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# YEMEN TIMES

• SANAA • September 9th thru 15th, 1996 Vol. VI, Issue No. 37 • Price 30 Riyals

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## A Court Decision Sets a Precedent in a Landmark Case of NGO vs Government

# Judge Decides Prime Minister's Actions Against HWA Null & Void

It was almost noon-time on Wednesday, September 4th. The court room was full. The atmosphere was tense. The people were nervously quiet. Judge Abdul-Malik Al-Jindary, Chairman of the West Sanaa Primary Court, was reading his verdict. This was the climax to an 8-month litigation. "I hereby decide that the steps taken by Prime Minister Abdulaziz Abdulghani against the Hadharem Welfare Association are null and void. I further decree that such actions, and their repercussions, were not in the best interest of the people of the region."

The landmark decision of the Hadharem Welfare Association (HWA) - a private NGO - versus the Prime Minister of the Yemeni Government, Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, sets a precedent. For the first time in the modern history of Yemen, an NGO takes the head of government to court for his meddling in its affairs, and wins the case by reversing the prime minister's decisions. It has taken several months, but it has happened. The Prime Minister, in a clearly politicized decision with the purpose of taking control of an NGO, disrupted the activities of the HWA and closed down one

of its important projects - the Women's Development Center, that had served more than 500 female trainees in a region a few kilometers southeast of Turba in Taiz. "The decision of the court comes as a relief to the NGO movement," said Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, the HWA Chairman. "But it isn't over yet, because the lawyers of the prime minister have appealed the decision," he added. Dr. Mohammed Al-Mikhlaqi, lawyer of the HWA in the case, was joyful. "The court decision is a triumph for the NGO movement and the justice system of Yemen," he said.

## World Bank Provides \$10 m. to Taiz Water Project

The International Development Association, the soft-loan arm of the World Bank, approved last week an SDR 71 million) (US\$ 10.238 million) credit to finance the Taiz Water Project. The loan is on standard IDA terms with a maturity of 40 years, and a grace of ten years. The 400,000 inhabitants of Taiz have been suffering from water shortages over the last two years. Piped water to less than half the residents is pumped only once every month.

"Actually the water comes along with the bill," stated on resident. The IDA credit, along with a government contribution of US\$ 847,000, will help mitigate the immediate water shortage by doubling supply in 1997. New sources to meet project demand to the year 2000 will also be identified and tapped. Taiz Governor Ahmed Al-Hajri, and Dr. Mohammed Al-Saeedi, Chairman of the National Water and Sanitation Authority, have worked hard to execute this project.


## ISLAH Forces a Re-Shuffling of the Cards in Yemeni Politics

The People's Congregation for Reform (Islah) party has forced the re-shuffling of the cards in Yemeni politics. "We have concluded that it is in our best interest to strengthen the hand of the opposition and marginal parties. This is also in the national interest," explained one senior Islah member close to Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar. Towards that end, the Islah has embarked on a major dialogue and coordination effort with the opposition parties. The source, who asked not to remain anonymous, indicated that the PGC is

using the resources of the state - money, military, police, media, civil service, etc. - to attain the goal of overwhelming dominance of the political scene. The presently uneasy relationship between the PGC-Islah coalition which runs the government is best reflected in the mud-slinging that fills the pages of the PGC-controlled media. Nasr Taha Mustafa, a leading Islah intellectual, said that their party has decided not to engage in mud-slinging, while still working to expose the PGC-driven violations in the preparations for elections.

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## OUR VIEWPOINT

### Have You Heard of MOTIVATION?

MOTIVATION is a very important factor in any business, in any aspect of modern living. Webster's dictionary describes it as the stimulus - whether internal or external - that moves a person to do something or act in a certain way. In other words, it is an incentive, a spur, a drive.

One of the key problems in Yemen today is that people lack motivation. Hence the carelessness, the neglect, and other similar behavior which permeates all strata of our society. This is specially true in the government civil service - at the senior, middle and junior levels, on which this editorial will focus.

There are many theories that have been developed to explain how motivation works. The traditional patterns of motivation were largely founded on financial rewards. The crux of this theory states that man is a 'rational' animal motivated by the desire to maximize his/her economic gains. Hence, compensation practices have been used as an inducement. This, however, has failed to deliver in the long-term.

Here in Yemen, as an example, some people in government do receive lots of money. That has not motivated them to do a better job. To the contrary, these money-suckers have simply diverted full attention to amass more money.

Mid-20th centuries offer better clues. The works of Lyman Porter, Raymond Miles, McClelland, Herzberg, Maslow, etc., are worth noting. Maslow theorized that individuals are motivated to fulfill a hierarchy of needs. At the bottom is the basic needs (economic remuneration), and the desire for self-realization, the highest level of the human spirit, at the apex.

Recent theories have taken the integrative approach, which are clearly relevant to our situation in Yemen. This theory states that while a person's needs - however arranged - are important, the context in which a person works and lives, and how he is treated in this context, are also important. As a result, the expectancy and equity models have been developed.

The expectancy model ties in a person's motivation - and thus performance - to what he/she expects from a certain performance. If the person has no trust in a system or too disillusioned, then he/she immediately concludes that whatever his/her performance, his/her expected dues will not come to him/her. The equity model is directly related, and follows from the expectancy one. The equity theory states that a person's motivation - and thus performance - depends on his/her comparison of his/her contributions and rewards with those of others in similar situations. If there is a visible level of favoritism and/or discrimination, then the level of motivation will suffer.

If people are engaged in an activity they find challenging, worthwhile and relevant, they will experience an inner drive to get involved in the work. But this feeling is a function of how much authority and control one has on his/her responsibilities. In most cases in Yemen, the job becomes routine, lifeless, and does not offer any level of challenge. The sense of belonging and devotion to work is greatly reduced.

Where do we go from here?

It is imperative that the government study this issue professionally to adopt measures that will motivate its employees.

*The Publisher*  


## YEMEN TIMES

An Independent Economic & Political Weekly



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### Sheikh Abdullah Flies Out Again

Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar, Chairman of the People's Congregation for Reform (Islah) and Speaker of Parliament, left Sanaa this morning, Monday, September 9th. He is on an official visit to France.

Since the in-fighting between the coalition partners running the government - PGC and Islah - broke out several weeks ago, Sheikh Abdullah has spent little time in Yemen.

### Hungarian Delegation Leaves Following Visit

An official Hungarian delegation headed by the Deputy Foreign Minister, left Sanaa on Thursday, September 5th following a three-day formal visit.

The delegation met with various Yemeni officials with the purpose of strengthening bilateral political and economic cooperation.

### Somali Talks in Sanaa

Six different Somali factions have been meeting in Sanaa in order to bridge their gaps and bring back Somalia to normal conditions. Among the leaders who attended were Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohammed, Chairman of the Somali Federation for Salvaging Somalia, and Mr. Othman Ali Hassan Ato, Chairman of the Somali National Coalition. A key person among those who did not attend is Hussain Mohammed Farah Aideed.

The Somali delegates agreed to hold more talks aimed at restoring peace to their beleaguered country.

### Industrial Survey to Start Soon

Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Soofan, Minister of Industry, disclosed that final preparations are underway to undertake a full-fledged industrial survey in Yemen. "The survey will cover large as well as small enterprises, including crafts," he said. Although the minister did not give a time-frame, it is believed that the survey will start before the year is out.

### Mohammed Al-Zurqa Told to Stay at Home

Mohammed Al-Zurqa, editor in chief of the daily official newspaper, Al-Thawrah, has been 'resting' at home for the last several days. It is believed that Mr. Al-Zurqa was blamed for the in-effectiveness of the newspaper in interacting with important issues. According to sources, the President himself is not happy with the performance of the newspaper which has enormous resources at its disposal. Mr. Al-Zurqa has been at the helm of Al-Thawrah for as long as anybody can remember.

### Yemen & Tanzania Sign Air Transport Protocol

Yemen and Tanzania signed last week a protocol regulating air transport between the two countries. According to the agreement signed in Dar-Es-Salam, Air Tanzania and Yemenia will each start a one-flight service weekly between Aden and Dar-Es-Salam.

A large Yemeni immigrant community lives in Tanzania, and the flights will encourage their visiting their home of origin. Eng. Hussain Al-Sayaghi, who signed the agreement on behalf of Yemen, also indicated that the service will increase the volume of goods exchanged as well as create new business.

### NASS of Yemen Organizes Workshop on the Y.Net

NASS of Yemen, a company specializing in computer networking, offered a crash training session on the internet. This training coincided with the launch of the y.net by TeleYemen. The NASS course was focussed on how to benefit from the internet.

The two experts who offered a guided tour into the world of the internet, with numerous applications, were Sam Behiry and Hilmi Noman Al-Ariqi.

Over 350 persons participated in the six sessions that were carried out during 7th and 8th of September at Hadda Hotel. The list of companies which sent trainees offers a clue to potential y.net customers. At another level, nearly 100 subscribers have already hooked up to the y.net since the opening of the system last week.

Mr. Behiry says, "NASS offers to design the home-page for subscribers, as well as the appropriate hardware."



### سلامات أستاذ عبدالعزيز الغني

### Well Wishes to Prime Minister Abdulghani

The Yemen Times would like to express its wishes of a speedy recovery to Prime Minister Abdulaziz Abdulghani who is now in the USA for medical check-ups.

We hope the tests will yield results that will give him and his friends more peace of mind.



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**Dr. Abdul-Quddoos Al-Midhwahi:**

**“It is the duty of all Yemeni patriots to help bring about stability and harmony in Yemen, even if they are subjected to pressure.”**

The Nasserites in Yemen, as well as in most of the Arab World are still one of the major political forces to contend with. After all, they draw their ideology and values from what the late Egyptian President Gamal Abdul-Nasser stood for.

The appeal of Nasserites is even stronger in Yemen. That is because the only Nasserite president who ever ruled Yemen was Ibrahim Al-Hamdi, who is in good standing with the general public, in spite of his short rule and the savagery to which he was exposed.

Today, Nasserism is perceived as a strong political force in many parts of the country, but notably in Sanaa, Taiz, Hodeidah, Ibb and Lahej. It is expected to make a strong showing in the coming parliamentary elections, if it coordinates well with the other parties which have a strong presence in the same areas.

One of the architects of Nasserism in Yemen is Dr. Abdul-Quddoos Al-Midhwahi. Because of his training as a physician, Dr. Midhwahi has been noted for employing scientific approaches to the political issues his party faced. Dr. Abdul Qudus Al-Midhwahi, Chairman of the Political Department of the Nasserite Unitarian Party (Al-Tanzim Al-Wahdawi Al-Nasseri), is seen as one of the ardent members of his party.

Ismail Al-Ghabry of Yemen Times talked to Dr. Midhwahi and filed the following report.

Excerpts:

**Q: How do you evaluate our political situation today?**

**A:** The political situation in Yemen is unstable, and at best, confused. There are many shortcomings and imbalance, though there is a transformation toward democratization in the country. What is important is that the country pursues the democratic processes in earnest. It doesn't matter if the process is slow, but it does matter if we are steady. One of the reasons for the regression in our transformation is that a political will is lacking. The leadership must possess the will and determination to achieve such transformation.

In Third World countries, the regimes are responsible for change. Unfortunately, change

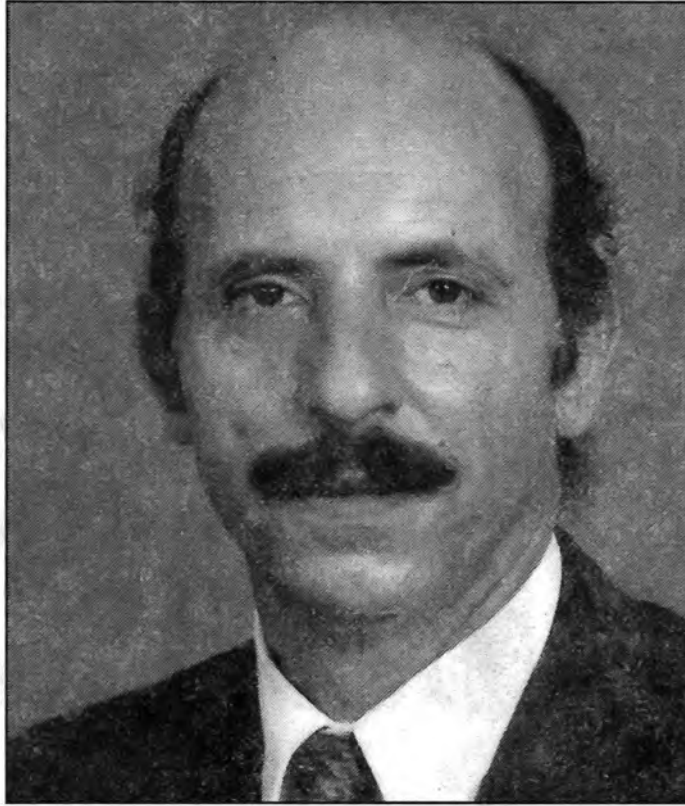
comes from the top. But once such changes develop roots, the leaders cannot abrogate it. Any cessation to the democratic process will bring about a lot of consequences.

At another level, I want to note the sufferings of the people in these days. The reform package should raise the standard of living, and not reduce it for the majority of the people.

The government should not add to the burdens of the citizens. I think what we need most of this reform process is changes in our bureaucracy and civil service.

**Q: How do you assess the process of registration for the coming elections?**

**A:** The electoral process is one of



the basic features of democracy and no democratization can be achieved without sound elections. We believe elections are a vehicle for a peaceful transfer of power, and a mechanism for increased social and political harmony. But if elections are to be used as a guise by incumbents to continue to rule, then they are meaningless.

