the same concept, that the Middle East might be different if we could turn back and re-draw its picture. Regional problems such as Kurds' and Palestinians' are due to the modern political system that the Europeans brought into this region rendering it into secular independent states on national basis. That settlement, in Fromkin's opinion, is in the heart all modern conflicts taking place in the Tigris and Euphrates valley, by the sides of the Jordan river and in the streets of Beirut. The problems created by Lord Kitchiner's, Loyd George's and Winston Churchill's plans are present in the book throughout its twelve chapters starting from what calls "The Big Game", when the British has changed their minds from keeping the unity of the Ottoman empire to tearing it apart forcing it into World War 1 as a step to recreate the new Middle East. In the second chapter which he deals mainly with incorrect vision of Lord Kitchiner and the British policy of elementary factors effecting the Middle East, stating that despite the political awareness therein, people would never accept non-Islamic rule. This misunderstanding of the East and the West for each other has lead to the current catastrophic outcomes in his opinion, mainly based on misjudgements by Lord Kitchiner and his initiatives. The third chapter deals with dividing the cake (The Middle East) among the big players i.e Britain, France and Russia and the consequent fall of the British into the deep pit of Middle East internal affairs for a long time to come. Where in the fourth chapter he speaks about Arab's alliance with and devotion to the Turks rather than to Islam, and to Sharif Hussain's uprising and the Jewish problem and its impacts. In the 5th chapter the Russian revolution and the characters of Lenin, and the collapse of allied governments is the main subject, while the 6th marks the influence of the USA over Loyd George's ambitions and its refusal to the policy of the warring area and its peoples claiming that the American president had predicted the warring outcome. Then he tackles the Belfore plan of establishing a homeland for the Jews the idea which was not rejected by the US in principle though it was accompanied by fears of the real intentions of the British. The seventh chapter is about the position of the area

prior to the western invasion where the Arab rulers are the corrupt helpless that could be easily bought unlike the Jews who were tortured by the Ottoman (Jamal Pasha of Lebanon) and the effect of this situation on the coming western invasion. The following two chapters are dedicated to the division of author says that war creates imperialism and not vice versa!!! Chapter ten is about the disturbances that accompanied British occupation of those areas setting Egypt, Afghanistan, Mesopotamia (Iraq), Persia (Iran), Turkey, Syria and Lebanon, and the Arab invaders of Jewish settlements!! Chapter 11 explains the Russian return to the arena through the new Soviet Union and its dreams of keeping the old empire under new designations. In chapter 12, the last and the most important, he about the settlement of 1922 and the harm done to the national homeland of Jews through the British support to king Abdulla of eastern Jordan, and the French identification of the northern borders of that "national homeland" with the British which effected their northern borders! The author concludes that newly born entities were evolved as the current Jordan though it is a known fact (those are his words) that Jordan was always a part of Palestine (we can see the clear implication). He also says that Shi'ites, Sunnis and Kurds along with the Jews were gathered together in an entity called Iraq! And that Lebanon was enlarged and Arab entity called Jordan was cut out off Palestine and so on. This brief review cannot do justice to this large book and the big documentary material therein, which was accompanied by thorough survey of events, personalities and cultural aspects. Yet, the implication seems that the aim of rewriting of history of this area is actually reorganizing the geography thereof. Arab independence and nationality is an alien idea in the writer's view, so are the entities called states now. This leads us to conclude that the west is actually reconsidering the current geopolitical status of this area, nothing that the writer is not a mere historian nor is he an observer. This book comes in the context of prolonged discussions of the new world order and its actual application on the ground. Fromkin's remarks about the current geographical and political system of the area being unstable shall not be taken slightly, especially when we note that in about one year time of the publishing of Fokoyama's controversial book "End of History" the second second gulf war was initiated and the geography of eastern and central Europe has changed radically. Now, as the peace talks between the Arabs and the Israelis go on with for a political geographical - Social and even ethnic earthquake in this area in a very short time.



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Ba-Jammal:

“Aden Free Zone is Yemen’s starting point to modernization and industrialization.”

