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YEMEN TIMES



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INSIDE ▶ November 14th through 20th, 1994 Volume IV, Issue No. 45 •

Yemeni Community Leader in USA Talks to Yemen Times. Page 3 HASCO and BLACK & DECKER Join Hands. Page 5 Bawazeer Products Come to Yemeni Market. pp. 8+9. Interview with Abyan Governor Ali Sheikh Omer. Page 11

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UNESCO National Commissions' 17th Regional Conference

On Saturday, November 12th, Prime Minister Abdulaziz Abdulghani kicked off the six-day meeting of the UNESCO in Sanaa. The Seventeenth Regional Conference of Arab National Commissions for UNESCO is being held at the Sheraton Sanaa Hotel during 12-17 November 1994. The main theme of discussion is to agree on the medium term (1996-2001) plan of the national commissions and the organization. Regional cooperation and understanding is also one of the main issues.

In a statement on the occasion, Mrs. Barbara Barry de Longchamp, representing the UNESCO Secretary-General, Mr. Federico Mayor, indicated that the challenges which the organization will face in the 21st century include the firm establishment of a culture of peace, sustainable human development, and access to and the transfer/sharing of knowledge. She referred to 1995, which marks the 50th anniversary of the organization, as a good point to ponder over and "identify the essence of our mission and to act with a view to ensuring a better future."



Prime Minister Abdulaziz Abdulghani used the occasion to reconfirm the country's commitment to the preservation of the historic sites and cultural heritage

of Yemen, which are of international concern and interest. He also praised UNESCO's efforts within the International Campaign to Safeguard the Old City of Sanaa, and the International Campaign for the Preservation of Shibam and Wadi Hadhramaut.

On the occasion, Mr. Abdu Qubati, Minister of Education and Chairman of the Yemeni National Commission for UNESCO, spoke reiterating the importance of the conference and Yemen's delight in hosting it. He assured the conference of his full support and cooperation.

Delegates representing the National UNESCO Commissions in all the Arab countries, as well as representatives from Iran and the head office in Paris are participating in the conference.

Dr. Ahmed Saleh Sayyad, Yemen's Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, who was instrumental in the decision to meet in Sanaa, sounded gratified. "I am happy with the event and I am sure the delegates will reach important decisions for the future," he said.

Yet Another paper Is Victimized by the Authorities

The Political Editor, Yemen Times.

The government of Yemen, represented by the Ministry of Information, has taken yet another newspaper to court. This time, the victim is *Al-Wahdawi* newspaper - the mouthpiece of the Tanzeem Al-Wahdawi Asha'abi Annasseri, one of the opposition political parties. The law-suit was filed against the newspaper and its chief editor Ahmed Tarboosh Saeed Noman. The charge: slander.

The first hearing on the case started yesterday, Sunday, 12th November in the Sanaa Western District Primary Court. The judge charged with the case is Qadhi Aqabat.

In a statement to the press, Mr. Ahmed Tarboosh said the Ministry had no case, and it was merely trying to bleed the newspaper financially, and to pre-occupy it with litigations.

"Most of the cases filed against newspapers are politically motivated and they are done with the goal of curbing freedom of the press," he added.

The first political case in the history of modern Yemen was filed against the *Yemen Times*. That was in 1993. *Al-Shoura* newspaper was subjected to a tortuous trial which still continues. *Al-Wahdawi* is the most recent case. *Al-Belagh's* case is expected to hit the courts later this month. Several cases had been filed against *Sawt Al-Ummal*, which does not come out any more, but there was never a trial.

The court cases are a manifestation of the lack of tolerance on the part of the politicians in power.

The regime's harmful effects on freedom of the press does not stop with its inability to tolerate the right of others to express their view points, but it has played a negative role by engaging a number of newspapers and journalists to attack its "adversaries". The pro-regime newspapers have often lashed out against individuals and political parties that are not "loyal" to the rulers.

Yemen's rulers today provide financing to some one dozen newspapers and keep them going with the sole aim of unleashing them against parties and individuals who do not toe the government line. These "puppet" newspapers have transgressed and broken the law many times. Yet, they were never subjected to any steps by the Ministry of Information to take them to court, though it pretends to be the guardian of the press law.

The whole situation of freedom of the press in Yemen is fast becoming a big joke. These days, the Political Security Office regularly calls opposition and independent newspapers after each issue. It makes a page-by-page review with them and points to this or that article as unbecoming. Sometimes the disapproval of the PSO is based on reading between the lines.

The present regime needs to prove it is sincere in its claims of protecting freedom of the press. So far, the record is not

encouraging and the credibility of the ruling politicians is very low indeed.

The image of the country abroad has suffered steadily over the last few months and continues in its downhill tumble.

Person of the Year 1994: Call for Nominations

The Yemen Times is happy to invite nominations the 1994 Person of the Year. The two main factors in making the choice are:

1. Success in the private life/profession of the candidate,
2. Visible contribution for the national welfare.

Any person interested in nominating a candidate, including him/herself, may kindly do so before December 15th. Please fax your nomination to (01) 268-663, or mail it to:

Person of the Year Committee, Yemen Times, P. O. Box 2579, Sanaa, Republic of Yemen

Please enclose all information pertaining to success of your candidate at the personal level, and contribution at the national level. A Yemen Times team will sift through the nominations and will select the Person of the Year for 1994.

The final choice will be announced on January 2nd, 1995, in Yemen Times issue number 1/95, Volume V.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

Confidence-Building: Fighting Paramilitarism

There is a near total consensus that the economy represents the first priority of action by the government and society at large. Moreover, job creation and income generation seems to be the most pressing and most important aspect of the required economic action.

Job creation and income generation are code words for new investments and projects. To achieve this, the system needs to secure the confidence of the business community - locally and internationally. So far, our politicians and bureaucrats have been going about it the wrong way. They have been offering new and better incentives such as tax holidays and waivers. If this is the only thing we have to offer, there are many places in the world where investors can find a better offer.

There is one thing the government can do to gain the confidence of the potential investors - to fight and control paramilitarism.

The last war has increased the availability of arms to the civilian population, especially the tribes, to the extent that enforcing the law has become difficult, or even impossible. It is now possible for a group of individuals to band together as armed thugs and pose a grave threat to the general public. But that is one side of the coin.

The other manifestation of paramilitarism is really the fact that regular soldiers and officers do almost the same thing as the armed thugs. You can see this in the seizure of assets of citizens and entrepreneurs such as real estate, cars, etc. Parts of the regular army and police force acts as a mafia.

I know of many business households who have "lost" their possessions, and they know where they are. But there is no way they can retrieve them. For example, a leading business family has lost a dozen or so vehicles. They worked hard to locate them, and they did. In half of the cases, the cars were taken by senior military officers in the regular Yemeni army. Then orders were obtained in order to get them back. For the last four months, they have been trying fruitlessly. Now what do we call an army that robs the very citizens who pay taxes to pay its salaries? How can potential investors feel comfortable in putting their capital in Yemen?

The government has an immediate and urgent need to combat armed gangs roaming the countryside and cities. It is estimated that an estimated 70% of the crimes committed by armed individuals and groups in the country go unpunished. Many armed citizens would readily tell you that the simple fact that they are armed reduces the excesses that could have been exercised by the regular army and police force. That is very true, but it also means that all citizens have to be armed. Because in this present situation, the unarmed citizens suffer the double burden of being pushed around by the excesses of the regular army and police force as well as by the armed citizens/tribes.

A modern state cannot be built unless we start a fight against paramilitarism. There needs to be a two-fold effort: to reduce carrying arms by the citizens, at least in cities in the beginning, and to stop regular army and police soldiers and officers from carrying arms unless they are in uniform, and to penalize their use of their arms in civilian differences.

The Publisher


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Opposition Outlines Specific Grievances

Following a long meeting which brought together the largest spectrum of opposition forces - the Opposition Bloc (Attanzeem Al-Wahdawi Asha'by Annasser, Hizbul Haq, Ittihad Al-Qiwa Asha'biyyah, and Attagammu' Al-Wahdawi Al-Yemeni), the Yemeni Socialist Party, Union of National Forces, and the Hizbul Ahrar Addastori - a statement was issued on 10th November outlining the grievances against and the excesses of the ruling parties. The communique gave a brief description of what the ruling PGC-Islah coalition has done against those outside power as follows:

1. The surrounding of the house of Dr. Qassim Sallam, Secretary-General of the Yemeni Baath Party by heavily armed forces on 6/11/1994, under the pretext of a criminal offence, is a precedent which reflects a return to authoritarian rule.

2. During the second half of August, 1994, the arrest campaign of Hizbul Haq members in the region of Khowlan Al-Tiyal in Saadah, including the attack on the home of Hussain Badrul Deen Al-Hoothi, Member of Parliament. Total persons arrested in that campaign were 56, although 30 were subsequently released on 2/11/1994.

The media campaign against the Secretary-General and other leaders of the Hizbul Haq Party.

3. The continued occupation of the branches of the Yemeni Socialist Party, and persistent efforts to limit and block its activities.

The compulsory removal of YSP members and sympathizers from government offices in spite of the president's written orders to the contrary as per his 15/7/1994 letter to the then-acting prime minister.

Continued arrests of YSP members in the governorates.

4. The attack/occupation of the Ittihad Al-Qiwa Asha'biyyah in Taiz by security forces on 16/7/1994.

The penalizing court cases against the mouth-piece of the party, *Al-Shoura*, and the continued campaign by the newspapers of the rulers against the leaders of this party describing them as traitors/secessionists.

5. The plunder and occupation of the Al-Howtah and Radfan branches of the Tanzeem Al-Wahdawi Al-Sha'by Annasserby army and security forces during July 1994.

Putting roadblocks in front of party members in government ministries and organizations.

Legal steps against the party newspaper, *Al-Wahdawi*.

6. Denial of permission to print the *Al-Tagammu*, mouthpiece of the Tagammu Al-Wahdawi Al-Yamani in 14th October Press in Aden since September 1994.

Attacks against the Secretary-General of the party and government efforts to break the party from within.

Those are some of the many specific actions by the rulers against the opposition.

There are similar atrocities and excesses committed against independent individuals and ordinary citizens. These include the arrest and beating of the chief editor of the Yemen Times on 16/7/94 and the tapping of telephones, search through the mail, and many other actions which do not sit well with democracy, freedom of the press, human right, etc.

Two Presidential Cars Blown Up

Two of President Ali Abdullah Saleh's guard cars were blown and all the sixteen officers were killed in Abyan last week. According to informed sources, the two cars were front-runners which were preceding the presidential motorcade and were

trying to take side positions when they drove into land-mines. The incident has sent shockwaves all over the country.

It will be noted that many parts of Abyan, Lahej and Aden governorates are still mined, thus posing a danger to the civilian population.

Yemeni Jordanian Letters of Understanding

Mr. Mohammed Abdullah Al-Batani, Minister of Pensions and Social Affairs, and his Jordanian counterpart signed in Amman last week three letters of understanding. The first of these defines the exchange of expertise and experience in the field of pensions and social security. The second letter details cooperation in the field of work permits and control of expatriates. The third deals with vocational training.

Mr. Al-Batani had also conveyed the congratulations and support of President Ali Abdullah Saleh to H. M. King Hussain on the conclusion of the peace treaty with Israel.

Announcement

U.K.-trained pediatricians plan to provide consultation health services for children of expatriates (and others) in Sanaa, for a nominal monthly fee. The health care service will be on a 24-hour availability basis, including home visits as required. Only a limited number of families will be accepted in this plan.

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"Yemeni immigrants in the USA must lend a helping hand to the homeland."

The Yemeni community in the USA is one of the established immigrants. There are one hundred thousand or so Yemeni immigrants concentrated in three basic groupings - Michigan/Upstate New York, California, and New York City - although there are small groups here and there. Visiting Yemen at the moment is Mr. Mansoor M. Ismael, Honorary Consul of Yemen in San Francisco. Ismail Al-Ghabri of Yemen Times talked to him about the conditions of Yemeni immigrants and their interaction with developments in Yemen. Excerpts of the interview:

Q: Could you tell us a little about the Yemeni community in the USA?

A: Immigration to the USA started in pre-Republican Yemen. Yemenis emigrated in search of a better life. There are three main concentration states - California, Michigan and New York. In California, most started as plantation workers. Many then evolved to owners of grocery stores and similar small businesses. One of the main difficulties the Yemeni immigrants is the limited work options. As unskilled laborers - and often with adequate language capabilities - they can only engage in few jobs. Many are also cheated out of their rights. The General Federation for Yemeni Immigrants (GFYI) was formed to help protect the rights of Yemenis living in the US. Today the GFYI has nine branches.

Q: Are Yemeni immigrants still mostly unskilled laborers or have they risen up the social ladder?

A: I am sure with generational transition, many young Yemenis have acquired good education and skills. I do not have exact statistics, but there are a few very rich merchants and businessmen, and there are some famous people in the professions. In general, however, Yemenis continue to be at the lower ranks of the American social structure.

Q: Given the concentration of Yemenis in three major centers, would you say that helps in accessing them and interacting with them?

A: Yes, it is of course helpful that most Yemeni immigrants are lumped in a few locations. For example, over fifteen thousand of them work in the car factories of Detroit. Parts of Lackawanna in Upstate New York are virtually Yemeni in nature. The reason is basically newcomers join in with the already established persons.

Q: What are the problems immigrant Yemenis face?

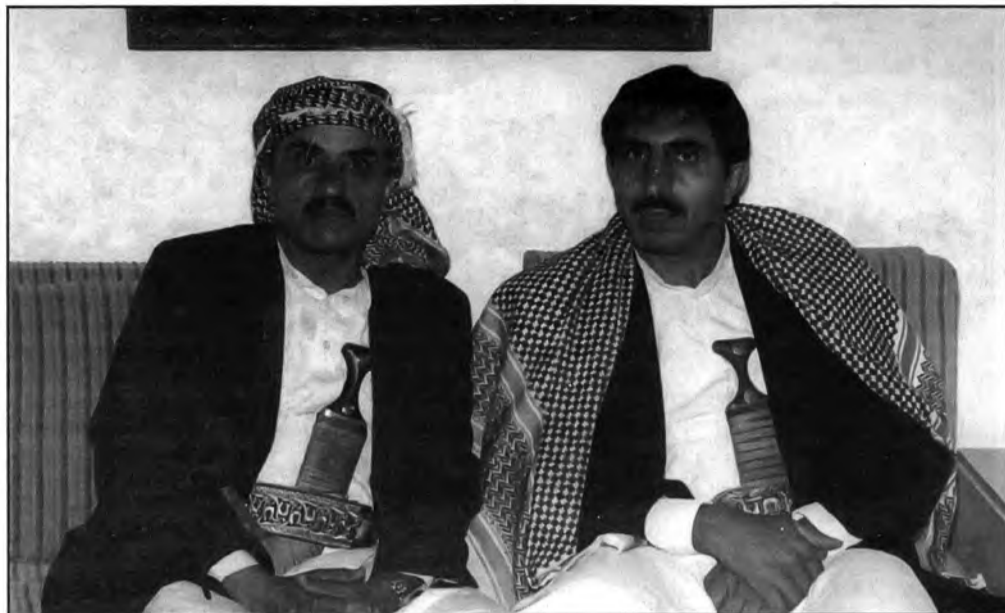
A: One of the striking features of Yemeni immigrants is the eternal attachment to the original homeland. Unlike most immigrants, Yemenis are forever part of Yemen and they do not break away. Thus, their concerns are how to save enough money to build a retirement home, or how to invest in real estate and farmlands to come back to in Yemen. But in the process of doing those things, the immigrants is taken advantage of by the folks back at home (Yemen). So we end up helping the immigrant with problems here in Yemen rather than in the USA.

Q: How did the Yemeni immigrant community take the news of the crisis and civil war in Yemen?

