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YEMEN TIMES



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"HERZLICH WILLKOMMEN!" German Delegation Holds Talks Aimed at Still Better Relations

A nine-member German delegation is presently on a one-week official visit to Yemen. Heading the group is none other than Herr Otto Schilly, ranking SPD member of the Bundestag, and an old friend of Yemen. Also on this delegation is Herr Dr. Christoph Zoepel, Chairman of the Parliamentary Group for the Near and Middle East in the Bundestag.

The delegation is actually made up of three distinct groups. First, there are the parliamentarians, who are an effective bridge element in the warm Yemeni-German relations. Second, there is Manfred Haack, regional representative of the Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung, a leading political foundation specializing in transformation. Finally, there are representatives from the German business community who are here to study possible joint ventures and commercial exchange. Mr. Schilly believes that the visible political understanding between the two countries should be bolstered with stronger economic ties.

German Ambassador in Sanaa, Dr. Helga von Strachwitz, has been actively involved in setting the scene for the success of the visit. The delegation will visit Sanaa and Aden - on business, and will indulge in a one-day sight-seeing to Marib. Yemen Times learned that even the Marib excursion is not a purely pleasure trip. The ambassador has her eyes set on a project over there.



Lawyers Syndicate Forms Executive Board


On May 6-7th, the new council of the Lawyers' Syndicate, approved during the General Congress held in Aden during 21-22/4/1996, held its first meeting in Sanaa. During this meeting, the council approved the following executive board:

1. Abdul-Fattah Al-Baseer, Chairman,
2. Ahmed M. Al-Abyadh, Vice Chairman,
3. Abdulaziz Al-Samawi, Secretary-General,
4. Abdul-Malik Al-Sanabani, Officer in Charge of Profession's Affairs,
5. Mohammed K. Al-Asbahi, Officer in Charge of Financial Affairs,
6. Abdul-Karim Mugahed, Officer in Charge of External Relations,
7. Saeed Al-Masani, Officer in Charge of Security, Pension Affairs,
8. Abdullah Noman, Officer in Charge of Branch Affairs,
9. Dr. Mohammed Al-Khateeb, Officer in Charge of Lawyers' Affairs and Training,

10. Mohammed Ahmed Sanhoob, Officer in Charge of Liberties and Human Rights,
 11. Mohammed Nasser Aulaqi, Officer in Charge of Public Affairs,
 12. Moqbil Haiderah, Officer in Charge of Legal Assistance,
 13. Shayif Hassan Saeed, Officer in Charge of Inspection and Control,
 14. Abdul-Rahman Saif Al-Bukari, Officer in Charge of the Media,
 15. Mohammed Hizam Al-Shargabi, Officer in Charge of Cultural Affairs,
 6. Abdulaziz Al-Baghdadi, Officer in Charge of Studies and Research,
 17. Ms. Negat Al-Shami & Intissar Hajib, Officers in Charge of Women's Affairs,
 18. Selahaddin A. Hamed, Officer in Charge of Social Welfare.
- The executive board of the syndicate is walking a fine line in its search for legitimacy and credibility because it was not elected but reached by compromise in last month's lawyers' general congress.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

Hanging on to the Dream

As living conditions deteriorate in Yemen, many people have been scrambling to get out. After all, for whatever reason - political, economic, social, etc. - Yemenis have been voting by their feet as they decide to leave the country.

Many of us stay on by choice, although for some, there are ample opportunities to leave. "No, we will stay."

For those inside Yemen and who engage in politics, they have a choice: either to go underground, as many have done, or to stay above ground. The fact that so many people are going underground preparing and waiting, is indeed a sign of the times. Many of us decided to stay above ground by choice. In addition, we made it a point not to get involved in any underground activities, although for some, there are ample invitations. "No, we will stay above ground, and we will live by the law."

Unfortunately, the regime does not treat right those people who have decided to stay in Yemen, and to stay above ground. It is trying to oppress them and make them bow to its wishes. The number of people who stand tall in the face of the regime is not very high, and it is steadily falling. Some have died (or the word is that they have been killed). Others have been forced into silence. And still others are crippled and discredited. Yet, a small hard core remains, clinging on to a dream.

What our rulers must understand is that they can put away the people, but the dream will continue. Our politicians should not underestimate the power of the dream.

Our dream is to see a Yemen that is at ease with itself, and with the rest of the world. Our dream is to establish a system in which all Yemenis have the chance to participate, and of which we can all be proud. The dream calls for a pluralist democracy with a strong belief in the rights of individuals and citizens. It is a dream which allows people to be their very best, as human beings and as achievers.

We should get rid of the idea of sacrificing the individual for the welfare of society, because it is a dangerous one. The regime should not be at liberty to dispose of individuals under the guise that it is doing it for the general welfare or for the public good. This is a totalitarian concept.

No service is rendered to society if its members are put away. A few weeks ago, one prominent minister visibly disturbed by what the Yemen Times had written openly told me, "You could be killed if that serves the state." But that is the very point. Killing a citizen under the guise of serving the state does not actually serve the state or nation. It could serve the rulers and/or their proteges. It is a violation of human rights and decency.

Meanwhile, we will keep nurturing our dream. One day, law and order will prevail in Yemen. One day democracy will reign high. One day, human rights and press freedom will be respected in earnest. One day, Yemen will contribute to the betterment of humanity.

The Publisher


Yemen Times Summer Internships to US & German Students

The Yemen Times is going to welcome two Western students this summer who will do their internships with the newspaper.

The first of these, Katherine M. Metres, is an American student at Columbia University in New York. Katherine is expected to arrive in Sanaa within the next two weeks, and she will start her internship on June 1st.

The second is Thomas Ludwig, a German researcher researcher from Cologne sponsored by the Heinz-Kuhn Foundation from Cologne. Mathew is expected to arrive in the first week of June.

Yemen Times welcomes the two newcomers.

Yemeni Contractors Take Qaddafi to Court

Six Yemeni construction firms who implemented the Unity Residential Complex in Sanaa, are threatening to sue Libya in the courts. Libya has failed to pay the last two installments on the contract signed with them.

Mr. Abdul-Malik Al-Asbahi, Chairman of the Al-Asbahi Contractors, a leading firm in the construction business and one of the six, stated that some US \$ 11 million are still owed by Mr. Qaddafi. "I have gone up and down to Libya several times, and all that I get is more promises," he said.

It has become a standard hallmark of Libya to make promises and not fulfill. Several projects in many countries remain unfinished because the Libyan ruler changed his mind and refused to complete the financing.

The Yemeni residential complex, dubbed the Unity Residential Complex, was a gift from Libya to help house the rulers of Aden who came to Sanaa as a result of the unification of the country.

Al-Anisi Represents Yemen in Iranian Celebrations

Mr. Abdul-Wahab Al-Anisi, Vice Prime Minister, left Sanaa on Saturday, May 11th, on his way to Teheran. The Yemeni official will join many world officials who have flocked into Teheran to participate in the inauguration of the newly-built railroad which will connect Iran with Central Asia. The completion of this part of the railway will enable shipments from China all the way to Istanbul.

The Iranian officials are also contemplating a branch connection from Mash-had to Bandar Abbas on the Persian Gulf.

One More Time, Problem with UAE Visa

Mr. Omar M. Omar, General Manager of UNIVERSAL Travel & Tourism, and his assistant were unable to participate in the ARABIAN Travel Market Exhibition which was held at the World Trade Centre in Dubai during 7-10 May. Universal which paid up \$18,000 for the exhibition space, represented Yemen in this regional get-together in which Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Fujairah, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Syria and Yemen are participating.

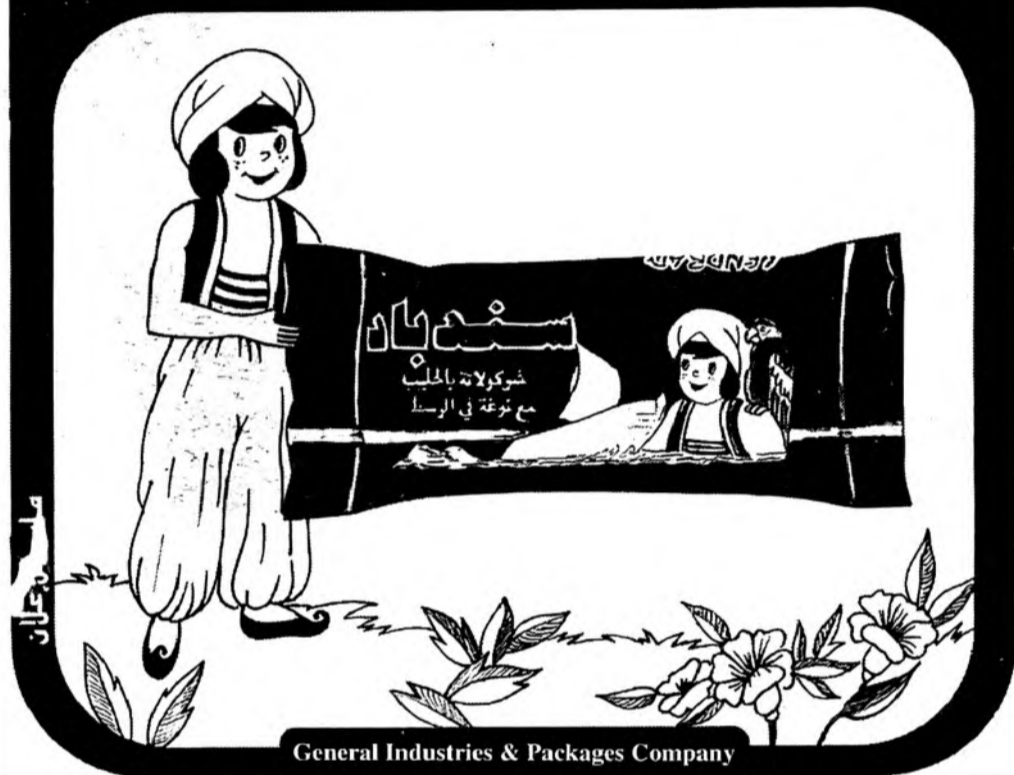
In a statement to the Yemen Times, Omar said that he had filed for visa applications on April 10th, almost a month earlier than the starting date of the exhibition. UNIVERSAL has thus lost the money it had paid for the exhibition space.

It is high time that the Yemeni authorities seriously addressed this issue in order to find a solution for it. This is one of the after-effects of Yemen's position on the Gulf War.

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Minister of Industry:

“Our policies call for reducing the state’s role, and expanding the role of entrepreneurs.”

Many people believe that the future prosperity of Yemen will come, at least in a major part, from the country’s ability to move into industry. It is here where high growth rates can be achieved, and fast. As a result, the industry sector, especially manufacturing and packaging in agri-business, is seen as vital. It is in light of this that the Yemen Times Sanaa Bureau Chief, Mr. Ismail Al-Ghabri went to speak to Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Soofan, the Minister of Industry. Mr. Soofan, a native of Hajjah Governorate, feels comfortable working in this sector and with private entrepreneurs. He himself is into business, such as trade, construction, agency representation, etc. He is also a graduate of Economics from the UK. He started work on his master’s degree, but got too involved in his business and work to finish. The Minister is also a member of parliament. He was actually a member of the previous parliament, and he won again in the current one. Finally, Mr. Soofan is an active member of the People’s General Congress. He is a member of the Permanent Committee. Excerpts.

