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# YEMEN TIMES

• SANAA • May 27th thru June 2nd, 1996 Vol. VI, Issue No. 22 • Price 30 Riyals

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## Crown Prince Hassan: "Moral values are a key guide for political decision-making."

Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan indicated that part of the reason for the dismal failure of Arab politics is probably due to the absence of absolute ethics and moral values in their policies and views. The Crown Prince said that correct ethics is the backbone of any legitimacy and credibility in any profession, not least of which is politics. Politicians who are morally correct have no problems with



accountability and transparency. "Those who resist them, however, do have a problem." Speaking in an exclusive interview with the chief editor of Yemen Times in Amman last week on the occasion of the second anniversary of the signing of the Jordanian-Israeli peace agreement, the Prince stressed that the (Middle East) peace process was irreversible.

Full text on page 3

## Yemeni Justice: Keep those Prayer Coming!

### Mukalla Women Released, but so Was the Rapist!

At one o'clock on Tuesday, May 21st, under a direct order from the Primary Court - supported by the Court of Appeals of Mukalla - the Prosecutor's Office agreed to release from jail the two women raped in Mukalla 2 months ago, and the husband of one of them. They were imprisoned on charges of adultery, when they came to file a rape charge against an officer in commanding the investigations bureau of Mukalla. The officer, a major from Ibb, had also been jailed on the less ominous charge of 'beating' the women. All were released

on bail, pending the trial. This case has put on trial the decency of the regime and the conscience of the nation. The most recent hearing on the case was yesterday, Sunday May 26th. The government, unable to own up to the reality of what happened, claims its law-abiding security officers are being framed by secessionists. The government says the rural women of Hadhramaut were put up to say they were raped to tarnish the image of the dutiful security men, and to increase hatred of northerners. Yep, it is a good laugh!

## Rulers Control Journalists' Syndicate

The rulers have done 2 things to control the journalists' syndicate, whose executive board is coming for elections soon. One, they obtained journalists' cards for everybody employed by the government media organizations, including the clerks and administrators. Second, they black-mail and intimidate this horde of 'employee journalists' to elect people of the rulers' choice to the executive board. By last week's count, there were 812

journalists in Sanaa city alone. This number does not include the many independent journalists who decided to stay away from the pre-determined elections. "The politicians can have it," one said. The whole thing is developing into a big joke. The rulers of the Republic of Yemen have learned to use democratic tools to keep its strangle-hold over power. Elections for the Sanaa Branch of the syndicate are scheduled for today, 27/5/96.

## One More Big Thief Exposed

Here is a black-white case of clear theft. The company auditor's report shows that the former chairman of the Yemen Drug Company, a mixed ownership company, Mr. Hazim Bakir, and his team, ripped off millions of US dollars and Yemeni riyals. Enormous sums were 'paid-out' to non-existent projects. If the government of Yemen is serious to

implement any kind of reform its alleged fight against corruption, here is a clear-cut case documented to the full. There is no need to read newspaper stories, the government can simply ask for the auditor's report. Will they do it? Of course not. Mr. Hazim and his team are part of the ruling circle of Sanaa. Read the full report on page 7

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## OUR VIEWPOINT

### Fine-Tuning Relations between Government and the Parliament

When the governments of the Republic of Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) some 16 months ago, it included a peculiar condition. The MoU specified that the two countries will make sure that the media in their respective countries will refrain from any bad publicity and critical reporting on the other. Well folks, Saudi Arabia can live up to that because it does not claim to have a free press. For a country that makes this claim, Yemen, this is neither legally possible nor morally correct, and the government should not have accepted such an undertaking. That commitment on the part of the government of Yemen was a clear violation of the country's constitution, press and other laws. The government got around this issue by not allowing parliament to discuss the MoU.

Another thing happened last week. In its efforts to reach a deal with Eritrea on the dispute over the Hunaish Archipelago, the government of Yemen accepted a condition, which it should not have according to laws of the country. The Eritreans demanded that the Yemeni side should not show the agreement to the media. Well that is bad, but not illegal. But even worse and more troubling, the Yemeni government refused to show it to parliament. Now, it is serious when the government says it cannot show the representatives of the people what it is going to commit the country to. It is true, the agreement could later be passed on to parliament for discussion and approval. But at that stage, it will a fait accompli. The parliament will not be, realistically speaking, in a position to reverse the process or even change anything in the agreement.

As Yemenis learn how to work the democratization process, and how to implement a power-sharing system among the various branches of authority - the executive, legislative and judiciary, it is now increasingly becoming obvious that parliament needs to put its foot down and make sure the executive branch of authority cannot and will not commit the country to conditions which are contrary to the laws and constitution.

I am sure that the people in charge of our foreign policy, especially Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, are very qualified. In fact, they are much more qualified than the members of our present parliament. I am also sure they are patriotic and that they wish to serve Yemen's interests. But, we are trying here to establish a system. Tomorrow's foreign minister and members of parliament are going to be different people with different capabilities. So, why should we accept a one-sided system?

So, what needs to be done?

I would like our lawyers, legal experts, university professors, and of course, those in parliament and government to work out a solution. I suggest that parliament enacts a law requiring the government, in its foreign relations, to work within certain parameters and limits. More importantly, it should be held accountable and transparent, at least to the law makers.

*The Publisher*  


## YEMEN TIMES

An Independent Economic & Political Weekly



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### DHL Yemen Embarks on Expansion, Automation and Improvements

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DHL Worldwide Express has been judged the best express operator in both Asia and the UK.

Announcing this, DHL Yemen Country Manager Hussain Al-Sayyadi said judging for both award, announced recently in Singapore and London, was done by industry professionals. DHL won the Asia Freight Industry (AFIA) award for the tenth consecutive year. Al-Sayyadi said the awards were particularly significant for DHL's operations in Yemen - one of 217 countries in which the company operates.

"These two awards reflect the excellence of our service in Asia and the UK - two of Yemen's most important destinations and sources of inbound international shipments," Hussain explained.

"Both awards can be considered the 'Oscars' of the freight industry because they are voted by industry professionals in their respective regions."

The AFIA awards are conducted by Asia's leading intermodal magazine, Cargoneys Asia, while DHL UK's trophy was presented by Europe's leading freight newspaper, International Freight Weekly.

In Yemen and all over the world, DHL is responding to

heightened competition by constantly looking for ways to improve our service in order to meet and exceed customer expectations," Sayyadi said. The judges of the IFW award commended DHL for displaying all-round excellence of service and for offering flexible solutions tailored to meet individual customers' distribution needs.

In Asia, DHL is currently investing \$500 million, of which \$65 million is being spent in the Middle East. In the UK, DHL will invest more than GBP 10 million this year alone.

DHL is the world's leading air express company, delivering documents, packages and heavy freight to more than 80,000 destinations worldwide. Its employs 40,000 people internationally - 1,200 of the in the Middle East.

### Rising Level of Lawlessness Through the Land !

In Mukalla, crowds of citizens went out to the streets to chant "Down with military rule!" in a direct reference to the regime. That was following a football match on Thursday, May 23rd. Young men quickly over-ran the security force in their rampage. It was only with the arrival of military re-enforcements that the demonstration was subdued. One person was killed, about twenty injured, and over 100 arrested in the incident.

In Taiz, the Republican Guard killed one person, injured two more, and arrested Dr. Abdul-Qader Al-Junaid, a well-known and respected surgeon.

The Republican Guard had ordered Dr. Al-Junaid to give up his plot of land in Sala, Taiz, which he had purchased a few years ago. They said the whole area was given to the army.

On Saturday, May 25th, he resisted. They took him as he tried to start building on the land.

In Al-Jawf, an Egyptian teacher was killed in a cross-fire between two tribes. The teacher, Abdul-Haleem Mohammed Issa, was killed in Al-Khuzay' village, a few kilometers from Al-Hazm, the capital of the governorate.

Tribal dispute and violence is a normal part of life in the desert governorates of Marib, Al-Jawf, and Shabwah. Every week, several persons die in ambush killings. But often, only Yemenis die.

### British Parliamentary Delegation in Yemen

A six-person parliamentary delegation is presently visiting Yemen at the invitation of Yemen's House of Deputies. The group includes Robert Hicks, Conservative - leader of the delegation, Sir Peter Lloyd, (Conservative), Rhodri Morgan (Labor), Richard Burden (Labor), Helen Jackson (Labor), and Lord Rdesdale (Liberal Democrat, House of Lords). Accompanying the delegation is Ms. Maria Holt from the Council for the Advancement of Arab British Understanding.

The itinerary includes visits to Aden and Taiz, in addition to Sanaa. It also includes meetings with senior officials, businessmen and intellectuals.

### NGO Workshops on Law and Child Rights

The Ministry of Social Affairs is organizing a 3-day workshop to discuss the proposed amendments to the law regulating the work of Non-Government Organizations (NGOs). "Many NGOs have been invited to participate with the intention of improving and enriching the proposed new law," stated Mr. Ali Saleh Abdullah, Deputy Minister of Social Affairs. The workshop starts on May 28th.

At another level, the Yemeni Coalition of NGOs on Child Rights inaugurated on May 25th a regional (pan-Arab) meeting of NGOs working on children. Radda Barnen, a leading NGO in this field, stated in a circular the "Regional Consultative Meeting deals with future plans for children in the Arab World". This is a follow-up to the Cyprus meeting held in November 1995 to discuss implementation of the UN Convention on child rights.

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## Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan:

# “We pursue a responsible policy.”

By: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf,  
Chief Editor, Yemen Times.

Last week, I visited Amman one more time. As always, the Jordanian capital was a very pleasant experience. Amman is probably the cleanest Arab capital, the people are disciplined, and the system works.

In addition, this time I was surprised with a number of giant infrastructural achievements, bridge by-passes, tunnels, new highway, etc.

But I was most interested to see how the peace process affected the country. I walked around the city, called on old friends, and opened general conversation with lots of people.

Most Jordanian citizens express deep confidence in the leadership of the nation. The Jordanians sincerely believe in their king, the royal family and their wisdom.

So I turned to talk to the leadership.

Crown-Prince Hassan is probably one of the leading Arab intellectuals. He reads a lot, and more importantly, he listens a lot. He comes in constant contact with opinion-makers from all over the world. Last week was no different. He hosted a selective group of some fifty Arab intellectuals and for three days, engaged them in deep discussions about regional peace, economic growth, democracy and other issues.

We talked a bit about generalities. Then I asked to interview him on the record. He graciously accepted. We had a rich one-hour tete-a-tete discussion, of which I offer below, some excerpts.



**Q:** This month marks the passage of two years since Araba (the place Jordan and Israel signed their peace agreement). Give me your assessment?

**A:** Two years is not sufficient to assess such a historic event. It is not yet possible to count the advantages and disadvantages.

Meanwhile, there have been many other events which have affected the peace process. In brief however, we have succeeded in confidence-building to some degree with Israel. We have also shown to the other Arab countries that while the peace process is irreversible, it need not be a one-way street. Both sides have to give something, and both have to gain something.

Peace will allow us to discuss and agree on many vital issues such as trade, water, environment, and above all, to lower tension.

**Q:** Jordan is often perceived as the bridge of the Arab Mashreq. Your country is the contact point for the major Mashreq Arab countries - Iraq, Syria, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. Do you think any level of Arab bloc can be created? And would Jordan's role be?

**A:** The world is getting smaller everyday. You can see the integration process that is going on in various parts of the world.

I think it would be far easier for others to work with us as a bloc. Of course, each of the big regional countries will continue

to have a dominant role. Cairo for the sheer population-size, Riyadh for its wealth, Damascus for its role in the Levant, and even Tel Aviv, for its special connection with the West. I think an integration of the region is necessary for a rapid prosperity and to avoid mis-haps.

Jordan, of course, is fully in support for such integration. Let me use the example of Europe to point to the potential of the Jordanian role. The giants of Europe, as you know, have decided to set up their headquarters in little Luxembourg. It simply makes sense.

**Q:** Let me turn to Jordan's transformation towards democracy. How would you describe your experience, so far?

**A:** I will start by asserting that democratic values are not unique to the West. These are universal values and the basis of humanity's current civilization.

I think the success of any model will depend on how much it is internalized, and what portion of society participates in it. You can call it whatever you want, but what matters is whether the people have a say in how their society is being managed. On this basis, it is crucial for us to go back to our cultural identity and draw from it whatever we can to enrich our experiment.

Our experiment is also based on a conscious self-confidence and assertion. We are not experimenting with something we don't know.

**Q:** Relations with your neighbors - all around, have undergone many changes. Is there a constant?

**A:** We pursue a responsible policy towards our neighbors on the basis of our firm belief in the ideals of the Arab Revolution. Our destiny is bound together.

It has also been our destiny to fall as a buffer between the oil-rich states and the one-party revolutionary states.

We would like to explicitly state that neighbors could have different points of view, and yet, should be able to work together. Differences in concepts and approaches should not mean we will be at loggerheads.