That is exactly what is happening with the registration process now. Our willingness to participate in the coming elections is contingent on the provision of guarantees of fair and honest elec-

tions - elections whose results will reflect the true choice of the people. In the on-going process, elections will be used to manipulate the people in the service of the ruling group. This is to say that the results are predetermined by using all the resources of the state - finances, military, media, civil service, etc. - in influencing the voters.

Many of the abuses in the registration process claimed by the opposition parties are being confirmed by other objective observers, and even by the Islah, which is a partner in the ruling

coalition.

**Q: How effective do you think is the Supreme Coordination Council of the Opposition?**

**A:** This is a voluntary association of opposition parties. Its main objective is really to preserve and protect whatever margin of freedom and democracy has been achieved in the aftermath of unification in 1990. We can see that the margin is shrinking as the PGC tries to dictate its terms. We give our association with other parties a priority.

At the moment, the Coordination Council concentrates on the preparations for the April 1997 parliamentary elections. We welcome any other party that wants to work with us within this scope.

**Q: Your party is engaged in dialogue with Islah. What are you talking about?**

**A:** Yes, we have recently engaged in direct bilateral talks with Islah, as well as in multi-lateral talks through the Supreme Coordination Council of the Opposition Parties. We focussed on the need to develop and stabilize our democracy and protect it from any violations.

The coming elections represent a milestone in our democratization process. If we do a good job and the elections proceed properly, then we can say our democracy has progressed to safer waters. If we bungle it, then it is back to square one.

Our discussions with Islah, as well as with others, focus on more or less this issue.

**Q: As a veteran politician, how confident are you Yemen will come through on this one?**

**A:** Honestly speaking I am quite apprehensive. The chances for going either way are equal. If Yemen's foreign friends help, then the chances in going the right direction will improve.

**Q: Prince Sultan of Saudi Arabia recently visited Yemen. How do you assess that visit?**

**A:** The visit in itself was something important. It represents an initiative to dissolve the psychological barriers that impede rapprochement between the two countries. The relationship should be natural.

In specific terms, I cannot give any opinion on the outcome of the visit because I do not have enough information. There is, as you know, a blackout on the subjects discussed or agreed upon. All in all, such visits are good although I feel not much has been achieved in this one.

**Q: Look at a year ahead. What do you see?**

**A:** In many ways, I see there is fear and agony in the future because the present leadership is unable to tackle the issues at hand - economic, political, social. I am worried about the future.

**Q: Any last comment?**

**A:** I would like to commend the Yemen Times for the Herculean tasks it embarks on. It is the duty of all patriotic citizens to help bring about stability and harmony in our society, even if it means being subjected to pressure.

**Hadhramaut Welfare Social Association Concludes Successful General Assembly**

The Hadhramaut Welfare Social Association (HWSA) concluded the meeting of its second General Assembly successfully on Friday, September 6th, 1996. In the meeting, which was attended by officials representing the Ministry of Social Affairs, as well leading public figures, community elders and individuals interested in NGOs and civil society organizations, the assembly discussed the accounts of the past three years, and elected a new board of directors.

The new 9-member board includes many of the previous executives as well as new ones, as follows:

1. Mahfooth Salem Shammakh, Chairman;
  2. Dr. Ahmed Salem Bin Salman, Vice Chairman;
  3. Abdullah Awadh Ba Sunbul, financial Comptroller;
  4. Zakariyah Saeed Ba-Zara'ah, Member;
  5. Mohammed Hussain Al-Aidaros, Member;
  6. Dr. Salem Mohammed Ba-Najah, Member;
  7. Mohammed Zain Al-Kaff, Member;
  8. Sa'ad ed-Deen Ali Bin Taleb, Member;
  9. Saeed Ali Ba-Ghozah, Member.
- Reserve members:  
10. Dr. Abdul-Rahman Ba-Matraf and, 11. Abubakar Obad.

Fourteen persons had stood for elections.

On the occasion, Sheikh Mahfooth Shammakh gave a thank-you note for the renewal of confidence in his leadership of the association, and promised to work in full and renewed vigor to accomplish its goals.

The General Assembly then approved the final communique, which included the following important points:

1. Formation of an Advisory Body to be made up of the community elders and leading public figures of Hadhramaut.
2. To name, from among the members of the executive board, persons to chair the branch offices of the association.
3. To seek to contact other Hadhrami NGOs with the purpose of establishing a Supreme Coordination Body for them.

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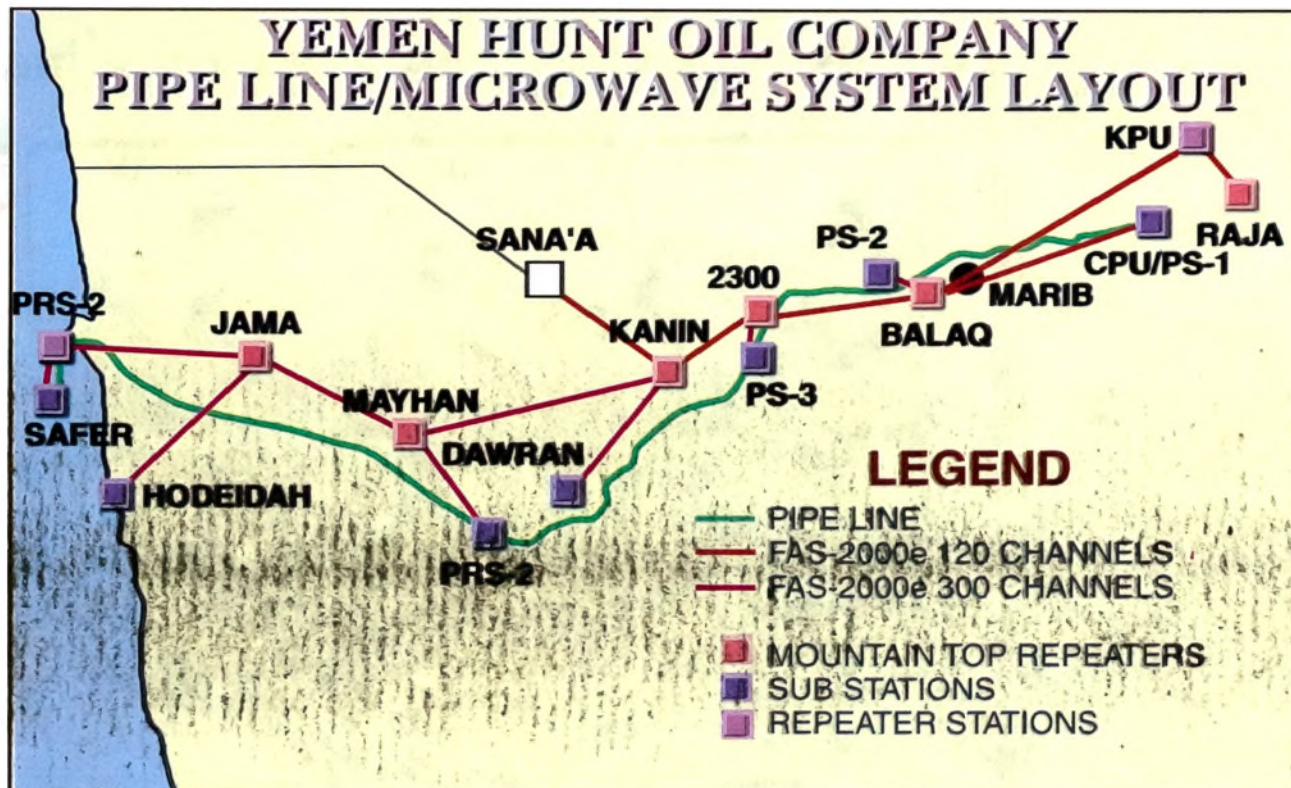
# Dr. Mukhtar Sallam Ali Awn is the New Pipeline Manager

On April 1st, 1996, Yemen Hunt Oil Company announced that Dr. Mukhtar Sallam Ali Awn is the New Pipeline Manager. This decision came as part of its continuous Yemenization effort of the company.

As Manager of the Pipeline Department, Dr. Awn will be in charge of 138 National and Expatriate employees, who are working along the stretch of the Pipeline, in 3 Pump Stations, 2 Pressure Reduction Stations, and the Sanaa Office. Mukhtar's responsibilities include operations budgeting, cost control, staffing and training.

Dr. Mukhtar Sallam Ali Awn graduated from IIT University in Karagpur, India, in 1992, with a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. In 1980, he had graduated from Rostock University in Germany, with a Master's Degree in Marine Mechanical Engineering. After graduation, he worked in various jobs; first in the Aden National Dock Yard for 2 years as an engineer for maintenance and repair of ships machineries; second in the General Corporation for Foreign Trade and Grains for eleven years at various position, and lastly, as technical advisor.

Dr. Mukhtar Sallam Ali Awn joined Yemen Hunt Oil Company in October 1993 in the Pipeline Department as an engineer. Since then, he moved up the ladder of responsibilities. In 1995, he Yemenized the position of the Maintenance Engineer, which he filled. Then, for ten months, he worked as Pipeline Superintendent.

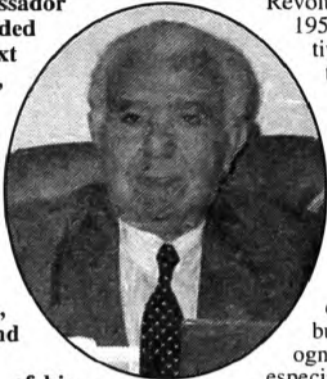




**Chadly Ben Hadid:**

**"Algeria is on its way out of the present crisis."**

Mr. Chadly Ben Hadid, the Algerian ambassador in Yemen is headed back home next week. Chadly, 66, is a highly qualified diplomat with extensive contact with the locals. He speaks several languages, notably Arabic, English and French.



On the occasion of his departure, Bin Sallam interviewed him as follows:

**Q: What is your new post?**

**A:** I am going to work at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Algiers.

**Q: Has your successor been named?**

**A:** Yes, my government has proposed Mr. Mustafa Bou Toura as next ambassador.

**Q: What are the feelings and impressions you are taking with you as you leave?**

**A:** The most important feelings and impressions are related to the kindness and generous nature of the Yemeni people. I am sorry I am leaving, but I am confident that Yemen will carve its way to a better future and will overcome its present difficulties. Yemen has an able political leadership represented by President Ali Abdullah Saleh. I am sure that President Saleh will lead Yemen to full stability. I pray for a long life for him, and for the Yemeni people to achieve progress and prosperity.

**Q: How do you assess Yemeni-Algerian relations?**

**A:** In spite of temporary obstacles, relations between the two countries proceed in a normal way. The two countries have a deep past of fraternity and solidarity, which I hope will be rekindled in the present and future. Relations among nations are based on mutual respect and non-interference in the internal affairs of others. This is the policy of Algeria towards Yemen.

**Q: Algeria today is at crossroads. What is the situation in your country today?**

**A:** As you know, the Algerian Revolution started in 1954 with the objective of restoring to the Algerian individual his dignity and freedom. The Algerian people have sacrificed a lot for those objectives. In the past, there have been some shortcomings in our institution-building and we recognize that. This is especially true for the period following October 1988, whose effects we feel even today.

Since the elections of November 1995, the situation has changed. Algerian President Lamin Zeroual has initiated national dialogue to create the necessary conditions to exit the crisis. Such dialogue took the form of bilateral discussions with public figures and political parties. The end result of these efforts are incorporated in the constitutional amendments proposed by President Zeroual on 12/5/1996. The main six elements are:

1. Comprehensive effort to support the multi-party democratic process.
  2. Review of the constitution to deepen absorption of the national identity based on Islam, Arabism and Amazigism.
  3. Review of the Law of Associations that have a political nature.
  4. Review of the Elections Law.
  5. Seminar on National Reconciliation.
  6. The Time-table.
- The proposal of President Zeroual was positively received by the social and political circles. Four committees were formed on 14/8/1996, to engage in more dialogue and discussions. There are positive indicators which reflect the serious and real efforts which will inevitably lead to national stability based on democratic practices and a state of institutions.

**Q: How about the on-going violence?**

**A:** Algeria is a strong nation based on institutions. Without that, it would not have been able to withstand the destructive terrorist campaign. We look forward to the end of this period of violence. Harmony and stability will have to return to Algeria, at the end of this abnormal period.

**Another Successful YIDD Project**  
**Promoting Female Participation in Elections**

The Yemen Institute for Development of Democracy (YIDD) published this week its preliminary findings of a major field survey. The survey, which took three months to complete, was in the form of questionnaires, interviews and a seminar involving 38 of the 42 female candidates which competed in the parliamentary elections of 1993. The effort covered Sanaa, Aden, Taiz, Hodeidah, Mukalla, as well as some self-exiled former candidates.

"The total votes received by the 42 female candidates which stood in 27 constituencies was less than 1% of the total votes of the Republic," the YIDD report states.

Women have had a better showing in the southern governorates than in the north.

First, of the total female candidates, 17 competed in the 56 constituencies in the southern governorates, which gives an average of .3 persons per constituency. In contrast, the 25 female candidates in the 245 constituencies in the northern governorates yield an average of .1 persons per constituency.

For the record, the highest concentration of female candidates was in the capital city, where 14 females contenders competed for the eight constituencies - an average of 1.7.

Second, among the political parties which competed in the elections, the Yemeni Socialist Party fielded the highest number, and the only party whose female candidates won - two of them in the southern governorates. The lowest party to field female candidates was the Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah). Its list of candidates included no women, not even one.

