



YEMEN TIMES

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The Normalization Process Is Marred by Incidents:

A Showdown in Aden

By: Shaher Musa'bain,
Aden Office, Yemen Times.

"What is the cost of developing this film?" I asked the camera shop keeper in Khormaksar. "Two hundred and thirty riyals," the man answered. "Two kilos for only fifty riyals" the little boy was shouting announcing the low price to the grapes he was selling. That is in downtown Crater.

"That will be sixty riyals," demanded the Sheikh Othman taxi driver after he dropped me at the Yemen Times Mansoura office.

All over Aden, it is riyals. No more dinars.

Today is Monday September 5th. It is exactly sixty days since the secessionists fled from Aden and the government forces entered the city. The healing process has been rapid, yet marred with violence and many irregularities.

The normalization process is going on due to the ability of the people of Aden to a positive attitude towards the new situation, and in spite of the forceful acculturation efforts by the zealous circles and militia groups. This has left behind a lot of ill-feeling and violence.

The main bone of contention in Aden these days is the socio-cultural transformation. Aden, a city with a liberal life-style, is being forced to undergo an acculturation process that makes it more conservative and traditional.

"You can see it all over town," a Tawahi man said pointing to the compulsory new lifestyle. One aspect of this is that more women are veiled in today's Aden than at any time in the modern history of the city. With men, the symbol is the beard. There are more bearded men, and there are more people

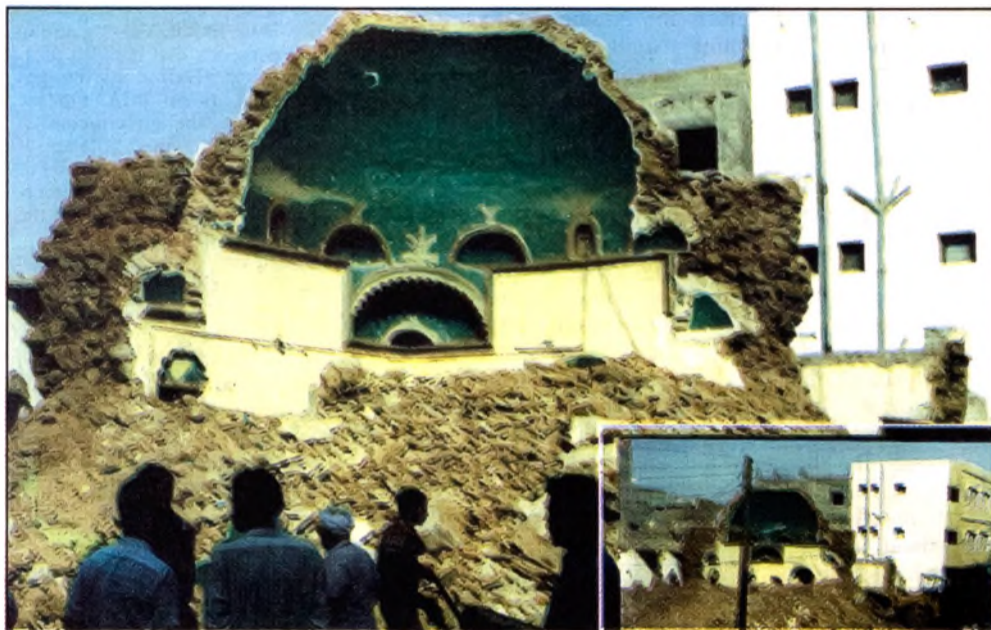
in mosques. The open wining and dining of the past is no more tolerated.

A second aspect of the transformation has to do with the traditional cultural and social functions. Mixed dancing (men and women) is not acceptable any more. In fact, female singers feel they are at risk of performing to the public. A famous local singer, Amal Koo'dul, had to receive firm assurances from Colonel Hussain Al-Radhi, Assistant Deputy Interior Minister and Aden's Security Boss, before she would agree to sing in a wedding, last week. "I had to pledge my honor on the line to make her do it. We want people to feel confident and go back to their normal lives," he told the Yemen Times.

A third aspect is related to religious beliefs. The orthodox Islamicists accuse some of the people of Aden of heretic and superstitious behavior. "They perform rituals at tombs and shrines. This is blasphemous," explained one of the leaders of Abul-Walid Mujahideen Group. The answer is to forcefully stop the people, even if it takes destroying the domes and shrines associated with mosques.

The Islamicists destroyed two of Aden's most famous shrines early this week. On Friday morning, they destroyed the Al-Hashimi Shrine in Sheikh Othman. On Saturday, they destroyed the Al-Aidaroos Shrine in Crater. They forcefully emptied the mosques from the people, and fired bazooka shots and destroyed the domes, minaret and walls of the mosques. The picture above shows the destruction of the Al-Hashimi mosque.

This has triggered a violent confrontation between the armed militias on the one hand,



The destruction of the dome and walls of the Hashimi Mosque in Sheikh Othman, Aden

and the government troops and citizens on the other. Several persons are reported dead and injured. Colonel H. Al-Radhi stressed that the situation is back under control.

Meanwhile, a Zimex airplane was blown up while on the runway at Aden Airport. The incident is being investigated.

The people of Aden are fuming with anger and frustration at these developments, specially the compulsory acculturation process. "We are Muslims, and in fact better Muslims than these people. Yes, we have some shrines of holy men and we respect them, that is all," said one man in Aden.

The governor of Aden said that he has started an inquiry to determine who was behind the incidents. That is mildly stating the fact that the government forces have almost up-rooted the "trouble-makers."

The 1000th Car Prize

NATCO, a company representing Ford cars in Yemen, has announced that the 1000th purchaser will be the lucky recipient of a free car. "We have already sold some 700 Ford cars, and we hope to arrive at the 1000th mark soon. Let us hope it will happen during the exhibition of Ford cars later this month," explained Mr. Ali Saif Hassan, Coordinator of the upcoming Ford exhibition.

