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President Honors Departing French Ambassador

President Saleh Receives Chirac Envoy, Letter

General Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Republic, received a letter from French President Jacques Chirac. The letter was hand-delivered by Mr. Camille Cabana, President of the Arab World Institute in Paris, who was received in audience by President Saleh on Sunday, December 1st, in Aden. The letter concerns bilateral relations.

The President also received Mr. Marcel Laugel, the French Ambassador, who is concluding his term of service in Yemen. The President praised the ambassador for his efforts in enhancing Yemeni-French cooperation and understanding, and awarded him the Unity Medal.

More on page 2

Foreign Minister Al-Iryani Flies to Tokyo for Talks:

Japan Donates \$22 m for Structural Adjustment

Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, flew out to Tokyo yesterday, Sunday, December 1st. This is the first high-level Yemeni official visiting Tokyo for a long time. It reflects the warm nature of an already cordial relationship between the two countries. As an appreciative gesture, senior Japanese officials, including the Prime Minister, will receive Dr. Iryani. "We greatly value our relations with Japan," the Foreign Minister said.

Another sign of improvement had been witnessed a week earlier. The Japanese Government granted 2.5 billion Japanese yen, equivalent to US\$ 22 million. The agreement was signed in Sana'a on November 21st by the Minister of Planning and Development, Abdul-Qader Bajammal, and the Japanese Ambassador in Sanaa, Mr. Suşumu Akiyama. In a statement to the press following the signing, the ambassador expressed his happiness with the continued progress in bilateral relations.

"This is the first grant of its kind in the history of Yemeni-Japanese relations," he said. He added that the grant comes in "recognition of the hard work undertaken by the current Yemeni Government which has embarked on a new economic and structural reform program." Minister Bajammal and Ambassador Akiyama also signed another aid agreement. According to this agreement, Japan will provide 500 million yen, equivalent to US\$ 4.5 million.

Continues on page 2

Successful Mass Immunization Against POLIO:

Yemen Observes AIDS Day

The Republic of Yemen joined the rest of the world in observing the World AIDS day yesterday, December 1st. According to Dr. Yassin Ginawi, WHO Representative in Yemen, the occasion was "intended to be the high point of a year-long informative and educational program about AIDS." The AIDS problem is steadily overwhelming

an under-prepared world. Everyday, there are around 8,500 new HIV infections which are striking unsuspecting victims. About 1,000 of these infections occur in children under 15 years of age and the majority of other cases occur in people in the prime of their economic and reproductive lives.

Continues on page 8

As Poverty Strikes Down the Vulnerable, Compassion Becomes a Lifeline:

The Boys with Golden Hearts

She had fallen by the road, exhausted with fatigue and hunger. Her two little infants - a girl of five and a boy of four - were crying while their mother lay unconscious. It was around 10:15 on Saturday, November 23rd. Students at Ibn Majid Boys' School in Sanaa were on a recess. Many of the boys came out of the school compound in search of snacks and refreshments.

Two boys, seeing the woman, reacted with initiative. They quickly dragged her to a safe place, counted the money in their pockets and ran to the shop. They bought milk and sandwiches and calmed the young children while the mother was slowly coming around. They could see that poverty and bad health had gotten the better of this small family. The woman, in her middle-age, began to talk to

the young men. What she told them confirmed what they had thought.

They are Merwan Abdullah Razzaz and Taher Mohammed Hussain. The compassion they have shown is commendable. As important, their ability to mobilize colleagues and start fund-raising at their school, and then move on to the girls' school next door, is impressive. Within an hour, they had gathered a few thousand riyals and some food supplies for the family. When they got everything, they stopped a taxi, and took the woman and her infants safely to her home. Not only that, but they were able to come back and re-join their class before the morning was over.

Yemen Times went to look for these lads. We spoke to them and their colleagues at length.

Full story on page 7

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OUR VIEWPOINT

The Concept of Tolerance

The concept of tolerance is probably the most important cornerstone of the modern democratic system.