In fact, no woman won a seat in the northern constituencies.

The survey also showed that most of the candidates in the 1993 elections have decided one experience is enough. Only 15% of those interviewed are interested in repeating the effort. That is why the YIDD is initiating an association of female politicians in an effort to boost the morals of former female candidates, and to mobilize a new generation of female public figures.

The results also indicated that



53% of the candidates received some kind of support from their political parties, and in all cases, the resources available to female candidates were a small fraction of those available to their male rivals. "That is why the YIDD has decided to start a fund for female candidates that will meet some of the standard needs such

as printing posters, brochures, covering the expenses of meeting places, etc.," said Mr. Al-Soufi. A solid majority, 74%, believe the elections were not clean, and that irregularities were widespread.

Also a majority, 63%, stress the need for monitoring and surveillance in the coming elections.

The survey was self-financed by YIDD. "The ability of some front organizations to raise lots of money from foreign sources under the guise of 'serving women in politics' surprises me when the YIDD tries hard to find very small amounts for such genuine efforts," concluded a frustrated Al-Soufi.

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وَادْخُلِي جَنَّتِي" صدق الله العظيم

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الحاج/ عبدالله سمينة  
سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يعصم على قلوب أهله وذويه بالصبر والسلوان  
وإنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون

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الأستاذ حمود (أبو يحيى) ، حسن محمد فارح البعداني



# Common Sense

By: **Hassan Al-Haifi**

## Islam On the Move

If Islam, during most of the last century has been absent as a functioning institutional format in the modern Western sense, Islam's presence at the grass roots level in the many Muslim countries of the world was vibrant.

It is not far fetched to state that as a question of identity, Islam still reigned over nationality or ethnic association as a form of collective pride and universal loyalty. Even prior to the politicization of Islam, religious leaders and scholars continued to sermon and to write about the lot of their Muslim flocks in the four corners of the world, and to insist that adherence to Islam requires of all Muslims to contribute to the remedial actions needed to improve this lot.

On the other hand, it became more and more obvious to many Muslims that the existing regimes in most countries are themselves generally oppressive. In most cases, they are also subservient to Western interests (Capitalist or Communist). As such, it became increasingly assumed that these regimes stand in the way of serving the interests of Muslims at home, let alone in other parts of the world.

This grass roots Islamic attitude has now been reinforced by other elements of society notably the intellectuals and entrepreneurs who found favor in adopting Islamic views. The latter encouraged the rising activation of Islam. It must be borne in mind that Islam is a centuries old heritage, which impressed a

broad ethnic and cultural mix of people throughout the world, who found its humanistic tolerant approach more convincing than any other dogma prevailing.

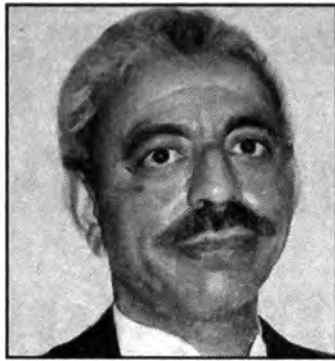
Even the West was to eventually adopt and institutionalize much of the teachings of Islam, in some cases even better than the Muslims themselves were able to do in many cases. Because of the chronic political instability faced by Muslims throughout the world, the Muslim World, almost since the Prophet Mohammed (P) passed away, became divided into many sects and schisms and eventually "nationalities".

But at the grass roots level, Islam remained universal in orientation and suffering. As Islam took on organizational form, it was not long before this orientation began to be felt in the social arenas of Muslim countries throughout the world. Islamists throughout the world explored the channels opened to them to influence the course of events of their "nation". In more mature political systems, Muslims quickly made their presence felt through following due process of existing law.

In totalitarian or autocratic Muslim states, where Islamic Movements, or even platforms, were severely challenged, frustrated Islamic movements reverted to extreme forms of expression, since all other channels were closed!

The Islamic Revolution, as the West called it, was thus born.

In Iran, the Islamist Movement manifested itself visibly, and it



claimed the world as its ground for action.

The latter's ability to withstand the tremendous pressure (faced by the Khomeini Revolution) was strong inspiration for the rest of the Islamist activists throughout the world. This occurred even despite the fact that most of the active Muslim movements had different sectarian attachments, where possibly the Khomeinis represented a far more liberal persuasion that the more puritanical inclinations adhered to by most of the sponsors of the other Islamic movements.

Islam, as an effective force in the affairs of Muslims throughout the world is on the rise, and nothing stands in the way to prevent it, internally or externally. The universal approach that has become more obvious now will add to the increase of Muslim political thought and provide an opportunity for the Muslim World to evolve into an effective international force.

The trend must be viewed that way, for it is the only reasonable course for the Muslim World to pursue, in the wake of continuing pressure from the West and in order for Muslims to overcome the development hurdles their countries face, due to this pressure, more than anything else. One could say that the Muslims' feeling of universal attachment is far from being realized on a noticeable level, but the observer cannot escape detecting the

trends are taking on the international scene.

The Islamists may also still be in need of a lot of organizational and institutional culture, but this problem is being remedied through accumulated experience. More input is contributed by the educated and cultured Islamic activists into the Movement.

Islam is a dynamic force and the Muslim World is far from reflecting the true face of a Muslim "Ummah" or Nation as Mohammed (P) and his early faithful followers envisioned and pursued in every aspect of their lives.

The mundane aspirations of some followers, soon, gained the upper hand, and the democracy which Islam had brought to the world was set aside. The autocratic Muslim regimes that followed failed to apply the true liberal environment which Islamic societies must be provided with. The reason for Islamic supremacy during The Middle Ages was due to the fact that the marginal doses of Islamic liberty and freedom allowed in Muslim societies, which autocratic Europe had yet to even recognize, had fostered a greater cultural endeavor. Yet, unfortunately, the marginal liberty and freedom was lost eventually and continuous

embroilment in struggles for power broke up the Muslim World and weakened its ability to resist outside pressures of more stabilized political regimes - the West reigned supreme!

The course of events and the continued pressure by the West - more than anyone else - will bring about growing Islamic activism, which the West's pressure will not be able to subdue. But the Muslim World will have to upgrade the educational and cultural levels significantly and overcome the reliance on the cult of the personality.

A sampling of the significant international developments dominating the current Muslim World would probably give an indication that there is a global polarization that is taking place, with the West being on one side and Islam (in its yet embryonic institutional framework as an international movement) on the other. Its final format is far from being realized, and the road is far from being rosy, but Muslims at the grassroots level and other levels of Islamic society are displaying a greater sense of confidence that they will be effective international force - a force to be reckoned with.

Indicative signs of the trends follow:

1) The insistence of the US, encouraged by the Israelis and their strong lobby in the US and other Western countries, to view Islam as a potential threat to Western interests.

2) The rise of an Israeli regime that has openly indicated that it has no second thoughts about not "agreeing" with anyone on peace in the Middle East, except the "peace" which Israel dictates.

3) The rather causal and indifferent attitude the West tends to view injustices perpetrated on Muslims everywhere in the world.

4) The ability of the Muslim activists to achieve influential political momentum in such countries as Iran, Yemen, the Sudan, Turkey and other countries mainly by peaceful means and political due process of law.

5) The success of the Muslim Bosnians to withstand and to resist the overpowering Serbian barbarity despite the almost deliberate attempts to bar the former from acquiring the means to stop the cruel madness they were unjustly being subjected to. The obvious support of Muslims elsewhere had been an important element in at least bringing an end to the cruel madness,

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although by the arms and power of the United States but it remains to be seen if justice was to be meted out against the criminal masterminds and executioners of the ethnic cleansing campaign adopted by the Serbian "separatists". Maybe a Muslim Mossad needs to be formed to bring the criminals to justice!

6) The success of Islam as an active political force to foster the expulsion of the Soviets Union from Afghanistan and the severe damage the Afghanis adventure had caused to the Soviet image among the Muslim people of the world.

7) The Checheneyan's valiant struggle in the Caucasus to be free from persistent efforts by the Russian Federation to crush any thought of self-determination and independence. This further provided a stimulus to Muslim activists worldwide who view the Checheneyan's ability to take the initiative at times against the Russian bear, with all its capabilities, as being tied to its Islamic identity, more than anything else.

8) The sober maturity of the Turkish Islamic Movement and its ability to pursue its own independent policy based on sound calculations of logical association of religious ties between the peoples of the region as taking precedence to the interests of outside forces.

9) The ability of Muslim movements to adopt modern institutional tools and methods and to adapt less rigid reasoning in their platforms and their approaches - although this may be at this stage more a result of political necessity that of dogmatic conviction or enlightenment. But the development is worthy of notice. The Islamic Movement in Yemen has clearly reflected this ability, perhaps more than any Islamic Movement in the world.

The Muslim World is bound to witness severe tumultuous changes as the Islamists continue to gain recognition for their platforms and political weight. One cannot but expect most of the present regimes, which give lip service to Islamic values and causes, will either change or face an unfortunate end.

The majority in Muslim societies have little sympathize for regimes that fall too much under Western influence, as they see it. When it becomes apparent that these regimes have not been effective in enhancing their subjects' interests and welfare, by any means, it would be logical to link the regime's association with Western interests, as the cause d'être of the pitiful state of affairs. The hope is that the West will see this early enough and pursue constructive policies that really underline the fact that we are all a part of this world.

## VACANCIES

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Interested persons who:

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- have complete their military service
- University graduates with work experience
- can work in both Arabic and English

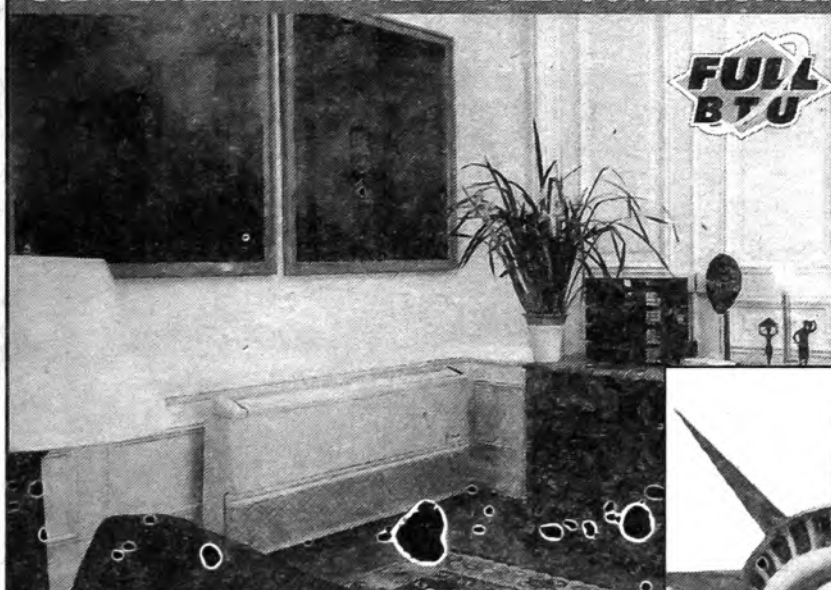
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# THE USE CHEMICALS IN AGRICULTURE IN YEMEN

By: Dr. Ali Mohammad Al-Masawa\*

The question we start with is, "Can we grow plants without using chemicals?" It is a question which bothers many environmentalists and specialists. Chemicals help improve the quantity and 'quality' of harvests. On the other hand, chemicals harm the environment and our health. In the advanced world, like in Europe, efforts are underway to uncover more the destructive nature of chemicals, as they cause a lot of diseases to human life.

The chemicals used in agriculture are proven to be poisonous because of their negative effects on the environment, health, and life on our planet. Scientists have recently discovered five new deadly herbicides and agri-chemicals to be added to the previous lists of deadly chemicals.

Laboratory tests and research proved that most diseases and infections such as cancer, tumor and non-fertility are due to the accumulation of these particles inside the human body. With the passing of time, they damage our lives. Even more disturbing, chemicals also affect unborn fetus as well as the newborns. This is because of inherited genetic diseases as affected characteristics pass from one generation (mother) to another (baby). These cause physical/mental backwardness and other unknown diseases.

It is today an accepted fact that chemicals pose a great risk to man and the environment.

In Europe, they are steadily discovering new diseases caused by some of these deadly chemical powders and fluids. Ultimately, they cause death. That is why Europe is putting limitations on the use of these things. Unlike in most developing countries, people in the advanced countries investigate, watch and analyze these chemicals and how they work.

The population boom and continued depletion of natural resources, the issue of providing all the food requirements for humanity becomes a pressing matter. But is this cause for destroying our habitat. To add insult to injury, in most of the Third World, some strong and destructive chemicals are applied in a setting of primitive and traditional agricultural methods. This means a long time will pass before people realize the impact of these chemicals. Take Yemen as a case in point.

The application of chemicals in growing fruits and vegetables has been on the rise. But more to the point, chemicals are now applied in enormous quantities in qat growing. As a result, many diseases have crept into our society, and in very large numbers.

Lately, farmers have been encouraged to apply what we call biological agriculture. The essence of this method is to depend on using biological material (slugs, dung, as examples) instead of chemicals. In addition, farmers are encouraged to use improved seeds which have a higher resistance against diseases as well as better yield. Finally, they are encouraged plant their land with crops that increase fertility of the soil such as beans and follow a suitable method of rotational plantation according to the seasons. These steps help make up for any loss in productivity due to less application of chemicals.

The process of soil enrichment and fertilization should depend on sound scientific methods - even when chemicals are used - which have no harm on the environment. This way, farmers can grow crops of high quality, in large quantity and protect the environment against contamination and pollution.

