

“This is an example of a not so neighborly president !”



It is a disturbing sight. Off Zubairi Street, a little distance from the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources is what is known as the Asir Mahwa. It is a slum or a shanty-town where black Yemenis, known as Akhdam, live. The whole neighborhood is miserable, although it is in the heart of the capital city. It has no sewer system, no water supply, no electricity, no services. But the agony of the situation is exacerbated by the neighbor - President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Next to the shanty-town, and separated by a three-meter alleyway, is a big compound which is called the “Presidential Garage.” That is where president Saleh’s cars and vehicles are kept and maintained. The garage, about equal in size to the shanty-town, is built with nice stones, it has electricity, a massive water tank towering the compound on the side of the shanty-town, and all the facilities. The juxtaposition and contrast is very telling about how much responsibility the presidential office feels towards the people of Yemen.

“We have asked the president’s men to extend to the people who live next door a pipe to supply them with water. They refused. To add insult to injury, the mayor of Sanaa sent bulldozers to destroy the ‘homes’ of these people, because he thinks the shanty-town destroys the

ambiance of the presidential garage. When the bulldozers did not work, he converted the neighborhood into a dumping site for Sanaa city’s garbage. “The public outcry and the intervention of Dr. Yassin Saeed Noman, the former Speaker of Parliament, made the mayor change his tactics, not his mind. In short, our officials feel no responsibility and duty towards these people.

So stated Basmah Al-Qubati, Secretary General of the Yemeni Mother and Child Council, appointed to the post this week. Basmah, with a BA with a major in physics/chemistry and a minor in computers, has been helping the Akhdam in her capacity as Chairman of the SOFD (Social Organization for Family Development). Through the SOFD, established in September 1991, she and her colleagues have been

able to initiate voluntary efforts to improve the lot of the Akhdam. The Akhdam, members of a socially-segregated class because of their color, now receive limited help at the SOFD center. The services are financed by international donor agencies such as Radda Barnen, Oxfam, ICD, Netherlands Embassy, Japanese Embassy, German Embassy, and others.

Continues on page 7

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Ready to Sign?

Yes, they are supposed to sign today. All sides have signalled they would go ahead, although a last minute snag cannot be ruled out. There is considerable agonizing over the process within the top ranks of the Islah and PGC, although there seems to be no alternative.

The Dialogue Committee and the Foreign Ministry's Protocol people have left for Amman on Thursday. The assistants of the President and Vice President have gone on Friday. Vice President Ali Salem Al-Bedh's plane was to leave on Saturday, and President Ali Abdullah Saleh is to fly this morning.

They have been much quarrelling about details concerning protocol, not substance. The Jordanians have patiently and skillfully worked through lots of land-mines. Keep yourt finger cross!

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OUR VIEWPOINT

Kidnapping/Hijacking: One More Time

It is imperative that our society finds a decisive solution to the problem of internal terrorism being mounted by unruly tribesmen. It is frightening that they are able to terrorize people inside the capital city. Over the last week alone, six cars were taken at gunpoint. In one instance, a mother was scared to death when her car - and inside it her little children - was driven away by ugly tribesmen. That was in the middle of a busy part of Sanaa, the Haddah quarter. Then there are two ominous developments, Schlumberger lost a small car, a station-wagon. In other words, the hijacking is not limited to the 4-wheel drive cars. This means the highwaymen can take the car and use it within the city, reflecting their level of confidence. The second ominous development is what happened to a Nabors car, subcontracting for British Gas in Hadhramaut, between Qaymah and Mukallah. Three people were killed, one was from the hijackers side and the others two were British Gas guards. This means the terrorist incidents are not limited to the tribal stronghold in the northern part of the country. It also happened in Hadhramaut. This country stands to lose a lot because of these events. France has lumped Yemen with twelve other nations (such as Libya, North Korea, Iraq, Iran, etc.) in a list of countries which are prone to terrorism. That decision also required Yemenis resident in France to obtain exit visas before their departures. Germany has issued a circular advising its nationals not to go to Yemen. This cuts off an import flow of tourists to this country. Many of our foreign friends living/working among us have limited their socializing. In fact, most have obtained exit visas and tickets to dash off to the airport in case the situation deteriorates further. I do not understand why the state does not take any action. In most cases, the culprits are well known and they cannot - morally, legally, or in any other way - be defended. These developments have given rise to speculation that maybe some people in high positions are interested in letting the situation get out of hand. Yemen stands to lose a lot by appeasing the terrorists. There is nothing that justifies a careless attitude to this problem. Please do something!

The Publisher
عبد العزيز

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ZINDANI CONTINUES TO TOUR MILITARY BARRACKS

Sheikh Abdul-Majid Al-Zindani, Member of the Presidential Council and Spiritual Leader of the Yemen Congregation for Reform (known as Islah) continues to visit military camps all over the country. He preaches the importance of supporting Islam and those who stand for it, implying religious leaders. Sheikh Zindani spent much of last week in Marin and Al-Jawi governorates where he mingled with the soldiers. Many observers have closely followed the conspicuous effort of Sheikh Zindani to associate with the military.

AMMAN SET TO HOST YEMENI CONCILIATION MEETING

Amman, the Jordanian Capital, has been decorated with banners and flags for the historic occasion of ratification of the 18th January Pact issued by the Dialogue Committee. Already delegates from many countries have started arriving to witness the occasion. Foreign Minister of the Sultanate of Oman, H.E. Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, and Ismat Abdul-Mageed, Secretary-General of the Arab League are among the confirmed guests. Other guests include representatives of the EFC, the USA and other nations. Various ambassadors accredited in Amman are also invited to attend. Former Yemeni presidents Abdullah As-Sallal, and Ali Nasser Mohammed are also expected to attend. Other senior Yemeni dignitaries include Abdullah Abdul-Aalem, Ibrahim Bin Ali Al-

Wazeer, and others who are flying in from their temporary residences abroad. From Sana'a and Aden, various politicians have already flown in. Mr. Salim Saleh Mohammed, Member of the presidential Council and Assistant Secretary-General, Arrived in Amman on February 17th, at the head of a large and high level YSP delegation. On February 18th, he held a press conference in which he appeared optimistic. He also assured that Mr. Ali Salim Al-Beedh, Vice Chairman of the Presidential Council and Secretary-General of the YSP arrives on Saturday, February 19th. According to Jordanian sources, there will be extensive and deep opening up among the protagonists. The Jordanian Monarch, King Hussain, will use all his skills to bring the various sides together. The Jordanian Monarch, who has put his prestige on the line, realizes it is not just a matter of ratification or signing of a document. The two sides must be able to overcome their fears and distrust and must be able to work together as one team. To do this they must overcome much suspicion. Journalists from many parts of the world, including those accredited in Amman have gathered to report on this important event.

Yemen times will file next a full report from Amman on this event and on the impressions and expectations of the participants as well as witnesses. Will Amman mark a watershed in the political evolution of the Republic of Yemen? Only time will tell.

Ghana: 1600 People killed in Tribal clashes

Acra, News Agencies
A tribal clash erupted last week between Nanomba and Konkomba ethnic groups in north east Ghana claimed the lives of more than 1600 life. A senior official in Ghana army told the press that the army and the police managed to get the situation under control after declaring marital status in more the 13 provinces affected by the violent out break, the official expressed fear that more casualties

are still in the bush away from the main roads where the search for victims have been concentrated, and added that more than 67 villages has been totally destroyed and tens of thousands of people lost their shelter. The bitter differences between the two ethnic group has caused several bloody violence break outs in Ghana in last twenty years killing thousand of people and causing a tremendous loss of property

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HAITIANS FACE TOUGHER SANCTIONS

Air travel curbs and overall trade embargo likely to be part of package

The United States and three other nations plan a new series of tougher sanctions to force democracy on the poor Caribbean nation, a Clinton administration official said last week.

U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine Albright said On NBC'S Meet the Press program that the United States, France, Canada and Venezuela were preparing this week to promote a package of tighter sanctions against Haiti.

"We are looking again at tougher set of sanctions which really has three parts to it, has to do with air travel, targeted sanctions against certain parties there and an overall trade embargo," she said. "We are in the process of negotiating it," she said.

Human rights activists recently urged President Clinton to raise pressure on Haiti's military regime to step down by barring U.S. firms bring into the United States a variety of goods assembled in Haiti, including baseballs, clothing, floor tiles and fishing lures.

they said a United Nations embargo on fuel and weapons shipment to Haiti was leaking badly, harming Haiti's poor but not the military leaders it was intended to force from office.

The National Labour Committee, a coalition of labour unions that works for human rights in Central America, also urged the United States to pressure the Dominican Republic to better police its border with Haiti to block fuel shipments.

They urged the Clinton administration to drop efforts to force exiled Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to broaden his government to include opposition politicians.

Aristide, ousted in a 1991 military coup, met last week in Washington with a group of Haitians parliamentarians in a U.S.- backed effort to break Haiti's political stalemate.

In another development, the influential chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sam Nunn, urged Clinton to change Haiti policy by de-emphasizing the goal of returning Aristide to power.

"I think we've got to change our goals," Nunn, a Georgia Democrat, said on the CNN program.

CHINA DEFENDS STANCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Beijing yesterday published a ringing defence of its position on human rights, accusing Western critics of seeking to impose alien values on China and failing to live up to their own lofty standards. The People's Daily, official mouthpiece of the Communist Party, said this month's U.S. State Department critique of China's human rights record was an unprovoked "accusation and attack" on different society.

"This will accomplish the exact opposite of what they hope," the newspaper said in a commentary.

"To use a Western saying, they are shooting themselves in the foot."

The newspaper, noting that links between traditional culture and human rights concepts are unbreakable, said China should seek its own path and ignore foreign threat - chief among them Washington's vow to revoke trade benefits in June if human rights do not improve.

"Hegemonism and strong-arm tactics have still not disappeared from international life, and their shadows are to be seen everywhere," the newspaper said.

China has reacted sharply to the State Department report, which said Beijing "fell far short of internationally accepted norms as it continued to repress domestic critics and failed to control abuses by its own security forces."

The report is one factor U.S. President Bill Clinton must weigh in June when he decides if China has made enough rights improvements to satisfy his conditions for another extension of its Most Favoured Nation

(MFN) trade status.

The People's Daily last week attacked the report as foreign interference and provided an exposition of the evolution of Western human rights concepts stating that property equals privilege "Property, and not (Human) blood or soul, is the standard for rights," the newspaper said.

It is said that while the U.S. constitution contained a number of rights guarantees, America had to wait until the civil rights movement of the 1960s to see the general rights protection afforded under China's constitution of 1949.

"American blacks and women, because of their differences in colour and gender, were denied the right to vote for lengthy periods," it said.

The People's Daily said Western ideas about human rights tacitly accepted the principle of "survival of the fittest" and has used this as the basis for colonialism, expansionism and slavery. "When China's park entrances were adorned with signs saying 'no entrance to dogs or Chinese' what sort of human rights did Chinese people have? it asked.

The commentary said that in the world dialogue on human rights, all factors should be taken into account and the developing world should not blindly accept doctrines handed down by the West

"The human rights philosophy of the European capitalist revolution has made historical contributions," the newspaper said. "But the world has gone through great changes, and we should make our choices with judgment.

"Outside of Europe, there are other, even older glorious civilizations with which to compare and make choices."

GERMANY TO PROSECUTE SERB

Tadic charged with aiding and abetting genocide of the Muslims

The German judicial authorities said last week that a Serb named Dusko Tadic has been arrested and charged with aiding and abetting the genocide of the Muslim population in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Tadic, 28, who is also accused of murder and assault causing grievous bodily harm, was arrested on Feb 12, in Munich by a special commando unit of the Bavarian police. He had been living in hiding in Germany for some months.

It is the first time that anyone has been charged in Germany with complicity in genocide in connection with the war in the former Yugoslav republic. The federal prosecutor's office said German law could apply whatever the place of the crime and the nationality of the accused for such offences as genocide which were contrary to the principles of international law.

The German authority had been on Tadic's trail for some time. The federal prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe described him as a "Serbian citizen," ad a "fanatical adherent to

the cause of Greater Serbia" which he "wanted to serve through the policy of ethnic cleansing." He was arrested as he left his secret Munich lodgings after a coordinated operations also involving the federal criminal investigation department in Wiesbaden, and he was charged on the next day.

The federal prosecutor's office, which handles serious crimes such as terrorism, said in a communique the United Nations, Council of Europe, International Court of Justice in The Hague and U.S. State Department had established that Serbs were carrying out a policy of "ethnic cleansing" in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Those responsible had "used murder, rape, the wiping out of whole villages and deportations in a war of annihilation aimed at so decimating and demoralizing the non-serb population that it can no longer resist."

Muslims as a religious and ethnic group had been killed, seriously wounded and suffered spiritual harm, and the destruction of Muslim-owned homes, the taking away of Muslims to be put into concentration camps and their deportation amounted to their partial or total physical destruction, the communique said.



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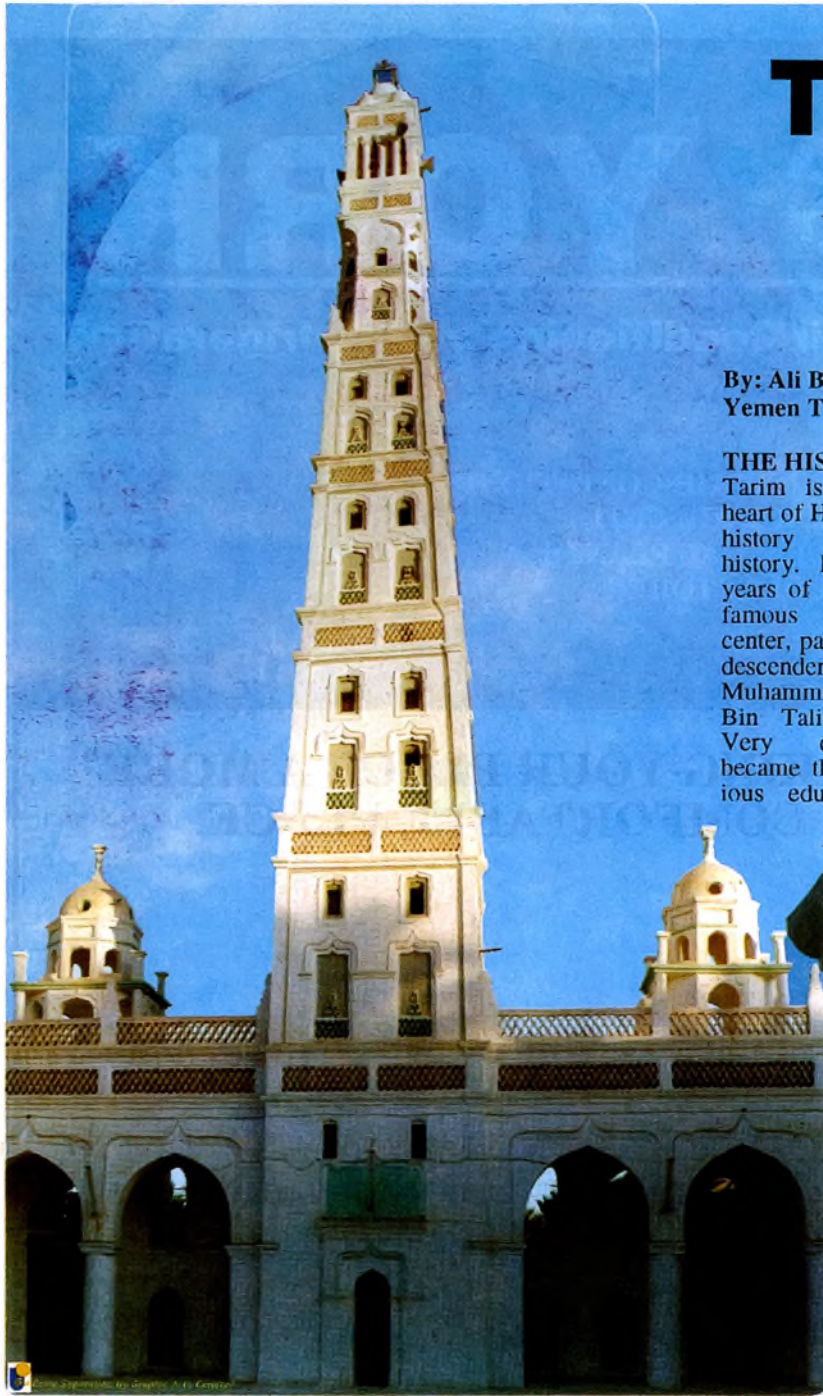
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By: Ali Bin Talib,
Yemen Times.

THE HISTORY:

Tarim is situated in the heart of Hadhramaut and its history goes deep in history. During the early years of Islam, Tarim was famous as an Islamic center, particularly after the descendents of Prophet Muhammad through Ali Bin Talib resided there. Very quickly, Tarim became the focus of religious education, and the fountain from which all of Hadhramaut and was drinking. Moreover, Tarim soon became a source of fatwa or (Islamic explanation and interpretation). In the medieval times, many mosques and centers of learning were built in this city and the area surrounding it. By one

count, some 400 mosques were built during this time. People from all over the country and region travelled to Hadhramaut for religious learning and advice. Islamic theology peaked, with Tarim at its center.

Historians indicate that the arrival of the Sada (descendants of the Prophet) in the seventh century helped give the region its religious importance. With time, these pious people were able to create a spiritual center in Wadi Hadhramaut, and from there, their preaching was passed to all over the country, East Africa, South-East Asia, and other faraway places.

The people respected these pious people and referred to them as Al-Sharif and/or Al-Habeeb, as a sign of their noble origin and deep love among the people. They also acquired a social role in the life of the Yemeni people and helped resolve a lot of disputes and quarrels among the tribes. They acquired a strong moral power which made people listen to them, although they did not have power in the executive sense. Therefore, they became a reference point for the people as well as for the rulers of the region.

SHEIKH AL-MIHDHAR: One of the outstanding religious leaders of Hadhramaut was Omar Al-Mihdhar. He lived and died in Tarim, and the splendid mosque with its towering minaret is named after him.

Today, the people of Hadhramaut revere and respect the Maqam (residence) of Omar Al-Mihdhar in Tarim. The residence of this pious man has become a gathering point for all occasions.

His full name is Sheikh Omar Bin Abdul Rahman Al-Saqqa Bin Mohammad Mowla Aldwaila known by the surname of Al-Mihdhar. He was born in Tarim in the eighth century Hegira calendar. Omar was educated in the Quranic schools where he learned the Quran by heart, as well as the interpretations. Key among his teachers was Sheikh Abu Bakir Bin Mohammad Bilhaj Ba-Fadhel.

During his youth he travelled to the city of Al-Shihre then to the North of Yemen. From there he travelled to Mecca. His life was devoted his life to worship and religious education.