Q: Let us start with basic facts. What is the share of industry in Yemen’s GDP, employment, etc.?

A: The statistics in our hands say that manufacturing represents 9.6% of GDP. The extracting industry adds a few percentage points. In terms of employment, total number of persons working in the government manufacturing sector is 11,500, while in the private manufacturing business, some 75,000 persons are employed.

Q: Are these numbers firm?

A: They are what is available. Let me mention here that the first thing I have done after taking over a couple of months ago was to start

Q: What kind of strategy exists for this sector?

A: The country has no clear vision or strategy for this sector, which is why its contribution to the economy is so low. In the 1970s, there were some efforts at import-substitution. This was later coupled with a policy of intensive use of locally available resources. In the 1980s, there was talk of importing of semi-manufactured inputs so as to complete the process here at home. Also the

issue of size, at least for the sake of benefiting from economies of scale was an issue discussed.

Having said all that, let me revert to my initial statement and say that there is no real strategy for this sector. The private sector does its bit, and that is all.

Q: But you do see that the industry sector can play a major role in the country’s economic reform program?

A: Oh yes, it can play a major role. I see this in three ways:

1. It is the only sector that can achieve double digit growth rates. The experience of many other countries has shown that industry-led development can be rapid. This will help straighten up our balance of payments deficit.
2. In the country’s search for a quick solution for the high rate of unemployment, industrial activities can provide some of the answers. It is here where you can absorb large numbers of people at a short time. This will help our unemployment problem.
3. It is industry where the contribution of the private sector - both national and foreign - can be felt. This means activating our investment program and enabling the private sector to take the lead role in the economy.



This will help reduce the inefficiency in our system.

Q: What do you see as the main constraint facing rapid growth in this sector?

A: I can think of two factors, both of which need a long-term solution. There is no quick fix. These are:

1. Skilled Labor Force: The lack or shortage of dependable and skilled labor force puts a low ceiling on our ability to engage more aggressively in this sector. The solution here is good education and better training.
2. The Working Climate: The working climate in Yemen is not a healthy one. There are a lot of obstacles facing the private entrepreneur. I should know, I am one of them. We need to elevate the social status of the private businessman.

Q: You spoke about skilled labor. Unfortunately, government efforts at vocational and technical training have not been successful. Do you have new ideas in this respect?

A: I would not go so far as saying that our efforts have not been successful. I do agree, however, that more can be done. There are some real problems in promoting technical training in this country. More could have been done if there were more coordination with the ministry which has responsibility for this sector, which is the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor. Maybe more coordination is needed. At another level, it is important to follow market trends in terms of demand. Whenever there is demand for a certain skill, you will see that the market directs

people to take advantage of the demand.

Q: Has there been a case of foreigners filling up jobs which could have been done by locals?

A: I am sure there are some jobs which are presently filled by foreign manpower, and which could have been handled by locals. But this is the exception rather than the rule. In cases where foreigners are employed, they are evidently superior, at least in the mind of the person who does the hiring. I think it would be better to let market forces determine this arrangement rather than going about it through directives.

Q: What are some of the problems you faced regarding consumers in your new responsibility for this sector?

A: Basically there are two issues in this regard. First, there are the specifications and standards which should be observed by the manufacturers. It is not just local producers, the same applies to imported manufactured goods.

Second, consumers do not have a lobbying or a pressure group. Therefore, their interests are not as strongly attended to as the others.

In general, consumer protection is really a societal role rather than the role of the government bureaucracy. Various public groups, the media, etc., are expected to lead in this effort.

Having said that, let me indicate that we are doing several things in this regard.

We have just adopted rigorous sudden site visits to factories to make sure that manufacturers adhere to the laws. Starting from next month we are also taking random samples for examination and analysis.

We are strengthening and clar-

ifying the laws and regulations. This is important to prosecute and penalize offenders. Of course, the legal set-up is important, and so is its application.

Q: Local manufacturers have recently complained against the newly prescribed consumption/production tax. What is the story?

A: Let me start by stating that the tax system in Yemen does not cover all taxable activities and revenues. So, the tax base is constantly being expanded, in view of the state’s needs for resources. Secondly, there have been enormous problems associated with tax collection. That is why a consumption/production tax is more interesting in terms of collection.

Finally, the economic reforms have led to certain changes in our tax structure. A thorough study has shown the need for this new tax.

I realize that adding a new tax is a source of complaint. This is a universal attitude.

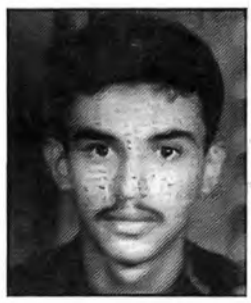
Q: You mentioned changes based on the reform program. Another major change is in the structure in the investment authority. What can you tell us about this?

A: Given the changes in the philosophy and approach of our economic policy, the role of the state has been reduced. There is now more room for private business. This is now to be reflected in the structure, role and scope of responsibility of the General Investment Authority.

We have been circulating many ideas in this connection. We welcome any feedback, especially from the entrepreneurs.

I think the new law for the establishment of this authority will take into account its potential as well as its prospective role. This will happen later this year.

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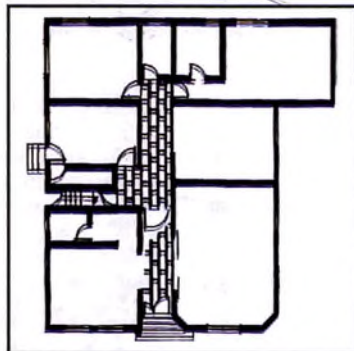
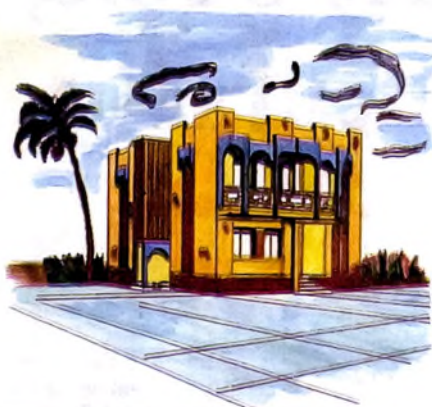
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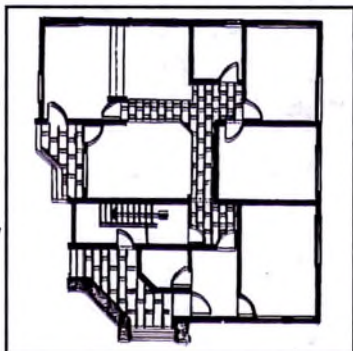
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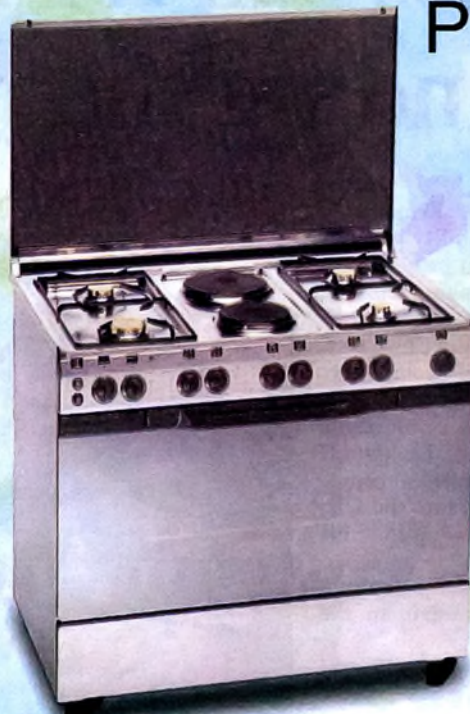
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3 - Part Article

Proposal of Local Administration Law

The Ministry of Local Administration has presented a proposal of a local administration law. This proposal is expected to be discussed by the government and parliament over the next few months.

Yemen Times is happy to provide its readers with its translation of the proposal.

CHAPTER ONE: NAMES:

Article (1):
This law shall be called the "Local Administration" law.

Article (2):
The following names and expressions have the meanings shown against them, unless otherwise specified in the text.

- Republic = Republic of Yemen.
- Minister = Minister of Local Administration.
- Ministry = Minister of Local Administration.
- Administrative Unit = The capital city, the governorates, districts, Capitals of governorates are treated as districts.
- Local Council = The local council within each administrative unit elected according to this law.
- Chairman of the Local Council = Chairman of the local council of the administrative unit representing the executive authority (governor or general manager of district).
- General Assembly of the Local Council = The total of all elected members of the local council at the level of the administrative unit.
- Administrative Board = The administrative board of the local council elected from among the general assembly.
- Standing Regulations = The standing regulations of this law.

Article (3):
Each administrative unit (whether capital city, governorates, districts) are a legal entity and has a local council directly and equally elected. The administrative units and local council are considered part and parcel of the state apparatus and have the right to exercise their duties and authorities within the area of the administrative and in accordance with this law.

Article (4):
The system of local administration is based on administrative and financial decentralization according to this law.

**CHAPTER TWO:
THE GOVERNORATES:-**

Article (5):
The local council of the governorates is composed of members directly and equally elected by the citizens of the administrative unit in the governorate. Each unit is represented by two members, and each unit is considered an elections constituency.

Article (6):
The local councils in the governorates - within the limits of the constitution, laws and general policies of the state - have the right to exercise all authorities and responsibilities regarding the direction, supervision and control of the activities in the administrative units. Specifically, they will undertake:

- 1- To review and approve socio-economic development projects, annual budgets and final accounts prepared by the local councils in the districts. Then to coordinate them in the form of a unified budget for the whole governorate, and then present the same to the central authorities to complete the necessary measures for their adoption and implementation.
- 2- To supervise and control the activities of the local councils, to approve or disapprove their decisions within the limits specified in the standing regulations.

3- To construct, equip, manage and maintain secondary schools and the equivalent vocational, technical, and training centers.

4- To construct, equip, manage and maintain general and specialized hospitals.

5- To construct, equip and maintain public facilities (infrastructure) at the level of the governorate.

6- To construct, equip and manage all the facilities and services which the lower level administrative units are unable to undertake.

7- To construct, equip and manage the facilities and services which the state delegates to it on the basis of a decision of the Council of Ministers acting on a proposal by the relevant minister.

8- To call the local councils of the governorates to extraordinary meetings and to set the agenda for such meetings.

9- To coordinate among the local council, to resolve any differences among them or their administrative boards whenever such differences represent a hindrance to the implementation of development projects, their performance or disrupts public welfare.

10- To discuss, approve and amend fees of local nature in accordance with this law.

11- To propose additional taxes to bolster local resources.

12- To study development projects of general benefit at the governorate level, and to adopt and followup implementation of the same.

13- To approve the representation of the local council in the domestic conferences, seminar and other activities organized by the central authorities.

14- To study and assess the administrative division of the governorate and to present recommendations and proposal to improve the same.

15- To study and assess the implementation of the local administration system and to present recommendations and proposals to improve the same.

16- To follow collection of the local and central financial dues and to ensure these are transferred to the proper accounts.

17- To supervise the proper implementation of the laws and regulations in all fields.

18- To discuss all the obstacles that stand in the way of the work and performance of the local councils of the districts, and to find solutions for them.

19- To discuss the laws and systems that regulate the contributions of the citizens in financing, construction, and maintenance of state service projects, and to supervise their implementation.