Genetic engineering, which is a new approach in modern cultivation, brought about good effects on the environment. A group of scientists reached a method of fighting insects that cause harm to the plants and soil as well through using materials that attract the other sex. By spreading female insects in an area, the farmers attract all the male insects to the same spot. This concentration makes it possible to destroy a large number of these destructive insects. The method can be used to distinguish between 'good' and 'bad' insects.

The struggle between man and harmful insects will remain an eternal one, but science is working to give man the upper hand.

In all cases, the application of chemicals should be strictly controlled for the sake of our planet.

\* Dr. Ali Al-Masawa is a chemistry professor at Sana'a University specialized in Agrochemistry and Ecological aspects of fertilizing sodic-pozolic soils with metallurgical slags from Tameryazib Academy- Moscow/ 1995.

# Productivity & Prosperity

Rising productivity means an improved standard of living and less joblessness.

Through almost all of human history, productivity has been painfully low - a condition that leaves the door wide open to poverty, wars, diseases, and tyranny and to the reduced life spans and living standards those factors entail. Mass starvation was always just around the corner.

Economic growth, the offspring of rising productivity, has been agonizingly slow over the millennia. Only in the last 200 years - and especially the last few decades - has increasing productivity raised real wages and living standards in Europe, North America, and, more recently, the Pacific Rim.

Productivity is defined as the ratio of outputs to inputs. Because labor is by far the most important input, productivity is most often measured by the output-per-worker ratio. The most efficient production method maximizes this ratio.

The central economic problem has always been how to produce goods abundantly. To accomplish this, a businessman must choose the most efficient and productive manufacturing method.

Only advances in productivity improve the general standard of living. They increase aggregate demand for labor faster than the labor supply, thus bidding up real wages and reducing unemployment. When the output-per-worker ratio increases because of better training, minds, or physiques, or due to increases in the quantity or quality of other inputs, we live better without working harder.

A variety of factors can affect productivity:

- The skill and motivation level of the labor force. As workers become more skillful or work harder, productivity rises. That is why investment in human resource development, especially in education, is a main factor in raising productivity.
- The quantity and quality of other resources, namely, capital. If capital formation slows, or capital is not used efficiently, productivity can decline. On the other hand, as employees work with better equipment, materials, and plants, productivity increase.

- When the prices of energy and raw materials rise, companies substitute capital and labor for them. Although this is the economic thing to do, it reduces the measured growth in productivity.

- When output shifts to new products or services that have slow-growth productivity, measured productivity falls. Legal, accounting, and financial services, for example, can pull down overall productivity growth.

- Monetary instability and government policies such as regulation, taxation, and spending can decrease productivity. For instance, environmental protection and occupational safety and health considerations have reduced productivity growth as spending on anti-pollution deceives and worker safety was diverted from productive capital. Unanticipated inflation diverts investment into unproductive channels. Government borrowing diminishes private capital formation. Growth of the welfare system decreases savings.

- Technological improvements are important. Any decline in innovation slows productivity growth, while increase in knowledge, invention, and innovation raise productivity. A high-technology economy is generally a high-productivity one.

- Global competition increases productivity, while protectionism suppresses it. International competition does, of course, have a downside. As productivity rises in developing countries, wages often lag. The low-wage environment can lure business away from high-wage economies, reducing the bargaining power of labor in the latter.

In the long run, productivity grows primarily when technical knowledge expands. This is the main engine for improving general societal welfare.

In the United States, the growth in productivity has been nothing less than spectacular. George Stigler's now classic study to gauge productivity, used six industries to track a productivity index from 1899 to 1939. In this period, the index rose from 100 to 222.

In each decade, productivity increased an average of 14% - except for the 1920s, when it increased almost 50%. These are enormous cumulative gains, which result from technical

advances that enable succeeding generations to stand on the shoulders of previous ones. Similar patterns are noted in post WW2 Europe and Japan. The Far East countries witnessed similar hikes in productivity in the 1960s and 1970s.

Many Third world countries have been able to play rapid "catch-up" by investing larger fractions of income, attracting foreign investment, and acquiring technical know-how from leading economies through the scientific literature and reverse engineering of manufactured goods.

In Yemen, productivity cannot be increased unless serious reforms are introduced. Basically the reforms should lead to giving businessmen the upper hand against politicians in decision-making in the economic domain. The long-run policy of promoting productivity growth - a major consideration for investors - is enormously superior to the short-run policy of trying to avoid temporary unemployment - a politician's priority issue. The gains from the former policy are cumulative and benefit not only present citizens but future generations.

Productivity growth has done more than improve the welfare of the present and succeeding generations. It has also been a catalyst for bringing underdeveloped countries out of their poverty and offered hope for socio-political change, increased freedom, and reduced government control over the lives of individuals. These developments tend to follow the economic liberalization needed to increase productivity.

In many sectors, higher productivity is the only meaningful way to increase the total volume of output. In agriculture, fishing, industry, and other sectors, this is the only viable outlet.

All told, then, rising productivity is the engine that has brought the world economy this far. Robust productivity, as Adam Smith once said, enables the poorest pauper to enjoy a higher standard of living than a chieftain in some primitive tribe. And it lends force to the maxim that a rising tide lifts all boats.

By: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Professor of Economics, Sanaa University.



## ALNOOR MEDICAL CENTER

We are pleased to announce the opening of a modern medical establishment in the heart of the capital Sanaa, this week.

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- \* The medical center owns at present the following facilities:

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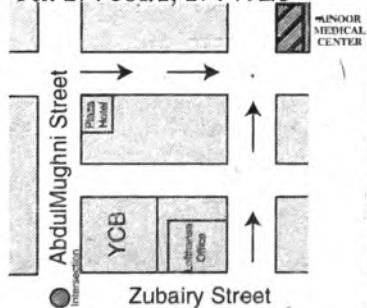
**\* General Services/Specialist facilities:**

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Supervision & administration of Dr. Y. Alwazir

### Yemenia's Mis-management Continues to Scare Away Customers:

## Lucia's Agonies at the Hands of YEMENIA

Lucia arrived in Sanaa on Monday, September 2nd, on board of the Yemenia flight coming from Rome. She should have arrived on Sunday. Never mind the long delay, her bag is missing!

Lucia is on a Ph.D. research to study the ancient language of Mahari (from Al-Mahara), which is going to disappear in a few years. Much of her research work and references is in that bag.

A passenger's bag can be left behind on a flight with any airline. But the airline in question is responsible for helping the victim.

For 5 days, Lucia tried desperately to get help from Yemenia. "Nobody (in Yemenia) is interested in 'my' problem," she said angrily. Nobody even mentioned the immediate financial compensation she was entitled to. In fact, she had to enlist the

support of the Italian embassy and friends to get through to Yemenia. Her suffering and agony continued for five days. The bag was retrieved on Thursday, September 5th.

Yemenia slow retrieval of the bag was because the SITA machine at the Lost and Found Department at the airport does not work. "I will go to Yemenia's head office in town to contact Rome," the person in charge kept telling her day after day.

The funny thing is that only 3 passengers boarded that flight from Rome. Lucia, another woman with a baby. As small as that number is, Yemenia could not take care of them properly.

If and when you fly with Yemenia next time, may be it is a good idea that you personally make sure that your luggage is flying with you.



## ALLERGIC DISEASES IN YEMEN

Dr. Fareed Mohammad Saeed\*

It is important to inform the public about contagious diseases which spread on a wide scale during certain seasons of the year. The allergies we are talking about affect children more than any other age-groups.

It is easy to help oneself in controlling these diseases. Just look for the symptoms - repeated and continued sneezing, coughing or suffocation, breathing problems. Sometimes the symptoms continue for a day and sometimes they persist for a longer time.

Rhinitis is one of the common problems in Yemen. It spreads widely among different classes of society. The patient notes symptoms such as sniffing, sneezing and wetness of the nose or feeling thirsty in general and sometimes sensitivity and itching in the eye. These symptoms are well-known and occur mostly in humid coastal areas as well as highlands which receive a good amount of rainfall.

Some individuals catch this allergy with the blossoming of some plants and roses - mainly during the pollination season.

There are some other causes of this allergy such as the feathers of some birds or animals with woolly skin such as pussy cats, dogs cows, etc.

In the world of women, some cosmetics, perfumes and ornaments cause allergy since they are of chemical base.

During the process of diagnosis, we must also be alert first to the genetic characteristics of the patient. This means the doctor has to be aware of any problems in the family. Unfortunately in Yemen, family records are not readily available.

There are other allergies that are frequent in Yemen. The symptoms are pain in the head and spots which affect the eyes,

nose and ears. In this case, the patient feels some sort of suffocation and breathing problems. When testing the inner side of the nose, we notice dryness of the tissues and often there is a strong, bad smell.

The first practical step is to do blood tests to be sure of the white blood cells. This is called Eosinophilis testing.

There is another method of testing which has to do with taking a sample of the tissue from inside of the nose and test it through a microscope.

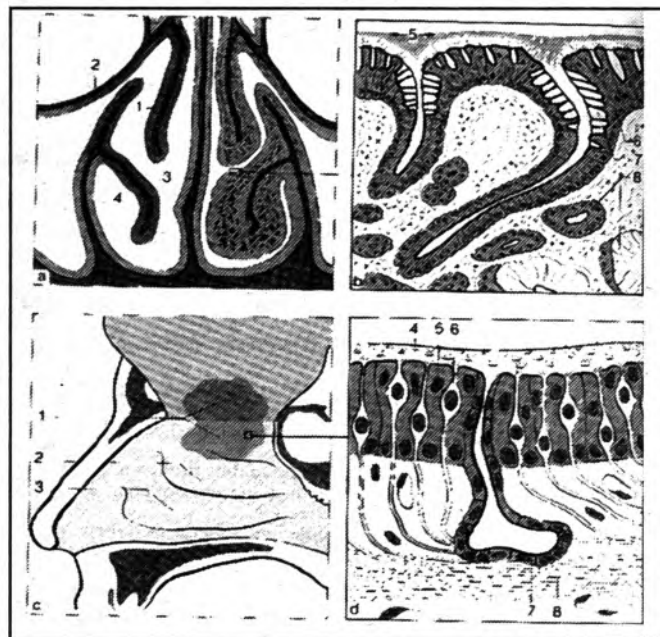
The patient's first demands is for a cure of the rashness. Skin itching, scratching and redness are a pressing problem. It is important to apply suitable creams or ointments.

There are many other allergic diseases which result from eating certain foods. When such irritations appear, it is of great importance to consult your doctor to diagnose your case to see what



and how to cure the problem.

\* Dr. Fareed is a specialist. He has a Ph.D. in Ear, Nose and Throat (E.N.T.) diseases. He works in the General Police Hospital in Sana'a.



## Noise Is Slowly Turning Us Deaf

Nobody realizes the problems noise pollution can cause. They are not visible," pointed out one of the recently-graduated doctors. He has a good mind to start an experiment to register noise pollution in Sanaa - the capital city. He is specifically concerned with the deafening honking and noise from loudspeakers. "Think of a commuter taking a dabbab (mini-bus). He/She is being exposed to all kinds of loud noise of all kinds," says the doctor. "The noise levels in Sanaa are routinely in the region of 65 to 85 decibels (dB), far above the WHO limit of 45 dB."

The effects of prolonged exposure to sound are both physical and psychological, and have been researched in depth in other countries, leading to the strict enforcement of noise control.

Sudden, intense sounds like gun-shots, or other bigger blasts going off - a recurrent phenomenon in Sanaa - can cause reversible or permanent damage to hearing. Importantly, permanent damage (hearing loss) does not necessarily occur suddenly, but over a period of years. Worldwide environmental studies show, for example, that 80% of the traffic cops suffer from hearing-impairment. They also suffer a high degree of personal psychological problems.

In a study undertaken by the University of Tennessee amongst 3,000 high school and 1,680 university students, it was found that the hearing of many of these students who were regularly exposed to the loud music motorbikes had deteriorated to the level of the average 65-year-old. In contrast, studies and research among tribes in Sudan, on the Toda tribes of the Nilgiris, show that the hearing of aged Toda and Sudanese tribals is comparable with that of younger people in urban industrial areas.

Hearing disabilities caused by noise pollution can be temporary or permanent. For instance, a person entering a very noisy area, like a disco, may experience a measurable loss of hearing sensitivity, but will in all likelihood, recover on returning to a quieter environment. But recovery will depend on the severity of the shift in hearing, the person's susceptibility, and the kind of exposure, his/her hearing could suffer adversely. Though hearing impairment is the most obvious fallout of noise pollution, continuous exposure to noise can also cause cardiovascular changes and constriction of blood vessels, leading to heart problems like arteriosclerosis as reported in Crete and the former Yugoslavia. A higher incidence of blood pressure

Decibels (dB)

A decibel is a logarithm of ratio of the sound pressure experienced to the reference pressure (which is the threshold of hearing). It is a unit for expressing the intensity of sound on a scale from zero (for the average least perceptible sound) to about 130 for the average pain level. Even small values in dB levels mean large differences in terms of sound pressure. For example, the sound pressure at 120 dB is a hundred times more than at 80 dB. An increase of just three dB means there is a doubling of sound pressure.

Relation between sound pressure and dB.

0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
100	1,000	10,000	100,000	1,000,000	10,000,000	100,000,000	1,000,000,000	10,000,000,000	100,000,000,000	1,000,000,000,000	10,000,000,000,000	100,000,000,000,000
Bird singing	Quiet room (library)	Typing	Carhorn	Powerdrill	Airplane taking off							

was found amongst industrial workers in Russia. When you put yourself in a noisy environment - like a discotheque - primarily to enjoy the noise, you are actually submitting the body to stress - which shows up in the increased activity of the endocrine glands, higher BP, heart rate and cortisone level in the blood. Apart from stress and fatigue, noise can also cause sleep disturbances.