The BBC dictionary defines the word as the 'ability to bear something painful or unpleasant'. It proceeds to explain that it refers to the 'quality of letting other people say or do as they like, even if you do not agree or approve of it'. The Random House Thesaurus offers the following as synonyms: goodwill, sufferance, compassion, patience, forbearance, democratic spirit, fair treatment, understanding attitude, fairness, lack of prejudice, freedom from bigotry, endurance, ability to withstand, etc.

The English vocabulary is full of words and phrases that give a good feeling for the meaning of the word tolerance. But the Arabic dictionary is quite lacking. In fact, there is no exact synonym for this word in Arabic. The closest one gets to is with the word "tasamuh", which really comes close to mean 'to forgive'. At least it has the charity connotation.

Now what does it all mean?

It means that Arab values have to incorporate a new concept. The ability to take the heat and to willingly witness and let someone build a case against yours is probably one of the most sublime of human values. One can always argue back, but it is left with verbal battling - neither side fearing any repercussions or fall-out.

For us in Yemen to build a democratic system, one of the first qualities to acquire is tolerance, especially among those who hold the reigns of power. The fall comes when those in power justify for themselves that by penalizing the other view, they are really serving the nation. There are many ways they can do that. Let me give an example.

The other day, a friend told me that the Prime Minister of Yemen - who is his close friend - is really a tolerant and democratic person. He is often upset with the Yemen Times, not because it is attacking the regime or a bad and corrupt government, but because it is hurting the national interest. You can see there is an unconscious effort in their mind to justify hitting back at the Yemen Times. This is blurring the difference between the regime and the nation, or by binding the corrupt officials with the national interest. It is possible they themselves are not aware of what they are doing, but it reflects their intolerance.

Tolerance is a virtue that elevates human beings. It is closely associated with being civilized and civil. The Republic of Yemen and its political evolution will go a long way if a higher level of tolerance is shown by the authorities, even to the ones they brand as enemies. It is crucial to define enemies of whom - the regime or the nation. It is a point to ponder!

The Publisher


Cont'd from page 1:

President Saleh Receives ...

Mr. Cabana told the Yemen Times that besides carrying the Chirac letter, he will discuss with President Saleh next year's cultural exhibition of Yemen at the Institute. "Some 200 artifacts and historic and archaeological relics from Yemen, and some 150 from private and public museums worldwide will be borrowed for the exhibition to be held in October 1997," he pointed out. "We hope Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh will be able to inaugurate this important international event," he added.

In a similar note, Yemeni President Saleh described outgoing French Ambassador Marcel Laugel as a good friend of Yemen. He awarded him the "Unity Medal". In a cordial talk with the Yemen Times, the ambassador expressed his sadness on the occasion of leaving. "As I plan to settle down in Beirut, I hope to be able to come and visit," he said. A new French ambassador has not yet been named.

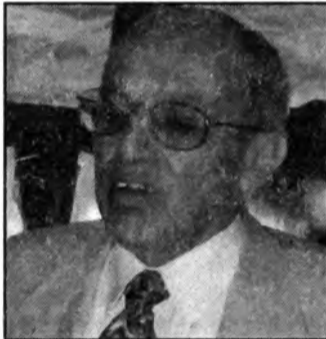


Cont'd from page 1:

Japan Donates \$22 m ...

This money will be directed towards increasing food production in Yemen.

Ambassador Akiyama expressed interest in "exploring new horizons and wider possibilities within the framework of hard work and real cooperation". Foreign Minister Dr. Al-Iryani said that his visit will inevitably lead to stronger ties and better understanding with Tokyo.



Dutch Team to Help with Old Cities

A 3-man Dutch delegation arrived here today, Monday December 2nd, in preparation for the National Program for Preservation of Historic Cities in Yemen. Ele Jan Saaf, Karl Kupka and Johan Buwalda are experts in urban planning and Yemeni architecture.