20- To work to resolve the general problems which concern citizens in the administrative unit.

Article (7):
The local council of the governorate is composed of:
1- The general assembly,
2- The Administrative Board,
3- The Supervisory Committee.

Article (8):
The General Assembly is the supreme authority of the local council of the governorate and supervises its activities and affairs, and is composed of the all the winners in the elections of the local council of the governorate. It performs all the duties specified under article (6).

Article (9):
a) The General Assembly holds its first meeting after ten days from the announcement of the general election results. Such meeting shall be called for by the minister, and is to be attended by two persons representing the ministry. The oldest member shall chair the meeting.

In this meeting, the General Assembly shall:

i) Announce persons interested in being elected to chairmanship of the local council. There must be a minimum of four candidates, and the person who gets more than 50% of the total votes wins the elections. If this is not achieved, the election process goes through a second round, and a third round among the persons with the highest votes.

Following the third round, if no one candidate gets more than 50% of the votes, the names of the three persons with the highest votes are presented to the President of the Republic to name the chairman of the local council. The two others automatically become vice chairmen - one for development affairs, and the other for administrative affairs.

ii) To undertake elections for the other members of the local council.

iii) To undertake elections for control committee.

iv) To choose rapporteur for the general assembly from among its members.

b- The minimum quorum for the above meeting is three fourths of the members of the council. If the quorum is not achieved, the meeting is adjourned for the next day during which a simple majority of the members is sufficient. However, if this majority is not achieved, the matter is raised to the cabinet by the minister to decide what it sees fit.

Article (10):
If the minimum of three candidates from among those vying for the position of chairman, as specified in the above article, or if the legal conditions were not fulfilled, or elections could not be held, the President of the Republic may then nominate and name the chairman of the council from among the members of the council or outside its members.

Article (11):
Conditions for candidature of chairmanship of the local council are:

- i- His/her age should be a minimum of 35 years.
- ii- Must have a university degree qualification.
- iii- Must have a work experience of at least eight years following the degree.
- iv- Should not have been expelled from a public post as a penal action.

Article (12):
The administrative board of the local council of the governorate is composed of (7) members to be elected in accordance with article (9) of this law for the same term of the council. The chairman and his deputies are included in this number.

Article (13):
The responsibilities of the administrative board include:

- a- The manage the economic, social, cultural, administrative and security affairs of the governorate.
- b- To prepare for the meetings of the meetings of the general assembly, and to prepare the agenda of the meeting.
- c- To prepare the socio-economic development plan of the governorate, and the annual budgets, and present the same to the general assembly according to the specified deadlines, and to implement the same after approval.
- d- To implement the decisions of the General Assembly.
- e- To collect the financial resources due to the local council of the governorate, and to follow-up collection of dues to the local councils of the districts.
- f- To prepare the final accounts of the local council of the governorate, to present the same to the General Assembly for discussion

and approval according to the set timetable based on the laws and regulations.

g- To study and adopt the specifications of the projects to be implemented in the governorate and to announce them.

h- To accept gifts, donations, and contributions according to the laws and regulations in force.

i- To protect the public property of the governorate.

j- To prepare periodic progress reports to the General Assembly regarding performance of the various organizations.

k- To undertake the responsibilities and duties of the General Assembly under conditions of emergency and exceptional cases, provided such decisions are presented to the next meeting to the General Assembly to decide what it sees fit.

l- To receive the projects, budget and final accounts proposed by the local councils of the districts, to group and coordinate them into a unified plan of projects and budget at the governorate level, and to submit the same to the central authorities, and to follow up their implementation following their approval.

m- To follow up the performance of the local council of the districts and to report on them to the General Assembly.

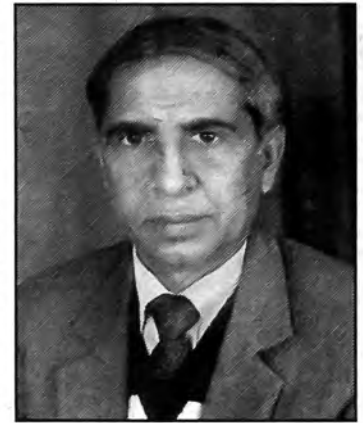
Article (14):
The supervisory committee is elected from among the members of the General Assembly, and its function is to inspect and supervise the work of the administrative board and the agencies working under the local council in the governorate, according to the stipulations of article (68) and (77) of this law.

Article (15):
The chairman of the local council of the governorate is also the governor and implements in the governorate the general policies of the state, the laws, regulations. He also implements the decisions of the local council. His responsibilities include:

- i- To oversee the management of the economic, social, cultural, administrative, financial and security affairs of the governorate.
- ii- To oversee the preparations of the development plans, budgets, final accounts in the governorate and its districts, to coordinate them, and to follow-up their implementation once approved.
- iii- To chair the meetings of the general assembly an administrative board of the local council.
- iv- To direct and supervise the work of the administrative board and to inspect the work of the administrative organizations of the governorate.
- v- To represent the governorate and local council in courts and in dealings with other parties.
- vi- To circulate all the laws and regulations issued by the central authorities to the districts and all concerned parties and to follow up implementation.
- vii- To preserve general security in the governorate.
- viii- To oversee collection of local and central dues and make sure they are transferred to the relevant accounts.
- ix- To conclude contracts for construction and import of projects implemented by the local council.
- x- To execute sentences and decisions of the courts.
- xi- To coordinate with the central authorities arrangements to ensure a steady supply of food needs of the governorate and to inspect their distribution and to abide by the official prices.
- xii- To carry out regular/sudden inspections of the districts.
- xiii- To receive and carry out orders from the central authorities.
- xiv- Any other tasks assigned by GA and the central Authorities.

"USIS Report on Yemen Is Factual and Objective, But Here Are Tips for Improvement."

I have a few remarks to make on the American State Department report concerning the human rights situation in Yemen during the year 1995.



First of all, I would like to say that I have read the full report, though I could not take part in the discussion which took place at the USIS office in Sanaa, and which brought together representatives of the various political parties, human rights organizations, writers and journalists. The purpose of this article is to expand the discussion through the Yemen Times.

What is stated in the report is, in general, fact and true, specially what is related to the slight improvement of human rights, which may be attributed to different reasons such as: the volition of the political authority to some extent and the effort of political parties, human rights organizations, writers, and social/public personalities etc. Nevertheless, there are some remarks I want to share as follows:-

- 1- There is no truth in what is mentioned in the end of the preface of the report, that female genital mutilation is practiced by some families of African origin. Yemeni families do perform circumcision on male babies, as called for in Islamic teachings.
- 2- The report mixed between using illegal means in executing punishment as prohibited in section (49) of the standing constitution and the punishments of the penal code which are based on Islam doctrine (Shari'a). For example, the punishment of flogging is applied to the unmarried adulterer and adulteress, and the punishment of arm mutilation against whoever steals the property of others, provided some strict living conditions are achieved in society. In addition, there are strong demands to prove the crime. Otherwise, the court passes the sentence of imprisonment instead. And these two crimes are part of

seven major crimes called (Hudud), which are mentioned in the holy Quran, and are not minor crimes as stated in the report in section (1-C)

3- On the contrary to what is stated in section (1-d) of the report, the criminal procedure law provides in section (129) that investigations should be completed within two months particularly if there is a detainee. In case the investigations are not completed in time, the period may be prolonged to up to six months by the order of the attorney general. If the period of six months lapses without completing the investigations, or submitting the detained for trial, the court may set the alleged criminal free.

4- In Yemen there is one type of court - the ordinary courts, and not two types as mentioned in section (1-e) of the report. But these courts specialize in the cases according to the subjects or kinds of crimes based on the classifications of the laws.

In conclusion, I repeat that I find the report factual and objective. My remarks, above, are for the sake of further strengthening the report, and so that similar reports in the future can benefit from them.

By: Jaafar S. Ba-Haisami
Jurist,
Attorney-General's Office,
Sanaa.

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على جميع الأخوة والأخوات الذين وردت أسمائهم أعلاه مراجعة مقر الشركة بمنطقة خورمكسر مجمع الشيخ سعيد بن صالح بن محفوظ الدور الأول مقابل مسجد باجنيد
هاتف رقم ٢٣٤٥٥٩ . ٢٣٤٥٦٠

ألف مبروك وكل عام والجميع بخير

Common Sense

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

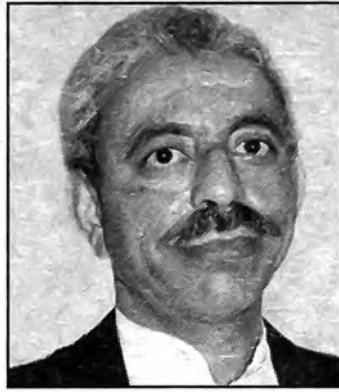
What Standards Does Yemen Uphold?

At every level of Yemeni society and on the implementation of any task there seems to be a lot of confusion, bewilderment and total disregard for finesse and propriety. We have hopes, we have plans, we have ideas, but no matter how sincere, or how obvious the good intentions are behind such hopes, plans or dreams, the end result seems to be a failure to achieve the minimal observable realization of any hopes, dreams or even documented plans.

What is the problem? Is it a social problem, a political problem or a cultural problem? It is really difficult to point directly at the single reason for our difficult state of being. The essential guidelines for molding the fabric of society are absent or short of achieving an order in the society that can easily be evaluated and assessed. The need for continued analysis in a society, of itself and of its achievements, can not be overestimated, if that society should hope to embark on the ride towards real development and increasing prosperity shared by all its members in a fair and equitable manner.

Yemen of modern times, has only recently (less than one hundred years ago) took on the form as a viable sovereign entity which had been accorded international recognition (about 1/3 its present land mass or area). Yet this status was subject to continued insta-

bility, as the regime in power faced mounting pressure from traditional power brokers (tribal chiefs and aspiring intellectuals and social dignitaries who felt that the Imamate controlled by the Hamidaldin family was too Arabic and slow in bringing progress to the country. While there is a considerable amount of truth to these allegations, it can't be totally denied that the Imamate had set up functioning systems that were able to perform within the resource limitations and the cultural constraints which prevailed at the time. These could be attributed to the Imamate's slow absorption of advances in institutional development and an exaggerated caution against a cultural and economic encroachment from the outside or from outsiders, especially if it came from non-Muslim sources. But the Imamate was successful in setting up a rather tight framework that enabled it to operate as a state or government and impose its visions of order and justice throughout the kingdom. There were effective operating units within the regime that were performing their functions in a timely and systematic though non-formalized manner. Many of the administrative functions inherited some of the Ottoman instruments to regulate their activities, while there were quite a few also that were refined by positive inputs the regime did



allow to be inputted. Apparently, the Imamate did want to arrive to certain levels of progress, and had visions of what the Yemen's potentials can be in a number of fields, but never felt secure enough to set the wheels in motion to reach these potentials, partly due to a cultural lag that was prevalent in most of the regime's leading personalities. These people ever not, to say, ignorant, for many possessed high scholastic credentials, since they have gone through most of the scholastic levels available at the time, which produced an elite of "scholars" who possessed a fair amount of knowledge especially in religions law, language and history as only the existing educational system could produce, then. On the other hand, the Imamate was afraid that outside ideas could "corrupt" the people and cause them to revolt against the Imamate thus ending the rule of the Hamidaldin family. For sure, the founder of the Mutwakelite Kingdom of Yemen (the name of the free part of Yemen prior to the 26 September 1962 Revolution) did have ambitions for his kingdom beyond just the borders of former North Yemen, but Yemen itself - the area of the late Imam Yahya's domain - was still a loose geographical entity where most of the tribes still continued acting almost as independent and sovereign states.