Noise stress studies show that industrial workers are prone to irritability, depression and anxiety, besides psychosomatic problems like ulcers and acidity. It also causes reduced attention spans and concentration levels and a lowering of mental alertness to stimuli. Consequently it has an adverse impact on the learning capacities of children.

Psychologically disturbed people are agitated by noise and silence has been proven to have a therapeutic effect on them.

Hearing loss amongst workers in noisy industries has been reported for over a century, but the problem has been extensively studied only recently. Over the past four decades, several reports have been published on occupational hearing loss amongst workers in heavy industry, transportation, etc. Almost every study revealed that noise induced deafness. Considerable hearing loss was frequent at higher frequencies.

It is our destiny that our civilization has created heavy machines of all sorts, which we use for many things in our lives - for production of goods in factories; for transportation using vehicles such as airplanes, trains, trucks, cars, etc.; and even for simple office work. Although new generations of computers, printers, stabilizers, etc., are becoming quieter, they are nevertheless noisy.

## تهانينا الحارة

في جو بهيج بين فرحة الأهل وتهاني الأصدقاء

تم زفاف الشاب الخلق

(( ياسر حمود الهتار ))

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## The Medieval Islamic View of Man

# THE PROPHET'S MEDICINE

By: Daniel Martin Varisco

When the prophet Muhammad founded Islam in the seventh century, he spoke of the same god known to Jews and Christians for centuries. The message received by Muhammad and revered today by almost one billion Muslims is contained in the Koran (in Arabic, Quran). Although this scripture focuses on the spiritual health of mankind, it also contains statements regarding physical health and emotional well-being. Muhammad often spoke regarding medicine and diet, and his words are accepted as authoritative and second only to God's revelation in the Koran.

As Muslim scholars in later centuries encountered the medicine of classical Greece, Syriac tradition, and India, they compared this knowledge with Koranic view of man and the prophet's statements about health. Eventually, a literary genre called "prophet's medicine," or *al-tibb al-nabawi* in Arabic, came into existence. In the texts of this genre, Muslim scholars tried to merge the most accepted and current scientific knowledge about medicine with the folklore of Muhammad's Arabia. Medieval Islamic scholars preserved much of the medical knowledge of classical civilization at a time when Western scholarship stagnated during the Dark Ages. In the early ninth century, the Caliph al-Ma'mun sponsored the translation of numerous Greek and Syriac medical texts, including over one hundred written by the famous Greek authority Galen.

It is easy, as some scholars have done, to focus on the role that Muslim scholars played in transmitting earlier medical knowledge without paying due attention to original contributions from medieval Arab physicians, scholars, and herbalists.

However, by 1350, some four thousand medical books had been written in Arabic. Indeed, Arabic was so much the lingua franca of medical school that, in the seventeenth century, William Harvey, the Englishman who discovered the principle of circulation of blood, learned Arabic in order to read important Arabic medical texts. (He would have been interested to note that, some four centuries earlier, a certain Ibn al-Nafis had accurately defined pulmonary circulation.)

Arabic texts were the first to describe smallpox, peptic ulcers, hay fever, hemophilia, and tuberculosis, among other diseases. Arab surgeons invented catgut and popularized the use of cotton bandages and alcohol as an antiseptic. A history of medicine over the past fifteen hundred years would show many primary contributions from Muslim physicians.

But what of medical knowledge at the time of Muhammad?

The texts containing the prophet's medicine give us a mixed view, in that they were written several centuries after the beginning of Islam and their writers had been influenced by other medical traditions. Yet the statements attributed to Muhammad point to a rich folklore and a herbal tradition well documented in later texts. There may not have been any hospitals or medical schools in seventh-century Mecca, but there were certainly many people with ideas about how to stay healthy and cure certain diseases. Although it is necessary to sort through the customs to separate the practical from the fanciful, parts of this "folklore" genre have scientific value, and it is worth working through the mixed information to see what might be of value today.

### The Collection of Traditions:

It is not surprising that Muslims looked to the wisdom of the prophet Muhammad for practical ideas about maintaining body and soul. The words of the Koran, which were regarded as God's truth, were supplemented by statements made by Muhammad and his early followers. These statements were codified in the collections of traditions, which attempted to establish which statements had been reliably reported and which had not. These large collections sometimes contained a specific chapter on medicine. In many cases, however, traditions relevant to health and medical treatment were scattered in various chapters. Thus, it was inevitable that scholars with a medical focus would eventually collect appropriate traditions into a single text.

Some of these books were probably learning tools for advanced students, such as the collection of forty traditions extracted from the *Sunan* of Ibn Majah, by the 13th-century scholar 'Abd al-Latif al-Baghdadi. Such a text was meant to be memorized by the student. In al-Baghdadi's case, this was especially propitious because Muhammad once said that whoever memorized forty traditions would have an intercessor on the day of judgment. This collection begins with the most fundamental of all traditions for the Muslim: Muhammad's assertion that God never sends a disease without sending a cure.

Besides being a comfort to those afflicted by disease, it was also an impetus for doctors and scientists to seek cures.

The forty traditions arranged by al-Baghdadi provide a summary of subjects covered in the prophet's medicine. There are prescriptions against drinking wine, dietary advice for the sick, descriptions of fevers and the medicinal value of certain herbs and foods, discussions of problems of aging and specific diseases, recommendations for body lotions and skin treatments, and directions for cupping. If a student already knew his medicine, this would be a useful summary. For the novice, al-Baghdadi's text would no doubt stimulate an appetite for further study. All in all, it was clear that religious knowledge and medicine went hand in hand.

It is not clear when the idea of writing books on the prophet's medicine took hold.

Though scattered, the information was available in tradition collections and encyclopedic works on the sciences. There were, of course, technical medical treatises and translations of interest primarily to physicians and scholars. But *al-tibb al-nabawi* had a more popular appeal, combining religious and scientific prescriptions with practical advice on everyday health problems. There was certainly no mass-market orientation in the age before printing, but the subject would have been relevant and of interest to a wide section of the population. There was a strong religious argument for knowing the information by heart, in that doing so promoted high regard for Muhammad. Many of the practical prescriptions were based on existing folklore and were closely related to traditional practices throughout the Middle East.

One of the earliest recorded texts on the prophet's medicine was compiled for the Caliph al-Ma'mun (r. 833 to 842) by 'Ali al-Riza, but this text has not survived. 'Abd al-Latif al-Baghdadi, who died in 1231, wrote a major text titled *Medicine from the Book and the Life of the Prophet (Al-tibb min al-kitab wa-al-Sunna)*. Al-Baghdadi was a widely traveled man and inquisitive scholar. After examining the skulls of more than two thousand victims of a Cairo famine, he corrected a mistake made by Greek anatomists by describing the unity of the lower maxilla. He was also the author of a major text on diabetes.

In the thirteenth century, two more famous texts were composed. One was by Mohammed Ibn Ahmad al-Dhahabi, a prolific scholar who also compiled an Islamic history in thirty-six volumes. This widely traveled authority, of Turkoman origin, eventually became a respected professor in Damascus. A contemporary was Ibn Qayyim al-Jawziya, whose rendition is better known because it was published in Cairo in the nineteenth century; it has been reprinted numerous times since then.

The most popular text, at least according to the number of copies found in manuscript libraries, appears to be that of Jalal al-Suyuti, who lived in Egypt in the latter half of the fifteenth century. Al-Suyuti was a child prodigy in religious terms, having memorized the Koran by age eight. All the surviving texts are virtually the same, having been copied by each succeeding scholar. This was the standard academic practice in the medieval academy and should not be looked at as plagiarism. The idea was to provide accurate transcription of past information rather than to be creative.

### Man's Natural Being:

These books generally begin with an overview of the human constitution. Seven parts of man's "natural" being were distinguished, and these included more than just physical characteristics. At the most fundamental level, the human body was seen as a mixture of the four basic elements of classical science. These were fire (hot and dry), air (hot and wet), water (cold and wet), and earth (cold and dry). In this respect, the human body was no different from those of other animals. Indeed, these elements were thought to make up everything in the material universe.

The second relevant part of man was his temperament, a broad-ranging category including emotions, feelings, and character. Nine categories of temperament were identified; first and foremost was one that was evenly balanced. Of all animals, man was considered to be the most evenly balanced in temperament. For the Muslim, the most balanced man who ever lived was Muhammad, God's messenger, whose character was said to be in total harmony with his physical nature.

Muhammad's companions noted that he was the most handsome of men and had the best character. One of his followers, Anas, reported that in ten years of serving Muhammad, he was never once upbraided or criticized. Another claimed that Muhammad never used indecent language or behaved improperly. Even when a bedouin once roughly pulled a cloak off the prophet's shoulder,

he laughed rather than getting angry. It is reported in one of the traditions that a man asked Muhammad for some advice, and the advice given was never to get angry. Anger, Muhammad said, was from the devil and therefore should be avoided. For pious Muslims of later centuries, the qualities attributed to Muhammad were seen as defining the perfect man.

Related to the basic elements were the four humors. The humoral system, widely established in the classical tradition, went largely unchallenged in both the Muslim East and Christian West until the Renaissance. Readers of Shakespeare are familiar with the idea of the bodily humors, part of the popular conception of health in Elizabethan England. Blood, considered to be hot wet, was said to feed the body. The medieval scholar believed blood was produced in the liver from the remains of digested food. Phlegm, cold and wet, helped convert blood into bodily sustenance and kept the organs moist. The gall bladder stored the body's supply of yellow bile, viewed as hot and dry. This bile was thought to help the blood through narrow vessels and was responsible for the color of feces. Black bile, produced in the spleen and considered cold and dry, thickened the blood and assisted in bone growth. By coming into the stomach, it also helped create an appetite for food. Despite its obvious inaccuracy in light of modern scientific knowledge, the humoral system provided a neat, closed explanation of the complicated nature of the human body for many generations of scholars and physicians.

The rest of the seven elements included human organs, which were thought to be formed from seminal fluids. Not surprisingly, Muslim scholars also acknowledged existence of the human soul and spirit. Additionally, human faculties, following Aristotle, were said to be natural, vital, and psychological; they included procreation, growth, nourishment, and excretion, among others. The psychological faculties included reason and thought, as well as perception and movement. The seventh and final part of man was the functions, referring to both attraction and repulsion of fluids and material in the body.

### On Reproduction:

It was taken for granted that the reader knew the first man, Adam, has been created from the dust and given a soul by God. The Koran refers to the creation of Adam is several places, and a tradition related to Muhammad says that Adam was created during the last hour of the sixth day of creation. The issue of how children came to be formed was another matter altogether and was not properly

understood anywhere until the nineteenth century. The ideas from the classical tradition, which unfortunately were not very accurate, greatly influenced Islamic science. Aristotle had argued that semen was the sole fashioner of the human fetus, with the mother's role relegated to that of a mere vessel. Hypocrites, on the other hand, claimed that both male and female contributed to the developing embryo. Muslim scholars sided with Hippocrates, which had important consequences for laws regarding the practice of contraception.

In analyzing fetal growth, Muslim scholars built on a Koranic base. In chapter 22, God says:

*"O people, if you are in doubt concerning being raised up again, then consider that We created you from the dust, then from a spermdrop, then from clotted blood, then from a lump of flesh, formed and unformed. We cause that which We will to stay in the wombs for an appointed term, then We bring you forth as babes; then We cause you to grow that you may attain to your full strength."*

Scholars interpreted this verse, following a tradition related to Muhammad, to mean that the fetus developed in three forty-day periods. In the first, which started with conception, the fetus was called a drop of semen. In the second, it was a bloodlike clot and in the third, a lump with shape. At the end of these 120 days, it was believed that the body became ensouled; it was fully human.

For several major Muslim jurists, abortion was thus allowed until the end of the fourth month, although the majority of schools of religious law viewed the fetus as a destined child and thus frowned upon, even if they did not prohibit, abortion at any time. Contraception, however, was generally agreed upon as legitimate. Indeed, historical evidence suggests that medieval Muslims quite consciously practiced birth control in times of famine and political chaos. The herbals are quite explicit regarding plants thought to have contraceptive capabilities. The famous medical text *Hawi* by Rhazes, a ninth-century Persian scholar, lists over fifty contraceptive methods, including varieties of suppositories and tampons. Most of the methods called for the woman to use some oil, which would likely reduce sperm mobility.

In Muhammad's day, coitus interruptus was widely practiced, especially with slave girls. Although the prophet did not forbid this method of contraception, he said it could only be done with the woman's permission. Because Islam recognized the role of the female as well as the male in producing life, the woman was given the right to decide whether sex would lead to a child.

