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H.M. King Hussain with Editor in Chief Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Amman, Jordan (Yemen Times Archive, Oct. 91)

## After Yemen Times Reported Prisoners Plight: President Reacts to Correct Prison Conditions

In response to the information printed in the Yemen Times in Issue No. 29 of July 25th, the article on the Taiz Central Prison, President Ali Abdullah Saleh instructed an immediate investigation and to take steps to correct the prison conditions and to release those who have completed their terms.

Yemen Times learned that the Minister of Interior, Mr. Yahia Al-Mutawakkil, had ordered the translation of the Yemen Times article, and then circulated the translated article to the relevant authorities, which was the focal point of discussion.

"We discussed the objective assessment of the Yemen Times, and found it very useful, and we acted on it", said a source at the Ministry of Interior.

Other organizations, specially the Yemen Organization for Human Rights, have also called on the president to correct the prison conditions.

While the Yemen Times thanks the President for his positive interaction, we hope that the President will also set the record straight by ordering the release of Yemen's most well-known political prisoner, Mr. Mansoor Rajih. We urge you, Mr. President to consider this important step for the sake of justice.



### King Hussain of Jordan:

## "Renewed Commitment to the Arab Vision."

King Hussain of Jordan renewed his commitment to the concept of the Arab nationhood and the vision of Arab solidarity and togetherness, at a time when most Arab leaders, even the most revolutionaries are shying away from such concepts. "We re-affirm commitment to the Arab vision and aspirations, but along strong underpinnings of democracy, human rights and freedom of the press," the Monarch said. The Jordanian Monarch, speaking in a press confer-

ence in Amman on Friday, August 20th, indicated that Jordan has taken additional steps to guarantee full and equal participation by all Jordanians in the November parliamentary elections.

"I urge all citizens to make their choice as to who they will vote for, and hence will represent them in parliament on the basis of an objective assessment of the candidates and how qualified they are to serve the nation. The King vowed that the state will not intervene on behalf of any candidate no matter what. "The choice is fully upto the people."

The newly issued law of one vote per person for one candidate was introduced in order to bring about more fairness in regional relations among the country's constituencies.

King Hussain, by far the most credible Arab ruler in the eyes of the Arab people, has been leading Jordan towards democracy and state building. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in spite of resource scarcities and problems forced on it by its neighbors, has become a model among Arab countries.

## OPPOSITION BLOC FORMED

At the Cultural Center in Sanaa, on Thursday, August 19th, five political parties joined hands to announce the formation of a unified opposition bloc. These are Hizbul Haq, Al-Tanzem Al-Wahdawi Asha'abi Annasseri, Itihad Al-Qiwa Asha'abiyah, Attagammu' Al-Wahdawi Al-Yamani, and Rabitat Abnaa Al-Yemen.

The five parties have created a Supreme Coordination Board to coordinate their efforts which, according to a circular distributed on the occasion is based on three elements:

1. The documents of the National Conference,
2. The shared elements in the election programs of the five parties,
3. Any issues agreed upon by the Supreme Coordination Board.

A statement read out by a spokesman for the bloc stressed five points as follows:

1. To protect constitutional legitimacy,
2. To adhere to democracy based on a multi-party political system and the peaceful transfer of power, freedom of unionization, and expression and an independent judiciary.
3. To work within a clear plan to fight corruption and mis-use of public funds.
4. To refuse any constitutional amendments except through national consensus, which can be achieved through wide-ranging



dialogue. Until such consensus is reached, the current constitution must be fully applied.

5. To implement the decisions of the National Conference especially those related to the livelihood of the citizens and merger of the armed forces on national ground.



## A Cent to the Yen!

¢ = ¥

Although it was long forecasted, but when it did happen, it came as a serious blow. The US dollar has fallen to an all-time low against the Japanese Yen. For a few moments last week, the rate of exchange in fact dipped below 100 yens to the dollar, and it now hovers around 102-3 yens to the dollar. The psychologic trauma and economic stress were enormous.

Japan's trade surplus swelled again last month and the yet hit a record high against the dollar, posing many tough problems for new Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa. The Prime Minister chaired an emergency of his cabinet on Thursday, August 19th in order to address the rising value of the yen, which is caused by an ever-larger surplus in the balance of payments.

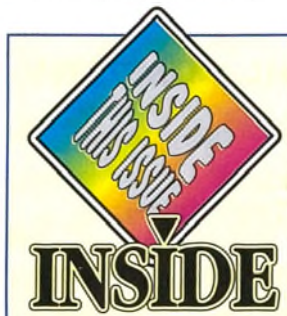
Japan's trade surplus swelled 28% from a year earlier to \$11.8 billion in July, an all time high for the third highest surplus on record, the Japanese Finance Ministry said.

At the same time, the US trade deficit for June exceeded \$12 billion, jumping from over \$8 billion in May. Even then, Japan's ballooning trade surplus reflects the change

in its trade relations with non-communist Asian countries.

Japan is trying to find ways to import more and export less. Even then, exports in July grew by 9% to \$32.2 billion, on the back of a surge in exports of ships and semiconductors. Imports, on the other hand, grew by a feeble 0.4% at \$20.4 billion, boosted mainly by increased purchases of lumber and crude oil.

As analysts and investors look into the Yen/\$ relationship, they do not see any signs of change in favor of the dollar. Even then, the new Japanese government, in its drive to protect Japanese price advantages, may take steps to weaken the yen vis-a-vis other currencies.



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Plus Our Permanent Features



## YEMEN TIMES Circulation Up 30%

Yemen Times has experienced a dramatic surge in circulation over the last few weeks. While sales in the large cities have sharply increased, new markets in several small towns were also opened.

During the period, June-August, the paper's circulation rose by a fantastic 30%. We hope to continue to grow as universities and schools re-open in September for the new school-year.

Meanwhile, the paper has gone to full colors, and we plan to go to 20 pages starting from the anniversary of the September Revolution.

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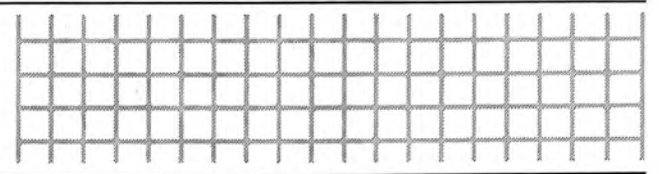
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## OUR VIEWPOINT

### Looking Ahead

One of the major problems of underdeveloped societies is their inability to look ahead. Good planning is probably the most crucial factor in success - whether in business, in government, or even in life itself.

We in Yemen suffer enormously because we are unable to look ahead. The ability to look ahead comes with training and education, it is not an inherent part of the individual. It is something people can acquire.

Planning means efficiency, a concept sanctified in the developed countries, and compromised and shrouded by many other considerations in developing countries.

Let us start with the individual. How much planning does a normal Yemeni do? Very little. For example, when a person starts the day, he/she has no plan regarding what to do on that very day, let alone any other day in the future. Thus, he/she drifts along with friends depending on what comes up and what they agree to do. We have a telling proverb in Yemen to personify this attitude - Ma bada, badaina a'laih, meaning "We will look into it when it happens!"

Companies and institutions are a little better at planning, although they too make many ad hoc decisions. It is possible to see this in the newspapers' world here in Yemen. I have yet to see a newspaper that plans to address certain issues. They simply wait for events to happen, and rush to write about them.

At the government level, the situation can be scary. There is very little interest in tomorrow. All decisions are geared towards now, thus making those decisions very short-sighted.

What I am trying to say is that we must see the virtue of looking ahead. Planning is an integral part of the modern person, and it must be inherent in the way we live.

Planning need not mean taking decisions. It could simply mean thinking about the future, and what options for decisions exist. By thinking about the future, we prepare ourselves better when it comes.

As individuals, as well as a society, we need to look ahead and plan in order to achieve the most in our lives!

The Publisher

عبد العزيز

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An Independent Economic & Political Weekly



Post Office Box: 2579  
Sanaa, Republic of Yemen  
Telephone +967 (1) 240.466  
Facsimile # +967 (1) 240.367

### Editorial Board:

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Ridha. Al-Saqqaf, Accounts  
K. Raju, Production Supervisor  
Publisher: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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### Yemeni-Saudi Border Talks Concluded

At the Presidential Palace in Taiz, a new round of border talks between the Republic of Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have been concluded on Thursday, August 19th.

The Saudi side presented its proposals and views regarding how to handle the border issue. The Yemeni side studied them and presented its comments and counter proposals which shall be the main item for discussion in the next round of meetings, scheduled for October in Riyadh.

The Yemeni side to the talks was headed by Mr. Jaafar Saeed Ba-Saleh, while the Saudi side was headed by Mutlaq An-Nafeesy.

### Mitterand's Visit Yemen Scheduled for 18-19 October

The French side has pinned down the dates for the proposed visit of French President Francois Mitterand to Yemen. "We have communicated the dates 18-19 October, and we are awaiting final confirmation from the Yemeni side," a French embassy source told the Yemen Times.

It is believed that the French president will be accompanied by a large delegation of officials and businessmen. The visit will be given a strong tourist touch, according to the tentative program.

### Cabinet Approves Plans to Commemorate Anniversary of the September/October Revolution

The Council of Ministers approved in its meeting on Wednesday, August 18th, approved of a plan to commemorate the 31st anniversary of the September Revolution and the 30th anniversary of the October Revolution. Arrangements are underway to celebrate the occasion with fanfare. The financial considerations are, of course, secondary.

### Government Freezes Financial Allocations for Turbah Hospital

As a result of the in-fighting between the YSP-member General Manager of the Hospital and the PGC-member Manager of Finance, the Khalifah General Hospital has ground to a halt.

To add insult to injury, the government has suspended, for two months now, the financial allocations of the hospital.

So much for the rights of the patients who need all the care and attention.

### Al-Ray Al-Aam Newspaper Found Guilty

In the West Sanaa District Court, Qadhi Aqabat found Al-Ray Al-Aam newspaper and its chief editor, Mr. Ali Al-Ulufi, guilty in the case filed against them by the Baath Secretary-General, Dr. Qassim Sallam.

The paper was fined YR 10000, and the editor was sentenced to six months in prison. The Al-Ray Al-Aam has been notorious for directly insulting and for bad-mouthing those persons who oppose aspects of the policies of General Ali Abdullah Saleh, Chairman of the Presidential Council.

### Preparations for the 1994 Budget

The Ministry of Finance has issued a circular to the ministries and government organizations the guidelines for preparing the budget for 1994.

If you ask an expert in the field, it is all a stupid, routine and meaningless donkey work. Neither the ministry nor the Prime Minister's office are able to entertain any real change in their philosophy or approach to what a budget is, and what its purpose is.

For the Yemeni bureaucracy, change is a very difficult thing, and the bureaucrats are happy with the ways and means they know, rather than re-learn new ways and means.

### Yemen and France Renew Archeologic Cooperation

The Republic of Yemen and France have signed at the Ministry of Culture and Tourism an agreement on Thursday, August, 19th, to renew the existing cooperation in manuscripts and archeology. The French side carries out studies and site inspections in those two fields.

### Shibam-Al-Mahweet Road Nears Completion

The 72-kilometer road linking Shibam and Al-Mahweet is almost completed, and its inauguration will take place during the September-October celebrations, according to a source at the Highway Authority.

The project, which costed YR 485 - financed 80% by German assistance, and 20% from the Yemeni government budget - will open up an important rural part of Yemen.

### JOIN THE WORLD'S BIGGEST BIRDPWATCH

Over one million people are expected to take part in the world's largest ever birdwatch, scheduled for 7-10 October, 1993. The event, WORLD BIRDPWATCH '93, is being coordinated by Birdlife International, a global partnership of conservation organizations which has more than 1.3 million individual members.

Over 100 organizations covering 73 countries from Andorra to Zimbabwe are already involved. Each one is organizing bird-watching events in their country, and will be inviting their members and the public to participate.

The Yemen Ornithological Society is arranging a visit to a number of schools, and to organize a 2-day watch for migrant waders at Hodfeidah on October 7th and 8th. The aim is to highlight the importance of conservation of wildlife in Yemen, which has a very rich heritage of birds, animals and flowers, and to try and interest and involve young people who are the future citizens of Yemen.

Details of events will be published nearer the time. All interested people, anywhere in Yemen, who would like to be involved, are asked to contact the YOS secretary:

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ترقبوا فروعنا في المكلا ، عدن ، تعز ، إب

- **Bosnia:** The Suffering Continues while Peace Talks Are Resumed.
- **The GCC:** Arabs Interested to Swap Oil for Japanese Technology.
- **Somalia:** US Choppers Getting Ready for Revenge.
- **Korea:** Compensation Claim Against Russia Filed.