A: We all followed it as closely as possible. We were dismayed and even shocked at the drive of some politicians to repartition the country. The one-sided anti-Sanaa media sponsored by some countries did not help, either. We were left easy prey to the misinformation or even disinformation. Early in the war, we were confused and unable to determine who is right and who is wrong. But when the leaders of the Yemeni Socialist Party announced their secession, we realized it was a dirty plot against Yemen. At that stage, all Yemenis were on the side of the legitimacy and unity of the nation.

Q: What role did the Yemeni immigrant community in the USA play during the war?

A: Of course, whatever role we played was minimal. I can say we have given some comfort and moral support to the legitimate leaders of Yemen.



Which is the Yemeni and which is the American: Ghabri (left) with Mansoor Ismael

At the practical level, we collected contributions and purchased medical supplies, which were distributed through the Yemeni Red Crescent Society. We also chipped in various emergency assistance.

Q: What is the purpose of your current visit?

A: Partly is to keep in touch with the homeland. But in part, we are here to express solidarity and support to the legitimate and unitarian leadership of President Ali Abdullah Saleh. We are also here to assess the damage done by the war, and to see what we can do to help. You will note that we have many visits to the homeland to keep in touch with what is going on, and to see ways to resolve some of the outstanding problems of the immigrants.

Q: Don't you have a steady contact system from there?

A: Let me point out that we have, for the San Francisco Yemeni community, a small radio station. We often call in to Sanaa and air the telephone conversation so that the whole community can follow. The government has appointed a contact person at the presidential office who keeps in touch with us by phone.

We receive the Yemen Times which has increasingly become an important source of information to us. I must add it is also a source of pride to us as Yemenis. I have seen many instances where Yemeni immi-

grants proudly show this newspaper to their Arab compatriots or other American friends. Moreover, it has a much higher credibility among the Yemeni immigrants and other Americans than the government or other newspapers from Yemen. Finally, it is in English. You will realize that most immigrants were illiterate and do not read Arabic. But many today, and especially their children and other new generations, speak and read English. That is why the Yemen Times has become an important source to us, and we hope it continues in its present path of independent presentation of the facts and events.

I look forward to the day when it becomes a daily newspaper. I also take this opportunity to urge the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to make this newspaper available to the embassies. The paper presents a respectable image of Yemen, it need not always present a pleasant image of the regime.

Q: You spoke of increasing economic success of members of the Yemeni immigrant community in the USA. Is there any possibility for investing in projects in Yemen?

A: I am sure that possibility exists, but two steps are needed to bring it about:
a) A system for pooling the resources would be necessary to allow the small savings here and together to come together and offer a decent amount.

b) The system in Yemen must function more efficiently and more justly. There are too many bureaucratic hurdles, lack of respect for the law, and many problems creep up because of corruption.

I think if more work is done in those two fronts, the possibilities are there.

Q: What are your preliminary impressions of the visit?

A: First, let me say that I am happy to visit my original homeland.

Second, the impressions I am coming out with is that a lot of work needs to be done. I am saddened by the loss in terms of human and physical resources due to the recent events. The country has been visibly impoverished by it.

Third, I can see a spirit of determination to improve the situation and develop the country.

Q: Any last comments?

A: As a last comment, I would like to conclude with a piece of advice. I hope the people of Yemen, and especially the authorities, will let by-gones be by-gones. They should allow all Yemenis - irrespective of their tribal or political background - to participate in the construction of the country. I also urge the immigrants to consider helping the homeland in its moment of need, which is right now.

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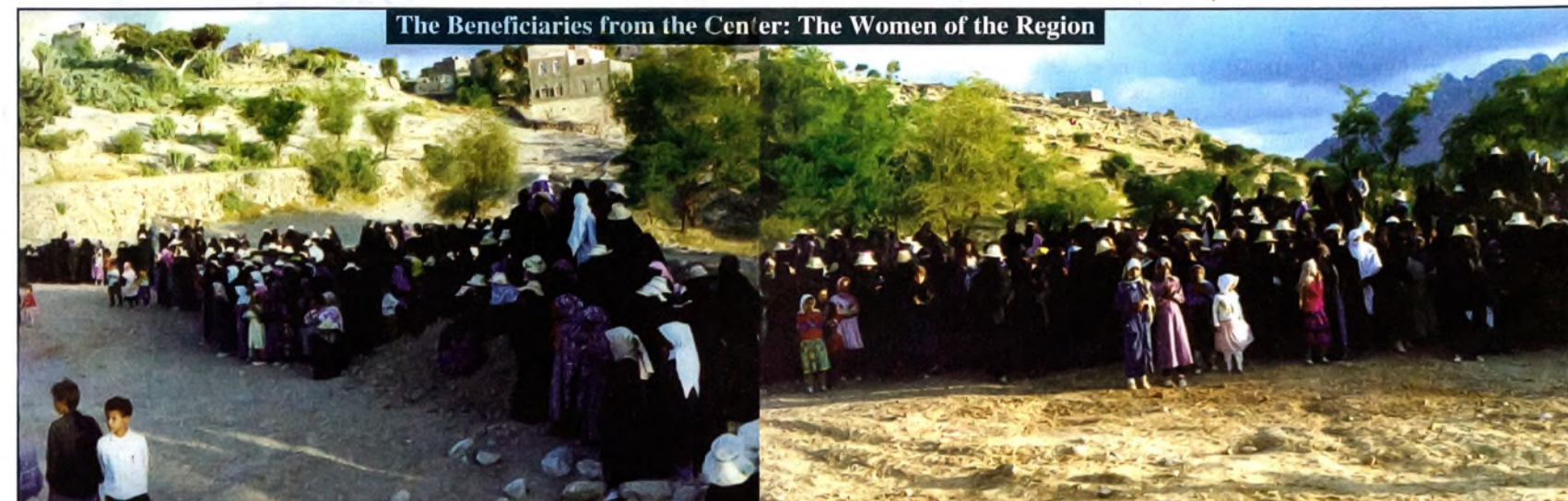
PEACE OF MIND.

The Hadharem Women's Development Center: A Model Project to Emulate

Fatmah Rawah,
Yemen Times.

"A strong local community input in well thought projects and a development vision," is the way one observer put it. This is the new model developing in Hadharem area, Hugarriah, Taiz governorate. The local Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) is pushing for a new relationship that brings a strong local input guided by a clear vision of the people want. Coupled with the local input is a helping foreign assistance, as well as some mobilization from the Yemeni business community.

The ambassador of Japan to Sanaa, H.E. Mr. Susumu Akiyama, along with his wife, and Mr. Jacque Roy, Deputy Director of the World Food Program, were at hand for the inauguration ceremony. Both the Embassy of Japan and the WFP are helping the center. The hayel Saeed Group of Companies is also chipping in. The project inaugurated last month was the Hadharem



The Beneficiaries from the Center: The Women of the Region

Women's Development Center. "We have a target objective that goes up to 2000. We plan to eliminate the illiteracy of 8000 women. We plan to equip 3500 women with marketable skills. We plan to infuse information on hygiene, sanitation, nutrition and diet balance, family planning and concern over environmental issues," explained the director of the center.

The purpose is to further activate the role of women in society. This is done through the three different programs of the center:
a) The Literacy Program: There are two levels of literacy programs - beginners and advanced. The goal is to reduce female illiteracy in the region by half over the next five years.
b) The Production Program:

There are three classes in the Production Program.
1. Sewing,
2. Embroidery/Knitting,
3. Cooking.
c) The Awareness Program: This is oriented towards the more advanced women, especially those who may have lived in cities. The idea is to create discussion sessions on selected subjects such as hygiene, preparing a well-balanced meal, family planning, environmental concern, etc.

The area benefiting from this and other projects sponsored by the NGO extends from Turba southwards to Munif mountain. It includes some 17,000 inhabitants from diverse tribal backgrounds such as Adeem, Asabih, Bani Masan, Hadharem, Qar-raishah, Zarraqah, and others. There are three new projects that the NGO is presently working to implement. The first is a Cultural Center and Sports Club. The second is a Vocational Training Center. But it is the third project that is expected to have a far-reaching effect. The Hadharem is working on a change in the administrative structure of the region. The NGO hopes to bring this region under one administrative umbrella under the ancient local name of Al-Qurain. This is in preparation for local government

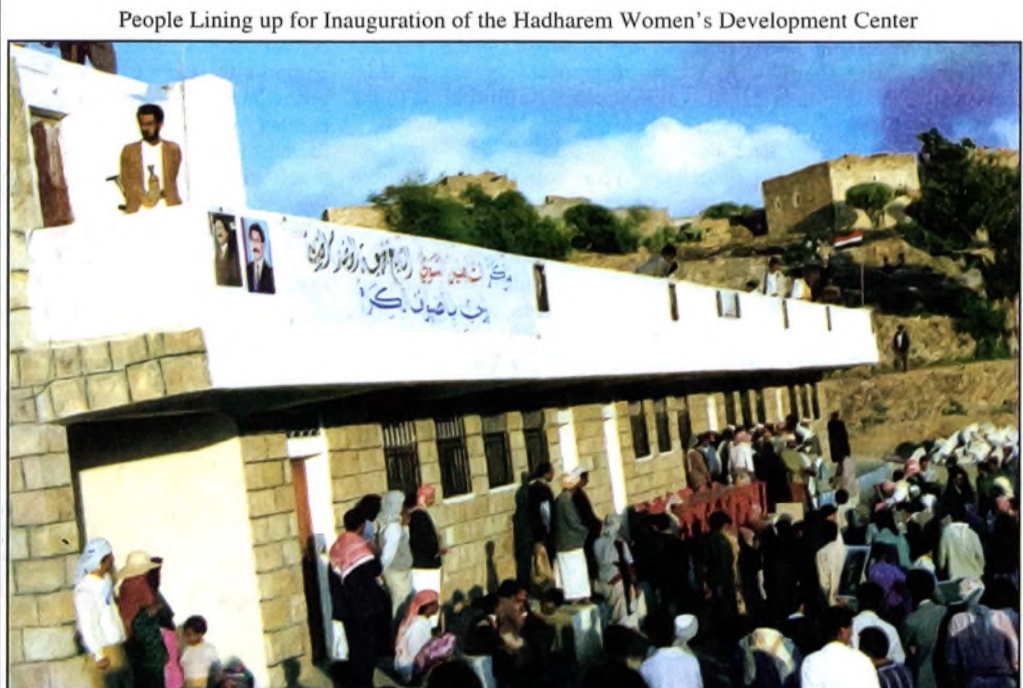


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People Lining up for Inauguration of the Hadharem Women's Development Center

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HASCO Links up with BLACK & DECKER to Make a Winning Team

"We think we are bringing to Yemen one of the best brand products in the world.. As you know, BLACK & DECKER is the leader in its line of products," said Osama Abdul-Rahman Hayel Saeed, the General Manager of HASCO. Osama, an energetic young man who keeps a permanent smile on his face.

"BLACK & DECKER is the worlds' largest manufacturer and marketer of power tools of all kinds. We have professional tools, consumer tools, houseware products and a number of accessories," said Neil Hamer, who flew in from the UAE for the 7th November exhibition.

"What we are announcing today is the launch of our distribution sheet with HASCO as it has a well known market here."

Mr. Neil Hamer, Director of Marketing - Power Tools, said that he expected the Yemeni market to grow further. "There is a tremendous potential here," he said.

The main thrust of the new marketing strategy is quality. "The goods we offer are high quality and the best in the field," said TKP Nair, who also flew in from Dubai. The high-quality BLACK & DECKER products now have HASCO's first-class service to go with them. "We offer full maintenance and support to the full range of products we carry," said Mohammed Shaibani, HASCO's Sales Manager.

The company offers guarantees to customers varying from six months for power-tools, to two years for household appliances, and to fifty years for locks. Mr. Shaibani was visibly proud of the security systems hardware. "The security hardware lines that HASCO LTD represents are Corbin Co. from Italy and the Kwikset Corporation of the USA, with delivery and back up from Black & Decker," he pointed out.

Corbin Company is a leading manufacturer of quality European hardware and security products, ranging brass and marine padlocks to mortise locks, cylinders aluminium doorlocks and sophisticated keying systems. Kwikset Corporation is the world's largest residential knob-lock manufacturer in the USA, and whose three factories are producing an average of 50,000 locksets a day. In 1993, the heavy duty Titan range was launched, which is a 50-year guaranteed knobset in 5 attractive designs.

Many of the visitors of the exhibition came out with amazement at the quality and diversity of the products offered under the Black & Decker trademark. The service, maintenance and guarantees go a long way to ensure customer satisfaction.

HASCO LTD.

- * Hasco Ltd. is the sole distributor in Yemen of Black & Decker power tools, accessories, appliances and security systems.
- * Hasco Ltd is the newest trading venture of the The Hayel Saeed Anam Group of Companies.
- * Established in 1938, Hayel Saeed Anam (HSA) is the largest private business house in Yemen, with interests in industry, services and trading.
- * Hasco is backed by HSA's experience in distributing electronics, home appliances, cars, consumable products in the Yemeni market, and by local and worldwide network of sister companies.
- * The essence of Hasco's philosophy is 'to serve, to care'. This commitment to quality service has been the key reason behind HSA's phenomenal success in the Republic of Yemen.

BLACK & DECKER

- * Global manufacturer of quality products for the home and for commercial applications.
- * Sales per year = 5 Billion US Dollars.
- * Operates more than 60 factories around the world.
- * Number One selling home appliance brand in the USA.
- * Largest manufacturer of electric irons in the world.
- * Inventor of the "DUSTBUSTER" cordless vacuum cleaner.
- * Offers a full range of appliances, including: irons, cordless vacuum cleaner, food preparation products, personal care products, coffee makers, heaters.
- * Has enjoyed a local presence in the Gulf/Arabian Peninsula since 1975, with a regional office located in Dubai.
- * Now BLACK & DECKER has a local presence through Hasco.

BLACK & DECKER

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The BLACK & DECKER Professional:
Designed for people who use tools on a regular basis and need high performance plus the capability to withstand the most rugged environments. The range features:
- Heavy duty chucks and motors,
- Impact-resistant glass filled nylon bodies, and
- Machined, self-lubricating gears.
The range gives the durability, reliability, and longer life which separates 'Professional' from conventional tools.

The DeWalt Woodworking Machines:
Power, Precision and Versatility - are the hallmarks of the DeWalt range of fine woodworking machines. For the skilled craftsman, these machines combine the traditional accuracy of high-quality woodworking tools with the benefits of modern design and manufacturing techniques. Invented in 1923 by Raymond E. DeWalt, the Radial Arm Saw is at the center of the DeWalt range, and has earned a worldwide reputation for outstanding quality and reliability. Complimented by a Band Saw, a Planer/Thicknesser and Mitre Saws (in the Elu range), these machines are suitable for the specialized workshop.

Black & Decker Garden Line
This range includes products for all aspects of garden maintenance such as lawns, trees and hedges where the benefit of power, technology and design can help solve almost any gardening problem.