The Chairman of the YFZPA and the Governor of Aden have signed a memorandum which explicitly specifies where the jurisdiction of each one begins. “The governor has been extremely helpful in helping us take control of the land assigned for the Aden Free Zone,” Ba-Jammal said. But trouble he has. The land is not totally under YFZPA control. Even in the heart of the Aden Free Zone, signs have come up stating that the land is private property, and does not belong to the YFZPA (Please refer to photo on the French pages). “We have three kinds of claims. The first, and the most serious, is the military men who snatch the land and start real business with it. We have officers who parcel the land and distribute it among themselves. They often bring outsiders - either through direct sale or in any other way. The idea is not to make it look like a military usurpation,” he said.

regarding the land use of their property. The land use of such property has to conform with the overall land-use plan of the free zone area,” explained Ba-Jammal. The YFZPA official also pointed out that there were several attempts by senior government officials to grab real estate in the Aden Free Zone area, but these have been dislodged. The next major step is for the government to accept and approve the land-use plan, and authorize the YFZPA to take over the administration of the airport and harbor. “As soon as that happens - and it should happen next month (September), we will enter into contractual arrangements with investors to launch the Aden Free Zone project,” he said. “We have offers to expand the airport, by adding a new runway, separated from the current runway, and that will be exclusively used for the free zone operations. The

installed in the area. We are at the final stages of our negotiations with a French company on this matter,” he added. “In my opinion, the Aden Free Zone is the true starting point for the modernization and industrialization of Yemen. This is a crucial project that will have a lasting impact on the pace and direction of Yemen’s development.” According to Ba-Jammal the natural direction of the gas pipeline to exploit the enormous gas reserves of the country goes from Marib-Al-Jawf to Aden terminal. First, this route will diversify the energy industry’s geographic base in the country. Second, this route will bring life and activity to the governorates through which it passes - i.e., Al-Jawf, Marib, Shabwah, Al-Baidha, Lahej, Abyan and Aden. Neighboring governorates like Taiz and Ibb will also benefit. Third, the industrial projects,



Along with that group goes another bloc which is the institutions like the harbor authority or others. These have also taken steps to take charge of the land and distribute it among themselves. These have been stopped, although the military men have not been checked so far. “The second group is the claims of the tribes in the vicinity of the area. They claim that the land is an extension of their tribal frontiers and boundaries. Some of the tribal elders are clever. Two or more tribes agree between and among them regarding their boundaries and then have such agreements countersigned by the courts to give them legal power. We have warned against such actions, and we do not recognize any such claims. “The third land-related difficulties deals with authentic private ownership in the area. We cannot and need not take away such ownership, but we do need to come to terms with the owners

existing airport will continue to serve passengers,” he pointed out. The airport and harbor will be managed by one company. The YFZPA will simply supervise the operations and collect revenue. “We also have a new security system that will be

electric generation, transportation, etc., will all represent rising demand for energy which must be met. The gas can do it. Household consumption will also add to the demand volume. Fourth, the downward slope towards Aden allows us to benefit from the flow of

gravity with minimal need for pumps. For all those and other reasons, Ba-Jammal insists the gas pipeline has to go to Aden. “The offers we have are fantastic, and they allow for a strong push in starting our Aden Free Zone project. The first and second phases of the master plan will be completed before the end of this century,” he points out. With the completion of Phases 1 and 2, the Aden Free Zone’s contribution to economic growth and the well-being of the nation are enormous. Abdul-Qader Ba-Jammal lists some of them: 1. The zone would create, between now and the year 2000, some 150,000 new jobs. 2. Total direct investments will exceed \$5.8 billion, generating an annual value added of more than \$3.5 billion. 3. A minimum income of \$300 million to the state treasury. 4. Most important of all, the Aden Free Zone will allow the Yemeni Riyal to return to convertibility. In other words, there will not be a parallel exchange market given the high volume of foreign exchange inflow. In light of these advantages,