## The American School

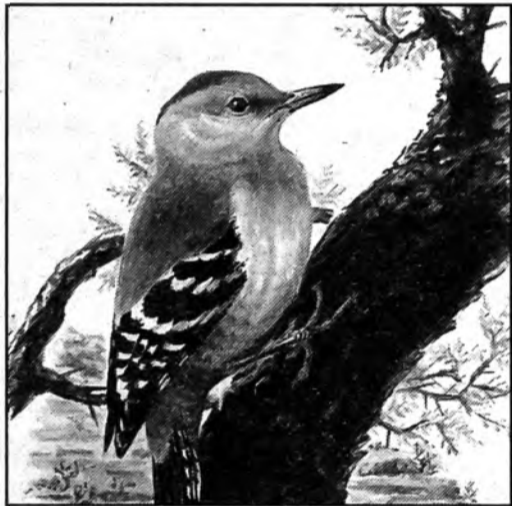
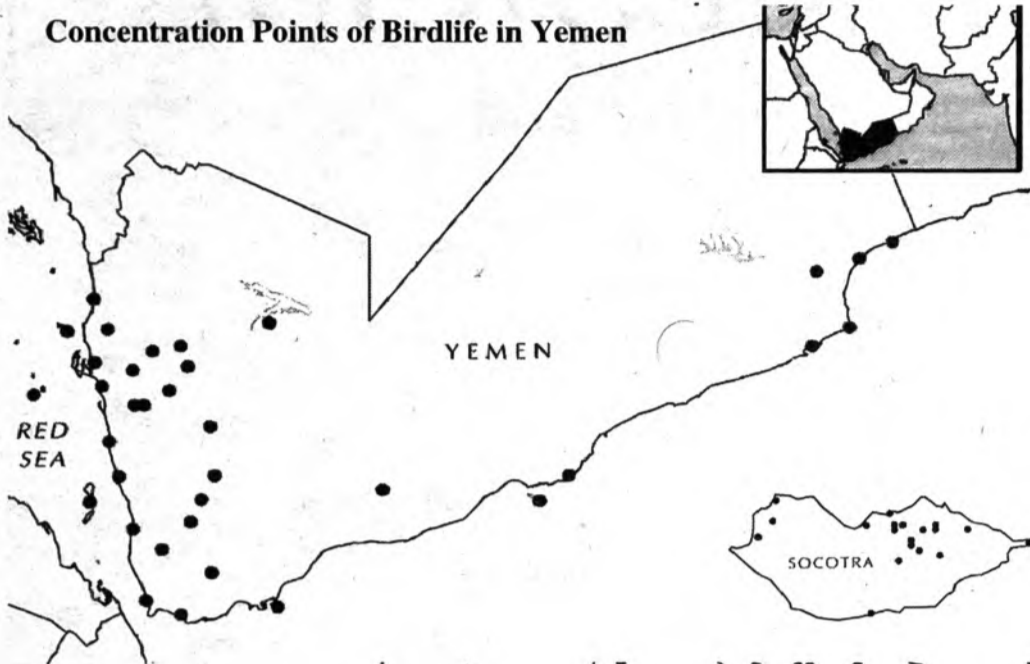
**F**all semester starts 14 September. We are in our second year of operation. Our school is fully certified with the Ministry of Education. We are in fact the only certified international school in Yemen. All core subjects (English, social studies, math and the sciences) will be taught this year by American and British teachers. Students also take classes in art, sports and computer. Our Arabic speaking students can take the regular Ministry of Education examinations in the areas of Arabic, Islamic studies as well as social studies. Our first twelve graduates will go to university in the United States, England, Egypt (AUC), Beirut (AUB), Dubai (the American College) and Jordan. Our school is located in Hadda on the main street just across the road from Hadda Post Office.





# Conservation in Yemen: Targeting Birdlife

Concentration Points of Birdlife in Yemen



Yemen, at the crossroads between Africa, Arabia and Asia, has a uniquely rich wildlife heritage, with a great variety of animals, birds and plants which are found nowhere else in the world. That is the conclusion of a new book on Yemen's birdlife, produced through the joint efforts of the Ministry of Education, the Environmental Protection Council, Birdlife International, and the Yemeni Ornithological Society. The money for the book came primarily from the Netherlands and British Embassies, and British Gas. The Yemen Times had also contributed YR 180,000 towards the preparation of the material, the visit of Dr. Richard Porter in 1994, and other costs.

Last week, 10,000 copies of the book have arrived for distribution in schools to better appreciate, and hopefully protect, the birds of Yemen. The small book, in Arabic, is full of beautiful pictures - in color as well as black and white.

Like many other countries around the world, Yemen's bird heritage is under serious threat from

a number of different directions at once. Land development for housing and commercial projects; pollution of the land and the seas from uncontrolled disposal of waste; soil erosion from destruction of trees for firewood, and the deforestation that follows, are all disturbing the natural ecosystems which sustain wildlife. Around our cities, this can be seen daily in the urban sprawl that is eating up the land for miles around Sana'a, and the rubbish that has made the beautiful old city center a stinking refuse dump. In Aden, the pools along the causeway, that support large numbers of migrant birds, including Flamingoes and Pelicans are being filled in to create more building land. The marshlands to the west of Taiz have been destroyed by pollution. Moreover, whole areas of the highland terraces, farmed with great skill for centuries, have been allowed to decay. Now soil erosion and subsidence are destroying swathes of valuable agricultural land.

Yet, there is hope. In the last few years, there has been a very noticeable increase in public interest in conservation of Yemen's natural heritage. The publication of the book is a case in point.

This book illustrates a hundred of the most important birds in Yemen, and explains, simply, how to recognize them and why it is important to protect



has a unique plant and animal fauna seen nowhere else in the world. Both projects would be ongoing, and involve the training of Yemeni personnel in the practical techniques of conservation and education. Times are changing fast all over the world, and planned and organized education schemes of this kind provide the best hope of helping people to realize the practical importance of conserving the environment before it is too late. Countries like ours, beautiful and rich as they are now, become deserts of dust and lifeless waste land, if the present patterns persist. Advice and international funding are available, and are now being mobilized to help our children learn about and develop our own conservation programs. Much has happened in the last few years which is very encouraging, and the new book for the schools is the latest in an ongoing series of projects which will promote conservation in the future.

Yemen Times promises to support these efforts.

By: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf.

Note:

In this issue of Yemen Times, your gift of a colorful page of Yemen's beautiful birds.

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them. The 10,000 copies will shortly be experienced to schools throughout Yemen. A number of conservationists, experienced in this field, will visit the schools to introduce the book and help to create wildlife clubs in the schools. A similar initiative, sponsored by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, has been very successful in Ghana, in West Africa, where there are now several hundred school wildlife clubs actively promoting all sorts of conservation projects.

Dr. Omar Al-Sagheer, the representative of BirdLife International in Yemen, will be heading a team to visit the schools. He is very enthusiastic about the scheme, and believes it is the first step in an ongoing program to educate young people in Yemen to recognize their wildlife heritage, and to understand the reasons for protecting it.

Dr. Derek Harvey, of the Oil Companies Medical Team in Sanaa, is another leading figure in raising awareness of the situation of birds in Yemen. He had written numerous articles on the subject.

A number of other individuals have also shown enormous interest in helping control the damage to the birds and the environment.

The first school-based ornithological club was formed at Mohammed Ali Othman School in Taiz in 1993. More schools are now planning such clubs.

There is a great deal of international support for educational conservation programs in this country, and already two further proposals are being considered. These would create a World Heritage Site to preserve the highland terraces and replant areas of trees, and create a World Biosphere Status for the island of Socotra, which

### ألف مبروك

بمناسبة زواج

يوسف سعيد من هاجر عبدالله سراج

تقدم بخالص التهاني القلبية متمنين لهما حياة

زوجيه سعيدة . وأدام الله السرور والمسرات

المهنتون :

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## This Time, Only Kuwait, Israel & UK Supported the US Attacks on Iraq

For the Clinton Administration, the job of reigning in Saddam Hussain is fast becoming a lonely job. Of all the Arab countries, only Kuwait and Saudi Arabia supported the American foray into Iraq last week. Even at a worldwide level, only Israel and Britain came out openly and unequivocally on the side of the Americans. Most of the world, including the majority of the permanent security council members, were not amused.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussain, at the invitation of Massood Barazani, leader of the two Kurdish rival factions, fighting for control of Kurdish northern Iraq, sent a large mechanized force which occupied Irbil.

The Clinton Administration, under intense pressure because of the presidential election campaigns, was more than eager to project itself as able to contain the Iraqi bully. It decided to do that by bullying Saddam.

Question: Which bully is better than the other?

There is no doubt that the Kurds need to be protected. The question is, "From whom?" May be

from their own chieftains who have been shedding Kurdish blood due to power rivalry and political ambitions. May be they need protection from the Turkish forces, who constantly unleash superior fire-power on Kurdish civilians. Definitely from the forces of Saddam Hussain.

The American justifications for last week's attacks leave much to be desired. It also shows that the Clinton Administration does not wait for any legal UN cover to do what it wants to do. Just in the same way as the Clinton Administration by-passed the UN system, the Security Council also rejected a US-motivated British proposal to condemn Iraq for the attacks on Irbil.

The Republic of Yemen, like most Arab countries, condemned the recent American raids. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amrè Moussa said that the use of force will not have an impact on reigning Iraq.

France took issue with the raids and the pretexts used for them. The Russian Foreign Minister described them as "unacceptable". China blasted the American escalation.

## Gulf Economies to Perform Better

The economies of six Gulf Arab oil producers are set to perform better in 1996, due to a surge in crude oil prices and higher expenditures by some members, said bankers. The oil sector in the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council (AGCC) which controls 45% of the global crude reserves, is projected to grow by at least 8% while other sectors are poised for expansion. "The AGCC countries have already overshot growth rates this year compared to the same period last year," an Abu Dhabi based banker said.

During the first eight months of 1996, the basket of OPEC's seven crudes averaged around \$ 18.5, nearly \$ 2.0 higher than in 1995. Prices are expected to stay above \$ 18.0 until the end of 1996 as Iraq is unlikely to resume crude exports in the near future following its recent mix-up.

Prices have remained firm this year mainly because of strong demand caused by a sharp decline in the crude inventories in industrial countries. Oil exports make up more than two thirds of the AGCC's total income and around 35% of gross domestic product (GDP). This made the economies of the member nations highly vulnerable to price fluctuations.

When prices increased by around \$ 1.3 to \$ 16.8 in 1995, the AGCC's GDP grew by nearly 3.0% to \$ 207.6 billion over 1994. The GDP of most of them declined in 1994 because of lower crude prices. "In nominal terms, I expect the AGCC's GDP to grow by more than 5.0% this year. Some could run even record high growth rates due to a projected surge in private sector," said a Riyadh based banker.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest

oil producer and exporter, has estimated its economy will grow by nearly 6.0% - this year, compared with 4.3% in 1995 and a negative growth rates in 1994. Oman, which is carrying out the most sweeping economic reform, is projected to achieve a growth rate between 7-9%. The UAE has also achieved growth rates above 5.0% while similar rates are also projected in Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar.

The six member nations, four of which are members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), produce around 13.5 million barrels per day of oil accounting for nearly 20% of the world's total supplies. Improvements in oil prices are expected to raise their collective incomes to over \$ 80 billion in 1996, up from \$ 74.5 in 1995, and \$ 70 billion in 1994.

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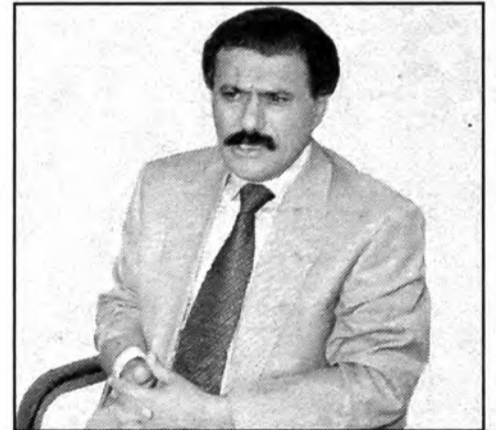


Yemen Company for Ghee and Soap Ind

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وبمناسبة الإنطلاقة الكبرى للمنطقة الحرة في عدن  
وبمناسبة قرب حلول ذكرى ثورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر المجيدة  
تتقدم

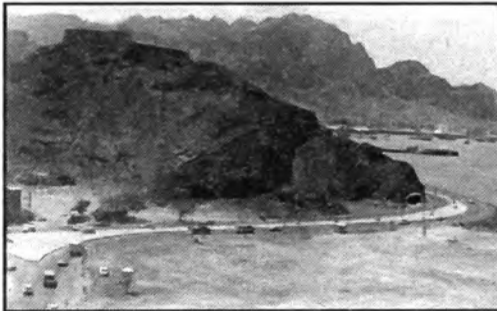
## المؤسسة العامة للبناء والتشييد

إلى شعبنا العظيم بقيادة ابن اليمن البار الفريق علي عبدالله صالح رئيس الجمهورية  
بأعلى الأمانى وأعطر التهاني ومزيداً من الإنجازات والتقدم



On the 110 Anniversary of the Establishment of the Aden Chamber of Commerce,  
and on the occasion of the Launching of the Aden Free Zone,  
and on the forthcoming anniversary of the September 26th Revolution

**The General Building Corporation**  
presents its warmest congratulations and well wishes  
AND MANY HAPPY RETURNS



# ADEN FREE ZONE



## First of Three Parts:

# Text of the Amended Elections Law

Last week, President Ali Abdullah Saleh enacted Law 27 on General Elections. This law comes to replace an earlier law.

Yemen Times is happy to provide herewith its translation of this important law.

### CHAPTER ONE: Names and Definitions and the Rights of Elections

Article (1):  
This law shall be called the General Elections Law.