The exhibition, which carries the theme of "Buy American" is aimed at showing the quality of American products, notably the ones represented by NATCO. One of the strong points of Ford cars is the immediate availability of spare parts and maintenance. "In addition to our central workshop in Sanaa, we are now in the process of choosing good mechanics and repair people in Hodeidah, Taiz and Aden and to train them on repair of Ford cars. Before the year is out, these people will render their services to Ford drivers all over the country," he said.

Al-Ayyam Newspaper: Another Weekly Is Troubled

The Al-Ayyam newspaper, owned and managed by the Ba-Shraheel family, is one of the most respected weeklies of this country. Today, it is being harassed by the authorities.

"We are trying to print the newspaper, but we constantly come against major blocks," Mr. Hisham Ba-Shraheel, the Chief Editor, disclosed to Yemen Times.

The paper was being printed by the 14th October Corporation in Aden. Since the war broke out, only two issues of the paper came out, and under strenuous conditions. According to observers, the paper could not please the secessionists who were in control of Aden during the war, and it is unable to please the authorities today. The reason is simple. The paper is independent and does not allow itself to become the mouthpiece of any party or political group.

In the past, the way to stay out of trouble was to simply avoid reporting on issues that were too sensitive to either side. If it did report a story for one side, the paper would work overtime

to find something equal from the other side to report.

The 14th October Corporation people, when approached by the Yemen Times on the matter, said their machines were old and that they could barely produce their own newspaper. But later, they printed another newspaper, Al-Zaman.

When pressed on the matter, the 14th October officials claimed they needed a clearance from the Ministry of Information. "A clearance for what?" asked an agitated Tammam Ba-Shraheel, the Managing Editor.

What is happening to Al-Ayyam newspaper is not helping freedom of the press in the country, and says very little regarding the tolerance of the authorities for an independent voice. It also does little to allow the normalization of conditions in Aden. Al-Ayyam, it will be noted, is not only one of the largest newspapers of Yemen, it is also the dominant newspaper of Aden city.

Yemen Times pleads with the authorities to let Al-Ayyam come out.

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OUR
VIEWPOINTInfisaliyeen and
Attaboor Al-Khamis:
Recipe for Trouble

President Ali Abdullah Saleh has several times referred to the "infisaliyeen wal taboor al-khamis" in his public speeches. Infisaliyeen means secessionists, and attaboor al-khamis is the Arabic version of the "fifth column", meaning "traitors". The president repeatedly mentioned "those people who want to steal our victory" in a clear reference to those individuals who are not wholeheartedly applauding.

The government newspapers have written extensively about the traitors from within. Many "journalists" have urged the government to take stiff measures against those who do not toe the line. The environment created in Yemen today by all those speeches and accusations is one of intimidation and tension. Many decent citizens worry they could be branded as infisaliyeen and taboor khamis. As a result they live through a lot of anxiety, fear and doubt.

First of all, the accusations are neither concrete nor specific. They are highly loaded with politics. Second, The society is fed with a lot of wrong information, as if it is being prepared to accept the punishment when the regime acts against those not totally obedient.

Third, the environment of fear that prevails makes many of the independent-minded people hasten to pledge loyalty and allegiance. Some people even go way out of their way to announce their support for our righteous leadership.

What actually happens, however, is that while people may at the surface pledge loyalty and support, they burn inside and despise themselves for having cowed under, and then start hating the regime and people who have made them do that. In other words, a large segment of the population develops schizophrenic attitudes.

Why does this need to happen?

The country needs a healthy population that can think clearly and behave decently and correctly. The country needs to gradually normalize the conditions and lifestyle. Accusations of treason and other similarly serious wordings are nothing more than scare tactics to intimidate everybody. This is unfortunate because the only group that thrives under such circumstances is the political security people who use such accusations freely and randomly.

The normalization process calls for less accusations to be handed over, specially not by the president of the republic. Most Yemenis are willing to work for the welfare and progress of their country, provided they are neither harassed nor penalized. Will our officials listen and will they see light? Will they realize that strong citizens build strong nations and that weak citizens only yield weak countries. At a time when the challenges that face Yemen are increasingly of a regional and external nature, the system should work to help make the citizens strong and assertive, rather than weak and submissive.

The Publisher
S. S. S.

Ray Hunt & Karl
Swenson Conclude Visit

Mr. Ray Hunt, owner of Hunt Oil Company in Dallas and Chairman of the Yemen Hunt Oil Company, and Karl Swenson, General Manager of Exxon, and the accompanying delegation left Yemen on Wednesday, August 31st, at the end of a three-day visit to Yemen. They pushed hard for a deal with the Hunt/Exxon/Yukong group on the exploitation of the 13 trillion cubic feet of gas discovered in the Marib/Al-Jawf region. They received no concrete answer.

Competing for the same deal is Enron. Both companies contend they are offering a better deal to the Yemeni side.

The Hunt/Exxon/Yukong group also contends that it has a preferential legal right to the gas based on its oil PSA. On the other hand, the government of Yemen has signed a letter of intent with Enron on the basis of which four detailed contracts are to be worked out before the end of the year.

All sides agree a decision on the matter is urgently needed, if at least for marketing reasons.

Abdulghani Honors
Algerian Medical Team

On the occasion of the completion of their mission in Yemen, the Algerian medical team was received by Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, Member of the Presidential Council and Assistant Secretary-General of the People's General Congress. The Algerian team left earlier this week after helping attend to the Yemeni soldiers and citizens injured during the war.

German Citizens Donate
DM 22,000

The members of the German-Yemeni Society (GYS), some 700 strong, have made a financial contribution to help alleviate the suffering of the Yemeni people after the war. The total contribution was for DM 22,000 which was made out in favor of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Mr. Peter Wald, Member of the Board of the GYS hand-delivered the check to Mr. Yves Daccord, the Head of the ICRC Mission in Yemen. The occasion was attended by the visiting parliamentary delegation, as well as by Mr. Eberhard Schanze, German Charge d'Affair in Sanaa.