Osama Abdul-Rahman Hayel Saeed



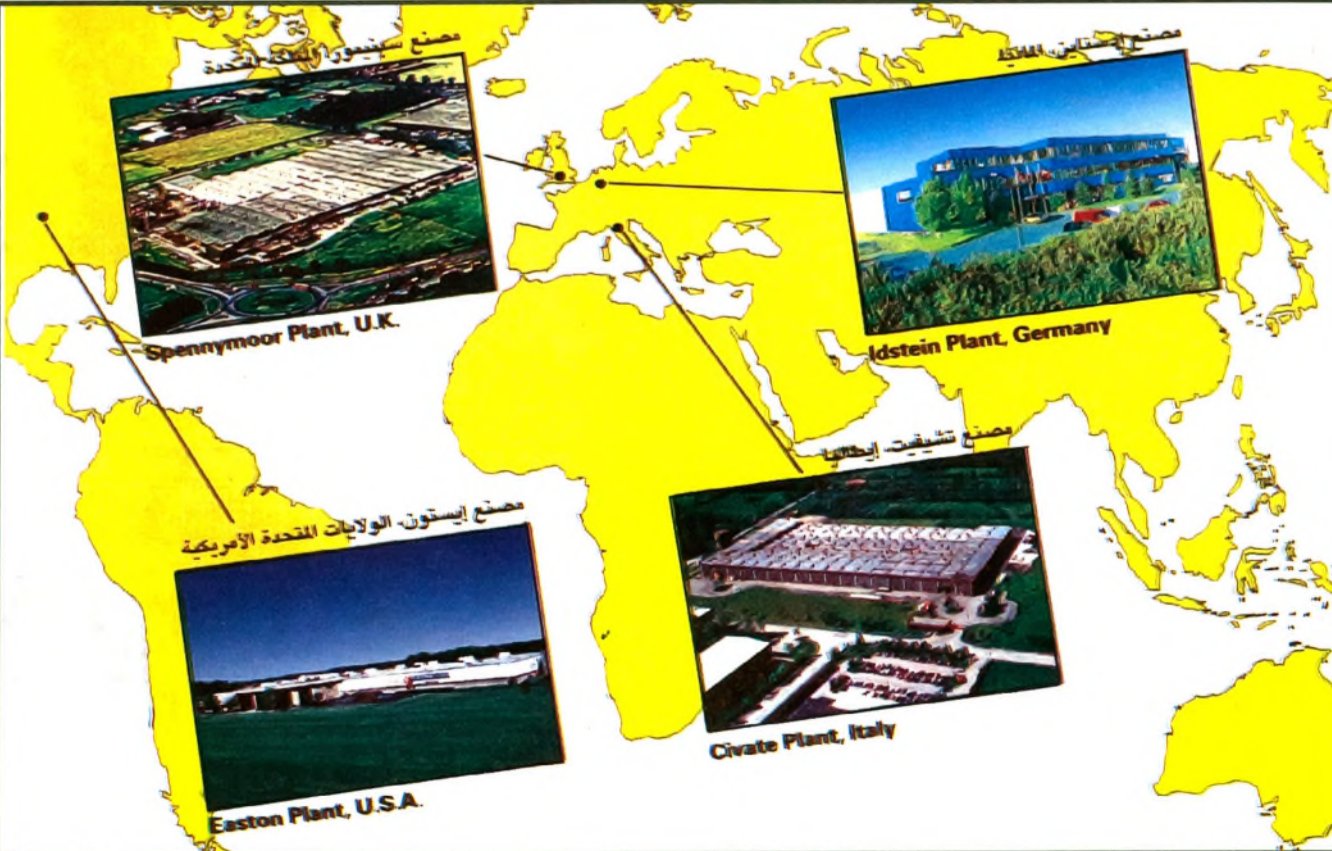
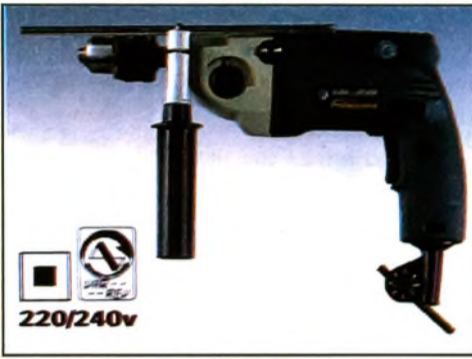
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T.K.P. Nair



M. Shaibani



MICROSOFT OFFERS POWERFUL, SIMPLE PUBLISHER

There is now a user-friendly desktop publishing software aimed squarely at home, small-business market for producing snazzy, professional-looking documents.

The best way to review a program is to put it to work on a real-world project. Unfortunately, this isn't always possible, because the project and product rarely show up at the same time.

As luck would have it, I agreed to help create a 25th reunion year-book for my college class about the same time that a copy of Microsoft desktop publishing program is aimed squarely at the home and small-business market, and I don't know if its authors had a 250-page book in mind when they designed it. But to my great delight (and relief), Publisher handled the project with a plumb.

If you are looking at something more modest, such as creating a flier for your yard sale, business forms for your company or newsletter for your clients, you'll have an even easier time of it.

For those new to the game, desktop publishing features,

including drawing and charting tools.

But they all lack one important feature common to desktop publishing programs, the ability to flow text from one part of a document to another in linked frames. This allows you to start an article on Page 1 of a newsletter and continue it on Page 3. If you change the size of the text frame on Page 1 or add text to it, a desktop publishing program automatically adjusts everything on Page 3.

At \$150 list price (less on the street), Microsoft Publisher lacks many of the sophisticated text controls and high-resolution color image handling features found in expensive desktop publishers such as Page Maker and Quark Express.

But it is surprisingly powerful and more importantly for average users, easy to put to work. Publisher has all of the basic desktop publishing tools.

You can create master pages with "background" objects, such as headers, footers and graphics that repeat on every page, as well as mirrored backgrounds for right and left-hand pages.

You can set put text and graphics frames on every page, flow text between frames and wrap text between frames and wrap text around other objects, even irregular shapes/drawings. The program's typographic controls over font, point size, line spacing and character spacing are adequate.

You can also provide fine adjustments to the spacing between individual characters, a process known as "kerning", which gives headlines a compact, professional appearance.

The program comes with a set of elementary drawing tools to create lines, circles, boxes and polygons, and you can use graphics from Publisher's clip art collection or import images in a wide variety of formats.

Publisher also provides a tool for creating tables from scratch or by using a wide variety of preset formats. You also import data from other programs, such as a spreadsheet, and by using OLE (object linking and embedding) technology, make sure the data in your document is updated if you change the original spreadsheet.

Publisher can do most of the grunt work for you through its "Wizard". These aren't guys in pointy hats who do magic, but they might as well be. They're mini programs that ask you basic questions about the document you want to create and then create it for you.

Let's say you want to create a newsletter. You can call up a Wizard that shows you five basic styles, ranging from classic to Art Deco.

Once you've made your choice, the Wizard asks how many text columns you want - one through four (advising you that three is the most common). The Wizard gives you a choice of layouts, prompts you to enter the name of your newsletter and asks for other pertinent information, such as whether you want to include space for a mailing label and return address. When it's through, the Wizard creates a sample document to your specs.

You'll undoubtedly want to adjust the layout, create or import your own text and graphics and change the typography to suit your tastes. But the Basic design work, which can take hours by hand particularly if you're not experienced gets done in a few seconds.

There are Wizards for newsletters, fliers, calendars, envelopes, invitations, greeting cards, brochures, letterhead, business cards, invoices, and other documents. There's even a Wizard that will create a spiffy company logo if you don't have one already.

Publisher is full of other usability touches. It makes good use of style sheets, which allow you to apply a variety of typesetting effects to a paragraph (font, point size, line spacing, indents, etc.) with a single mouse click.

When you select a text frame or graphic with your mouse pointer, a little icon pops up to tell you whether you're moving or resizing it. This feature alone can save you from making dozens of mistakes.

Microsoft's integrated "Word Art" program makes it easy to create special type effects such as slants, shadowing and rotation. Besides standard online help, Publisher provides "cue cards", which are mini tutorials that take you through basic operations step by step.

Unlike some other low-end desktop programs, Publisher had no trouble whatsoever with long documents, even when I tried it on a relatively slow laptop

computer (the largest chunk of my book was 140 pages, each with two columns of single-spaced type). Search-and-replace was virtually instantaneous.

Publisher does have a few annoying shortcomings that become apparent when you spend time with it. For example, you should be able to assign a style to a paragraph using a function key, instead of wading through a pull-down menu (try this a few hundred times and you'll understand what I mean). Also, while Publisher accurately displays your page as it will appear in print, it would be nice to have a "draft" view that displays text in a readable size, without formatting, for serious editing. Anything more than simple corrections and changes requires too much jumping around and zooming in and out. Even with these problems, Publisher is an excellent tool for producing snazzy, professional-looking documents. Its intelligent design anticipates what you want to do and provides all the help you need. Its Wizards and assistants will even do a lot of the work for you. In short, it's a good buy.

Michael Hirowitz.

Good Bye Dominique

Dominique Alardo, the Yemen District Manager of Schlumberger Overseas, left Sana'a last week at the end of over two years of service.

We take this opportunity to say thanks for the good service he gave Yemen and his company.

"Good bye" and best of luck in your new post.

Fatma Rawah
and the rest of the office staff



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For Russian Athletes, "The past was better."

For years the athletes of the USSR won world titles and gold medals, the Soviet empire's medal making machine, which sought out talent at the tenderest age and nurtured it to produce champions, ensured that its sportsman and women did honour to the flag of the hammer and sickle.

But with the disintegration of the empire, the advent of the economic crisis and the demise of generous state funding, it seems that the system has stalled. For Russia's many sports fans, it has been a bitter pill to swallow. When their team was knocked out in the first round of the recent World Cup soccer championship, many russians disgustedly refused to watch the subsequent matches screened on television. The same happened with the European athletic championship, held in Helsinki in August, at which Russian contenders failed to make their usual impact.

Whereas investing in sport was once seen as a political necessity - a way of asserting moscow's image internationally - today the government has other priorities. There is also a smaller pool of talent from which to draw.

The dismantling of the Soviet empire into Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) means that the former population of 300 million has effectively been cut by half. Athletes who once ran, swam or skated for the USSR today come under the flag of Kazakhstan, Ukraine, or Armenia.

The long tradition of "sports school" and clubs, which in the old days spawned scores of world championship, is still strong. There are 700 throughout Russia and 100 in Moscow alone. But many of them are a shadow of their former selves, their staff and facilities cut right back.

Vladimir Zakharov, head of ice-based sports at the famous Red Army's sports club, speaks nos-

taligally of the old days when, he says, "everything was simple and easy." Today, he laments, "everything revolves around money." With state subsidies cut by half in the space of just four years, the rule of the game is to find sponsors.

The Red Army Club is a good example. Once amply supplied with cash from the government coffers, today it has to look for most of its funding to manufacturers of cigarettes, sports-gar of alcoholic drinks.

The Red Army Club is one of the luckier ones. Its international reputation means foreigners are queuing up to train here. They come from Canada, the US and Japan and bring with them precious foreign currency, but even this is not enough.

For local talent, the club offers free facilities and training to what it predicts will be future champions. The hope is that the grateful stars will remember the club with cash gifts once they have made their mark, or that there will be financial spin-offs from the publicity they receive.

Two young Russians, the figure-skating partnership of Maxim Stavisky, 16, and Anastasia Belova, 13, are among the club's most promising proteges. The pair have been tipped as future Olympic medalists. But without the club's support and the help of a commercial sponsor-found by Anastasia's parents, their rise to fame would have been impossible.

One hour's training costs US \$70, almost as much as Maxim's mother Rachel earns in a month working as a technician for a radio station. And Maxim has to rely on the generosity of friends to pay for his ice skates.

At present, the Russian Olympic Committee is desperately trying to raise funds in order to put up a good show at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. Badly strapped for cash, the committee has resorted to renting out part of its headquarters and to embarking on

another commercial venture, that of opening up a chain of sports-wear stores.

Officials managed to find an international and a national sponsor to help them send an ice-skating team to the winter Olympics in Lillehammer earlier this year. They hope the government might dip into its pocket to help them with the 1996 games. Lured by the pull of big money overseas, many Russian athletes are packing their bags and heading abroad to seek their fortunes. More than 60 top Russian ice hockey players have deserted their teams in recent years to accept tempting contracts offered by the North American Hockey League.

The best players can expect to receive as much as \$3 million for a season. That kind of money is hard to resist when one considers that athletes who stay at home are forced to give up large chunks of the prizes they earn at sports.

The classic case was that of Zoya Ivanova who, in 1989, won the Los Angeles Marathon, with a prize of \$36,000. She ended up keeping just \$800.

One venerable Russian sports institution which has felt the pinch is the Dynamo Club, world famous for turning out top class athletes and medal winners down the years.

Q: What is the Dynamo Club like these days?

A: The club's activities have all but come to a halt, though all the water sports are still played here. There's virtually no-one left, the state does nothing to help us. It has cut off our main source of funding, the state subsidy. As a major club, active in almost all sports discipline, the dynamo comes under the interior ministry, but they have told us they now have other priorities.

Q: Is there a real drain of sporting talent?

A: In the 1970s, Moscow was

able to boast that in every one of its clubs between 7,000 and 10,000 athletes were in training at any given time. In the 1980s politics ensured that sport became more professional and the state only took an interest in the very best in the way of talent, the most promising athletes. At that time, most of the money became concentrated in the hands of the sports schools, which trained in a variety of sports disciplines. Special attention was paid to what was known as the 'olympic reservoir.' To cut a long story short, in 1984 our club could still count on some 5,000 members.

Q: And this has happened in spite of the past achievement of your club?

A: If we just take the example of rowing, the Dynamo has always contributed and others have all pulled out.

Q: What was it like in the good old days?

A: When everything was going well, we had as many as 14 trainers and up to 300 very promising athletes. Today, we have just two trainers looking after some 60 pupils.

Q: Is there less potential for first-rate athletes now?

A: In our field as in others, commercial considerations have taken over. These days, the glory of sporting achievements counts for less and the money to be had from them counts for more. It's agonizing.

Up until recently as two years ago, a team of veteran professional could still hold their own in cross-country skiing events. But ever since foreign firms started putting money behind our athletes, the standard of their performance has dropped. The number of medals we are winning is proof of that. At this rate, Atlanta will be a disaster.

Structural Adjustment Package on the Front Burner

The structural adjustment package that is supposed to be the remedy for the economic distortions is at this moment on the front burner. It is a top priority, in light of the coming visit of the World/IMF team next month. The adjustment is also important to achieve a resumption of foreign assistance from the traditional aid partners of Yemen.

The main issues are the pricing of government products and services, removal of the subsidies, correcting the exchange rate of the Riyal, and reducing government employment. If taken on in one lump, these measures are a recipe for disaster for the government as well as for the regime. That is why the evolving plan is to go the gradual way.

The Ministers of Finance, Supply and Trade, and Planning and Development as well as the Governor of the Central Bank of Yemen are directly involved in the process. Jointly, they are expected to formulate a plan of action under the auspices of the Supreme Council for Oil, Economy and Investment.

Meanwhile, there may be a change in the personnel of the World Bank office that is to be opened in Sanaa before the year is out. The preparations for the establishment of the office continue, albeit at a much slower pace than anticipated.

The public is already worried about the consequences of the adjustment of the price structure. Rumors are rife that a phenomenal rise in the price level is eminent. As a result, stocking has become commonplace, thus putting pressure on demand, and actually making the price-rise prophecy come true. The prime minister has announced that the government will not take action that will lead to price hikes, and that the subsidies are here to stay. The public does not believe such announcement, any more.

At the same time, syndicates and unions are beginning to clamor for wage and salary adjustments to account for the loss in purchasing power. Unfortunately, the salary increase is often cancelled by additional hikes in the price-level within a vicious inflationary cycle.

The main point of emphasis in the adjustment package should be to increase production and investment. As one specialist says, "To increase the size of the pie." That will make available additional resources (and income) to more people. Unless the government gives more production a priority, any economy policies to halt inflation and to correct the economic distortions will not yield the expected results.

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A LITTLE INNOVATION LURES PUFFINS BACK

The Atlantic puffins casually mill about seal Island, looking like clowns in tuxedos too content to notice the dozens of tourists who've boated out to see them. But life hasn't always been easy for these quirky birds - sometimes called sea parrots - on the islands off the coast of Maine.

Maine's puffins were nearly wiped out by hunters a century ago, but they're returning in record numbers thanks to an innovative restoration effort by the National Audubon Society.

"The message is that it is possible for people to actively encourage a species to establish a colony. People can restore it as well as decimate it," said Dr. Steven Kress, director of the society's puffin Project.

Kress and his team of researchers launched the recolonization project in 1973, transplanting puffin chicks from Newfoundland, where they are plentiful, to man-made burrows on eastern egg rock, a desolate island in muscongus.

"I thought it might work if we moved some of them and got them to learn a new home. They could take care of themselves after we finished rearing them," Kress said.