Article (2):  
The words and expressions used hereunder are defined as follows, unless specified otherwise.

a- Republic: Republic of Yemen  
b- Citizen: Male and Female Yemeni  
c- Voter: Each Yemeni who enjoys the voting rights according to this law.

d- Voting Locale: The place where the voter usually resides, or where his main work is, or his family residence address though he may be not residing there.

e- Supreme Committee: The Supreme Elections Committee which is formed and its members named according to this law.

f- Preparation Committees of Schedules: The basic Committee and the Branch Committees which are formed to prepare schedules (lists) of names, voters' data or review them and edit copies of them and all that is ought to be processed according to this law.

g- Committees Steering the Elections: The original and the Branch Committees which are formed to steer the elections starting from receiving candidature forms and supervision of the electoral process up to the counting of votes and exercising its tasks according to this law.

h- Supervision Committees: The committee or committees which the Supreme Committee forms in the governorates for supervision on the other election committees.

i- Constituency: It is to form an electoral constituency in the Republic according to Constitution and text of this law and the citizen is entitled to practice his electoral rights.

j- General Elections: It is the direct method for people to practice its rights in voting for their representatives in parliament and in any other general elections.

k- A Schedule of Final Registrants for Voting: It is a schedule which includes the final list of voters' names which announced and irrefutable.

l- Casting of Ballots: The process in which voter gives his decision in any general election or referendum.

m- General Referendum: The public opinion poll to know to what extent the general public approves or rejects any issue related to making adjustment on the Constitution or dissolving of parliament or any other general referendum which the president of the Republic calls to according to Constitution.

### CHAPTER TWO: The Right of Voting

Article (3):  
Each citizen who reached the age of maturity (18 years) enjoys the right of voting with exception of naturalized citizens who he have not completed the acquiring residency conditions stipulated in the law of naturalization.

Article (4):  
A- Each voter practices his electoral rights by himself in his constituency. In case of options regarding constituencies, he should specify the constituency in which he plans to exercise his electoral rights. However, it is not allowed for a citizen to register his name in more than one constituency or polling station. Citizens may exercise their right to vote only in the polling station in which they are registered.

B- It is allowed for the voter to change his constituency among the constituencies legally optional to him. In case of changing his constituency, the voter has to inform in writing the chairman of the election committee in the new constituency where he plans to vote, and make sure his name appears on its schedules. Such a process - through the Supreme Committee - will entail cancelling his name from the schedules of the election committee in his former constituency before announcement of voters' schedules according to the text of Article (12) of this law.

However, it is not allowed to change the constituency in the election year after a review to the voters schedules are rendered final and irrefutable. C- It is not allowed to force a citizen to choose a certain electoral constituency or force any voter to cast his ballots for a certain candidate. The law punishes any civil or military authority employing

his authority or his influence to force-change the voter's will with punishments stated in article (97) of this law and will be dismissed from his position.

Article (5):  
The Supreme Committee takes the steps to encourage woman to exercise their electoral rights through the formation of exclusive women's committees which have the responsibility of registration of voters' names in schedules. Confirmation of identity during voting is carried out within the frame-work of polling stations in each constituency.

Article (6):  
Each voter has one vote and it is not allowed for the voter to cast his ballot more than once in one election.

### CHAPTER THREE: The Schedules of Voters

Article (7):  
Each constituency has a schedule of permanent voters prepared by a basic committee and branch committee. The tasks of both are specified by the Supreme Committee, and they exercise their tasks according to this law together with the resolutions and regulations implementing it. The branch committees ought to provide the basic committee with schedules that it had edited so that they are written down in the permanent voters' schedule of the constituency after signing them by chairman and members of the committee.

Article (8):  
The schedule of voters in each constituency includes the name of each citizen in the constituency who attained on the first of January of the year of elections, the necessary constitutional conditions to exercise the electoral rights. The schedule also includes surname, profession, birthplace, and constituency of the voter.

Article (9):  
The committees preparing the schedules ought to make sure of the citizen's age by the following methods:

- 1- Identification card or any official document.
- 2- A testimony of two witnesses in case there is no identification document.

Article (10):  
The schedule of voters for each constituency is made out of five copies - each signed by the chairman of basic committee and its two members. The 1st copy is kept by the committee in the constituency, the 2nd is sent to the Supreme Elections Committee, the 3rd is kept with secretariat of the parliament, the 4th with the Supreme Court, and the 5th copy is kept with the supervisory committee in the Governorate's capital.

Article (11):  
A- The reviewing/editing of the voters' schedule or adjustment proceeds during thirty days once in two years and once, at least two months before the decision to call for general elections. The adjustment is done by adding of names of citizens who acquired the right to vote. However, it is not allowed to make any adjustments in the schedule after calling the voters for election.

B- The adjustment ought to include the following:-  
1- Adding names of those who obtained the electoral rights.  
2- Adding names of persons neglected without any right in the previous schedules.  
3- Omitting the names of the dead.  
4- Omitting the names of those who lost their rights since the last review or those whose names were wrongly listed.  
5- Omitting those who transferred their constituency to another, while adding those who were transferred to this constituency.

Article (12):  
Copies of schedules of elections for each constituency - once approved by the chairman of the basic committee - must be available in general places of the constituency in the district capitals, and in places which are specified by the Supreme Committee within fifteen days after closing the registration process.

Article (13):  
Each citizen resident in the constituency has the right to demand from the basic committee to list his name in the special schedule of voters if it was omitted by mistake. Application for such purpose are to be presented to the preparation committee within twenty days starting from the first day of the announcement of schedules. Such applications are then noted in their order of application in a book, to which each voter has the right of access.

Article (14):  
The preparation committee gives its decision to add/omit names depends on the applications stated in the previous article within a time not to exceed 20 five days starting the day following the final deadline for filling up the applications. The committee should give the applicant/s the chance to explain his/their views, and should undertake the necessary investigations.

Article (15):  
The resolutions of the preparation committee on the schedules are announced in the locale referred to in article (12) of this law and remains announced for fifteen days starting from the last day for a decision on the applications.

Article (16):  
A- Each voter in the constituency has the right to refute the resolutions of preparation and review schedules and appeal them before a specialized primary court within a maximum of fifteen days from the announcement of the resolutions. The court is authorized to proceed with the necessary investigations and to decide on each and every case whether to omit/add names within 20 days from the last day of the appeal period.

B- Each voter and representative of the general attorney in the constituency has the right to appeal the decisions of the Primary Court within fifteen days from the last day of the period of the court for giving decision, by applying to a judge assigned by the head of the appeal court of the governorate. It is allowed, when necessary, to deputize a number of judges and distribute the work to them according to the electoral constituencies. The decisions in these appeals are final and should be issued within twenty days of the appeal application date.

Article (17):  
The schedules of voters are adjusted according to the final decisions of the appeal judge.

Article (18):  
A- Each citizen registered in the schedules is given

a temporary certificate which is replaced by a permanent election card after registration in the schedule becomes final. The permanent election card must include the photo, full name, date of birth and the electoral constituency where the voter has the right to exercise his rights. It must also carry the signature and seal of the basic committee in the relevant constituency.

B- The election card is personal and cannot be used by any other person. The card is valid to exercise the electoral rights during the period specified by the Supreme Committee on the card itself, unless it is changed or replaced for legal reasons.

C- The election card may be withdrawn from any person who loses his electoral rights by a judicial sentence. The relevant bodies are to provide the Supreme Committee with a copy of the decision or the sentence issued in this case.

D- Each voter who loses or damages his election card has the right to get a new one based on an application presented to a special committee in his constituency on condition that such application is made at least one week before balloting date, and provided the voter's name exists on the final voting schedules.

Article (19):  
The final schedules of the voters' names are deemed for participation in elections, and no one is permitted to participate in the elections unless his name is registered on the schedules.

### CHAPTER FOUR: The Supreme Elections Committee and its Tasks.

Article (20):  
A- The Supreme Elections Committee is made up of seven members appointed by a presidential decree from a list containing (15) candidates nominated by parliament, according to the conditions specified in this law.  
B- The list of candidates for membership of Supreme Committee is decided by a majority of two-thirds of parliament's members.

Continues Next Week

## وعمت البهجة والأفراح

أسرة تحرير مجلة الوطن تهنيء

النقيب زيد عباس الشامي - مساعد مدير أمن المنطقة الثالثة بأمانة العاصمة

بمناسبة قرب دخوله القفص الذهبي والذي تقرر في يوم ٢٦ سبتمبر ،

لتكون الفرحة فرحتين ، وأدام الله السرور

المهنؤون : محمد علي مثنى ، علي سعيد بن طالب ، منصور هائل ، العزي الصلوي ،

محمد عبدالوهاب العواضي ، سمير النجار ، وجميع الزملاء والأصدقاء

جميع آل الحمدي وأصدقائهم وأنصارهم  
يتقدمو بأجمل التهاني وأصدق التبريكات للشاب

عبدالله يحي الحمدي

بمناسبة زفافه الميمون ، أسعده الله مع عروسه ، وأدام الله السرور

المهنؤون :

د/ عبدالعزيز السقاف ، إيتسام الحمدي ، نشوان إبراهيم الحمدي

وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

نزف أحلى التهاني وأعذب الأمنيات إلى

الدكتور فريد محمد سميد والدكتور إرسال الطيب

بمناسبة إرتزاقهما طفلتهما الأولى - ريم

جعلها الله قرّة عين والديها ، ونفع بها أهلها ووطنها ودينها

وألف مبروك

المهنؤون : جميع طاقم صحيفة «يمن تايمز» والأهل والأصدقاء





هدية «يمن تايمز»  
**طيور اليمن**  
 Birds of Yemen  
 from Yemen Times





**AL-SHOURA: Sana'a (Weekly)**  
(Federation of Popular Forces Party)

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) **Hunaish Crisis: The (Opposition) Parties Warn that the Silence and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Confirms There Is Bad News!**
- 2) **Results of Saudi Prince Sultan's Visit: The Signing of an Economic Agreement To Be Followed by Meetings on the Yemeni Labor in Saudi Arabia**
- 3) **The Beginning of the School Year and the Return of the Minister Soon; Shortage of 3000 Teachers and Financial Difficulties**

**Article Summary:**

**1) Judges Concerned About Democracy**

Many members of the judiciary and prosecution office were critical of the undemocratic method by which the Executive Board of the Judicial Forum was elected. Tens of judges went to the Prosecutor General to complain of the proceedings during the election session and threatened to raise their objections of the results of the elections to the courts. The judges were critical of the way the list of nominees was prepared in advance and the way secret balloting was side-stepped.

**2) The Archipelago Is a French Matter**

The paper's political editor assessed the circumstances of the recent escalation on the disputed Hunaish Islands between Yemen and Eritrea. He points out that the position of Yemen is surrounded by uncertainty. Referring to the statements made by the Yemeni Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs (where he said that Yemen has not received any written confirmation that the Eritreans have indeed withdrawn from Lesser Hunaish), it remains unclear whether the Eritreans have in fact submitted to international pressure. The article seems to suggest that the issue of the control of the Bab Al-Mandab Strait seems to have been passed on to the French. The President's and Yemeni Foreign Ministry's threats that they will abandon the French Mediation efforts and will resort to other means to regain Yemen's sovereignty of the islands, did not generate any serious Eritrean reaction as they did not take these threats seriously and operate with a high degree of self confidence.

**AL-MUSTAQUILLA: London (Weekly) 2-9-96**  
(Independent)

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) **The Opposition-Islah Talks Must Continue**



## Yemeni Press in a Week

by: *Hassan Al-Haifi*

and Realize Their Objectives.

- 2) **End of the Last Chapters of the Famous Case That Ignited the Al-Mukalla Demonstrations.**
- 3) **The Capital City's Water Is Threatened by Sana'a's Sewerage Contamination.**

**Article Summary:**

**The Taj Sheba Hotel Dispute**

One of Yemen's only 2 Five Star Hotels is currently passing through a somewhat complicated ownership dispute. The Taj Sheba Hotel, located at the heart of the city, is presently facing a Court Injunction. Its continued operation is presently supervised by a court appointed overseer, pending the conclusion of judicial proceedings and court sentence pertaining to the dispute.

The dispute involves the land and ownership of the hotel complex, and the parties involved in the case are Shafer Abdul Haq (Shafer Trading Co. and Saba Hotels Co), a prominent Ymeeni businessman, Ahmed Abboud Al-Amoudy, a prominent Saudi businessman of Yemeni origin and the Ministry of Religious Endowments and Guidance.

Al-Amoudy claims a 20% ownership stake in the hotel, which he claims Shafer has not honored. He claims that Shafer has not given him access to the hotel's accounts and earnings for the operations of the hotel for the last 17 years.

The lawyers for Al-Amoudy discovered that the land, on which the hotel is built, belongs to the Ministry of Endowments. As Shafer had not paid rents due to the MOE and had even denied the latter's ownership thereof, the lawyers paid the rent of the land to the MOE for the next ten years under Al-Amoudy's capacity as a shareholder in the hotel. A tough and complicated case indeed!

Endowment lands cannot be bought or sold eternally, so any user of the land or property leases it from the authority executing the endowment. "If the beneficiary of the property fails to meet the obligations due to the MOE, the MOE has the right to lease the property to a more "honest" partner of the user who fails to meet his obligations to the MOE", according to Law No. 33/92.

**AL-TAJAMMU'U: Aden (Weekly) 9-2-96**  
(Yemeni Unionist Congregation)

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) **The Sale of the Traffic Police Head Office in Aden to an Investor**
- 2) **Voter Registration in Shabwa Province: 1300:500 Inhabitants**
- 3) **Saudi Penetration In Yemeni Territory**

**Article Summary:**

**A Unique Circular**

The paper points out that the Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reform issued a memo, under the Minister's signature, which instructs all branch offices and departments of the Ministry throughout the Republic not to accept or to negotiate with any representatives of any labor or professional union or syndicate.