**UN and NATO Agree on Serb Targets as Situation Deteriorates in Bosnia:**

The UN and NATO finished last week choosing targets the alliance could bomb if the world body orders air strikes at Serbian forces in Bosnia. Some 60 NATO planes are ready to launch strikes from bases in Italy and three aircraft carriers in the Adriatic. A statement issued by NATO's supreme commander in southern Europe, US Admiral Mike Boorda, and the French head of UN forces in the ex-Yugoslavia, General Jean Cot, said that they had "now completed the necessary target-planning arrangements." Both expressed "satisfaction at the state of preparedness of their forces to employ air power in Bosnia, if required."

At another level, the world has been devastated by the stories of little children wasted away by hunger and illness right in the heart of Europe. Irma, Belma, Amar and a lot more names of small children who suffered from various illnesses caused by malnutrition,

lack of medical care, and bad living conditions in general. "Right in the heart of Europe, it looked like Somalia," he added. A shocked British doctor in Sarajevo. Some of the children were flown out to Britain, France, Germany, Sweden, and other countries. But a bewildered and despairing Bosnian population can get very little comfort in these arrangements. "How many people can be flown out?" aptly asked a Sarajevo resident. "The answer is to help take off the Serbs and Croats off our backs," he added. To take off the Serbs and Croats off the back of Bosnians, the peace talks in Geneva were resumed late last week, through the week-end. The presidents of Serbia, Croatia and Montenegro, as well as the leaders of the three Bosnian factions - the Muslims, Serbs and Croats - also attended the talks which were termed as serious. But it is the Serbs who are calling the cards, as they are forcing their vision of the division of Bosnia. The talks are based on Serbian maps.

**GCC Countries Seeks Japanese Technology:**

The Gulf Cooperation Council countries (GCC) are planning to hold regular meetings with Japan in a bid to secure much-needed technology, in return for stable oil supplies, Gulf officials in Abu Dhabi, capital of the United Arab Emirates, disclosed last week. The two sides have set up a joint committee in June to organize such meetings and prepare the agendas of the talks, which mainly cover possible joint projects seen by regional states as the best means to acquire technology. "There will a meeting in Jeddah in October and another one in Bahrain in December, following the June meeting in Tokyo," said Mr. Abdullah Sultan, senior economist at the Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce and Industry. GCC nations supply Japan with nearly 60% of its oil imports of around four million barrels a day. The level is expected to exceed 70% by the year 2000 as non-GCC supplies are steadily receding. This has prompted the

Japanese to seek secure crude supplies and participate in investments in the oil sector. So far, the Japanese oil firms have shares in the UAE and the neutral zone shared by Kuwait and Saudi, in addition to a limited participation in the rising oil sector of Yemen, a non-GCC state. Yet, such investments at a total of \$3.5 billion, constitute less than 1% of Japan's total overseas investment of \$386.5 billion by end of 1992, according to sources. That is why the GCC states want Japan to invest more in the region within their attempts to obtain technology to build an industrial base and reduce reliance on oil, which provides more than 92% of their income. Although the Japanese have shown interest, their response has been minimal. This has prompted a rare attack from the GCC side. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Quwaiz, Assistant Secretary-General for GCC Economic Affairs, said, "Japan's investments in the region were far lower than investments by other industrial countries although Tokyo remains the GCC's top commercial partner."

**US Choppers Readied for Action in Mogadishu:**

Last week, air traffic into the Somali capital of Mogadishu's UN-controlled airport is regularly interrupted as US attack helicopters staged exercises that could herald, a fresh series of attacks on fugitive warlord Mohammed Farah Aideed. In the most recent show-off, about 15 helicopters, including wasp-like Cobras and bulkier Blackhawks, took off in a swarm from the seaside airport and swooped over the city for several minutes before landing again. Several practice runs have taken place since last Sunday, when gunmen ambushed a US military convoy in central Mogadishu and killed four US soldiers with what appeared to be a remote-controlled bomb

that blew up their vehicle. The UN has offered a reward of \$25,000 for the arrest of Aideed whom it accuses of ordering the massacre of 24 Pakistani troops in early June. Despite a series of bloody UN assaults on houses and districts loosely-controlled by the former army general and rebel leader, Aideed has avoided capture and has organized a hit-and-run guerrilla war. As a result, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher said that some "new technique" would have to be found to track down Aideed or to diminish his power in some way. The UN's current tactics have costed scores of lives of innocent Somali citizens, and have come under fire from human rights groups and other international observers.





**Russia Marks the August 20 Military Coup Amidst Uncertainty:**

President Boris Yeltsin of Russia appeared for the first time following over a month of absence from public appearances. He looked sick as he distributed medals to 100 persons who played a key role in foiling the military coup of August, 1992. Mr. Yeltsin, whose popularity is sinking rapidly due to economic hardships, has disclosed that he

will propose early elections for parliament. The occasion was marked by massive demonstrations in Moscow and other cities. Meanwhile, the Speaker of the Russian Parliament, Ruslan Khasbulatov, indicated that there will not be parliamentary elections this year. "We can agree on elections for president, if Yeltsin wants it," Ruslan said jokingly. The war of words between President Yeltsin and the conservatives in parliament is destined to witness a replay.


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# THE RETURNEES: The Tragedy Continues...

By: Al-Izzy As-Selwy,  
and Mervat Duweikat,

## A. BACKGROUND:

There is no doubt that the 2nd of August, 1990, will remain a dark and ominous memory in the minds of Arab generations. It is the day on which Iraqi's Saddam Hussain invaded and occupied Kuwait.

The Iraqis forces were dislodged by the international alliance under the UN auspices, and sovereignty returned to Kuwait. But the fall-out of the invasion did not end there. Much damage has been done, but let us concentrate on the repercussions to Yemen.

Between August 2nd and 30th September, an estimated 20,000 Yemenis who had lived in Kuwait fled the country rather than endure and/or cooperate with the invading Iraqi force.

On September 18th, and ostensibly as a reaction to the Yemeni government's position on the Gulf Crisis, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia issued its law stating that all Yemenis must adjust with the full requirements for residence and work in Saudi Arabia, just like any other foreigners. The privileges which had been enjoyed by

the Yemenis were terminated. As a result, some 900,000 persons returned to Yemen.

At the same time, the civil war in the Horn of Africa, specially in Somalia, forced the return of many Yemeni immigrants and their families whose ties to Yemen were practically non-existent.

All in all, about a million persons returned to Yemen - hence the term returnees.

Most of these people have been re-absorbed in their villages of origin or in the cities. But there is some 10% of the returnees who are stuck in squatter settlements in the Tihama - mainly in the outskirts of Hodeidah, Bajil, Abs, Bait Al-Faqeh and Zabid.

**50,000  
persons live  
in absolute  
poverty and  
distitutte**

Although there was a major effort in the days immediately following the return of the immigrants, they are by now more or less forgotten. They have effectively become an underclass.

A Yemen Times team paid a field visit to some of these camps to investigate how they live and has happened to them.

## B. THE HARDSHIPS:

In an area less than one square kilometer, called aptly the slaughterhouse - although the residents call it Saddam's Quarter - some 50,000 persons live in absolute poverty and distitutte. There are about 15,000 able bodied men and women who are unemployed, and they eke out a living by doing odd jobs, not necessarily legal.

The rising cost of living is a constant nightmare. Most of the people have sold off whatever simple assets they had brought with them from abroad - e.g., television sets, washing machine, videos, and even cars. Today they have nothing to fall back on, and they will do anything - lietrally anything to carve out a living.

They live in huts and small (3 x 4 meter) cubes made of cardboards, straws, metal/



The Daily Chore: Queuing for Water

zinc sheets, and other stuff thrown in to hold the "house" together.

Of course, there are no toilets or bathrooms. Few homes have utilities such as water

**Of course,  
there are no  
toilets or  
bathrooms. Few  
homes have  
utilities such as  
water and  
electricity.**

and electricity. You can see the eternal queue of women and children in front of the only metal water tank from which they fetch the water of their heads. There is a small clinic which is closed most of the time, and which has no medicine.

There is no school. There is a small mosque in which some lessons on religion and Arabic are offered.

As a result, a high level of lawlessness is beginning to prevail in the camp. Theft, robbery, prostitution, drugs, assault and various other crimes are rampant. Gangs have evolved, and anyone can buy their services. In short, life in the camps of the returnees is sub-human level.

## C. PROMISES, PROMISES

As soon as the returnees came home, the leadership and government promised to do a lot. They said they "will take care of their own" and that the state will give them

first priority.

Then the foreigners came to the scene, saw the catastrophe, and promised money to help finance their needs. It was reported that several countries and UN organizations have chipped to establish an emergency program which was oriented towards the returnees. Some money was received, indeed, and it was spent. Not much of it went to the camps.

Still more promises were made during the election campaigns. Politicians came to the camps and told the people that if they vote for them, they will take care of them.

The camp dwellers voted, by and large, for the People's General Congress.

Whatever little is done, has been done by the Jamiat Al-Islah Al-Khairiyyah.

Recently, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning signed a contract for the development of 3,000 small residential plots which will be distributed to the returnees in the camps.

## D. EXAMPLES:

In our survey, we interviewed some of the residents of the camp.

### 1. Fareejah Omer Ujaily:

Fareejah, 46, is the mother of seven children, the oldest twelve years old. The father has died.

"I go to Hodeidah to serve in the homes by doing household chores. I get paid YR 1400 per month, and it is not enough."

Do the children go to school?

"Of course not. Besides, they are needed to help fetch water and other needs at home."

### 2. Aishah Mohammed Aseeri:

Aisha is the mother of four. The father is dead.

"I buy potatoes, cook them and then sell them. That is how I make a living. My major problem is how to keep my hungry children getting at the potatoes, and thus eat away the capital which keeps us going."

In terms of washing clothes or taking a shower, she said that is done "whenever there is a national occasion like eid time."

### 3. Saedah Ali Ayyash:

Saedah is a 15 year-old teenager. She has eight sisters and brothers, all of them younger than herself.

"My father is sick and stays at home, my mother is dead," she said.

What do you think of your life? Do you have plans?

"I think about it a lot about my life! My salvation is to be married off out of this hell. I pray that someone will come!"

## YEMENI CITIES:

### Getting Cleaner...

The city-cleaning efforts are now well in the third week, and the enthusiasm and zeal of the people as well as the official persists.

In Sanaa alone, some 26 tons of garbage has been collected from the streets, and the effort continues. In Taiz and Aden, the cleaning process started much earlier, but the work continues. Voluntary efforts have more than made up for the finan

cial shortages in those and other cities.

The cleaning fever catches on in secondary cities as the citizens compete to beautify their residential areas.

Many persons feel that the cleaning process is a temporary phenomenon, following which our cities will return to their old dirty conditions. However, one can be sure that the cleaning efforts will continue well into

October, if at least until the celebrations of the anniversary of the September/October Revolutions.

A more optimistic attitude states that if the process can be prolonged for two months, then we can find other excuses and occasions to prolong it further.

In all cases, there is no doubt that Yemen has become cleaner over the last few days. Enjoy it while it lasts!

**There is No  
School in  
this Area.**

Continues next page.

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وشركة «أسس للأنظمة المكتبية»  
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الجمهورية اليمنية  
Rep. of Yemen

# The Salakhanah Shanytown: *Where Life is Hell!*

## 4. Shama'ah Mohammed Qushaini:

Shama'ah, 54, is a grandmother of two dozen kids. She is the "breadwinner" and thus has a lot to do at her old age. "There is trouble in all aspects of life. There is no income, no home, no services. Life has become a nightmare," she said.

"We used to get some support from the politicians and the candidates to parliament. Now it has stopped. We should have elections again soon, as the politicians will pay attention to our needs, at least on a temporary basis," she added.

## 5. Mohamed Qassim Hussain Mohammed

is a sturdy 25

year-old man. He looks like a weight lifter or muscle builder.

What do you do?  
I do anything and everything. "I don't have a steady job. I am a porter, a helper, a day-wage earner, anything." Would you consider joining an armed gang if things go bad?  
"I will think about it."

## 6. Da'abool Obad Kubaish:

Da'abool is an elderly. He says he is 58, but he looks much more than that.

"My three sons and I beg in the streets, and thus earn my living. My wife and the two daughters do the same." Do the children go to school?

"No, they don't. First, because there is no school in this area. Second, they earn better than us through begging."

## 7. Zainah Hadi Darweesh:

"I used to go to school in Saudi Arabia, but my native country is unable to offer me that service," says Zainah, 17, bitterly.

What do you do now?  
"I go to the homes of the well-to-do persons and do the household chores and 'entertain' them. I get some money that way and share it with my family."

Your hopes?  
"I can't even dream to start my family. All is gone!"



A whole Town of Broken Down Homes: The Salakhanah Shant-town.



Please take my picture: Thousands of half naked kids run around aimlessly!

## 8. Yahia Ali Mohammed:

Yahia is a twelve-year-old boy who spends most of the time in the streets. "There is no school, and I can't stay at home as our one-room home is filled with my parents and twelve brothers and sisters. It is fortunate the father and six of the older boys go out during the day looking for jobs. They come back at night."