Leading members of the Yemen-German Friendship Association such as Dr. Yusuf Mohammed Abdullah and Ahmed Kaied Barakat made positive comments on the occasion. "We are more pleased that this money comes directly from German citizens rather than the German government," they said.

The Federal Republic of Germany is one of the largest aid partners of Yemen and the it enjoys a special relationship with Yemen.

Companies Follow the
Hayel Saeed Lead

Many companies are now copying the experiment of the Hayel Saeed Anam Group of Companies by establishing exhibitions to sell directly to the public. Yesterday, Sunday September 4th, Mr. Hussain Al-Maswari, Mayor of Sanaa, inaugurated the exhibition of a group of companies held at the Al-Mu'tasim School in Sanaa.

Political Parties
Complain of Harassment

Last week witnessed several incidents, all of them targeting opposition parties. In one instance, the Tagammu' Al-Wahdawi Al-Yamani was taken over by a certain Mohammed Al-Barraq, claiming that he is now the party Secretary-General. Three leaders of the party, Ahmed Kalaz, Abdul-Kareem Al-Fusayyel and Jameel Shamsan were briefly held up at the Sanaa Police Station. The problem was resolved, by Colonel Yahya Zaher.

At another level, Mohammed Al-Maqaleh reported that the Hizbul-Haq office in Sanaa was ransacked and the guard stabbed by security people.

YSP Officials Form
New Leadership

The Exceptional Round of the YSP Central Committee decided that all parliamentary YSP members and secretaries of the regional party offices are now members of the central committee. The expanded Central Committee is authorized to elect a new 21-person politbureau to run the party affairs. The names will be elected shortly.

The decision also froze all politbureau members who had left the country during the war, and have not returned.

Another decision called for the resumption of a party newspaper.

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Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Shaibani:

"Even if an Islamic state were declared, very little would change in Yemen."

The increasingly religious orientation of Yemeni politics does not escape any one. As a result, religious scholars and clergyman now exercise a more visible influence and role in society, but particularly in politics. This new atmosphere is visible in Taiz, as it is in many parts of the country.

By far, the spiritual and religious leader of Taiz is Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al-Shaibani. Sheikh Nasser, 49, is the father of seven children. A highly respected scholar, he is the author of over a dozen books on various aspects of religious thought and public life. He is also a preacher in the largest mosque in Taiz city.

Sheikh Nasser is the Vice Chairman of the Board of Islamic Theologians, Yemen's highest religious authority. Yet, he is a very simple man who moves around freely and without armed guards, as do most so-called religious leaders.

Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf spoke to Mr. Al-Shaibani last week and filed the following report.

Q: What exactly is the purpose of the Board of Islamic Theologians?

A: The Board is a gathering of religious scholars and theologians from all over the country. It serves as a reference point for giving answers to questions on religious matters. It is also a forum for discussion on various issues as religious commandments are needed to explain the do's and don't's of our modern civilization.

The Board also plays a critical role in homogenizing attitudes and positions across the country thus blocking any dissent or diverting stands. We also provide advice to the political leadership on various issues.

Q: Would you say that your Board has failed in doing exactly what you said in the recent political differences. I remember the president had his own religious scholars backing him, and the then-vice president had his own group. How do you explain that?

A: I think the problem was not with the advisors, it was with the advisee. The religious scholars had worked very hard to bring the two sides together to what we saw as the right path. I remember following our meeting with the then-vice president in Aden, I told him, "God bears witness we have advised you and tried to show you light but you would not listen."



Q: Some political parties are demanding the full application of Islamic Sharia in Yemen's system. What does that mean?

A: First of all, let me say that no political party can claim that it is pursuing the Islamic (read, right) path while the other do not. No one can excommunicate the others in Islam.

Second, even if we claim to be applying Islam as a system, very little will change in Yemen. Our society adheres to Islamic tenets as much as is possible. Except for minor superficial steps, very little will change.

Q: How do you see the role of religious preachers and clergymen in politics?

A: Let me insist that all people, whatever their profession, have the right to participate in politics. That includes, obviously the religious scholars. Then, I would like to say that the scholars have a larger responsibility than others because they are seen as role models. Unfortunately, some will contend with far less than their real role, and they would agree to become servants of the politicians. In answer to your question, I see the role of clergymen in politics as advisors and guides to the politicians and the general public.

Q: Do you see an inherent conflict with the West?

A: Not at all. I think part of the problem is that we scared the West with what is not in our religion. Look at the violence, look at the terror, and look at the destruction carried out in the name of Islam. So what do you expect the West should think of Islam and Muslims after all the damage we have done.

Even then, I am not trying to be apologetic, but the West should not judge Islam by the shortcomings of the people who profess it. I think we have a basic common and shared objectives which we could implement together. We need to work harder to understand each other and help each other.

Islam is a logical and rational religion. We should focus more on this aspect, especially in our dealings with non-Muslims. Then we can strike a harmonious and mutually-beneficial relationship.

Q: Sheikh Nasser, you are the chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee for Taiz. How much money was raised and where did it go?

A: I think we have raised a total

of over YR 100 million in Taiz. Some 30% of this is in cash, and the rest is in kind.

I am sure the money has gone to the war effort and in helping alleviate the suffering of our people in the aftermath of the war.

Q: Is Taiz a pro-Islah governorate given that it was the largest party according to the last parliamentary elections?

A: Many people thought Taiz was captive to the socialists. The elections proved them wrong. I think the people of Taiz voted for the Islah in the last election because they were fed up with the two other parties which they had known in the past. I think this is the basic explanation. I am sure that the future holds other surprises.