Thus, the Imam worked to bring the tribes of Yemen under his domain and literally had to fight many of the tribes one by one before he could really achieve sovereignty over the whole country. His son, Ahmed, led the expeditions and credit should be given to the latter for successfully bringing most of Northern Yemen under one centralized government. This campaign slowed down the establishment of effective institutions to operate the machinery of the new state (The Turks had left Yemen in 1904, giving Yemen autonomous rule, but full independence came in 1918 at the end of the Ottoman Empire). On the other hand, trouble with the British, who controlled the Southern part of the country and Aden and border problems with Saudi Arabia indicated the weakness of Yemen and thus caused the Imam to be more fearful of accommodating any changes. Though the Imam Yahya maintained autocratic rule over his kingdom and a strong policy of isolation, it goes without saying that he had full control, as much as any medieval king could ever hope to achieve, especially in a country with the geographical and social structure which characterized Yemen. ever hope to achieve. The taxes (zakat) were collected and general law and order prevailed and Yemen did begin to interact with the outside world. Many of those who have gone abroad, for one reason or another, tried to get the Imam to open up the country a little bit more and to allow for wider participation in the decision making process. But the Imam, who has never left the country himself, viewed such requests with suspicion and faced any opposition as civil disobedience. Opponents were either arrested or fled to Aden, which became a sanctuary to many of the regime's opposition. A bloody assassination of Imam Yahya (1948) brought his son, Ahmed, to the throne uncontested by anyone and the attempted coup was quickly defeated. Ahmed continued to face mounting opposition and his stubbornness to reject change and to spare no mercy for opponents who conspired against the regime lead to greater efforts to oust the Imam and the Imamate altogether.

With the help of Egypt, then under Gamal Abdul Nasser's Arab Socialist campaign (1962) and at the height of Arab Revolutionary fever, the Imamate was ousted, and with it went everything that was associated with it. Yemen had become the battleground for Arab traditional versus Arab Revolutionary forces. The hard fought battles to maintain the Republic from 1962 to 1968 finally ended with the success of the Republic But this

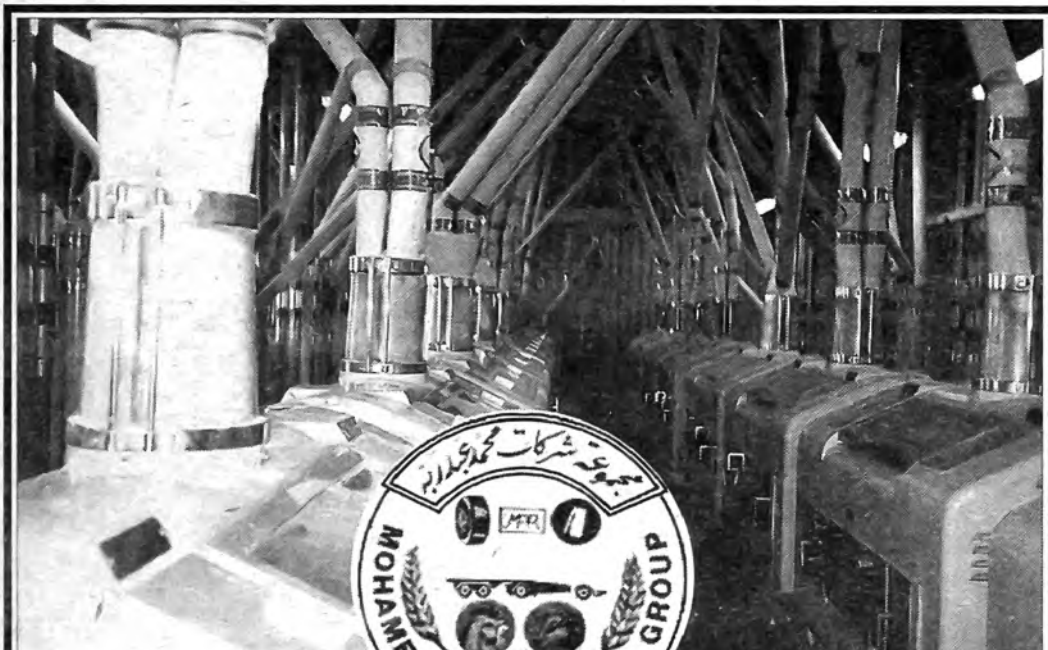
success should have been followed by clear cut lines for the Republic to be guided by to make sure that stability sets in and progress is reached on a continuous basis. This was the hope of the many thousands who gave their lives to save the Republic. Unfortunately, trouble met this effort at establishing the lines for the Republic to be guided by. The Republic, due to the many different forces that had become a part of the regime, including former Royalists who had fought to try to restore the Imamate (some actually sided with the Royalists in view of the strong Egyptian influence that dominated the early days of the Republic) and elements of every inclination on the political spectrum, went through many difficulties after the defeat of the Royalists and peace was restored to the country. A semblance of stability, prevailed for the first seven years after the end of the civil war. On the other hand, the civilian government affirmed itself by making sure that unlawful practice by any of the big officers or sheikhs would not be permitted. Moreover, the state was pursuing democratic approaches towards decision making and organizational proceedings. But alas, this progress could not continue for long. There were some people who felt that perhaps the changes and progress that Yemen should be making should have been proceeding at a faster rate. Moreover, there was some people who felt that corruption was allowed to creep into the system. Thus the Military Coup d'état of 1974. While there was substantial progress made in many areas in the Al-Hamdi era (1974-1978), it goes without saying that civilian government was over within Yemen and a big shift in the power equations was gradually and sometimes violently observed, in which the elements of power were concentrated with a relatively small portion of the population with no recourse available to deal with excesses and abuses which characterized the exploitation of this power. In the southern part of the country, British administration was fairly in place in Aden especially, and to a lesser extent in the hinterland of the British controlled or "protected" areas of Yemen until 1967. After independence, the South Yemeni Government, even as a Marxist state, still maintained the British system of management in many of their affairs. The traumatic political atmosphere, however was making it difficult to manage, no matter which system was used. On the other hand, political influence in the management of affairs was bound to weaken the effectiveness of man-

agement considerably. One of the most important reasons of the country's reverse development is the obvious lack of standards that achievement could be waited by in almost every aspect of administration and management and at every level of functional operations. While one could generalize this for both the public and the private sector, the could be qualified in the public sector by the role of profits in the decision making process applied in the sector and a slight, but not very sincere, attention to image.

Even where there are standards set in for certain sectors in the national institutional scene, again in both private and public fields, the obvious feeling that the observer is forced to realize is that even these standards tend to be ignored or intentionally violated! No one can dispute the fact that the various stages of the political struggle in the country since the Revolution have been responsible for the absence of any meaningful applications of standards, especially with the violence that characterized some of the phases of this political struggle. But with the political issue pretty much decided now, the ruling coalition should not feel relieved of any need to immediately apply standards with the intention of placing a mechanism so that these standards are fully complied with and any deviation there of must be dealt with quickly and equitably.

On the other hand, the opposition should not just criticize the state of affairs in the country and feel comfort in blaming it all on the ruling coalition. The opposition must present alternative approaches and suggest the appropriate standards that will regulate government and social activity of the country and adjust the shortfalls that seem to plague every aspect of Yemeni society.

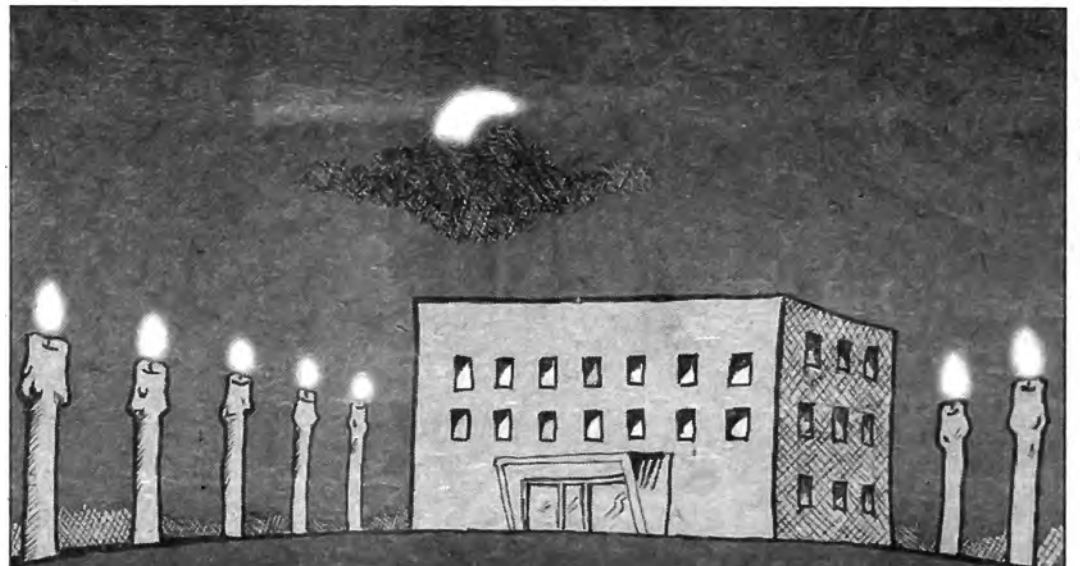
The issue of setting standards is the overriding prerequisite to economic and social development. It entails a big education or awareness campaign for both the overseers of these standards and the functional party to whom falls the responsibility of having those standards become second nature to themselves as they apply these standards accordingly. An important element of setting standards is that they are continuously evaluated and updated as the need arises, based on results achieved by the existing standards and developments in comparable fields elsewhere in the world. One must also bear in mind that any standards set are always minimal, and one would expect that the drive towards much higher standards is both commendable and rewarding to both the aspirant and society at large.



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Adel Hageb

The Fate of the Ministry of Electricity in Yemen

Seminar on: "Fiscal & Monetary Policies Under Conditions of Economic Reform."

The Yemen Bankers' Association (YBA) has announced that it will organize, in collaboration with the Arab Bankers' Union (ABU), a specialized seminar. According to Mr. Yahia Ad-Dailami, Chairman of the YBA and Member of the Executive Board of the ABU, the seminar which is under the theme of "Fiscal and Monetary Policies Under Conditions of Economic Reform", will focus on the appropriate policies and actions of banks. "The seminar will also shed light on the experiences of various Arab countries, and will finally zero in on the Yemeni experience."

The seminar is scheduled to take place in Sanaa during 10-13 August, 1996. Invited to participate are senior members of the banking community as well as officials in the financial and monetary institutions of the Yemeni Government. There are three papers on the Yemeni experience. These are:

1) Fiscal and monetary policies aimed at addressing the alarming deficit in the state budget.

2) The Fiscal and monetary steps taken to address the structural distortions in the economy.

3) Fiscal and monetary management during the application of the reform package and the appropriate policies of the banking system.

Several Arab and local experts in the field are going to provide the lectures and training. These include outstanding bankers, consultants and advisors, and university professors.