Ms. Djoeko Koekkoek, First Secretary at the Dutch Embassy, said that the delegation will visit the historic cities of Sanaa, Zabid, and Shibam. They will also meet various officials and local experts in the field.

The Program is sponsored by the World Bank, and co-financed by various other sponsors, including the Netherlands.

Yahia Al-Basha Elected Vice Chairman

Dr. Yahia Al-Basha, a well-known Yemeni physician, was voted last week as the Vice Chairman of the Society of Endoscopic Surgery of the Arab World. The Cairo-based society is one of the prestigious professional Arab societies.

ADI on the Move!

Mr. Hafedh Fadhel, Chairman of the Arab Democratic Institute, indicated that the ADI has carried out training for its volunteers. The ADI is mounting a monitoring of the elections campaign. "Volunteers to monitor in Dhamar and Al-Baidha were trained last week," he indicated. At another level, Dr. Ahmed Al-Qadhi, Vice Minister of Culture and Tourism, told the Yemen Times that his ministry will write to the Ministry of Social Affairs to explain that it was its jurisdiction to license and regulate cultural organizations. Mr. Fadhel echoed similar sentiments. "The ADI is not a charity. It is a cultural body."

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Judge Abdul-Malik Al-Jindary:

“More authority should be assigned to the Supreme Judicial Council.”

The justice system of any country is probably its basic building block for creating a stable and harmonious society. Making sure that justice is fully and efficiently executed is the job of the courts. This work is not properly done in Yemen due to interference by the powerful institutions. To add insult to injury, the government fails to enforce court verdicts, thus leading to violence and instability.

In the recent past, a few judges have come out in the open to address these issues. Moreover, in cases of human rights abuse, government transgression on individual rights, and in politically-motivated government action, the courts have started to take a stand.

One of the leading judges in this purge is Judge Abdul-Malik Al-Jindary, himself a prominent figure in the judiciary. He comes from a long line of judges, as his father, grand father, and a long line of forebears have served as Justices of the Peace. Judge Al-Jandari, 37, is today President of the West Sana'a Primary Court. He graduated from the College of Shariah and Law at Sanaa University in 1984. He then completed a post-graduate diploma at the High Institute of Judiciary in 1986.

Bin Sallam of Yemen Times interviewed the judge and filed the following report.

Q: You have dealt with many cases involving civil and human rights organizations, NGOs and political parties versus the government and authorities. In most cases, the authorities lost. Have you faced pressure or criticism? Are you committed to continuing your independent approach?

A: You are referring to cases that are categorized under administrative judiciary. We basically look into issues of abuse of authority, delineation of rights, interpretation of the laws and rules, etc. This was introduced only a few years ago. Many of these cases come to me due to the fact that many administrative units and government offices lie within the jurisdiction of my court (West Sanaa). At the same time, people are becoming increasingly aware of their rights and more willing to stand up for them.

A few years ago government employees, human rights activists, promoters of NGOs and syndicates, etc. did not know their rights fully, did not have recourse to the justice system, and did not have the desire to stand up against senior bureaucrats.

I can say with all honesty that I have not been subjected to any 'undue' pressure or harassment in any of the cases I presided over. The problems usually come after the sentences are passed. That is when there is need to enforce a verdict.

Q: It is often alleged that the Yemeni judicial system is totally immersed in corruption. What do you say to this? And what in your opinion are the solutions?

A: That allegation is grossly exaggerated. There may be some irregularities or some judges who abuse their authority. But such a blanket statement about the judiciary is unfair.

But, if the allegation concerns the long litigation period, this is true, and there are many reasons for it. One reason is inadequate resources. The judges do not have adequate support staff, research mechanisms, data search/call systems, etc.

Second, the judicial system is under great pressure due to the large number of cases. Many are difficult and unique to our country. If we consider the ratio of litigations, whether civil, criminal or private, to the actual size of the population, we find that Yemen's average is higher than the world's.

A judge in other countries may have to deal with ten or at most twenty cases a year. Last year the West Sana'a Primary Court had adjudicated in 1760 cases out of 1780 that were received by the court.