"Our life has become a problem to us. The family members get in each other's way, and there are several fights every day over nothing. All of us are easily irritated, and there is no other way to let off steam than to beat each other," he said.

One day soon, they will start beating people on the streets.

## E. CONCLUSIONS:

There are several conclusions that one can reach from this survey, as follows:

1. The Government wants to forget this problem. It has succeeded in doing that during the past three years for two reasons:

a) The problem was less acute as the returnees had their past savings to fall back on and they liquidated many of their household appliances in order to meet their daily needs.

b) The returnees, fresh from Saudi Arabia where everybody fears the state, were quite unwilling to confront the Yemeni government. Now they are increasingly boldened by the democracy, and they are better able to organize and mobilize themselves.

2. The problem of Yemen's returnees will not go away by itself. It is a time-bomb and it could explode at any time.

More accurately, it will take something to light it off. In our opinion, this will happen later this year because the IMF/World Bank mission is coming back in October/November to force through policy adjustments that will increase the level of prices for basic goods.

Can anything be done? Yes, a lot can be done, but it takes political will and it requires to re-organize our priorities.

There is an increasingly disgruntled underclass in Yemen. Unless the well-to-do attend to this matter immediately, they will not do well, for long.

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### FROM THE AMERICAN DICTIONARY

It is amazing to see America putting its own interpretation on international law and resolutions in an upside down view of philosophy. It leans in Israel's favor, and it seems that Israeli occupation and assaults have become conditions imposed by force. In a speech given on his tour of the Arab capitals Mr. Warren Christopher, the American Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, pointed out that he does not carry any items on his agenda for bringing up the recent Israeli assaults on Lebanon, and that he is not ready to discuss the issue. He said he had insufficient time to listen to comments on the subject, and justified this by saying that what happened on the Lebanese/Israeli border (he did not, of course, speak of it as assault) was but a result of the Arab-Israeli struggle. What we are interested in, he said, are the essential causes of this struggle, and the means of eliminating them through the path of peace negotiations. This, he said, was the essence of his task on this tour.

Here an Arab diplomat asked why he concerned himself with (Hizbullah) weapons and the reactions of the Lebanese resistance forces in Lebanon? These reactions are due to the Israeli occupation of Arab lands.

Warren Christopher replied that, on the contrary, the facts of the case as he understood it were the complete opposite, as the existence of the resistance and Hizbullah is an essential cause of the assault. He said he thought the surrender or the withdrawal of Hizbullah and the resistance would end any justification for the Israeli campaigns in the southern part of Lebanon, thus safeguarding its northern security.

The Arab diplomat then asked why he did not regard the Israel assault on Lebanon as an essential cause, and its withdrawal from southern Lebanon a point to halt any justification for resistance.

It is this American logic which seems to want to put an end to all resistance before the Israeli withdrawal, paralyze Palestinian weapons without any concession to their rights, end the Palestinian uprising before granting autonomous rule, sign an Arab confession to occupying the land before the Israeli withdrawal from the 1967 borders, and continue with the peace negotiations while the Israeli assault is going on. It really is marvelous logic!

**Abdul-Wahab Al-Muayyad, Al-Mithaq, Sana'a, 9/8/1993.**

### THIS IS OUR RELIGION

Western imperialism shows disgust, hatred and enmity towards Islam. This hatred resembles the hatred of a thief towards the policeman who arrests him and throws him in jail, but unfortunately the policeman dies, leaving behind weak sons. The thief finds himself powerful once again, and begins to dwell on his past grudges.

Let us put it this way, what tempted the Romans to invade the East? They claim

it was its magic and beauty, its neglected treasures, that paved the way for the invasion. In Algeria I saw a statue of the Emperor Constantine. The Romans ruled that country for a century, and before that they occupied Egypt, whose peasants worked hard to export grain to Rome. Now the question is, what brought all these people to invade and occupy the whole of North Africa, and with it Syria and Lebanon? It was to plunder and wield savagery and power over these weak folk. It should be remembered that Islam was the only power which stood up to them, and sent them back to Europe where they belonged.

Are we aware of these facts when we write our history? They say the Arabs occupied Egypt. Was Egypt an independent state at that time, and did the Arabs fight the Egyptians? The Moslems fought the Romans. They did not fight the Egyptians: they remained until they evacuated them from Alexandria. Islam did not stop fighting the Romans until their defeat at the battle of Al-Yarmuk, and the defeat of their emperor Heraclius, who left Syria saying, "Salutations to you, Syria, we leave you for ever." Our comment is this: what brought you to our land? What have you brought to our people in the course of your occupation apart from blasphemy and humiliation? It is the will of God to let Islam be the only power to subdue these tyrants. It is our religion, with all its morals, its values, and its principles which put an end to those towers of oppression in ancient times and the Middle Ages. So think why the Europeans hate Islam after all these events!

**Muhammad al-Ghazali, Al-Balagh, Sana'a, 18/8/1993.**

### OPIUM OF THE PEOPLE

What protects our Yemeni people and gives them an immunity to the effects of opium is Islam, for the goal of the Sharia is to safeguard the soul, reason, religion, wealth and chastity from harm.

There are many diabolical means of bringing poisons into Yemen, through cigarette packets, soap bags, cement bags, medicinal drugs, tourists and foreigners who enter the country through different ports. The source of the opium in the world is the opium poppy plant, which can grow in most countries, including Yemen. Codeine, heroin, cocaine and valium are all extracted from opium. An "infection" which spreads quickly from one person to another, it can be taken orally, injected, or inhaled. The goal is to destroy the mind and soul of our people. In also it causes intensive hunger, idleness, worry and tension.

The mandatory punishment for any opium dealing in Saudi Arabia or Iran is death. As for the West, the entry of opium continues until it kills, and there is a great number of victims throughout the world. In Yemen the punishment is a life sentence for anyone dealing in it, and death for

anyone who is addicted to it. The security forces and the army are leading a campaign against any individuals caught planting or taking it.

**Muhammad Dirham Al-Muhallel, Raay, Sana'a, 10/8/1993.**

### WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR QAT MONEY?

A visit to the Suq al-Qat might make you lose your mind. You will see a lot of officials selecting qat there, spending at least 500 Riyals a day, which means an expenditure of not less than 15,000 Riyals a month. None of these officials receives a salary of more than 8,000. The question that leaps to mind when we see such spending is, where do they get the money to buy qat and support their families at the same time?

The qat issue is of great importance, and it requires a stand from all sides. This worrying phenomenon might be a substantial cause of the irresponsibility we suffer at all levels. In other words, qat has become a social habit which some regard as a part of the completion of one's personality, and even the quality of the qat plays a part in evaluating one's standing in society. The nation is in a suffocating crisis, which the qat chewers do not feel. What, then, is the solution?

There should be an official inquiry as to where all this money to buy qat as well as maintaining family commitments comes from. Distortion, bribery, and administrative and financial corruption are caused by the impact of qat on our society.

**Muhammad Mukbil al-Himyari, 22 May, Sana'a, 11/8/1993.**

### VICTIMS OF POLITICS

A number of regions of the world have become platforms for violence, and this violence has caused the comprehensive uprooting and liquidation of hundreds and thousands of people.

Politicians dreamed of being the first to be concerned with world development. They also dreamed of a world filled with the spirit of justice, human rights, the right of the people to determine their fate, and the right of national sovereignty. But things began to develop in the wrong direction. Instead of social struggle, ethnic struggles bubbled to the surface, to the detriment of everything else. Violence broke out under different names and slogans, igniting region after region and leading them towards new policies and new political arrangements.

People ask how all this could happen in the Balkans, in Somalia, in Afghanistan, and elsewhere? The influence of the assassination of reason has prevailed over the influence of intellectuals and scientists in more than one region of the world, whether these actions come in the form of organized wars, in random assassinations, or in pre-planned terrorist attacks.

In the fever of these abnormal actions we notice that the statements they issue are con-

tradictory. Some seek a cheap peace, others look for the absolution of historical deeds and violations. There are even those who see an advantage in a chaotic, undisciplined and disordered world.

It is true that what happens today is not the outcome of new events, but an explosion of events accumulated in the past. The world of today should be founded on the principles of understanding. It is unfair for a country possessing every strategic advantage to draw up a new map for its geographical sphere with the use of arms. Such deeds will destroy the New World Order, and subsequent coexistence will be difficult.

**Abd al-Raqib Muqbil, Al-Thawry, Sana'a, 12/8/1993.**

### SOLUTIONS WANTED

Do our shortcomings lie in the constitution, in the law, or in the administration? Will the proposed constitutional amendments solve the irresponsibility and corruption in the country, and where, in all this, does the interest of the people lie? Our people are the only ones capable of diagnosing shortcomings and excesses as and where they exist, and the real interest of the nation does not benefit from the arousal of tension and crises or by wasting time. The nation's interest lies in coexistence with the issues, the problems and the suffering in a spirit of responsibility. The constitution of the state of unification, with all its democratic, cultural, social, and economic concepts, has remained for

more than three years without any substantial application. But our people are not ignorant to the point of not realizing what is going on behind the scenes. All these complications, amendments, speeches and promises won't get us out of this suffocating corruption. All our problems need to be tackled one after the other, starting with a stand against bribery, favoritism, and random development. What we need is the stabilization of security, modernization, planning and progress in tackling the economic recession.

**Mujahid al-Kuhali, Al-Tasheeh, Sana'a, 12/8/1993.**

### ATTORNEY VS. THE NATION

An attorney is supposed to be the one a person can turn to if subjected to oppression; he is supposed to be the one who stands up against criminals and other violators of legal or social rights. He is the one who protects people from oppression.

There are 480 detainees in the central prison of Sana'a, and are still waiting for their sentences to be handed down from the court. None of them has gone through due process of law.

It is imperative to proceed with the cases of these detainees as quickly as possible. Some of them have spent more than a year in prison without an attorney taking even one step in protecting their rights.

**Dr. Riyadh al-Kirshi, Al-Hares, Sana'a, 14/8/1993.**

**OUR CONTRADICTIONS**  
One of our outstanding national defects is the vast contradiction that exists between the shouting of concepts and slogans, and the putting into practice of what we shout. There is a great difference between what we say and what we practice. I don't know if this difference is inherited, or whether it reached us in the pile of all those imported values, styles, and behaviors. But there really is a defect in the way we balance thought and deed.

Let us start with an example. Some families implant bad behavior in the minds of their children. The doorbell rings, the phone rings, and you see father waving his hand to say he is not at home. Such behavior sows in a child's mind the seeds of lying and deceit.

Again, we talk about pollution, cleanliness, qat chewing, and garbage, but without doing anything about it.

Here is another issue. We all raise the slogan of democracy and talk about it day and night, but we get annoyed when our conduct is criticized. We talk about unification and call for an end to the phenomena of divisionalism and regionalism, but in a moment of excitement we are ready to destroy what it has taken us years to build up.

To restore the equilibrium we ought to be frank with ourselves and put a stop to this policy of upside-down social imbalance.

**Abdullah Al-Sa'afani, Al-Mithaq, Sana'a, 16/8/1993.**



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**Mohammed A. Al-Ashwal:**  
**“The real estate business is better left to the private sector.”**



Urban problems are probably among the major headaches brought about by the modernization and development process of the country. From less than 2% in 1968, the urban population represents today, a quarter of a century later, over 30% of the total population. Large cities are sprawling in all directions, as urbanization makes itself a force to be reckoned with. To talk about this phenomenon and what is being done about it, Ms. Mervat Duweikat of the Yemen Times went to speak to Eng. Mohamed Ahmed Al-Ashwal, Deputy Minister for Housing and Urban Planning. Engineer Al-Ashwal has completed his BA and MA from the former Czechoslovakia, and a higher degree from Japan. Excerpts of the interview:

**Q:** Let me start with a question pertaining to the philosophy of real estate development in Yemen.  
**A:** As you know, before the re-unification of Yemen, there were two philosophies. In the former YAR, housing and construction was left primarily to the private sector, and it did a good job. In the former PDRY, housing construction was the domain of the public sector, and it did very poorly. Even for a country with the resources of the USSR, this approach failed, let alone a poor government as in the former PDRY. Therefore, today, the philosophy pertaining to real estate development is that it is to be left to the private sector. Of course, the ministry does provide guidelines for the evolution of this sector.

**Q:** But there are some government housing projects?  
**A:** Yes, there are, but these for specific reasons and they are foreign financed. For example, there are the Unity Complex in Sanaa, which is financed by Libya and is assigned to house the officials who had to leave their homes in Aden and move to Sanaa according to the unity arrangements. We have the urban development project which is 70% financed by the World Bank. This was an effort to try to build housing units for the middle class and bureaucrats who are part of the rural-to-urban migration.