He was a truly pious man by all senses of the word. Yet, an aspect of his life that has not been fully investigated is

his life as a farmer. He used to urge people to till the land and seek God's bounties. He used to say, "What you have may run short, but what God has, is always bountiful"

THE MOSQUE:

The Mosque was built IN the beginning of ninth century Hegira calendar, some half a century ago. Some people say that the mosque was built during the later part of Sheikh Al-Mihdhar's life.

By this time, Indian and Indonesian influence on the Hadhramaut region was already visible. That is why the minaret exhibits this influence.

The extrovert nature of the architecture also contrasts visibly with the traditional Yemeni introvert system. The facades and arcs all show the external influence on the mosque. The use of space is also another aspect of the splendour of this mosque.

Studies show that there have been many repairs, redesigns and expansions in the mosque, but without altering the original structure of the mosque.

Today, Al-Mihdhar mosque is an architectural masterpiece and one of the major religious symbols of Yemen.

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A New International NGO Established in Yemen

By: Fatma Rawah,
Social Editor,
Yemen Times.

On Wednesday, February 16th, an agreement was signed by the Yemeni Government and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). According to the agreement, ADRA will set up shop in Yemen and start its efforts to assist in the development process of the country in June this year.

ADRA activities take two forms: emergency assistance which is a rush job, and development assistance based on long term goals in developing countries. "ADRA seeks to enhance the quality of life and well-being of communities and citizens in developing countries through self-help projects," explained Jim Neergaard, Director of Middle East Region who flew into Sanaa last week to sign the agreement. ADRA provides aid without consideration to ethnic, political, or religious factors. Headquartered in Washington, ADRA maintains a regional offices in various regions such as Europe, North America, Australia,



Asia and the Middle East. The head office of the Middle East region is located in Cyprus. There about 17 countries in the Middle East which are recipients of ADRA activities. Initially, ADRA is planning to be involved in two different projects in Yemen - both located in Hajjah governorate. The first project is related to health care. This is being coordinated with USAID, with ADRA coming in as the operating agency. "This project, termed Child Survival Health Project, will start very shortly," explained Mr. Neergaard. The project will be for three years and the fund is estimated around

one million dollars. The second project is related to women development, again with a focus on Hajjah. ADRA is also involved in other sectors like agriculture and water development. ADRA International, as a private voluntary humanitarian organization is recognized by the United Nations as well as by many donor agencies. It is also accredited with the American Council of Private Voluntary Agencies and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies in Geneva. Yemen Times welcomes ADRA to Yemen and hopes it success in its efforts to help the country's development process.

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أسكنها الله فسيح جناته وألهم أهلها وذويها الصبر والسلوان
وإننا لله وإنا إليه راجعون

عنهم:

الدكتور عبدالعزيز السقاف

تهانينا الحاره



نهنيء الاخ ناظر علي احمد اليوسفي
على نجاحه بتفوق في دورة اللغة الفرنسية
وقرب سفره إلى الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية لتكملة الدراسة هناك ،
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VACANCY

Job Description for
Project Director - Yemen
Support for Women's Associations in Yemen (SWAY)

The Project Director assumes responsibility for the overall leadership and management of all aspects of World Education's SWAY project with the Yemeni Women's Association (YWA) in Yemen. The Project Director sets the tone by establishing and maintaining clear and cooperative relationships within the project staff, and with all the project's constituents.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Assumes overall responsibility for the programmatic direction and activities of the SWAY project, in collaboration with all constituent groups.

Supervision:

The Project Director is supervised by the Program Officer in World Education's Boston office.

Requirements and Qualifications

1. Masters degree in a relevant field. (A BA/BS degree, with at least 3 years of additional demonstrated, successful overseas programming/management experience, may be substituted for a Masters.)
2. Fluency in English and Arabic.
3. Five years of programming and/or training experience.
4. Two years experience managing and supervising development activities.
5. Demonstrated understanding of, and commitment to, the project's philosophy and concept.
6. Five years experience living and working in the Middle East.
7. Willingness and ability to live in, and respect the traditional Yemeni society.
8. Willingness and ability to live in Taiz, with considerable overnight travel to Sanaa and rural areas of the country.

Resumes of applicants must be received before end of February, 1994 and marked for the attention of:

Joe Moyer,
Senior Program Officer at World Education,
210 Lincoln Street,
Boston MA 02111, USA.
Telephone: 617-482-9485; Fax: 617-482-0617.

Notes:

1. This assignment is scheduled to begin on April 1st, 1994.
2. This post is open for females only.
3. Yemenis are welcome to apply.

WHOM DOES THE ESCALATION SERVE?

Last week we were asking about how serious the political parties are in overcoming the current political crisis and it's capability of putting an end to the deterioration, while taking into account the new requirements of the phase. According to the Document of Commitment/Agreement, there should be a change in the method/style of dealing with the issues. The difference is not about this matter or in explaining any item of the Document, but in the continuation of indifference, irresponsibility and disrespect of laws. Any intentions will surely lead to new deteriorations and this will not resolve the issues put for discussions. While we are waiting hopefully to end this crisis, the official media is still going on with its squabbles/accusations. This is accompanied by military moves and fortifications reaching its climax by hijacking an aircraft on its way to Aden. Such a deed has escalated the situation to the point of provocation and further divided the country. Hence, putting impediments before the endeavors of reconciliation, which the dialogue committee exerted leading to the finalization of signing the Document officially. The only explanation for this behavior is that some are not in agreement with the principles of the Document. Therefore, they try to arouse all this chaos/accusations so blame can be placed on the other party in case of failure. We don't want to be pessimistic in our views and we wish/aspire the best to happen. We still believe that there is a degree of consensus which

was achieved on 18 January 1994, but there are those who fish in troubled waters and seize opportunities to deviate the drafting of the Document. In order to pave the way toward application, we should take into consideration the current results of the situation and the complications emerging from it. It is important to prepare a suitable environment for building trust/credibility and the spirit of mutual understanding. The issue of signing the Document is but a part of a national strife where unity/evolution of the country depends on it.

Editorial,
Al-Thawri, Sanaa,
10/2/1994.

WARNING AGAINST A PENDING EXPLOSION

We aren't exaggerating when we say that no other document has acquired this kind of unanimous national support as The Document of Commitment/Agreement. Since its issuance, what the citizens have demanded was how to transfer its items to practicality without any postponement or under any excuses/justifications. I can say that the Document will not see its way to issuance/announcement if the opposition representatives in the dialogue committee refuse to participate in crystallizing its drafting despite the difficulties/frictions and deceptions occurring before as well as now. I can affirm that if the dialogue was restricted to the coalition parties, they would not have reached a crystallization of the document. Since the start of the political crisis on 19 August 1993, the coalition parties were only dialoguing with themselves. They

refused any participation of the opposition parties in those dialogues for they regarded the crisis as their own crisis and so it erupted. Hence, it is within their power to find remedies for it. We can say that if the issue was confined to the parties in authority with the dialogue proceeding among themselves, no document would emerge from their dialogues. What they are ready to agree upon is only the division of authority. Despite the coalition parties agreement on reducing the activities of the opposition and minimizing its role, they were compelled to agree on the opposition parties participation in the dialogues in order to reach sound methods for dealing with the political crisis. Since the crisis started the opposition parties felt that the ruling parties were unable to understand/contain the crisis. It is evident that the crisis has intensified and deteriorated to the point of exposing the lives of citizens to fighting and the homeland to splitting. At this time the opposition parties introduced a paperwork including 16 points in addition to the paperwork of the authority parties. After many endeavors/exertions, the conferees were able to reach the point of drafting the Document of Commitment and Agreement. But pro-issuance of the Document, each part of the coalition began to put obstacle before the process of implementation. One part of the coalition sees that the final signing should proceed inside of the homeland and that the Vice President ought to take the oath of office. There are some who see that the signing ought to proceed outside Yemen with foreign Arab/ Inter-

national guarantees as if the foreign guarantees secure/protect the process of implementation. This leads us to say that no part in the coalition has trust in the other. Then how does implementation proceed if there is no trust/faith among the partners. Now we are on the verge of signing the Document and the swearing-in ceremonies of the Vice President. We have said it before that we are being ruled by totalitarian mentality. Each part wants to remain having the patronage of the people. If such a mentality remains governing us, no detente will occur and our country won't see the light or any kind of safety, security or stabilization.

Editorial,
Al-Haq, Sanaa,
12/2/1994.

OUR ALTERNATIVE IS SACRIFICE

The PGC estimates all the criticism of its supporters in protesting against its continuous tendency to make concessions. The party also evaluates this zealous soul which is full of concern, patriotism and frankness. Hereby, we don't deny that we substantially made concessions to the other part as a sign of good intentions to safeguard the unification of the homeland. It is within our concrete ideology and before two alternatives either to make concessions or setback and give up unity. Our alternative is sacrificing everything for the sake of unification. It is our duty to be more adherent to the achievements of the revolution, stabilization, democracy and peaceful transfer of authority. It is within our power to bridge the rifts and imbalances tackle the worsening living conditions of the people and finalizing the construction of a modern state. We ought to face all the intrigues/conspiracies of the enemies of the homeland boldly. Regarding the Document, the PGC confirms once again on the importance of adhering to the Document without deviating from it under any excuses or justifications. Meanwhile starting to implement it based on mutual understanding. It is necessary to be on the alert to prohibit any deteriorations which might put obstacles in the way of its implementation or trying to fabricate or add some additional demands on the Document. It is certain that the Yemeni masses are waiting for the coalition

parties to hasten signing the Document to end up the crisis for good.

Editorial
Al-Mithak, Sanaa
14/2/1994

A BACK PAGE CARD

The current political crisis took serious dimensions after reflecting itself on the foreign policy of the Republic of Yemen and it also caused a lot of harm to the reputation of the state envisaging a bad picture about the situations in Yemen. The forgery by the official media of the European Community's statement about the crisis gave an impression of credibility of those apparatuses in conveying and translating the statement. The other event was the hijacking of the 707 aircraft compelling it to land in Hodeidah after detaining its crews and plundering its load. Through exhibiting the articles on Channel One, Sanaa, the so-called missile batteries appeared to be mere electrical batteries along with other telecommunications equipment. The two events proved a partition mentality. It also gave an impression that this kind of mentality is ruling the country. The whole action intended to put new impediments before the dialogue committee's endeavors through such fabricated deeds.

Back Page Editorial,
Qassim Ahmad Abdul Rab,
Al-Mustaqbal, Sanaa,
13/2/1994.

TERRORISM AND ITS JEOPARDY ON ALL THE LEVELS

Am anti-terrorism campaign was started recently. It began by mobilizing public opinion against those giving any protection or umbrella to terrorism. It is worth mentioning that terrorism has become the core of all the deliberation and discussions particularly those items mentioned in the Document on 18th Feb, 1994. According to the Document, it is necessary to take decisive measures to arrest the persons accused of disturbing the security of the nation by being involved in assassinations, hijacking, kidnapping foreigners, robbery and other such violations. Today, after things have become clear no one can hide the facts about intimidation. It is important to take practical steps/measures to confront terrorism. Outside of Yemen, there is an accusation pointing toward Yemen as one of the states of terrorist

activity. It is essential for us to take tangible measures to protect the homeland and the citizens from this continual problem which is having an impact on the whole economic investment activity in Yemen. The implementation is to arrest all the criminals who are wanted by the law and to forbid the entry into Yemen of those suspected in other countries. The jeopardy of terrorism harms the reputation of Yemen externally. Thus, what we require is a credible way in which to deal with terrorism, otherwise, how are we going to build up a state of law/system based on modernization. We must focus on combatting all kinds of illegal actions.

By *Salah Saeed Bamatraf*
Hadhramaut, Hadhramaut
13/2/1994

THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Within the framework of implementation of the Document, the Arab Baath Socialist Party confirms the necessity of reaching a clear vision for the progress of implementation. It was supposed to sign the Document in Amman. The party demanded to take procedural steps to consolidate trust on the official information media/security levels. The party's representative in the dialogue committee summoned up these demands in the following points:

- 1- Specifying the procedural steps of the process of implementation in the post-signing period.
- 2- Before the process of signing there should be steps to make corrections in the official media and security measures to pave the way for the signing.
- 3- The legislative/executive authorities should take steps regarding the Document, a social documentation, by which all the people granted their consent on it.
- 4- All the parties should initiate sending their candidates to the committee dialogue to proceed forming the branch committees and the follow-up committees to implement.
- 5- The executive committee should work hand in hand with the follow-up committee to lay down a plan for implementation.

Front Page Editorial,
Al-Gamaheer, Sanaa,
14/2/1994.

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

In Sana'a
invites applications for the post of

NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICER

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Yemen requires a National Program Officer (NPO) for its office in Sana'a. This is a demanding senior level position with the successful candidate primarily being involved in the formulation, implementation, evaluation and follow-up of UNFPA programs and projects in the Republic of Yemen.

Specific duties of NPO include the formulation and revision of project documents and budgets, appraisal of project proposals, day-to-day monitoring of project implementation, and evaluation and reporting of project activities. The incumbent will also be required to contribute to the formulation and evaluation of the overall UNFPA program in the country. In addition the NPO will be given specific thematic or sectoral responsibilities in line with his or her background, interests and/or needs. The job calls for frequent liaison with government officials, U.N. executing agencies and other development aid partners. Analysis and interpretation of background data and frequent oral and written presentations are a major aspect of the job.

The successful candidate will possess a post-graduate degree in a development related field in the social sciences, i.e., Economics, Demography, Sociology and/or a strong background in Public Health.

Candidates with several years of professional experience in the field of development in Yemen will be preferred. Excellent written and oral skills in both English and Arabic are essential.

The position is open only to Yemeni nationals. Qualified women are encouraged to apply. An initial contract of one year will be offered (subject to medical clearance), with the possibility of a long term career. Interested candidates are requested to send applications with a detailed curriculum vitae to: The Country Director, UNFPA, P. O. Box 551, Sana'a.

Applications should be received no later than March, 1994 and any applications received after that date will not be considered. Only those candidates strictly meeting the requirements should apply and acknowledgement will be sent only to short-listed candidates.

For further information please contact Mr. Fouad Shomali, Assistant Resident Representative, Administration Section, UNDP Sana'a office at the following address:-

P.O.Box 551,
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وكالة اتحاد الساعات السويسرية
SWISS WATCHES UNION AGENCY

Continued from page 1:

The President's Neighbors...

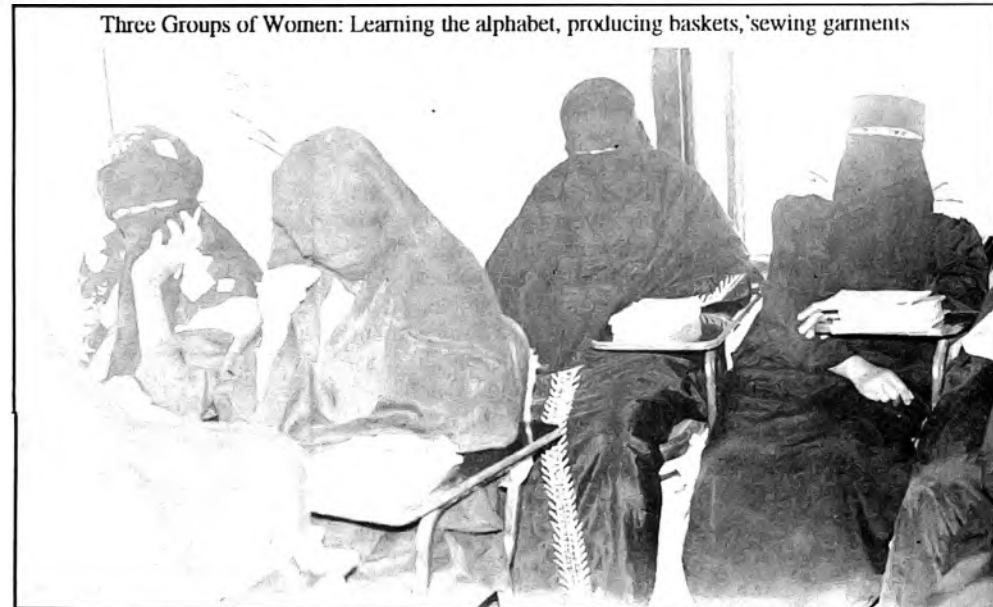
There are various groups of women who are involved in many things. One group is learning the alphabet and literacy. They are given certificates that correspond to those in regular schools, in case some women want to continue their education. A second group is involved in basket weaving and other hand-made products. Akiko Sato, a Japanese volunteer, is helping teach them skills. A third group is involved in knitting and sewing. The center provides the garments and other raw materials. The women produce clothing which are sold in the market. "We plan to hold an exhibition on 15 Ramadhan (25th February) at Dar Al-Kutub, on Al-Qasr Al-Jumhuri Street. "We hope people will come because we have worthwhile things to sell, and as a gesture of support to these efforts," said Basmah. The products include toys, doll, garments, baskets, etc. The revenue is split between



Basmah Al-Qubati: "Some sense in a senseless situation."



Inside one of the "homes": The average size of a family is nine persons



Three Groups of Women: Learning the alphabet, producing baskets, sewing garments

the center and the women who make the product. Medical care is available at the center. SOFD contracted a medical doctor to pay two visits a week to the center to provide medical check-up and diagnosis. SOFD then purchases the medication prescribed by the doctor. SOFT also provides school uniforms to the children of the women who come to the center. "We also buy their school-books." Basmah indicated there are some one million Akhdam people in Yemen. "There are seven shanty-towns in Sanaa alone, the Asir Mahwa (shantytown) alone has over 2000 residents," she concluded.



Overcrowding the few playing facilities at the SOFD Center



THANK YOU !

The management and staff of Deutag Drilling, Yemen Branch, want to thank all companies which donated to the Charity Raffle Show during our New Year Party at the Sheraton Sanaa Hotel on 31st January, 1993. We would like to thank all the companies which attended our party. The amounts collected during the party have been donated to Mother Theresa's Missionaries of Charity in Sanaa.

We would like to especially thank the following sponsors:

- Al-Sunaidar Travel & Tourism;
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- Sheraton Sanaa Hotel;
- Taj Sheba Hotel;
- Yemen Catering & Services Ltd;
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- Yemenia - Yemen Airways;
- Yemen Kuwait Shipping & Forwarding Co. Ltd;
- Yemen Logistics & Supply Co. Ltd.;
- Zia Ul Haq & Sons Catering Co.;
- Zimex Aviation Yemen.

DEUTAG DRILLING - YEMEN BRANCH

The Property Centre: A Story of Success Based on Hard Work

By:
Mohamed Abdulhamid,
Yemen Times.

"We started this business with two thousand Dollars - borrowed from friends and relatives. There were four employees," explained Mr. Habib A. Ishaq, chairman and owner of the Property Centre. That was only two months before the Gulf War. Habib, 39, was armed with a lot of determination, and quite a few good ideas. That is why today, just more than three years later, the Property Centre is a leader in the real estate business. Total annual revenue is more than US\$ 2 million, and over 140 employees work for the company.