**Q:** That is good and fine, but how we translate that into practical relations?

**A:** I think the main thing is to continue to talk. Dialogue is an important vehicle for individuals and societies to be able to come to terms to one another.

Let us also receive feedback from our own people. The systems must have a mechanism to involve the people in the data collection and decision-making processes.

Finally, I want to note that even if states have differences, we should not allow such differences to lead to economic blockades against each other. Let that remain as an option to bring us back together.

**Q:** Speaking about the economy, can you tell us more about your current economic orientation?

**A:** Jordan has been affected by the economic downturn that has hit the region. You know we have had more than our share of shocks and disruptions.

But in general, Jordan has fared very well. We are now in what I can call the fast track. We are studying the possibility of converting the whole of the Jordan Valley into a statutory port status, like Singapore.

We are also interested to move from ordinary manufacturing into heavy industrialization. Other sectors such as services,

especially the high-tech and tourism will also feature visibly in the future.

**Q:** Final question. What do you think of Yemen's evolution?

**A:** Yemen is a country that has a special place with us. It is our depth.

I believe human beings are seen as the most precious resource in your country's evolution, which is correct. We share that and other aspects with Yemen.

I hope that a civil society will grow fast enough to make up for lost time.

Finally, I am looking forward to visiting Yemen. I am sure we can give each other a lot.

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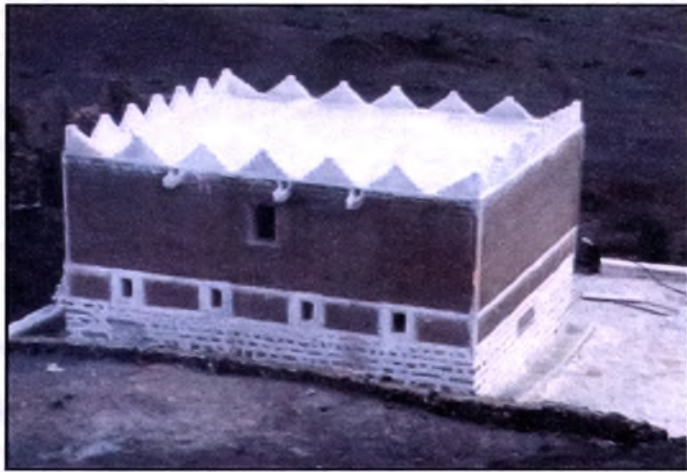
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## French Archaeologists Bring Al-Abbas Mosque Back to Shape



The inauguration of the Al-Abbas Mosque in Asnaf, Khowlan, 38 kilometers east of Sanaa, was an impressive business. The hillside was filled with tribesmen who joined the government officials, academicians and historians who came to inaugurate the mosque. The Al-Abbas Mosque was built in 519 H (1125 AD) by Sultan Musa ibn Muhammad, one of the last rulers of the Sulehite dynasty. "For the last 900 years, this mosque has remained intact," states Ms. Marylene Barret, French Archaeologist who is in charge of the restoration effort spearheaded by the French Center for Yemeni Studies. The French Government has paid up some \$ 400,000 to complete the restoration effort, initiated by the UNESCO in the early 1980s. Ms. Barret who was involved in the project since 1988, said she felt accomplished by this project. The Mosque is in 'musandaqa' style (cube), and has some of the most elaborate carving and decoration. "The ceiling is all wood, and the calligraphy is splendid, even by world standards," stated Marylene. The locals continue to revere the mosque for two reasons. There is a general belief that Al-Abbas, a pious man who had come from India via Mecca, is believed to have had powers of fertility. That is why the women who seek to be pregnant, or those who are pregnant, come to the tomb of the

old man asking for blessing. "Even while we worked, women would come leave bits and pieces of their hair, and ask for blessing," stated the French archaeologist. But the tribesmen have another reason to revere the mosque. They believe that Al-Abbas brought with him a treasure,

which they believe, is still buried in the mosque. They are worried the French will take it away. That is why they have kept a constant watch over the place, even as work was going on. "From an archaeological point of view, this edifice is a complete document which has reached us intact," Marylene concluded.

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# Proposal of Local Administration Law

## CHAPTER FOUR: General and Joint Regulations Among Local Councils:

**Article (36):**  
Candidates for the local council of administrative units must satisfy the following conditions:

- 1- Must be a Yemeni national,
  - 2- Must be at least 25 years old,
  - 3- Must be able to read and write,
  - 4- Must live or have a permanent residence (house) in the administrative unit for which he/she is running,
  - 5- His/her name must be registered in the list of candidates for the administrative unit,
  - 6- Must be straight in conduct and good behavior and must perform the religious rituals, and should be free from a court sentence on a crime.
- Members of the armed and security forces and the judiciary may not stand for elections unless a full month has passed since their resignation from their posts. Such resignations are deemed accepted as soon as they are tendered, and candidates who have not succeeded in the elections may return to their old posts.

**Article (37):**  
The candidates who has the highest number of votes is the winner in the seat for membership of the general assembly of the local council. In case of a tie in the number of votes, a coin is tossed to determine the winner.

**Article (38):**  
Members of the local council, prior to taking on their duties, take the following oath: "I swear in the name of God the Great to perform my duties in the council in all faith and loyalty and to respect the constitution and laws, and may God be my witness."

**Article (39):**  
The term of the local council is five years beginning with the date of the first meeting of the general assembly. The President of the Republic, sixty days prior to the completion of the term, shall call for new elections. The President may extend the term of the local councils for a sixth year, based on circumstances warrant such a step in his judgement.

**Article (40):**  
Members of the local councils have the following rights:

- 1- To attend the meetings of the general assembly, express his/her views, present proposals, and vote;
- 2- To stand for elections for the chairmanship of the council or any other bodies affiliated to the council;
- 3- To participate in the elections for the bodies affiliated to the council;
- 4- To enjoy the moral and financial privilege stipulated in this law and its regulations;
- 5- To guarantee freedom of expression and not to be penalized for ideas and positions expressed during the meetings;
- 6- To have access to the minutes, documents and records of the local council;
- 7- To propose items to be included in the agenda of the council according to the procedures of the by-laws.

**Article (41):**  
Members of the local council shall abide by the following:

- 1- To regularly attend the meetings of the council and effectively participate in them;
- 2- To observe the stipulations of the Law of Local Administration, its principles and objectives, as well as the decisions and system of the council;

3- To carry out the tasks assigned to him/her by any of the organs affiliated to the council and write reports on such tasks;

4- To cooperate with other members in the spirit of a team;

5- To hold meetings with the citizens in his/her constituency to understand their needs and worries, and to explain and clarify the decisions of the council, including objectives and various aims, and to encourage the citizens to interact positively and participate in the execution of the local development program;

6- To develop positive social relations and contacts which achieve and protect national social unity;

7- To effectively contribute in upholding general law and order and to coordinate with relevant authorities in order to safeguard safety and security of society, its assets and to protect infrastructure and projects in the constituency;

8- To pursue an upright conduct, truthfulness and objectivity in presenting ideas, issues and remarks so that the council may take correct decisions;

**Article (42):**  
Only the chairman of the council, his two deputies, and members of the administrative board, and chairman and members of the Supervisory Committee are full time workers; while other members are entitled to pursue other jobs.

**Article (43):**  
The non-full time members of the local council are not entitled to salaries or remunerations. They may, however, receive allowances to cover their out-of-pocket expenses which will be specified in the by-laws.

**Article (44):**  
The heads and members of the administrative boards and supervisory committees receive a predetermined monthly sum in return for their work. Those individuals who happen to be government employees are considered by this law as being seconded during their term with the council.

**Article (45):**  
Any authority which takes disciplinary action against any member of the local council must notify the chairman of the council at least 48 hours prior to such action, and in all cases, must inform the chairman of the results of any investigations (concerning a member of the council).

**Article (46):**  
The work place of the member of the council must enable him/her to perform his/her duties in accordance with the stipulations of the by-laws.

**Article (47):**  
It is forbidden to engage in a contractual relations between the administrative unit of the council and any of its members, whether directly through a third party. However, in case the general interest is served, such an undertaken may be authorized provided the majority of the majority of the general assembly approve.

**Article (48):**  
The chairman of the local council of a governorate addresses his/her resignation to the president of the republic, while the resignation of the chairman of an administrative unit of the council addresses his/her resignation to the prime minister. Such resignation is effective from the date it is formally accepted or with the passage of 30 days without looking into it. The incumbent will remain acting in his/her post until a replacement is named.

**Article (49):**  
The resignation of a member of the administrative board or general assembly is addressed to the chairman of the council who must present it to the next meeting of the general assembly. The resignation is deemed accepted if the general assembly approves of it, in which case it shall announce the vacancy of the seat of the resigned member.

**Article (50):**  
If a seat is vacant for whatever reason, the person with the next highest number of votes in the last elections takes his/her place and completes the balance of the term.

**Article (51):**  
Membership in the general assembly is lost in either of the following cases:

- 1- If any of the conditions for candidature specified in this law are not valid;
- 2- If a member is absent in three consecutive sessions.

In all cases, no membership is denied without first enabling the member to present his case, in accordance with the by-laws.

**Article (52):**  
The location of the local council is the district capital.

**Article (53):**  
The general assembly meets at the location of the local council once every three months. The general assembly may also be called to meeting by an invitation from the minister, or the chairman of the local council, or a third of the members of the general assembly, or two thirds of the members of the administrative board.

**Article (54):**  
1- The chairman of the local council chairs all meetings of the general assembly, except those discussing the final accounts, or any meetings looking into the violations of the chairman or members of the council. In such meetings, the members of the general assembly nominate the chairman and rapporteur.

2- In such meetings, the chairman and members of the council may not vote.

**Article (55):**  
1- Except in specifically stipulated majority requirements, all meetings of the general assembly are legal if attended by a simple majority.

2- All voting is done in an open and transparent way, except in issues pertaining to the responsibility of the chairman and members of the council, or if required by a third of the members.

The minutes will then specify the voting, and if there is a tie, the side to which the chairman voted will win.

**Article (56):**  
The general assembly may not discuss any issues unlisted on its agenda, except if the discussions disclose dangerous issues.

**Article (57):**  
The general assembly may summon any government employees to clarify aspects of issues it is discussing. The chairman may also invite specialists and experts who will participate in the discussions, without having the right to vote.

**Article (58):**  
The general assembly may form committees from among its members or from outside to study an issue related to its duties.

**Article (59):**  
All sessions of the general

assembly are public, unless the minister, chairman or a third of the members asked to hold meetings behind closed doors.

**Article (60):**  
With consideration to items (b) in article (9) and (25) of this law, if a quorum is not achieved for a meeting of the general assembly, it is adjourned for 24 hours, in which it become legal. The chairman of the council will then issue notices and reminder to all those who have failed to attend according to this law.

**Article (61):**  
The members of parliament have the right to attend meetings of the general assembly and administrative boards of their constituencies and participate in discussions, without having the right to vote.

**Article (62):**  
The administrative board will, in its first meeting, assign to its members supervisory roles on the various government organs.

**Article (63):**  
The administrative board meets once every week at the location of the local council. The chairman or three members have the right to call to extraordinary meetings.

**Article (64):**  
The meetings of the administrative board is not legal unless there is a quorum of a simple majority. All decisions are taken by majority of the votes of the attending members, and in case of a tie, the side to which the chairman voted wins.

**Article (65):**  
The chairman of the local council may invite experts to attend meetings without their having the right to vote.

**Article (66):**  
The administrative boards may form committees from among its members or outside to study issues related to their duties.

**Article (67):**  
The chairman of the local council and their deputies and members of the administrative boards are held accountable financially, in accordance with the by-laws, regulations and procedures.

**Article (68):**  
The Supervisor Committee is to be made of 3-5 persons to be elected from among the member of the general assembly in its first meeting according to articles (9) and (25) of this law.

**Article (69):**  
The Supervisory Committee elects its chairman in its first meeting.

**Article (70):**  
The administrative board must provide clarifications to the Supervisory Committee, and must give it access to the records and documents of the council and affiliated organs, and must furnish it with any data it requires.

**Article (71):**  
The Supervisory Committee shall undertake regular and sudden inspection visits to the council and affiliated organs, and site visits to projects to ensure that implementation is done in a proper and clean way.

**Article (72):**  
The Supervisory Committee may call the general assembly to session, in which case it will specify its agenda.

**Article (73):**

The administrative board must provide the Supervisory Committee the agenda of the general assembly meeting, at least ten days in advance.

**Article (74):**  
The Supervisory Committee may enlist the assistance of any experts in executing its duties.

**Article (75):**  
The Supervisory Committee prepares reports of its work to the general assembly, and makes photocopies of the minutes of its meetings to the general assembly, chairman of the council, and the ministry, according to the timetable specified in the by-laws.

**Article (76):**  
The Supervisory Committee holds its meetings fortnightly.

**Article (77):**  
The administrative boards of the council must provide copies of all their minutes of meetings to the Supervisory Committee promptly.