A total of 950 chicks were transplanted in Maine's islands by

1989, including Seal Island, stark 100-acre site once used for target practice by warplanes and warships during World War II. In a further attempt to lure puffins to the islands - the most southern colony for Atlantic puffins decoys were perched atop granite rocks and mating calls Waft from solar-powered CD players.

"Were testing the power of social attraction," Kress said. It appears to be working, this year the puffins, which said. Kress model for restoring bird colonies is being used to attract other types of birds in California, New York, Nebraska Massachusetts and Hawaii, as well as Japan and the Galapagos Islands. As the recolonization efforts attract puffins, the puffins attract tourists.

Throughout the summer, boat loads of people come to see what has become one of Maine's unofficial symbols. In the past six years, about 13,000 bird-watchers have paid about \$35 to spend a day on an Audubon Society "puffin cruise" in hopes of catching a glimpse of the unusual seabird.

"The puffins are cute and colourful with human characteristics their popularity is like the penguin thing," said Rick Shuffler, the Audubon Society

supervisor for Seal Island, as he sat in a blind watching birds with binoculars.

The bird's dumpy body and stubby legs make them clumsy on land, but the puffins are masters of the sea where they live when they are not nesting in the summer. The pigeon sized birds can dive at least 150 feet down and hold up to 28 fish at one time in their colourful beaks. "if a puffin could lay an egg that floats we'd never see them," Susan Jones, a volunteer with the Audubon Society, said on a recent cruise. But because the puffins nest for four months in the summer, so does Shuffler. For the past four summers, the 35 year old has been the bearded guardian of this treeless island. He lives in a small shack and, along with other field researchers, records crucial data on the puffins and Arctic terns. He rarely leaves, relying on the puffin cruises to bring him mail and supplies. It is an ideal life for Shuffler.

Peacefully etching birds most of the day, and taking breaks to go fishing or haul lobsters. He often ends his day with a sunset dinner. "You have to be into it and enjoy the opportunities you have here, you cant miss the things you can't have," he said. "It's good for someone like me."

And good for the puffins.

Long ago, it believed that a puffin was a fish as well as a bird. People thought it was born from rotting pieces of wood floating in the sea, instead of hatching out from an egg as we know it does today.

Maine's puffins were nearly wiped out by hunters a century ago. But they're returning in record numbers thanks to an innovative restoration effort by the National Audubon Society.

SOME FACTS ABOUT PUFFINS

Puffins live 25 to 30 years. It takes puffins five years to mature and begin breeding, the female lays only on egg a year. From the time puffins first leave the nest they may not touch land again for two or three years. Puffins can dive at least 150 feet deep, they can hold up to 28 fish in their beaks, the birds are about 10 inches tall. Puffins nest from April to August in colonies in burrows or rock cavities.

Eastern egg rock in Mine is the most southern Atlantic puffin colony. The pacific puffin is found on the west coast as far as California.



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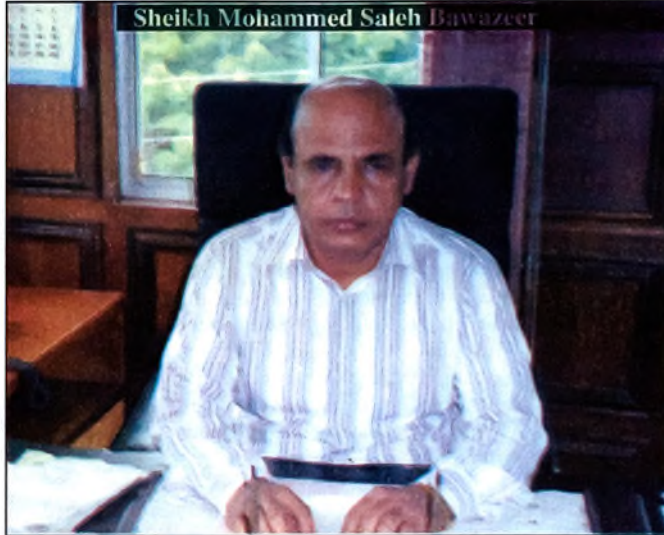
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A Yemeni Entrepreneur Serves as a Link between East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula

Bawazeer Products Make In-roads into Yemeni Markets



Sheikh Mohammed Saleh Bawazeer in a first-class Kenyan entrepreneur of Yemeni origin (Hadhramaut). Today, he is one of the outstanding success stories in the business world of the region. He is well respected as a first-class entrepreneur both in Yemen and East Africa, and his businesses generate employment for thousands of workers, and his factories and companies make a sizeable contribution to the Kenyan government coffers as well as the national income. In addition, Sheikh Bawazeer is involved in many charity, sports and educational activities which he sponsors. Sheikh Bawazeer is now making a visible effort to start business links between East Africa, based from Kenya, and the Arabian Peninsula, with Yemen as the entry point. Yemen Times will run a series of articles on the Bawazeer enterprises, starting with the glass factory (page 8) and fruit processing plant (page 9).



The glass industry in Kenya received a major boost when the Bawazir Group acquired the former Kenya Glass Works (which was under Receivership), and converted the dead factory into one of the most well-known factories in the region. The factory now produces:

1. Glass making use primarily of locally available raw material.
2. Glass made from re-use of rejected and broken glass.
3. Packaging of glass products by the use of locally manufactured tumblers thus helping to cut down Kenya's import bill.

The Bawazeer Glassworks produces all kinds of glass products ranging from bottles, household utensils, jars, tumblers, and other products in various shapes and colors. The Bawazeer glass is impermeable and does not absorb odor nor affect the taste of product. The same thing cannot be said of other forms of other regionally-manufactured goods. With the use of the most modern technology and computerized machines, backed by a highly qualified and experienced team of workers and personnel, Bawazir Glass Works can produce any shape of glass product, under any specifications for different uses. The hardness and smoothness of glass surface and its chemical inertness makes processes like cleaning and high temperature sterilization easy and possible.

Glass is more hygienic and easily cleanable as well as reusable than other forms of packaging. That is why the world is steadily moving towards glass containers. Worldwide recently, glass has even replaced plastic containers which are environmentally hazardous. Most raw materials for glass making are found locally, like silica sand, soda ash, limestone, dolomite, etc.. Thus the Bawazeer glass industry makes use of Kenya's natural resources and the value added is above 90%. Furthermore, due to the strategic position of Bawazir Glass Works near Mombasa Port, it is well positioned for exports. At this time, environmental concerns are high and most of the countries are introducing policies in favor of glass at the expense of plastics and tin. That is why, worldwide demand for glass products has increased, thus enabling Kenya to increase its exports. One of the new markets for Kenyan glass is Yemen, which is negotiating to arrange large-scale imports from the Bawazeer Glassworks. Interested persons or companies can make contact by writing to or calling:

Bawazeer Glassworks Ltd.,
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 Mombasa, Kenya,
 Phone: (254-11) 222-448/9,
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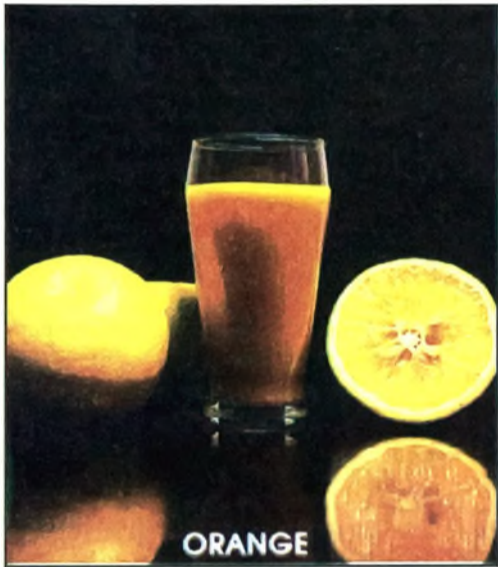
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A Yemeni Entrepreneur Serves as a Link between East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula Bawazeer Products Make In-roads into Yemeni Markets



MANGO



ORANGE



PASSIONFRUIT

Bawazir Fruits Processors Ltd. (BFP), started production in late 1988. It employs highly qualified technical staff with many years' experience in the field of fruit and vegetable processing.

The highly sophisticated modern machinery and technology has enabled BFP to develop and build a complete range of fruit concentrates from tropical fruits, like mangoes, oranges, pineapples, grapefruits, passion fruits, bananas and tomatoes.

Nothing remains static at BFP. Customer's requirements are continuously changing as are the product specifications and processing technology. BFP not only follows this trend, but also develops new products to suit customer needs. Each product is worked out by highly experienced specialists from BFP's technical and production departments, to have the most effective solution to the processing and marketing needs of our customers.

BFP is located in Mombasa on the most beautiful coast of Kenya. Mombasa by tradition has been the gateway of East Africa and is famous for its beautiful sandy beaches, wildlife and marine life along with the world class Beach Hotels. The tropical climate and the delicious tropical fruits of Kenya's coast are well known to the world since the 15th century through the Portuguese.

BFP is situated at Mtwapa on the main Mombasa - Malindi road, 16 km North of Mombasa city and 20 km from both Mombasa Port and Moi International Airport.

The supply and assembly of the factory was a turn-key project executed by ALBERTO BERTUZZI SPA of Milano, Italy. The plant and auxiliary installations are in a covered area of 4000 square meters with adequate space for further expansion.

All the water used in the factory comes through a fully automatic water treatment and softening plant.

Sheikh Mohammed Saleh Bawazeer



At present the plant is producing mango, pineapple, orange, grapefruit and passion fruit concentrates to the customer's specification. Tomato paste is produced for home market and banana puree is produced against specific demand.

Low temperature evaporation under vacuum, ultra short resident time and concentration in one single passage ensure that there is minimum loss of flavor and retention of nutritional value. Thus we are able to pass on the tropical freshness, yet are able to pass on to the customer all the advantages of cost savings in packing, transport and storage.

Fruit juices can be concentrated up to 72 degrees Brix and fruit pulps up to 30 degrees Brix. Our plant is equipped with the latest aseptic processing and packaging machines.

Aseptic processing has gained acceptance world-wide as the best method of treating products mildly while ensuring sterility without deep freezing.

Fruit concentrates and pulps are flash pasteurized through a closed system whereby the extended thermal treatment is avoided resulting in a much more "natural" product with negligible loss of taste, flavor and color.

The cooled product is then filled automatically and continuously into pre-sterilized bags in a sterile and inert atmosphere which prevents bacterial activity in the product and also ensures

that no oxygen is included in the product, during post sterilization, filling and sealing.

Fine control of pasteurization is maintained by a fully automated feed back system which is controlled by a master computer unit, thereby eliminating the ever present danger of human error.

The use of inert laminates in the 5 layer construction of aseptic bags eliminates the possibility of tin and lead present in conventional cans. Aseptic bags can be stored and transported safely at an ambient temperature of 20 degrees or below without costly refrigeration.

Bags can be tailored to the customers' requirements from 5 liters capacity to 1000 liters. The most popular and standard sizes are 20 liters in the bag-in-box and 220 liters in the bag-in-drum configuration.

Our products packed in aseptic bags offer superior quality with saving on packing cost.

Strict quality control is applied throughout the production phases, from fruit selection until the final tests for quality standards and organoleptic acceptance.

The plant uses international specifications and analysis methods. Furthermore, it constantly develops new product ideas and processing methods which enables it to meet the clients' requirements.

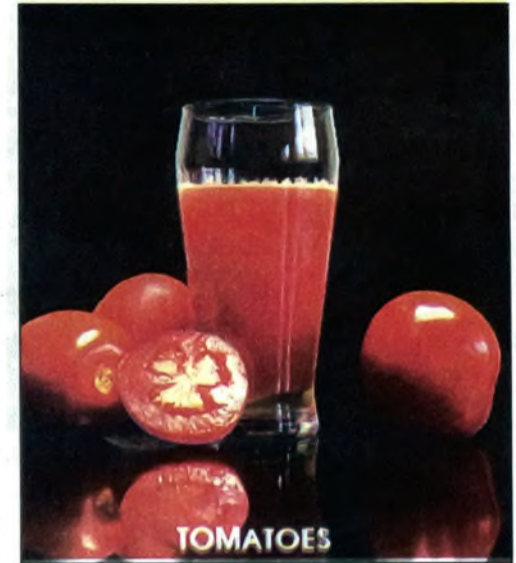
Though there are excellent laboratory controls, this is backed up by continuous on-line inspections.

BFP not only supplies local demand, but has aggressively marketed the Kenyan product worldwide. The company has now launched a new strategy to bring its products to Yemen. Already, many potential Yemeni business partners have shown interest. BFP can be reached at the following address:

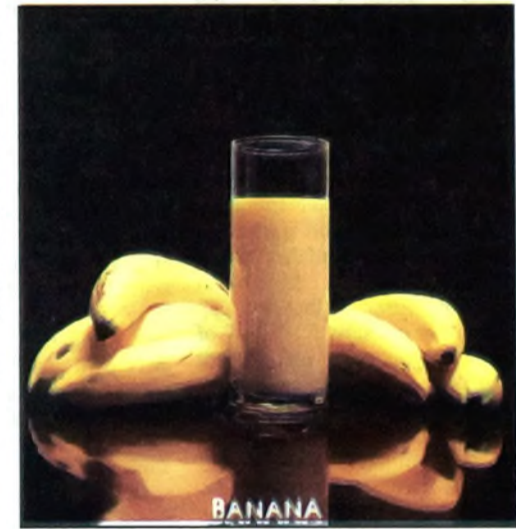
**Bawazir Fruit Processors Ltd.,
P. O. Box 80326,
Mombasa, Kenya.
Tel: (254-11) 485551, 485478;
Fax: (254-11) 485-480,
Telex: 21313 BAWAZEER**



PINEAPPLE



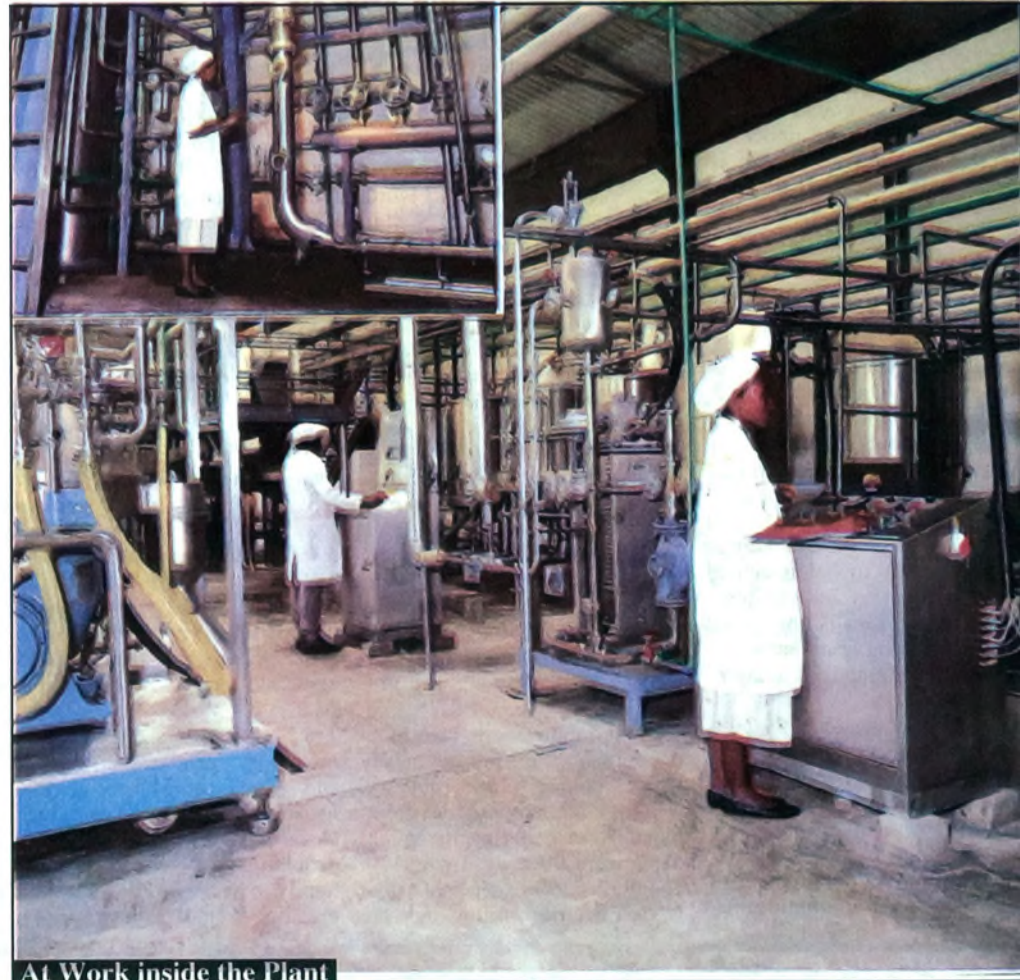
TOMATOES



BANANA



Aerial View of the Plant



At Work inside the Plant

HELPING WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

Charities focus on women who face inequities.