The Property Centre runs a very lucrative business of fully furnished and serviced apartments and suites in more than 28 buildings in Sana'a alone. "We are now moving into new areas. The

Crown and Plaza buildings offer apartments and suites that are ideal for the executive who wants to start from day one of arrival. We can literally pick up a person from the airport, and

he/she can move in directly in his/her apartment," he explained.

Some of the new facilities are extremely handy - like a computer, a secretarial network, etc. "You can have your office and residence in the same place, and with all the facilities," he said.

Mr. Habib stressed on hard work as the basic factor in the success of the company. "We have no Fridays or Sundays. We work every day, and all hours as long as we are awake. It is the only way to create such success in such a short time."

Willingness to overcome

the difficulties and think of new ways is another factor. We pay a nice bonus for any person who can lead us to ways to do things better and at lower costs. "If a guard or a clerk or any of other employee comes up with a good idea, we encourage them by paying a remuneration. That way, our employees get involved in the planning and executing of our work. We do have a good group of highly qualified people, especially our General Manager, George Shamat," he said.

That is why the Property Centre can offer an executive suite at the rate of a

room in the regular hotels. Yet, the suites are superior in many ways, if at least for the family ambience and personalized and friendly atmosphere that prevails in them. The security system is highly sophisticated and effective. In addition there is a 24-hour guard system. One of the advantages of the Property Centre residences is that they offer a package arrangement. "We offer the whole range of services - laundry, cleaning, catering, and satellite TV, business facilities, etc. We have a 24-hour stand-by/call-in service with four mobile phones to key people who can be reached at any time," stated the Property Centre Chairman.

As a leader in the real estate business, the company has been instrumental in creating standards for the sector. In addition, it has also involved itself in the design of new construction.

"Building a house is one of the most sensible options for investing in Yemen. We still do not have share holding companies in which to buy stocks, and many of the investment outlets are not suitable. So people build houses," explained Habib.

Unfortunately, however, the supply does not match the demand. Many people build large villages, which are like palaces, and they hope to rent them out to foreigners. The truth is that foreigners are often single, or if they are with their families, they do not need large palaces.

Even then, there is a promising future for the property business in Yemen, in general, and in Sana'a in particular. "But they need some guidance. It is useful to match the demand. We give free advice on how to design a building, what kind of lay-out, finishing to use, etc. If the landlord follows our advice, we commit to rent the building immediately as soon as it is ready," stated Mr. Ishaq.

In some cases, where there is pressing demand, like in Aden, the company rents an existing building and makes the necessary alterations to accommodate the needs of its clients. "We have tried this approach in Aden, but so far we have not succeeded. We are very eager in expanding into the Aden market," said Habib.

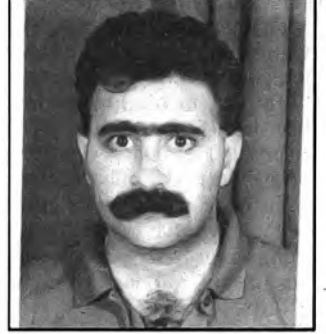
In spite of its enormous difficulties, working in the real estate business is extremely fulfilling. That is what keeps Habib Ishaq and his people going, and that is what makes the Property Centre continue to grow.

The Top Management of the Property Centre

Habib Ishaq, Chairman



George Shamat, Gen Mngr



Sami Ishaq, Finance Manager



Selah Abdullah, Admin Mngr



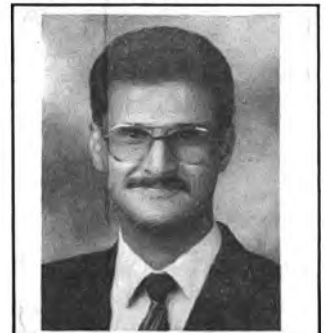
Khaled Dailamy, Sales Mngr



A/Dailamy, Maintenance Mngr



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In the Beginning There Was the WORD!

Adapted and abridged from:
The World and I,
February, 1994.

A) BACKGROUND:

The birth of the universe is one of the principal themes that have confounded humanity since we first inhabited this planet. How did it all start? what was it made of? Who started it? What was/is the purpose? These and other questions have been the source of many legends, myths, and religious beliefs.

The peoples of the Middle East, notably the Arabs and their ancestors, contributed enormously to creation stories. Here, the earliest creation motif was recorded in writing, now uncovered in sources from ancient Iraq, Egypt and Yemen dating from the third millennium B.C. In fact, the oldest creation stories documented in writing originated in the Middle East. Although somewhat altered through the millennia of human history, they have helped shape modern views of the world and its origin.

The creation stories of the Sumerians, Babylonians, Egyptians, Sabaeans, and other ancient cultures are at the foundations of all the religious systems that developed in the Middle East - systems whose doctrines became central to the growth of Western and current world civilization and have spread and persisted around the world.

Let us go through a limited survey of how humanity evolved its conception of the birth of the universe.

B) THE CHRONOLOGY:

The people responsible for developing most of the earliest ideas were the ancient Sumerians of Mesopotamia (more or less the area of modern Iraq). Yet, the Sumerians remain somewhat of a mystery: their origins and language affiliation remain still unknown. However, we can read their texts, thanks to the work of philologists who pieced together the Sumerian vocabulary and grammar from materials uncovered in various parts of Iraq and elsewhere.

Reconstructing the past based on such sources is difficult. It seems to be an unwritten law of archaeological inquiry that the most important ancient texts and paragraphs are always fragmentary or missing. The more remote the society, the more difficult and challenging the process. Patient archaeologists and philologists must carefully assemble scattered, often accidentally discovered, information. Through their efforts we may understand ancient ways of life and perceptions of the world, as expressed through various myths and other literary compositions.

Flourishing at the end of the fourth and throughout most of the third millennium B.C., the Sumerian civilization left fragmentary written records from which modern scholars have reconstructed its cosmology. It must be remembered that the crucial points of the Sumerian creation are rarely explicitly stated but are implied by the text or by the choice of ideograms and compound terms. In the second half of the fourth millennium B.C., the Sumer-

ians became the first people to create a writing system, cuneiform.

Masters of invention, they also left the foundation for almost every form of inquiry in science, philosophy, literature, and other intellectual endeavors. But the Sumerians never formulated any general, all-pervading laws. They were pragmatists who focused their attention on practical descriptions of surrounding phenomena, not on abstract thinking, the Greek contribution to human knowledge.

Pharaonic Egypt, advanced the "knowledge" of creation one step further. Theirs was a more advanced form of religion and deity. Neighboring Phoenicians also added to the accumulating beliefs on how it all started.

To the south, ancient Yemenis were involved in their own version of how Shams, the Sun God, created the universe. All in all, Middle Eastern beliefs which predate Islam have been subjected to a strong drive to take the back seat. As Professor Yusuf Mohammed Abdullah, Yemen's foremost authority in the field states, Muslims tend to forget intentionally their pre-Islamic heritage.

C) SUMERIAN MYTHS:

To the Sumerians, it all started with a goddess. They believed that the first cause or prime mover of the process of creation was the ever-present water, a kind of primeval sea. S. N. Kramer, who devoted most of his life to reading and interpreting Sumerian texts, pointed out that one of the clay tablets listing the names of Sumerian deities includes the name of the little-known goddess Nammu. This name is written with the ideogram for "sea", and the goddess is described as "the mother, who gave birth to heaven and earth." Another text proclaims her to be "the mother, the ancestress, who gave birth to all the gods."

Because this primeval sea was looked on by the Sumerians as eternal force, questions about what was prior to it, both in terms of time and space, were never asked. In fact, the water of Nammu was perceived as the ever-existing matter or law, from which other elements emerged according to an "order of appearance" somehow encoded within it.

The first elements to emerge was the universe, imagined as the united whole of vaulted heaven over flat earth. Whether the universe was perceived to be "the mountain of heaven and earth", as suggested by a line from the myth "Cattle and Grain", is uncertain, but the unity of heaven and earth is confirmed by the Sumerian term for universe, an-ki, which literally means "heaven-earth". Both parts of the universe were thought of as deities in human form: An (heaven) was male; Ki (earth) was female.

the united whole of the universe, an-ki, was ended by their son, the air god Enlil. According to the myth "Creation of the Pickax," Enlil "Took care to move away the heaven from earth."

After separating heaven and earth, Enlil filled the space between them with lil, the atmosphere, setting the stage for further organization of the universe and creation of new

elements. At this point, heaven was believed to consist of the sky and the "great above" where the sky deities resided. The earth included the surface and the "great below," the underworld where the cthonic gods and goddesses dwelled.

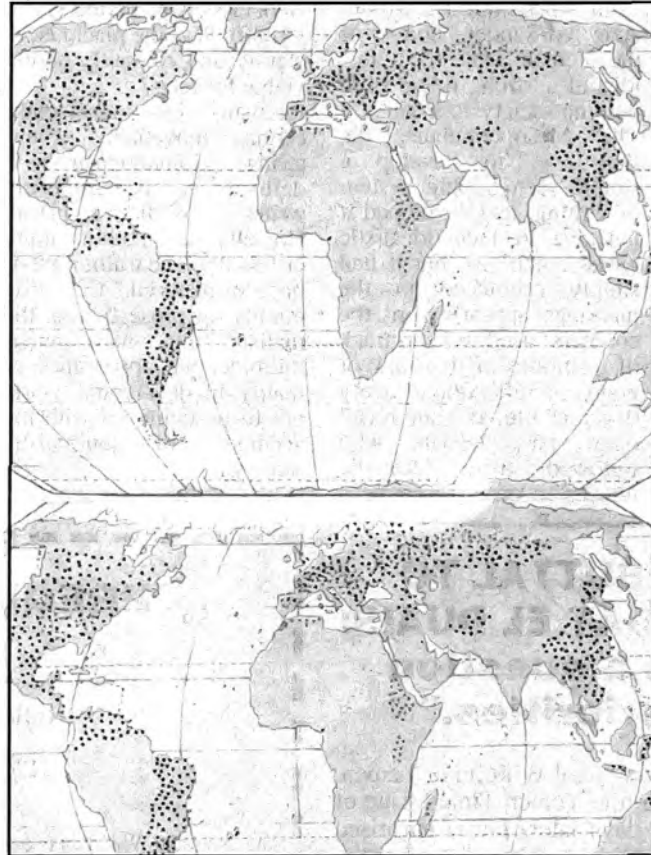
The order of further creations is rather confusing. In addition to the three creating deities of the universe story, a fourth god, Enki, was somehow conceived. Although one text describes him as the son of Nammu, his name indicates that he is "lord of the earth." His name and origins are even more clouded because the Sumerians clearly regarded the god Enlil as lord of the earth. Enki, for his part, was depicted as king of the abzu, the sweet water perceived to exist under the earth as the source of all springs and rivers.

ones who are scattered about [the moon] like grain." The most active roles in these creations were played by Enki and Enlil, who remained very much involved in the affairs of the mortal world.

Although these seven deities had the power to create other gods and phenomena, they were not really creators in the transcendental sense. They were just the most important part of the creation process itself, which was encoded in the boundless waters of Nammu. They were the first step in the creation of other elements that had to come into being because of destiny.

D) THE BABYLONIAN CONTRIBUTION:

The concept of destiny is an integral part of Babylonian thought. The creation of any phenomenon was unfinished



These four deities - An, Ki (also known as Ninmah, Ninhursag, and Ninti), Enlil, and Enki (Semitic Ea) - were responsible for creating three astral deities: the moon, sun, and Venus. The moon god, known as Sin or Nanna (begotten of Enlil and his female Counterpart Ninlil), was perceived as travelling across the heavens in a basket and bringing light to the darkness. The means of traveling from east to west as well as the nightly whereabouts of the sun god Utu (in Semitic, Shamash, the Sabaean Shams), son of Nanna and his spouse Ningal, are still unclear. Although capricious, Inanna (Semitic Ishtar) - elevated by the ancient Yemenis to the rank of one of the highest gods - associated with Venus was the most beloved deity of the Middle East. Inanna was either the daughter of Nanna or of An.

Through the actions of these deities, their offspring, and their decrees, earth was soon covered with plants, animals, and people. Cities were established and other elements of civilization brought into existence. The sky was filled with stars and planets, depicted poetically as "the big ones who walk about [the moon] like wild oxen" and "the little

and incomplete until its fate was decreed. This way, its purpose and function were known by and in accordance with the universal law of the primordial sea. The rules of the universe could not be changed, and all actions that threatened the existing order, whether committed by deities or by humans, required an appropriate punishment imposed by the old council of gods known as Annunaki. Life had to proceed the way eternity decreed it, along the lines of qismat (destiny) today.

Although Semitic groups, who arrived in Mesopotamia during the third millennium B.C., conquered the region, Sumer's traditions and language survived long after its people were gone. Sumerian ideas on creation were adopted by the Semitic people and then incorporated into other traditions. The Akkadians, Babylonians, and Assyrians followed the Sumerian path in almost every field, including religion.

The perception of the universe, the divine names, and the order of creation were preserved in Semitic creation stories of the second and first millennia B.C., but the overall character of religion had changed. The most famous Babylonian story of creation, Enuma Elish (When above

the heaven ...), was composed in writing during the First Babylonian Dynasty (the nineteenth to sixteenth centuries B.C.). Rather than being a general, philosophical discussion of origins, it records the political endeavors of the god Marduk.

The Enuma Elish begins with the existence of a watery abyss before the formation of earth or heaven. However, in contrast to the Sumerian myths, the waters are mixed and represented by three beings: the goddess Tiamat (salt water), her husband Apsu (sweet water), and their son Mummu (possibly mist and clouds resulting from the watery chaos). Sometimes, Tiamat and Mummu are perceived as a unity, explained as the Mother-Tiamat. These personified, mingled waters represent original chaos enveloped in darkness, which brought forth the generation of young deities including the Sumerian gods An and Enki (appearing here as Nudimmud and Ea).

The youngsters' misbehavior angered Apsu, who wanted them killed. Fearing for their lives, the young gods killed Apsu and imprisoned Mummu. This act infuriated Tiamat, who decided to take action against her grandchildren. She invested Kingu, her second husband, with the "Tablets of Destinies," which symbolized the power over existing forces. All deities, with the exception of Marduk (son of Ea and Damkina), became frightened, knowing that they could not defeat Tiamat. This was the time for Marduk to seize control. He made a deal with all the other gods that if he were to win the struggle with Tiamat and Kingu, the whole kingdom would be his. The desperate deities agreed.

After a long battle, Marduk killed Tiamat and Kingu, removed the "Tablets of Destinies," and assumed the highest powers. Then he split Tiamat's body into two parts from which he created sky and earth. Marduk installed deities in the firmament, set up the celestial bodies to provide light and measure time, and created humankind.

It is obvious that the epic was composed to justify the Babylonian god Marduk's usurpation of power from the other, older deities of the Mesopotamian pantheon. The political character of the Enuma Elish is supported by the fact that the poem was recited during the official festival of akitu (New Year) and that Assyrians apparently played with the same idea, replacing Marduk with their own god Assur.

E) EGYPTIAN CREATION MYTHOLOGY:

Creation stories of pharaonic Egypt also focused on the existence of a primordial ocean known as Nun (Father of the Gods), which was sometimes conceived of as the cosmic egg. Its waters were stagnant, eternal, and motionless. They were embodied by darkness, and it was feared that one day they might crash through the universe and end the world.

A primordial hill emerged from these lifeless waters, and life was created by various deities. According to the cosmological doctrine from Heli-

opolis, dating from the third millennium B.C., the sun god Atum (sometimes Re) came forth on a lotus flower on the hill known as Benben. Through the act of masturbation, Atum created the next generation of deities, Shu (air) and Tefnut (moisture), who in turn begot Geb (earth, male) and Nut (sky, female), parents of the four deities associated with Osirian legends.

The Hermopolitan doctrine, although recorded later, is thought to have developed earlier than other Egyptian cosmogonies. It proclaims the supremacy of the god Thoth. Early stories stated that the first beings to appear on the primordial hill were four males, represented as frogs, and four females, in the form of snakes. Together they fashioned the egg from which the god Amon hatched, bringing life to everything else. In later tradition, Thoth laid the egg.

The third important doctrine of ancient Egypt was formulated in the third millennium B.C. in the political capital of Memphis. The leading god was Ptah. This cosmogony is interesting because it represents one of the first examples of the so-called logos doctrine, or creation ex nihilo (creation from nothing). This is the act of creation by uttering a word, without using any substance. Here, Ta-tenan, identified with Ptah, emerged from the motionless waters of Nun as a primordial hill. Ptah created everything with his teeth and lips by pronouncing the identity of new beings. This type of creation remind us of the words of the New Testament: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The same tradition of God creating by announcing is also carried over into Islam.

F) ANCIENT YEMENI CREATION BELIEFS:

The beliefs of ancient Yemeni civilizations have yet to be fully documented. But a tablet of poetry, 27 lines, discovered and documented by Dr. Yusuf Mohammed Abdullah in the mid-1980s at the site of Qania near Sawadiya, attributes the origin of creation to the Sun God, Shams. The poem, Tarneemat Shams, translated into Arabic by Suleiman Al-Issa, speaks about adventures of Shams during creation. Other heavenly bodies, as well as our earth and ourselves, were the product of these adventures.

The ancient Yemenis used to worship the heavenly stars, but notably, Shams.

F) CREATION STORIES IN THE HEAVENLY RELIGIONS:

According to Jewish, Christian and Islamic beliefs, God was the source of creation. There is no mention of anything earlier, and to demand anything preceding God is blasphemous. Although none of the religions acknowledge borrowing from the accumulation of human mythology - as they attribute their sources to divinity - the influence cannot be missed. Creation stories of the universe from ancient Iraq, Egypt and other places must have influenced the Torah, Bible, Quran, and other books. The ancient stories seem to be the source of inspiration for all of them.

Continued on page 14



Letters to the Editor

RESOLUTION OR DISCRIMINATION?

It made me angry to learn that the new resolution regarding the identity card to Yemenis born abroad makes strenuous demands, especially at this time when we expect a change and progress.

The resolution of the Ministry of Interior states that the muwalladeen (Yemenis born abroad) must travel to their father's birth place to get the bitaqa, irrespective of where they presently live. They are not allowed to obtain in where they work, and most of them work in Sana'a. We tried to explain the difficulty of going to remote villages and spend a long time to process paper-work. But the officials in charge always respond that it is the decision of the "Prime Minister" and that they are unable to change the requirements. That's not true.

The expenses incurred in this process are phenomenal. Traveling to the countryside, and spending a number of days there, then searching for forgotten relatives is an expensive business. The whole process is a difficult ordeal.

Even so-called relatives ask for money in order to testify. The process repeats itself from office to office. Often, any piece of paper is signed by a dozens or more people. For each signature, one has to reach out to one's pocket, if I am in a clean shirt my paper will remain clean. The restrict investigation makes oneself feel criminal and the under-estimation creates inferiority complex. Imagine, we born and brought up abroad and we seen as stranger among our own

relatives at countryside. We sometimes feel shy to give bribe while it is the only solution.