We also have the housing project signed last month which calls for constructing low-cost housing for the returnees who now live in camps in Hodeidah.  
**Q:** Your ministry builds housing for various purposes. Don't you see it is strange that your ministry itself has no building of its own as you are renting the building of the ministry?  
**A:** That is not exactly accurate. We had our own building when there was just one ministry for public works and municipalities. When the two sectors were divided into two ministries, we lost the building. Every minister who takes over works hard to find the chance to construct a ministry building. But you know we have different priorities. Such a building would cost some YR 500 million, which we prefer to spend on garbage collection or road construction, etc.

**Q:** What is the volume of the construction business?  
**A:** I do not have specific numbers. We have 222 branch offices which issue construction licenses.  
**Q:** There is a problem of uncontrolled housing construction, and sometimes even in the course/path of floods. We have seen this in Taiz and we have seen it in Aden.  
**A:** Yes, there is so much of unlicensed housing construction. In Taiz we have an on-going \$22 million project which aims to work on this problem. We have strengthened the drainage and the flow of rain-water systems, we have built small dams

and cisterns, and we have improved lighting and infrastructure services. A similar project exists in Hodeidah. But here, we are developing a whole region, and we are passing ownership of some 3,000 plot of developed land to the citizens to build homes for themselves. In Aden, the story is different. The magnitude and sudden nature of uncontrolled housing construction, and the long neglect of maintenance of the rain-water runway, have resulted in a catastrophe three months ago. There is a major project underway in this regard, and it is being coordinated with the UNDP office. The haphazard housing construction problem is most acute in Sanaa, which has seen the fastest urban growth rate in the Republic.  
**Q:** There was a promise to return the previously confiscated and nationalized real estate. How far have you come in this regard?  
**A:** This is a very tricky issue. First, let me say that there many regulations and orders from the government to address this matter in a fair and legal way. Second, let me point out that most of the confiscated real estate is occupied by government organizations and offices or by citizens and tenants who have lived in them for decades. So it is hard to free the property. Therefore, the main thrust of our approach is to compensate the former owner of the real estate with a plot of land that is equal in value to his/her former property. We are looking at various ways to resolve this matter.

**PRESIDENTIAL ROBBERY**  
**Can Anyone Help?**

As Yemeni immigrants abroad for more than 55 years, my late dad brought in to the former PDRY goods worth \$300,000 carrying the tag TRANSIT, which simply means it was not for Yemen, but via Yemen. That was in 1984. At the time, the then president of PDRY, Mr. Ali Nasser Mohammed visited the port of Aden. Seeing the crates, consisting of agricultural machines, he asked the port authority to whom it belonged. He was told the goods belonged to a Yemeni immigrant. Without the least hesitation, the President ordered the goods be taken to Abyan governorate - with the permission or knowledge of the owner. The President wrote a short memo on the occasion. The important part reads: "Once the owner comes asking for compensation, then the government has to pay him. Signed PDRY President: Ali Nasser Mohammed." We wrote letters, telexes, etc., to the president asking for the said compensation. There was no answer. That death a devastating blow to my father, who was all his life faithful to his homeland. He even helped finance the 'freedom fighters' against British colonial rule. He personally handed over loads of cash and other contribution to Ali Nasser Mohammed and Ali Salim Al-Beedh during their fund-raising trips. The issue of our \$300,000 consignment remains unre-

solved. With the unification of Yemen - which the world respectfully noted - we regained hope and confidence. We wrote to the foreign affairs ministry seeking compensation. We wrote via the embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar-es-Salam, Tanzania. Again, no answer. We continued to send fax messages and letters asking for the legitimate compensation of goods officially stolen under the orders of the head of the state. At one stage there was hope. The Minister of Immigrants' Affairs, Mr. Saleh Munassar As-Siyali, and his deputy, Mr. Hamdi Ba-Faqeeh wrote to Prime Minister Haidar Abubakar Al-Attas. Something funny happened here. The Prime Minister, instead of instructing the Ministry of Finance to settle the matter, he instructed the nearly penniless Ministry of Immigrants' Affairs to pay the compensation. Of course, this is a joke. The Prime Minister was not interested in resolving the matter. To him, it is just pushing paperwork. Time passed. Again we sent fresh requests to President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Vice President Ali Salim Al-Beedh. We sent letters to the Prime Minister, to the Foreign Minister, and to almost anybody. No answer. It is as if the government was telling us to buzz off. Who can trust a government like this? Who will put fresh money in this country?

Three years have passed since unification, yet nothing seems to have changed. As far as my understanding goes, Yemen is no state at all. There is no law, no respect, and no care. It is a jungle - the strong eat away the weak. This is not a land governed by the rule of law, it is a land governed by a pack of criminals. We also have a building in Mukalla which was built as a hotel. As soon as it was completed, it was invaded and forcefully occupied. Today it has become the boarding place for nurses working for the Ministry of Health. In less than twenty years of illegal occupation, a beautiful building has been destroyed through an early decay due to lack of maintenance or any support service. The walls are cracked, the water leaks from everywhere, the drainage system is clogged, the roofs are about to fall. The corners of the rooms have become breeding space for all kinds of mosquitoes and other insects. I sometimes wonder how the nurses live in a place like this - as they still do. Remember the word hygiene?  
**Final cry:**  
 President Ali Abdullah Saleh. Could you please look into this matter and bring a sense of justice to us.  
**By:**  
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## Letters to the Editor

## Letters to the Editor

## Letters to the Editor

### THE YEMEN TIMES COURT CASE

#### From Sanaa:

Freedom. How great, and how essential it is! It is the crown of this life, and it teaches us how to live and taste life's sweetness. It is necessary for man to be able to say what he wants and to point out corruption in society. Your article "The Verdict", on the case of the Yemen Times versus the Ministry of Information, was on precisely this matter. Reading it made me feel proud of Professor Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf for writing so courageously about the forced takeover of land belonging to Sana'a University by some government officials. The President's stand on this matter showed the kind of prudence which proves that our country is now in a real democratic era. It was the courageous step taken by Professor Al-Saqqaf in exposing the malpractices of some of our government officials that made the public aware of them. It is a positive aspect of our democratic experience, which we all hope will continue to get even better. I hope, too, that the Yemen Times will go ahead to achieve its sublime goal of confronting the corruption which has struck our country.

**Muneer H. Seif Al-Areebi,**

#### From Switzerland:

Congratulations to Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf and your victory!!!  
Congratulations also to your Qadhi (judge) and his wise

decision, which will mark August 5th, 1993, as a victorious day for the freedom of the press, as well as a great step towards freedom of opinion for all Yemeni citizens.

May the first issue of your newspaper in color be the symbol for a happy and prosperous future in freedom and democracy for all Yemeni citizens, as well as a signal to many oppressed people that by joining hands and forces they will achieve victory over oppression! May some "big fish" wake up to this reality and start acting accordingly. My very best wishes to Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, to the Yemen Times, and to all Yemeni citizens for this success and in future battles for the sake of freedom and democracy!

**Ursula Schwendener,  
CH-7000 Chur,  
Switzerland.**

#### From Sanaa:

I followed the four issues on your case with the Ministry of Information.

At first, I was worried about it, but as it continued, especially in the verdict, and as I observed similar events, I came to the conclusion that the Yemen Times was all along "paid" to play a game with the government in order to show the outside world that there is justice and democracy in this country. I think it was a dirty game, nicely played by the Yemen Times in col-

laboration with the government.

Congratulations!  
**Muhammad Nagi Shatibi,**

#### From Sanaa:

I would like to express my support for the Yemen Times and Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf. Through the Yemen Times, Yemen can show yet its genius and brilliance.

Once again, my admirations and I am happy to move from reader to participant.

**Ahmed A. Aruayni.**

#### From Aden:

Hearty congratulations to the Yemeni brave press. With great pleasure I send my respects to Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf for his brave article, and to all courageous journalists who are struggling against all kinds of corruption.

Once more I hail the courage of Yemen Times which leads the way and helps others to take a bold stand against the shameful behavior of corrupt officials. The verdict is a condemnation to the Ministry of Information and its futile attempts at holding back the surge of freedom as manifested in Yemen Times, Sawt Al-Ummal and other combatant newspapers.

**Alyemda employee.**

#### From Hodeidah:

I have followed your court case with extreme worry and anxiety. I was joyous when justice was done, and I noted the credit the Yemeni judicial system deserves in its horrible history.

The verdict, which was a victory for Yemen Times, was also a victory for freedom, democracy and justice.

**Abdul-Bari Taher,  
Head, The Syndicate of  
Yemeni Journalists**

#### Editor's Replies:

I am deeply touched by the flow of support from the general public.

Yemen Times readers and concerned citizens have called in or sent letters in our support. These include ministers, ambassadors, military officers, leading politicians, intellectuals and friends who congratulated the paper on winning the court case.

I would also like to thank those who have written to encourage us and marked their letters "Not intended for publication."

Yemen Times did not, and will not, oppose the system because of its political colors, but it will expose its shortcomings and failure to live up to its ideals.

Yemen, in my opinion, is on the right track, and our leaders are doing a lot to help elevate the nation. Yet, by pointing to their shortcomings, we are not opponents of the system, as some of their proteges tell them. We see ourselves as good citizens who are helping by strengthening the weak points in the system.

**Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf**

### PLEASE EXPLAIN

I should like to know, through your newspaper, why it is that all shop doors are painted blue? Is it a law, or is it a freak accident? And are there any future plans to repair damaged streets, especially Manamah Street (commonly referred to as Mazda Street) and Nuqum Street?

**Abdulkadir M. Saleh,  
P.O.Box 12516,  
Sana'a.**

### THANK YOU, MR. CLINTON, BUT IT'S A BIT TOO LATE!

Mr. Clinton's latest drive to "do something" about the tragedy in Bosnia is more a face saving, theatrical gesture than a sincere move to bring a halt to the continuing tragedy of the helpless Bosnian Muslims. The President of the United States is probably keen on soothing down public outrage, which has increased in the US as a result of the reluctance to take effective measures to help the defenseless Muslim victims of an "ethnic cleansing" campaign being perpetrated by a bunch of hooligan Serbs, who proudly and openly proclaim their motives.

At this stage, only history will bear witness that the world watched in meticulous details as the barbaric side of the "Western Civilization" unleashed its hatred again. Thank you, Mr. Clinton, but by the time your bombers and rockets get to the Serbs and Croats, if they ever get there at all, the rivers of Bosnia will have overflowed with the tears of orphans and widows. Tears of orphans who have lost their parents, and who are being re-moulded in order to break off from their Islamic cultural heritage. Tears of widows who have been raped over and over and made to bear the children of Serbian soldiers. Tears of Bosnians who see their former neighbors, schoolmates, fellow-workers, etc., fully-armed and unleashed against them, while the world watches on.

The Bosnian atrocities are a visible indicator of the deeply-rooted European attitudes against their southern neighbors. The minarets have to go. The mosques have to be destroyed. The 'heathens' - although racially Slavic - have to be liquidated. It is all a nightmare that comes at the close of this century which witnesses European madness overtake the world one more time.

I thank you, Mr. Clinton, for understanding the attitude of your European allies! You had spoken of high ideals during your election campaign, but now you have to succumb to realpolitik. Remember, as it was in the beginning, so it shall be in the end. The weak shall prevail and inherit the earth.

**Hassan Al-Haifi,  
Sana'a.**

### WEDDINGS

Some of our traditions are not suitable for the modern age. Even worse, they are not relevant to the teachings of Islam. We must study what is good and what is bad in our traditions, with reference to the economy and our well-being.

Among these are the rituals and traditions of marriage and the accompanying ceremonies. The cost elements are obvious. The dowry the groom pays for the bride, the celebrations, the huge qat chews for days in a row - before and after the wedding - the lambs and calves slaughtered to feed the guests and well-wishers who often turn up for the feast without invitation, and many other cost items bring the total expense of weddings to several hundred thousand riyals. I wish the newly-wed couple could spend that money on a beautiful honeymoon and on starting a home.

One friend told me he had to sell his farmland in order to get married. Another said he saved money from his salary for eleven years before he could marry. There is another problem with our traditions. The bride and groom, in their very honeymoon, are forced to stay away from each other because their relatives and friends always drop in to check up on the couple and how they are doing.

After all that trouble, the poor groom could be unlucky. As grooms and brides hardly know each other, he could be stuck with the wrong partner, in which case, he would be left with no wife and no money!

**Saleh Al-Suraihi,  
Yemeni Embassy,  
Addis Ababa.**

### Victims of Saddam

We are a group of Yemenis who had lived in Kuwait for more than 17 years; that is before the Iraqi invasion of August 2nd, 1990. We left as we were unwilling to assist or even co-exist with the invading Iraqi soldiers.

As a result of that, suddenly and overnight, we lost our jobs, property, and almost everything else we had earned during our stay in Kuwait.

Now, it has been almost a year since we filed our claims for our losses, and there is no word. Is there any news as to what happened to our claims?

We are unable to get any information from the relevant government offices. Could anyone help? Could the UNHCR help?