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The Hayel Saeed Group of Companies: 25 Years of Successful Industrialization

It was bad timing to engage in private investments by any standard. In what was the Yemen Arab Republic, a civil war that raged for seven years was coming to an uneasy halt. The air was still not clear. In what was the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen a new leadership, that was zeal-

ously leftist has taken over. It implemented large-scale confiscations. Yet, the Hayel Saeed Group of Companies was steadily working to invest in Yemen. "We had confidence in our country and in ourselves," now says Ahmed Hayel Saeed - one of the founders and architects of the

group. Yes, the group was far-sighted in its bet. In 1969, a decision was taken to build the first Hayel Saeed factory was taken, and preparations were soon fully underway. By November 20th, 1970, Qadhi Abdul-Rahman Al-Iryani, Chairman of the

public," he stressed. He specially pointed to the recurrent blame put on the private business class for all the economic problems of Yemen. "Who is really responsible for the spiral in prices? Is it the importers and businessmen? I think there are many other reasons," Ahmed Hayel concluded.

The journalists promised more even-handed reporting of the stories in the future. The media people also proposed a media-business seminar in which the two groups will exchange views. They also asked the businessmen to open channels of information and communication, all of which were wholeheartedly adopted by the management of the Hayel Saeed Group of Companies. Finally, congratulations are well in order for 25 years of success in industrialization.

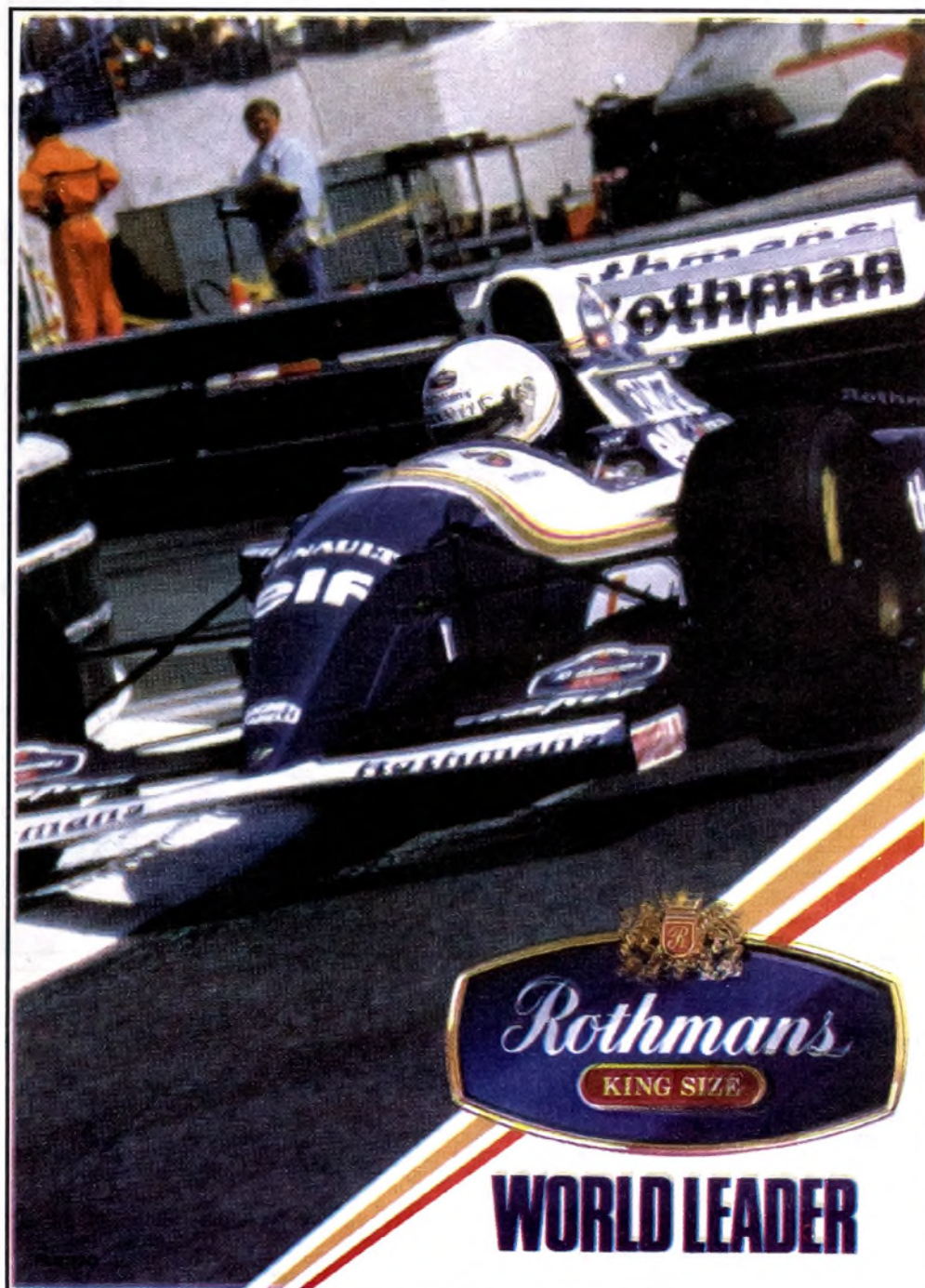


Republic Council, was at hand to cut the ribbon inaugurating the the Yemen Company for Industry and Commerce. On that day, 160 workers took their positions on Yemen's first privately-owned assembly line.

Since then, the Hayel Saeed Anam Group has come a long way. Today, there are a dozen companies that manage at least twenty seven factories. Within Yemen, total permanent employment exceeds 8,000 in addition to a few thousand seasonal and temporary employment. In addition, the storage, marketing and distribution operations linked to the Hayel Saeed Companies employ over thirty thousand persons.

The companies provide more than one billion riyals in revenue to the government every year. That is in the form of taxes, customs duty and other fees. They also generate tens of millions of US dollars through exports to various parts of the world, including Europe.