Those who do not have money or relatives "God be with them". The situation is even bad for those who are new comer and have a problem of communicating. Yemeni national born abroad are facing several problems to get their identity card which we really consider it as "Residence permit". Once upon a day, the continuing discrimination might be end in relation. I am scared and that may happen. Nationality claim to Yemeni officials means something related to their property or land. I wish if they could be serious and feel responsible in their job. I still remember that some years ago, I had read on Yemen Times an article "where do we belong?" The question is still floating.

I like to point out that, it is unfair to send the so called muwalladeen to the remote are where our fathers isolated long time ago.

We know that, the brutal and unjust treatment of the muwalladeen is still going on even here in Sana'a. But we can at least spare them the expense. All legal and necessary procedures could be undertaken in Sana'a, at least we are recognized by the Akel-al-hara.

I would like to bring to the attention of Yemen Times and its editor this new resolution and ask for help, help to stop the tragedy.

**Yemeni citizen,
BORN ABROAD.**

A COMMENT ON SAMIRA ALI BIN DAAIR'S ARTICLE OF JAN. 23rd, 1994: "WHAT IS THIS IDEALISM OF THE EDITOR OF YEMEN TIMES!"

Here we go again! My bad luck makes me encounter again and again people like Derek Harvey, the susceptible environmentalist, and now it is Samira Ali, a realistic idealist!

Let me get this straight. The way I see it, idealists are people who lack the courage to acknowledge the dark side of our living world, and are happy to just live in a world of fantasy of their own. Idealists are people who rejoice when they see the sun rise, and then ignore and close their eyes when the sun sets.

I have stated many times that our idealistic ambitions of living in a perfect utopia are futile? Just look back at the abortive trials to create utopia in ancient Chinese philosophy, Taoism, etc. So, from where did Dr. Abdul Aziz Al-Saqqaf, editor of the Yemen Times, get this idea of a 'strong moral fibre holding society' together?

The Mesopotamians, the first ever to develop a simple pictographic system of writing, had developed it not due to their idealistic moral ambitions, but it had simply originated in the markings appearing on the counters used to keep track of quantities of livestock or goods - a reflection of every day real life. If your recall other past leaders who followed their idealistic images in order to create a



dramatic change, you'll find that most of them had ended in a catastrophe - the former Shah of Iran, who really was a replica of Cyprus the Great (538 BC); Caesar; Hitler and his ideal "The Third Reich" etc.

Now, look at the flourishing realistic period of the Renaissance (1300 - 1650). And then, for a contrast, look at the calamitous affects of the Neoclassicism period (1780 - 1880). Was the placid Neoclassic and romantic period viable for long?

Realism, a nineteenth-century movement countering romanticism, is defined by the American writer William Dean Howells as "nothing more or less than the truthful treatment of material." Centering mainly on prose fiction, the realists' aim was verisimilitude, the appearance of reality in or literary work, not to be confused with the accuracy of journalistic writing.

With this movement,

romantic idealism gave way to prosaic reality, subjectivity to objectivity, fascination with the remote past to handle the present. Events of the period influenced the realists greatly as they set about imitating real life in their writing.

Mr. Editor:

Don't you think it is time for you to renounce your idealistic moral virtues, and start bothering about our daily realistic vices? Would you be real?

In our today's contemporary world, realism has reached the nadir and idealism the zenith. But that is because our pragmatists have failed. As Samira Ali has rightly suggested, "If a survey of Yemen was to be undertaken - the idealists would win since no one is happy with our present situation." But the point is not who would gain support now, but rather who would win in the long-run.

In my opinion, the realists would win. As Kerry M. Wood says in his preface to Neodassicism, "Intellectual freedom and relative freedom from prejudice and superstition in religion and politics were ideals typical of the age; but as in all ages, behaviors often did not match ideals." And then as Curren Bell says in Jane Eyre: "(idealism) is conventionality, and conventionality is not morality, just

as self-righteousness is not religion."

By now, you might have recriminated me as being a pessimist. Well, I won't try to negate that accusation. In my opinion, the utmost success is achieved when we expect the worst. Being optimistic or idealistic just disappoints us in the long run, as we can't see the future. As Albert Schweitzer said, "Man has lost the capacity to foresee and to forestall. He will end by destroying the earth." And then quoting the famous author E.B. White: "I am pessimistic about the human race because it is too ingenious for its own good."

I would really savor to go on and on criticizing optimists and then dwell on the subject of human wisdom. But I fear you are already somnolent. Therefore, I will close with a famous quote by Ian McEwqin in his 'Nuclear Weapons': "If, as species, we faced a simple test of wisdom, from the very outset, we appeared to be intent on failure."

So, Mr. Yemen Times Editor, how about renouncing the idealistic optimism and start pushing realistic pessimism. It is our only way towards eternal salvation?

**By: Majid Hashim Abdul Hamid Ali,
M.A.O. School, Taiz.**

SPEED BREAKERS CAN SAVE LIVES

It was the morning of February 7, 1994. The faces of the family, friends and teachers of the young innocent child were swollen and their eyes streaming with tears. They were reacting to the early death of the little boy, who was killed by a fast car. Hearts were beating with restlessly, and thoughts were stormed with meaningless and confused ideas. Everybody was overwhelmed with the sudden death of the nine year old boy.

Young students, hanging out around the school, were bewildered thinking who will be the next victim of reckless drivers. The crowd of men and women were also distressed with the event.

If only, there was a proper mechanism to protect our little ones from road accidents? That is a question of everybody's mind.

Now, if at this school (Pakistani School), the authorities had placed speed breakers and warning signs, maybe the little boy would still be alive. What would it cost to build a few road bumps? Every day, families lose their loved ones due to fast moving cars. I am not asking for a traffic policeman to man the intersections near schools, although that would be the ideal thing to do. No, we are too careless and too incompetent to undertake that kind of solution. What we need is speed breakers.

Where I went to school, we had a policeman always there to help us cross. During the recess hour and the time when we left for home, he was there to manage the flow of traffic. This is not what I am really asking for here in Yemen. It won't happen. My request is to have speed breakers, to stop our rough and fast drivers from causing more damage.

The rough drivers and their families do not feel what kind of suffering they put others through, because of these accidents. Why does it have to be the innocent that have to pay the price of the reckless driving?

**Rahila A. Baalawy,
Sana'a.**

A REBUTTAL TO Ms. NAGAT EL DUAIS: "It is a question of priorities."

I read your letter "Real Wildlife in Yemen, A Miracle!" in the Yemen Times issue of 23/1/94. Two days later, I was surprised when my English teacher brought the Yemen Times to class to read parts of it as language practice and asked us what we thought about the ideas in it. He specially referred to the demand by Ms. Al-Duais to protect Yemeni wildlife. I laughed. The teacher was astonished and asked me what made me laugh? I told him the government cannot look after the people, let alone the animals. There are many children in Yemen who die of simple things. So little could go so far in their lives.

Take my village as an example. There is only one school with 4 or 5 rooms and some of the classes are held under the trees or in sheds beside the school.

Ms. Al Duais, as a teacher, should be more concerned about these children, their health, education and future, than with setting up zoos and sanctuaries for animals, which, although an admirable goal, but surely should be carried out only after basic human needs are met.

It is not a situation of exclusive this or that, may be we could do a little bit of all of these things. But, it really becomes a question of priorities in a society strapped with meager resources. We don't have enough to do everything. So we have to prioritize.

It is in this light that I disagree with Mr. Nagat Al-Duais in her call that the government attend to the needs of our wildlife.

**By: Hassan Al-Najdi
Bany Mansoor
Kurmah / Raimah.**

PREQUALIFICATION NOTICE

Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Water & Electricity
National Water and Sanitation Authority

PROVINCIAL TOWNS PROJECT (PTP)
Water Supply and Sanitation.

The National Water and Sanitation Authority invites companies as general contractors to pre-qualify for the implementation of water supply and sewage systems in the republic of Yemen. The intended contracts will include the construction of civil works and the supply and installation of electric-mechanical works for the following contracts :

Contract No.1 - Tihama Area

Water supply systems for the towns of Mukha, Zabid, Bayt Al Faqih, Al Mansuriyah and Bajil, consisting of approx. 12 well pumping stations including electric/mechanical equipment, pump head up to 16 bar, Q up to 24 l/s, water transmission lines DCI pipe, PN 25, DN 150 mm to DN 250 mm, approx. Length 20 km, 4 elevated storage tanks 100 m³ to 200 m³, distribution networks, DCI pipes DN 65 mm to DN 200 mm, approx. 160 km, house connection lines DN 25 mm to DN 50 mm, approx. 50 km, house connections approx. 17000 nos., overhead power transmission lines 11 kva approx. 20 km, approx. 11 nos of transformers 25 to 160 KVA including switch gear.

Contract No.2 - Hadjah Town

Water supply and sewage system including sewage treatment plant for the town of Hadjah, consisting of 3 well pumps, pump head approx.300 m, Q up to 22 l/s, one well pump station including electric/mechanical equipment, one booster pumping station including electric/mechanical equipment, pump head approx. 370 m, Q= 3x 22 l/s, water transmission line approx. 4 km length, DCI pipe DN 300 mm, PN 45, water distribution system DCI pipes DN 65 mm to DN 200 mm, approx. Length 60 km, house connection lines PE pipe DN 25 mm to DN 50 mm, approx. 18 km, house connections approx. 4500 nos., approx. 3 nos of transformers 250 KVA, sewage collection system approx. 28 km DCI pipes DN 100 mm to DN 200 mm and approx. 28 km UPVC pipes DN 150 mm to DN 300 mm, approx. 1000 manholes, approx. 4500 sewage house connections with inspection chambers, one sewage treatment plant complete for about 50,000 population equivalents comprising of screens, velocity channels, flumes, Imhof tanks, sludge drying beds about 4500 m², plus two smaller Imhof tanks in separate catchment areas of the town.

Financial assistance will be provided by the Federal Republic of Germany through Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau (KfW).

Companies with suitable experience in water supply and sewage systems as general contractors, who wish to take part in the tender must submit prequalification information on their companies and suppliers before 31. March 1994 on special questionnaires which may be obtained from 21. February 1994 onwards against a non-refundable fee of US\$ 100.00 per contract, by applying in writing to :-

GITEC-DORSCH CONSULT
Sana'a Office
off Al Mataar/Airport Street
Al Girafe Area
P.O.Box 8900
Sana'a Republic of Yemen
Tel. : +967-1-231-264 Fax: +967-1-233-933

OR

GITEC-DORSCH CONSULT
P.O.Box 32 04 46
40419 Dusseldorf,
Federal Republic of Germany
Tel: +49-211-44-080
Fax: +49-211-44-08-204.

Dr. Yasseen Saeed Noman:

"Let us start all over again."

Dr. Yasseen Saeed Noman, former Speaker of Parliament, and presently the head of the YSP Secretariat, is one of the few politicians who enjoys a good reputation in both the northern and southern governorates. He is seen as a clean politician who has shown considerable skill in tackling the issues of a turbulent Yemen. Yemen Times Aden Bureau Chief Shafer Musa'abain filed the following interview:

Q: The various political leaderships are gearing to leave for Amman. What is your vision on the next step?

A: Let me first say that I am one of the regular readers of the Yemen Times and I respect the work it is doing. I admire its courage and integrity at a time when it is so easy to be corrupted or buckle under.

The YSP vision is that implementation of the provisions of the 18th January resolutions should start immediately. Let me make three comments on this regard:

1. The YSP, in light of the national consensus on the 18th January document, will not go against such a national trend, even when the Dialogue Committee has been unable to complete its tasks, especially regarding the guarantees concerning the implementation of the document.

2. The resolutions of the documents represent one whole unit. They cannot be parcelled out. In other words, we cannot say we will go ahead with these, and re-think the others. Even the difficult ones have to be addressed head on.

3. Whatever the position of other parties, the YSP will start with the implementation immediately. We are going to apply the reforms called for in the document.

Q: There are rumors that certain parties will abstain or will not send the top person. What is your feeling?

A: Of course, I cannot speak for other parties. The YSP has decided to fully fulfill the requirements by sending its top people, including the secretary-general to Amman. I personally feel it is a folly not to show up in Amman, and I think all will.



Q: Do you foresee major difficulties in implementation?

A: I think implementation will be extremely difficult. Already, the House of Representatives has failed to endorse the document and

express its support for it. We expected this to happen before the trip to Amman.

The implementation of certain requirements are naturally going to be more difficult than others. But all items have to be imple-

mented and we cannot be selective in the implementation. However, I believe that we can achieve the necessary reforms, provided there is a unity in political will and leadership.

Q: Are there demands which the YSP placed and were not included in the 18th January Document?

A: Yes, there were several issues raised by the YSP, but which were not adopted by the Dialogue Committee. We go with the majority position. As long as the trend is towards the construction of a modern state and society, we have no problem. There were many things that should have been achieved immediately after the unification, but exceptional conditions have hindered their implementation. Now we have one more chance to have a go at them. I hope all sides can see light and cooperate in the implementation.

Q: What are the options of the YSP in future arrangements?

A: let me state that we do not see the issues simply from a profit-and-loss point of view to the party.

The approach has to be from the national point of view. This has been the hall-mark of the attitudes and decisions of the YSP, and that is why our demands and positions command a large support among the Yemeni people.

Our options go with the national consensus, and we continuously play the role of a catalyst and the role of crystallizing the issues.

Q: What is the most important issue in building a modern Yemen, in your opinion?

A: I think that the issue of local government is the most important issue in the proper construction of a modern Yemen. This is basic to our democratic evolution, to our development process, to our proper administrative and financial management, and to a larger popular participation in running the state machinery.

Q: Any final comment?

A: I would like to urge all parties to let by-gones be by-gones, and start in our relations and cooperation all over again. Past hang-ups should not be allowed to get in the way. We can work together for a better Yemen.

Pre-Qualification Notice

Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)
Hodeidah Health Office
Hodeidah Urban Primary Health Care Project (HUPHCP) - Buildings.

The Ministry of public Health in Yemen, represented by Hodeidah Health Office, intends to Invite Tenderers from pre-qualified contractors for the construction of the following buildings scattered across the city of Hodeidah:

- HUPHC+MCH department. An extension at the Health office. Area of extension = 130 m²
- Ghulail curative care an extension adjacent to the existing Ghulail health Centre. Area of extension = 225 m²
- Salakhana Curative care. An extension adjacent to the being-built Salakhana health Centre. Area of extension = 226 m²
- Sana' ai. An extension to existing unit. Area of extension = 107 m²
- North of moghtaribeen. A new centre of total built up area = 150 m²
- Al Yemen. An extension & upgrading of the existing unit. Area of extension = 90 m².
- Upgrading of some other sub-centres in the city.

Funding will be provided by the Netherlands government, Directorate-general for Development cooperation (DGIS).

It is anticipated that Tender documents will be available by 15 March 1994. Contractors with suitable experience in this type of work in similar areas, who wish to take part in this tender must submit a pre-qualification information on their firms and suppliers before 7 March 1994 on a standard questionnaire which may be obtained by applying in person to:

Hodeidah Health Office,
Madinat el Thawra,
Hodeidah,
Republic of Yemen.

or by writing to or by telex/telefax to:

The consultant "Abdul Karim Mohsen"
P. O. Box 19200
Sana'a, Telefax. 01-215470
Republic of Yemen.

Applications will only be considered from contractors officially registered in Yemen, the Netherlands or from contractors in the DAC list for "eligible source countries" authorized to do business in Yemen. Said list can be consulted at the Royal Netherlands Embassy.

The Tender Documents will only be issued subsequently to those firms selected by the Health Office as having the necessary qualifications to perform the intended project satisfactorily.

إعلان تأهيل أولي

الجمهورية اليمنية
وزارة الصحة العامة

مكتب الشؤون الصحية بالحديدة

مشروع الرعاية الصحية الأولية الحضرية

تنوي وزارة الصحة العامة في المستقبل القريب، ممثلة بمكتب الشؤون الصحية بالحديدة، دعوة المقاولين المؤهلين الى تقديم عروضهم لتشييد مباني صحية موزعة في مدينة الحديدة كالتالي:

- بناء إدارة لمشروع الرعاية الصحية الأولية + قسم للأمومة والطفولة.
- بجانب مكتب الشؤون الصحية بالحديدة بمساحة 130 متر مربع.
- بناء قسم علاجي للمركز الصحي في حي غليل بمساحة 225 متر مربع.
- بناء قسم علاجي للمركز الصحي في حي السلخانة بمساحة 226 متر مربع.
- توسيع للمركز الصحي في حي الصنابعي بمساحة 107 متر مربع.
- بناء مركز في شمال حي المغتربين بمساحة 150 متر مربع.
- توسيع وترميم مركز حي اليمن بمساحة 90 متر مربع.
- ترميم بعض المراكز الصحية في الحديدة.

ستساهم الحكومة الهولندية ممثلة بالإدارة العامة للتعاون التنموي في تمويل هذا المشروع، ومن المتوقع أن تكون وثائق المناقصة جاهزة في 15 مارس 1994م على إستثمارات خاصة والتي يمكن الحصول عليها شخصياً من العنوان التالي:

مكتب الشؤون الصحية بالحديدة
حي مدينة الثورة
الحديدة
الجمهورية اليمنية

أو بالطلب خطياً أو بواسطة الفاكس إلى
المهندس الإستشاري/ عبد الكريم محسن
صندوق بريد 19200
صنعا تليفاكس 01-215470
الجمهورية اليمنية.

إن هذه المناقصة محصورة على الشركات المسجلة رسمياً في اليمن أو في هولندا أو الشركات ذات المنشأ المذكور في قائمة البلدان المؤهلة والمسموح لها العمل في اليمن.

ستصرف وثائق المناقصة لتلك الشركات التي سيختارها مكتب الصحة كونها تملك المؤهلات اللازمة للقيام بأعمال المشروع على أكمل وجه.

CRISE POLITIQUE

Réconciliation sans conviction

L'accord du 18 janvier doit être signé aujourd'hui, 20 février à Amman en Jordanie. L'enthousiasme n'est pas de mise.

La population yéménite aspire tant à la paix que les dirigeants du pays sont décidés, semble-t-il, à signer l'accord de réconciliation élaboré le 18 janvier. Le comité de dialogue a donc fixé la cérémonie de signature pour aujourd'hui, 20 février, à Amman, en Jordanie. La méfiance est telle entre les partisans du Président Saleh et ceux du vice-Président Al-Bid qu'ils n'ont pas été capables de signer cet accord au Yémen. L'un des chefs de file de l'opposition, Omar Al-Gaoui, chef du Rassemblement unioniste yéménite, a déploré "l'incapacité des Yéménites à résoudre leurs problèmes par eux-mêmes et chez eux, même sur l'île de Socotra", cette île isolée au large du pays.