Three years have passed since the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, and that is how our suffering started. Our government, in making political decisions, we inconsiderate of our interests or even the interests of the people of Yemen. How can one make such politicians accountable to what they do? We will appreciate a response.

**O.M.A.,  
Sanaa.**

### THE RABBIT

It was a lonely day, and he was aimlessly wandering by the mountain side. Yet, it was one of those beautiful spring mornings. The land was green, and there were many wild flowers.

It was an enjoyable atmosphere, if it were not for his dull mood. But all of a sudden, his mood changed. His attention sharpened.

He saw a grey wild rabbit. Its eyes were shining, and it was quite alert to see what kind of intercourse will take place with the intruder. The rabbit was right to be careful of the man, as the intruder began to make plans how to catch it. The chase had begun.

Thank God, the rabbit won. But, the time and mood have changed. It was almost noon-time, and the sun was shining brightly. The intruder began to feel the beauty of nature - the smell of the wild flowers, the chirping sounds of the birds, and even the caressing feeling of the breeze. The sight was extraordinary.

Suddenly, he thought of the rabbit again. "I have to catch that rabbit," he told himself adamantly.

But he was getting tired, thirsty, and hungry. The order of nature was beginning to make its claims on his body. He quietly succumbed.

A few hours later, he woke up. He laughed at his efforts to catch the rabbit. "Why can't I simply enjoy the beauty of nature, and the friendship of the rabbit. Why do I need to catch it?"

Those are soul-searching questions. The answers lie in our human nature - we are a breed intent on possessing everything. There is need to control this part of our nature. That is the lesson of the rabbit!

**Muneer H. Seif Al-Areeqi,  
Sanaa.**

### HAIL YEMEN TIMES

I visited Yemen last month. I learned a lot by reading your newspaper - Yemen Times.

I was very pleased and impressed with the paper. It gives political analysis, economic news, and even social information.

Unlike many mundane newspapers in the region, your task is philanthropic because you are pushing for high ideals. I feel that various obstacles must be put in your missionary path by various interest groups. But one must not be frustrated. Most of all, you should not think of giving up or surrendering.

I can tell you that I have met with many young Yemenis and talked to them. They are sympathetic and supportive of your paper and what it stands for. That is already an achievement.

I advise you to write interesting/informative stories to attract young people. Also publish job opportunities. It attracts interest. Good luck.

**Zeshan Izzat,  
A.M.U., India.**

## Personal View

### JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES

We are sending this letter from the central prison of Sana'a.

We are not prisoners of war, we are just refugees. We haven't asked, and are not asking, this country to give us priority. We haven't even demanded our rights, which are supposed to be granted through the United Nations. We are just awaiting doomsday, as we feel we are nothing to anyone here.

Why chase us? Why treat us like animals? Are we not human beings like them? If we ask why, they don't even tell us the reason. Not that they give us the chance to ask. We are beaten, insulted, and robbed of what we have in hand, we are thrown like goats into cars and taken to the central prison. Where is their humanity? And where are the human rights that the whole world is talking about?

Does the government (of Yemen) know about it? We doubt it, because what these people have done and are doing is against the laws of Yemen. We should like to inform you that some female refugees have been raped. Another strange thing is that they even imprisoned some mixed race Yemenis - Mawalladeen, as they call them. What is this all about?

We are not concerned about the Mawalladeen. Whether they like it or not, they are Yemeni. But we are bothered about ourselves. We are afraid for our future if this treatment continues.

At least we need reasons for all the things they do to us, or is pure sadism. We strictly follow the rules. But chasing us and throwing us in prison is inhuman.

**By: A Group of Somali and Ethiopian Refugees,  
The Sana'a Central Prison.**

**Editor's Note:** We have brought this matter to the personal attention of the Minister of Interior





**This Week's Guest Is:**

Sheikh Hameed Bin Abdullah Al-Ahmar, a Powerful Politician and a Rising Successful Entrepreneur. Sheikh Hameed is a Member of the Parliament and the Chairman of the Arabian Horizons Business Group s.

**Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar:**

**“As private entrepreneurs, we cannot side-step the government. We have to help it evolve correctly.”**

By: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Yemen Times.

*Yemen's socio-culture and politico-economic transformation has allowed a lot of class movement. The competition today is along modern lines and the criteria are increasingly becoming objective. As a result, members of the dominant class who want to retain any part of their parents' influence have to compete with all others.*

*Thus the children of sheikhs, senior government officials and high ranking officers have to work hard to stand out in society. It is, of course, true that their task is less arduous than that of children of laymen. However, we see them pursue education to the highest levels, they compete in business, and they struggle in politics.*

*It has become, therefore, a recurrent phenomenon to see the children of senior persons in society working hard to make a name for themselves, an example of this is Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar, the son of Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar, the Speaker of Parliament and the paramount sheikh of Hashed tribes.*

*I have known Hameed as my student over the last two years at the College of Economics and Commerce at Sanaa University. He is now in his last university year. Hameed is also a member of parliament. He is an active member of the Economic Committee.*

*Finally, he is known very well for his support of several charity organizations and voluntary associations. We evolved a good friendship over time. Thus last week, I invited him to come to Yemen Times and we had the following conversation.*

**Q: You have gone into business. Could you share with our readers the business part of your endeavors?**

**A:** Talking about my business is basically talking about the future. I first went into business a few years ago, specifically in 1988.

Today I have many interests in various activities.

In banking, I am a major share-holder in the Yemen Commercial Bank, and I am a member of its Board of Directors.

In tourism, I chair Arabian Horizons for Tourism, which has become a leading tour operator and organizer in the country.

In Oil, I lead a firm which has extensive links with the oil companies and subcontractors. We also represent many companies, which may not care to be named.

In publishing, I am owner and general manager of the Horizons Publishing House,

which is a large and very sophisticated press.

I also run a Al-Salam company, which specializes in trade and general agency business.

Let me say that we are a growing group of companies. It is clear that the growth rate is much higher when you can



operate an integrate group of companies, rather than a single unit operating in just one sector. This means that the future is for businesses that are involved in many sectors. That is because large companies are better able to withstand fluctuations and economic hardships.

**Q: In terms of relations with the government, as a businessman, where do you stand?**

**A:** First, let me say that the crucial aspect of any business is management - legal ownership is secondary. Of course, the type of ownership does have a bearing on the management and operations. As regards working with the government, I think it is a headache. But I don't believe in side-stepping the government. In the long run, we have to come to terms with the government and interact with it positively.

Therefore, it is crucial that we work to develop our own businesses, and, at the same time, to help the government improve its own system and attitude. We have to help it evolve in a constructive way so that it becomes helpful to private enterprise.

**Q: Other than the government, what is the key obstacle to the blossoming of private business?**

**A:** I believe the shortage of reliable and skilled/efficient labor is a limiting factor. You cannot find good people to run the businesses.

It is here that I see the role of education and training.

**Q: Speaking about education, how do you evaluate your Sanaa University experiment?**

**A:** I have benefited a lot, of course, but more could have been done. I feel there is no system of checks and controls at the university.

Even in the lower education

**Q: How do you see the new parliament evolving?**

**A:** I think we basically need internal regulations and by-laws which will guide the interaction of the members as well as relations with other branches of authority. We in the economic committee have already taken several steps in this direction.

levels, there were supervisors who came to schools to assess the efforts of the teachers and the progress of the students. At Sanaa University, the lecturers are left without supervision and they do whatever they want. You will realize some of them are not very conscientious.

It is not just a matter of resources, it is also a matter of commitment and interest. I would like, in my capacity as member of parliament to help in this matter.

**Q: What do you think of the chopping off of Sanaa University land?**

**A:** Of course, that is regrettable. I think we should preserve and protect all public domain, not just the university land.

I use this opportunity to voice my concern over this matter, although I see that the leadership may donate certain plots of land to deserving persons based on an objective system.

**Q: You are a member of the Islah bloc in parliament. There is a complaint often reported in the press that individual members of the parliament are guided by orders from their parties and that they have no room for taking their own decisions on issues being presented to them. What do you say?**

**A:** I want to stress that many of the members of the House of Representatives have won because their parties have helped them. They have ran on party platforms using



party money. Therefore, it is just normal that they should get "guidance" from their respective parties.

That should not negate a certain margin of personal reasoning.

To the contrary, I think there is lack of or insufficient discipline on the part of the members of parliamentary blocs to the dictates of their parties.

**Q: How do you see the new parliament evolving?**

**A:** I think we basically need internal regulations and by-laws which will guide the interaction of the members as well as relations with other branches of authority. We in the economic committee have already taken several steps in this direction.

I am also happy to say that our committee is the only one to have held regular meetings, so far.

In short, this is a learning process, and we will need the support and cooperation of all members of society.

**Q: What do you think of the effort of amending the constitution?**

**A:** I believe that amending the constitution has become a necessity. Most circles seem to agree on that.

But we have to discuss what is to be amended thoroughly. We have to involve as many political parties and interest groups as possible. We must achieve wide participation in the discussions.

**Q: How about the unification of the army and**

**security forces?**

**A:** The army and security forces represent one of the important guarantees to the well-being of the nation. A unified army is a prerequisite for a unified nation.

Of course, we have to modernize the army and make it representative of the whole nation. This modernization process is actually needed for the whole state apparatus.

**Q: Any last message?**

**A:** I feel that our country is on the right track, but we need to work with each other in a positive way. I am hopeful and optimistic about the future. I call on all to cooperate in making Yemen a place we are all proud of.

...

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AGRICULTURE

# Projets d'avenir pour le café yéménite

*Le gouvernement yéménite s'est donné pour objectif de développer la culture du café. Mais les difficultés sont nombreuses et la concurrence avec les autres pays producteurs est forte.*

Célèbre au XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle dans les salons français, le café yéménite a perdu depuis de sa splendeur. Mais Sanaa est décidée à redonner du lustre à cette production historique. Cette volonté politique s'est concrétisée lors d'un colloque organisé le mois dernier à la faculté d'agriculture par le ministère de l'Agriculture.

Abdul Hafiz Karhache, directeur de la production de café au ministère, estime qu'il faut avant tout connaître précisément les principaux obstacles au développement de la culture du café. Ensuite, il sera possible d'étudier les moyens et les techniques à mettre en oeuvre pour les surmonter.

indissociables". Aussi, il suggère de créer une administration du qat, comme celle qui existe pour le café, afin d'en contrôler la production. Il envisage une coopération entre les deux administrations.

**Techniques d'irrigation**

"La France manifeste un grand souci dans ce domaine. Elle est prête à participer financièrement, à développer ses projets et son expérience dans le cadre d'une coopération bilatérale et d'une coopération avec les organisations internationales", a déclaré Marcel Laugel, l'ambassadeur de France. "Les Français du XVII<sup>e</sup> et XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècles ne faisaient pas de différence entre le mot Mokha et le mot Yémen. C'était la même chose dans leur esprit. Aujourd'hui, quand on pense au Yémen on pense à Mokha et quand on pense à Mokha, on pense au Yémen. C'est l'histoire".

Le bureau agricole franco-yéménite participait notamment à la manifestation. Selon Olivier Neuvy, responsable de ce bureau, il faut



Lors du colloque, une exposition sur le café était présentée.

développer les techniques d'irrigation. "L'irrigation a une importance fondamentale. Elle évite aux caféiers un stress hydrique défavorable à leur développement", a-t-il expliqué. "Les caféiers pourraient être irrigués par dérivation des crues dues à la mousson et par le pompage de nappes peu profondes. L'exploitation de nappes à de plus grandes

profondeurs permettrait d'irriguer les cultures tout l'année. On peut également envisager des irrigations d'appoint pour améliorer les conditions de culture, et cela en installant des citernes pouvant être remplies grâce aux eaux de pluie."

**Najwa AL-JUNAID**

CENTRE CULTUREL FRANCAIS DE SANAA

**Fmsalamtsaiciédb**

Nouveauté au centre culturel français: des films allemands sous-titrés en français sont projetés certains dimanches soirs.

**Dimanche 29 août. Die Grenze**

(La frontière) de Jurgen Krauss, 1981. Travaux d'arpentage à la frontière entre les deux Allemagne. L'équipe de la RDA et celle de la RFA se rencontrent. C'est un film qui cherche à montrer les aspects problématiques de l'identité allemande et les conséquences de la scission de l'Allemagne à travers les conversations entre les travailleurs.

**Dimanche 19 septembre. Angst Essen Seele Auf**

(La Peur mange l'âme) de Rainer Werner Fassbinder, 1973.

Une femme de ménage sexagénaire et un ouvrier marocain, beaucoup plus jeune qu'elle, tombent amoureux l'un de l'autre et se marient. Mais la pression sociale xontre le jeune couple mal assorti s'accroît. La femme même a des difficultés à accepter les moeurs différentes de son mari.