By Joe Fox.
Adopted from:
THE WORLD & I
October 1994.

She is now awake a few minutes ago she was back "there". Reliving those moments of horror that would change her life forever.

She was running. Running so fast that her feet seemed to take off into the air. Breathing so hard that her lungs seemed to explode. They catch her. Force her down and carry her into a room. It is dark room, and she can barely make out the facts around her. Other than the sound of her own heart pounding, she hears her mother whispering into her ear. "My darling, do not be scared. You will soon be a woman. You will soon be respected."

She cries. A tear at first. And then a whimper. Then a sob. Then a howl. Then a scream. A scream so piercing that it leaves the room and travels through her African village and rushes up to the sky. Beseching the heavens above to help her.

And then she awakes from the dream. Trembling. Sweating. Shaking so hard that it seems as if her whole room is moving along with her. After what seems to be an eternity, calm returns to her body and she apprehensively closes her eyes again, hoping that her mind will not return her to the day that she "became a woman."

At least once a month, the peaceful sleep of Soraya, thirty-two, is shattered by the memories that come back to haunt her. Although currently a successful filmmaker living in Southern California, thousands of miles away from her native Somalia, that one day, when she was thirteen... that one day when her native "rite of passage" was performed on her... that one day when Soraya was circumcised always comes back to visit her.

It is estimated that eighty million women around the world have undergone female genital mutilation. Although considered to be a cultural custom (mostly performed in Africa) aimed at ensuring a women's virginity until she marries, this particular practice is usually performed under the poorest of hygienic conditions by a midwife using no anesthetic with non sterile instruments.

Many of the girls on whom circumcision is performed die of shock. Others bleed to death. Others like Soraya develop acutely dangerous infections. And, with others, the wounds are in the mind, invisible for those on the outside to see.

Although women make up half the world's population, the problems they face range from being excluded from educational systems to being denied job opportunities and adequate health care. From being forced into prostitution at an early age to infanticide practiced today in India and China.

According to the recently published Human Development Report compiled by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), women are "the non participating majority," receiving only a small share of developmental opportunities.



Among the UNDP's findings:
• Women make up two-thirds of the world's illiterates. In South Asia, female literacy rates are only around 50% of those of males. In many countries, the situation is even worse.

In Nepal, it is 35%, Afghanistan stands at 32%, while, in the Sudan, it is only 27%.
• Fewer job opportunities exist for women than for men. The employment participation rates of women are on average only 50% of those of men (in South Asia, 29% and, in the Arab states, only 16%).

According to UNICEF teenage girls particularly those in India and Thailand are being forced into prostitution at alarmingly increasing rates. In Thailand alone, it is estimated that there are over eight hundred thousand prostitutes under the age of sixteen.

In addressing this worldwide problem, UNICEF has called for an end to "apartheid of gender" and stated:

A new world order should oppose the apartheid of gender as vigorously as the apartheid of race. The developing world women bear and care for its children, fetch and carry its fuel and water, cook its meals and shop for its needs, wash its clothes and clean its homes, and looked after its old and ill, it is less widely known that women also grow and market most of the developing world's food, earn and increasing proportion of its income, and work, on average, twice as many hours a day as men.

In return for this important contribution, the women of the developing world are generally rewarded with less food, less training, less leisure, less income, less rights, and less protection.

Although the issue is broad and the situation differs so vastly from country to country, progress is being made incrementally in bettering the plight of women around the world. In addition to agencies like UNICEF, the following are

three examples of organizations based in the United States that are involved in international efforts aimed at improving the lives of women.

Trickle Up

"Change happens in trickles, not waves," says Mildred Robbins Leet, who with her husband, Glen, founded Trickle Up. "Small changes gradually lead to greater and more significant ones."

The key word that Leet emphasizes is a *small*. In the case of Trickle Up, an organization dedicated to reducing poverty by helping poor and unemployed people start small businesses or micro enterprises, change starts with \$50.

"With an initial \$50 loan, we are providing the poorest of the poor an opportunity to break their downward cycle of poverty and despair," says Leet. Since its creation in 1979, the Trickle Up program has helped in starting or expanding more than thirty thousand business in Asia, Africa and the Americas. Over two-thirds of those assisted by Trickle Up are women.

"Women are often the poorest and most vulnerable sector of society," states Leet. "They have few assets, are limited in the access to credit, and face cultural, social, legal, and economic obstacles that men - even poor men do not face."

To hundred thousand women since 1979 have started their own businesses through Trickle Up funding. The businesses vary. There is a woman who has a sewing business in Cambodia, and there are grandmothers in Kampala, Uganda, who have opened a center to help provide for orphans of the AIDS epidemic that ravages that country.

Trickle Up works directly with in-country agencies that identify and select those who are eligible for loans. The grants are given to groups of five or more people, often in the same family, who decide to join together to start a business. To

qualify for the grant, each group member must prove that they are equal partners in the enterprise they plan or running, that they will work a thousand hours within three months, that a profit is anticipated, and that no less than 20 percent of the profit is anticipated, and that no less than 20 percent of the profit will be reinvested in the enterprise. A second \$50 loan is given to each group after it submits a short business report successfully providing that it has established a continuing business. Locally based volunteer coordinators typically provide assistance in filling out the necessary paperwork.

"Our program is driven on the belief that we enable people to make their own decisions," says Leet. "We want women to take an active role in shaping their own destinies. We give people the belief and the hope that they can do that."

Most of the businesses that have been created throughout Trickle Up's fourteen-year history are still in operation, with many expanding and some diversifying.

Leet cites the example of Sonya Trotman from Dominica. Trotman was the first woman to receive a grant from Trickle Up. She was destitute and had several children to care for, and money from Trickle Up enabled her to start an ice-cream business. When Leet recently returned to Dominica, she found that Trotman has opened a bakery and is now teaching teenage girls cake making so that they might open businesses of their own.

"The obstacles that women face, especially in third World countries, are daunting," says Leet. In many situations, particularly in Africa, the men commonly seek urban employment, leaving women in rural areas to fend pretty much for themselves. The women are trying to survive on a day-to-day basis, in addition to caring for their families."

Leets states that "by giving women the opportunity to

generate their own income, we are not only helping them economically. Raising their economic level leads to her improvements. Many of these women have ended their own illiteracy."

In Ghana, Trickle Up entrepreneurs are the main agents of community development; their activities benefit the entire community as well as the environment. Over 125 women owning forty Trickle Up business work side-by-side in such enterprises and needs, but they have started a tree nursery for the community and are building a market place to attract customers from other villages.

Trickle Up estimates the number of loan applications has tripled within the last five years.

"Because the pie is only so big," says Laura Lopez, chief program officer, "we only accept about a fourth of the applications submitted."

the organization receives close to 40 percent of its income from individual contributions. Corporate and foundations support has come from such organizations as Avon and Citibank. Last year, Trickle Up also received grants from the Agency for International Development (AID) and the government of the Netherlands.

"I believe," said Leet, "that all people, no matter how bleak their current situation may be have the ability to succeed."

World Vision

"Protecting the girl child is the key to saving the omen of tomorrow," says Cathy Wickman, communications manager at World Vision, one of the largest international relief and development agencies. World Vision was founded in 1950 to respond to the needs of abandoned Korean War orphans and now serves over a million children around the globe.

"Girl children the world over are in peril," asserts Wickman.

"One just needs to take a look country by country to see the real impact of this tragedy."

Wickman cites the followings examples that illustrate her point: • In Bangladesh, many mothers stop breast-feeding their daughters after only twelve months but continue to breast-feed their infant sons for up to two and a half years. This is done to spur another conception that will hopefully produce a son.

• New technologies like ultrasound have made it easier for mothers to know the sex of their children before birth and then opt to abort the fetus. In India, data from six hospitals reveal that out of eight thousand babies aborted, only one was male.

• In China, where strict family-planning rules went into effect at the end of the 1970s limiting couples to one child, parents fearful of wasting their quota on a girl have turned to ultrasound to weed out unwanted females.

"This is just the tip of the iceberg," says Wickman. "In a number of third World countries, girls are married as early as seven or eight in the hopes that the family's financial burden will be lightened with the receipt of a dowry and the certainty of there being one less mouth to feed. If a family cannot find the right 'suitor' who will pay the agreed-upon dowry,

it is not uncommon for that girl to be sold into prostitution."

Recognizing the magnitude of this international problem, World Vision, which supports more than sixty-two hundred projects in ninety-four nations, recently launched the Girl Child Initiative to heighten staff and public awareness to specific needs of girl children.

"We felt that we were in a very unique position," says Wickman, "as advocates and implementers to bring change an hope into the lives of girls around the world."

Under the Girl Child Initiative, research is being conducted on the problems that affect the development of girls and women innovative programs to help them are being designed and tested with the hope that the programs can be replicated. Some examples of the world vision Girls Child Initiative at work include:

- Supporting a two hundred bed fistula hospital in Ethiopia for women whose urinary tracts have been damaged during child birth or female circumcision. Fistula problems remain a lifelong ailment of women in sixty developing countries.

- Working with the Guizhou provincial government in China to improve and expand caring and teaching facilities for abandoned girls in that province.

- An AIDS prevention/education program in Bombay, though its "Women and AIDS" program, World Vision has launched an AIDS prevention program aimed at teenage girls in Bombay.

- Educating adolescent girls in Guatemala who have no access to regular schooling. Guatemala's culture places greater importance on the education of boys than of girls and, thus family funds available for education are usually spent on sons rather than on daughters. Many girls cannot attend school because they are too busy working. This program teaches reading and health care.

- A literacy program in Mali aimed at teaching women, who have an astounding 94% illiteracy rate, how to read and write. It is hoped that they will help their children learn to read.

"In a lot of situations," says Wickman, "we have to tread very carefully in the communities in which we work. For example, in the case of a father who, out of economic necessity, needs to marry a daughter off, we will arrange for him to obtain a loan in order to start a business. This will enable the girl to continue her studies."

In addition to the Girl Child Initiative, World Vision operates thirty-five programs aimed exclusively at women around the world. They range from teaching women management and leadership skills in Kenya to hygiene and immunization training for mothers in Haiti, or an agricultural loan program in Cambodia enabling women (who make up 60% of Cambodia's populations) to farm their own lands.

Although much work still need to be done to reduce gender inequities the world over, the work done by UNICEF and private organizations like these means the women are being offered more aid than ever before.

Abyan Governor:

"Construction is our first priority."

By: Shaher Musa'abain,
Aden Bureau Chief,
Yemen Times.



Abyan continues to command a vital link in the government's plans and programs in the southern/eastern governorates. Even, such a pivotal position has not, as yet, extracted any major development thrust as the places begins to rot, in the aftermath of the civil war, quite a bit of which took place in Abyan.

Abyan is also at the center of the on-going power struggle for the hearts and minds of the people. The competition, or even rivalry, has seen the Islamic groups imposing their will and their vision of the life they aspire in the governorate. Sometimes, this has taken a violent twist.

Yemen Times went to speak to Abyan Governor Ali Sheikh Omer, who is also a member of the Permanent Committee of the People's General Congress (PGC). Below are excerpts of the interview with the governor.

Q: Let us start with the utilities, which seem to be badly lacking. Why do you still have problems with water and electric supply?

A: I am sure you are aware that the large population centers of Abyan, including the main cities such as Zinjubar, Khanfar, Ji'ar, etc., are tied-in with the system in Aden. So, when the

Aden water and electric supplies were disrupted, we were directly affected. Even our telephone system is tied to the switchboard in Aden. Our imported goods and supplies come via Aden harbor.

In short, most of the coastal stretch of Abyan, and a good part of the governorate's hinterland, was integrated with Aden. As Aden suffered during the war, so did we.

We have tried to make do with whatever resources exist in the governorate. We repaired and operated some of the generators to produce electricity, which is distributed among the regions in a regulated blackout system. But part of the new problem we faced was shortage of diesel to fuel the generators. At the same time, work is underway to repair and operate the central Aden

electric generators at Al-Hiswah.

We have also drilled local water wells, and repaired old ones. Again here, the Greater Aden water project is now functioning and we hope to quickly get back to normal supply levels.

Let me point out that the local engineers plus the Engineering Corps of the armed forces and a Romanian company are together working to repair the destroyed network and bring back the utilities, especially the electric supply, into service. I can say more than half of the some seventy kilometers between Aden and Abyan have been covered.

Q: There are reports of various incidents in Abyan, some of them related to application of Islamic punishments (flogging, chopping

off the hand, etc.). How true is this and what is your office doing about it?

A: First of all, let me say that it is not the state's official organs which are doing these things. It is a few zealots who are imposing their will. I can even say that we cannot blame the leadership political party to which they belong (Islah) for such actions, because they were not even condoned, let alone approved.

We are stopping such excesses and extra-legal actions. But you will realize that they are roving groups which are not settled for us to confront them. Many of them, in fact, may even have personal vengeance as a motivation for what they are doing.

Q: It is strange you say that, because we just saw them well entrenched in the central cinema house of governorate's capital - Ji'ar. They have converted the cinema into a mosque. They are there if you to take them on.

A: We are in a delicate situation, and we are handling it with long-term vision and patience. But I have to stress, we are not allowing anybody to take the law into their hands, and we are gradually bringing law and order to the land.

By the way, the cinema of Ji'ar is back to its old function.

Q: The cinema house in Moudiya was destroyed, and you took no action. Why?

A: As soon as the report came, we started an investigation. Unfortunately, no party took claim for the action, and we have unable, so far, to pin down the perpetrators.

Sometimes, there is an ownership problem. For example, the cinema house in Lowder was built on a land claimed by some citizens. The Minister of Local Administration has given instructions to return the land to its rightful owners. So, the people who claim the land brought tractors and tore down the cinema of Lowder.

Also destroyed was the neighboring Arqan sports club.

Q: How are you handling the problem of land ownership, in general.

A: As governor, I have taken a decision to freeze all litigations and actions regarding this matter for six months, until the situation comes under full control. We do not want this matter to overwhelm us and divert our attention from the construction needs of the governorate. I think the main thrust must be on the development front. We need to make progress on this front immediately.

مولود مبارك

يتقدم الأهل والأصدقاء، بأحر التهاني والتبريكات
للأخ / وحيد عبد العزيز الزريقي
بمناسبة إرتزاقه مولوده الجديد والذي أسماه حلمي
فألف مبروك يا أبا حلمي

المهنؤون،

عماد أحمد السقاف، وليد عبد الله السقاف،
بسام أحمد السقاف، رضاء رضاء عبد الرحمن السقاف.

تهانينا

بأحر التهاني نتقدم الى الأخ والصديق / فيضي حميد الروني
بمناسبة إرتزاقه مولده الأول
فألف مبروك وعقبال ما تخلف دسنة عيال.

المهنؤون،

يوسف محمد يوسف الشريف، أمير المعلمي، حسين سرور
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Letters to the Editor, Letters to the Editor, Letters to the Editor, Letters to the Editor

"I HAVE A DREAM"

As a patriotic Yemeni, I have a dream. Maybe, it is a wish or simply some hope. You may even call it a desire. My head always spins round and round trying to form a picture, a fantasy. But often I worry it could just be a mirage. An ambition that is beyond our grasp, something that cannot be achieved, at least not in the foreseeable future.