Minister Ba Fadhle Spearheads Change

The Minister of Supply and Trade, Dr. Abdul-Rahman Ba-Fadhle, continues to meet with various groups of businessmen and investors regarding possibilities of holding down prices of basic products. One of the early meetings was with the fruit and vegetable farmers. He discussed with them the steady flow of produce to the market, at reasonable rates. In return, the farmers and traders asked him to uphold the Cabinet decision to stop imports of fruits. The Minister is studying this request. Last week, the minister met with the owners of poultry and egg plants. There has been a shortfall in the supply of both eggs and chicken in the local market, thus forcing the prices up. An egg costs in the neighborhood of 3-4 Riyals, while a one-kilo chicken costs over YR 100. Both are available for less than 70% of the current prices through imports. The minister has set up two committees to investigate the situation and offer new ideas to be implemented. Minister Ba Fadhle in his efforts to mobilize action in this sector, deserves the support of all sides.

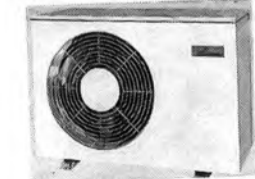
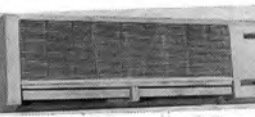
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Athawra Hospital	246970/9
Kuwait Hospital	203282/4
Red Crescent	203131/3
Banks:	
Yemeni Banks:	
Central Bank	274371/3
Commercial Bank: Sanaa	213662-6
Hodeidah	217040-3
Int'l Bank of Yemen	272920/3
National Bank	275373
YBRD	271623/4
Branches of Foreign Banks:	
Arab Bank Ltd.	240921-29
Bank Indosuez	272801/3
United Bank Ltd	272424

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

Insurance Companies:	
Y.I. & Reinsurance/Aden	273311
Marib Insurance: Sanaa	206112/14
Aden:	255668
Taiz:	222162/3/4
Hodeidah:	217370/1
Yemen General: Sanaa:	265191
Aden:	243909
Taiz:	221561
Hodeidah:	239184
United Insurance Co.	272890-2

EMBASSIES & Consulates

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I. Embassies:	
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Algeria	209688/89
Bulgaria	217244
China	275337/340
Cuba	217304/5
Czech Republic	247946
Djibouti	245792/265469
Egypt	275948/9
Eritrea	209422
Ethiopia	208833
France	275995/7
Germany	216756/757, 266873/4
Hungary	216250, 216679
India	241980/1/2
Indonesia	217388
Iran	206945/948
Iraq	216682/790
Italy	73409/78849
Japan	207356/208753
Jordan	216701/736
Korea (Dem)	232340
Korea (Rep)	245959/60
Kuwait	216317/319
Lebanon	203959/733
Libya	208815/6
Mauritania	216770
Morocco	247964
Netherlands	215626/7/8
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Pakistan	248813/14
Palestine	215404/5
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Qatar	217488/296
Romania	215579
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Saudi Arabia	240429/30
Somalia	208864
Sudan	265231/2
Syria	247750/52
Tunisia	240458/9
Turkey	241395

U.A.E	248777/78
U.K.	215630/33
U.S.A.	238842/52
Vietnam	216985

2. Honorary Consulates:	
Austria	266725
Belgium	205925/865
Canada	208814
Danish Trade Office	243433
Denmark (Taiz)	04-215171/2
Finland	207018/20/21
Greece	272218
Spain	209360
Sweden	207595/470
Switzerland	203534

3. International Organizations:	
FAO	207331/607
UNDP	215505
UNHCR	204963
UNICEF	231256/7/8
WHO	252213/204

ADEN Consulates :	
China	233115
Ethiopia (Commercial)	231335
France	223129/090
Germany	232162/233607
India	233131
Iran	231893/361
Italy	232586/88
Japan	232219/233282
Libya	233611
Oman	233433/460
Palestine	232340/232717
Russian (FR)	232792/232625
Saudi Arabia	232760/32526
Somalia	241421/101
U.K.	232711/12/13
FAO Branch	233722/232146

AIR LINES

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

Yemenia Branches:	
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Skypack	77310
American Express	272435/6