**Article (78):**  
Every administrative unit has its own independent budget which include its expenditures and revenues. The chairman of the council is responsible for implementation thereof because he gives payment orders.

**Article (79):**  
All budgets of governorates are included in the general budget of the state, and are considered part thereof and are subject to the same laws and regulations.

**Article (80):**  
The local council, within the limits of the approved budget and plan, may borrow to implement investment and productive projects necessary for the administrative unit, provided the total debt is not more than 50% of the total local revenues.

**Article (81):**  
Every administrative unit may open an account with the Central Bank of Yemen, any of its branches, or any other bank approved by the central bank. Withdrawal and expenditures from such account is subject to the laws and regulations in force.

**Article (82):**  
Execution of the budget of the administrative unit is done through one financial unit.

**Article (83):**  
Every local council may allocate a percentage of the resources of the administrative unit to subsidize/ support personal and cooperative initiatives to implement development projects, provided such an allocation is no more than 25% of the total resources available to the administrative unit.

**Article (84):**  
In collection of fees and user charges of the administrative units, and in exemptions, the same procedures are followed as those of taxes and other fees. The laws specifies the methods of collection, transfer of the funds to the relevant account, and penalties in case such procedures are not followed.

**Article (85):**  
In preparation of the budget and development plans, the following procedures must be followed:

- 1- The administrative board shall determine the needs for projects and budgetary allocations of the administrative unit, based on the relevant guidelines and based on the recommendations and priorities specified by the general assembly. These shall be presented to the general assembly for discussion and approval before submission to the local council of the governorate.
- 2- All budgetary projects and development plans of the administrative units approved by the general assembly are to be compiled and coordinated by the local council so that they become

a budget and plan at the level of governorate.

3- The chairman of the local council of the governorate shall present and defend such budget and plan at the central level. He shall then inform the local councils of the districts with what has been approved, and shall follow-up on implementation.

**Article (86):**  
The financial by-laws of the administrative units shall be enacted by a council of ministers' decision based on the proposal of the minister of local administration, after consultation with the minister of finance.

**Article (87):**  
The activities and performances of the local councils are subject to the supervision of the central authorities and their control organs.

**Article (88):**  
The decisions of the general assembly on the following issues are not final and subject to implementation unless approved (by the central authorities):

- 1- Budgets and changes thereof;
- 2- Socio-economic development plan;
- 3- Establishment of local fees and their rates;
- 4- Loan applications;
- 5- Investing the funds of the local administrative unit;
- 6- Urban planning.

**Article (89):**  
The ministry has the responsibility of seeking approval for the decisions mentioned in the above article, based on consultations with the relevant ministers. If within 30 days of receipt of the decisions, the ministry gives no answer, approval is implied. However, if approval is denied, justifications must be given, otherwise the denial is illegal.

**Article (90):**  
1- If the general assembly or the chairman of the local council of a district take decisions which are contrary to the laws or outside their jurisdiction, the governor may object to implementation thereof within 15 days of notification of the decision. If the general assembly or chairman insist on their decision, the matter is referred to the minister whose decision is final.

2- The minister may object the decisions of the general assembly of a governorate in cases where they are contrary to the laws or outside their jurisdiction. In case the general assembly insists on its decision, the matter is referred to the council of ministers within fifteen days and its decision is final.

3- The minister may object to a decision by the governor in cases where they are contrary to the laws or outside his jurisdiction. In case the governor insists on its decision, the matter is referred to the council of ministers within 30 days and its decision is final.

**Article (91):**  
All chairman of the local councils of districts have to regularly furnish the minister with reports on the performance as well as copies of the minutes of the meetings, as well as reports presented to them.

**Article (92):**  
It is illegal to dissolve all local councils as a comprehensive measure, and no local council may be dissolved twice in one term of service.

**Article (93):**  
If the national interest dictate, a republic decree may dissolve a local council based on the approval of the council of ministers on the proposal of the minister. Such a decree must call for new elections. If such a call is not included in the decree, it is considered as non-existent. Parliament is advised of the decision to dissolve within two weeks.

Continues on page 10



# Common Sense

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

## Anti-Semitism, Islam and France

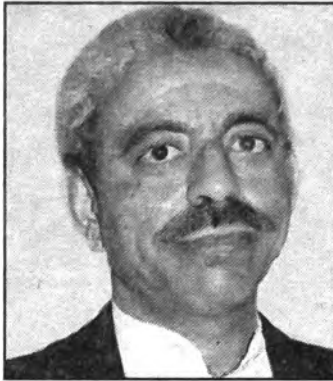
Throughout man's history, so much human blood has been spilled due to the blind hatred of man to his fellow man, that it is impossible to get near to an accurate count of the millions upon millions who have been slaughtered, maimed and enslaved by their fellow men, on account of their race, creed, religion, etc.. Almost every nation in the world has been either subjected to, or wantonly practiced bigotry, considering such as part of its national heritage or destiny! Man's greatest limitations are in his vision and in his wisdom!

God has not failed in explaining the logic of it all: "We have created you (Mankind) into nations and tribes in the hope that you become acquainted" (The Holy Koran 49:13). In other words, for the sake of easy identification. It is God's Wisdom! On the other hand, Islam clearly made its statement vis a vis the issue of racial or ethnic distinction: "The most precious of you are those who are the most conscientious" (Ibid.). Thus race, wealth, nationality are all meaningless in the final analysis. The yardstick is conscientiousness: that internal drive towards good and retreat from evil - the conscientiousness of the presence of the Lord at all times.

For modern man, prejudice and ethnic hatred are clear violations of human rights. Several legislations have been issued, at the national level in almost all modern or "forward looking" nation-states, and at the inter-

national level through international conferences, treaties, etc. including the International Declaration of the Rights of Man issued at the early days of the United Nations. Yet despite all these legislation and international conventions, the issue of racial/ethnic/religions bias remains a continuing problem of man almost throughout the world. Even in democratic societies, where the laws have pretty much provided sufficient guarantees to protect against institutionalized practice of inflicting suffering and harm to others because of their racial ethnic or religious differences - even in these societies - racial biases are still a menacing social issue that clearly shows that "advanced societies" or "developed societies" are still far from perfection in the area of human relations.

Whereas most of the racial oppression that goes on in the world could be explained in economic terms, the general racial attitude in Europe stems from a "superiority complex" as illustrated by such insinuations as the "White Man's Burden". Yes, it is a white man's burden, but the burden was carried or borne by the victims of this discrepancy in human thinking, that inspires such thinking. While this attitude is displayed in stronger expressions of hatred to peoples outside the continent, Europeans, amongst themselves have not spared each other ugly blood baths and other forms of persecution related to ethnic feuds. World War II was the climax in



this interaction between Europeans as well as the turning point towards more civilized consideration to respect for human rights in the continent.

If there is anything demonstrative of Islam's impact on human relations it is the successful universal approach that Muslims follow in their dealings or interacting with Moslems of other nations and the high degree of tolerance accorded to non Moslems, even as subjects of Moslem rule!

The Republic of France is a pioneer in the institution of human rights as a national norm. The French had hoped on universalizing their culture, at least in their colonies, but to their dismay, the majority of their colonies rejected this nationalistic chauvinism of the French and, in most cases, the uprising against the French was violent and costly. Vietnam and Algeria demonstrated the extent of the rejection against French chauvinism and colonialism.

Many of the French colonies were Moslem "countries" or parts of the Moslem nation, which the French have been at odds with since Charles Martel (Grandfather of the Emperor Charlemagne) was able to put a halt to Moslem advances in Western Europe at Tours (732 AD or Poitiers, just a few miles of Paris). The Frankish role in the Crusades was a dominant one, and it was Pope Urban II, a Frenchman, who launched such campaigns in the end of the 11th Century and

issued the entry passes to paradise for those who would free Jerusalem from the Moslem "Infidels".

It becomes difficult to believe that God would allow the massacre of 90,000 people, at least, upon the entry of the Crusades to Jerusalem, as sufficient support to make good on those passes. We will just mention the unusual ferocity which France dealt with the Algerian revolt due to the "Islamic" nature of the War for Independence. One million Algerian lives is sufficient additional testimony to the French thirst for Moslem blood over the ages.

The observer is careful not to try to accuse the French of a strong Anti-Islamic bias, but even recent French interactions with Islam are not void of an exaggerated contempt for anything Islamic. France took great pains to mess up the democratic process in Algeria, in its initial stages by activating the civil War between the winners of the first democratic elections in Algeria against the loosing National Liberation Front, thinking that the matter would be as easy as encouraging the National Liberation Front to take over Algeria, after independence, if all the Islamic oriented elements in the War for Independence are to be prevented from playing any role in a "Free and independent" Algeria. But the world has changed a lot since the early 1960's. France, however, continues to be guided by the belief that an Islamic presence in North Africa is a logical prelude to a repetition of history, to which France would be forced again to be threatened with Islam's re-entry into Europe again! The French authorities, as many of the leaderships in the West, will only regard Islam as a "menace", a "threat", a "danger", an "evil!" Even French Moslems from former French "Moslem" colonies. But this attitude is now also pointed at many who are native born Francophiles, who have found in Islam a refreshing outlook on life and a high degree of peace of mind, after finding that Western cultural development has been insufficient in fulfilling the instinctive human spiritual needs. Even Moslem dress in France is subject to inexcusable "regulation", by the holders of many an initiative towards democracy and human rights in the continent of Europe. It's hard to believe that regulations should be imposed only on an entire membership of a specific religious inclination, who are even recognized as possessors of French nationality. It becomes even more sarcastic when the regulations are insisted that Moslem women should also reveal all their gear, or else they are not being "French".

This writer had unfortunately accumulated little knowledge on Messieur Roget (Rega) Garoudy, the French Man of Letters and Thought and a significant contributor to French Philosophical Development. This observer, however, has been sufficiently enlightened as to the historical development of nations, cultures and human movements. The present applicable understanding of the identification "Semite" as those pertaining to the followers of Judaism has more been accredited in France and may have been elevated to official status. Thus, any matter of criticism, even if indeed worth listening to, of Jews, or pertaining to Jewish people is damned "Anti Semitic". It is difficult for men to give history different directions, and men will not cease in their efforts to give history slight touches of refinement in order to influence the course of the future. It is expected that through this certain interests could be served well. There will be people who will try to correct the distortions of history for the sake of promoting

special interests, for the sake of upholding the truth, because they see it as a duty by virtue of their enlightenment.

M. Garoudy has accepted himself as a real faithful Moslem with a full comprehension of what this entails. As a Moslem he is bound to defend the truth without hesitation or second thoughts of the challenge this could bring with it. Mr. Garoudy has studied the Palestinian problem thoroughly, objectively and humanely. Perhaps Mr. Garoudy concluded that there are fellow Moslems in this world who have been cheated out of their domain and habitat. Because the cheaters in this case happened to be Jews, Mr. Garoudy expressed the contention that Israel is overplaying the Nazi War Crimes/Holocaust as justification for the Jews to take Palestine by means which are quite similar to the persecution suffered by the Jews at the hands of the Nazis.

Furthermore, as Garoudy contends, the powerful Zionist interest in the West have made the German War Crimes a monopoly hold for the Jews in a similar manner to the monopolization of the "Semitic" Identity. On the other hand there seems to be a magic mystery to the number "6" millions because if any one dare say that, 5,900,000 Jews were unfortunate victims of Hitler's madness in Europe in World War II, the entire media channels of the West would turn that person into a criminal and would also be labeled of course, as an "Anti-Semite". This would entail that war is declared upon this person and every form of legal and social tool would be used to discredit the person. All the powers of the Zionist machinery which has a presence in every institution in Western Europe will be geared towards preventing this person from exercising the most basic of human and civil rights as though he is a Nazi War Criminal!

The plight of Mr. Garoudy clearly displayed the power of the Zionist lobby, which has now gained considerable influence in France. Because of an opinion that the latter felt that he should make on the suffering of the Palestinians in the wake of continued oppression by the Israelis, where he felt that the Israelis can not justify their oppression of the Palestinians by the suffering of the Jews through the Holocaust, the man is actually facing judicial proceedings against him. Even the French press has refused it allow the erstwhile famous writer to defend his position on the latest attacks on him, which have appeared on the very same papers he is requesting the right of reply in. His former famous friends have been pressured into refraining from defending him by the suddenly powerful Zionist lobby of France. All of this for = expressing an

opinion on an issue which he felt there is a great injustice and human suffering as a result of oppression being inflicted by a people who have claimed being victims of oppression for thousands of years! Mr. Garoudy never agreed to the Jewish persecution by the Nazis. He only questioned the right of the Zionists to use the Holocaust as an excuse to inflict persecution on others who had nothing to do with the Holocaust in the first place.

Moreover, this oppression by the Nazis has been made to appear as the sole fate of the "Jews" only, and all the races and peoples who have been persecuted over history and by the Nazis are of unequalled significance to the persecution of the Jews, which the entire population of the world should carry the guilt for occurring. Of course no sane mind would belittle the tragic fate of the Jews under Hitler's Third Reich "revenge" against the Jews. But this tragic fate would not be the sole possession of the Jews. Many ethnic groups suffered from Nazi persecution including the Poles, Russians and others.