The YBA is actively trying to contribute to the government's efforts to better comprehend the economic issues and problems at hand, and to find solutions for them.

The ABU, a pan-Arab training institution, has been involved in manpower training and high-level consultations in various Arab countries.

UK Drive to Expand Share in Yemeni Market

A delegation from the British Committee for Middle East Trade (COMET), headed by Mr. Ron Hollis, Director, left Yemen yesterday following a trip that took them to Sanaa and Taiz. They met with a number of government officials, businessmen, and others.

The COMET is a British Government-sponsored body set up to advise the government on matters affecting trade between the Middle East and the United Kingdom, to assist in the promotion British investments and exports to the area.

Meanwhile, a British catalog exhibition began at the Taj Sheba on May 11th. It moves to Hodeidah today for two days, for three days in Taiz, and then for another three days in Aden. Some 200 British companies participate in the catalog exhibition which is sponsored by the Department of Trade and Industry, the British Embassy, the British Council, and the Yemeni Chambers of Commerce in the various cities.

In a press conference on May 11th, Mr. Ron Hollis expressed

optimism at the response they got from the local businessmen. "We have had a long association with Yemen, and we feel we understand Yemen and the Yemenis," he said.

Michael Thomas, COMET's Regional Director, also said that Yemen holds considerable potential and promise. "We will pursue closer cooperation with the objective of expanding our joint businesses," he added.

Ms. Lawahiz Mobarak, the Commercial Officer at the British Embassy, has been recently doing a lot of leg-work in an effort to interest Yemeni business enterprises in increased business with Britain. "The mood is positive and encouraging. I find Yemeni businessmen quite eager to start and/or expand business deals with the UK," she said.

The UK has set its eyes on expanding its share in the Yemeni market. So far, Yemen has received half a dozen UK delegates over the last few years.

Andrei Teryokhin:

"There is a lot of potential for Yemeni-Russian business."

Mr. Andrei N. Teryokhin, 34, is headed back home, "after having spent a quarter of his life time in Yemen," as he says. Mr. Teryokhin, who was the Senior Commercial Officer at the Russian Embassy in Sanaa, is going back to Moscow to the Ministry of International Economic Relations. He will be in charge of the Afro-Asian region, including, of course, Yemen.

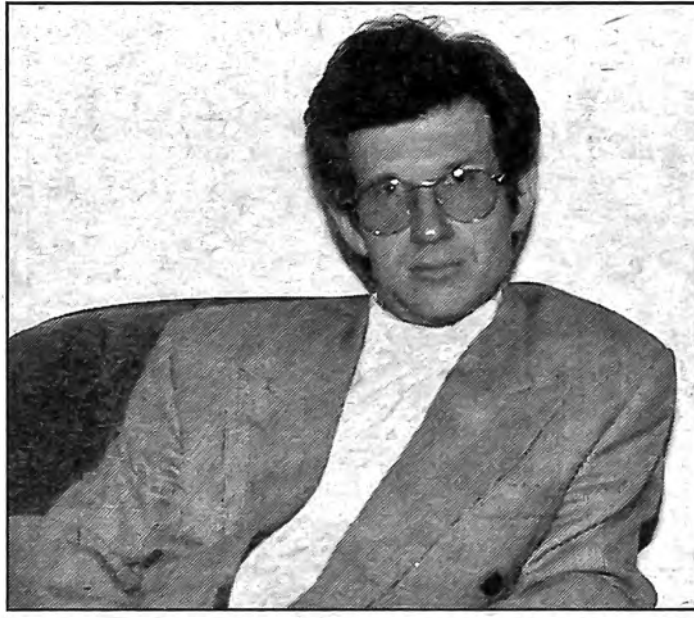
"The former entities of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, on the one hand, and the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had enjoyed very good relations. Today, the Republic of Yemen and the Russian Federation continue to enjoy excellent relations as well," he said.

Even then, the potential for economic and commercial cooperation has remained a potential. "There is a lot of room for expansion," he said.

The potential is mainly in three major areas.

There is a visible possibility in the area of manufactured durable goods such as cooking stoves, refrigerators, pumps, motors, cars, etc.

There is another possibility in the



The association between Yemen and Russia in modern times date back to several decades, to the 1930s. At the time, a Russian team came to Yemen to help in the development process. The gynecologist remained until 1940. "She lived within the Imam's household as part of the family."

In addition, there are the Yemeni-Russian families. Many Yemenis who had studied in Russia got married and most now live happily together. "These families form a bridge between our two nations," Andrei added.

In addition, there is a large Russian community in Yemen today. The number is around 600 persons. Commenting on the upcoming presidential elections in Russia, Mr. Teryokhin indicated that Russians living in Yemen are entitled to vote. They can approach the embassy for this purpose.

The Russian Ambassador in Sanaa has thrown a farewell party last week in honor of the commercial officer. He said the embassy has lost one of its able staff members.

By: Waleed Al-Saqqaf,
Yemen Times.

تهانينا الحارة

نزف أجمل التهاني القلبية إلى

خضر أحمد عبدالله

بمناسبة دخوله القفص الذهبي، ألف مبروك وبالرفاه والبنين.
المهنؤون: يوسف الشريف، فاطمة ياسين، عبدالكريم
الحماطي، ليلى محمد أحمد، وجميع موظفي بلازا سويت

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وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء.

الف مبروك

نهني ونبارك للأخ

معاذ عبدالغني قاسم

بمناسبة إرتزاقه طفلة الجديده التي أسماها

ولاء

المهنؤون:

جميع أساتذة جامعة صنعاء في

مجمع شارع الستين



Lufthansa

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- 2) Experience of a minimum of two years in the field;
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- 4) To be available immediately;
- 5) Job open to both males and females.

Interested and qualified persons are invited to visit our office on Zubairi Street, Sanaa. Please bring along your C.V. and any other particulars/documents.

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Founded in 1932 by the Allinger and Mattner families, the company has expanded its activities and become one of the largest Austrian exporters of sawn timber for construction and joinery purposes. Moreover, its timber products, such as MDF, plywood, laminated board, etc., are marketed successfully in the Middle East and Northern Africa. Today, the company is managed by the third generation of the Allinger family. Being part of the MM Timber Group, Allinger-Mattner has the backing of the largest Austrian group of private forest owners and one of the most modern and efficient sawmills in Central Europe. Dedicated to a tradition of rigorous quality standards and first-rate customer service, the company has earned a reputation as a highly respected and reliable supplier.

EN COUVERTURE: BOIS DE CONSTRUCTION

Fondée en 1932 par les familles Allinger et Mattner, la société est aujourd'hui l'un des exportateurs les plus importants d'Autriche, pour le bois de construction, et de menuiserie, les panneaux MDF, les panneaux contreplaqués, les stratifiés, etc. Aujourd'hui la société est gérée par la troisième génération de la famille Allinger. Allinger-Mattner fait partie du groupe MM qui est l'un des groupements d'exploitation forestière privés d'Autriche les plus importants, auquel appartient aussi une scierie, parmi les plus modernes et performantes d'Europe centrale. Grâce aux sévères contrôles de qualité et au bon service offert à la clientèle, Allinger-Mattner a su garder et même étendre sa réputation d'entreprise sérieuse et fiable.

**الينغر - ماتنير
المنتجات الخشبية**

ان هذه الشركة التي قام بتأسيسها عائلتا الينغر وماتنير عام ١٩٣٢، أصبحت اليوم اكبر المصدرين النمساويين للخشب المشور لاعمال الاتشادات والتجارة، وكذلك المنتجات الخشبية مثل ام دي اف والخشب الرقائقي والألواح الرقائعية... الخ التي يتم تسويقها في الشرقين الأدنى والأوسط وفي بلدان شمال افريقيا. ويقوم اليوم بإدارة الشركة الجيل الثالث لعائلة الينغر. وكجزء من مجموعة ام ام للاخشاب، تحظى شركة الينغر - ماتنير بدعم من اكبر مجموعة من ملاكي الأجرار الخاصة (الغابات) في النمسا وهي من أحدث معامل الخشب وأكثرها كفاءة في أوروبا الوسطى. وبالمحافظة على معايير النوعية الصارمة، وخدمة العملاء على رأس أولوياتنا، قد كسبنا شهرة كموردين جادين وجديرين بالثقة مما كان فيه نفع لنا اليوم هذا.

ALLINGER - MATINER FOREST PRODUCTS
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Common Misconceptions Concerning Spectacles

By: Dr. Li Jun,
Ophthalmologist of CMT,
Aden General Hospital.



Around 1000 AD, the Egyptian physicist Alhazen mentioned magnifying glasses. Many scholars insist that eyeglass originated in China and was brought back to Venice by Marco Polo. Until the 18th century, eyeglasses had sidearms. We wear them today fitting over the ears, which is attributed to the English optician Sir Edward Scarlet in the early 1700s. Benjamin Franklin made the first bifocal spectacle lens in about 1775. Lenses correcting myopia came along a few decades later. Monocles and pince-nez spectacles became popularly used since in the 19th century until recently. Today, very large percentages of people worldwide depend on eyeglass. Every morning, millions of people reach for their glasses before they get out of bed. With their weak vision corrected, and the world back in focus, the day can begin. Good eyesight is vital in most situations in daily life, particularly in education and at work. Defective vision is an obstacle to learning, both for school-children and for adults.

In Yemen, in the vast majority of spectacle correction alone will yield acceptable and useful improvement in vision. Most presbyopes can manage to select spectacles that permit reading and other close work. Prescription of spectacles are usually given out by eye doctors or opticians. In my experience in Yemen, I feel many people have misconceptions about using spectacles. If one uses the wrong spectacle, it could lead to permanent damage to vision. One other note: spectacles are very expensive in Yemen, and patients from poor families cannot afford them, and have to do without them.

private eye clinics. Doctors often fit lenses one by one on patient's eyes, eliciting assurances from the patient, as to whether the vision is getting better or worse with each step. Thus he decide the appropriate glass report. This method is not good for children because they have strong accommodative abilities, and are unable to accurately choose. It may be good to add -0.5 D for physiological tone of the ciliary muscle. There are several computerized auto refractors employed for objective determination of refractive errors. They measure quickly the far point of the eye and give instantaneous print-outs of refractive errors of the subjects screened with sphere, cylinder, axis, interpupillary distance and other technical data. These readings cannot be blindly prescribed, as the subjective acceptance and tolerance significantly differ in practice owing to personal and instrumental errors. They are used advantageously for mass screening, research programs and epidemiological studies. It is very good for mass vision examination.

Hypermetropia used low spectacles

Hypermetropia occurs when the rays of light locate posterior to the retinal plane. It may be due to changes of the refractive on the retinal plane. It may be due to changes that the refractive index of the cortex lens is too high or the cornea is low. Hypermetropia is physiological in very young children and shows variations with age. In children, hypermetropia diminishes with growth.

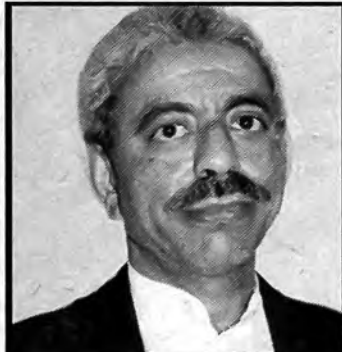
Prescribed hypermetropia glasses should be examined once a year. If the degree of hypermetropia was small, the patient should be able to perform his/her visual functions unaided for some time. If the patient were to develop symptoms, the glasses must be discarded. If the hypermetropia patient uses incorrect spectacles, this could lead to headaches.