Corrupt judges, in short, are few, and rather well-known, and could be expelled. Please note that a full judge receives a monthly salary of YR 25,000 (about US\$ 200). A person with such a salary is then approached with enticements of millions of Riyals. Some weak judges may succumb under the huge pressure imposed by life's demands. But very few judges are corrupt by nature, but those few give a bad reputation to the whole judicial system.

Part of the prevailing feeling that judges are generally corrupt is due to media reporting. The media comes into action only when there is a misconduct by a particular judge. So the public is informed only of the dark side, which is quite small. While the bright side goes completely unreported.

Q: Litigation in courts takes a long time, and many court decisions remain unimplemented. What are the reasons?

A: Cases pass through 2 stages: litigation and implementation. If the first stage takes a long time, it is partly understandable. That is because the judge needs to collect information and verify it. He has to be satisfied he got the facts right and act on them. Also, there is the general pattern of appealing against a court decision. Almost all court decisions are appealed against, leading to further delays. People submit appeals irrespective of the four main justifications for doing so which are specified by the law.

Some cases are even appealed to through the Supreme Court, which has become the third step in the litigation process. However, when Yemen is compared to other Arab countries, such as Egypt where cases remain in courts for 20 years, we find that our country is quite efficient in this regard. At most, a case may remain in court for two or three years.

Then comes the implementation stage, which is outside the judicial authority. The judge can only intervene if there are some court procedures required for implementation. Otherwise, he can only use his authority in addressing the court's decision to the relevant executive body. In some cases the court's decision is not respected. This usually

occurs when the convicted person is too powerful and the plaintiff too weak or if there are interventions (due to political considerations).

To resolve this problem, I suggest the establishment of a special judicial police force which receives its orders directly from the judiciary. The staff of this force must be well-paid and provided with all needed facilities so that it can perform its duties fully and independently. This way, implementation can be guaranteed.

I call upon the media to shed more light on the positive aspects of the judicial system so as to raise public awareness and respect for this vital organ. Many government bodies such as ministries neglect the implementation of court decisions out of disrespect for laws. Respect can only be achieved by granting the judges their rightful status in society. However, if a comparison is held between the numbers of implemented court decisions and the unimplemented ones, it can be noted that the latter are very few and far between.

Q: You are well-known as a pioneer in developing the judicial system in Yemen. How does the system in Yemen assess performance of judges?

A: The evaluation and promotion of judges is conducted by the judicial council through the work of judicial inspectors. Sometimes inspectors and their procedures are not carried out properly. This means that the judicial council does not have complete information about different judges. Such information is essential for distinguishing between competent and non-competent judges. There is also a feeling that capable and

experienced primary court judges should be moved to higher courts. This is not a good idea since primary courts are vital in the legal procedures. Primary court judges are very important because they address all details of a given case, while judges at the court of appeal or the supreme court restrict their role to endorsing or rejecting the lower courts' decisions. So it is better to keep competent judges at primary court level. A judge could remain at a primary court but could be given the prestige and financial status of higher ranking judges.