Mr. Ahmed Hayel Saeed used the occasion to plead with the media to join hands with the business class in creating an atmosphere conducive to more investments and and activities. "What you report in your newspapers and radio and television programs has an important impact on the



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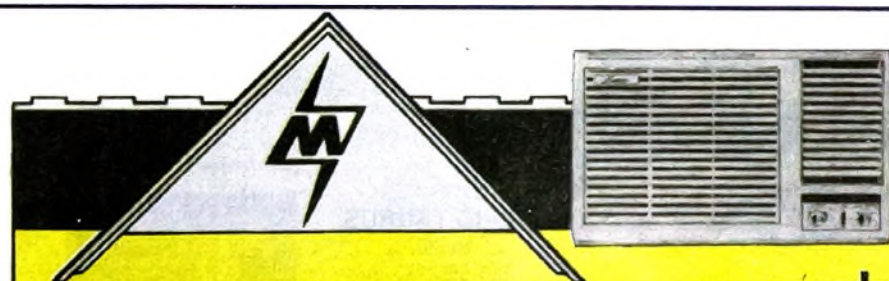
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Aden Movenpick Hotel: Back in Full Gear

Aden Governor Taha Ghanem was at hand on Friday, September 2nd, to formally mark the return to normal life of the Aden Movenpick Hotel. "Many foreigners are back in Aden, and we are holding this special function to tell them we are back in business," said Robert Friez, the General Manager of the hotel. Today, the hotel has a 30 room occupancy rate, and the trend is towards more business.



Robert also indicated that some repair and refurbishing work is necessary. "The restaurant and three floors need to be re-done. We are talking of almost \$ 2 million that needs to be made available to get the work done," he added. "We have already repaired many of the rooms and the fire system. If we have the money today, in less than six months, the whole repair and renovation work will be completed," he added. He expressed optimism about Yemen's future prospects.

A similar optimistic attitude is visible with Mohammed Al-Muflahi, representative of the owners, the Arabian Investment

& Tourism Company (AITC). Throughout the war, Al-Muflahi took full charge of the hotel to make sure everything was up to at least the minimum standards. He has been, however, sandwiched between the demands of the government (Ministry of Tourism) and the AITC. Speaking about the future of the tourism business as well as the city of Aden, Mr. Al-Muflahi stressed that it all depended on the political and economic situation. "If we have political stability, and the free zone gets underway, then we will see a boom in the business and in the level of activities," he said.



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Where to Go for Good Music

By: Fatma Rawah,
Social Editor, Yemen Times.

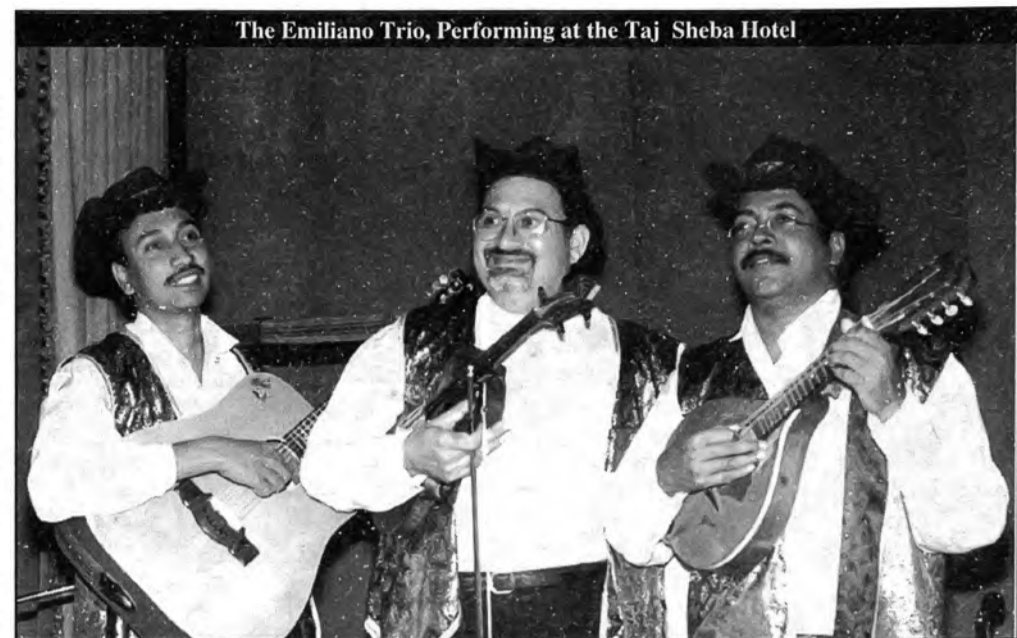
Where do you go for good music? That is one of the important questions that people ask themselves. Usually, it is one of the large hotels. In this article, I would like to shed light on two bands, that have been doing well and that have developed a good reputation with the public.

1. THE EMILIANO TRIO

The Emiliano Trio is a group of fascinating musicians who play top hits from 1940s to date in different tunes from the Middle East, Britain, Portugal, Latin America, Goa and other parts of India and other countries.

The Trio consists of Emiliano playing the violin & mandolin, Oscar Rozario playing the guitar and Avelino Cardozo on the mandolin.

The group performed in many countries such as Sri Lanka, Singapore, Portugal and Britain, under contract with Taj Hotels. Now we have them in Yemen, and of course at the Taj Sheba Hotel. They play every evening,



The Emiliano Trio, Performing at the Taj Sheba Hotel

Gandhi, Zail Singh, President Venkataraman, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, Pierre Trudeau of Canada, Bob Hawke of Australia, King Hussain of Jordan, Queen Beatrice of the Netherlands and many other world key dignitaries.

a name for itself. The six-man band started playing a couple of years ago, but the real change in their performance came when the management of Aden Movenpick Hotel took them in. "These musicians are talented and we are happy to give a

helping hand," said Mr. Robert Friez, the GM of the Hotel.

The group plays local music, of course, but it also plays jazz and various other Western music. They perform regularly in the Raidan Restaurant and in the open-air functions of the hotel.

The Aden Jazz Band, Performing at Aden Movenpick Hotel as well as in Private Functions



at the Peacock Restaurant and they are going to be there for two more weeks.

Most people enjoy the ambiance at the Peacock Restaurant where the food is exquisite, the music is excellent, and Dinaz and her staff spread their charm on the guests. "The people who come to dine here are not our customers, they are our guests, and we treat them on that basis," Dinaz said.