"Le document sera signé par le premier responsable de chaque parti ou formation politique. En cas d'empêchement, ce dernier pourrait déléguer par écrit son adjoint", a indiqué le comité de dialogue. Cela veut dire que la présence à Amman du Président Saleh et du vice-Président Al-Bid, respectivement secrétaire général du CPG (Congrès populaire général) et secrétaire général du PSY (Parti socialiste yéménite), n'est

pas acquise. Ils pourraient envoyer leurs adjoints, Abdel Aziz Abdul Ghani pour Saleh et Salem Saleh pour Al-Bid.

Peu de gens parient sur le succès de l'accord de réconciliation. Omar Al-Gaoui a estimé qu'il "porte en lui les germes de l'échec". La division règne au sein du CPG, dont une partie des membres remettent en cause leur représentant au comité de dialogue, Abdul Karim Al-Iryani, ministre de la Planification. Le représentant de l'Israh à ce comité, Abdul Wahab Al-Ansi, vice-Premier ministre, est confronté à un même type de fronde. L'application de l'accord risque donc d'être aléatoire. Le comité de dialogue a pourtant affirmé que "ses réunions resteront ouvertes pour assurer l'application des clauses de l'accord".

Tensions persistent

En attendant, les tensions entre les nordistes et les sudistes persistent. Le Président Saleh a annulé lundi dernier la nomination par le Premier ministre Al-Attas du nouveau gouverneur d'Abyan, un gouvernorat du sud. Il a estimé que cette désignation s'était faite sans son aval,

contrairement à la Constitution, ce que contestent les socialistes. Mohamed Ahmed devait remplacer Yahya Al-Rai, élu en avril dernier au parlement. Mohamed Ahmed, partisan de l'ancien président du Yémen du Sud, Ali Nasser, était gouverneur d'Abyan jusqu'en janvier 1986.

De son côté, loin de jouer l'apaisement, le vice-Président a relancé l'idée de fédéralisme qui avait fait pousser des hauts cris aux nordistes quand Salem Saleh l'avait émise. Ali Salem Al-Bid a estimé mardi dernier dans une interview à un journal émirati que "le fédéralisme est une formule plus avancée (que l'unité) du point de vue démocratique". "Le fédéralisme admet la diversité, permet l'émulation et stimule l'esprit d'initiative", a-t-il ajouté. Ali Al-Bid a rejeté l'accusation des nordistes qui affirment que le pétrole est à l'origine des "tendances sécessionnistes" du PSY. "Je savais avant l'unité que les gouvernorats dans le sud et l'est du pays renfermaient des richesses pétrolières", a-t-il déclaré. "Si je me suis hâté de réaliser l'unité, c'est justement parce que j'avais peur pour l'unité, à cause du pétrole". J.B.

ENLEVEMENTS

Libérés après 20 jours de captivité

Les trois touristes français enlevés le 23 janvier par une tribu et séquestrés dans la région d'Al-Madan dans le gouvernorat de Hajja, ont été libérés samedi 12 février par leurs ravisseurs.

Henri et Jeanne Heslot et Brigitte Fontaine ont retrouvé la liberté. Samedi 12 février, leurs ravisseurs les ont remis entre les mains de la délégation venue négocier leur libération. Les trois touristes français, qui avaient été enlevés le 23 janvier dernier près de Saada par la tribu Ahnoum, ont été séquestrés pendant vingt jours dans un village près d'Al-Madan, dans le gouvernorat de Hajja.

"Fatiguée mais heureuse", Brigitte Fontaine a téléphoné à son père à Strasbourg dès son arrivée à Sanaa. Les trois otages sont repartis vers Paris le soir même par l'avion hebdomadaire d'Air France. De retour à Nancy, dans l'est de la France, Brigitte Fontaine, qui a retrouvé son cabinet de cardiologue et surtout son père âgé de 82 ans, a déclaré que l'expérience avait été "assez enrichissante": "Nous avons appris à mieux connaître le peuple yéménite et son mode de vie". "Sauf au début de notre séquestration, je n'ai jamais eu

vraiment peur. Après deux ou trois jours, nous avons compris que nos ravisseurs ne voulaient pas attenter à notre vie. Nous étions bien traités, bien nourris, et le climat s'est détendu. Par la suite, nous avons trouvé le temps un peu long, surtout quand la période du ramadan s'est rapprochée et que nous avons craint de devoir en attendre la fin avant de rentrer en France".

Un accord conclu avec les ravisseurs

Le ministre de l'Intérieur, Yahya Al-Moutawakil, a promis de traduire en justice les ravisseurs: "les ravisseurs n'ont pas encore été arrêtés. Ils seront jugés dès qu'ils seront livrés par la tribu" des Ahnoums. Le Président Saleh avait lui aussi averti les preneurs d'otages au Yémen qu'ils ne resteraient pas dans l'impunité. Les Ahnoums, qui en prenant en otages les trois touristes français voulaient

dénoncer la modification du tracé d'une route qui devait passer par leurs villages, auraient obtenu en partie ce qu'ils voulaient. Un accord a été conclu en vertu duquel le tracé initial de la route sera maintenu et une bretelle sera construite et asphaltée pour relier le territoire des Ahnoums à cette route.

Le mois sacré de Ramadan ne marquera pas une trêve dans les enlèvements. Trois techniciens chinois, travaillant sur un chantier au nord-est de Sanaa, ont été enlevés le jour de la libération des otages français. Les ravisseurs exigent que le gouvernement annule des peines capitales prononcées contre eux par un tribunal yéménite pour diverses affaires de meurtres et de banditisme. Les preneurs d'otages appartiendraient à la tribu des Khawlan, qui n'est pas à son coup d'essai en matière d'enlèvements. Jeudi 17 février, les otages chinois n'avaient toujours pas été libérés.

(avec AFP)

FRANCE

Visa de sortie

A partir du 1er avril, les Yéménites résidant en France devront demander un "visa de sortie" pour quitter le territoire français. Cet arrêté qui vient d'être pris par le ministre français de l'Intérieur Charles Pasqua concerne douze autres pays (Afghanistan, Arménie, Azerbaïdjan, République démocratique et populaire de Corée, Géorgie, Irak, Iran, Jordanie, Liban, Libye, Syrie, Soudan), ainsi que les Palestiniens.

Pays "sensibles"

Le ministre de l'Intérieur a précisé que cet arrêté "entre dans le cadre de la loi sur les conditions d'entrée et de séjour des étrangers en France, promulguée le 24 août 1993", ajoutant que les treize pays concernés sont considérés comme "sensibles". Cette instauration d'un "visa de sortie" du territoire français avait connu un précédent en 1986 lors de la première cohabitation entre un gouvernement de droite et le président socialiste François Mitterrand. Le 28 novembre 1986, une circulaire ministérielle avait rendu obligatoire dans le cadre de la lutte contre le terrorisme, un visa préfectoral de sortie pour certains étrangers. Six ans plus tard, en mai 1992, cette obligation avait été annulée par le Conseil d'Etat, la plus haute instance juridictionnelle française, devant qui une association de défense des travailleurs immigrés, le GISTI, avait produit un recours. Le Conseil d'Etat avait estimé que cette mesure constituait une restriction "à la liberté fondamentale d'aller et de venir, laquelle n'est pas limitée au territoire national, mais comporte également le droit de le quitter".

REFUGIES

L'école des oubliés de Bassatain

Quelques réfugiés somaliens du camp de Bassatain à Aden ont décidé de créer une école par leurs propres moyens. Un espoir dans ce bidonville qui se sent oublié par tous.

Les cahutes faites de tôles ondulées, de contreplaqué ou de cartons se serrent les unes contre les autres. Nous sommes à Bassatain, dans la banlieue d'Aden. Vingt-cinq mille personnes vivent dans le plus complet dénuement dans ce bidonville, un terrain vague qui se transforme en fournaise l'été et en cloaque à la saison des pluies. Elles ont échoué sur les plages d'Aden en août 1992, fuyant la guerre civile en Somalie. Beaucoup vivaient à Mogadiscio.

Quand ces réfugiés ont débarqué il y a deux ans, certains avaient un passeport yéménite, d'autres étaient capables de prouver que leurs grands-parents avaient cette nationalité. Les autorités du pays les ont considérées comme des compatriotes et ils ont pensé qu'elles allaient s'occuper d'eux. Aujourd'hui, les gens de Bassatain insistent pour affirmer qu'ils sont des "rapatriés", mais ils ont le sentiment d'être des citoyens de seconde zone.

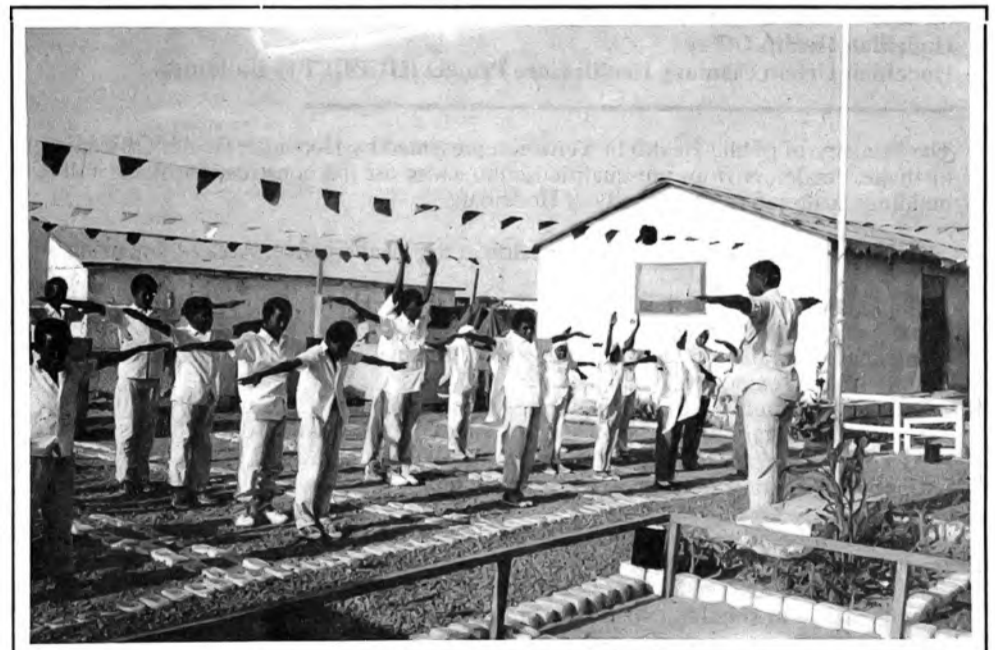
La plupart n'ont pas de travail

Deux ans après leur arrivée, ils se sentent oubliés de tous. Ils envient les réfugiés somaliens pris en charge par le Haut Commissariat aux Réfugiés (HCR). Ceux-ci vivent dans le camp d'Al-Koud, à soixante kilomètres d'Aden, dans le désert. Là-bas des arbres ont été plantés, une école en dur construite, un réseau de latrines et un système de distribution d'eau installés (voir article sur

le camp d'Al-Koud dans le Yemen Times daté du 1er août 1993). A Bassatain, il n'y a rien. La quasi-totalité des habitants est sans travail, quelqu'un seulement sont artisans ou mécaniciens. Les autres essaient de trouver de l'argent par-ci par-là. Le ministère yéménite des Affaires sociales a bien distribué des rations et donné un peu d'argent mais sans que cela ait de suite. Le gouvernement n'a pas un sou. Le Croissant Rouge yéménite et l'organisation humanitaire française, Médecins sans Frontières ont travaillé à Bassatain au début, depuis ils sont partis. Le dispensaire du camp est dirigé actuellement par les Frères musulmans.

Ne pas céder au désespoir

Pour ne pas céder au désespoir, trois de ces "rapatriés" ont décidé de créer par leurs propres moyens une école pour les enfants du camp. Ils l'ont ouverte en mai dernier. Dès le début, 300 enfants, entre 7 et 16 ans, encadrés par cinq enseignants, sont venus suivre des cours assis par terre à même le sol dans des bâtiments construits avec des matériaux de récupération. Les "murs" des salles de classe sont faits de sacs en toile cousus et recouverts d'une couche de peinture blanche. C'est une femme du camp, Fatmah Salah Saad qui s'est chargée de ce travail. Omar Ahmed Moubarak, le sous-directeur de l'école, est fier de montrer ce qu'ils ont



Education physique dans la cour de l'école.

réalisé avec Mohamed Ahmed Ali, aujourd'hui professeur d'Arts et d'Education physique. Depuis novembre dernier, l'organisation humanitaire suédoise, Radda Bärnen, soutient matériellement l'école. "Nous avons fourni les uniformes des enfants, les bancs et les tables, les livres et nous versons le salaire des professeurs", explique Amina A. Warsame, responsable du bureau de Radda Bärnen à Aden. Fabienne, une Française qui travaille pour l'organisation suédoise, se charge de rendre visite de temps en temps à l'école. Aujourd'hui, celle-ci accueille 670 enfants encadrés par dix-neuf enseignants. Sept salles de classe les reçoivent désormais, certaines en contreplaqué. Par manque de place, les enfants viennent soit le matin

soit l'après-midi. "Les élèves suivent les programmes yéménites et l'école est rattachée au ministère de l'Education yéménite", précise Omar, le sous-directeur.

La volonté de s'agrandir

En Somalie, il était le principal de l'Institut technique à Mogadiscio et il ne badine pas avec la discipline. Tous les jours, une classe est chargée de nettoyer les salles et la cour. D'autre part, un enfant dans chaque classe est désigné pour régler les conflits entre ses camarades. S'il n'y parvient pas, il doit en informer Omar. Dans la cour, le professeur d'Education physique montre à ses élèves les exercices à faire.

Derrière lui, accroché à un mat métallique, flotte un drapeau yéménite. Pour que chaque matin, les enfants se mettent en rang, les professeurs ont tracé des lignes jaunes avec des fonds de bidons d'huile découpés. Il y a quelques semaines, ils ont commencé à mettre en terre des plantes vertes, dont ils surveillent avec impatience la croissance.

"L'école n'est pas assez grande. Il y a près de 5000 enfants de un à 18 ans qui vivent à Bassatain", précise Amina. "Nous voulons ouvrir six nouvelles classes", renchérit Omar. Il est 16h30, il sort dans la cour et agite une clochette. Bruits de chaises qui grincent, de cahiers refermés. L'école est finie pour aujourd'hui.

J.B.

SANTE

La pharmacopée traditionnelle a de l'avenir au Yémen

Au cours des rencontres médicales franco-yéménites le mois dernier, le Dr. Jacques Fleurentin a fait un exposé sur les plantes médicinales employées par la médecine traditionnelle yéménite. A l'avenir, elles pourraient être exploitées de manière plus systématique.

Assis dans leurs boutiques du souk de Sanaa, les herboristes font face à de petits tiroirs en bois. De là, ils sortent les plantes nécessaires à soigner un mal de ventre, un mal de gorge, ou une autre maladie. Le tout pour quelques rials. Pour se soigner, les Yéménites font encore largement appel à la médecine traditionnelle. Dans les campagnes, elle est peu concurrencée par la médecine occidentale.

Une médecine à base de plantes

Dans les années 1980, selon l'OMS (Organisation mondiale de la santé), la médecine traditionnelle couvrait encore 80 % du territoire yéménite. C'est cette médecine à base de

plantes que le Dr. Jacques Fleurentin étudie depuis son premier voyage au Yémen en 1975. Il est actuellement président de la Société française d'Ethnopharmacologie et travaille au Laboratoire de biologie végétale et pharmacognosie à Metz en France.

Lors des rencontres médicales franco-yéménites à Taëz et à Sanaa le mois dernier, il a fait un exposé sur ses connaissances en la matière. Pendant deux ans et demi, de 1976 à 1978, il a vécu dans le pays, travaillant à la mission médicale de Taëz, où il a mis sur pied le laboratoire d'analyse médicale à l'hôpital républicain. Il en a rapporté un répertoire de 170 plantes médicinales utilisées ici. "La médecine yéménite tradition-

nelle a des relations étroites avec la médecine arabe ancienne. Plus de la moitié des plantes médicinales utilisées par les guérisseurs sont déjà mentionnées dans la médecine arabe classique", explique-t-il. Il existe dans tout le monde arabe une vingtaine de drogues végétales caractéristiques que l'on retrouve dans tous les pays soumis à l'influence de la littérature médicale arabe. "Cependant, plus d'un tiers de ces plantes n'existe qu'au Yémen", ajoute-t-il. Coincé entre le désert et la mer, le Yémen est isolé du reste de la péninsule arabique. La thérapeutique yéménite a pu ainsi évoluer de manière originale à partir du vieux fond gréco-arabe.

Herboristes et rebouteux

Pour découvrir ces plantes, Jacques Fleurentin est entré en contact avec les guérisseurs. Ceux-ci se divisent en deux catégories. Les premiers sont les héritiers de la médecine arabe classique. Ce sont des guérisseurs professionnels. Après l'interrogatoire et l'auscultation sommaire du malade, ils prescrivent des traitements. Ce métier se transmet de père en fils et l'apprentissage est très long. La deuxième catégorie comprend les guérisseurs qui utilisent des pratiques magico-religieuses. Ils chassent le mauvais oeil, prescrivent des amulettes. Il y a aussi les herboristes, les rebouteux, les accoucheuses traditionnelles.

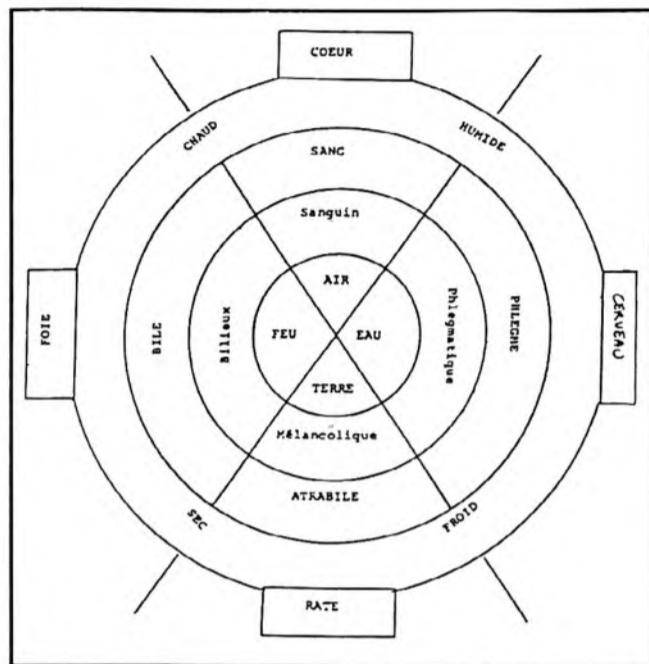
Jacques Fleurentin s'est intéressé à quelques plantes jamais étudiées jusque-là. Ainsi, la *Crepis ruellii*, "mourar" en arabe, qui permet de soigner les problèmes hépatiques. Jacques Fleurentin a effectué des tests chez le rat en essayant de savoir si cette plante stimu-

lait la sécrétion biliaire et si elle protégeait l'animal d'une hépatite expérimentale. L'extrait de plante a donné des résultats intéressants, de même que les tests sur une autre plante médicinale, l'*Anisotes trisulcus*, "madid" en arabe. Cette plante est utilisée contre les calculs rénaux, comme un diurétique et aussi contre les problèmes hépatiques. Ces deux plantes efficaces ne sont pas connues en Europe. Par contre, les guérisseurs yéménites n'utilisent pas ou peu l'eucalyptus, largement employé en Occident comme antiseptique pulmonaire.