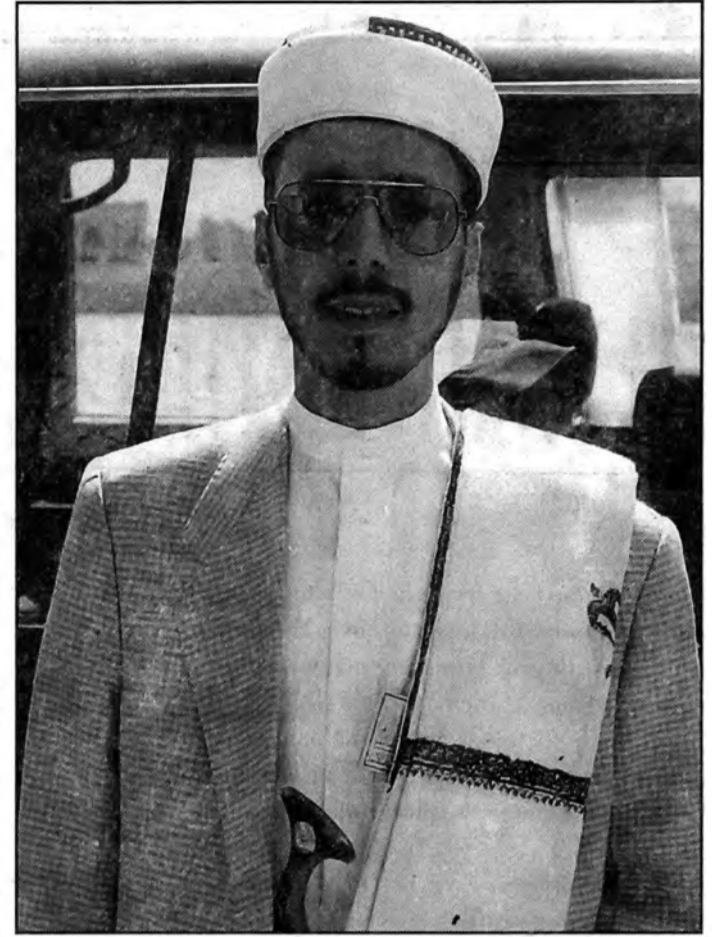
The constitutional article which stipulates the administrative, financial and judicial independence of the system, must be implemented. The judicial Council must be given a larger role so as to block the executive authorities such as the Ministries of Justice and Finance from intervening in the legal systems affairs.

Q: How does the judiciary view women in society?

A: Islam has granted women their full rights as no other system in the world had done. By applying and implementing Islamic Shariah laws, the Yemeni judicial system can give women complete justice. So it is a matter of implementation of the (Sharia) laws.

Q: The recent judicial conference made many recommendations. Some of these called for increasing monthly salaries. Have they been implemented?

A: We are still awaiting implementation. There is still no increase in our monthly salaries. I hope this question is addressed to the relevant and senior officials in government.



Q: Article 147 of the constitution stipulates independence of the judiciary. The President is head of the Judicial Council, which is responsible for appointing judges. Do you see a constitutional inconsistency?

A: I think your focus is on the independence of the judiciary. Theoretically, judicial independence is guaranteed by the laws and constitution. Any intervention in the judiciary's work is considered a crime punishable by law.

Some violations do take place, but this must be dealt with by the relevant court. A judge can reject the intervention of a particular official or person in authority. Violations are not committed by the state or the political leadership, but by some individuals in power. Some infringements are done from within the judicial system itself. Outside inter-

ventions can be dealt with and repulsed. But internal submission can cause massive problems.

As for the issue of the President being the head of the judiciary, this is actually taken from a Shariah principle. It is known that the judicial authority emanates from the ruler of the nation. The ruler is responsible for appointing judges who are considered his agents in dispensing justice and applying laws. There is no problem in this regard.

Q: How about the income generated by courts?

A: Courts are not income generating organs. What little income is generated is deposited in a fund to support the judiciary. But unfortunately, there is no statute regulating this fund. We hope that the Judicial Council will soon provide rules and regulations to organize this.

Continues on page 15

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Abuse of Authority or Fraudulent Application ?

British Woman Can't Take Husband Home!

Right from the start, we want to stress that the work of consuls is generally quite difficult. This is especially true of countries where a large segment of the population seems eager to immigrate, due to hard economic circumstances, and also to political uncertainty. This is the case in Yemen. As a result, consuls, especially in Western embassies, have to be fully satisfied that the applicant really warrants a visa.

To further complicate the situation, it has been easy to lie and forge documents in Yemen. In other words, consuls can't really trust the word or papers of the applicant. He or she has to make sure there is a genuine case.