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Aden (02)	
Movenpick	232911
Gold Mohur	221158
Hodeidah (03)	
Bristol	239197
Ambassador	231247/50
Al Burj	75852
Taiz (04)	
The Plaza Hotel	220224/26
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Yazan	217997
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Africa's Struggle to Embark on Democracy The Soldiers Stand in the Way

The fiasco over the return to civilian rule in Nigeria highlights the difficulties that African rulers, particularly soldiers, have in finally handing over to a democratic regime. President Ibrahim Babangida took seven years of trying to set up a foolproof system and then at the last minute he balked because his fellow officers told him that the man who is generally believed to have won the presidential elections, Masood Abiola, was unreliable or might start investigations into military corruption. Babangida proved to be a weak man. He went back on his word and did not accept the overwhelming verdict of the Nigerian people, freely expressed throughout the country. He annulled the election and the result was not announced. The Nigerian example is unfortunate because this is Africa's most populous country and one which has taken upon itself to provide continental leadership. It is Nigeria which has provided the troops and finance for the war to restore peace and democratic government in Liberia since August 1990. Many other African nations have faltered on the way to multi-party government since the euphoric days of early 1991, when dictatorships and military rulers were on the run all over Africa as the people espoused the new democracy. Since then, the old one-party rulers have learned to fight back and have adapted to democratic politics. Many heads of state have survived the current of democracy and now rule through multi-party systems in the same way that they did under the old single-party government. They trounced divided opposition, "won" multi-party elections, and some even took off their uniforms and put on civilian clothes in order to survive. Typical examples are Jerry Rawlings of Ghana, Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, Paul Biya of Cameroon, Hassan Gouled of Djibouti, Felix Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast, Omar Bongo of Gabon, and Blaise Compaore of Burkina Faso. Even Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe waited quietly, allowing the opposition to thrash about the fringes of power. There has been some progress, no doubt. Five countries have been democracies since independence, with a legal opposition, respect for human rights and a free press - Botswana, Gambia, Mauritius, Namibia and Senegal. Those five have been joined by sixteen others since the multi-party revolution of 1991. Most come from former French and Portuguese Africa, with the addition of Ghana, Lesotho, Zambia, and arguably Zimbabwe, which changed its policy of not becoming a one-party state.