Selon l'OMS, les médecines traditionnelles doivent être considérées comme un complément et non comme un compétiteur des médecines "occidentales". Valoriser les plantes médicinales est un objectif réalisable. "Il serait souhaitable que le Yémen mette en place son propre programme de recherches, plutôt que d'exporter ces plantes sous forme de matières premières", explique Jacques Fleurentin. Cela suppose la rédaction d'une pharmacopée nationale, dans laquelle l'ensemble des plantes médicinales yéménites seraient présentées avec leurs caractéristiques botaniques et chimiques, leurs propriétés pharmacologiques et leur mode d'emploi.

Un marché en progression

Ensuite, le Yémen pourrait récolter certaines plantes, avec une condition, "il faut qu'elles soient en quantité suffisante pour les exploiter. Il ne faut pas épuiser le biotope". A Sanaa, il existe déjà un laboratoire de pharmacognosie et un laboratoire de pharmacologie. Et semble-t-il de nombreux médecins au Yémen sont intéressés par la valorisation des



La médecine yéménite traditionnelle est très influencée par la médecine arabe classique. Ici, sont représentés, selon la médecine arabe classique, les organes du corps en relation avec les qualités, les humeurs, les tempéraments et les éléments (d'après Seyyed Hossein Nasr, 1976). La médecine arabe classique repose en effet sur la théorie humorale qui peut être résumée ainsi: les éléments sont au nombre de quatre: la Terre, l'Eau, l'Air et le Feu; le corps est composé de quatre humeurs: le sang, le phlegme, la bile et l'atrabile, et peuvent avoir plusieurs qualités: chaud, froid, sec ou humide. Les différentes combinaisons des éléments, des humeurs et des qualités caractérisent les organes d'un organisme et définissent son caractère et sa personnalité. La santé s'établit lorsque l'équilibre des quatre humeurs est atteint dans l'organisme.

plantes médicinales du pays. Le marché de la médecine par les plantes est prometteur. Il est en progression en Europe, notamment en Allemagne.

J.B.

Le premier colloque international sur la pharmacopée arabo-islamique se déroulera à Rabat, au Maroc, du 30 avril au 3 mai prochains. Pour tous renseignements: Société

française d'Ethnopharmacologie, 1 rue des Récollets 57 000 Metz, France ou à l'ambassade de France à Sanaa.

RECTIFICATIF: Contrairement à ce que nous avons écrit dans l'article consacré aux rencontres médicales franco-yéménites (Yemen Times daté du 23 janvier), le prénom du Dr. Viillard n'est pas Yvonne mais Yvette.

L'échographie

une technique en plein essor

De son expérience à la mission médicale française de Taëz de 1990 à 1991, Pascal Trotta a rapporté l'idée d'un sujet de thèse: l'échographie au Yémen. L'échographie est l'enregistrement au moyen d'ultrasons de la position de divers organes (coeur, foie...). Cette technique est notamment utilisée pour visualiser le développement et la taille d'un fœtus pendant la grossesse. Pascal Trotta a soutenu son mémoire en avril dernier en France et les rencontres médicales franco-yéménites qui se sont déroulées le mois dernier à Sanaa et à Taëz ont été l'occasion pour lui de présenter le résultat de ses recherches. "C'est le premier document publié sur l'utilisation de l'échographie pour les pathologies abdominales, gynécologiques et

obstétricales", fait-il remarquer.

L'échographie n'est utilisée au Yémen que depuis 1986 et cette technique est en plein essor. Les maladies tropicales les plus fréquentes, hépatites virales, cirrhoses et cancers du foie, sont facilement accessibles aux ultrasons, d'où une grande efficacité diagnostique. Simple, sans risque et peu coûteuse, cette technique ne nécessite pas une infrastructure lourde et onéreuse. Pascal Trotta a pu échographier 2000 patients. Selon lui, le Yémen est le paradis de l'échographie, "parce que les gens sont maigres et les pathologies évoluées". Les patients viennent en effet consulter très tard. Pascal a laissé des exemplaires de sa thèse à l'université de médecine de Sanaa et à l'hôpital Al-Thawrah.

HISTOIRE

La ville arabe traditionnelle

André Raymond, historien spécialiste renommé du monde arabe, est venu parler de la ville arabe traditionnelle au début de ce mois au Centre français d'études yéménites à Sanaa.

Selon lui, cette ville arabe n'est pas aussi anarchique qu'on veut bien le dire.

Ruelles étroites, culs de sac, maisons imbriquées les unes dans les autres, la vieille ville de Sanaa donne un sentiment d'inorganisation pour l'étranger qui la parcourt pour la première fois. Selon André Raymond, historien, ce sentiment d'anarchie se retrouve dans les autres villes arabes traditionnelles. Au cours d'une conférence qu'il a donné au début de ce mois au Centre français d'études yéménites à Sanaa, il a tenté de démontrer que cette anarchie n'est qu'apparente et que la ville arabe obéit à une certaine organisation.

Influences grecque et romaine

La ville arabe est la résultante d'influences variées. En premier, le climat. Les villes arabes méditerranéennes sont confrontées aux mêmes conditions naturelles. L'architecture des maisons répond au souci de se protéger de la chaleur. Autre exemple, la ville d'Alger, qui bénéficie de précipitations

élevées mais mal réparties dans l'année, est parsemée de citernes. Du point de vue historique, les Romains et les Grecs ont marqué de leur sceau l'organisation de certaines villes arabes. Le plan en damier des villes de Syrie et notamment de Damas est caractéristique de l'époque romaine. L'influence de l'Islam est bien sûr primordiale. Le Caire et Bagdad ont été fondées à cette époque. Ces grands centres de civilisation se sont développés autour des mosquées. L'Islam a apporté une conception de la vie sociale marquée par le souci de protéger la vie familiale. Les maisons se sont donc tournées vers l'intérieur.

André Raymond pense que l'on a tendance à décrire la ville arabe par son irrégularité. "Sans administrations, sans structures très visibles comme dans la ville antique, sans structures communales comme en Europe médiévale, la ville arabe traditionnelle est considérée comme une non-ville", explique-t-il. Il tient cependant

à contredire point par point cette idée. Il constate que les juges religieux, les qadis, ont joué un rôle important dans l'administration des villes, de même que les corporations de métiers. Les communautés religieuses minoritaires, tels que les juifs et les chrétiens, avaient leur propre organisation. Les quartiers ont joué un très grand rôle dans l'administration de la ville. Le quartier, c'est le plus souvent une rue principale qui se ramifie pour se terminer en impasses. Il s'administre de manière autonome et ressemble à une communauté villageoise. André Raymond fait aussi remarquer que les services publics existaient et fonctionnaient. L'eau à Alger était amenée par un aqueduc et le nettoyage de la ville était assuré.

Riches au centre, pauvres à l'extérieur

Loin d'être anarchique, la ville arabe traditionnelle est structurée de manière logique. Les fonctions économiques et rési-

dentielles étaient nettement séparées. Les souks, les caravansérails sont situés dans le centre de la ville. Certaines activités économiques telles que les tanneries, le commerce des grains sont installés à la périphérie de la ville. En ce qui concerne la résidence, on constate que les riches vivent au centre de la ville tandis que les pauvres sont à la périphérie. Contrairement à une idée romantique, les riches et les pauvres n'étaient pas mélangés. L'évolution des villes arabes traditionnelles s'est arrêtée au 19^{ème} siècle. Celles-ci n'ont pu s'adapter à des changements trop brutaux. Des villes modernes se sont donc construites à côté des vieilles villes.

Ouvrages publiés par André Raymond:

- *Grandes villes arabes à l'époque ottomane, Paris, Sindbad (ouvrage traduit en anglais et publié aux États-Unis).*
- *Le Caire, Paris, Fayard, 1993.*

En Bref

Un officier de police blessé dans le gouvernorat d'Al-Mahra: Un officier de police nordiste a été grièvement blessé par balles vendredi 11 février dans un attentat dans le gouvernorat d'Al-Mahra, limitrophe du sultanat d'Oman. Le colonel Yahya Al-Joubi, directeur de la police politique du gouvernorat a été touché par plusieurs balles et ses attaquants ont réussi à prendre la fuite. L'officier de police a été transporté à Sanaa où il a été admis dans un hôpital. Il assumait de hautes responsabilités au sein du CPG (Congrès populaire général), qui a accusé des "bandes sécessionnistes qui cherchent à empêcher le Yémen de sortir de la crise politique" d'avoir commis l'attentat.

Un vaccin contre le paludisme dans quatre ans: Une équipe internationale de chercheurs est en train de mettre au point un vaccin contre le paludisme qui pourrait être utilisé dans le monde d'ici à 1998. Les recherches ont été financées par l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS) et la Banque mondiale, et le vaccin est actuellement testé en Tanzanie. La lutte contre le paludisme est actuellement menée avec des insecticides pour éliminer les moustiques, vecteurs de la maladie. Le Dr. D.A. Henderson, immunologue et adjoint au ministre de la Santé des

Etats-Unis, a affirmé qu'"avec un vaccin efficace et des moyens financiers suffisants, la population de l'Afrique pourrait être immunisée à 80 % en 24 mois".

Réunion le 5 mars à Djeddah des ministres du Pétrole du CCG: Les ministres du Pétrole des pays du Conseil de Coopération du Golfe (CCG) (Arabie saoudite, Qatar, Emirats, Bahreïn, Koweït, Oman) doivent se réunir le 5 mars à Djeddah, en Arabie Saoudite, pour examiner les moyens de redresser les cours du brut. Cette rencontre se tiendrait avant la réunion ministérielle de l'OPEP, prévue le 25 mars à Genève et qui devrait procéder à une réduction de la production des pays membres de l'organisation, pour soutenir les cours.

Boeing et McDonnell gagnent un contrat de six milliards de dollars avec l'Arabie saoudite: Les constructeurs aéronautiques américains Boeing et McDonnell Douglas ont remporté un contrat de six milliards de dollars avec l'Arabie saoudite. Le consortium européen Airbus était aussi en lice pour cette commande de 60 avions de ligne, qui sera financée par des garanties de crédit de l'Eximbank américaine.



YEMEN PARTICIPATED IN TAEKWONDO

By: Sallah Aldin Abdulawal

Yemen participated in the Taekwondo championship which took place in Teheran, from during the period 6-7 February, 1994. The sports team was led by the chairman of the Yemeni General Union of Taekwondo Mr. Muwafak Mohammed Munasser. Captain Salem Al-Baidhaani was the Assistant coach in the championship. Yemen ranked second in the championship, between eight competing countries in the following order of results:

- 1) Iran - first
 - 2) Yemen - second
 - 3) Kuwait - third
- The other participating countries were, 4) Azerbaijan 5) Afghanistan 6) Lebanon, 7) Jordan 8) Pakistani
- It is notable that Yemen participated in 6 weights out of 8 weights and from participated with four

teams. The list of players had adhered the following results:

- 1) Abdulmalek Alwaan under 50 kgs - silver Medal.
- 2) Khaled Abdo Al-Araasi under 54 kgs - Bronze Medal.
- 3) Amror Mohammed Saeed under 58 kgs - Bronze Medal
- 4) Fuad Abdulrahman Al-Dobaee under 64 kgs - Bronze Medal
- 5) Ahmed Mohammed Al-Mutareb under 70 kgs
- 6) Saleh Saeed Ba-Nasser under 67 kgs

The results were counted by points the two international Referees. Captain Kamaal Oweidh Ba-Omar and Captain Khaled Maqbool Ghaleb who participated in this championship. Yemen also participated in the Asian championship in the Philippines which was held, during January 28-30, 1994 which registered a very positive results.

Continued from page 9

Creation Mythology:

The so-called Priestly account of Genesis describes the primordial state as a watery chaos enclosed in the darkness. In the Babylonian Enuma Elish, the body of Tiamat was used to create the heaven and earth. In the Genesis story, this was accomplished by God's spirit hovering over the deep.

Heaven and earth were created by God as the first act. In fact, the Quran explicitly states that originally these two domains were united and had to be ripped apart. This is reminiscent of the Sumerian creation stories and the second-millennium Hittite and Hurrian traditions from Anatolia, present-day Turkey. The Anatolian stories mention a magic knife that was used to sever heaven from earth.

According to the Priestly account, the creation of light followed that of heaven and earth. This is the same light that emanated from the primeval deities of the Enuma Elish and symbolized goodness in opposition to darkness. The dualism of good and evil, so prevalent in the Bible and Quran, is the basis of Zoroastrianism, known also in its later, enriched form as Zoroastrianism or Mazdism, which flourished in Persia and all the way into the Indian sub-continent. Here, the emphasis is on ethical dualism between asa (the truth) and drug (falsehood). The truth represented by Ahura Mazda, who estab-

lished his rule through the act of creation, is in continuous battle with the Destructive Spirit, Angra Mainyu, also called Ahriman.

In the Sumero-Babylonian tradition, in Genesis and the Quran, the creation process was a gradual one which took "seven days." The next step in the creation process was the creation of the firmament. According to the Priestly account, this happened on the second day.

The third day was reserved for the creation of dry land, with all the plants and fruit trees. This is also the order in which Marduk performed his creation. Then the heavenly bodies were made to shine and keep time. Finally, the act of creation was finished with the appearance of man. The God of Genesis and Quran finally rested on the seventh day, which he sanctified. The deities of Sumero-Babylonian tradition rested, too, and celebrated with a great feast.

The time of creation is not stated in the Sumero-Babylonian-Egyptian-Yemeni traditions. The Genesis and Quranic traditions ascribed seven days to the whole process. The Zoroastrians believed it took three thousand years. Modern science estimates it took billions. Perhaps the literal truth may never be known.

Other references to the

creation process were recorded in cuneiform, hieroglyphic and Sabaeen documents of the ancient Arabs. They are fragmentary, however, and often unclear. Even more deities involved in the act of creation are named. Although many texts were discovered in Mesopotamia, Phoenicia and Egypt, many more need to be discovered and understood. This specially true in prebiblical Syro-Palestine and Yemen. The persistent theme of water as a source of all life in all these traditions and beliefs cannot be missed. The struggle among the gods to control the waters may simply reflect this very fact which humanity has grasped from the very beginning - that water is the source of life.

This is represented by the cycle of myths associated with the gods of the Middle East. No wonder it should be like that. Ancient Egypt was the "Gift of the Nile," ancient Mesopotamia was the "Land Between the Two Rivers," and ancient Yemen was the product of the "Marib Dam which allowed the water to flow and on both banks of its two heavens sprang." Even among the ancient Greeks, a similar struggle was presented. This is clear in Homer's works and Hesiod's Theogony. In this tradition, the great Oceanus, termed by Homer a river but described as the eternal ocean, was the beginning of everything.

Was the tradition of the watery birth a philosophical concept evolved by Middle Easterners and then followed by others? Or did stories of the boundless waters of the oceans overpower earlier tales, in which life sprang up on the primordial hillocks? No matter what the answer is, water is still considered the prime mover, the ever-existent source of life that gave rise to all. It is the nourishing force whose origins are incomprehensible because it has neither beginning nor end.

In light of this, may we re-read the book of Genesis, which states:

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Now the earth was a formless void, there was darkness over the deep, and God's spirit hovered over the water."

We can similarly re-read the Quranic verse:

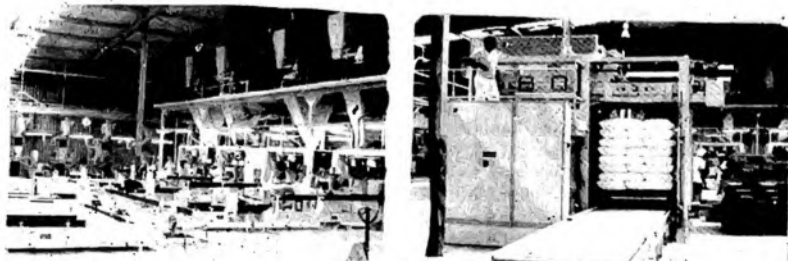
"Have not those who disbelieve seen how Heaven and Earth were one solid mass which We [Allah] ripped apart? We have made every living thing out of water."

By: Dr. Ewa Wasilewska, Professor of anthropology and archaeology specializing in the early civilizations of the Middle East. Dr. Wasilewska teaches at the University of Utah.



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صنعاء ت ٢٤٠٧٠٢، ٢٤٠٩٥٢ ت لكس ٢٧٨٠ ناخر بصر فاكسميل ٢٦٣٠٨٦ ص ب: ٢٥٢٨
الحدیدة ت ٣٢٢٤٦٠/٣ ت لكس ٥٦٦١ ابو حدة بصر فاكسميل ٢١١٥٥١ ص ب: ٤٠١٥
الخرطوم ت: ٧٤٦١٠ - ٧٤٦١١ - ٧٤٦١٢ ت لكس ٢٢٣٦٩ سبخان فاكسميل: ٧٤٥٦١ ص ب: ١٩٢٦
بورسودان ت ٢٦٣٠ - ٢٩٧٩ - ٢٠٠٧١ ت لكس ٧٠٠٧١ بر ص ب

Marketing Mechanisms and Morals

By Dr. Mazen
General Manager of Diwan



Economics has an important role to play in human affairs and it can be considered to be the basis of modern society, and lays the groundwork through its institutional manifestations, for the satisfaction of man's basic needs. Through a just and well delineated economic system, man can exercise freedom of choice, as well as discharge his responsibilities and duties towards the state in the conduct of economic affairs. The individual under such conditions of equity becomes accountable for the impact of his economic actions on society. Failing this, a state of chaos where duties and rights are unclear will prevail as is the case in most developing countries.