The principle of correction of hypermetropia should be inhibition of any climate-based muscle contraction from inherent tone of the ciliary muscle. Example, patient who uses (+)3 D or (+)2.5 D, vision or 1.0, (+)3.0 D would be better from inherent ton of the ciliary muscle.

In Yemen, some people above 40 years complain that when they read, their vision is not clear. At this age, the hypermetropia is mainly of index type and some of it is also due to curvature changes in lenticular fibers. Usually a hypermetropia patient can make him/herself comfortable for near vision by holding the object as far away as possible. They require spectacles for reading or work that requires focussing such as sewing or operating machinery.

Patients that have a squint about 30° cannot use glasses for correction. An operation is necessary for this purpose. If a long time passes without an operation, the patient would have amblyopia. One case of a 4-year old boy from Seiyun, Hadramaut, who is 45-squint, but the local doctor got him (+) 6.00 DS glasses. The spectacles nearly complicated the problem. I had operated on the boy to correct the squint after examining his refractive error and found it only (+)2.00 D.

The second (final) part of this article will appear next week.



تهانينا يا أبا محمد
رُزق الزميل العزيز الأستاذ حسن محمد الحيفي
بأبنة جديدة أسماها هدى
هداها الله وهدى بها أمتها، وللجميع التهاني والتبريكات
المهنؤون:
أسرة صحيفة «يمن تايمز»

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
In the Court of the Hon'ble First Joint Civil Judge (J.C.) Shuj-Kachhab, Gujarat State, India. C.M.A. No. 22/96.

1. Heirs of deceased Alimamad Jakaria Neman.
1/1 Smt. S Alisabai Alimamad Neman,
1/2 Mr. Amed Alimamad Neman,
1/3 Mr. Sarav Alimamad Neman,
1/4 Mr. Salig Alimamad Neman,
1/5 Kum. Namata Alimamad Neman, being minor through her mother at 1/4th share.
All residing at Camp Area Shuj-Kachhab

2. Mr. Mohamed Jakaria Neman,
3. Miss Fatmabai Jakaria Neman, and
4. Miss Subudabai Jakaria Neman
all residing at Khedol Tal, Anjar
by Mr. Pradip K. Gaxji, Advocate for applicants

All the concerned are hereby notified that the above said Applicants have applied in this court that they are the legal heirs of deceased Mr. Jakaria Haji Abubakar Neman who expired on 10.9.82 at Khedol and deceased Mr. Alimamad Jakaria who expired on 1.1.86 at Khedol Tal, Anjar and have asked for the succession certificate or Letter of Administrations of deceased Jakaria Haji Abubakar Neman for his below mentioned properties situated at Aden which were owned by deceased Jakaria Neman during his life time.

So take notice that the person who has any objection or otherwise any interest in the below mentioned properties and who claims that the applicants are not legal representative of the deceased to get the succession certificate or letter of Administration may file his objections in this court in writing by person or by an advocate duly authorized, on or before 17.6.1996 without fail.

List of Properties

Descriptions of property	Value
A house situated at street cratir xx Aden, at section A, comprised under grant No. 1277, bearing assessment No. 272/212 & 213 in street No. 3 within the settlement of Aden,	Rs. 30,000/-

(P.T.O.)

2. A house situated at cratir Aden, comprised under Govt. grant No. 841, at Section, B, bearing assessment No. 337/37 458 within the settlement of Aden. Rs. 40000/-

3. A house situated at cratir Aden comprised under government grant No. Book No. 1216, Section B, assessment No. 332/59 & 60, within the settlement of Aden. Rs. 30,000/-

Total Rs. 100000/-
One Lakh only

Given on this 10th day of April, 1996 along with the seal of the court and my signature.

Prepared by: (S. H. Mubashid) Asst. Court No. 1 Shuj
Comp. by: (S. C. Mehta) Asst. Court No. 1 Shuj
By Order: (V. D. Sarav) Registrar, Civil Judge (S. D.) Court, Shuj-Kachhab

22 APR 1996

I would like to give my personal advice as follows:

Test Your Eyesight:

Commonly employed methods for determining the refraction objectively is retinoscopy for myopia. The principle of retinoscopy is to convert the observed eye into a degree of myopia so that the image formed by the fungus in front of the observed eye coincides with the papillary plane of the observer. The examiner moves the light back and forth and observes the direction of the light reflection from the retina. One adds plus or minus lens depending on the motion until a reversal occurs. The magnitude and axis of the cylinder correction may also be determined using this technique. Thus, the patient helps by informing the examiner whether various alternatives are better or worse for his/her vision. A cycloplegic is essential for the estimation of refractive error in children as they have strong accommodative ability. It may need 2% homatropine hydrobromide to relax their accommodation during retinoscopy. In elderly patients, this is done without the use of any cycloplegic or mydriatic because it may increase IOP. In Yemen, many myopia patients get vision reports in-hospital or

UNDP's HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT REPORTS (1990-95)

From the experience of the last two decades in development policies, at last the world, but especially the UNDP, is paying adequate attention to the importance of human development as indicator or measure of effective and sustainable development. In fact, since 1990, the UNDP has issued a yearly report on human development. These six reports have been prepared by a team of UNDP experts, staff and eminent consultants.



In my view, this initiative has contributed much to attract the attention of many economic experts throughout the world whether in developed or developing countries and has enriched many discussions and debate. These reports showed clearly the existing discrepancy in human well-being between and within nations despite overall improvement in living conditions all over the world !! This discrepancy led to more poverty and inequality. For example, 1/5 of the world's population go to bed hungry each night. More than a billion people live in a state of absolute poverty. And more than 1.5 billion have no access to clear drinking water and sanitation.

The UNDP report highlights that development is measured by the way nations are faring in the areas of income, health, education and basic purchasing power. It also highlighted that poverty is a consequence of not only limited capabilities of individuals and their misfortunes, but also of the structures and processes that determine the distribution of income.

These include distribution of wages and salaries, the impact of various taxes and other public revenues at different income levels, land distribution; access to ownership and control of productive resources and market and price structures, etc. In other words, the UNDP reports focus on how to measure how well a nation is faring in terms of the above mentioned indices or measures of human development. This means that development should enlarge people's choices and options.

The first three reports (1990-92) focused on development of people, by the people for the people through investing in people by providing them with education, health and employment. Hence devel-

oped the concept of providing Basic Needs for the people and their participation in development. This means more analysis on the possible ways to finance human development, including its global dimension through trade and the official development assistance and flow of global immigration from poor to rich countries and from rural to urban areas focusing on differentiation within and between countries. This also means correcting market processes at national and international levels and preventing an uncontrolled concentration of economic and political powers.

The 1990 Report, indicated that the main people's options are access to income, better life, knowledge, personal security, community participation and guaranteed human rights (access to resources needed to decent standard of living). The report showed that GDP is necessary, but presently has not been translated to human well being or to meet essential human objectives.

While 1992 report gave additional importance to international dimensions focusing on international markets and whether they fulfill human needs, especially in developing countries.

Due to lack of equal opportunities, the richest 20% of the world's population owns, presently an income which is estimated at more than 150 times the income of the poorest 20% of the world's population.

The 1993 report emphasizes the importance of community involvement in development and events. The present development led to growth without work opportunities. More stress should be put on "security of people" rather than security of nations only.

The "1994 Report", reported that more than 1/5 of the world's people suffer from chronic hunger. More than 1/4 of the world's people have no access to basic needs, while 1/3 of the world's people live under the line of acute poverty which could be described disastrous!!

The report recommends to adapt a new way of development cooperation realizing human unity based on more fairness and equity of wealth distribution; giving same opportunity and respon-

sibility of world's economy. Thus it proposes a new UN role leading to human development rather than concerning only on security matters. This new concept of development operation is based on the following facts

- The flow of aid should be extended including particularly to trade investment, technologies and flow of manpower.

- The rich nations should be ready to pay for the poor nation's costs and debts for identified services which forms global benefits.

- The poor nations should be compensated by the industrial nations because of the consequences of economic damages due to the imposed barriers such as market barriers and restriction on non-skilled manpower immigrations.

The 1995 Report dealt with "Gender gaps. It indicated that women make-up half of the world's population, but form 70% of the world's poor. Many jobs performed by women are not paid for. It is thus estimated that the total work of unpaid and underpaid women is US 11 trillion.

Nevertheless, the last two decades have seen much progress in the education and health of women around the world. (The average female wages is 3/4 of the male wage in the non-agricultural sector in 55 countries). Worldwide, women occupy 10% of the parliamentary seats and 6% of the cabinet positions. Female life expectancy has increased 20% faster than male life expectancy over the past two decades, while the gaps between women and men in adult literacy and school enrollment were halved between 1970 and 1990 in developing countries.

The report proposed to form a non-governmental monitoring group to focus on rates for equal work and social or legal indifference to violence against women.

One can notice that these reports of human development indices still need much improvement and refinement. In fact, UNDP experts are working to refine the indices in order to make them more meaningful and appropriate to socio-cultural aspects of human resources development.

Thus according to my point of view, it is still in the phase of improvement and it should be open for contribution and constructive criticism. For example, are the existing dimensions for human development appropriate indicators? Do they measure the quality of life? Or how adequate are the indicators of well-being or happiness?

In other aspects, how fair is it to use these reports, especially by donor agencies, as indicator of how far a nation needs development assistance? Do we have to insist on work values rather than cost estimates? What are the indicators which pay attention to environmental considerations?

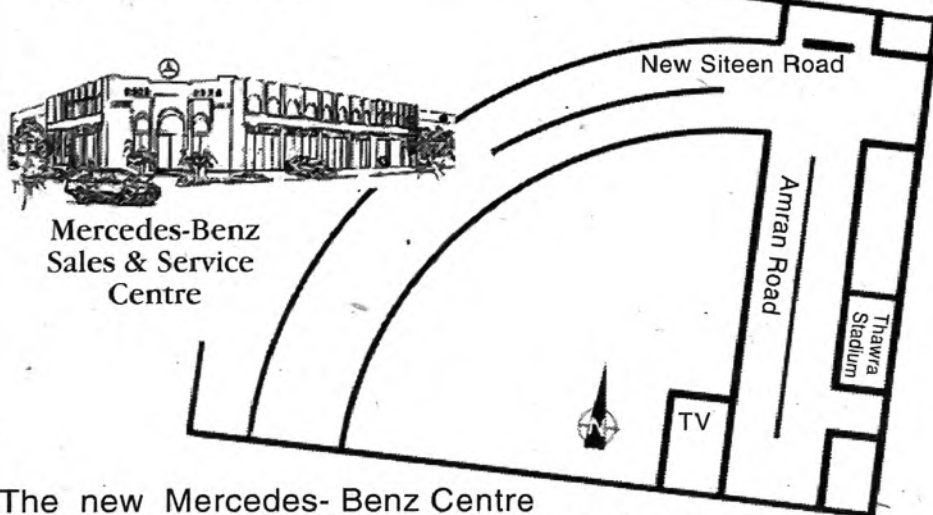
To commemorate its 40th Anniversary of Multi-lateral Technical Co-operation for Development, the UNDP invited some of the leading thinkers and experts to express their views on development challenges for the 1990s. The result was released in October 24, 1990 to mark United Nations Day as well as UNDP's 40th birthday. Among the thinkers and policy makers was Mr. Jan Pronk, Minister for Development Cooperation, Netherlands. Mr. Pronk emphasized on "strengthening management of interdependence" and the linkage between growth, distribution and "Sustainable Welfare". He also emphasized the need to end the ideological concept which accepted inequality as a necessary condition for growth. Since, inequality does not lead to growth; it leads to poverty. He stated: "It is not easy to eliminate inequality. We should try to ensure that the process of development does at least attempt to reduce it." (See: Development Challenges the 1995, New York, 24 October 1993)

In conclusion, human development should be deeply understood in every aspect, materially and morally and should mean more than satisfaction of Basic Needs of human beings (food, health, shelter, long life). There will be no peace without decreasing the gap between the rich and poor within and among countries. There will be no peace without correcting the international market processes and without preventing uncontrolled concentration of economic & political power. We cannot alleviate or eradicate poverty without ensuring equitable distribution of resources, at micro and macro-levels.