**A nos lecteurs**  
Vous avez peut-être constaté depuis quelque temps une présentation des pages françaises qui laisse à désirer (articles coupés avant la fin, parties du texte disparues...). Nous tenons à nous excuser pour ces erreurs et notamment pour l'article "Jardins de Sanaa" (numéro du 8 août) devenu incompréhensible. Le Yemen Times s'informatise de plus en plus et est actuellement en période de rodage. Nous espérons que ces disfonctionnements disparaîtront dans un avenir proche.

TELEVISION D'ADEN

**Cours de français**  
Nous vous rappelons les horaires des cours de français sur la chaîne de télévision d'Aden.  
**Entrée Libre**  
Le samedi à 19h45 et le mercredi à 19h45

**Le qat**  
Mohammed Haïdra Saleh, directeur de l'administration du café au ministère a insisté sur ce qu'il considère comme le grand problème de la culture du café au Yémen: le qat. "Le qat est le principal concurrent du café. La culture du qat nuit à la culture et à la production du café. Mais ces deux plantes sont désormais

ART

## Dar Al-Koutoub accueillent des artistes

*La "Maison des Livres" à Sanaa a ouvert le mois dernier un espace pour les expositions. Regard sur la première d'entre elles et rencontre avec le peintre, Dr. Nasser Abdul Qawi.*

La bibliothèque de Sanaa, Dar Al-Koutoub (La Maison des livres) s'ouvre aux artistes. Le mois dernier, une première exposition a été inaugurée dans une salle prévue à cet effet. Une centaine de tableaux étaient présentés. Parmi les artistes qui exposaient, on comptait des Yéménites mais aussi des Soudanais.

**Un espace pour les amateurs**

Un espace a été réservé aux peintres amateurs. "J'aime encourager les amateurs. Qu'ils puissent avoir un coin à eux, à côté des peintres plus connus", explique le Dr. Nasser Abdul Qawi, l'organisateur de cette exposition et directeur du département de l'Art au ministère de la Culture. Parmi les peintres yéménites qui exposaient à Dar Al-Koutoub, il y avait Abdul Rahman Numan, Saleh Al-Shabibi et Rashad Ismaïl.

Détenteur d'un doctorat dont le thème est "L'art et les affiches politiques au Yémen", le Dr. Nasser est lui-même peintre. Il a présenté certains de ses tableaux lors de cette manifestation. Sa précédente exposition s'est déroulée il y a quelques mois à Sharjah, aux Emirats Arabes Unis. Certains de ses tableaux étaient encore



Deux tableaux du Dr. Nasser: "La femme de Yafé" et "Le soir".

dans ce pays quand il a monté l'expo à Dar-Al-Koutoub. Quelques uns ont souffert pendant le voyage et il a dû réparer des encadrements.

La peinture du Dr. Nasser a pour thème privilégié la femme: "La femme de Yafé", "Le silence symbolisé par la femme", "La vérité de la femme", "Nadrha", tels sont les titres de ses oeuvres. Il y a deux ans, il a commencé un grand tableau, où il cherche à représenter le Yémen moderne. Il a peint des médecins, des soldats, des femmes. Mais il n'a pas

encore réussi à le terminer. Ses tableaux reflètent toujours un certain optimisme. C'est pour cela qu'il a réalisé un tableau qu'il a appelé "Amal" (Espoir).

Le Dr. Nasser n'a jamais vendu un seul de ses tableaux et il n'en a pas l'intention. "Je suis contre la vente des tableaux. Même si un peintre vend une de ses oeuvres, il en reste malgré tout toujours le propriétaire".

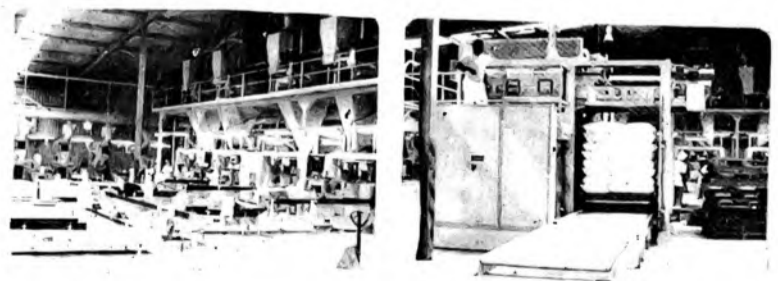
Après cette exposition de peintures, Dar Al-Koutoub a enchaîné sur une autre exposition d'oeuvres d'étudiants.

**Ahmad AL-ASBAHY**



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صناعات 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 سبحان فاكسميل: ٧٤٥٦١ ص ب: ١٩٣٦  
بورسودان ت: ٢٦٣٠ - ٢٩٧٩ - ٤٤٦٥ تليكس: ٧٠٠٧١ يارن ص ب: ١٦٠

SOCIÉTÉ

# Les associations se multiplient au Yémen

Le réseau associatif au Yémen se densifie. Depuis quelques années, des associations très diverses sont nées. Nous vous présentons trois d'entre elles. La première, la branche yéménite de l'OIJ (Organisation internationale des journalistes), la deuxième, l'association d'amitié Yémen-France et la troisième, une association de tennis.

## Le centre régional des pays arabes destiné aux journalistes

L'an dernier, l'OIJ (Organisation internationale des journalistes) a décidé d'ouvrir un centre régional au Moyen-Orient. Elle a choisi le Yémen et sa toute nouvelle expérience de la démocratie. Mahbube Ali, journaliste, est le directeur de ce nouveau centre.

Le centre régional des pays arabes, tel est le nom de l'association ouverte l'an dernier à Sanaa par l'OIJ (Organisation internationale des journalistes).

### Première rencontre en avril

L'idée a germé en novembre 1991 et est devenue réalité quelques mois plus tard, en mai 1992. C'est le sixième centre régional ouvert par l'organisation. Les autres se trouvent à Paris (Europe), Addis Abeba (Afrique), New-York (Amérique du Nord), Mexico (Amérique du Sud) et Séoul



Mahbube Ali, directeur du centre régional à Sanaa.

(Asie).

Le directeur du centre régional à Sanaa s'appelle Mahbube Ali. A 41 ans, il est actuellement en première année d'académie de journalisme en Ukraine. Il a cependant derrière lui une longue expérience de la presse. En 1968, il entre au journal "14 octobre" publié dans l'ancien Yémen du Sud. Par la suite, il devient sous-directeur de ce journal. Il entre au journal Al-Thawrie, dont il devient le directeur. "Ce journal est paru dès 1967 à Aden. Mais

aujourd'hui, il a été transféré à Sanaa", explique-t-il. De 1985 à 1991, il travaille aux Emirats Arabes Unis pour le journal Al Itahde.

Cinq personnes travaillent au centre régional de Sanaa, et parmi elles, deux journalistes.

### Un magazine tous les quatre mois

En avril dernier, le centre a organisé la première rencontre entre journalistes de pays arabes.

Ils sont venus d'Egypte, du Liban, de Syrie, du Maroc, du Soudan, des Territoires Occupés et d'Oman. En tout, ils étaient 78 à discuter de leurs difficultés. A cette occasion, le centre a publié un magazine "Al Galme Al-Arabie", en arabe et en anglais. Ce magazine paraît tout les quatre mois. "Son objectif est de permettre aux journalistes arabes d'échanger leurs expériences", précise Mahbube Ali.

Le centre régional de Sanaa s'intéresse notamment au sort des journalistes palestiniens et leur apporte une aide.

L'OIJ a été créée en 1947 à Londres par des journalistes européens vivant des deux côtés du rideau de fer. Aujourd'hui, l'organisation est présente dans 110 pays et 270 000 journalistes y adhèrent. Le siège de l'OIJ est à Madrid, après avoir été à Prague. Le président est Brésilien et s'appelle Armando Rellemberg.

Le centre régional de Sanaa prévoit d'organiser une autre rencontre entre journalistes arabes, à la fin de cette année. Cette fois-ci, ce sera au Maroc.

Manal MOHAMMAD

Le centre régional des pays arabes se trouve sur le Sittin sud à Sanaa.

## L'association d'amitié Yémen-France

L'association a démarré à la fin de l'an dernier et elle compte aujourd'hui une cinquantaine de membres. Reste à réaliser des projets qui sont nombreux.

A la fin de l'an dernier, quelques Yéménites, dont des hommes d'affaires, ont décidé de créer une association d'amitié Yémen-France. "Nous voulons développer les relations entre le Yémen et la France, aussi bien dans le domaine culturel, que médical, scientifique, touristique et archéologique", explique Mohammed Al-Raadi, président de la toute jeune association. "Nous voulons faire connaître certaines réalités françaises auprès de l'opinion yéménite et inversement faire découvrir le Yémen aux Français", ajoute-t-il. Lui-même prépare un document où il met en parallèle les proverbes yéménites et français qui se ressemblent.

Pour se faire connaître, les gens de l'association ont rendu visite aux partis politiques et aux journaux. Cette association est à but non lucratif et ne prête allégeance à aucun parti politique.

L'association compte environ une cinquantaine de membres et le bureau est élu pour deux ans. Pour entrer dans

l'association; les personnes intéressées doivent payer un droit d'entrée de 100 rials. La cotisation annuelle est ensuite de 120 rials pour les étudiants et de 240 rials pour les autres.

L'association reçoit le soutien financier de certains hommes d'affaires yéménites, notamment de Mohammed Abdou Anaam Saïd, et de la banque Indosuez.

### Une bibliothèque

Le conseil d'administration se réunit tous les mardi, une fois par semaine de 16h à 19h dans les bureaux de l'association rue Hadda à Sanaa. Parmi les projets que l'association aimerait mener à bien, il y a notamment la réalisation d'un centre médical de recherche sur le cancer, le développement des relations avec des associations françaises. Autre idée: mettre en place une bibliothèque dans les locaux de l'association.

Les membres du conseil d'administration ont chacun leur spécialité. Mme Raoufa Hassan, l'information, Abdel Rahman Al-Haddad, la culture, Abdelbari Fakhri, les relations publiques, Mohammed Al-Qassous, l'administration et Mme Asmahan Obadi, les Finances.

Amat AL-SALAM AL-CHAMY

## Les joueurs de tennis s'associent

Le tennis yéménite en est à ses premiers balbutiements. Quelques joueurs passionnés ont créé il y a quatre ans une association pour développer ce sport.

Tout a commencé il y a quatre ans, quand un groupe de jeunes Yéménites, passionnés par le tennis, a décidé de former une équipe nationale. Dès le début, ils ont participé à des compétitions internationales. En 1989, ils étaient au Koweït. L'équipe du Yémen a gagné contre le Soudan et les Emirats Arabes Unis mais elle a été battue par l'Egypte et s'est retrouvée ex-aequo avec le Qatar.

L'année suivante, ils ont traversé la mer Rouge pour participer à un tournoi à Djibouti. Ils ont gagné contre la Libye, Djibouti et ont été battus par la France, la Russie et l'Ethiopie. Au classement final, ils étaient cinquièmes.

### Entraînements de 16h à 21h

Parmi les membres de l'équipe nationale, ils sont six à être particulièrement accrochés à ce sport. Mansour Mohamed Alazy, Fayçal Asabahi, Nabil Meswad, Abdo Nasser et Gasser Nasser, tels sont leurs noms.

Il s'entraînent plusieurs fois par semaine, le soir, de 16h à 21h. "Il n'y a pas assez de compétitions au Yémen pour nous permettre de nous entraîner convenablement", déclare un des joueurs. "Si les joueurs donnaient plus d'importance aux entraînements, ils pourraient faire mieux", précise-t-il.

Pour les tournois, les joueurs obtiennent un soutien financier de l'association de tennis. Mais, ils manquent de terrains et sont obligés de payer leur équipement. Pas facile dans ce cas de lutter contre les équipes des autres pays.

Achwak NASSER

## En Bref

**Visite de François Mitterrand au Yémen:** Le chef de l'Etat français, François Mitterrand, devrait se rendre en visite officielle au Yémen au courant du mois d'octobre. Les dates de sa venue n'ont pas encore été définitivement fixées.

**Renault Véhicules Industriels inaugure cinq autobus à Aden:** Marcel Laugel, l'ambassadeur de France, a inauguré à Aden, il y a quelques jours, cinq autocars FRI de l'entreprise française RVI (Renault véhicules industriels). Les cinq autobus mis en circulation "représentent la plus haute technologie qui existe en Europe dans ce domaine", a déclaré l'ambassadeur. Il existe à Sanaa une centaine d'autobus Renault. RVI a par ailleurs mis en place des équipements pour l'installation de trois garages.

**Négociations saoudo-yéménites sur le litige frontalier:** La commission saoudo-yéménite chargée de trouver un règlement au conflit frontalier entre les deux pays a tenu dimanche 15 août une réunion à Taëz. Cette commission mixte, formée après de difficiles tractations entre Saoudiens et Yéménites, s'est réunie à quatre reprises alternativement à Ryad et à Sanaa depuis septembre 1992, sans enregistrer le moindre progrès. Le litige frontalier porte notamment sur les provinces de Najran, Jizane et Aassir, contrôlées par l'Arabie Saoudite en vertu de l'accord bilatéral de Taëf (1934). Sanaa, qui revendique ces provinces, affirme que l'accord a expiré fin septembre 1992 et s'oppose à sa reconduction.