The Emiliano Trio was formed in 1982. That year also marked the association with the Taj Hotels. From then on, the group had the privilege to play for all kinds of people including VIPs. In 1984, for example, the government of India chose The Emiliano Trio to entertain the leaders from different countries who came for the Commonwealth Meeting in India. The guest list included Indira

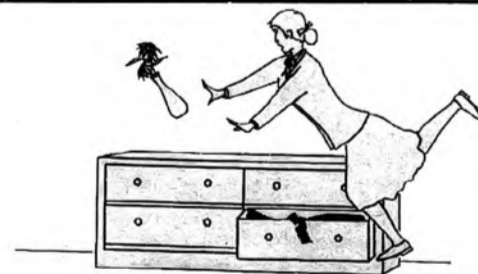
At the Trio like to entertain in different tunes, they did not find it difficult to indulge in Arabic music. Since they first arrived, they have already tried various Arabic songs - mostly Egyptian, Lebanese and Yemeni.

Goa, is of course, a part of India which has seen tremendous Portuguese influence. It brings together West and East, and the music is therefore a comfortable milange of the two.

"We have tried to play Yemeni tunes but they are different and more of a classical nature," explained Emiliano. But that is the whole point. The Trio likes a challenge, and Yemeni music, odd as it sounds to them, is a clear case of challenge. "Before we leave here, we will sing your music," Emiliano said.

1. THE ADEN JAZZ BAND

In Aden, a local band is making



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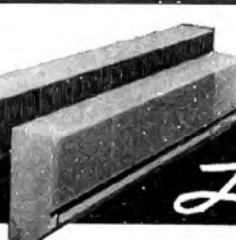
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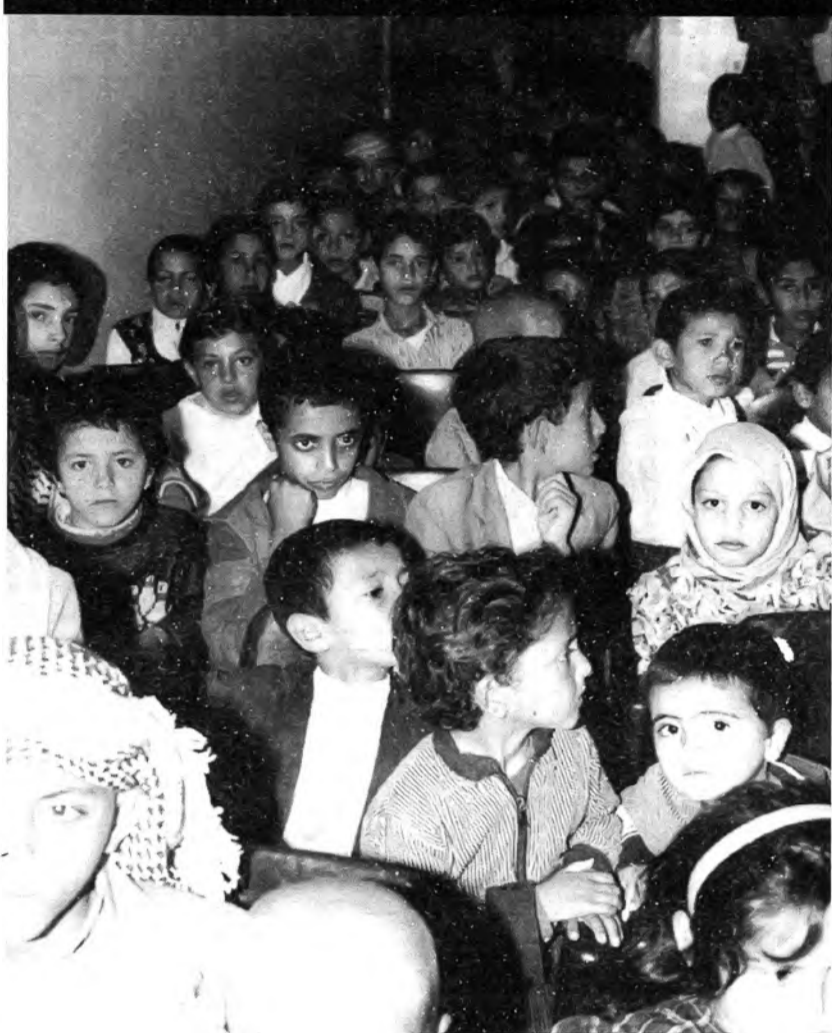
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The CSSW Fills the Social Security Gap in the Yemeni System

A Large Number of Orphans Await Kind-Hearted "Parents" to Adopt Them



The Yemeni government has yet to evolve a social security system that cares for the less fortunate members of society. One group of disadvantaged people are the orphans. "It in response a visible need that the Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) initiated a project according to which individuals and companies are asked to adopt responsibility for the orphans. This is called the "Committee to Care for Orphan." People can adopt the needs of as many orphans as they want," explained Dr. Tariq Sinan Abu Luhum, Chairman of the Society.

His statement came on the occasion of the adoption of 340 orphans by the Al-Fujairah Welfare Society from the United Arab Emirates. "This is not our involvement in charity activities in Yemen," stated Mr. Saeed Al-Ater, General Manager of the FWS, whose society has helped in many other projects.

The orphans of Yemen suffer from tremendous hardships as old kinship values and bonds crumble and no new ones are established. As a result, orphans are left to fend off on their own which means they receive no proper education thus condemned to poverty throughout their lives. "Many of the youngsters in prison are orphans because they have no person to provide for their needs. They became law-breakers," explained a senior Sanaa

University education lecturer.

In the whole Republic, there are two orphanages today - one in Sanaa and the other in Aden. Both are oriented towards male orphans, and there is no place for a female orphan to go to. "Female orphans are often taken-in by relatives, but they become servants or maids in the new family. They are deprived of proper education and care," stated another Sanaa University lecturer.

Mr. Ahmed Abdullah Al-Aqil, Chairman of the Committee to Care for Orphans, and himself a prominent businessman, disclosed that his committee has so far secured the financial needs of 3400 orphans nation-wide. "We hope the number will jump to 5000 by the end of this year," he confidently stated.