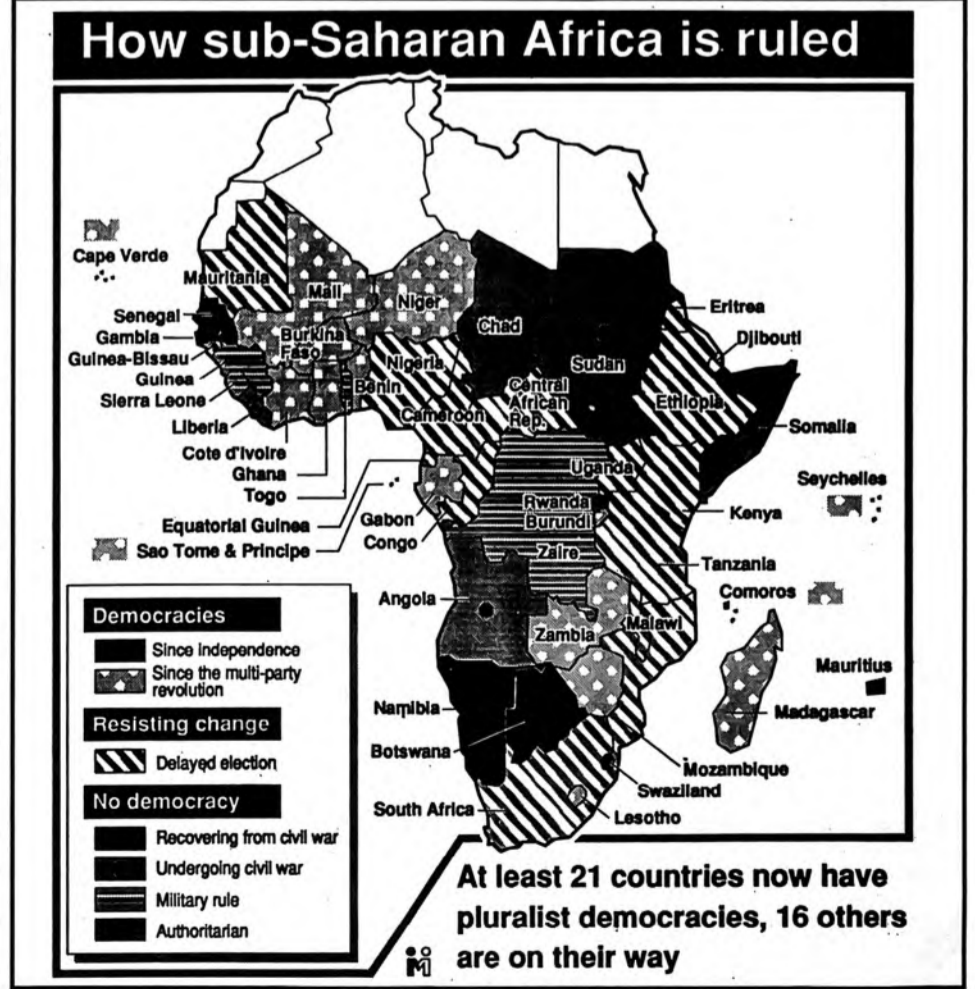
Yet, change was particularly evident in French-speaking Africa, as the following account indicates: - In the Congo, Colonel Dennis Sassou-Nguesso, who had ruled since the military coup of 1979, did not even get as far as the second round of the presidential elections of August 1992. He was swept from power as the civilian Pastal Lissouba took over. - In Mali, former President Moussa Traore (1968-91) was put on trial and is under death sentence for letting his soldiers kill 100 people in a riot at the end of his rule. - In Burundi, the long-standing president Pierre Buyoya, was defeated in the presidential elections last May by Melchior Ndadaye. - In Ethiopia, regional self-rule has replaced the oppressive Amhara domination of the past. Not only was it a triumph for democracy and popular participation, but Eritreans were allowed to break away and create their own independent state. - In Mauritania, the country held its first multi-party elections, and it was agreed by observers that they were relatively clean. - In several countries, parliamentary elections are scheduled before this year is out. However, in many parts of Africa, the future of multi-party rule still hangs in the balance. In many places, the old guard clung to power by winning elections that were reported to have been rigged or by using state machinery and influence to "guide" the results. The situation is even worse in the war-torn parts of Africa. Angola, Liberia and Somalia are in the grips of long and bitter civil wars. The Sudan, Chad and Rwanda are slowly recovering from their own wars. In other countries such as Guinea and Sierra Leone, military rulers are procrastinating and making excuses to remain in power. In Togo and Zaire, the military rulers simply want to rule though their peoples have clearly shown a yearning for change. In north Africa, the threat of Islamic fundamentalism, which is real, has become a perfect excuse for continuation of the current rulers. The multi-party political revolution has demanded a total change in institutions, personnel and political outlook. For the first time, small and inexperienced nations have been asked to turn their established systems upside down. As a result, at least 21 countries are already democracies or are on the way of being so, while another 16 are moving hesitantly in the right direction. Only 12 countries show little sign of change, at the present. But even there, all is not lost. The world has given its supportive nod.

Continued from page 13

TOURISTS TRAVEL...