**Décès du fils du roi Fahd en Tanzanie:** L'émir Mohamed, fils du roi Fahd d'Arabie Saoudite, a été retrouvé mort samedi 14 août dans une chambre de hôtel Kilimandjaro International à Dar-es-Salaam, en Tanzanie. Le prince était âgé de 30 ans. L'enquête est en cours pour déterminer les causes et les circonstances de sa mort.

**Le quotidien Al Hayat interdit de vente en Egypte:** Le numéro du lundi 16 août du quotidien arabe Al-Hayat réalisé à Londres et imprimé dans plusieurs capitales arabes dont Sanaa, a été interdit de vente en Egypte. Le quotidien publiait notamment, dans ce numéro, un démenti des autorités égyptiennes de la déclaration d'un important activiste du mouvement islamiste, Safwat Abdel Ghani, selon lequel un groupe "terroriste" copte est l'auteur des attentats aveugles au Caire qui ont fait 28 morts au Caire depuis février dernier. Selon Al-Hayat, le général Mohamed Sayed Achraoui, directeur-adjoint de sûreté générale, a déclaré que M. Abdel Ghani voulait "semmer la sédition confessionnelle entre musulmans et coptes et couvrir les actes terroristes commis par les groupes islamistes". Al-Hayat avait été saisi le 30 juillet dernier pour avoir publié un communiqué d'une organisation islamiste contenant des menaces contre le gouvernement égyptien.

**Négociations de paix au Proche-Orient:** La onzième session des négociations bilatérales de paix israélo-arabes s'ouvrira le 31 août à Washington. Les discussions s'achèveront le 14 septembre.

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**ABU WALAD  
BISCUITS**

\* **Lucy Abbott:**

Lucy K. Abbott, arrived in Sanaa last week. Ms. Abbott takes over as Economic/Commercial Officer at the US Embassy in Sanaa, thus replacing Mr. David Katz. Welcome aboard, Lucy.

\* **Ali Saleh Obad Al-Khowlani:**

Governor of Hadhramaut Ali Saleh Obad Al-Khowlani pledged his support to the National Theater Association in its endeavors to hold the Ba-Katheer Festival in Hadhramaut, later this year. The Governor is expected to provide a financial support of about YR 150,000.

\* **Abdul-Raheem Salim and Sameer Rajih:**

Abdul-Raheem Salim, Vice Chief Editor, and Sameer Rajih, Managing Editor, of the Al-Jamaheer newspaper, mouthpiece of the Baat party in Yemen, have been both suspended from work.

This is another a manifestation of the deep rift within the Baath in Yemen.

\* **Abdul-Wassa Hayel Saeed Anam:**

Abdul-Wassa Hayel Saeed Anam, General Manager of Middle East Shipping and Board Member of the Hayel Saeed Group of Companies, leaves here today on a ten-day vacation.

In addition to being a successful entrepreneur, Abdul-Wassa is also a member of parliament.

\* **Hussain Al-Hubaishi:**

Well-known jurist and lawyer Hussain Al-Hubaishi has recently issued two books. The first is entitled "Yemen and the Red Sea: A Geographic, Historic and Legal Study of Location," and the second "An Introduction to International Border Settlement."

Both books, printed by Dar Al-Fikr in Beirut, are available in paperback editions.

\* **Dr. Raofah Hassan:**

Dr. Raofah Hassan, Chairperson of the Society for the Preservation of Sanaa, indicated there will be a festival on September 4th, to honor the Azal Social Welfare Association for its efforts in cleaning up the Old City of Sanaa.

She indicated that several companies and organizations are providing financial and in-kind support to the Association.

\* **Rasheed Al-Huraibi:**

Rasheed Al-Huraibi, that singer once described by the Egyptian press as the 'Nightingale of Yemen,' is these days roaming the streets of Sanaa in search of his daily bread.

Carrying his ood on his shoulders, the old singer is knocking on many doors in order to meet his living expenses.

Al-Huraibi is a specimen of the non-political singers of this country and what has happened to them.

\* **Hayat Al-Qirshy:**

Ms. Hayat Al-Qirshy, Director of Rural Female Development at the Ministry of Agriculture, indicated that the workshop that started in Sanaa yesterday, August 21st, will last for one month. During this period, the trainees will make field visits to regional integrated rural development programs to observe how the work is carried out, and what their role is in the process.

\* **Dr. Ali Al-Jamrah:**

Dr. Ali Hassan Al-Jamrah, Vice President of the Athletic Medical Team, tendered his resignation. Dr. Al-Jamrah stated that his resignation comes as a result of the over-politicization of sports. "We even have multiple medical teams for the republic, and there is resistance to merging them," he said.

\* **Dr. Mohammed Saeed Al-Amoodi:**

Dr. Mohammed Saeed Al-Amoodi, President of Aden University, chaired throughout last week a series of meetings to ensure that the university admitted students only according to its absorptive capacity.

Aden University has, so far, resisted political pressure to open up and take in students without an admission exam. Sanaa University, on the other hand, pursues an open-door policy.

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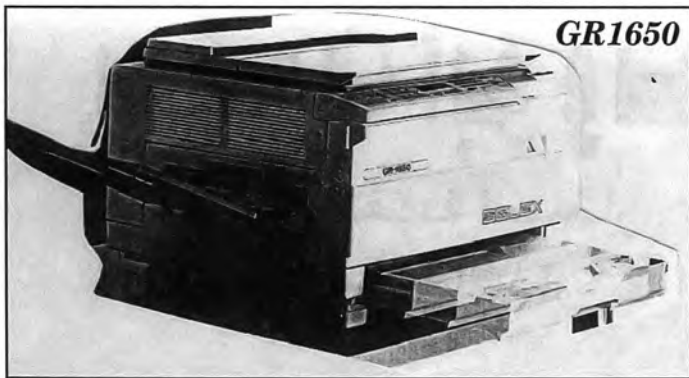
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فرع الحديدة، تلفون: ٠٣-٢٣٨٢٠٣/٢٣٨٣١٩، فاكس: ٠٣-٢٣٨٢٠٢



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## THE GIFT OF THE NILE:

### DECLINE, FALL AND RENEWAL IN THE NEAR EAST

By Jenny Jobbins  
Yemen Times

An item in this week's Press Review (page 6) brought to mind how hard it is to piece together the muddled and confused historical events between the fourth and the eighth centuries of our era, not only in Europe and the Far East, but in the Near East as well - even though Near Eastern history was far better documented. Fortunately contemporary sources and excellent scholarly works provide us with details.

The disintegration of the Roman Empire and its reformation as the Byzantine Empire came about as a result of a mixture of well-planned policy and humiliating military defeat. The Roman Empire reached its peak early in the second century A.D., but enjoyed only a brief period of security before it began to be torn apart from the inside and outside. Threatening its eastern borders was the Persian Empire, regenerated by the Sassanian dynasty.

In 330, Emperor Constantine shifted his capital from Rome to a more central position at Byzantium, which he renamed Constantinople. By then the Roman empire was too big and had grown too old to survive, but even so it held on to its eastern and African provinces for another three hundred years. Toward the end of Roman rule in the North African and Near Eastern provinces social structure began to break down, fueled by dissent from official church doctrine by the Syrians and Egyptians, who were staunch Monophysite Christians, and by a universal collapse of morale. The authorities could no longer afford to pay for the upkeep of roads and canals or guarantee safety or safe passage to citizens and travelers, and economies collapsed.

In 616 Alexandria, the capital of Egypt, fell to invading Persians who gained entrance to the city through treachery. Three years later the army of Chosroe II marched along the North African coast through Tripolitania (Libya), leaving a trail of destruction that was still visible when the Arabs moved in over twenty years later.

The Roman Byzantine emperor, Heraclius, was a manic-depressive, subject to bursts of political and military genius interrupted by long bouts of depression: it was several years before he stirred himself. In 622

he launched a long struggle against the Persians. Boosted by religious fervor, his troops went into battle singing hymns and calling on God to comfort them. That year Heraclius ousted the Persians from Asia Minor, and over the next few years, finding allies in the Caucasus and among the Turkic Khazars, he harassed the Persian army, inflicting a final defeat at Nineveh in 627 and resuming control of Egypt. In 628 Chosroe II was deposed and executed. A jubilant Heraclius went on to recapture the true cross, which the Persians had taken away fifteen years before, and returned it in triumph to Jerusalem.

But these military triumphs only plunged him once more into apathy. Worn out by war, both the Byzantines and the Persians demobilized their armies, and could do no more than stand idly by as the Arabs, on the death of the Prophet Muhammad in 632, organized their Near East expansion. In 636 they defeated the Byzantines at the battle of Yarmuk River, and effectively occupied Palestine and Syria. They then marched on into Mesopotamia and defeated the last of the Sassanians, Yazdegerd III, thus bringing to an end the long and historic Persian Empire.

In Egypt political events were complicated by the activities of the Alexandrian Patriarch, Cyrus, whom Heraclius appointed in order to enforce the official church doctrine of Monotheism. Cyrus, known to the Arabs as al-Muqawqis (from the Coptic version of his name, Pkauchios) began vigorously to persecute the majority Coptic Monophysites, who became thoroughly demoralized. By the time 'Amr ibn al-'As led his 4,000 Arab soldiers from Palestine across Sinai in 639, Egypt was tired of its Roman Byzantine masters and was to surrender without much dissent.

First 'Amr took the North Sinai port of Pelusium, then, bypassing Alexandria, he marched up to Heliopolis, at that time an ancient town to the west of where Cairo now stands. There in July 640, joined by reinforcements sent by the Caliph 'Umar, he defeated the Roman Egyptian army. He then laid siege to the Roman fort at Alyun, now known as Babylon or Old Cairo. When it fell in April 641 he marched north to subdue Alexandria. Suspecting him of treachery, Heraclius recalled Cyrus to Constantinople. But the

emperor was sick, suffering from dropsy, a crippling painful form of oedema, which doubtless explains his inability to act in defense of the provinces. Cyrus returned to Alexandria, and Heraclius died.

On 8th November, Cyrus signed a treaty with the Arabs, which gave the Romans eleven months to evacuate the capital and authorized 'Amr to take over the following year. In September 642, after officially founding his new capital at Fustat (between Alyun and modern Cairo) and dealing with popular uprisings among the Copts in the Delta and the Fayoum, 'Amr entered Alexandria in triumph. The Egyptians were happy enough to see him. As in Syria and Palestine, the Arabs tolerantly allowed them to practice whatever form of Christianity they wished, and they immediately recalled their own Monophysite Patriarch.

In 645 the Emperor Constans sent an expedition to recapture Alexandria, and the commander, Manuel, held on to the city for a year before it was retaken by 'Amr. The last attempt by Constans in 654 to retake Alexandria was a failure. Although part of the Egyptian population traces its descent to Arab tribes through the waves of ancient migrations from the Arabian Peninsula, Arab assimilation of Egypt following its conquest was slow, partly due to Islamic tolerance of other languages and religion. Studies of bilingual texts and inscriptions show that it was another five hundred years, around the first half of the twelfth century, before the number of Egyptians who learned Arabic and had converted to Islam began to outweigh those who were Christian and spoke Coptic. When 'Amr moved in to the beautiful classical city, he wrote, "I have taken a city of which I can only say that it contains 4,000 palaces, 4,000 baths, 400 theaters, 1,200 greengrocers, and 40,000 Jews."

For almost three thousand years without a break, the indigenous Egyptian people were ruled by outsiders, from Libyans - who occupied the country in 945 B.C. - through Nubians, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Circassian Mamelukes and Ottoman Turks, with a quick dabble by the French and the British. It is only during the twentieth century that a true Egyptian nationalism found its identity - with the Free Officers' Revolution of 1952.

that half-mad Greek who ran naked in the streets shouting, "I found it!" If I were to write the products and ideas arrived at by accident, the list will be quite a long one.

But wait a minute. That can't explain everything. Apples could fall on so many of us without discovering anything, and water could overflow from the bathtub of many of us without even releasing a thought, let alone a discovery. The discovery comes because the recipient person has that gift of grasping the guides that opportunity offers, he/she is mentally ready for the moment. In short, he/she has the power of creative imagination.

I am not playing mystic, nor am I being metaphysical. I am just trying to explain how great ideas and meaningless coincidences (to borrow CG Young's expression) come together at that moment of excellence in human beings.

That moment is responsible for taking human beings from one level of excellence to another, from one form of life to another. That moment, which reflects the peak of creative imagination in Man has taken us to the moon, gave all these gadgets and inventions, and created the cultural wealth we enjoy.

Nobody took Jules Verne seriously when he imagined Man in space, nobody believed that Thomas Edison's wax disc can produce sound. They in fact accused him of hiding something under the table.