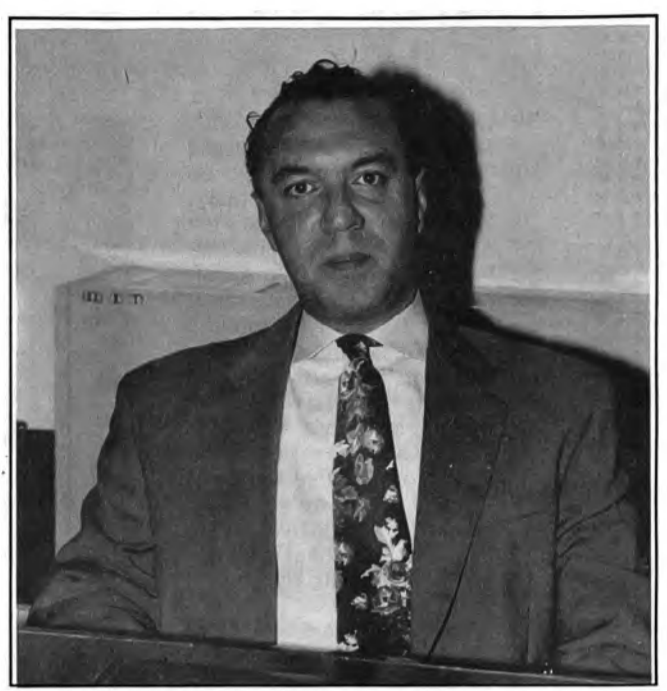
Throughout the history of contemporary Western Economics, the different economic systems have indicated that they have given the impetus to all kinds of development, including the social. Without a developed economic system, there can be no real development in the modern world. However, there are always moral implications which may sometimes be in direct contradiction to the successful implementation of some economic models. Let us take the example of one of the most popular systems in the present-day world, i.e., the market system, which relies primarily on the market mechanism for allocation and distribution of resources. The market system may be distinguished by its emphasis on unhindered individual freedom to pursue pecuniary self-interest, uncontrolled wealth accumulation in the hands of individuals, maximum production according to the law of supply and demand, and satisfaction of wants beyond the well-known basic needs, with total reins in the hands of market forces in determining the allocation and distribution of resources. There is no doubt that the market system led to a long period of prosperity, and high rates of economic growth in the countries that pursued this system. However, in spite of this unprecedented prosperity, poverty alleviation has remained an unfulfilled ideal as poverty belts exist side by side with affluence as a stark reminder of some of the shortcomings of modern economic systems that have ignored the ethical implications of the pursuit of purely economic goals. Inequalities in income and wealth distribution both at the national and global levels have increased rather than declined. Moreover, there has been a substantial degree of economic instability and unemployment, that have been contributory factors to political instability when the basic needs of the majority are not satisfied. One of the documented failures of modern Economics has been the results of the Structural Adjustment Programme of the IMF in its impact on the poor and its inability to alleviate poverty except perhaps in the very long run. For e.g., before the gulf crisis, Egypt, one of the arab countries which had adopted this policy, registered an increase in its national debt even after the debt adjustment with the U.S. Aid Package. Perhaps some may argue that

at least the programme has kept the debt steady instead of increasing considerably. In the case of Yemen, time will tell as to the impact of this fiscal policy on long-term economic development. The main reason behind the failure of these modern economic models, was the severe conflict between its instrumental goals and its world view and strategy. The goals made a claim to being humanitarian, but the world view and strategy were purely utilitarian. Market system recognizes individual freedom and its role in promoting efficiency. Reliance on merely the price mechanism as a filtering device may or may not help restore, an equilibrium between demand and supply. If it does succeed it does so primarily at the expense of the poor, who are unable to fulfill their needs at the resulting higher prices from limited means they have at their disposal. Their well-being thus suffers, and this surely has ethical implications, which makes its incumbent upon the policy makers to include a contingency clause to encounter this in the fiscal policy documents. It might also be worth considering the strategy of complementing the price mechanism in a market economy with some other device that would eliminate or at least minimize unnecessary claims on resources that leads to imbalances and serves as an impediment to satisfaction of basic needs of the poor. By introducing another filter, the allocation of resources is to be affected by a double layer of filters. The first filter attacks the problem of unlimited wants at the very source; which is the inner consciousness of individuals by changing the individual's preference scale, in order to bring it in line with the demands of both efficiency and equity, no doubt a difficult balance to strike, but all the more challenging for that reason. The moral filter does not permit the pursuit of material goals per se, and the satisfaction of wants beyond a reasonable degree. Market system assumes that self interest will induce an individual to maximize efficiency while competition will serve as a self-adjusting constraint on his self interest, thus helping to safeguard general social welfare. It is naively assumed that the classic problem of the clash of interests between the individual and the society will thus be automatically tackled through this market system. The serving of self interest by individuals is not necessarily bad, and competition is rather necessary for human development, as an economic system cannot be successful in realizing efficiency unless it allows individuals to serve their self interest. Serving self-interest becomes socially

destructive only if it crosses certain limits, and individuals are not willing to do things that need to be done for creating a society which has socio-economic equity as its central objective. Market economy, however, does not have an effective mechanism for motivating an individual to work in the interest of society unless the interest of society is served automatically through the serving of self-interest. Since the two interests are not necessarily compatible, reliance on the price system alone has made capitalism inequitable. As Alec Nove has rightly remarked, "societies concerned only with profit will fall to pieces, corruption in the literal and figurative sense can flourish where the making of money becomes the primary aspiration, the dominant criterion of success." The question is "what can be done to create a balance between self interest and social interest? Without risking oversimplification, the answer is quite simple! we should endeavour, wherever possible, to inject such a system with a moral element. In other words, we should create a balance between morality and self interest, and that would be through the education of society pertaining to economic phenomena, and their impact on individuals on the one hand. On the other hand, the State should assume the responsibility of introducing this moral element in the national economic policies, as well as impose controls that will regulate the flow of capital. Competition and market forces are no doubt indispensable for the valuable contribution they can make towards efficiency of the allocative machinery. But these must operate within the regulatory measures of the filter mechanism of moral values if the realization of social goals is to be ensured. Only within this framework, will competition be healthy and market forces be 'humane'. To keep the economic wheels running on this smooth track, and to prevent its diversion into serving the interests of the few who have powerful vested interests in the national economy, this encouragement of individual moral values, will lead to better socio-economic institutions that permit financial interventions that aim to create an equilibrium between resources and the satisfaction of the needs of the majority. The injection of a moral dimension into the consciousness of human beings and the pursuit of common goals helps in instilling the much needed harmony which is indispensable to national cohesion and social stability. The inability of the prevailing economic systems to provide even the basic material needs of the majority, whilst widening the gap between the rich and poor, and in most cases, merely introducing cosmetic changes at the surface structure, decidedly indicates the need for a re-valuation of the prevailing economic systems. Finally, who is capable of providing such a filter mechanism? Must a moral code have a divine origin and must it be backed by a belief in the individual's accountability to God? These are questions worth pondering over.

A New Image at the Sheraton

Francesco Borello, the new General Manager of the Sheraton Sana'a. Hotel, told the Yemen Times that there are many investments undertaken to present the hotel with a new image. "Over \$ 3.2 million are budgeted for 1994 to cover costs to renovate many of the rooms. A whole floor of executive rooms (with a new business service center), a new bar area and reception areas, and a face-lift of the coffee shop are the main features of the investments," he said. Another feature which the hotel management is trying to bring about is to emphasize the training, specially of the local manpower. "Service means good quality human power. This is our point of focus," Borello added. Borello, from Italy, has seen service in over a dozen countries including various parts of Europe, south-east Asia and the Middle East. He comes to Yemen from Sheraton Al-Gezira in Cairo. "A third feature we are pushing is better maintenance and technical support. We will have at the Sheraton the best safety and security systems. That is why we have a Chief Engineer on site, and he is charged with the improved of the whole system." Another aspect of the improvements has to do with the food being served "We



have a new executive chef in order to emphasize the quality of food. This is a top priority. "We are going to introduce a Middle East cuisine with a local touch. The Indian and Chinese Restaurants will be maintained. The Car Park arrangement will be improved and upgraded," he said. A final aspect of the new Sheraton image has to do with the Health Center. "We have a drive to increase membership, which is both exclusive and selective, to one thousand

persons. The health center will provide exceptional facilities," the Sheraton GM said. Immediately after Ramadhan, some of these improvements will already have been completed. More of the work will be completed later in the year. Sheraton is working to lead the hotel industry in Yemen. We are also working to promote Yemen as a tourist destination. Our Sales manager is going to Europe on a one-month trip for this purpose, Borello concluded.

PREQUALIFICATION NOTICE

Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Water & Electricity
National Water and Sanitation Authority
PROVINCIAL TOWNS PROJECT (PTP)
Water Supply and Sanitation.

The National Water and Sanitation Authority invites companies as general contractors to prequalify for the implementation of water supply and sewage systems in the republic of Yemen. The intended contracts will include the construction of civil works and the supply and installation of electric-mechanical works for the following contracts :

Contract No.1 - Tihama Area
Water supply systems for the towns of Mukha, Zabid, Bayt Al Faqih, Al Mansuriyah and Bajil, consisting of approx. 12 well pumping stations including electric/mechanical equipment, pump head up to 16 bar, Q up to 24 l/s, water transmission lines DCI pipe, PN 25, DN 150 mm to DN 250 mm, approx. Length 20 km, 4 elevated storage tanks 100 m³ to 200 m³, distribution networks, DCI pipes DN 65 mm to DN 200 mm, approx. 160 km, house connection lines DN 25 mm to DN 50 mm, approx. 50 km, house connections approx. 17000 nos., overhead power transmission lines 11 kva approx. 20 km, approx. 11 nos of transformers 25 to 160 KVA including switch gear.

Contract No.2 - Hadjah Town
Water supply and sewage system including sewage treatment plant for the town of Hadjah, consisting of 3 well pumps, pump head approx.300 m, Q up to 22 l/s, one well pump station including electric/mechanical equipment, one booster pumping station including electric/mechanical equipment, pump head approx. 370 m, Q= 3 x 22 l/s, water transmission line approx. 4 km length, DCI pipe DN 300 mm, PN 45, water distribution system DCI pipes DN 65 mm to DN 200 mm, approx. Length 60 km, house connection lines PE pipe DN 25 mm to DN 50 mm, approx. 18 km, house connections approx. 4500 nos., approx. 3 nos of transformers 250 KVA, sewage collection system approx. 28 km DCI pipes DN 100 mm to DN 200 mm and approx. 28 km UPVC pipes DN 150 mm to DN 300 mm, approx. 1000 manholes, approx. 4500 sewage house connections with inspection chambers, one sewage treatment plant complete for about 50,000 population equivalents comprising of screens, velocity channels, flumes, Imhof tanks, sludge drying beds about 4500 m², plus two smaller Imhof tanks in separate catchment areas of the town.

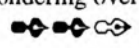
Financial assistance will be provided by the Federal Republic of Germany through Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau (KfW).

Companies with suitable experience in water supply and sewage systems as general contractors, who wish to take part in the tender must submit prequalification information on their companies and suppliers before 31. March 1994 on special questionnaires which may be obtained from 21. February 1994 onwards against a non-refundable fee of US\$ 100.00 per contract, by applying in writing to :-

GITEC-DORSCH CONSULT
Sana'a Office
off Al Mataar/Airport Street
Al Girafe Area
P.O.Box 8900
Sana'a Republic of Yemen
Tel. : +967-1-231-264 Fax: +967-1-233-933

OR

GITEC-DORSCH CONSULT
P.O.Box 32 04 46
40419 Dusseldorf, Federal Republic of Germany
Tel: +49-211-44-080 Fax: +49-211-44-08-204.



THE SUCCESSFUL LAUNCHING OF THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION

Dr. Abdulrahman Ba Fadle, Minister of Supply and Commerce, inaugurated on the 16th of February, Wednesday evening the First National Yemeni Industrial Exhibition which is scheduled to last until the 25th of Ramadan, (14th of March). The inauguration ceremonies was attended by Colonel Hussain Al-Maswary, the Mayor of Sanaa city, the chairman and members of Board of the Federation of Yemeni Chambers of Commerce and Industry, a large number of businessmen and industrialists, and a crowd of people.

Twenty eight Yemeni companies and manufacturers participate in the exhibition which is organized by the Apollo for International Exhibitions company.

On display were a wide variety of products, ranging foodstuffs, ready made garments, consumer supplies, cosmetics, plastic and rubber products, detergents, and many other goods.

Talking to the press after the opening ceremony, Dr. Ba Fadle expressed his satisfaction with the progress and development achieved by Yemeni industries. "In a relatively short time, our industries have made considerable progress. I hope that after satisfying the local market, they will start competing abroad," he said.

He also stressed the importance of promoting national industries especially those producing basic goods needed for daily consumption by the people. He then described the exhibition as a good opportunity to establish direct contact between manufacturers and consumers thus enabling the two sides to better understand each other.

to enable the people from obtaining some goods with a reasonable price, specially during the holy month of Ramadan, without the interference of middlemen who usually push the prices up and urged the organizers not sell goods but to individuals citizens and not to enable middlemen making use of this opportunity to inflate their pockets and warned that the ministry will never tolerate such an act.

The idea of the exhibition was born following a market analysis between Mr. Tofiq Al-Nihmy, the managing Director of Apollo Company, the organizer, and Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar, one of the rising businessmen of Yemen. Tofiq, who represented Yemen Airways in Dubai for some time, learned about the role of exhibitions in marketing and in opening new business frontiers. He brought that knowledge and experience to Yemen. That is how the First Yemeni Industrial Exhibition was born.

"In two months, we will be holding the First Arab Exhibition in Sanaa. Several countries including Jordan,



Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, and the United Arab Emirates have already decided to participate. We will try to expand inter-Arab trade and joint investment," Tofiq said.

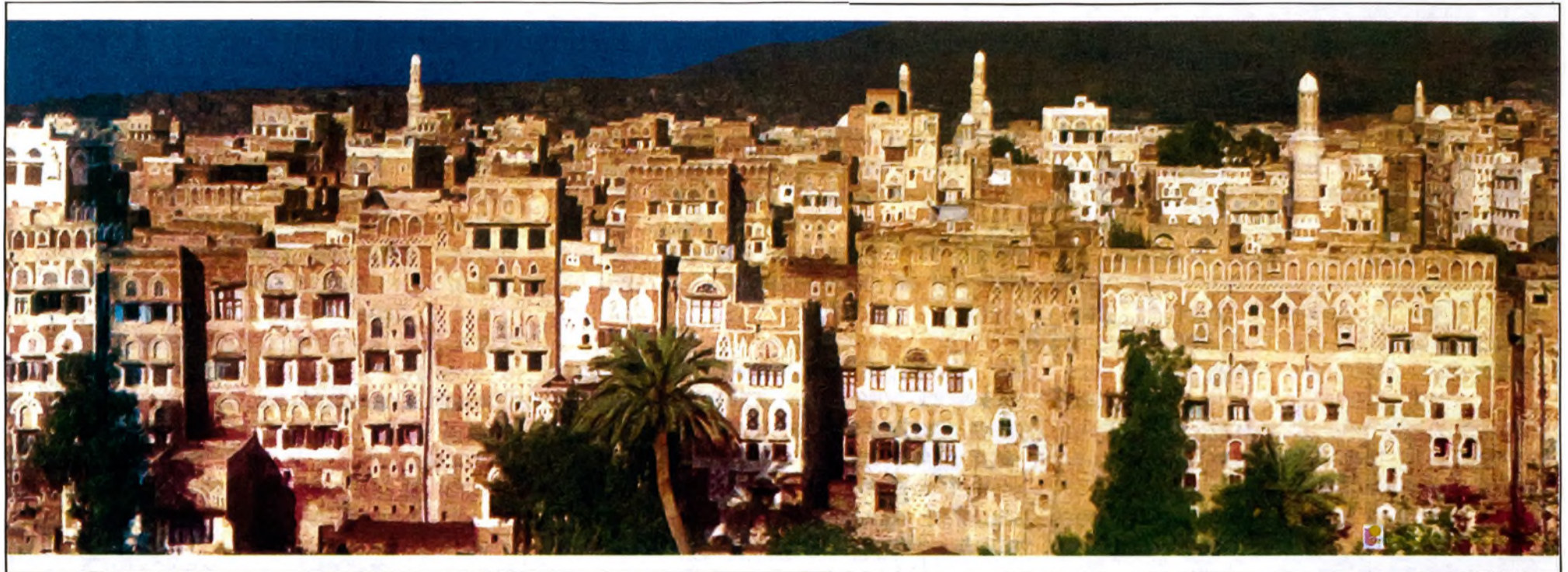
The company, which is also involved in oil field services as well as general trading, plans to build an 8000 square meter exhibition center in Sanaa, and a 14,000 square meters exhibition center in Aden. "We also plan to hold exhibitions in regional urban centers such as Taiz, Mukalla and Hodeidah," Mr. Al-Nihmy added.

In the First Yemeni Industrial Exhibition, 32 companies and industries are participating. They are:

1. Yemen Economic corporation (YECO)
2. Hayel Saeed Anaam Group
3. Saladdin Industrial Group
4. The Yemen Company for Plastic and Leather Products
5. The Alsi-Cola Mineral Waters Company
6. Sana'a Plastic and Aluminium Company
7. National Tobacco and Match Company
8. Yemen Fine Industry limited
9. Al-Taj Shoes Factory
10. Al-Fajer Ajadeed Dress Designs Factory
11. Honey Center
12. Al-Tamimi Factory For Perfumes and Cosmetics Appliances
13. National Refreshments Company Limited
14. Mareb Poultry Company
15. Al-Shihab Agencies for Trade and Insurance
16. Security and Safety Company
17. Al-Nasim for Trading
18. Al-Ward for Trading
19. The Yemen Company for Socks and Textile Industries
20. Qassim Hussein Al-Mashdali Corporation
21. The Yemeni Company for Detergents and Soap
22. Horizon for Printing and Publication
23. Society of Consumers for State Employees/ Public and Mixed
24. The General Corporation for Foreign Trade and Cereals
25. Technical Company for Skin Industries
26. Al-Akhawain Company for Food Products
27. Aden Company for Plastic Materials
28. Arwa for Tailoring and Design
29. Al-Thawra Industrial Group
30. Ateif for Skin and Shoes Industries
31. Al-Thawr Trading Company
32. Tele-Yemen Mobile



Sanaa, a Legendary Town



Sanaa, throughout the ages, has remained the cradle of civilization which gave the impetus to the Yemeni to interact positively with his surroundings.

Sanaa's beauty lies in its architectural/archaeological originality whether before the advent of Islam and during the zenith of the Islamic era which reflects itself in the intricate architectural designs in the Mosques.

Sanaa is regarded to

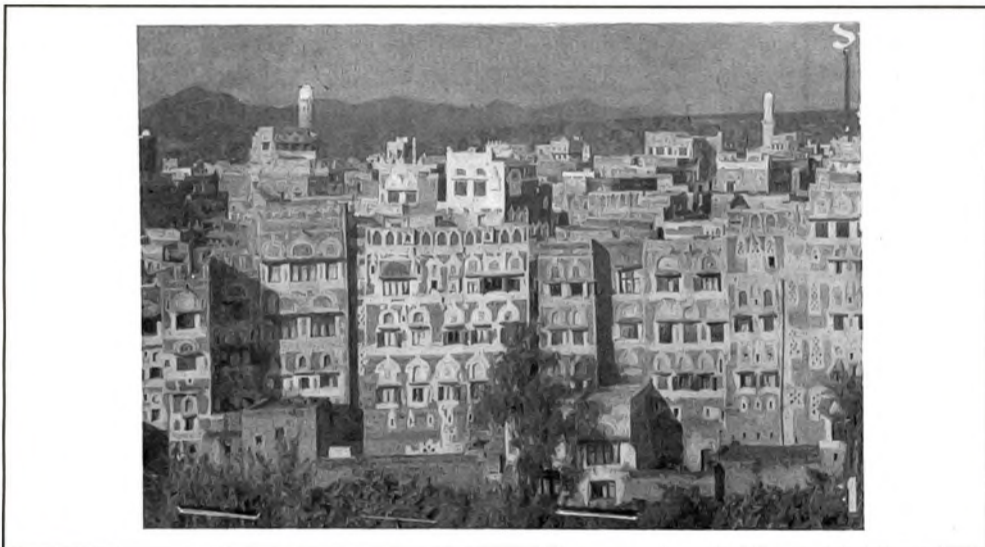
throughout history. Legend has it that Sam came to Yemen from the North seeking a place to settle and chose Sanaa which was pointed out to him by a bird. The town still bears the legendary name of Sam-City. The city, two thousand years ago was also known as the "The City of Azal".