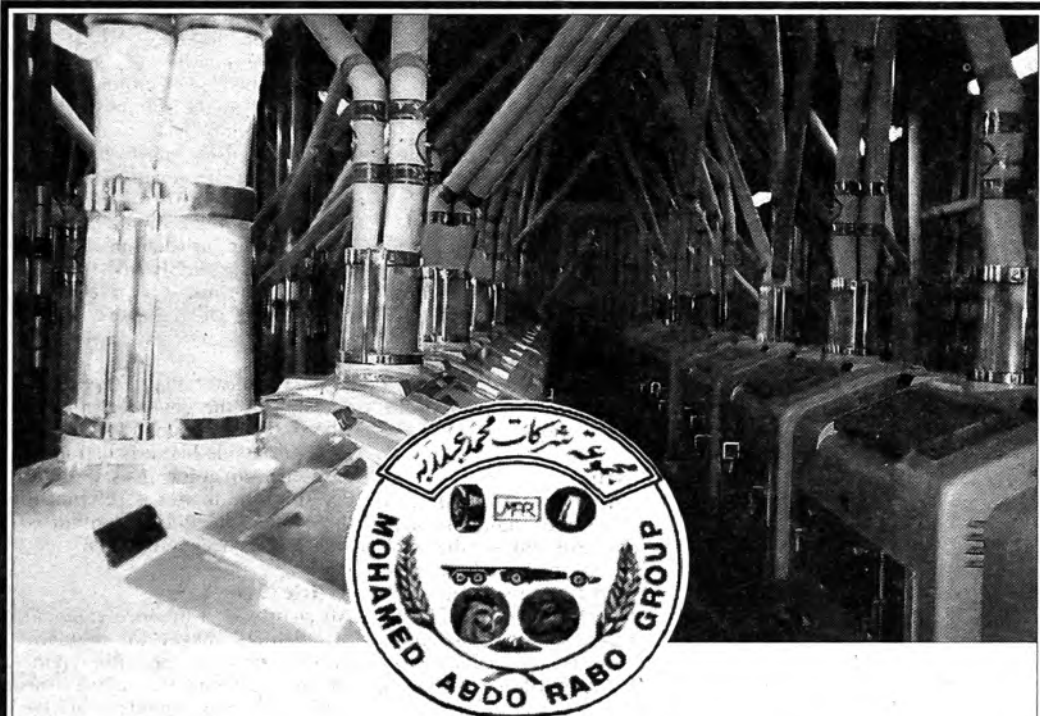
The major point to be made here is that in a democratic society, as France has rightfully shown itself to be, one would expect that Zionist tactics would not get the upper hand, as the latter tend to destroy the real contention of free thought. Moreover, if the arguments of the Zionists are so strong, then why should a clamp down be imposed on Garoudy's erroneous contentions, if they are assumed to be erroneous. The French have a right to know all the sides of an issue, and it is hoped that Mr. Garoudy will also be entitled to his rights of defense.

### On the Killing of the Monks

The above commentary was written prior to the tragic news about the killing of the 7 monks killed by "Moslem" Extremists in Algeria. This observer is obliged to note that the killings are the work of murderers, who have exited from the real Islamic fold of believers, and of whom Islam is completely innocent of. These extremists have done more harm to Islam and continue to serve the interests of Islam's enemies, more than anything else that Islam's enemies need to do to harm Islam.

Mr. Garoudy himself has spoken against such blind fanatics, whose motives and background are very suspicious as far as Islam is concerned. Our sympathy must be clearly expressed to France and to all Christians for this heinous act, which we can assure the extremists that God will surely not fail to judge against them.

There could be a clandestine relationship between the killing of the monks in Algeria and the Garoudy persecution in France!



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The following items and bridge construction materials are to be sale. Interested person may contact for detail at phone & fax No. 416559 Sana'a between 2.00 to 4.30 PM on any day.

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Sana'a, Republic of Yemen



Continued from page 1:

## Another Thief Is Exposed...

Last week, the stock holders of the Yemen Drug Company (YEDCO) - a mixed ownership (private and government) enterprise - finally put their foot down. In a stock holders' meeting held on May 20th, 1996, they demanded to see the numbers for 1993, 1994, and 1995 - none of which had been released, so far. The auditors were summoned, and some stock-holders even brought along lawyers and journalists. "It is not wise to get into partnership with the Government of Yemen," one of them said tagging along the Yemen Times reporter. The books presented a fairy tale of a management ripping off the owners. Here are examples:

### 1. Ghost Projects:

There were several ghost projects that existed on paper. Yet, the company was investing heavily on them. Examples:

#### a- The Computerization Program:

YR 5.4 million have been spent on this project, until 31/12/1994. There is nothing to show the project exists.

#### b- The Injection Production Project:

A total of YR 102.6 million and \$ 500,000 have been paid up on this project. No one can say what it is or where it exists.

#### c- The Fuel Station Project:

A total of YR 800,000 has been spent on this project. It is represented by two isolated tanks which are worth a fraction of the cost.

d- A total of YR 39 million has been paid up to finance purchase of real estate for the company's branches. None exist. Some interesting anecdotes on this matter:

i- Mr. Mohyeddin Al-Dhabbi, Vice Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources, was reported to have been given YR 7 million. He is said to represent the People's General Congress (PGC), the President's Party, and he will arrange sale of PGC land to the company. Of course, no land.

ii- Mr. Hussain Nassr Al-Anisi, another leading PGC member, was paid YR 10.6 million for a similar purpose. No land.

### 2. Increasing Debt:

The company has been incurring a rising volume of debt. The total amount owed has reached YR.

313.7 million by 31/12/1994. A good part of this is actually owed to the government in the form of payable taxes, which by 31/12/1994 were YR. 139.9 million.

### 3. Mis-Use of Funds:

a- In 1994 alone, the former chairman of the company received US\$ 48,690 in travel per diem, and another US\$ 12,950 in ticket costs.

b- In 1994, the company made the following payments under the title of supporting the war effort (in the civil war). There are no documents to substantiate the same:

i- YR 5 million paid to the Ministry of Defence (No documents as the money was said to have been privately handed over by the chairman to a senior military officer).

ii- YR 1 million was paid out to Mr. Ghalib Al-Lisani, a military commander, in support of the military effort. Again no documents as the money was said to have been privately handed over by the chairman to the military commander.

iii- The employees of the company paid from their salaries YR. 164,471.5 for the military effort. But the money never arrived at the military headquarters.

iv- YR 779,548 was spent on the festivities to mark labor day in 1994.

### 4. Mis-Management:

a- A total inventory of medicine and drugs worth YR 59.4 million was destroyed while in stock because they had expired and were not properly warehoused.

b- YR. 20.6 million were the losses of the Venal Medical Plant during 1993/94.

c- Many friends of the former chairman - among the staff and people who dealt with the company - were paid \$2000 for medical assistance. There are some four dozen such cases.

### CONCLUSION:

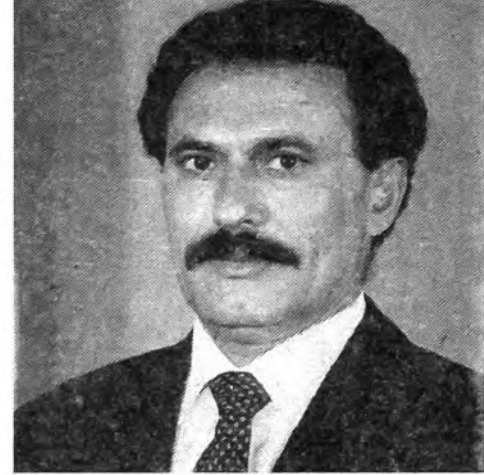
Evidently, there is much corruption in Yemen, but this kind of flagrant abuse deserves some action.

By: Al-Izzy Asselwi,  
Yemen Times.

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FAX: 967 - 2 - 221237.**

Starting from 1st June 1996 against non refundable fee of three hundred dollars only (300\$).

All bids to be submitted in US dollars or the bidder own currency and must be accompanied by a "bid bond" in the form of a bank guarantee for 2% of the total bid amount in the name of:

**YEMEN FREE ZONES PUBLIC AUTHORITY  
ADEN FREE ZONES  
KHORMAKSER**

and should be valid for 180 days from the closing date.

The bid bond shall be issued or counter guaranteed by a first class bank in Yemen.

All local bidders shall also submit with their bids the following documents:

- 1- Copy of income tax certificate.
- 2- Copy of chamber of commerce certificate.

The bids should be submitted in two copies and to be placed in sealed envelope and can be mailed by special express mail or handed over to:

**THE CHAIRMAN  
ADEN FREE ZONE  
ADEN OFFICE  
KHORMAKSER  
P. O. BOX: 5842, MA'ALLA  
REPUBLIC OF YEMEN**

Not later than 12 noon local time of the closing date 31st August 1996.  
Any bid received after above closing time and date will not be considered

## الجمهورية اليمنية الهيئة العامة للمناطق الحرة المنطقة الحرة - عدن

### إعلان مناقصة

تعلن إدارة المنطقة الحرة - عدن عن طرح مناقصة لإقامة محطة توليد كهرباء بقدرة ١٢٠ ميغاواط (قابلة للتوسع إلى ١٦٠ ميغاواط) مع خطوط النقل إلى مراكز الأحمال في مواقع المنطقة الحرة بعدن وذلك على قاعدة بناء وتشغيل وتسليم.

إن إدارة المنطقة الحرة - عدن تدعو من لديهم الرغبة من الممولين والمستثمرين والمتعهدين للمشاركة في هذه المناقصة لشراء وثيقة الشروط العامة وملحقاتها من:

إدارة المنطقة الحرة - عدن

خورمكسر

حي السفارات

تلفون رقم: ٢٢٢٣١٤ - ٢٢٢٣١٤ - ٢٢٢٣١٤

فاكس رقم: ٩٦٧ - ٢ - ٤١١٤٧١٤

وذلك ابتداء من ١٩٩٦/٦/١م مقابل مبلغ ثلاثمائة دولار أمريكي (٣٠٠ دولار) لا يرد.

تقدم أسعار العطاءات بالدولار الأمريكي أو بعملية بلد مقدم العطاء ويرفق معها كفالة مصرفية (كفالة إرتباط) صادرة عن بنك أجنبي من الدرجة الأولى معززة من قبل بنك من الدرجة الأولى في اليمن وبقيمة تعادل مدة صلاحية العطاء والبالغة ١٨٠ يوماً من تاريخ نفاذ مدة المناقصة. (النص الكامل للكفالة ملحق بشروط العقد).

تقدم العطاءات من نسختين في مغلف أو مظروف مغلق يمكن إرساله عبر البريد السريع أو يسلم باليد على العنوان التالي:

مكتب رئيس المنطقة الحرة

خورمكسر

حي السفارات

ص.ب. رقم: ٥٨٤٢ - الملا

الجمهورية اليمنية

وذلك في موعد أقصاه الساعة الثانية عشرة ظهراً بالتوقيت المحلي من يوم ١٢/٨/١٩٩٦م وهو الموعد المحدد لفتح المظاريف. ولن ينظر في أي عطاء يقدم بعد هذا التوقيت والتاريخ.

بالنسبة للمستثمرين المحليين عليهم عند تقديم عطاءاتهم إرفاق الوثائق التالية:

١- صورة لشهادة البطاقة الضريبية.

٢- صورة لشهادة الغرفة التجارية



Special, Special, Special

# ETHIOPIA

## Celebrates its 5th Democratic Day

May 28, 1996 marks the 5th anniversary of Ethiopia's transition from dictatorship to democratic governance. May, 28 goes down in Ethiopian history also as one signaling the demise of a political system characterized by oppression and prejudice imposed upon the majority of the people by successive rulers and the coming of a historical opportunity to build the Unity of the Country on the basis of the Consent and equality of peoples.

The fact that the day is celebrated after the formation of a popular constitutional government with the successful completion of the multifaceted transitional

abroad. Thus, professionals trained both here and abroad have been properly assigned to different regions. Besides, the Civil Service College has been organized fully and has been accorded legal recognition.

In order to strengthen the financial position of the regions, the Federal Government is providing budgetary support to the regions and is helping them to expand their capacity to collect revenues and to use these properly. However, as some regions could not utilize fully the budgetary support owing to lack of skilled personnel, technical assistance is being given to them by providing them professionals from the Federal Civil Service.

Suitable policies have been also devised by the government to enhance economic development. Thus, the construction of rural roads, schools, health institution and rural infrastructures has been carried out.

Efforts have been made in the agricultural sector to enable the society to become self-sufficient in food. In this regard, extension programs have been implemented in areas of the country where there is sufficient rainfall and this has given rise to a substantial increase in output. In areas that do not receive adequate rainfall, efforts are being made to boost production by utilizing drought-resistant seeds and by developing small-scale irrigation schemes.