But there you have - the genius of creative thinking. The ability of imaging (not very different from the ability of imagining) is at the base of all inventions. This ability of conceptualizing and seeing things that are not yet there, living in



Mobamed Ba-Mashmoos & Haifa Al-Saqqaf  
Congratulations

ideologies.

Many of us believe that the ability to soar into the realm of imagination is limited to a few 'extraordinary' persons with capabilities to create new forms of thought, ideas and material inventions. The belief further states that these persons we call 'genius' are the product of heredity refined by education and training.

As a matter of fact, both causes of genius are correct, but only partially. We know today that there are thousands of scientists and literary persons working all over the world, yet whom we cannot refer to as genius. A certain degree of luck, or if you want, accidents, play a major role in that moment of genius.

We all know about Isaac Newton's apple that formed a new age of science and discovery. We have heard of

the image itself, and forcing others to live therein, that the watershed in making change so that the "imagined" images become real.

Here again we confront the same question - What is the difference between the mind of the mastermind and that of the ordinary men? Is it genetic, or is it acquired?

This is how Washington Irving puts it. "Great minds have purposes - others have wishes. Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortunes, but great minds rise above them."

Now we have introduced a new element. Will power, the ability to withstand hardships, and often ridicule and to relentlessly pursue a purpose. The outcome is a thought-form; i.e., a great literary product, a scientific theory, an invention, etc.

Let us look at the implication of this line of reasoning. Does it mean that every mind can become a master mind. I believe the answer is "Yes." But each in his/her way.

The drive to excel is a major prerequisite to attain this level of genius. Each one in his/her profession, can achieve a level of perfection that can be seen as a new addition to the field.

Man, ever evolving in his struggle for truth and happiness, hence perfection, was always and is, and will be seeking a deeper meaning in life that will give him fuller satisfaction. That quest, if seriously taken, is launching pad for creative imagination. This phenomenon is the redeeming factor in the essence of being human, and the master minds, serve as landmarks, forever pushing mankind to an ever rising level of life.

There is a certain overlap between imagination and fantasy. Actually, fantasy is the oldest form of creative activity. When the ancient civilization let their imagination soars high, they came back with stories that fulfill a certain need in our life.

After all, imagination is the sole domain of human beings, as even the smartest animals cannot engage in it. What is real today was a fantasy only yesterday. As W Blake said: What is proved now was once only imagined. What comes next, I leave that to your imagination.

## The Power of Imagination

"Last night, I dreamed I was a butterfly. Today, I know not whether I am a man who dreamed he was a butterfly, or a butterfly dreaming I am a man."

-- Lao Tse,  
Chinese Philosopher



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

Think about one day in our lives. Think about those color TV sets, videos, microwave ovens, refrigerators, telephones, and other technological gadgets that we daily play with. Think about the literary masterpieces we admire - the poems, paintings and symphonies. Think about the beliefs, doctrines and



We  
cordially welcome  
the Joining of  
**Mr. Emad Mansour**  
As part of **OSys'** team  
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Times and wish him  
success and prosperity.

# The Red Sea Flour Mill: *The Nation's Largest Industrial Plant*

By:  
Al-Izzy As-Selwi, and  
Mervat Duweikat,  
Yemen Times.

The third largest flour mill in the world is in Yemen. It is the Red Sea Flour Mill located at the eastern approaches of Hodeidah.

The mill, a gigantic structure of steel and concrete cement blocks and cylinders which house hundreds of sophisticated machines, was started in 1985 with a capacity of 520 tons per day. This was later upgraded and increased to 1920 tons per day.

"This plant is an essential part of the food security concept of the Republic of Yemen," explained Mr. Abdul-Qawi Al-Humaiqani, the General Manager of the Plant.

The plant and supporting facilities represent a \$500 million investment made by the Mohammed Abdo Rabbo Group of Companies. "Some 650 persons are employed in the mill itself, of whom only



Abdul-Qawi Al-Humaiqani, the GM of the Plant

28 are foreigners," said Mr. Al-Humaiqani.

The company's annual wheat import is about \$100 million. The hard currency needed for the imports is arranged by the government at the official rate. "In return, the government

through the Yemen Economic Corporation (formerly the Military Economic Corporation), has monopoly over the retail distribution of our products," the GM said. Thus any price differentials and exorbitant profits are pocketed by the YEC rather than the mill, because the

government collects the product at a pre-determined price between the two sides.

The Hodeidah grain storage capacity is enough to meet the country's requirements for about one month. There is a government storage - the silos at Hodeidah harbor - which has a 20,000 ton capacity, while the Red Sea Flour Mill silos have a 64,000 ton capacity. There are additional silos in other cities, while a major storage facility is being executed at Aden harbor.

Does the plant produce other products?

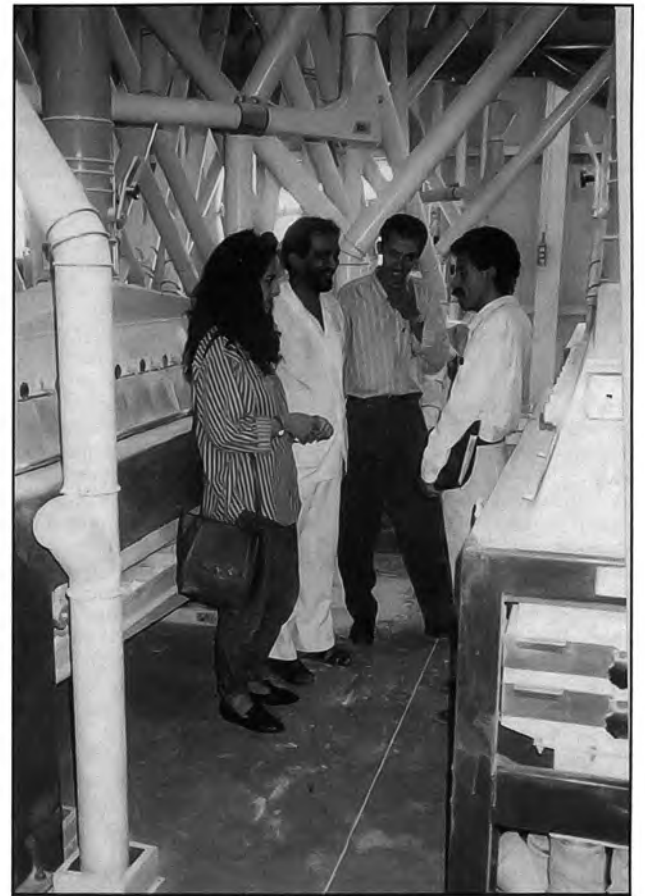
Yes, the plant now produces two additional products.

First, there is the refined flour which is used in confectionery and cake and cookie products. "This is still in a small volume."

Second, the plant produces animal feed made from the husk of the wheat. "This has proven so useful to the livestock breeders and shepherds notably during the dry seasons," explained Mr. Al-Humaiqani.

The plant is not export oriented. "We meet some 70% of the local grain/flour requirement. Therefore, we have not looked into export possibilities. We used to export the animal feed, but now the local farmers take it," stated Abdul-Qawi.

There are several expansions under way. First, capacity is being increased. Second two new plants are being constructed to benefit from the linkage effects of the mill. A plastic production plant to bag the flour - the daily need of the flour mill exceeds 40,000 bags - and a feedstock plant to properly utilize the husk of the wheat are under construction. "We hope to see the two new annexes to the flour mill in operation before year-end."



Yemen Times team inside the Red Sea Flour Mills



Inside the Plant: Rows and Rows of Sophisticated Machines

What are the problems facing the flour mill.

Obviously, any person or company dealing with any government, let alone the Yemeni government, should expect problems. There are many difficulties pertaining to payment for products, and the foreign exchange cover for imports. "But we have learned to live with that," explains Al-Humaiqani.

"We also have the routine problems regarding our internal operations or in our dealings with others. But the main difficulty we face is the interruption of electric supply. This problem has intensified

recently, and we are constantly haunted by black-outs. The mill's electric need is over 5 megawatt. In the original plan of the project, there was a large electric generator, but the government opposed the idea as there was an excess electric supply from the central grid system at the time. To add insult to injury, the electricity corporation has applied a 69% increase in the electricity tariff. The mill's annual electric bill runs to almost 100 million Riyals," he concluded.

Well, maybe the mill will find its answer in the gas plans being now developed.

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## IMPORTANT Numbers

Emergency Police 199  
Accident (Traffic) 194  
Fire Brigade 191  
Water Problems 171  
Electricity Problems 177  
Telephone Enquiries 118  
Aljumphury Hospital 202192/3  
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

**SANAA :**  
**1. Embassies:**  
Afghanistan 217691  
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  
Oman 208933/4  
Pakistan 248813/14  
Palestine 215404/5  
Poland 248362  
Qatar 217488/296  
Romania 215579  
Russia (FR) 78272/78275  
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  
Slovak 233630/232101  
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:

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

### COURIERS

Aramex / Sana'a 243.925  
Aramex / Aden 255.683  
Aramex / Taiz 213.489  
Aramex / Hodeidah 218.168  
DHL 248017-249878  
Life Express 205696  
Skypack 77310  
American Express 272435/6

### HOTELS

**Sana'a (01)**  
Sheraton 237500/1/2  
Taj Sheba 272372/3  
**Aden (02)**  
Movenpick 232911  
Gold Mohur 221158  
**Hodeidah (03)**  
Bristol 239197  
Ambassador 231247/50  
Al Burj 75852  
**Taiz (04)**  
The Plaza Hotel 220224/26  
Mareb 210350  
Yazan 217997  
**Marib (063)**  
Biqis Marib 2666-2371  
**Sadah (051)**  
Al Mamoon 2203/2459  
**Mukalla (0952)**  
Hadhramaut 2060

## POLLUTION IN YEMEN

By: Ismail Al-Ghabri,  
Yemen Times.

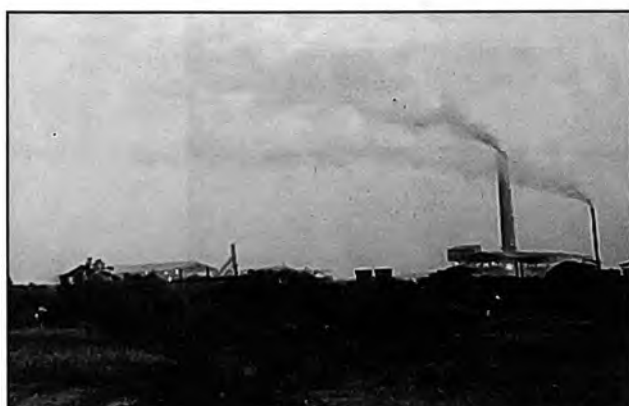
One of the dark sides of technologic progress is pollution. Unfortunately, the impact of pollutants on the welfare of society as well as the environment.

The most dramatic aspect of this problem is nuclear disaster. Yet, the ultimate danger is probably from the little things that accumulate everyday. These are things like garbage, smoke from factories, and carbon produced by cars.

In addition, there is the slow deterioration in the terraces, the desertification, urban sprawl, and other factors that grow in a parallel way with modernization.

The gradual dilution of our moral and spiritual values is also a form pollution, as it reduces our smooth interaction with each other.

Unless humanity attends to the issue of pollution, the quality of life will continue to deteriorate.



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## NOTICE TO TRAVELLERS TO SPAIN

As a result of the signing of the Schengen Treaty by several European Community Nations, travellers can visit these countries in the future with a single common visa.

Consequently, effective from October 1st, 1993, all travellers to Spain, including the subjects of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Yemen, who previously were able to obtain entry visa from any Spanish port of entry, will now be required to obtain the relevant visa from the Embassy before their departure.

Visa will not be issued to anyone at the point of entry into Spain.

**Alwan Al-Shaibani:**  
Honorary Consul  
of Spain in Yemen

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Tel. (01) 71289

Hodeidah:  
Sana'a Street  
Tel. (03) 231.582

Aden:  
King Salomon St.  
Crater, Aden  
Tel. (02) 254.855

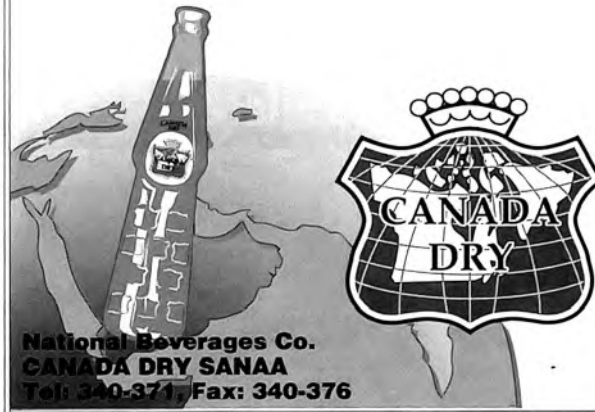
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