It is noteworthy that all Arab tribes trace their origins to Qahtan, the forefather of all the Arabs, who is known to originate from

King Shar Awtar who, in the late 2nd century A.D. built a wall around the palace of Ghamdaan.

Sanaa literally means a "fortified city" which explains its geographical structure of being surrounded by mountains. When Dhofar lost its prominence as the capital of the Himyarite Kingdom, Sanaa came into existence as the capital.

The Grand Mosque of Sanaa (Al-Masjeed Al-



be one of the biggest open-air Museums in the world. For more than 1500 years, it was a legendary town and to date, it has retained this characteristic as the old lives alongside the expanding modern suburbs.

According to Yemeni folklore Sanaa was founded by Noah's Sam (It is referred to in some old manuscripts as the City of Sam) and is regarded to be one of the first sites of human settlement

Yemen. During the Sabeen and Himyarite reign, there was a huge palace somewhere in or near present day Sanaa, referred to as "Ghamdaan Palace" believed to have been twenty storeys high with bronze lions guarding each corner. In the 10th century, A.D. the famous Yemeni historian, "Al-Hamaani" reported on the developments in Yemen some 800 years before his time. According to his account, it was the Sabeen

Kabeer) was built around 630 A.D. in the early stages when Islam came to Yemen during the lifetime of the Prophet Mohammed. The Mosque was built in a strictly Islamic style with infusions of Yemeni architecture and calligraphic inscriptions dominate the inner structure with a very ornate "Mihraab". In subsequent centuries, Sanaa often served as a capital either for a part or the whole of Yemen at different periods.



RECTIFICATION

In last week's interview with Ethiopian President Melles Zenawi, Yemen Times mentioned he did his higher studies in the capital Sana'a. The President did his higher studies in the capital, Addis Ababa.

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Ethiopia's Oldest & Largest Foreign Community: The Yemenis

Pictures from the Yemeni Community

Political Slogans on Unity and Building a Future: Borrowed from Yemen



Kids of the Yemeni-Ethiopian Community: The Future Bridge of the Red Sea



Geologically, Yemen and Ethiopia were one land-mass. They were separated by the Great Rift which stretches from Tanzania and Uganda northwards through the Red Sea All the way to the Levant, cutting through Palestine. Actually as the Red Sea annually expands by a centimeter or two, Yemen is drifting away from the African continent. Similarly, relations between Yemen and Ethiopia have been exceptionally strong. They go back to thousands of years, during the Sabaeen civilization, which is claimed by both sides. Actually, archaeological discoveries have shown that the two sides of the Red Sea have once formed one state, specially in the millenium before Jesus Christ. Around the mid-seventh century AD, Ethiopian forces conquered Yemen for a short while, thus creating a unified empire in the lower Red Sea, one more time. This was brought to an end when Saif Bin Dhi Yazan successfully dislodged the Ethiopian forces. Since then, the two sides forged their separate entities, although still engaging in extensive commercial and cultural exchange. The last wave of population movement towards Ethiopia came in the late 19th century and early 20th century when a wave of yemenis immigrated to Ethiopia. Today, the number of Yemenis associated with Ethiopia - the original migrants and their descendants - exceed one million persons. The majority of these are now back in Yemen. But a significant Yemeni community remains in Ethiopia.

"We are the oldest and still the largest foreign community in Ethiopia," says Mr. Awadh Said Ba-Aamer, Chairman of the Ethiopian Community in Ethiopia, well aware of the wave of returnees to Yemen. In Addis Abeba alone, there are some 5000 families that are yemenis or of Yemeni extract alone. "We are different from most of the other foreign communities - whether Italians, Armenians, or even from other African countries. We associate with the local people, inter-marry, and identify," he said. Even then, the Yemeni Ethiopians are really a bridge that brings Yemen and Ethiopia together. They are an extremely important asset for the two sides in their efforts to strengthen their economic cooperation and bilateral relations.

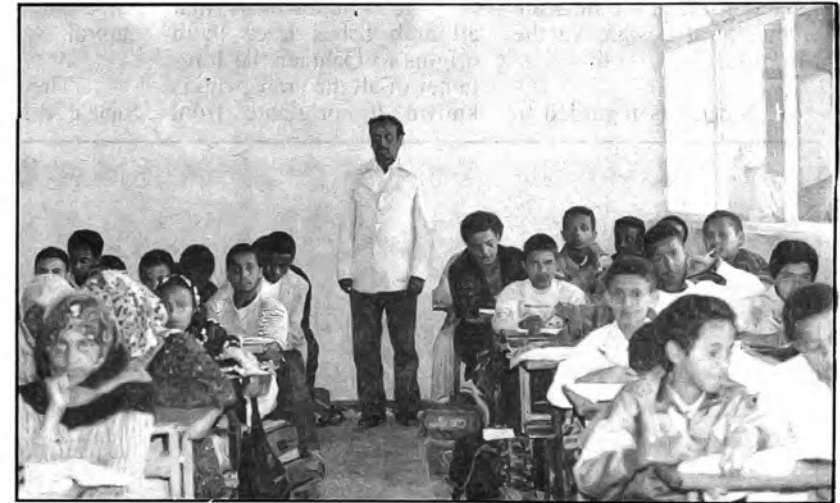
Most of the Yemeni Ethiopians are businessmen. They are into trade and industrial ventures. In addition, Yemeni Ethiopians have succeeded in encouraging Yemeni investors to go to Ethiopia and invest there, thus creating a new lifeline between the two sides.

There are over 62 new investments by Yemenis in Ethiopia, just over the last two years. Many are in industries, others are in tourism, hotels, and commercial enterprise.

The Yemeni Community school in Addis Abeba boasts the enrollment of some 1000 children. "We teach the Yemeni as well as the Ethiopia curricula," explained Mr. Abdul-Bari A. Al-Dhamari, seconded to the school by the Yemeni Education Ministry. He and six others are there to make sure the curricula and educational format coincide with the system in Yemen because the school is accredited by the Yemeni authorities.

The overwhelming aspect of the Yemeni community in Ethiopia is their worries over the crisis in Yemen. "We are dead scared what could befall our country," stated Mr. , himself a prominent businessman.

Pictures from the Yemeni Community's School



NOTE: The numbers of many quarters/zones of Sanaa have been changed. Your number may have also changed. If the number next to your company/embassy is wrong, please call us (268-661/2) for a correction.

IMPORTANT Numbers

EMBASSIES & Consulates

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Emergency Police | 199 |
| Accident (Traffic) | 194 |
| Fire Brigade | 191 |
| Water Problems | 171 |
| Electricity Problems | 177 |
| Telephone Enquiries | 118 |
| Aljumbury Hospital | 202192/3 |
| Athawra Hospital | 246970/9 |
| Kuwait Hospital | 203282/4 |
| Red Crescent | 203131/3 |
| 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 |

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| 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 |

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| 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. | 01-272890-2 |
| Aman Insurance Co. | 01-209452 |

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| 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 |
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| Ethiopia | 208833 |
| France | 275995/7 |
| Germany | 216756/757, 266873/4 |
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| Indonesia | 217388 |
| Iran | 243439/40 |
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| Pakistan | 248813/14 |
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| Saudi Arabia | 240429/30 |
| Somalia | 208864 |
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| U.S.A. | 238842/52 |
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| 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 |

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| 3. International Organizations: | |
| FAO | 207331/607 |
| UNDP | 215505 |
| UNHCR | 204963 |
| UNICEF | 231256/78 |
| WHO | 252213/204 |

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| 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 |
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| Palestine | 232340/232717 |
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| Saudi Arabia | 232760/32526 |
| Slovak | 233630/232101 |
| Somalia | 241421/101 |
| U.K. | 232711/12/13. |
| FAO Branch | 233722/232146 |

AIR LINES

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| Air France | 272895/6 |
| Air India | 272544 |
| Alitalia | 273655 |
| Alyemda (HO, Aden) | 231339 |
| Alyemda (Sana'a) | 203637 |
| Austrian Airlines | 272432 |
| British Airways (Sanaa) | 248151/2 |
| British Airways (Aden) | 243475 |
| Cathay Pacific | 271803 |
| Egypt Air | 275061 |
| Ethiopian Airlines | 272437 |
| Gulf Air | 272551/49/677 |
| Iraqi Airlines | 240091/240909 |
| KLM | 278747 |
| 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 |

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| Universal Travel | 275028-30 |
| Bazara Travel/Tourism | 78093/270879 |
| Ilias I. T. T. | 273338/275554 |
| Al-Nasim Travel | 270750 |

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| Yemenia Branches: | |
| Abdul-Mughni | 274803/4 |
| Haddah | 204538/550 |
| Shauob | 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

| | |
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| Sana'a (01) | |
| Sheraton | 237500/1/2 |
| Taj Sheba | 272372/3 |

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| Aden (02) | |
| Movenpick | 232911 |
| Gold Mohur | 221158 |

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| Hodeidah (03) | |
| Bristol | 239197 |
| Ambassador | 231247/50 |
| Al Burj | 75852 |

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| Taiz (04) | |
| The Plaza Hotel | 220224/26 |
| Mareb | 210350 |
| Yazan | 217997 |

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| Marib (063) | |
| Biquis Marib | 2666-2371 |

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|--------------------|-----------|
| Sadah (051) | |
| Al Mamoon | 2203/2459 |

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|-----------------------|------|
| Mukalla (0952) | |
| Hadhramaut | 2060 |

WHO URGES BETTER PALLIATIVE CARE FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL

With five million people a year worldwide dying from cancer, and nine million others developing the disease, providing palliative care for them is of increasing importance, according to the World Health Organization. The First International Congress on Palliative Care, which opened in Madrid on 9 February, indicates growing global recognition of the need for care and treatment of those dying from cancer and other incurable diseases.

"We ought to give those who are to leave life the same care and attention that we give to those who enter life, the newborns," said Dr. Jan Stjernswärd, chief of WHO's Cancer and Palliative Care unit, who was one of the main speakers at the Madrid meeting, which ended 12 February.

The congress brought together doctors, nurses, researchers and specialists from many countries, particularly in Europe and Central and Latin America, who discussed subjects such as pain control, symptom relief, palliative care for children, and psycho-emotional support for patients and relatives.

WHO experts point out that the need for palliative care will increase, due to a combination of factors including ageing of the world population, increases in cancer deaths related to tobacco use, and the spread of AIDS.

"By using the vast amount of knowledge available in the field of palliative care, the quality of life of the terminally ill can be significantly improved," said Dr. Stjernswärd.

The involvement of family members in palliative care is essential in the many countries where there are few, if any, cancer specialists. For example, in sub-Saharan Africa, with the exception of South Africa, there are fewer than 75 cancer specialists for a population of more than 300 million. Morphine is an essential drug in pain control, but there are at least 50 countries where the drug is not available. Twenty seven of these countries are in Africa, and nine in the Americas.

In developing countries, eight or nine out of

every ten patients with incurable cancer do not receive efficient palliative care. At least 80 per cent of these patients are already incurable by the time their disease is diagnosed, but little effort and money is spent on their terminal care.

"Almost all efforts and resources in the developing countries go to therapeutic approaches," Dr. Stjernswärd said. "A striking fact often seen in these countries is the almost complete lack of effort and resources for palliative care."

WHO's Global Cancer control Program has made this a priority and has made support available to countries that want to implement the existing knowledge in cancer control, by setting up national cancer control programs.

"Globally, palliative care is a neglected area. The need today is enormous and will increase dramatically in the near future," said Dr. Stjernswärd. "The size of the problem must be made clear to individuals and to society, especially policy-makers and the medical profession."

A WHO expert committee on the relief of cancer pain and palliative care has made recommendations to countries, including the establishment of national policies and programs for palliative care, the training of health care workers in the subject, and support for families involved in home care of their relatives.

Since WHO launched a simple, inexpensive method for controlling pain - the "three-step analgesic ladder" - in the mid-1980s, there has been remarkable progress, with 48 countries developing such policies.

"Implementation of all our recommendations could have a major impact on the quality of life of cancer patients, but will require strong political motivation and leadership, and can be undertaken without very high expenditure," Dr. Stjernswärd said.

For further information contact Dr. Stjernswärd, Chief Cancer and Palliative Care Unit, WHO, Geneva. Telephone: (14-22) 791-3477

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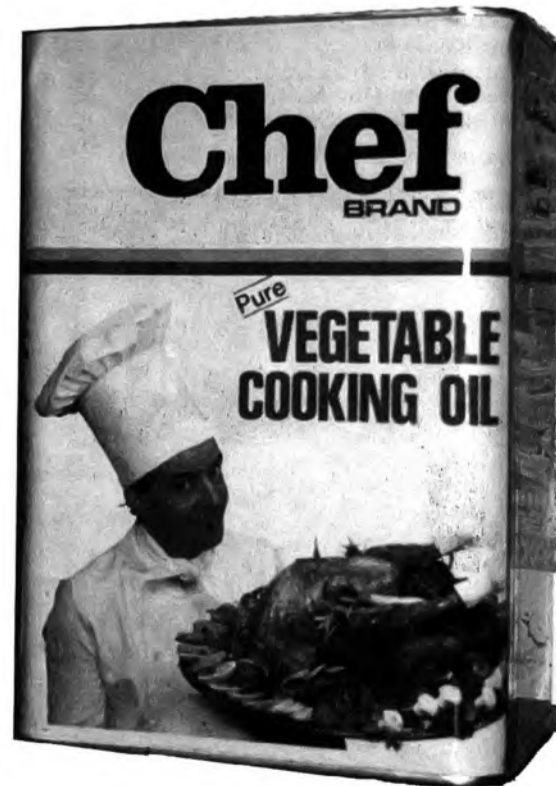
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Dr. Yasseen Saeed Noman:

"The 18th January resolutions are one whole unit and can't be parcelled."

Dr. Yasseen Saeed Noman, Chairman of the Secretariat of the Yemeni Socialist Party, insisted that the resolutions of the 18th January Document released by the Dialogue Committee represent one whole unit and cannot be treated in parcels or segments, even if the implementation is prioritized and scheduled as called for by the document itself. In an exclusive interview with the Aden Bureau Chief of the Yemen Times, Mr. Shaher Musa'abain, just prior to the departure of the YSP delegation for the ratification of the document in Amman, Dr. Noman said he expected all sides to attend and "no will be absent."



Dr. Noman is one of the few senior politicians of Yemen who are held at high esteem by the general public, and who are "acceptable" in most circles.

"The reforms required by the document are not only politically expedient, but they are needed for the very survival of the nation," he said.

"We in the YSP put our souls and hearts in the drive to bring modernization and progress to the country. In spite of the fact that the Dialogue Committee has not finished its agenda on the guarantees, we will go ahead with the ratification and start implementing the resolutions. We want to prove our good intentions, and our desire to overcome the past difficulties," he said.

"The YSP will never go against the national consensus that has evolved," he concluded.

Read full interview on p. 11



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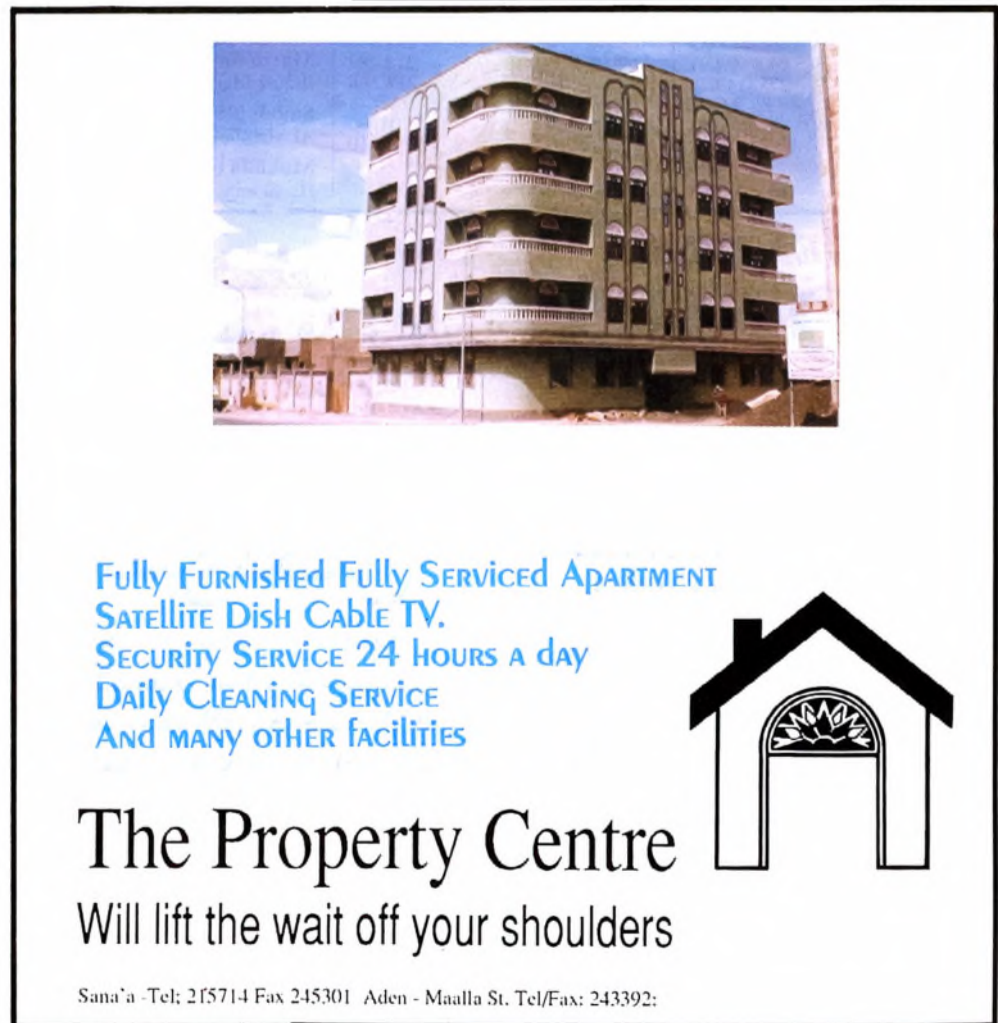
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