The concept of adopting orphans in Islamic societies is different from that in the West. The financier cannot adopt an orphan in the Western sense. The Muslim orphan retains his/her identity and family name, and he/she is not attached to the adopting person/family in the legal sense. Of course, a certain degree of spiritual and emotional attachment between the orphan and his/her financier or "parent" develops. That is the CSSW offers details and

reports on the orphans to the "parents" supporting them. It arranges visits, exchange of letters, pictures and encourages joint activities on weekends and holidays. The CSSW gives a certificate of patronage to the adopted orphan.

Mr. Mohammed Abdullah Al-Batani, Minister of Pensions and Social Affairs, who attended the ceremony in which the certificates of patronage of 340 orphans by the FWS was distributed, spoke highly of efforts by society to complement and bolster the government's efforts. "I want to stress that the government is neither able nor required to attend to all these needs. Private individuals and companies should chip in to help meet society's needs," he said.

To adopt an orphan, a financier signs a form in which he/she commits to provide a monthly minimum of YR 800 per orphan adopted. Interested persons are kindly asked to contact the following CSSW offices: Sanaa (phone: 230090/1; fax: 230089), Aden (256287), Taiz (223662/3), Hodeidah (253450), Seiyoun (3111), Dharmar (505387), and Ibb and Mukalla (no phones).

By: Yahya Yusuf Al-Hodeidi, Yemen Times.

German Parliamentary Delegation:

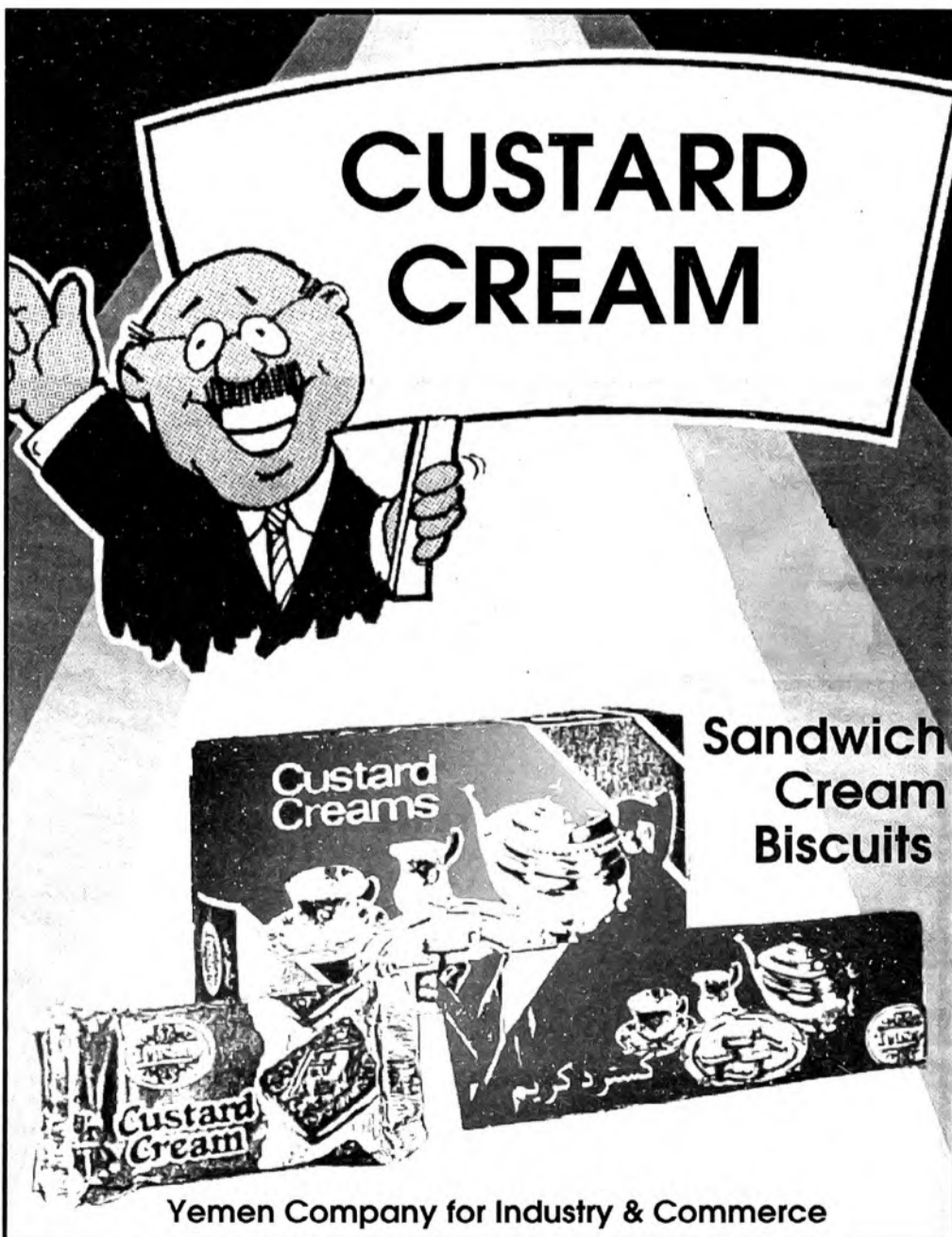
"Tragic as the war may have been, it has cleared the air."



Mr. Otto Schily, SPD Member of Parliament and head of the visiting delegation, told the Yemen Times that his country badly needs to assess the recent war and events, and that the purpose of his mission is to better understand the situation. The conclusions they reached, tentative as they are seems to be summarized in the words of Wolfgang Weege, Member of SPD and Deputy Head of the Foreign Relations Department of the Party. "Tragic as the war may have been, it has cleared the air for the country to proceed under a unified political leadership." Meaning: They will propose continued German aid for Yemen.