Everytime I watch on television pictures of the metropolitan centers of fellow Arab countries, especially our immediate neighbors, I feel betrayed. Think about it, even the tiny sparsely-populated Emirates, are doing so well. But how beautifully their cities glitter, like pure gold in the suq - clean and well kept. You can see their cities are well planned and disciplined.

I watch all that and imagine when my beloved Yemen will reach that level of development. I ask "What has held us back while the others progressed?" That is how the imagination turns to a question, a simple question. I further ask: "Can we still make it and if yes how and when?"

Initially, everything seemed simple and straight forward, but when I try to find the answer, it turns out the issue is overwhelming. Thus, I feel so hopeless. I ask "What on earth can I do?" Nothing, yes, nothing especially in view of my struggle to survive day in day out - a hand-to-mouth situation. This is definitely not progress. It a precarious way of living.

I realize I am not alone in my ordeal. Many other young Yemenis are sailing in the same boat. How many persons are in this predicament? Obviously the majority, but out of this majority, how many can make a difference? Very few.

Now I get the reason. The puzzle is solved and the catchword is so simple, and yet so devastating. It is sheer IGNORANCE, the main component of all backwardness.

I love Yemen. I bleed inside me and I always pray God to help us all. What this country needs most is EDUCATION.

By: Ahmed Bahannan,
Sana'a

ORDEALS OF FOREIGN TEACHERS AT SANAA UNIVERSITY

We would like to discuss the dilemma of the Non-Yemeni faculty members at Sana'a University. The absence of control at the University administration level has reached its climax.

The salaries in the foreign currency (70%) have not been paid since May 1994, although the prime minister's office had set September as the date for payment. Payment of salaries in Yemeni rials or US dollars is constantly delayed for an average of more than one month over the last three years. The problem has further deteriorated recently.

We do not even raise the issues of the decline of the rial, due to the high inflation rate, which means that the actual salaries have steadily drop. Since 1992, they have fallen to about 50%. Already our salaries are about 30% of the salaries paid to equivalent professors serving in the Gulf and Libyan universities.

It is about time to treat the matter in a serious way and the whole situation concerning salaries, housing, office facilities should be reconsidered. The whole matter is due to the inefficiency of the university administration. Actually, fewer numbers are needed to run the university. The present problems will lead to the termination of the most able faculty members in the future.

By: Faculty members at Sana'a University,
from : five Arab countries.

HOW SANE ARE WE?

I was reading one worthwhile point in the interview with Psychiatrist Dr. Abdul-Mageed Saeed Al-Khulaidi - issue number 41 of October 16, page 3. Some words and phrases of what he said, and their implication, is still in my mind.

A short time prior to reading this interview, one layman said something which somewhat resembles what the doctor said in the interview, that "all Yemenis are mad."

This sentence has been thrown in front of me over and over, even though I never believed in this myself. Now I am confronted with a professional opinion along the same lines. I now believe that all of this cannot simply be baseless. I think there are symptoms in our character such as carelessness, restlessness, always in a hurry, loud-speaking nature, unethical back-stabbing, lack of sense of fairness and justice, etc. These features are so prevalent these days, that it is a worrying sign.

The above is my own conclusion, but I am not sure how much of it is true and how much of it Dr. Al-Khulaidi would agree with.

We need more explanation in the field of psychological and mental disturbances. Can the good Dr. Al-Khulaidi and others help?

By: Hayder Mohammed Nassar,
Sana'a

A MYSTERY CRIME OF FILIPINA

Let me start with a good hello to you and your staff on behalf of all the Filipinos in Yemen. I want to report a sad story.

A Filipino woman came to Yemen to work hard and hopefully save money and send it back to her family. Unfortunately, she was not so lucky. Not only will she not be able to send back money, but she will not be able to return. Her employer was apparently not happy with her, so she killed her.

This Filipina was the third person to work for this lady. The first one jumped from the third floor to escape; the second one tried to endure her term, but could not finish. But this third house helper wasn't able to run away from the torture.

She was tied up and repeatedly beaten, she had boiling coffee poured over her and finally she was cut up with a knife from her neck to her privates, her insides were all torn up apparently by a pipe of sort (There are photos which are not suitable for publishing).

What kind of human being could do this? And more importantly what will the authorities do about it? Who will protect the rights of guest workers?

The poor girl is dead and she has no one to speak for her or to demand justice. We felt helpless, but then one of us remembered the Yemen Times - that bold paper that stands for the underdog.

Thank God for your newspaper where at least a voice can be heard. More importantly, perhaps some local and/or regional human rights organizations will come to the rescue, and something can be done about this heinous crime. The body of the victim has been in the hospital for more than three weeks now, and no action has been taken.

By: The Filipino Association in Yemen,
Sanaa.

WORSE IN MUKALLA

This is my first time to give my views through this first-class newspaper, the Yemen Times. I am motivated by the repeated occurrence of power-failure in Mukalla.

Power-blackout each and every day has made life very hard for the residents of Mukalla. Nowadays, things have changed for the worse, as blackouts can extend for more twelve hours daily. This has forced a change in the lifestyle of the residents of Mukalla. It has also affected the potential and present investors who are tired of the unexpected difficulties.

If the investors decide to pack up and leave the country, that means we are hurting the economy of this nation. Thus, I beg the government to look forward and take immediate action and rectify this serious matter.

The electric authorities who are supposed to give full information to the public remain silent. Unfortunately, many of our senior officials do not care about this problem because many of them have installed private generators to serve their luxury houses. So they never think about the patients languishing in hospitals or the low and middle-income citizens' homes or workplaces.

We are so tired, and we always pray to God to help the people of Yemen. The government must take responsibility to put to an end to this inhuman habitat, especially since it is not really a matter of resources.

May be the Yemen Times could be kind enough to send reporters to investigate and publish stories concerning this electricity blackout.

By: Islam Ba-Yusuf,
Mukalla

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN YEMEN AFTER THE WAR

Last May, after a series of articles and a good deal of interest in the community, the Yemen Times sponsored a Nations Workshop on Wildlife Conservation, and international speakers, and a number of distinguished Yemeni scientists working in this field, had gathered to discuss practical ways and means to further conservation projects in Yemen.

Then, sadly and regrettably, the civil war started, the conference was canceled, and all the proposed initiatives were lost in the weeks that followed. That was all six months ago, and now a number of encouraging things are happening things are happening which should stimulate us to get back to the important task of protecting Yemen's rich natural heritage.

Firstly, Eng. Hamdani, the chairman of the Environmental Protection Council, has been abroad to study conservation projects there, and has returned with positive ideas to further similar projects here in Yemen. Secondly, Dr. Omar Sagheir, a Yemeni. Thirdly, an important international document was published in the summer, which identifies all the important areas for conservation in the

Middle East, and of these, some forty are in Yemen. It is the wish of the E.P.C. and Bird Life International to look at these areas and study how they can best, and most practically, be protected. If serious and sensible proposals are put forward, it is likely that funding from international resources could be found to finance a number of projects.

Various groups and official bodies will be involved, and they are all looking at ways to help. One of these is the Yemen Ornithological Society, which has lost a number of members since the war, but is still active, and regrouping to help with the I.B.A. proposals.

The Annual General Meeting of the Yemen Ornithological Society will be held on Tuesday, November 29th, at 1930 hours, at the Joint Oil Companies' Clinic in Sana'a, and all people, both Yemeni and expatriate, who are interested in birds and would like to get involved in bird watching and conservation activities in Yemen, are cordially invited to come and join us.

For further information, contact:
Derek Harvey, Tel: 216723, Fax 417983



INTERNATIONAL PEN FRIENDS



Pen Friends Corner

By: Rahila Ba-Flawy

HOW TO ENROLL WITH IPF IN YEMEN

Enrolment

The enrolment form can be obtained from the representative. After you fill this form, please mail it back. Postage services will be provided by the representative. When IPF headquarters in Ireland receive the completed form, their computers will then select and print suitable list of names. This list of names will be sent, directly by them, to the new member. Any subsequent queries or correspondence relating to the list, will be directly between the member and IPF Dublin. The penfriends we give you, will be in your own age group. It might take 3-4 weeks for the reply.

For those who need renewals, the above is also applicable to them.

Fee: \$4.00 (membership for 12 months)

Regarding the Membership:

When a person joins the club, he will be sent a list containing a minimum of 14 names. During the year we pass his name to 14 more members. At the end of the year he can keep all the penfriends he has already received but will not send him more contacts unless he rejoins the club for a further year.

For more information write to: Ms. Rahila, P. O. Box 481, Sanaa, Yemen.

If you wish to subscribe to our international magazine, "People & People", you will then be entitled to submit articles, photographs ect.. for publication in it. There is an award of \$100 for the best item published in each issue. Our magazine provides full information on all aspects of the Club's activities. The magazine is available only in English.

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If your main interest or hobby is exchanging club members. We now have over 6,00 stamp collectors in IPF and also have our own stamp exchange center.

In order to give the greatest variety of correspondents we employ over 500 club agents world wide. We use five computers and five printers to provide you with a fast, accurate service. We hope that you will join us and by your honest and sincere correspondence that you will encourage international harmony and find many true friends among "International Pen Friends"

If you have more questions write to:

MY HOME: SOMALIA

O brethren (to and behold) thy golden land is being captured
The foe occupied it as their domains
Citizens are robbed and tortured;
Damsels are raped, killed or injured;
Buildings, cottages decay and fall apart,
Thousands and thousands flee and depart
O brethren why not fight back to get it back and make the foe and allies depart?
Alas, nothing except God will armour mine land
O our Lord thou art our protector
help us against those ruthless armed bands.

Sheikh Nour Qassim Al-Baraani
Hodeida

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K. WIJAYA/WJA47S	16/10	20/10	24/10	28/10	02/11	08/11	10/11
K. BERLIAN/BRL23S	29/10	02/11	06/11	10/11	08/11	20/11	22/11
K. BERKAT/BKT17P	06/11	09/11	13/11	18/11	23/11	29/11	01/12
K. WIRAWAN/WRN49S	16/11	20/11	24/11	28/11	03/12	10/12	
K. BERANI/BRN11S	26/11	29/11	03/12	08/12	12/12	19/12	21/12
K. WIJAYA/WJA49P	06/12	10/12	14/12	18/12	23/12	29/12	
K. BERLIAN/BRL25S	16/12	19/12	23/12	28/12	02/01	08/01	10/01
K. BERKAT/BKT19S	26/12	30/12	02/01	07/01	12/01	18/01	20/01
K. WIRAWAN/WRN51P	07/01	10/01	14/01	18/01	23/01	30/01	

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WHO AND WORLD BANK MEET TO SET UP A STRATEGY FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

The World Health Organization launched at its Geneva headquarters last month the first WHO/World Bank Review Meeting. The meeting, which lasted until 2 November, is to plan for a stronger partnership in support of the health sector in developing countries. A framework for pragmatic collaboration and a clear understanding of each organization's responsibilities will be set up, not only to reinforce and guarantee the continuity of ongoing joint efforts, but also to ensure more effective support to their Member States and the people suffering from diseases and ill health.

"Health is essential to development (...) There can be no sustainable social and economic growth without a healthy and active population," declared Mr. Dennis Aitken, WHO Assistant Director-General, in opening the meeting on behalf of Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, Director-General.

"In particular, we need to improve our collaboration and coordination, in the less developed countries, where political instability and economic problems often compound the health difficulties experienced by many of our fellow human beings," stated Mr. Aitken. "Therefore, we must find more efficient and effective ways of working together, avoid duplication and concentrate on supporting those national health development programs which have proved to be the most cost-effective."

"Together we have the tools to achieve substantial progress in meeting the challenge before us," said Mr. David de Ferranti, Director, Population, Health and Nutrition Department, and Head of the world Bank delegation.

"This meeting gives us a chance to further strengthen the collaboration and cooperation that can turn words into action," he added.

The WHO/World Bank collaboration is centered on investing in people; and on sustainable and integrated health development - starting with the individuals and communities, and working together with them to reduce poverty and improve health and living standards.

"The challenge facing Member State is to ensure the availability and delivery of integrated health care in response to people's needs", Aitken said. "We must ensure not only coverage but quality of care, in accordance with the principles of equity and social justice."

He added that "to meet the challenges of the new world environment, WHO and the World Bank in their collaboration must make the most of their unique comparative advantages in a global network which supports the countries in their long-term and comprehensive national development programs."

As Mr. Aitken recalled, "Examples of specific program areas of collaboration are the Onchocerciasis Control Program, the Special Program of Research Training in Tropical Diseases, the Special Program for Research, Development and Research Training in human Reproduction, and the Safe Motherhood Program. The World Bank has been a member of the management committee of the Global Program on AIDS (GPA) and has contributed significantly to the program."

He added, "Furthermore, the World Bank co-sponsored the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSS). Indeed, the WHO/World Bank partnership in

the area of Environmental Health, Water Supply and Sanitation has a long history. These are a few outstanding examples of what can be achieved for the health of the peoples of this world by strengthening our partnership. We must commit ourselves to reinforce and expand the present good partnership and collaboration."

Dr. Yuji Kawachi, Director of the WHO Division of Inter-agency Affairs and Coordinator of the meeting, Declared: "While WHO can bring its international health advice and expertise to the country and community levels through its decentralized management system, the financial advisory role of the World Bank Provides the required complementary support essential for successful cooperation within developing countries in need."

Since the mid 1950s the health status has improved in developing countries: life expectancy has increased by 50% and infant mortality has been reduced by 60%. But, two billion people in the developing world are still without adequate sanitation; about seven million children die each year from acute respiratory infections and diarrhea diseases; and illiteracy rates, especially among women, are very high.

Conditions of ill health, epidemics and disease, brought about by extreme poverty, illiteracy and lack of adequate primary health services, can be prevented and considerably alleviated through a strong working collaboration between WHO and the World Bank, with the countries.

"Collaboration between WHO and the World Bank has a long history," said Dr. Kawaguchi. "Investing in people's health is one major step towards social and economic

development. The international community owes this to the present and future generations.

Mr. Aitken said: "Faced with the sheer magnitude of the challenge before us, it is suggested that we begin our dialogue with a discussion of a few practical examples of

success, as well as less successful stories, so that we may benefit from past experience to work together for a better future."

During the meeting, the group will review four selected country situations in particular: Bolivia, India, Lebanon and Zambia. The

four country reports will be presented by senior government officials of each country and will serve as examples for future action and collaboration in other countries with similar problems.



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Sadeq Ali

ADEN HARBOR: The Past and the Future



Yemen has, since unity, invested very substantial sums in an excellent road network which now links its cities and links Yemen with neighboring states. Historically, Yemen was always linked to major land and sea routes passing through the interior or long its coasts. Sea trade, particularly through the port of Aden, generated substantial revenues, helping national development by enabling traders to enjoy low shipping costs.

This paper seeks to examine reasons for the previous success of Aden, for the present very high shipping costs to and from handling third party cargoes - particularly containerized cargoes - through Aden, and how this would benefit the nation and other Yemeni ports.

Background:

The port of Aden has been a well-known center for sea-borne trade ancient times; at least as far back as 700 years B.C. It was declared a Free Port in 1850 to retain the trade of ships carrying coffee from Yemen to America and Europe. From the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, its trading and ship bunkering activities increased. It established oil bunkering facilities in 1919 and, as ships increasingly converted to oil, fought off competition from the coals bunkering station at Perim. Aden competed annually with New York during the 1950s and 1960s for the title of the world's most active bunker port. The largest oil refinery in the British Empire was built a Little Aden. Located mid-way between Europe and the far East on one of the world's busiest trading routes, it was favorite middle-distance bunkering port, with around 7000 ship calls a year using its fast, efficient, cost effective services. The port also earned revenue from the tankers coming to Little Aden with crude oil from fields in the Gulf. From a village of less than 1000 people in 1939, it grew to a city of over 400,000 by 1960.