**AL-SAHWA; Sana'a (Weekly)**

[Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah) Party]

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) **The Women (In Al-Udain) Continue Their Vigil Protesting the Refusal to Register them**
- 2) **Secretary General of the Yemeni Socialist Party: Talks with the Islah Are a Significant Political Experience Which Elevate the Political Rhetoric in ROY.**
- 3) **This Coming Monday: The Speaker of Parliament Off to Paris**

**Article Summary:**

**1) In Whose Interest?**

While not mentioning names, Ali Abdulla Al-Wasi'y, a regular columnist with the paper and an old Islahi leader, comments on the recent attacks that have been appearing in some of the PGC press organs.

Citing some of the attacks, the author notes that if these partisan war of words are going to include lies, slander, and misrepresentations, then an

"Islamic" suggestion is presented: The antagonists should meet together and pray to Allah that He uncover the liar of the two and punishes him. The author says that experience has shown God to respond accordingly, in due time and the liar and the assailant is revealed.

The writer continues by stating that what is needed in the Muslim World is sincerity and dedication, not political parties, plans or programs.

**2) Why the Islah Does Not Respond**

Again, referring to the anti-Islah press campaign being presently waged by its partner in the ruling coalition, the People's General Congress, Nasr Taha Mustafa confirms that the Islah will not respond in kind to this campaign.

The Islah does not condemn criticism, as long as it is objective and characterized by honest intentions and tackle the issues at hand.

The party will defend itself by its election campaign, through its election program and its handling of the issues at hand, including the strengthening of democratic practices. He said that the Islah party is the only that rose to power through the democratic process.

**AL-WAHDAMI: Sana'a (Weekly) 3-9-96**  
(Nasserite Unionist Party)

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) **A Security Official Arrests an Investor**
- 2) **His Heart Is on the Right Side - The Story of a Boy Afflicted with Reverse Placement of Organs.**
- 3) **In Strict Secrecy: The Establishment of Temporary Local Councils in Hadhramaut.**

**Article Summary:**

**The Arrest and Release of Hunaish**

Two patrol jeeps stopped by a farmer who was building up a road bump in an effort to channel rain-water to his farm in Al-Dhalia'a area. The irritated soldiers yelled at the farmer, and asked for his name. "Hunaish," he responded.

At that they jumped out of the vehicles and dragged the farmer to prison. They thought he was ridiculing the military. When his son took supplies to the prisoner, the guards asked the boy for whom the food was intended. He answered, "For Hunaish!" He too was arrested and thrown in with the farmer.

Eventually, the Sheikh was able to convince the authorities that the farmer's name was in fact Hunaish, and the farmer and son were released. The villagers celebrated the freedom of Hunaish and son, and prayed for the day when the country celebrates the freedom of Hunaish, the island.

## Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor

### The Right to Respond

I hereby would like to answer some of the points raised by Dr. Harazi, Yemen Times, Issue No. 35/96 of

- 1) I, of course, welcome feedback from readers, who are free to express their views as they wish.
- 2) The contents of my weekly column, Common Sense, have been reduced by about a third of the previous length, as can be seen from the last three weeks. In the event that the subject cannot be completely covered in one article, it is split into 2 parts at most.
- 3) The most important thing is that the material is fully analyzed from all angles, to allow readers to get a grasp of the full subject matter.
- 4) The Yemen Times comes out only once a week. Having said that, I would like to express my appreciation for your interest and comments. I will try to make the articles as short as they can be.

Hassan Al-Haifi

### Teachers & Schools

Many of the public schools suffer from shortages of teachers. We are not talking about books, furniture or repairs of walls, etc. We are talking of the fact that there are no teachers.

Yet, over the last few weeks, the Ministry of Education sacked many foreign teachers. But this was done without taking adequate measures for replacement purposes. What were they thinking of. I think that when an administrator takes the decision to terminate the contract of one person, that administrator must think in advance of who fill up the place. It came as a surprise to me when I learned that replacements, of any kind, were not available. There is another thing. Automatic replacement using Yemenis is not necessarily a viable alternative and it is not cheaper. In the long run, the Yemeni teacher may end up not teaching adequately. Teacher, Sanaa.

### The American Assault

I challenge any American official to give one resolution of the UN that Iraq didn't comply with. That is what Tariq Aziz said in an interview on CNN. I was waiting for an answer. I wanted to hear just one resolution that Saddam Hussain didn't comply with.

Let us take the problem in the Kurdish region. Saddam helped one Kurdish group against another, which is what everybody else is doing! The UN Security Council resolution asks Iraq not to oppress the Kurds, or any of its citizens, for that matter.

The US casts doubt on the Iraqi withdrawal from northern Iraq when the whole world says it did. Who is actually violating international law - Iraq or the US?

To add insult to injury, the US administration says it is sending messages. What kind of messages is it sending with bombs and explosives. Those are the messages of terrorists.

The US claims it is concerned that Iraq is oppressing the Kurds. Isn't it shedding aligator tears over the Kurds. Why is it not concerned when they are being run down every day in Turkey? Besides, I have one question to ask: Aren't the Kurds of Iraq better off than their cousins in Turkey or Iran or any where else? Don't the Kurds of Iraq enjoy more rights? So, why is the West penalizing Saddam?

I'm sure that the second strike, specially after the worldwide condemnation, is a message to the world that America does what it wants and it doesn't matter if the international country accepts what it does or not.

The Americans think the world is theirs, they expand the no-fly zone themselves! They are telling Iraq they will attack at whim! And when you ask them why they are attacking, they say to destroy Saddam's defences.

So what is America talking about, and what are these messages it is sending! At the end of all of this, the world will wake to discover the "Ugly American" again. Just wait and see!

Majdi Abdul-Hameed Mansour, Dhamar.



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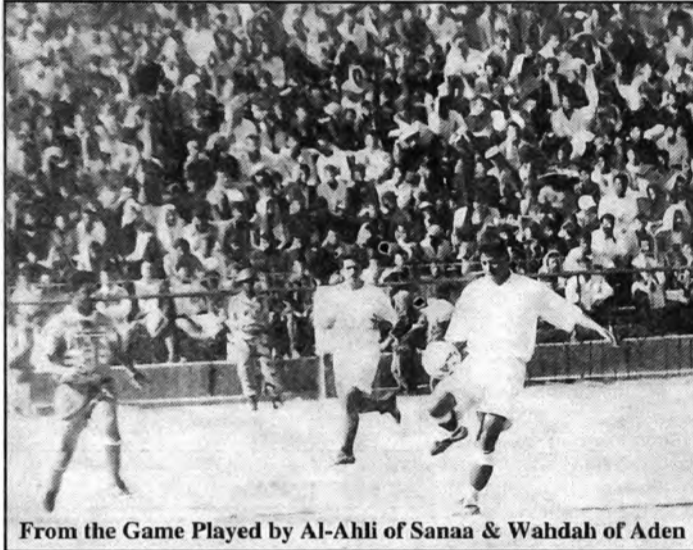


## ROTHMANS SPONSORS FOOTBALL GAMES:

### INAUGURATION OF 1996 EXCELLENCE LEAGUE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Yemen Football Association and Rothmans of Pall Mall International successfully concluded an agreement according to which the international company will fully sponsor the current season of football matches. In the competition between Al-Ahli of Sanaa and Al-Wahdah of Aden that started on September 5th, twelve teams will in the 1996 Rothman Yemen Excellence League over a total of twenty two weeks. The games will be played in stadia all over the country, but notably in Sanaa, Aden, Taiz, Hodeidah, Mukalla and Abyan.

Dr. Abdul-Wahab Rawah, Minister of Youth and Sports, expressed happiness at the forthcoming nature of Rothmans. In a statement to Yemen Times, he said, "This is the second time Rothmans is generously supporting the football games. We are grateful, and we hope other



From the Game Played by Al-Ahli of Sanaa & Wahdah of Aden

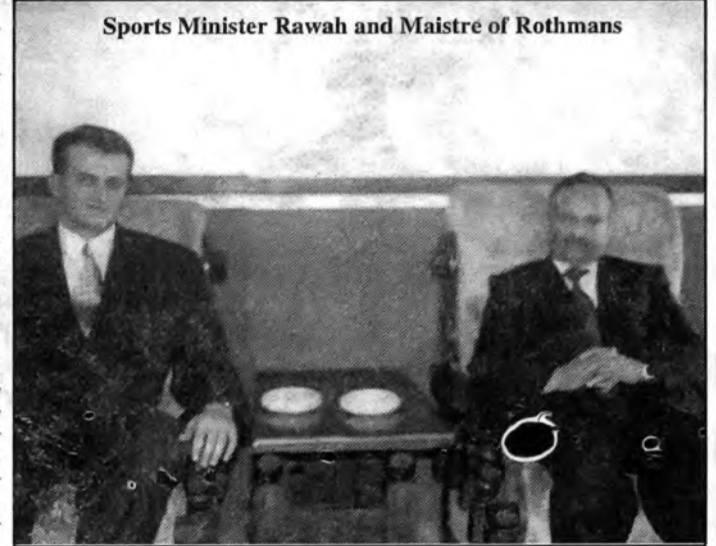
sponsors will follow the Rothmans lead."

Nicholas Maistre, Manager of Rothmans in Yemen, said, "We are very pleased with the results of the 1995 trial, and impressed by the ever rising standard of football in Yemen."

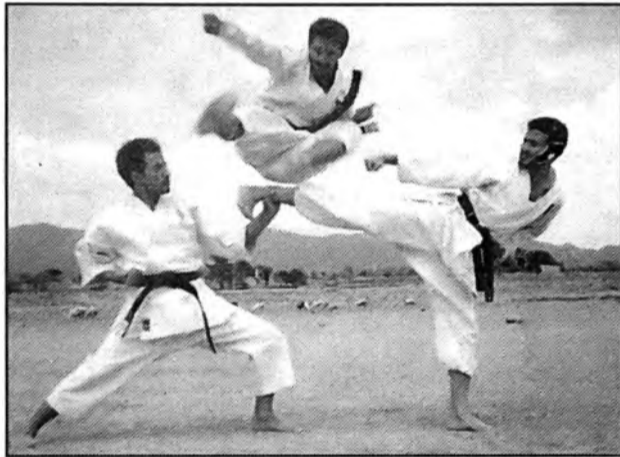
Rothmans is one of the world's leading sponsors of sporting activities. The company's most important sponsorships recently include the 1996 Formula One motor racing championship team, Rothmans Williams Renault.

The results so far are: in Sanaa: Al-Ahli of Sanaa against Al-Wahdah of Aden: 0-0; in Aden: Shu'lah of Aden against Ittihad of Ibb: 5-0; in Mukallah: Sha'ab of Mukalla against Shamsan of Aden: 5-2; in Hodeidah: Al-Ahli of Hodeidah against Hassan of Abyan: 0-0; in Sanaa: Al-Zohrah of Sanaa against Al-Wahdah of Aden: 0:1.

Sports Minister Rawah and Maistre of Rothmans



### Taiz Karate Athletes Prepare for National Games



Under the sponsorship of "Sports For All" federation, the Taiz Branch of the Karate Federation organized on Thursday 5th September a competition among the governorate's clubs. The one-day event was hosted by the Taiz Al-Ahli Club.

Five clubs - Al-Ahli Club, Al-Saqer Club, Al-Barah Center, Al-Ahli Cente, and Al-Serhah Club - competed in the friendly matches.

Karate is one of the favorite sports among the youth in Yemen, but specially in Taiz, which boasts many clubs and centers dedicated to training in this specific sport.

These events come as preparations for the national karate tournament which will be held in the new season.

### Boxing Matches at Al-Ahli in Sanaa



Yesterday, Sunday, September 8th, Al-Ahli Club of Sanaa organized a special friendly match among the boxers of Sanaa. Twelve athletes will form six duels in the matches.

The referees who will guide the matches are Gaber Al-Bawab, Mahdi Al-Hammadi, Jamal Al-Awadhi, Yusuf Saleh, Adel Al-Hammadi, and Tareq Barakat.

The Modern Institute has presented prizes in the form of ten courses in English for the winners of the matches.

Sanaa's Al-Ahli Club is the only one that offers professional training facilities for boxing. The club has introduced this game in 1998, and has since come a long way. Other clubs in other cities also have good boxing facilities.

## UNIVERSAL GROUP OF COMPANIES:

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  3. RAMCO.
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4. Universal Travel & Tourism,
  5. Tourism Investment Company.

The Chairman of the Group, Mr. Alwan Shaibani, also has his offices in this building.

Omar M. Omar, General Manager, and who will move to this building in January 1997, disclosed that the building will also have an Information Technology Center which will be an impressive data bank.



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# YEMEN TIMES

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## PGC Abuse of the Media

The People's General Congress (PGC) freely uses the official government media to attack individuals and groups it perceives as adversaries. This attitude indicates that the PGC thinks of all government tools as its own and available for its exploitation. This attitude is not only wrong, it is destructive to our democratization process. Take an example. The 26th September is a government newspaper that speaks in the name of the armed forces. This newspaper, under the direct control of Presidential media aides Ali Shatter and Abdo Boraji lash out at people left and right.

Not one week passes by without barrages of insults from this newspaper on whoever. The newspaper also engages freely in fact-twisting to the extent that so many people no longer read it. The chieftains of the PGC will do themselves a service to distance themselves from this newspaper because it is "bad news".

The government would also do the country a service if it were to reign in the people who run this paper.

Who does it serve when the 26th September insults others? If the belief is that they will scare adversaries, I think they are wrong. I can understand for PGC newspapers to engage in position of defence of their party. But government-owned media should be objective and neutral.

This is one of the basic conditions for any decent system, let alone a democracy.



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