The atmosphere of peace and stability prevailing in the country has created a factorable condition for investment opportunities and the government is encouraging domestic investors to engage more fruitfully in economic activities. In addition, the government is opening up additional areas of investment opportunities of foreign investors and is reviewing the country's investment code.

Apart from what has been done to implement the five-year plan of action, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has been exerting wide-ranging efforts by way of promoting democracy and consolidating peace. Thus, administrative and legal bodies have been organized and strengthened at federal and regional levels and training have been provided to upgrade the skill of professionals.

What is more, since the contribution of various political parties and the private press is crucial for the building of a democratic order conditions have been made favorable for them to provide the society with balanced informative free from personal biases and political animosities and thereby play constructive roles in the society.

Because some political organizations and private press, instead of basing their opinion on factual evidence, prefer to spread false reports with the intention of propagating chaos and creating misunderstanding among people, corrective measures have been taken by the government in accordance with the Press Law.

Regarding peace-keeping activities, efforts have been made to organize a professional defense force that is loyal only to the Constitution and to the popularly elected government. The force being drawn from different nations and nationalities, is also free from interference of any political character. Accordingly, when members of the EPRDF forces are made to resume civil life, equal numbers of new recruits from all regions have joined the defense force so

as to bring about an ethnic balance in its composition. Moreover, the Air Force, which was not functioning during the Transitional period, has resumed operation after undergoing a process of reorganization.

The prevalence of a free market economic system and the respect of human rights as part of the building of the democratic process, have not only brought about good reputation for the country, but also enabled the creation of useful ties in foreign economic cooperation and in the field of diplomacy. This is testified by the substantial assistance obtained in loans and grants from bilateral and multilateral of the Economic reform program.

With regard to foreign relations, side by side with her endeavor for peace, democracy and progress, Ethiopia has established strong diplomatic links and relations with the outside world based on mutual interests and the Country's sovereignty. Good results have been achieved in changing the image the country was projecting in Africa as well as in the rest of the world. In this respect, Ethiopia has strengthened its economic and political ties on bilateral and multilateral levels with neighboring countries. Its relations particularly with Eritrea, Djibouti, Kenya and Uganda were elevated to a higher level.

On the other hand, Ethiopia's relations with Sudan is plummeting to a record low level because of the latter's involvement in the attempts made by terrorists here in Addis Ababa on the life of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and of giving shelter to those who had masterminded the assassination. Because

Ethiopia's requests, through bilateral talks and the OAU's central organ, for extradition of those terrorists had gone unanswered, the case was presented to the UN security Council. Consequently, because the Sudan did not comply with the Security Council's decision for the extradition of the terrorists, relations between the two countries have been deteriorating. As a result of the diplomatic efforts made by Ethiopia, the Sudan is now isolated from the world.

However, Ethiopia has developed good relations, at bilateral level and through the OAU, with other African countries and, as the current chairman of the OAU, the country is doing its level best for the prevalence of peace and mutual cooperation among countries in the region.

With regard to its relations with the European countries, the visit made by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany Ethiopia and the visit made by high-level Ethiopian delegation led by H.E. Prime Minister Meles Zenawi to France are indications of Ethiopia's improving relations with European Union. Ethiopia has also established good relations with the United States. In this respect, the Ethiopian delegation, which was in the USA to participate in the 50th anniversary of the founding of the UN, seized the opportunity thereby provided to further strengthen relations between the two countries by holding talks with President Clinton and other senior American Government officials.

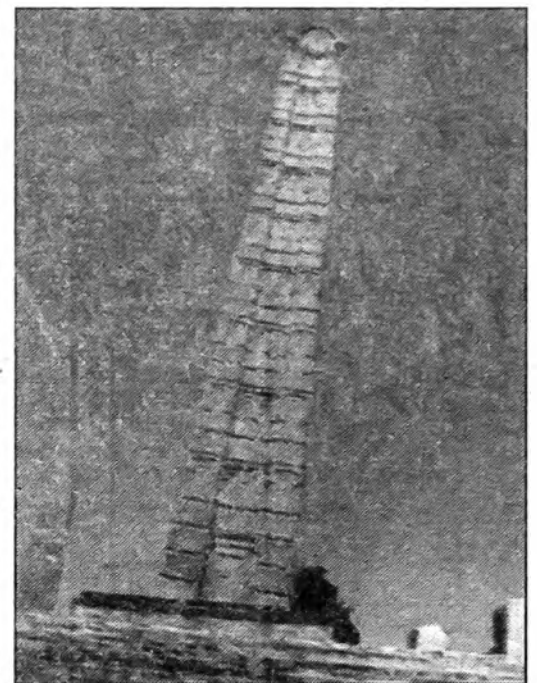
Good relations have also been established with Asian countries such as China, Korea, and India. The visits made on different occasions by high-level Ethiopian government delegations to South Korea as well as China and the recent visits paid to Ethiopia by high-level Chinese government delegation led by President Jaing Zemin, have elevated relations between them to a high level. Although our ties with the countries of the Middle East are not as satisfactory as expected, relations with some Gulf State, Kuwait and Qatar are developing so well as to be exemplary in our efforts to establish strong contacts with other countries of the region.

With regard to Ethio-Yemen relationship, very strong bonds of brotherhood have existed between our two peoples and there has been centuries-old contacts between our two countries. The two countries have forged strong relations for the benefit of their peoples. In 1992, the then Prime Minister of Ethiopia, H.E. Ato Tamrat Layne, paid a visit to Yemen Republic to reaffirm Ethiopia's readiness to further strengthening of the already existing brotherly relations between our two countries and to explore ways and means of expanding our cooperation in political, eco-



nomical, technical and trade areas for the mutual benefit.

Agreements have been reached between the 2 countries during our premier's visit to the Republic of Yemen to promote mutual understanding between the two peoples and governments and to contribute to strengthening the brotherly, historical and cultural ties. Therefore, the existing friendly ties and cooperation between Ethiopian and Yemen would further be consolidated and the two countries would forge much closer and stronger relations in the years ahead.



The desire of Ethiopian Government to work for peace and stability in the region has also been expressed by Ethiopia's mediation effort to help both Yemen and Eritrea to seek a peaceful and political solution to the dispute over Hunaish Island.

Ethiopia lauded the signing of an arbitration agreement between Eritrea and Yemen as a victory also of the peace loving countries of the sub-region, and will continue exerting efforts towards the successful implementation of the agreement together with the countries chosen to arbitrate and observe the process.

Hence, Ethiopian occupies a special place particularly for its significant role in the process of bringing peace and stability in the region.

For this reason, May 28 is being celebrated to commemorate the fifth anniversary of Ethiopia's transition from dictatorial rule to democratic governance in a salubrious atmosphere of national peace and stability.



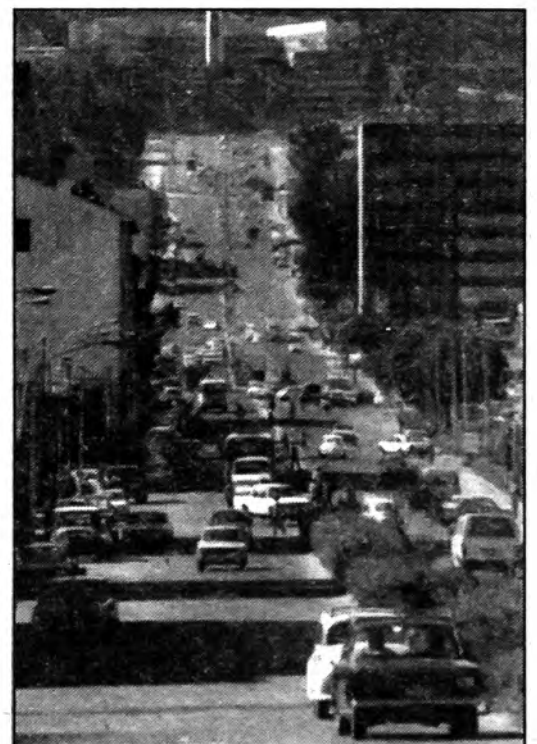
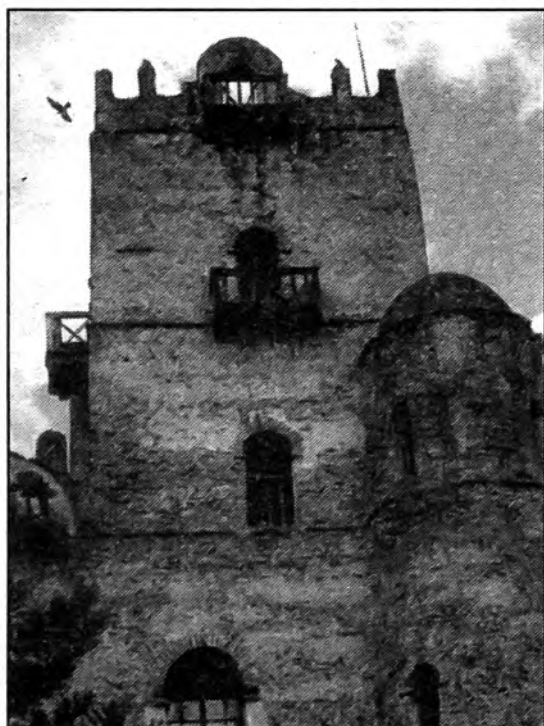
programs envisaged in the National Charter adds to the significance of this historic day.

The past 5 years have witnessed momentous reform measures which laid a solid and reliable foundation for the upholding of democratic and human rights including that of self determination of nations, nationalities and peoples, and the rehabilitation of the economy devastated by natural and man-made disasters designed to improve the living standards of the people.

The strong centralized system which entangled and held back the overall development efforts of the country has been removed and, as a result, the people are running their own affairs by themselves. The day-to-day activities of regional administrations have been established in line with a federal system of government to ensure sustained and reliable development.

The economic reform measures taken have produced concrete results which are considered a good beginning for the success of the objectives set. The policy which is designed in such a way as to ensure the just and equitable development of the country and its peoples on a sustained basis through their full and active participation in the on going development process, is proceeding well along the charted path. It is laying down, a solid foundation for the country's all round development.

Hence, this year, May 28 is celebrated at a time when the practical implementation of the Five-Year Development, Peace and Democracy Plan of Action of the EPRDF is under way. Based on the achievements made during the Transitional Period, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia is committed to improving the livelihood of the society and is closely following the fulfillment of the annual plans drawn up to implement the five-year program. In this regard, raising the capacity of regions to implement development plans has been given due attention. This entails the training of skilled personnel at institutions of higher learning, the Civil Service College and





**Special, Special, Special**

# Inauguration of the Mercedes-Benz Sales & Service Centre

The introduction of a section for body and chassis adjustment and another for painting by thermal furnace; electronic equipments and computer specially for the section of the spare parts for all types of Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

It is not easy that local Company goes along with a big international company; however, the



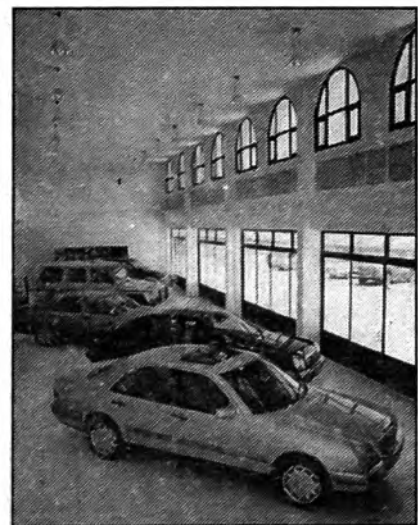
United Engineering & Automobile Co. Ltd. is able to be up-to the standard of the big international company, Mercedes-Benz, and which assumes the rendering of its services in the Yemen.

Whenever the demand for Mercedes-Benz grows, the burdens of the service that are required by its vehicles in the Yemen, the United Engineering & Automobile have increased its services and extended the size of its cadres and works and was provided with the latest equipments to ensure keeping up with Mercedes-Benz standard and which have developed year after year.

After a chain of great successes which it has fulfilled, the Company has enhanced a new distinctive success, which is the opening of a centre for maintenance and service of international standards.

To shed light on the new Company Centre, the following interview conducted with Mr. Hayel Abdul Hak, the General Manager of the United Engineering & Automobile Co. Ltd., who said: I wish firstly to submit to the Yemeni Government and Nation in the name of the Board of Directors of the Company and all its employees and in my name best congratulations and sincere wishes on the Yemen Unity anniversary on 22 May, and that we all facet proud and glorified to arrange in making the timing of the inauguration of this imposing centre coincide with this occasion which is dear to heart of each Yemeni.