With so many ships calling at Aden, traders could get regular supplies of goods from East and West. Freight rates were very low. Aden's traders stockpiled goods for delivery to satellite ports in the region and, conversely, brought goods from satellite ports to the rest of the world as technology advanced, kept in touch with markets in developed countries and was the base for trade to and from any Red Sea, East African, Gulf and Arabian Sea ports.

Ships using Aden could take on 600 tons of bunkers in 8 hours, and used this time in port to load and unload cargoes for traders based at Aden. Cargoes were carried by barge to and from ships tried up at buoys in the harbor. Barges were loaded and unloaded at shallow water jetties at Ma'alla. The Home Trade quay, built in 1954, served coastal vessels trading with ports in the region, but no attempt was made before independence to provide alongside berths for ocean-going ships. Passengers came ashore by launch, and spent many thousands of pounds daily at the tax-free shops at Steamer Point, where prices were below those of Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan.

The Suez Crisis:

The closing of the Suez Canal in

1967 for the better part of 8 years coincided with independence for PDRY. Much of the expertise which had run Aden went to other parts of the middle East, particularly the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Oman. Many young men who left Aden in 1967 are now managing top Government and private companies in overseas. Political uncertainty, a lack of investment, the move from general cargo to container traffic, the increasing size and range of ships, with their larger bunker capacity, and the growth of other ports in the region, crippled Aden's bunkering business. With the canal closed, Aden the port was powerless to fight back and Aden the city declined. The fall in cargo volumes and the drastic fall in traffic from major trading nations increased ocean freight rates to Aden, significantly raising the cost of imports and exports.

The '70s and '80s:

UAE and Gulf ports, which benefited from massive investment of all revenues and the fact that traffic had to sail around the Cape, bypassing Aden, grew rapidly. Dubai/Jebel Ali gradually became a major container trans-shipment center, currently handling 1.5 million boxes annually (compared with Aden's tiny 12,000). Sea-air business based on Dubai Airport and Port Rashid was developed, and has prospered. Oman grew from a very basic level in 1973 into a modern state, investing heavily in its transport system.

With the re-opening of the Suez Canal, Aden tried to regain its position, but failed. In the late 1980s, realizing the need for alongside berths, the Ma'alla Terminal was built, mainly to handle imports (and small quantities of exports). Ma'alla gives Aden, for the first time in its history, alongside berths with a depth capable of taking large ocean-going vessels, and with the capacity to handle containers using quay side gantry cranes. In parallel, Hodeidah and Mukalla were developed to serve their hinterlands, while further investment was put into Mokha and Nishtun. Berths at little Aden were increased in depth to handle larger tankers coming to the refinery with crude oil, and a new Roll-On/roll-Off berth was built there, mainly for the export of products.

The Present Situation in Aden:

Aden now has four good along-

side berths of total length 750 meters, depth alongside 11.0 meters. Two of these handle containers. The first container gantry crane was installed in June 1993. The second crane will be installed by early 1995. An area of some 7 hectares behind the four berths provides container stacking and interchange space and in a large shed, a container freight station (where containers are unpacked and repackaged). The other two berths handle general and bulk cargo (grain, cement etc.). Designs have been prepared for the installation of new grain handling and storage facilities at the 4th berth and construction for this project is due to commence shortly.

For container trans-shipment services, the berths are limited in three main ways. Length, depth and size of the turning area. Main-line container vessels are well over 200 meters in length and the largest have a draft in excess of 12 meters. However, many container ships operating on East-West routes are smaller and could use the berths as they exist, provided that they can be induced to do so.

What made Aden successful?

Aden grew between 1870 and 1960 because of a number of factors.

- Its location - right on major world shipping route through the Suez Canal.
- Its harbor - a very large natural basin, protected on three sides from prevailing winds, easy to dredge to any commercial depth required, without siltation, with short approach channels and a sheltered outer anchorage
- Its services - cost effective, rapid. At that time daily ship operating costs allowed a general cargo or passenger ship to stop for 8 - 12 hours to take on competitively priced fuel and supplies at a port on its route, making Aden attractive.
- Ships bunkering capacity - ships carried less fuel in order to maximize cargo carrying capacity. Therefore they needed to refuel at a middle-distance port.
- Trading and trans-shipment service. Ships could earn extra revenue by carrying small quantities of cargo to and from Aden which was worked as they refueled; i.e. cargo business was carried on the back of the bunker business. Aden was always a fueling port and never a major cargo port, but because 20 ships a day called at the port, freight rates to and from Aden

were very competitive, traders could offer keen prices for goods sold in Aden and ship their goods to other ports in the region cheaply

What has changed since the 1960s?

Rapid progress in the shipping world has occurred since the 1960s, affecting all types of ships. But it is probably true to say that the greatest changes have come about in the carriage of 'general cargo'; those commodities upon which most human activities are based, from food to machinery, lubricants to toys, cigarettes to electronic goods. The things which make daily life possible and / or enjoyable, certainly in the developed world.

Containerization of general cargo has grown continuously since its beginning in the late 1960s. More and more cargoes are carried in containers each year and this trend may be expected to continue. Volume is measured in terms of a "TEU", a "Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit"; based on the early 20 foot long containers. Container throughput at world ports were 64 million TEU in 1987, 74 million in 1990 and are forecast to reach 110 million TEU by the end of this century.

This growth has led to the construction of ever larger container vessels. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and now 5th generation ships are carrying ever increasing numbers of containers. A large container ship built in 1969 carried 1,500 TEU. Ships built in the early 1990s carry 4,800 TEU. Ships able to carry 7,000 TEU will almost certainly be built over the coming years. Large container ships carry far more fuel, typical over 6,000 tones and, burning 150 tones / day at speeds of around 24-25 knots, have a range of over 23,000 miles. They no longer need to stop at middle-distance ports for fuel.

In fact large container vessels now stop at a very few ports. Few ports can handle them efficiently. Their time in port is also strictly limited; typical 12 hours; because the daily cost of operating them is very high. In port, the largest containers are discharged and loaded as quickly as possible using massive container gantry cranes costing US\$ 8 million or more each. It is predicted that new practices will require six cranes per ship working on them, moving 180 containers holding some 4500 tones, every hour.

A world-wide network of ports has now grown up to serve this

trade, referred to as "Hub Ports", where the mainline vessels; and satellite ports; to which cargo is distributed from the hub ports. Most benefits come to the hub ports, where mainline and feeder vessels meet, as these ports earn substantial revenues from port charges on vessels calling and from charges for handling the containers which they carry; "Terminal Handling Charges" or THC's. Hong Kong will earn well in excess of US\$1 billion in 1994 from THC's alone. One container crane, which can move 100,000 containers a year, may be expected to generate US\$ 16 million per year in revenue for its port.

'Feeder vessels', which carry from a few hundred to 2-3000 containers, serve the mainline vessels. They pick up containers from the hub ports and carry these to satellite ports, returning to the hubs with empty containers, and with containers holding cargoes originating from the hinterlands of the satellite port. Hub ports are situated on the world's main arterial routes, along which the bulk of the world's trade flows. Hong Kong, Singapore, Rotterdam, Yokohama, San Francisco, New York are typical of major hub ports, some now handling well over 3 million TEU annually. Dubai/Jebel Ali, Algeciras, Malta, Colombo and Keelung are smaller 'hub' ports, which are themselves sometimes served by large feeder vessels from the major hub ports.

The other dramatic change has been in freight rates variations. Oceans freight rates for containers - in normal times - depend primarily on four factors;

- volume - spreading the cost of a ship's call over more or less containers;
- frequency of service - giving competition between carriers;
- whether or not the container has to be trans-shipped at a intermediate ports; and;
- the cost and efficiency of handling the containers at the port i.e., the distance the container is carried is not the major factor.

A port which lies on a major trading route, which can attract large volumes of containers and handle them efficiently, will benefit from low ocean transport costs, making its imports and exports cheaper, making it more competitive. It will become a hub port for the region. For example, a 20 foot container shipped from Europe to Hong Kong costs around US\$700 - a shorter distance. The same container trans-shipped to Colombo via Singapore costs US\$1000.

Several of the major shipping services from Europe now operate directly to Singapore, not stopping in between. Containers from Singapore are then sent back to Colombo, India, Pakistan, the gulf and East Africa from Singapore on large feeder vessels. Other services from Europe operate to Jeddah, to Djibouti, to Dubai/Jebel Ali. There are no direct services from the main production centers to any Yemeni ports. All Yemeni ports act only as satellites to other ports in the region.

As a consequence of trans-shipment charges and law volume, the cost of shipping, a

20 foot container to Aden from Europe is around US\$2800. This increases the cost of imports to its hinterland and makes its exports less competitive. Trans-shipping via intermediate ports also takes time. A container from Europe to Singapore will be delivered 20 days later. To Hong Kong in 28 days. To Aden via Djibouti, in 36 days. Delays cost money due to higher insurance costs, borrowing charges on the cargo, and the rent of the container.

The importance of volume is seen in the costs of shipping a container to Hodeidah which handles some 60,000 TEU annually. Ocean freight on a 20 foot container shipped from Europe to Hodeidah via Jeddah is US\$1,700. Dubai/Hodeidah costs US\$900. Dubai/Aden costs US\$1,600. Volume is again seen to be critical. Traders in Jeddah get their 20 foot box from Europe for US\$850 though a direct service.

Can Aden be successful again?

Discussions with those who knew Aden when it was booming look back on those days with pleasure. "Aden had ..." Aden was....". What about the future? will the present run-down city rise again, as it did in the 19th and 20th centuries?

The answer is a qualified "yes". Looking at those factors which on which successful ports are based, Aden has many of them. Its location on the world's main trade artery has not changed, the fine natural harbor still stands, good container handling facilities have been provided, with the second gantry crane being a very important factor for shipping companies. 20,000 ships a year pass the entrance to the port. The port must market its service and must demonstrate to major container carriers that Aden can offer viable trans-shipment services.

As discussed above, time, in container shipping, is money. A ship which can call at a port directly on its route, unload 1000 boxes destined for ports off its route, load another 1000 brought in by feeder vessels, and proceed to the next hub port, earns money. Aden is fortunate to be only 20 km off this route, with a very short, clear approach channel. Ships can be in and out quickly.

But what about the competitions? Ports in competition with Aden suffer from drawbacks for shippers. Jeddah, with its excellent container handling facilities, its deep water berths, its many cranes, is quite close to the shipping route though the Red Sea. But until 1988 it did not allow trans-shipment of cargo and still places some restrictions on the goods carried in containers trans-shipped through the port. Access to Jeddah, through reefs, is not as convenient as Aden. Saudi port operators do not always provide the level of service which chippers expect.

Djibouti has improved its container handling facilities, but suffers from a relatively shallow section in the approach channel (10.3 meters) to the container berths. Which means that larger ships may have to depend on the tide in order to cross the bar; causing delay. Djibouti also suffers from some congestion and delay in handling trans-shipment containers at the

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Aden Seaport....

terminal, which are sometimes reported as being 'lost'.

Dubai/Jebel Ali is the main source of competition for Aden and may be taken to represent the competition from the UAE. It is interesting to note that around 70-80% of cargoes to Dubai/Jebel Ali are for trans-shipment; to Bahrain, Kuwait, Iran, Pakistan, India, east Africa, Yemen, Red Sea ports. On a typical day in Dubai, two mainline ships meet; one East-bound, one West-bound. Feeder vessels berth ahead and eastern of them, one North-bound, one south/East bound. Containers are unloaded from the mainline vessels to terminal storage and to the feeder vessels. Containers from the feeder vessels similarly are transferred to terminal storage or to the mainline ships. It is a picture of hectic, but well-organized and efficient activity. Straddle carriers and tractor and trailer units work in the container yard, feeding information to control tower computers and receiving instructions from the same source. The port is cost effective, efficient and, with Jebel Ali, handles some 1.5 million TEU annually. It should earn over US\$250 million in 1994 from terminal handling charges.

But Dubai / Jebel Ali did not exist in the mid-1960s. These ports were built in the sands off the coast of the UAE, at great expense. The access channel to Jebel Ali is some 17 km in length. And, for Aden, the most important factor is that it takes a ship an extra 3 days to deviate from the main world shipping route across the Indian Ocean, passing close to Aden, in order to enter the Gulf and rejoin their "natural" route off Sri Lanka.

with large container ship costing around US\$60,000 per day to operate, shipowners could save money by using Aden instead of routing their ships via Gulf ports.

Should investors be looking at Aden?

Is Aden a viable proposition for investors? Can the port make money; give a positive return in order to justify investment? This is the key question.

An editorial due to be published in a major European cargo-handling journal in November 1994 discusses one of the major container shipping companies:

"Think of the implications for the company's operations in Singapore, emptying out and re-loading 7,000 TEU at a time. The tri-continent 'M' class vessels turn around there already. The 'L' class and three other weekly big-ship slings call first port in from Europe. Some huge intra-Asian feeder vessels could join in the melee, connecting with each other and the mainliners to make a complex operational and commercial mix...."

This is a picture of a complicated trans-shipment operation at a what is now one of the world's busiest container ports. In 1993/4, Singapore spent US\$400 million on a "distribution park", where containers are unloaded and reloaded. All the space in the cargo sheds in this park has already been booked by freight and other companies. But such an article, 30 years ago, could have been describing the busy ship fuelling and cargo handling operations in Aden, which also continued day and night throughout the year. The new dolphins to handle the many passenger ships coming to Aden were being completed. Every 33 minutes ship arrived at the port.

Because of its location and the depth of water available, Aden is the only port in Yemen which could handle the world's largest container vessels. The country now must decide whether or not it wishes to become a player in the international shipping game. The alternative is for all Yemeni ports to continue - as they are now - as minor satellite ports; and for Yemen to pay the annual costs resulting from this status.

The rewards of becoming a main player can be great. If the volume of third party boxes handled through Aden rises sufficiently, the cost of a container sent to Aden from Europe, for example, should fall to US\$1000 - or lower. A fall in ocean freight rated from US\$2800 to US\$1000 would save Yemeni business over US\$20 million per year on the 12,000 containers handled through Aden at present. A direct service to/from Aden would also give traders the benefits of a faster service.

An Aden which attracts 200,000 boxes a year will generate a revenue of around US\$30 million a year. Each additional 100,000 boxes will add a further US\$15 million to earnings.

Many other world ports see no option but to invest in new infrastructure, cranes and port facilities. Hong Kong, due to return to the control of the Government of the Republic of China in 1997, will invest billions in a new airports on Lantau island and, on the south-side of this island, a new container port with 20 berths to handle an estimated 8 million TEU's annually by the year 2011; 15,000 TEU's per day, a large ship arrival every 12 minutes. It will add 20 kilometers of deep-water berths and 300 hectares of container yards to the present huge container handling facilities in Hong Kong. The objective; to maintain Hong Kong's position as the world's pre-eminent container ports. The airport, port, railway, road and tunnel connections will keep the cargo and passengers flowing through Hong Kong. In 1993, the per capita income of the citizens of Hong Kong rose above that of the UK population and continues to grow faster than that of the UK.

Trading and cargo movement do bring rewards. Hong Kong and Singapore are the only two truly free ports in the world, and they are enormously successful. Their success is based, to a very large extent, on low-cost transport, which results from the volume of traffic which they attract.

Aden is almost certainly the only port which could persuade the largest mainline vessels to stop on passage to Singapore. Containers trans-shipped at Aden could be loaded onto feeder vessels running to the Red Sea, Gulf ports, Pakistan, India, Colombo and East Africa. Colombo, only 3 days steaming away from Singapore, is too close to attract these vessels; and does not have the facilities. A container carried from Rotterdam on a 22 knot ship, trans-shipped at Aden onto an 18 knot ship, would reach Bombay in 14 days (allowing one day for transiting the Suez Canal and one day for trans-shipment). The same container from Rotterdam sent on to Singapore and trans-shipped back to Bombay on an 18 knot feeder ship, using the same assumptions, would take 24 days.