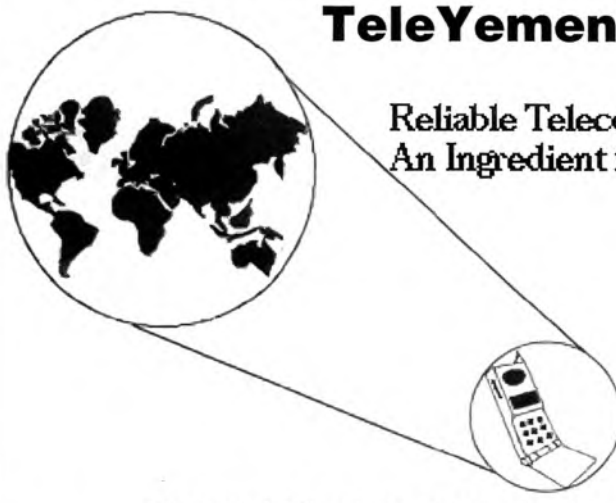
Next day's destination was easier to reach, even if it was more difficult to arrange access. To visit Jebel Masna' you must have a permit, which takes time to arrange. Jebel Masna', which lies west of Dhamar, is the Ayer's Rock of Yemen, a mountain top plateau severed across its width by an artificial ditch. The town which topped the plateau, and its defensive ditch and walls, were begun by Yemen's pre-historic ancestors in the 3rd millennium, and rebuilt during the Himyaritic period. It is an easy climb to the top up a choice of access paths, paved or stepped in places. The plateau overlooks the surrounding valley as far as the mountains beyond, mountains which must have meant the edge of the world to most of the pre-historic inhabitants of Jebel Masna'. The plateau is littered with menhirs, dolmens and piles of stone building rubble from the Himyaritic town -- the best stones were looted to build the later village, which rests at the foot of the mountain. There is still water up here, which collects in a cistern with neat stone walls. It is considered so healthy and pure that the local people use it for magic and therapeutic purposes. It is most probable that the town was not abandoned for lack of water, but for its distance from the fields in the valley on which the later inhabitants depended once they went in for large scale farming. Grazing and agricultural space was limited on top of the mountain. Up here on the plateau there is much magic in the air. Old men, young women, and children tend their fat tailed sheep as their forebears tended the sheep's in a similar pastoral scene thousands of years ago. Everyone is cheerful, friendly and communicative, at least after they have seen your permit. Pausing at the first dolmen, an immense stone slab resting on squat stone pillars rather like a giant milking stool. I thought back to my childhood in Cornwall and to Lanyon Quoit, a dolmen that stood at the crossroads where I used to change buses, and yearned for dollops of Cornish cream on fresh blackberries. When, as a teenager with archaeological ambitions, I waited for the

bus on the lonely Cornish moor, I had no idea that dolmens could be found from India to Japan, Ethiopia to Yemen, nor that my Cornish dolmens and menhirs, along with others on the Atlantic coast of Europe, were the most ancient, and that they get later and later the further east they went. This movement seems to be part of a West-East cultural drift that baffles scientists and historians, since it runs contrary to migratory flows. We know very little about Stone Age culture, but dolmens do appear to have been tombs - the word 'dolmen' is Cornish for 'hall of stone'. The body - or bodies - was laid to rest under the slabs, and the sides left open. There are some dolmens in the Hadhramaut, but these on Jebel Masna' are the only ones yet found in North Yemen. We came across one or two flat bodies under the slabs as we walked among the stones, but these were very much alive and waved qat leaves at us in greeting. While two sides of the inhabited end of the plateau are naturally protected by steep cliffs, the third, up which ran the access paths, has a more gentle incline, and the fourth was protected by a 6 meter artificial ditch. These last two sides were also protected by thick, defensive walls of large, neatly hewn stones interspersed with gates, probably also of stone, of which the huge stone hinges remain. We climbed part way down the cliff near the ditch to look for some rock tombs that are down there somewhere, but we would have needed mountaineering gear to locate them. Presumably the early citizens of the town were more sure footed than we. The piles of Himyaritic stones, the Stone Agemenhirs, the cisterns and the squared and rounded dwellings cover a sizable area; this was quite a town, not a mere village. What is wonderful is the atmosphere, the wild flowers, the balmy weather, the sheep rubbing their backsides against stones worn smooth by generations of scratching. And not a shred of garbage or a plastic bag in sight. What a beautiful world Stone Age man lived in. Or is one just carried away by the magic?