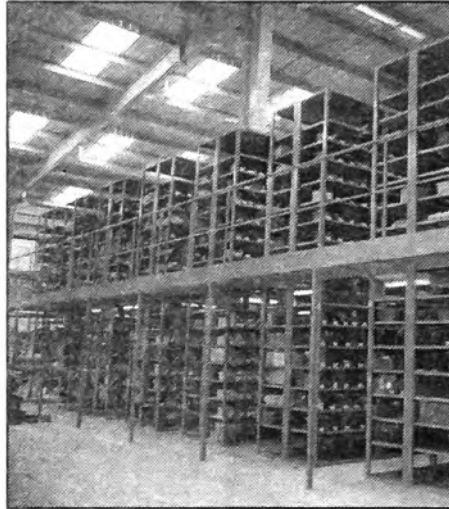
The Board of Directors of the Company further extends thanks and gratitude to whoever has contributed in overcoming the difficulties and providing all the facilities to the company when the project commenced ears ago.



thermal furnace and using better types of paints approved by Mercedes-Benz company and also the maintenance of heavy vehicles.

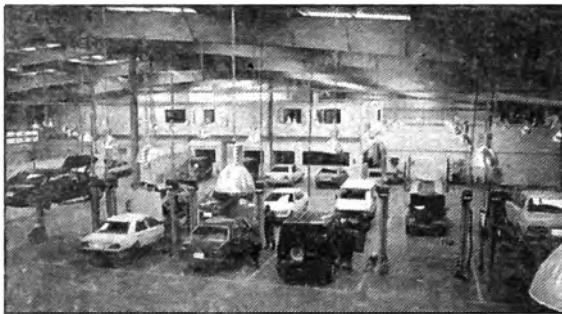
Q- What about spare parts?

A- The after sales service are very important with regard to the sale of cars and trucks. In the past, we have had several stores and we are able now in the new centre to be under one roof where the spare parts stores lies in an area of 1,000 sq.m. and in several storeys and consists of 12,000 different types of parts and which covers most of the spare parts that can be needed. The shelves system was made by the German Shaffer Co. and all details and information relating to spare parts and sales are programmed through computer.



Q- From where do you import Spare Parts ?

A- This what I want to clarify to our customers, since there are some who still do not understand that the original parts are more of high quality and safe, and that Mercedes-Benz Company gives to their users the necessary guarantee, bearing in mind that there are parts also manufactured in Germany but are not the originals. It is true that there is difference in the price, but in return there is a big difference in the quality. This is usually not noticed by the customer or the driver ; however when we put the two original and the other parts beside each other the difference can be noticed easily and this is what I hope of our customers to pay attention to.



Q- Is there a training centre ?

A- We have introduced in the new centre a hall for training and orientation so that we can develop and update our technicians with every thing they require. Training programmes shall be laid down shortly and specially on the new cars, and this shall be accomplished by seeking the help of German experts from Mercedes-Benz Company.

Q- Could you give us an idea on the various sections and the building area ?

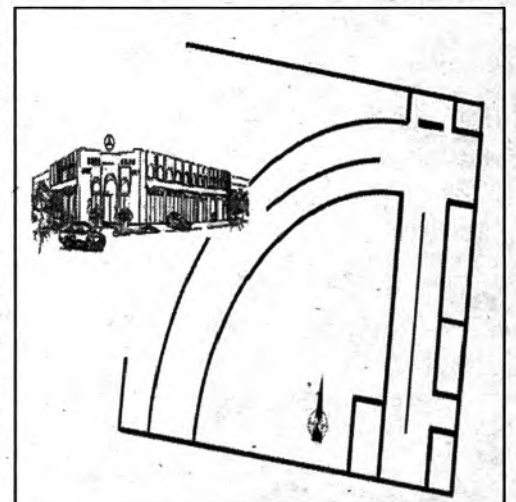
A- The new centre for the sales and services of Mercedes-Benz is erected on a land of an area of 30,000 sq.m and the constructed area in 6,089 sq.m divided in the following manner :-  
 - The Administrative, Sales and Showroom section takes up area of 1,270 sq.m.  
 - A section for the maintenance of cars and trucks and their accessories, including the body and paint section, fill up an area of 3,360 sq.m.  
 - The restaurant and the service occupy an area of 376 sq.m.  
 - The training hall with an area of 82 sq.m.

Q- What is the number of workers and technicians in the company ?

A- The present number is 77 and we expect this number to grow along with the anticipated expansion in sales and maintenance of Mercedes-Benz cars and vehicles.

Q- Is there a last word to address to your esteemed customers ?

A- This new model centre emphasized our concern and constant commitment to provide better services to the owners of Mercedes-Benz cars. I further assure our esteemed customers that the maintenance and spare parts prices shall be studied in a proper form.





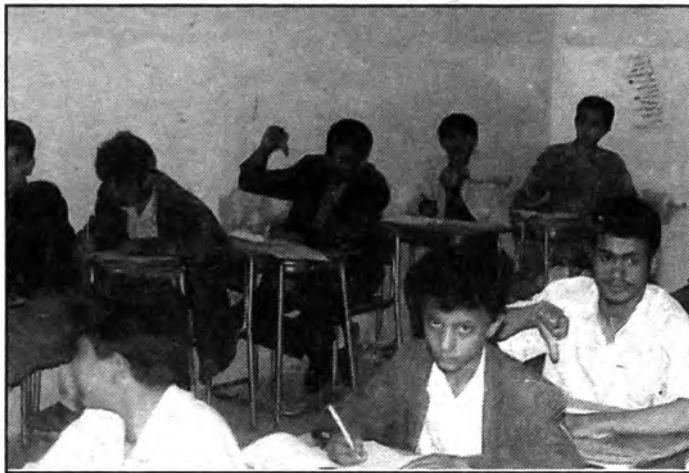
# What to Do with 3 Million Kids in the Summer?

The school-year is over. Over the next three weeks, the final lot will take their exams. Then, some 3 million youngsters will be free for a 100 days. Nobody has any idea what to do with them?

## Exams Are On!

On Saturday, May 25th, the preparatory school leavers (9th graders) have their across-the-nation exams. Exactly 196,923 students are sitting for their formal exams in 2,236 testing centers all over the country. The experience of the first two days shows a lot of cheating and mis-management. Even then, many students were not able to handle the questions. A Yemen Times team on a field visit to some examination centers yielded a thumbs down from the students.

In two weeks, another 100,000 students will perform the high school leaving exam, another across-the-nation ritual.



## The Summer Break:

The summer break is a hundred days long. Yet, neither the government nor the private sector has any plans for the huge number of youngsters. Some students plan to take

language courses, especially English. Some plan to enroll in computer courses. Others will travel. Still others will work. But that takes care of only 10% of the 3 million or so kids who will be free for the summer. What will the others do?

Continued from page 5

## Local Administration Law Proposal

### Article (95):

A two thirds majority of the general assembly may discharge a member of the local council if he/she violates the duties. Such a general assembly shall hold an extraordinary meeting to be called by the chairman for the district councils, and by the minister for the governorate council.

### Article (96):

The administrative board may be discharged by a 3/4 majority of the general assembly in an extraordinary meeting based on the written request of 1/3 of the members.

### Article (97):

A general assembly decision to discharge the administrative unit or the chairman is not binding unless approved by the president for the governorate level, and by the prime minister for the district level based on a presentation by the minister.

### Article (98):

No administrative board in totality or chairman or member of the local council may be discharged except in cases of a major violation of their duties, and in all cases they must be given a proper hearing to defend themselves against the violation they are charged with, and based on full investigations.

### Article (99):

The central authorities may not take a blanket decision to dissolve the administrative board or discharge the chairman except with a presidential decision regarding the governorate level, and a prime minister's decision regarding a district level based on a presentation by the minister. Such a measure is valid only for thirty days.

### Article (100):

The discharging of the chairman, or his resignation or the vacancy of his post for whatever reason, entails the resignation of his two deputies.

### Article (101):

The vacancy of a seat in the administrative board is filled in the same way as the initial appointment within 15 days and

in the presence of ministry representatives.

### CHAPTER FIVE: FINAL & TRANSITIONAL REGULATIONS:

#### Article (102):

For the purposes of this law, all branches and offices of ministries shall be attached to the administrative units of local councils, except the branches and offices of the judicial system, prosecutor's office, and ministries and agencies of a national nature on which a republican decree is issued.

#### Article (103):

The director of security of the administrative unit works under the direct guidance and direction of the chairman of the administrative unit.

#### Article (104):

All properties and rights of the former local councils and branches/offices of ministries shall be transferred to the elected local councils according to this law. All obligations incurred by the above shall be specified and detailed by a committee to be named by council of ministers on a presentation by the minister.

#### Article (105):

All issues pertaining to employees of the former local councils shall be regulated by a law of the council of ministers on a presentation by the minister.

#### Article (106):

In harmony with this law, the Supreme Elections Committee shall define, specify and outline the laws, regulations, procedures and timetable for elections and campaign efforts. It will also indicate procedures for announcement of results and appeals against them.

#### Article (107):

Based on a presentation from the Supreme Elections Committee, a presidential decree shall be issued inviting citizens for elections of the local councils.

#### Article (108):

All government employees who are assigned tasks in the administrative units have to contact the

relevant chairman and show him the nature of their duties before embarking on them.

#### Article (109):

The prime minister may hold joint meetings of the council of ministers and chairman of the local councils to discuss issues related to the local administration system and how to improve on it and to address its negative aspects.

#### Article (110):

On the force of this law, all financial allocation of employees who are transferred to work for the local councils shall be moved to the allocations of those councils.

#### Article (111):

On the force of this law, all financial allocations of projects that now come under the local councils shall be transferred to the budgets of the local councils from the day of their formation.

#### Article (112):

The ministry shall, in coordination with the ministry of civil service and administrative reform, work out the administrative structure and hierarchy of local administration organs.

#### Article (113):

The council of minister shall furnish the administrative units with their needs of skilled personnel so that they may perform their responsibilities and dispense of their duties. It shall also study the training needs.

#### Article (114):

The capital city municipality shall be treated as a governorate.

#### Article (115):

The minister oversees implementation of this law and presents regular reports to the council of ministers on it.

#### Article (116):

The by-laws shall be issued by republican decree based on the presentation of the minister and after the approval of the cabinet.

#### Article (117):

Law No. (52) of 1991 shall hereby be dissolved, and so will any laws in contradiction with this law.

# VACANCY

## UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

### Sustainable Development Advisor

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Yemen is inviting applications for the post of Sustainable Development Advisor (SDA) for its office in Sana'a. This is a demanding senior level position.

#### Duties and Responsibilities:

The successful candidate shall advise the UNDP Resident Representative on methods to integrate environment and sustainable development into all aspects of the development process.

At the national level, the SDA would contribute technical and environmental inputs to program and project reviews and monitor and assist in the implementation of UNDP's environmental management guidelines. The SDA would pro-actively support national capacity building programs related to the national agenda 21, which calls on UNDP to act as a lead agency in organization of UN system efforts towards capacity building at local, national and regional levels; and other UN initiatives in this area. A key task would be to liaise with and promote the role of women, youth, national NGO's, the private sector and other key communities in sustainable development activities.

At the global level, the SDA would promote the implementation of UNCED-related activities, including the Conventions/Protocols on Ozone Layer Depletion, Climate Change, Biodiversity, Desertification, etc. He/she would assist in the preparation of potential national projects under the Global Environment Facility.

#### Qualifications and Experience:

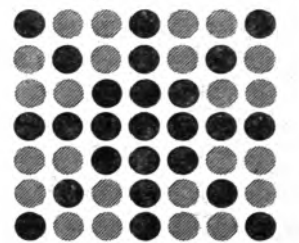
The successful candidate should possess an advanced degree, preferably at the Ph.D. level, in environmental studies, ecology or related fields. He / she should also have 10 to 15 years experience in natural resource management and related aspects of economic and social development. fluency in both written and spoken English and Arabic is essential.

#### Remuneration:

Salary will be paid in accordance with the United Nations local salary scales at the National Officer's level ranging from YR 107,000.00 to YR 141,000.00 gross per month. Other social benefits will also apply.

This position is open to Yemeni nationals only. Qualified women are encouraged to apply. Interested candidates are requested to send applications with a detailed curriculum vitae to : Operations Manager, UNDP, P. O. Box 551, Sana'a. Applications should be received not later than **5 June 1996**. Applications received after this date will not be considered. Only those candidates who strictly meet the requirements could apply and acknowledgement will only be sent to applications meeting the requirements of the post.

The British Council



## The British Council

Quality Language Learning World-wide

*The British Council Teaching Centre is pleased to announce the beginning of a new term on Sunday 16th June 1996.*

- \* Registration Sunday 9th June - Thursday 13th June. All new students will take a written test and have an interview with a teacher to identify their initial level of English.
- \* All courses last for 48 hours and each class meets for two hours a day from Sunday to Wednesday.
- \* We use modern methods accompanied by audio-visual teaching aids. All students receive free short-term membership of the Library and Information Centre and have access to a self-study Listening Centre.
- \* We have courses for all levels of English ability from complete beginner to advanced. Students can also be prepared for the Cambridge FCE, which is an internationally recognised English language qualification.
- \* The cost of each course is \$250 which includes all course books and materials. Special group rates are available.