Having said that, there is still need for the consulates to show more compassion and tolerance. One can easily see the humiliation of applicants at the gates of foreign embassies after consuls, fed to the teeth with tall stories, do not give sufficient consideration to genuine cases. The applicants have no recourse whatsoever.

We feel such a case was presented to the Yemen Times last week concerning the British Embassy. We can't tell if the consul was abusing his authority or if this is another fraudulent application but an investigation is certainly needed.

Here is the story as told by the applicant's spouse, a UK national of Yemeni origin.

"On the 20th September 1996, I came to Yemen to get married. Preparations, which had been underway much earlier, were completed over the next few days following my arrival. I got married on 11th October, 1996."

"On the 22nd of October, my husband and I approached the British Embassy in Sana'a to get a visa for my husband to enter the UK with me, as I am a British national."



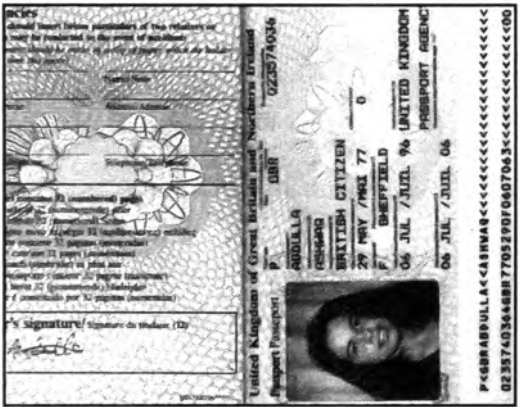
"I was shocked that my husband was denied an entry visa to the UK. This was a surprise to us both as I submitted all the papers the consul required from me. Such papers included referrals from my work, bank statements, proof of my own accommodation, a wedding certificate and even wedding photos. There wasn't anything the interviewer asked of me that I didn't provide."

"The consul told me that he was not satisfied. He said he felt we got married just so that my husband could enter the UK. He wanted us to stay here in Yemen, as a married couple, for one full year so that he could be satisfied this is a genuine marriage. Now this is an impossible condition, since I have to go back to work in the UK."

"The second reason cited for the refusal was that my husband could have recourse to public funds, as he probably would not have have personal income to support himself. This means that he did not take my income into consideration."

"Now we have no choice. Either I go back and remain separated from my husband, or I wait here for a whole year."

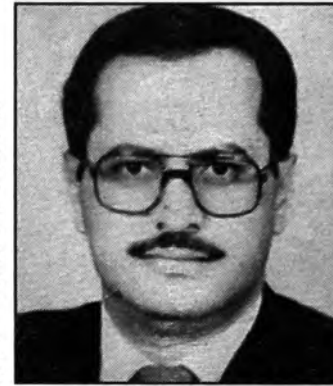
"While appreciating the difficulties facing the consul in making decisions concerning visa applications, I believe this is an open and shut case. It warrants a review from the consul and his superiors."



What Do the Different Players Want?

Political Analysis of the Coming Elections

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



Most observers agree that the April 1997 parliamentary elections are going to be a watershed in Yemen's political evolution. Either they will give substance to the claims of the Yemeni politicians that something tangible and meaningful is taking shape in Yemen, or they will show such claims to be a hollow sham. Whatever the case, it is essential to see how the various players see the coming elections, and what they want out of them. More importantly, it is vital to observe how they are interacting as they handle issues related to the elections.

The 'non-participation' policy, known to political analysts as the 'empty-chair gimmick' is almost always counterproductive. This is even more so because the people of the southern/eastern governorates - already under-represented in the power structure of the country - will be further under-represented if they do not participate in the elections. Thus, 'non-participation' is really an abdication of political responsibility.

One can understand the frustration and disenchantment. One can also understand why these parties do not want to participate in the coming elections given that the results are almost determined in advance. But a passive position of staying at home on election day is wrong.

1. The PGC:

The People's General Congress (PGC) is the main player in the coming elections. It is also the only party that has enough power - at this juncture - to achieve the goal of democratization. But the price the PGC demands for its potential role makes the goal itself meaningless.