When will the world end the contradiction and dualism of values such as human rights, equity, liberty and democracy! When will these values should be weighed and viewed equally for all people in the world?! When will we be true with ourselves and with others and with our promise of "Peace and Security" to the world's poor?!!

By: *Abdulkadir M. Hassan*
Enviro/Devel. Consultant

We Are Located Here



The new Mercedes-Benz Centre is situated on the Settin Street (60-Meter) off Amran Road. Equipped with high technical tools and manned by an experienced team, we provide Mercedes-Benz customers the best maintenance and service. A new section for body work and paint workshop is added to the services. The spare parts section is part of this complex.

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The United States Information Service in Sanaa seeks qualified candidates for a limited number of scholarships in the United States

Fulbright Program

Candidates for Master's level study must have a bachelor's degree and submit a project proposal. Applicants should have achieved a score of 550 or higher on the TOEFL test. Contact the AMIDEAST office off Baghdad Street (203-588 or 46-975) for application materials. **Application deadline is June 30.**

Candidates for post-doctoral scholarships must have a Ph.D. and be interested in pursuing a research project in their field at a university in the United States. Applicants are required to submit a detailed research proposal. **Application deadline is June 30.** For information, contact 416-973/4.

Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program

A one-year non-degree program combining academic study and professional training at a U.S. university. Successful candidates will be high level professionals with at least five years of experience working in the public service fields of economics, journalism, finance and banking, public health, and natural resources and environmental management. **Application deadline is June 30.** Contact 46-973/4.

Learn to Plan Your Time: Start with the Summer Vacation !

Sociologists count the home or abode of the family as one of the congenial socializing agent for the youth in their formative years of schooling. Although it is never a marginal one, in the course of the summer vacation the home shoulders great responsibility in the child's ability to effectively plan his/her time.

Much depends on the cultural background and the level of concern and awareness of the parents in relation to their children. A student in a well-educated home is obviously luckier than others. The assumption is that the home does play a vital role in shaping the future of the child. If the home is active, responsible and helpful in helping the youngsters learn of the importance as they grow up.

During the school year, parents provide their kids with moral and material support. The summer break should not mean that the home will go on recess. There is a lot of work waiting for someone to do it. In fact, the parents should work overtime in the summer. They should carry on with their on-going responsibility, and they take on the school duties, as well.

One major responsibility is to help the kids learn to appropriately dispense of time. Children must understand the vital nature of using their time in an optimal way. There must be time to rest, time to sit for meals, time to retire, time for entertainment, time to read, etc... These are necessary to be included in an organized plan.

As an effort of personal mobilization, parents should know about the subjects that their children flunked during the school year. To make up, it is essential to avail books, means and advice for the student to upgrade the deficiency, a matter that may entail attending summer courses.

A suitably organized time is comparable to let one eke out a meager resource. The way the home functions and family inter-relations influence the vision of the growing mind of the young person. Counseling the student to think of proper qualification while yet in the midst of the course of educational level is a mind feeding point as well. Education helps the force and relation of productions. Apart from being a tool for social reform, it plays a graceful personal advantage for its friends.

This matter urges great care in this era where job opportunity is in real shortage. Thus, qualification should be given great importance.

Regardless of other considerations, in general, someone who has a degree or certificate of competence enjoys a better chance of getting a job. Teaching, for instance, is neither highly reputed nor well paid, but its qualification enables one to get employment in communities where jobs are close to nil.

The schedule of the summer vacation should always be different than that of the school months. Time should be used differently and there are many things that can be planned.

The prominent role of the mass media is worthy of mention here, specially that of TV. Programs on television can be chosen to cater to prime time in the vacation. Newspapers, radio and other forms of media can also be part of the summer program as they can be given a lot of time.

Sightseeing is another rewarding endeavor. Factories, plants, printing houses, ancient sites, etc. provide a good learning opportunity. It is a good mix between education and entertainment, which is the main objective of vacation time.

Schooling is quite a routine job. If it is not blended with a new progressive spirit which rigors the trek, the whole course may turn out to be a boring mission that frustrates the propulsive core of human drive.

My modest focus is to remind all the concerned parties to figure out the best way we can remove boredom and waste in our summer times.

Changing routines breeds motivation, refreshment, and enjoyment. Distributing time into active and slow parts to avoid monotony helps to achieve something. It also sharpens and livens the spirit in a constructive way - both at the mental and/or physical levels.

The best way to start a summer is to set up a plan. Make a list of the resources at your disposal, the main goals you want to achieve, and work out first a general and then a detailed plan. You also need an assessment yardstick to constantly follow-up, evaluate, and re-evaluate progress towards your goal.

If young people get accustomed in their formative years to kill long hours carelessly and uselessly, then they will end up spending their whole life in the same way. The summer months are almost at hand. It is a good starting point to plan one's time.

By: Mr. Ahmed Sheikh Ali Hassan, Sana'a.

CAUTIONARY NOTICE

SARIDON

Notice is hereby given that: **F. HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE LTD.** located at Basel, Switzerland is the sole proprietor and original user of the trademark:

SARIDON

(this trademark was filed in Republic of Yemen under No. 6404 in class 5 (Roche) on October 29, 1994 and the same has been published in Al Tigarah Magazine issue No. 3 of 1995).

The subject trademark is used over the world in respect of the pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations and registered with most of the Health Authorities in the world and it has been associated with the high quality and efficiency and are being sold through us our appointed agents and licensees.

Recently we have noticed that an infringing products bear a similar trademark **SANIDON** distributed by Al-Alam Center, Bombay, India are being sold in the market imported from India, whose contents and quality are not identical to our products and we hereby announce that we will be not responsible for any medical effects may be caused due to use of these products following the misleading of public between the original (**SARIDON**) and the infringing products (**SANIDON**).

The said proprietor claims all rights in respect of the above trademark **SARIDON** and will take all legal actions and proceedings against any person, company or merchant who is trading, selling or importing the infringing products **SANIDON** as it is infringing our said rights.

F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd.

This notice has been published under approval of the relevant authority at the Ministry of the Supply and Commerce.

Female Education in the Arab World:

THE GENDER GAP

By: Dr. Azza Ghanem,
Associate Prof & Former Dean,
College of Education,
Sanaa University.

The education of females in the Arab World has been an issue that received overwhelming theoretical support and political utilization but insufficient and inappropriate practical implementation. The subject is so fraught with myths and cliches that most studies try to present justifications for shortcomings and comparisons with the past forgetting the main issue, namely that we have to close the gender gap by educating girls. More importantly is also the realization that a strictly theoretical and academic type of education may not suffice as a panacea of accumulating ills but rather it may be necessary to opt for innovative more practical types of education that suit Arab women and enable them to join the work force and become more independent economically.

In addition to the benefits of educating girls and boys that are common to all countries, the developing countries achieve the following by giving equal opportunities in education to girls:

- Greater awareness, self-fulfillment, social and economic participation.
- delayed marriage and a better chance of daughters and sons education.
- The level of education of females is positively correlated with better health condition, lower child mortality rates and smaller family size. Countries that combine widespread education programs with family planning and health programs have lower child mortality rates and smaller families e.g. South Korea, Sri Lanka as opposed to Ethiopia and Malawi.

A study of 116 countries has made it possible to rank these in descending order using a female education index (see table). This is based on the average number of years of schooling for adult women the primary and secondary school female/male enrollment ratio, and the number of girls enrolled as a percentage of the corresponding total female age group.

The developed countries were mostly in the very good level, UAE, Kuwait and Jordan were within the good level. Iran, Egypt, Syria, Tunisia, Oman, and Algeria were within the fair level. Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Morocco were within the poor level. Yemen came out in the very poor bracket.

Yemen has a high infant mortality rate of 124 per 100 i.e. >12% and had the second highest number of children per woman of 7.7, with Rwanda at 8.3 (Malawi 7.6 and Ethiopia 7.5). Yemen has a population of 13 Million and it is estimated that it could double within twenty years. So Yemen will face a crises in education and health services. It is also important to remember that Yemen is rated amongst the least developed countries due to its limited resources, and has a GNP per Capita in US\$ of approximately 500, which is 1/15 of the GNP of Saudi Arabia for example which nevertheless falls in the poor female education index only one level above that of Yemen.

Yemen's problem is mainly one of income and resources rather than manpower and attitude. Yemen needs substantial external support in order to accommodate nearly 2 million children in schools approximately 1/6 of its population.



Strategies and policies are of paramount importance in order to close the gender gap and improve the ranking of the Arab countries. Amongst these are efforts to:

- 1- Recognize the handicapping factors through studies.
- 2- Involve females as policy makers.
- 3 Build more schools closer to rural communities.
- 4- Make more efficient use of limited facilities e.g. shift system for schools, multi level classes, and distance learning.
- 5- Provide more female teachers in separate female schools to overcome the cultural barriers.
- 6- Involve females in higher education and teacher training.
- 7- Use incentives for females in adult education and girls in regular schools e.g. free books, meals, uniform.
- 8- Install simple transport

systems in remote areas specially for girls.

9- Create more public awareness as to the effects of early marriage and unfairness of keeping girls at home to help with household chores and caring for siblings.

10- Close the gap between home and schools in order to reduce the drop out rates after the first few years of school.

These are some of the strategies that could alleviate the situation, but needless to say they require financial support. As one can see from the table the cost estimates for equalizing enrollments of boys and girls by the year 2005 additional to the expenditure of 1990 are needed for most Arab countries with exception of UAE, Kuwait and Jordan all of which have small populations. All the other Arab countries show varying gaps at a variety of cost estimates ranging from as much as 5.8 Billion US Dollars for Iran, 2.727 million for Saudi Arabia, 230 million for Yemen, with Tunisia at the least estimate of 53 million. However these figures can not be looked at as absolute figures but rather as relative to the economic situation and budget of each country. One hopes that in the developing Arab countries with limited resources girls education will not continue to be pushed down to the bottom of the list of priorities, because female education is essential for Total Development.