Remember, Aden is a middle-distance port; half way between an expanding European Union and the Asian tigers, well, placed to trans-ship to ports around the Arabian Sea, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and East Africa.

But we're too late!

Some may feel that too much time has passed since Aden was a significant port and that it cannot recover. Too many other ports around us have invested billions in their facilities. Look at Jeddah, over 40 berths, container berths 15 meters deep, 16 meter entrance channels; look at the many container berths at Dubai/Jebel Ali, their established position, multi-company transport service, sea-air operation, booming economy.

However, the experience of other ports suggests otherwise. Ports - for example Liverpool - pass through periods of unhappy management and labour relations, low investment, bad reputation; but recover strongly. Other ports grow from nothing. Malta, another port directly on the world's arterial route, with almost no cargo of its own, invested in a container terminal, cranes and the services of an expert management company in 1988. Its throughput rose from virtually zero to 350,000 TEU by 1993 and it now trans-ships 99% of the containers it handles to Mediterranean ports. Why? Because of its location. Aden's location is, if any thing, even better than Malta's.

One visitor to Aden stated that his organization had "written off Aden as a serious port several years ago". After touring the new facilities he immediately changed his mind, realizing that Aden now has much to offer.

What steps now have to be taken?

Yemen Ports Authority (YPA) has already made good progress. After many years of debate, the Ma'alla Terminal, Aden's first step on the road to providing proper alongside brething facilities for ocean-going vessels, was built. It has some limitations, but is already reducing the time required for ships to remain in the port discharging their cargoes and makes possible the handling of containers from small feeder vessels and ships which may not have their own cranes. YPA is reviewing the port tariff, making it more competitive, and reorganizing its labour force.

YPA established, with help from the UNDP and IMO, a Maritime Training Centre to train staff from the ports and for the marine sector generally. It has provided training for well over 1000 personnel to date, offering a range of over 30 short and longer term courses. It is registered with the University of London as an examination centre for GCE exams and has been invited to send its staff to train shipping personnel in Dubai in port operation and international freight forwarding. Dubai does not have a training centre. It is being equipped with new, powerful computers and is a resource of which Yemen can be proud. As technology advances, training in modern port operations is a vital element in the success of any port - look at the continuous training of staff by Singapore.

YPA established, at the end of 1993, and again with the help of UNDP and IMO, a Marketing Department. This has produced a full-colour brochure given information on the port and re-started, in 1994, the well-known "Port of Aden Annual". Five international port management companies have since expressed their strong interest in the port. Some of these want to enter into joint venture agreements and one, in particular, offers joint venture arrangements plus investment of very substantial sums in the infrastructure of the city to support its port development. The events of mid-1994 have postponed these plans, but not cancelled them. Aden can attract major investment.

During these events, work on refurbishing the oil storage tanks on the North Shore of Aden harbor continued. New, heated pipelines will supply modern ships' fuel to vessels calling at Aden in a new venture backed by BP Marine and Castrol. As BP Marine states; "Aden has welcomed our bunkers back on board" as it looks forward to the growth of business at a port where it was major player from 1919 onwards.

Much, therefore, has been done. But to succeed, Aden now needs to prove its ability to handle container trans-shipment operations, to deal with the arrivals and departures of mainline and feeder vessels, to organize its container yard, the flow of containers from and to the ships. YPA believes that this can be done almost immediately, using the facilities already available at Ma'alla, ideally with some depending of the berths and approach channels and widening of the turning area at Ma'alla. From a relatively modest start, growth can be very rapid.

To attract this trade to Aden requires:
- political stability in the country and the backing of

the Government;

- support for key elements in Aden's growth, particularly marketing and training, which will continue to promote Aden and bring in;

- the services of an internationally known port management company to provide expertise, with reputation which will attract major shipping companies; - the services of an internationally known port management company to provide expertise, with a reputation which will attract major shipping companies; -access to investment funds to improve the facilities at Ma'alla and to buy new equipment as traffic increases and the North Shore project is seen to be viable; then:

- access to investment funds to design, build and equip new, deep-water berths at the North Shore and to dredge the harbor and approach channels to 16 meters to cater for the largest existing and planned vessels.

North Shore development will thus follow a firm commitment by one or more large container carriers to use Aden, and a positive forecast of future growth. Starting at Ma'alla, change can come quickly to Aden, and to the transport infrastructure of Yemen.

Would other Yemeni ports also benefit?

Perhaps the first question should be; "What will be the benefit for the nation?". If Aden is accepted for what it is, a national resource which can and should be developed to the maximum benefit of the people, this will lower the costs of imports and exports for Yemen and dramatically improve national revenues by earnings from other customers' containers. An Aden which can lower transport costs and contribute substantially to the national economy must be good news for the nation.

But what about Hodeidah, Mokha, Mukalla? These ports would also benefit. With mainline container ships using Aden and the cost of containers from major production centres to Yemen dramatically reduced, trans-shipment costs to other Yemeni ports will also fall. Aden is much closer to Hodeidah and Mukalla the Dubai or Jeddah. Feeder services from Aden, calling at other Yemeni ports, as well as at ports in other countries, will help to subsidize the transport costs for traders in the hinter land of the other ports.

Transport planning will give a distribution network for good which maximises the benefit from Yemen's investment in ports and roads, and gives traders lower costs. With Aden growing in importance as an international port, money can be invested in the improvement of customs procedures at Aden, and then nationally. As these become more efficient, Government net

revenue increases as delays and costs are reduced.

Growing port traffic at Aden supports other branches of the transport and associated sectors. Ship crew changes are done at Aden; airline traffic; passenger and cargo; increases. Regional distribution centres are established. Major companies set up offices. Banking, insurance, surveying and supply services develop. Dockyard repair facilities are needed. The benefits in jobs and incomes are evident in all major transport centres. Look at Hong Kong. Look at Dubai.

Conclusions:

When PDRY gained its independency in 1967 it took over a city with the best medical facilities, best communications system, best trading record in the Middle East. Over the next 30 years, for reasons briefly examined in this paper, this city declined as former coastal towns and villages in the region grew into major transport centres.

Transport typically add 7-10% to the costs of goods in a country. In Yemen at present, transport can double the cost of some goods, causing higher than necessary prices in the shops and making life more difficult for the people.

This paper suggests that it is not too late to reverse the trends over the past 30 years, that Aden can again become a centre for international shipping. It suggests that this can and, with the right support, will happen very quickly.

The benefits to Yemen from the growth of Aden as a transshipment port will be very considerable. The present need is for a clear, unambiguous policy on port development:

- to minimize national transportation costs and to maximize port utilization;
- to benefit the national economy though earnings from 3rd parties;
- to reduce the costs of goods in the shops;
- to improve the competitiveness of Yemen's exports.

Following the success of such a policy, the country can begin to think about the establishment of Free Zone or Exclusive Economic Zone facilities, as China has. Such developments are based on low transport costs, without which they cannot be viable.

Aden, within a unified Yemen, has a bright future. It is a national resource, which must be given the opportunity to fulfill its potential to benefit the whole nation.

Contest No. 5

مسابقة رقم 5

Prepared by:

Al-Farouk Institute of Languages & Computer

إعداد: **معهد الفاروق للغات والكمبيوتر**

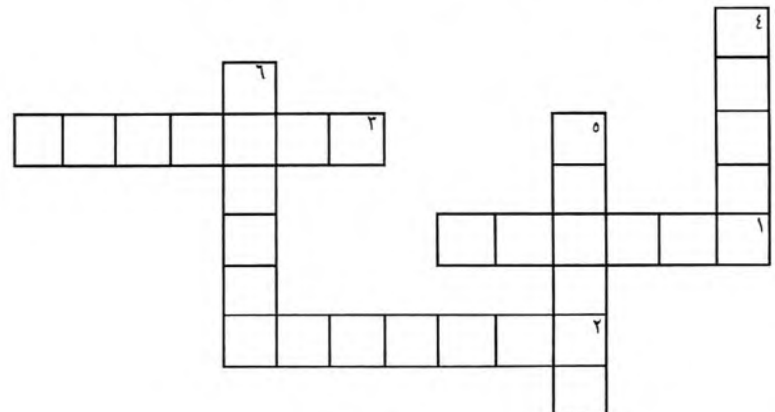
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ص ب رقم (١٦٩٢٧)، صنعاء - بالقرب من المركز الطبي الإيراني - شارع الرقاقي - صنعاء، تليفاكس ٢٠٩٧٢١ (٩٧١-١)

This contest is for foreigners learning Arabic

Please fill in the space and hand over your answers to the registrar of the Al-Farouq Institute by Thursday morning. The winner will be announced in next week's issue of Yemen Times.

هذه المسابقة خاصة بالطلاب الذين يدرسون اللغة العربية

يرجى قطع المسابقة وتعبئة البيانات المطلوبة ثم تسليمها إلى المسجل بمعهد الفاروق في موعد أقصاه يوم الخميس. سيعلن اسم الفائز بالجائزة في العدد القادم من «يمن تايمز».



عمودي:

- ٤ - شهر الصيام
- ٥ - خير ما قلّ ودلّ
- ٦ - جمع كلمة مفتاح

أفقي:

- ١ - مدينة أثرية قديمة (معكوسه)
- ٢ - شاعر يمني مشهور
- ٣ - لقب الخليفة عمر بن الخطاب

Name: _____ Telephone No.: _____

Winner of Contest No. 3

The winner of last week's contest (Contest No. 3) is student **Ebtisam Al-Sadeq** (picture). Congratulations: The correct answers were:

DOWN:
elephant, physician, alphabet, telephone, geography
ACROSS:
nephew, pharmacy, sphere, photograph, triumph




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Preparing the Public for Peace

Last week, H.M. King Hussain visited Israel and exchanged with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin copies of the ratified peace agreement.

Among Arab citizens, the whole peace process has triggered a number of soul-searching debates. There are security

dimensions, as Israel continues to refuse to disclose its nuclear arsenal. There are political issues as a successful Israeli democracy threatens traditional Arab regimes. There is an economic issue as a vibrant Israeli economy threatens stagnating Arab economies.

There is a cultural issue that is menacing intellectuals in the Arab cultural circles. It cannot be separated from the other issues. The Arabs have been experiencing trouble in their cultural life. The most difficult aspect of this cultural interaction is the religious dimension. The

occupied Arab lands - including Al-Quds (Jerusalem) - is still under Israeli military occupation. Finally, there is also the undying suspicion among the people in both sides, in spite of the fanfare about peace.

The Hebrew University conducted an opinion poll among Israeli youths on the relationship with the Arab countries and other topics like pulling out from the occupied Arab territories. The poll showed that 78% of the students opposed pulling out from the Golan Heights, even if peace were realized, while some 63% emphasized that the settlements in the West Bank and Gaza should continue. And 65% continued to harbor negative images of the Arabs.

In spite of the peace hand-shake among Arab and Israeli rulers and politicians, there are many new worries in the both camps as to how the public will react, given the long brain-washing and indoctrination against the other side. How would the citizens react to flocks of tourists or businessmen in their midst from the other side?

The problem is that little is being done to help change the old image. Even as the Arab governments move to make political arrangements with Israel towards peace, some official media circles continue to repeat the old anti-Israel rhetoric. There needs to start a massive new campaign in both Israel and the Arab countries to try to project a new image of the other side. School curricula should offer new roles and perceptions. Our reading of history should be adjusted, if the peace process is to have any chance of taking hold.

The Meaning Behind the Deed

President Ali Abdullah Saleh has pledged to stop the media warfare between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. The Ministry of Information has issued a circular instructing newspapers not to engage in mud-slinging with the neighbors.

Yet, some Yemeni newspapers continue to use offensive and irresponsible language regarding relations with our neighbors, notably Saudi Arabia. This week, two newspapers have broken the record. Amazingly, both newspapers are "subsidized" by the president's camp.

Now, how do we understand this? It is not my business to defend the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or the Gulf States. They are so capable of doing that. I am simply interested in the value of the president's pledges.

Yemenis agree that a workable relationship with our neighbors, especially Saudi Arabia, is vital for the future welfare and development of Yemen. Intelligent Yemenis understand that our country does not need to engage in any new battles, of whatever sort.

I would like to urge the government of Abdulaziz Abdulghani to put its foot down and reign in the law-breakers among the mercenary journalists, even if they are hired by local politicians.

I would also urge the president to terminate all kinds of subsidies for journalists and newspapers, and stay out of the whole thing. Let the market be the final judge of whether they are viable or not.

Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf,
Yemen Times.

Intergraph wins \$76.8m AT&T project

By: The Economic Editor.

Intergraph Corporation

received a notification of award for a \$76.8 million (U.S.) project from AT&T to provide hardware, software, consulting and conversion services for a major telecommunications contract in Saudi Arabia. AT&T will serve as prime contractor to The Ministry of Post, Telecommunications & Telegraphs (PTT) to improve the telecommunication facilities within Saudi Arabia.

Currently, the PTT provides telephone services for 1.9 million customers. As a part of the seven-year contract, an additional 1.5 million lines will be installed immediately, effectively doubling the size of the network. Two hundred thousand cellular telephone lines will also be provided.

Intergraph will subcontract to provide an AM/FM/GIS system composed of 280 personal workstations running Microsoft Windows NT, 14" servers and Facilities Rulebased Application Model Management Environment (FRAMME) software. The new AM/FM/GIS system will replace a 20-year-old, manual system that became too costly and inefficient to maintain.

Intergraph will digitize 30,000 paper and mylar documents into their FRAMME system. Users in the subscription and business offices will be able to access digital records to quickly determine what and if facilities are available - something they cannot do today. Currently, an engineer must look up this information in a file cabinet. In addition, the system will

manage 40,000 building drawings that record the switching of equipment and all terminations of phone equipment for all of Saudi Arabia. Twenty-thousand special circuit layout record cards will also become automated.

Other than the mechanized record system, Intergraph will also provide interfaces into other operational support systems, so that when equipment is placed in an outside plant, those additions are reflected in the system. For example, when a distribution terminal for a house is completed, the residence and the facilities required to serve it are created in a system record.

"We chose Intergraph because it is well established in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and we wanted to provide our customer with the right AM/FM solution for their network," said Mick Brown, President of AT&T International (Saudi Arabia).

"Intergraph is very pleased to have been selected by AT&T for this important project in the Kingdom. We believe that our FRAMME products match well the distribution plant management system needs of the Saudi PTT, and we look forward to a successful partnership," said Jim Meadlock, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Intergraph Corporation.

"This award is a significant milestone for Intergraph Middle East and will result in a major expansion of our resources within the Kingdom," said John Sasser, Managing Director of Intergraph Middle East LLC. Utilities Management is a core business area for Intergraph within the Region along with mapping, GIS, CAD, and plant design.

Intergraph Background Information

Intergraph Corporation develops, manufactures, sells and supports computer systems for the Technical Desktop - the combination of compatible technical applications and personal productivity tools in a single desktop computer. Hardware products include work-stations, servers, scanners and plotters. The company's integrated software applications are used for computer-aided design, engineering, analysis, manufacturing, publishing and earth sciences such as mapping/GIS. A member of Fortune 500, Intergraph is the largest company dedicated to supplying interactive computer graphics systems.

Intergraph Middle East LLC Background Information

Intergraph Middle East LLC (IMEL) was established in 1982 as wholly-owned subsidiary of Intergraph Corporation, USA, to sell and support Intergraph products in the Middle East. Headquartered in Dubai, it has affiliated offices in Turkey, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Oman, Egypt, Iran, Pakistan, Yemen and Jordan, employing more than 175 people. To complement Intergraph's traditional systems business, IMEL has introduced turnkey production services in topographic and image mapping, GIS and LIS development, drawing conversion, and document Management.

IMEL also offers on-site consulting and customization services using its regionally based experts in photogrammetry, cartography, GIS, digital cadastres, utility management systems, environmental systems and 3D Plant design.



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