Martin Weiss, who had served in Yemen earlier, stressed the goodwill that exists in Germany for Yemen. "But Yemen has to continue to work on its image abroad. That means serious commitment to human rights, freedom of the press, pluralist politics, etc," he said.

Peter Wald, who brought with him a small check from the members of the German-Yemeni Association, agrees. The most striking idea, however, is the one promoted by Mr. Schily. "Given the interest of Yemenis in the German language and culture, I think it would be useful to start a German cultural center here," he said.



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The YSP's New Leadership: A Factor for the Rebirth or Fragmentation of the Party ?

The Exceptional Round of Meeting of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party concluded its meetings in Sanaa on Sunday, September 4th. The four-day engagement brought together 47 members of the Central Committee, 28 YSP members of Parliament, and 21 Heads of the Regions. The meeting's efforts were focussed on two issues:

a) The report presented by the Secretariat of the Contact and Communications Committee (SCCC) of the YSP.

b) The election of a new leadership for the party.

The hand-written 15-page report of the SCCC basically insists that the YSP is not to be blamed alone for the events witnessed by the country recently. "We cannot hasten in writing history with a clear bias to lay the blame on one side," it states.

The report, however, does squarely condemn the secession efforts executed by certain "former" YSP leader in the name of the party. It also declared that the party cannot accept its leaders to remain out of the country. "That is why the party has decided to appoint new officials to replace those who are still outside the country. Once they come back, they are welcome to rejoin the Central Committee," one leading member explained.

In a long address given on the occasion, Mr. Ali Saleh Obad Moqbil, leader of the SCCC and member of the Presidium of the

House of Representatives, insisted that responsibility for the management of the country now falls squarely on the two ruling parties (meaning the People's General Congress and the Islah).

The Fattah wing which broke away from the YSP in 1991 insisted, in a circular it distributed in the meeting, that the party openly condemn its former leadership and expel them. The Fattah wing was not allowed to participate in the meeting.

At another level, YSP leaders outside the country have taken a double-course in their interaction with the efforts of the YSP people who are trying to redeem the party. While they are unhappy with the effort to expel them, they are also unable to totally break-up with them. It is in this light that the demands and proposals they put forth must be seen.

One proposal circulated to the media is the one presented by Anis Hassan Yahya who is in Abu Dhabi. Anis, the speaker of parliament in the breakaway secessionist state, sent a copy of his four-page hand-written proposal to the Yemen Times.

His vision of the normalization and reconciliation are given in the following 12 points:

1. To cancel the airport list on people forbidden from leaving the country which has made the nation a large prison.

2. To enable the people who had left their posts during the events to return to them and resume their normal life.

3. To stop attacks on homes and the plundering that has accompanied such actions.

4. To remove the limitations on the freedom of the press, political organizations, unions, and other popular groups.

5. To remove the state of emergency as it contradicts the constitution.

6. To put an end to the harassment of the diplomats and other officials who work outside and to reform the diplomatic corps.

7. To officially announce the national reconciliation process and to make sure of the implementation of the comprehensive amnesty in a way that it includes everybody without exception. Any trials of anybody will only lead to more tension.

8. The national reconciliation process should mean an earnest effort to close a chapter in our relations and history and to start another one.

9. To stop any complementary elections to fill the seats vacated (by those who have lost the war). Preparations could later start for the election of a new parliament.

10. The Document of Pledge and Accord is a suitable base for national reconciliation and reconstruction.

11. To stop any hurried amendments to the constitution. These should follow the national reconciliation process.

12. The national reconciliation should lead to a strong government and an effective opposition.

CanadianOxy Introduces Horizontal Drilling in Yemen

Mr. Bernard F. Isautier, the newly elected Canadian Occidental Petroleum's President and Chief Executive Officer, said that his company will introduce horizontal drilling in the oil exploitation efforts in its Masila block. "We can see applications for this technology which is going to be used in Yemen for the first time," he disclosed.

The technology involves drilling vertically, and then to drill horizontally to follow the reservoir. Recovery is increased, especially in fractured formations.

Mr. Isautier, who is currently on an assessment visit as part of his two-yearly visits to Yemen to follow-up the company's work, denied that his company plans to move its head office from Aden to Sanaa. "We have not been approached by the government or any other party on this point. The rumor is just unfounded," he said. But he added that his company is keeping a flexible and pragmatic attitude regarding the issue.

The CanOxy official pointed out that his company has always succeeded in beating its own target objectives in production and the level of output was steadily increased. "Commercial discovery was set at 90,000 bpd, but development was carried out for 120,000 bpd, and the 1994 budget was based on 135,000. Our present production level is 155,000 bpd, and we are targeting 160,000 bpd as we go into 1995," he said.

Isautier finally indicated that his company will seek an extension to its exploration permit which expires on March 15, 1995.



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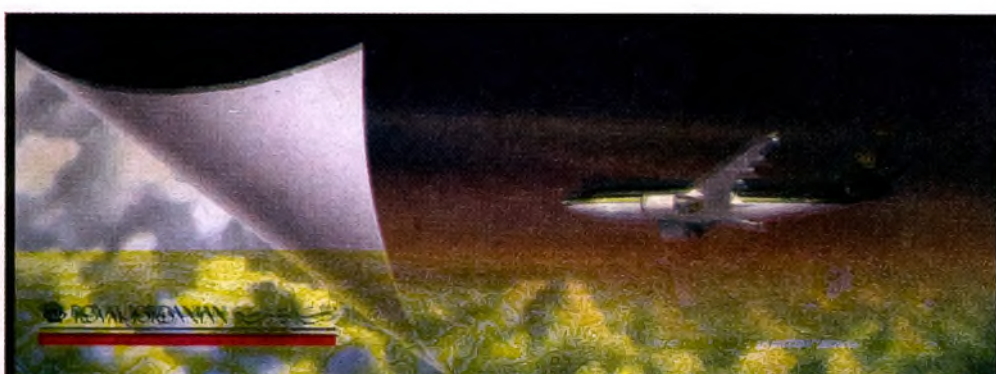
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