#### NEW AT THE BRITISH COUNCIL

**Summer English courses for children 7 - 14 years old.**

- \* Now your children can start to speak English for 7 years old with our specialist English teacher of children. Activity based course. Young children will learn through games, songs, theatre, and video.
- \* Give them a right start in life!
- \* The cost of each course is \$125 which includes all course books and materials.

**For more information visit the British Council at no. 7 Street or call on 244121/2**



## Singapore Parliament Discusses Purchase of Condo by Former Premier

Singapore's Prime Minister has ordered a debate in Parliament on the recent purchases of condominiums at a discount by elder statesman Lee Kuan Yew and his son.

In a statement to parliament last week, Prime Minister Goh cleared Lee and his son, Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, of any impropriety in the purchases last year from a company linked to the elder Lee's brother.

The two Lees "will also want to give their account of the transactions. All members of Parliament can then debate the subject" and question Goh and the two Lees," the statement said.

Since the controversy came into the open last month the Lees have surrendered to the Government an unspecified amount of money equal to the 5% in unsolicited discounts they received from the company, Hotel Properties Ltd.

The elder Lee's brother is a director in the company, which entitled them to the legal discounts allowed by Singapore laws. Lee got an additional 7% discount and his son got a 12% rebate that the company gives to relatives of directors.

Goh's statement said the two leaders were also entitled to the unsolicited discounts and the Account General has been asked to return the cheques to the Lees.

"There is no reason for the two Ministers to pass on their discounts to the Government because (it) is entitled to them," the statement said.

The purchases were disclosed by the Lees themselves after the Singapore stock exchange criticized the property company for its "tardiness" in disclosing a separate discount sale.

Soon after, Prime Minister Goh ordered all his Ministers to seek his approval before buying property.

The flurry of statements by the Lees and the Prime Minister appears to be an attempt to maintain Singapore's reputation for having an honest and corruption-free Government.

Such a reputation has been built around the efforts of Lee who was Prime Minister from 1959 to 1990. He stepped down to assume the post of senior Minister and still plays an active role in the government.

## UAE CONSTITUTION TO BE PERMANENT, ABU DHABI TO BE FEDERAL CAPITAL

The UAE's Federal Supreme Council, FSC, took another step last week towards a permanent constitution when its members approved a draft amendment to the country's provisional constitution that has the effect of turning it into the permanent constitution of the UAE, dropping the term 'provisional' or 'interim'. It also names Abu Dhabi as the Federal capital of the UAE.

Under the terms of the provisional constitution, adopted prior to the establishment of the United Arab Emirates in December 1971, it had a validity of five years, renewable, and it has previously been renewed in 1976, 1981, 1986 and 1991.

The provisional constitution also

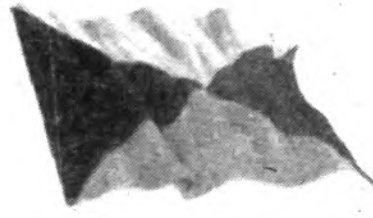
named Abu Dhabi as the provisional capital of the state, setting aside a piece of land, named Al Karamah, on the border between Abu Dhabi and Dubai emirates, as a site for a permanent capital.

Meeting in a two-hour session at Al Mushrif Palace, under the Chairmanship of President H. E. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al Nahyan, the FSC approved the draft amendment of the interim constitution and submitted it to the Federal National Council for discussion and ratification. It will then be referred back to the FSC for endorsement and issuance by the President.

The Supreme Council Members and Rulers of the Emirates also

decided to extend for a year the mandate of the special Constitutional Revision Committee, headed by Dubai Deputy Ruler and Federal Finance Minister Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid al Maktoum, which met earlier this month to discuss proposals for constitutional reform.

The Committee, which includes representatives of each of the 7 emirates, was charged by the Supreme Council with putting forward suggestions as deemed appropriate of what will now become the UAE permanent constitution. The Supreme Council decisions effectively ratify the widespread recognition that there is no longer any purpose in a 'provisional' constitution.



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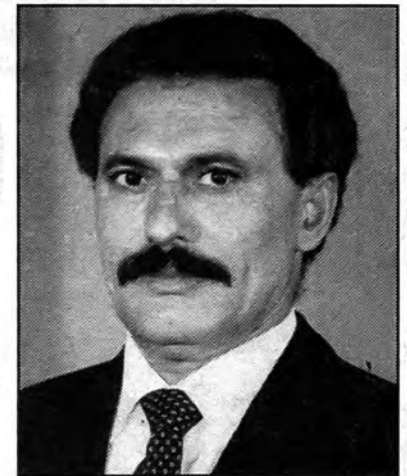
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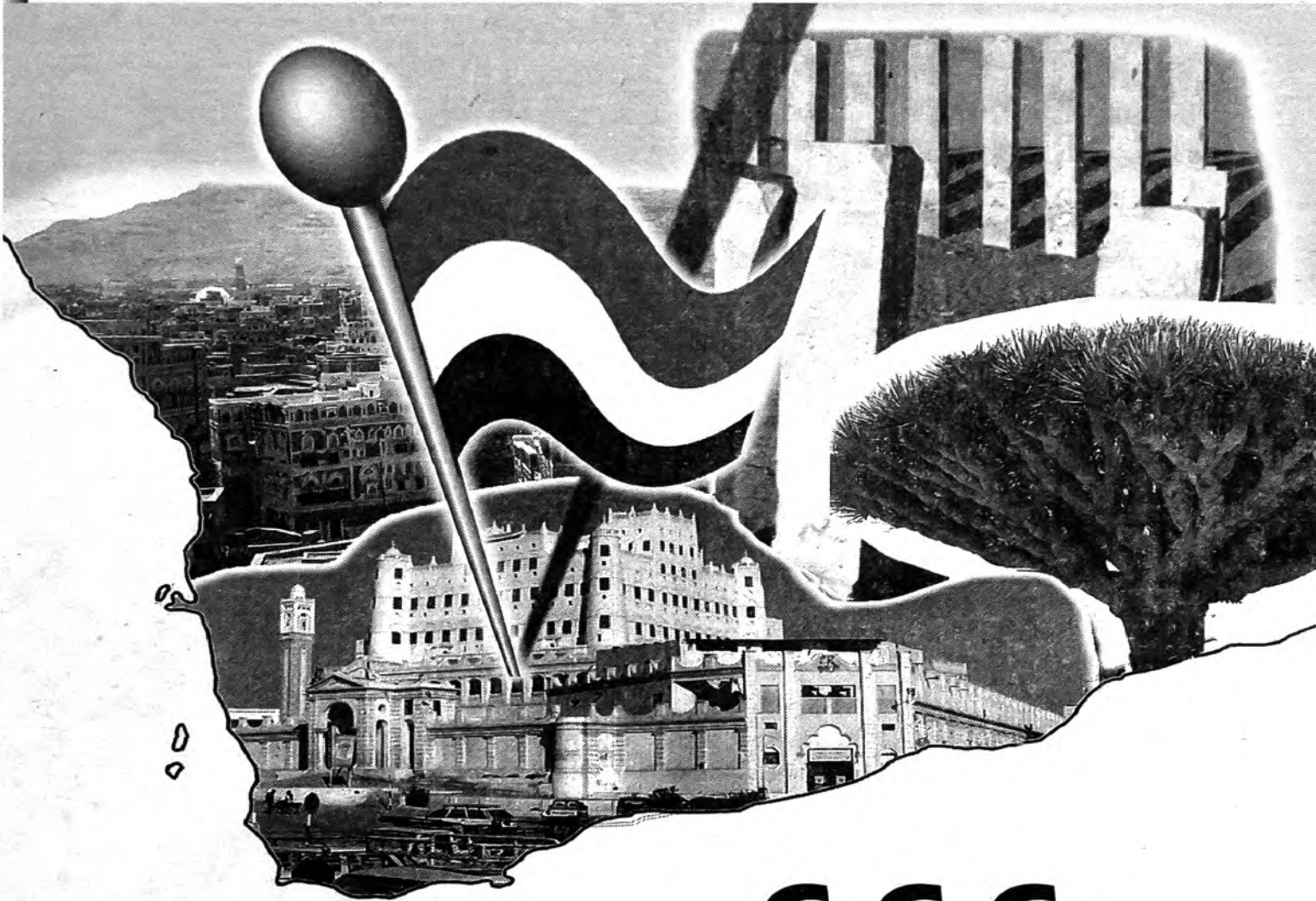
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**CCC**

presents

its congratulations and felicitations  
to the Yemeni people, government, and political leadership headed by

**General Ali Abdullah Saleh,  
President of the Republic**

on the occasion of 22nd May,  
Anniversary of Yemen's Unity.

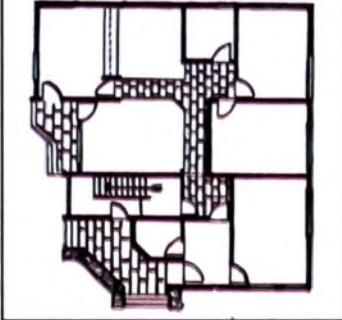
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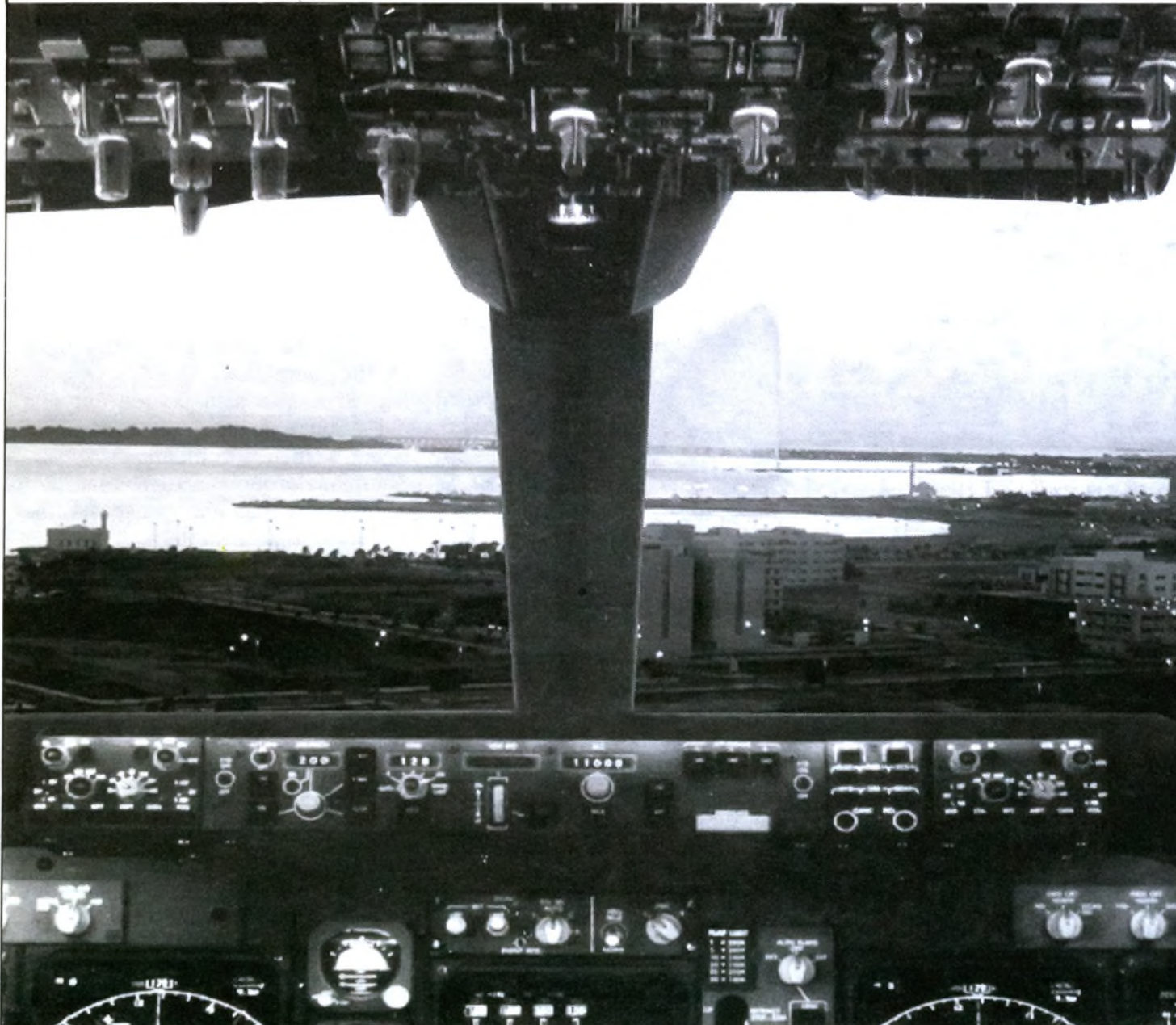
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AL-SAHWA: Sana'a, Weekly, 23-5-1996

(Mouthpiece of Yemeni Congregation for Reform - Islah)

Main Headlines:

- 1) The Governor of Al-Jawf: The Arrest of Three Suspects for the Killing of an Egyptian Teacher
- 2) To be Announced Soon: The Islamic Banks Begins Operation
- 3) Unity and Force.. Truths and Suspicions

Article Summary:

**Italian Converted to Islam**

Mauritz Loufido, an Italian who worked in the Industrial Estate Park, had recently converted to Islam. He talked to the Al-Sahwa newspaper. Excerpts.