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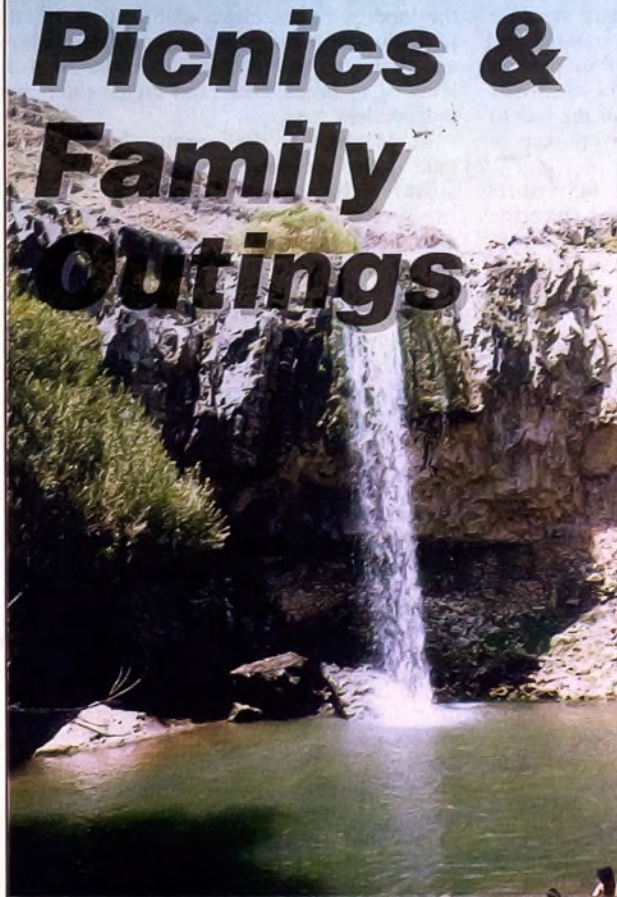
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Picnics & Family Outings

Sana'a:

Sanaa city residents suffer from the scarcity of places to go to for picnics and other family outings. There are no sufficient parks or recreational facilities. But for those families willing to take on an adventure trip, there are a couple of good outlets. About twenty kilometers on the way to Hodeidah, take a left turn, and less than a kilometer away there is a stream of water that flows on continuously in the region of Bani Matar. The College of Economics and Commerce planned last week a picnic to the area. It was a fantastic chance to play, swim, and cook out. This site also a small waterfall for picture-taking. Week-days are better than week-ends because of the congestion. Another location is a little farther towards Hodeidah, about 130 kilometers kilometers from Sanaa. Here, the stream is larger and the area

more spacious. An additional incentive is also that there are fewer visitors. Many people go to the caves on Amran road. Although there is no water flow, the area - some 20 kilometers north of Sanaa, is green. Mountain climbers could try to conquer the nearby peaks while the rest of the group does the barbeque. Be careful, do not stray from the group for too long. There are many other opportunities within Sanaa city itself. The Sabeen Park continues to offer its circus show, while there are many local activities in the 13th June Park on the way to the airport. In short, the rains have renewed the flow of many small streams and have covered the land with green grass and shrubs, thus offering better chances of picnics.




Libyan Flexibility and Western Intransigence

Libya is trying desperately break out from the present strangulation dictated by the UN Security Council Resolution No. 731 which imposes international sanctions against Libya. The leading Western countries - USA, Britain and France - have pressed the Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qaddafi to extradite the two Lockerbie suspects. Libya had offered to put the two men on trial, and to eve allow Western judges and lawyers to participate in the process. The West insists on a full extradition, which is neither requested by the US Security Council nor acceptable under international law. The pressure of the West is seen as a tool to get even with Qaddafi who has, for long, supported anti-West terrorists. Thus, the West hopes to get even by fomenting enough frustration and dis-satisfaction within the country with the hope of dislodging Mr. Qaddafi. Therefore, an incident is used to score political points. It would be appropriate if the West could separate the two issues and deal with each independently. The renewal of the UN sanctions last week does not reflect the change that has taken place in the Libyan position, and only shows the stubborn Western drive to break the Libyan regime.



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