Female Education Index Child Survival & Family Size

Country	IMR	FE In Very Good	FR	Cost Est. US\$
France	7	99.7	1.8	No Gap
Canada	7	99.4	1.7	No Gap
USA	9	97.7	1.9	No Gap
UK	8	96.1	1.8	No Gap
Spain	8	91.8	1.5	No Gap
		Good		
UAE	23	82.9	4.6	No Gap
Kuwait	14	82.6	3.4	No Gap
Jordan	51	79.3	6.3	No Gap
		Fair		
Iran	88	67.0	6.2	5,800 m
Egypt	66	66.9	4.0	840 m
Syria	43	65.8	6.5	227 m
Tunisia	44	63.2	3.6	53 m
Oman	33	61.7	7.0	177 m
Algeria	67	61.1	5.1	515 m
		Poor		
Iraq	65	59.3	6.2	697 m
Saudi A.	65	56.3	7.0	2,727 m
Morocco	67	46.1	4.5	412 m
		Very Poor		
Yemen	124	24.1	7.7	230 m

IMR : Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births.

FE In : Female Education Index based on years of female schooling and ratios.

FR : Fertility Rate, average number of children per woman.

Cost E: Cost Estimates for equalizing enrollment of girls and boys by 2005, additional to the 1990 expenditure.

(1993 Report on Progress Towards World Population Stabilization, Population Action International.

تهانينا الحارة

نزف أجمل التهاني وأطيب التبريكات للشباب الخلاق

باسم محمد عبدالعزيز السقاف

بمناسبة الخطوبة وقرب الزفاف

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Para-tariffs to be dropped in next Pak budget

Pakistan is eliminating its remaining para-tariffs in its next budget for 1996-97, while further reducing its tariffs according to its commitments to liberalize its trade.

Officials say tariffs will be further reduced to 55% next year as part of the government's ongoing trade liberalization program. Under the tariffs reforms program drawn up by the caretaker government in 1990 and later incorporated in Pakistan's commitment with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and International Monetary Fund (IMF), tariffs were to be reduced from 92% to 35%.

Originally, it was a three-year program. In the first year (1994-95), the tariffs were reduced from 92% to 75%, while in the second year (the current financial year), they are to be reduced to 55% and in the next year (1996-97), they will be finally reduced to 35%. But the government, so far, has failed to reduce the tariffs to 55% this year.

Pakistan's explanation for its failure in the current

financial year was, however, accepted in government's subsequent talks with IMF. In these negotiations, Pakistan committed to continue with the tariff reduction program, reducing the tariffs to 55% from 65% in the next year's budget.

This commitment along with other conditions formed the basis of a standby agreement reached with IMF in October last year with a credit of \$600 million which, if fulfilled, would be a precursor to a multi-year ESAF agreement, replacing the one which was terminated last year. It is to fulfill this commitment that the reduction of tariffs to 55% has been included by the government in the budgetary proposals for the next financial year.

In addition, Pakistan has also committed to remove all kinds of barriers in its trade relations with its partners in the South Asia Bloc, which includes, in addition to Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Nepal.

Arab Thought Forum at Crossroads

The Arab Thought Forum plans its next general assembly meeting in Amman during 20-22 May, 1996. Many observers believe that this gathering of some 150 senior-most Arab intellectuals, policy-makers, businessmen, and other public figures will be key in the future of the organization.

The Jordan-based ATF is one of the leading think-tank of the Arab World with good access to decision-makers in Arab governments. After all, it is chaired by HRH Crown-Prince Hassan of Jordan. It also includes in its membership many senior government officials.

The ATF also boasts membership of many leaders of NGOs and think tank organizations.

In the aftermath of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the ATF was abandoned by its Gulf members who were major actors in its activities, as well as important financiers of its programs. It has taken a full five years before the ATF has become able to shore up its Gulf membership, especially Kuwait, and to regain their confidence and interaction.

The coming meeting is also seen as critical because the organization will elect its new secretary-general. The outgoing secretary-general, Dr. Ali Oumlil of Morocco, has been able to cool-headedly guide the ATF in the turbulent waters of the last few years. The ATF succeeded to come out intact.

The Arab Thought Forum organizes many regional and international get-togethers with the explicit purpose of bringing the Arab region in closer harmony and cooperation with the world. It has been working to increase understanding in both directions. Among its most successful projects have been the Euro-Arab Dialogue, Talking to the Far East, the Christianity-Islam Dialogue, and the many similar endeavors.

The proceedings of those and other meetings are then printed and distributed to a large audience, worldwide.

The ATF also issues a monthly newsletter through which it keeps in touch with its members.

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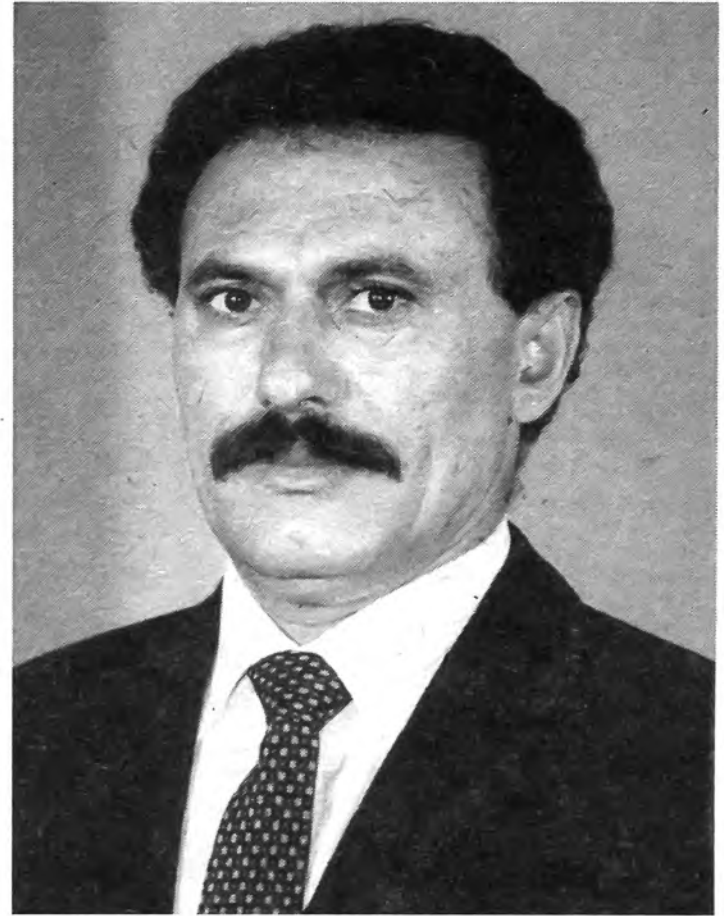
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Yemen's Unity Anniversary.

We hope al many happy returns.

Canadian Oxy Embarks on Yemenization

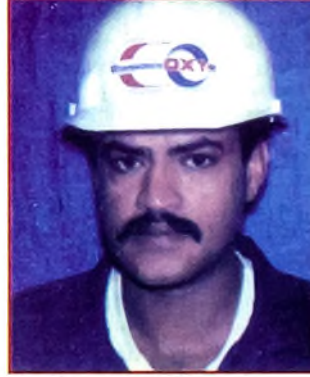
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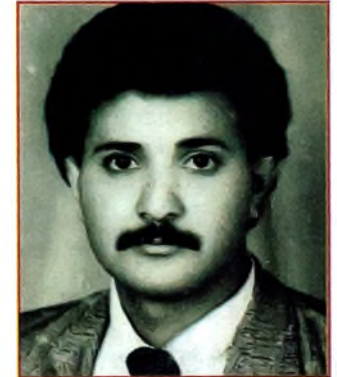
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Back to the Past: The State Did What It Does Best: Press Censorship!

Most people had that deja-vu feeling, last week. The Aden-based 14th October Printing Press refused to print last Monday's issue (May 6th, 1996) of Attagammu' newspaper.

"They asked us to change the whole front page, and to totally replace the editorial. I explained to them that I take full responsibility for any repercussions. They said they will get back to me. They never did. I learned from our people in Aden that there was no deal." That was Omar Al-Jawi, Secretary-General of the Tagammu' Party, one of the vocal opposition parties. The newspaper is the party's mouthpiece. The 14th October Printing House is effectively censoring freedom of the press in Yemen. It was under orders to do so.

The bookstands quickly profited from the situation. The ingenious step was taken to photocopy the newspaper and sell it to the public, albeit, at a hefty price. But it was there.

One of the main stories the government did not like was a MAWJ (Opposition in Exile) declaration, which has been provided in the press review column (page 14). Another issue was the editorial which was entitled the "Hunaish Quagmire".

The paper was pointing to the fact that the leadership of the country was losing control of the flow of events regarding this problem. It also showed the appeasement policy it pursues regarding external forces, and iron-fist policy it pursues in its dealings with the citizens of the country.

No wonder the regime want the issue out of sight.



جرائم الاغتصاب في حضرموت وعدن امام محاكمة رموز نظام صنعاء امام محاكمة الـ 16

محاكمة رموز نظام صنعاء امام محاكمة الـ 16... جرائم الاغتصاب في حضرموت وعدن امام محاكمة رموز نظام صنعاء امام محاكمة الـ 16

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تعازينا الحارة نيابة عن حزب الاحرار الدستوري ، وآل النعمان ، يتقدم عبدالرحمن احمد محمد نعمان بأحر التعازي والمواساة إلى رجال الأعمال والصناعة بوفاة المغفور له محمد علي نعمان العريقي احد رواد الصناعة في اليمن . أسكنه الله فسيح جناته ، وانا لله وانا اليه راجعون

مبروك التفوق مبارك للطفل احمد محمد الحيدري بمناسبة حصوله على المركز الأول في التمهيدي بالمدرسة الاهلية ، وعقبال الشهادات العليا يا احمد . المهنؤون : أبواك وكافة الأهل والأصحاب

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TAIZ: Ready for May 22 !

Taiz is being readied to receive President Ali Abdullah Saleh. To mark the 6th anniversary of Unification Day, May 22, he will inaugurate many projects.

One of the key private sector projects is the oil and lubricants plant. This is a YR 2 billion project which is a joint venture between the Hayel Saeed Anam Group (70%), and Mobil, Shell, and BP.

Among the important government projects are the drinking water supply, the rain-flood control, and the ring road. "Most of the credit for the completion of these projects goes to the Governor of Taiz, Mr. Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hajri," said Sheikh Abdul-Rahman Noman, himself deeply involved in dam construction in the governorate.



The Governor has been running from site to site to make sure there was steady progress in the implementation of the projects.

Dr. Mohammed Al-Saeedi, Director General of the National Water And Sanitation Authority (NWASA), stated that the first phase of the project has been completed. We expect to start pumping water to the city as soon as the president says so.

The NWASA official also explained that the real problem is the leakage from the distribution network. "We are going to immediately start repairs and maintenance to reduce water loss, estimated at anywhere between 40-55%, due to leakage," he said.

The young Saeedi has put together a team of engineers and technicians and has been personally guiding their efforts to execute the project. "We have heard, and it is true, there are a lot of corrupt and careless officials. In the same way, there are also a number of good people who can be mobilized to get on with the work."



That he has succeeded in doing. In a very short time, and with very little money - mostly provided by the governor, the first phase has been executed. Yemen Times has learned that the government has released the amounts needed to carry out the money on Saturday May 11th. The work was completed on May 10th, and with less than a fraction of the estimated cost.

Something like this is almost a miracle in today's Yemen. But it still happens. Yemen Times would like to use this opportunity to hail the governor of Taiz, Mr. Ahmed Al-Hajri, and his team, as well as Dr. Mohammed Al-Saeedi and his team.




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