"I was impressed first by the different lifestyle, ways of thinking and ways of facing up to problems by Yemenis, when I first arrived to Yemen three years ago."

"The Manger of the company I worked for tremendously influenced my attitude towards Islam."

"I started to study the religion and discussed it with several people including my relatives at home."

"My personal life prior to announcing my conversion was not far from the Islamic character, since I did not drink nor engage in any major sins."

"I am now at peace with myself, the world around me and the rest of the world. It is a peace which did not exist prior to entering Islam."

"The problem with Christianity is that it is constantly changing from basic principles, where such changes are the result of personal or church doings and really are out of touch with the Heavens."

"Those who accuse Islam of



## Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Hassan Al-Haifi

extremism do not really know Islam or Moslems. In Islam there is no such thing as terrorism or extremism".

AL-THOURY: Sanaa, Weekly, 23-5-1996

(Yemeni Socialist Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Investigations of the Assault on the "Yafouz" Residence
- 2) Dismissal of 280 Male and Female Students from the Teachers' Institute in Abyan for Political and Partisan Reasons
- 3) The Opposition Parties: Fears and Demands for the Coming Parliamentary Elections in 1997

Article Summary:

**Yahya Al-Nihmy:**

**Victim of the Loose State**

Referring to some of the studies and reports issued by various journals regarding the plight of Third World countries, the outspoken critic and philosopher, Dr. Abubakar Al-Saqqaq broods on what happened to Lt-Colonel Yahya Al-Nihmy of the Sana'a Traffic Police. Al-Nihmy was attacked by tribesmen from the Al-Maqadisha clan three weeks ago in his house. They were making good on a threat issued to him by one of the tribesmen that he was literally going to pluck out his eyes.

Al-Nihmy was said to have withheld the dagger of the tribesman as he was about to attack the Director General of the Traffic Police in his office. The

tribesman was in the Traffic Department with forged documents pertaining to an allegedly stolen vehicle.

The point raised by the writer is that the law must be upheld to all people or else you will have chaos. People are more inclined to break the law when there are elements in the power structure who are able to get away with so much lawlessness, thanks to the immunity which these elements seem to enjoy.

26th SEPTEMBER: Sanaa, Weekly, 23-5-1996

(Mouthpiece of the Military)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Dr. Iryani Praises French Efforts for Strengthening the Security of the Red Sea
- 2) Housing Project in Sheikh Uthman Comprising 4000 Units
- 3) Ethiopian Airlines Hijacker (of 2 years ago) Kills a Prison Guard and Commits Suicide.

Article Summary:

**The Occasion ... And Culture**

On the occasion of the May 22, Anniversary of the Unification of the two former Yemens, Saeed Awlaqy, a satirist and commentator, takes note of the sudden "cultural" activity that becomes apparent when a national holiday arrives. When such occasion arrives, all the state media and cultural apparatus is put on full gear to commemorate the occasion in songs, dances, poetry and creative

writing. Once the occasion passes cultural activity almost reaches a standstill until the next holiday comes along.

Who is to blame? Is It the Ministry of Culture, or are there other areas or elements that interact to present obstacles against the development of art and other areas of culture? The writer insists that he is not trying to solve the dilemma facing culture in Yemen with this article, but wants to point out that it is about time that someone, somewhere re-establishes cultural life into society.

To get there, two questions need to be answered:

- 1) Does the government really want to develop cultural activities and make them blossom? If so, Can it actually do it (alone)? If it can, then how does it plan to do it?
  - 2) When we speak of culture, are all of us (government, writers, artists, etc.) talking about the same thing, in general?
- On the other hand, maybe culture might be able to gain more life if it works under market rule so that it becomes a marketable product. Awlaqy states: "We all know that culture is at the bottom step of the social, political and economic framework in the country's priorities.

Our officials have taken the view that culture is a 'cabaret'. Thus, culture faces a tough challenge in Yemen". Discussion will follow this article, and Awlaqy hopes that maybe it is just the thing to

trigger the rejuvenation of culture in Yemen.

AL-AYYAM: Aden (Bi-weekly) (19-5-96), (Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1) A Special Lounge for VIP's and Business Delegations at Sana'a Airport
- 2) An Increase in the Number of Ships Arriving at Aden Port
- 3) Blowing Up Tombs of Religious Tombs by Extremists

Article Summary:

**The People of Nashtoon Pay Blood Money for Killed Troops**

For the 5 troops killed in Ramadhan in a shootout with local fishermen, a settlement was reached by the two arbitrators chosen to settle the dispute between the 31 Armored Brigade and the people of the area. The arbitrators (Hassan Maqbool Al-Ahdal, Governor of Al-Mahara Province and Staff Lt-Colonel Mohammed Ismail, Commander of the Eastern Axis, decided that blood money in the amount of YR 9,400,000 shall be paid by the residents of Nashtoon collectively. Thus the case is settled. Vice President Abdo Rabbo Hadi Mansoor has endorsed the settlement and rendered it final.

AL-WAHDAWI: Sana'a, (Weekly), 21-5-96 (Nasserite Unionist Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Iryani Refrains from Presenting the agreement of Prin-

ciples (Between Yemen and Eritrea) to Parliament

2) Conflicting Reports on the Causes of the Explosion in the Saba Military Base

3) YSP Parliament Bloc (FDR) Vice President: Yemen Needs Tolerance for Asserting Its Stability.

Article Summary:

**Attack By Armed Men on Ismaili Sect Tourists**

A group of some 500 Ismaili (Buhra) Sect followers from India were ambushed by 3 groups of extremists who had set up road-blocks along the way to the tombs in the Bani Hushaish area, east of Sana'a, which the group was to visit, a few kilometers Northeast of Sana'a.

The attackers threatened to throw grenades at the group and to open fire unless the group surrendered all their money and jewelry and other valuables. One of the attackers was ready to throw the grenade at the group after the collection was completed, but one of his comrades stopped him by reminding that the orders were simply to loot them and not to kill them, according to one of the victims.

The Ismaili sect, a small splinter group of Islam, has many tombs in Yemen. In addition it has followers of the sect located in Haraz, Hamdan and other areas. Religious extremists regard the group as outside the Muslim fold and thus expose their blood and property (which is of course against true Islamic teachings).

The group has faced continuous attacks by extremists over the last few years, in spite of clear instructions by the president and the relevant authorities. Yet, the followers of the sect and their shrines are violated on a repeated basis.

Special, Special

## Yemen's First International Exhibition Center

As a result of flourishing investment in Yemen in all the areas, an agreement was signed on 24/4/1996 to construct the biggest international exhibition hall in the Republic of Yemen. The new center shall be called the International Exhibition Center.

The agreement was signed at the Shumaila Group Head Office, in Sanaa. The signatories were Mr. Hussein Shumaila, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Shumaila Group and CEO, and Mr. Abdulgalil Al-Himyari, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Al-Ridha Corporation for Trade and Investment.

The signing ceremony was attended by many entrepreneurs and personalities in the business community, in addition to members of the diplomatic community and other dignitaries.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Shumaila Group, in response to questions on the location and size of the proposed project, pointed out that the area of the project is 50,000 sq. meters, and it will be executed in 2 equal stages. Its location will be in the Shumaila Commercial Market area in south Sanaa.



As for the time period of execution, Mr. Abdulgalil Al-Himyari of al-Ridha Co. for Trade and Investment, commented that plans for the project were completed two years ago after intensive consultation and studies to determine the best way to execute the exhibition center.

"We anticipate inaugurating the Exhibition Hall by June 1997, in time for the celebrations of the anniversary of the 7th of July.

We anticipate the first International Exhibition in Yemen to be held starting from the 7th of July," he added.

The project is estimated to cost US \$8,000,000.

As for the scope of works, the General Manager of Al-Ridha explained that the first stage of 25,000 sq. meters should be completed before the end of this year. It shall comprise of:

Closed space of 8000 sq.m.

Open space of 10,000 sq.m.

Parking lots of 7000 sq. m.

The areas will also include, gardens, parks, dining facilities, leisure areas and meeting halls.

The Second Stage, which shall be completed in the first half of 1997, comprises of:

a hotel, a bank and service facilities for the complex.

Mr. Shumaila then pointed out that the project is the joint venture of two Yemeni companies - the Shumaila Group and Al-Ridha.

As for the demand prospects, he indicated that of international and Arab users of the International Exhibition Hall will definitely be forthcoming. Mr. Al-Himyari added that there was no suitable hall to attract international exhibitions to be held in Yemen, at the moment.

"We have already been receiving many interested queries from prospective users who have definitely shown a strong interest in using the exhibition facilities which the center will offer."

The center will be constructed and equipped fully in accordance with the highest international standards.



## Scholarships from the International Olympic Solidarity to three Yemeni Athletes

By: Jamal Al-Awadhy, Sports Editor, Yemen Times.

Mr. Hussein Al-Awadhi, General Secretary of Yemen Olympic Committee, declared that the International Olympic solidarity has agreed to finance the training

of three athletes under 17 years old. The recipients of the scholarships are *Nashwan Al-Harazi* in gymnastics, *Adel Shaker* in athletics games, and *Liza Sabri* in table tennis. The scholarship also includes providing a full set of training

equipment. Mr. Awadhi also mentioned that International Olympic Solidarity agreed to finance the participation of two Yemeni athletes to the coming Olympic Games to be held in Atlanta, USA. The two athletes are judo player *Shadi Khasrof*, and the table tennis star *Lowi Faisal Sabri*.

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Republic of Yemen

**Note:** Only Yemeni Nationals may apply.

## Arab Chess Championship in Sanaa

The Federation of Arab Chess Championship in collaboration with the Yemeni Chess Club are preparing for the competition to be held in Sanaa. It is scheduled for July, 1996, and the final touches on the program are being agreed upon. Yemen Times learned that many players from different Arab countries are participating. It was further learned that the first place winner will receive a US\$ 1500 cash prize, along with the trophy, the second place winner will receive \$ 1000, and \$500 for the third place winner.

## Elections Move On

The Minister of Youth and Sports, Dr. Abdul-Wahab Rawah, told the Yemen Times that elections in most of the sports clubs have been completed. "We are now preparing for elections of the federations of the clubs at the branch and national levels," he said. The process was completed smoothly, although there is some worry about the situation, when it comes to the big cities.

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## THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

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### Tenders Announcement for Supply of Two Genset

(1)

In accordance with the invest plan programme PEC-Aden announce the issue of the following tender financed by the Government to improve generation at Socotra Hudaibo Power Station- Socotra.

Tender No. 13/96 Hudaibo 2 x 250 K. W. generating set equipped with diesel engine c/with auxiliaries.

Tenders willing to participate in the above mentioned tender can purchases the tender documents from:

**The Department of Purchasing & Stores**  
**Public Electricity Corporation,**  
Hedjuff, Maalla, Aden,  
Republic of Yemen.  
Telex 2263 YD ADELEC, Tel 242973, Fax 221133

Starting from 15 May, 96 against a non-refundable fee of 2000 Yemeni rials (two thousand rials).

The bids must be accompanied by bid bond in the form of a bank guarantee or a payable cheque for 2% (two percent) of the total bids in the name of the Public Electricity Corporation Aden Branch and should remain valid for 120 days from the closing date tenderers in the Republic who are willing to participate in the above tenders are required to submit tender documents in two copies original and copy plus the following certificates:

- 1- Copy of income tax certificate
- 2- Copy of chamber of commerce certificate

Bids of the above tender to be submit in sealed envelope to the secretary tendering committee at the General Managing Director office, Hedjuff not later than 11:00 noon local time of closing date 17 June, 1996 bids received after closing above time and date will not be consider.

(2)

In accordance with the invest plan programme PEC-Aden announce the issue of the following tender financed by the Government to improve generation at Wadi Shaab Tour Al-Baha Power Statio -Lahaj. Tender No. 14/96 Hudaibo 2 x 350 K. W. generating set equipped with diesel engine c/with auxiliaries.

Tenders willing to participate in the above mentioned tender can purchases the tender documents from:

**The Department of Purchasing & Stores**  
**Public Electricity Corporation,**  
Hedjuff, Maalla, Aden,  
Republic of Yemen.  
Telex 2263 YD ADELEC, Tel 242973, Fax 221133

Starting from 20 May, 96 against a non-refundable fee of 2000 Yemeni rials (two thousand rials).

The bids must be accompanied by bid bond in the form of a bank guarantee or a payable cheque for 2% (two percent) of the total bids in the name of the Public Electricity Corporation Aden Branch and should remain valid for 120 days from the closing date tenderers in the Republic who are willing to participate in the above tenders are required to submit tender documents in two copies original and copy plus the following certificates:

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