The PGC wants dictatorship-like powers. It already has a free hand to manage the country, but it wants a more free hand. And it looks set to grab such powers, as the trend of power structure and division shows.

Following the 1990 unification of the country, the PGC had an 'equal' partner in the power structure. That was the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP). Then following the 1993 elections, the PGC had two junior partners (the YSP and the Yemeni Congregation for Reform - Islah) in power. Following the Summer war of 1994, it dropped one junior partner (YSP) and kept the other. Following the 1997 elections, it doesn't look like the PGC will 'need' any partners.

It is clear, in any case, that the PGC has set itself the goal of achieving what it calls a "comfortable majority" in the next parliament. It looks like that goal is already within its grasp.

2. The Opposition in Yemen:

To start with, I am lumping all non-PGC parties, including Islah, in to this category of opposition. herefore, it is sensible to divide the opposition into three groups, as follows:

a: Opposition Parties Aligned with the PGC:

There are seven small parties that exist by virtue of the support of the PGC. In reality, they exist for as long as they are useful to the PGC. They are in truth splintered from the real opposition parties.

These parties, lumped together in a block known as the National Opposition Parties - 'Adam', collect allowances and support from the Government (by orders of PGC), so they obey orders.

The main goal of the majority of individuals in these parties is to secure a steady flow of income and privileges, in addition to a symbolic presence in authority. Thus the leaders of each of these parties will probably be assisted in 'winning' seats in the next parliament.

b: Opposition Parties which Believe They Have a Legitimate Claim to Power-Sharing:

There are some parties which feel they have a legitimate claim to power-sharing, because of their sheer size. They include the Islah, the YSP, and the Nasserite Unionist Party. These parties feel that they are entitled to a secure place in the political structure of the country because of their own weight. So, they are fighting - at face of it - for a fair and clean competition in the coming elections. As such, this trio represents the real opposition to the rising dominance of the PGC.

They are working hard to coordinate their efforts in order to pressure the PGC to accommodate their 'demands'. At the same time, each one of them is trying to open direct private channels with the PGC to better 'understand' its needs and to strike a bilateral deal. No bilateral deal has been struck, so far, because the PGC is working for time as it plays off each one against the others.

It is clear, however, some kind of deal is on the cards with some of them.

c: Opposition Parties Staying Away from Elections: Several of the smaller opposition parties have decided to cold-shoulder the elections. They call it non-participation. This is unfortunate, especially since these parties are mostly based in the southern and eastern governorates. The most notable among these is the Tajammu' Al-Wahdawi Al-Yamani.

On the other hand, a straight policy of 'affirmative action' against the elections by openly urging people to deligitimize the elections through a whole-scale boycott, for example, will certainly be more effective than a simple no-participation passive position. The aggressive boycott policy would enable these parties to say why they are boycotting, and will let them interact with the elections. In other words, it is more meaningful to come out in the open and announce a boycott and present a clear case to the public than to simply decide to stay at home on election day.

3. Opposition in Exile:

The opposition parties in exile are made up of some of the former YSP leaders and MOWJ. These had lost a lot of their appeal. But, the mistakes of the ruling politicians since the civil war have enabled regeneration for the former YSP leaders, who were really hated in the southern and eastern governorates until only a couple of years ago. Today, sympathy for the opposition in exile is growing substantially.

Meanwhile, the government has started the trial of the opposition-in-exile leaders - the so-called List of 16 - under the charges of high treason. Many local and foreign observers see this as a mechanism of the regime to eliminate those politicians from the election process.

"At least some of the persons on that list are still political heavy-weights in Yemen. They can affect the results of the elections if they were to participate. Thus, the trial is a suitable tool to disqualify them and put them out of the race," an ambassador of an Arab country in Sanaa explained. The ambassador further insinuated that the Sanaa regime will probably forget about the whole matter and issue a pardon of sorts once the April 1997 parliamentary elections are over.

4. Where Do We Go from Here?

There are 3 issues one can raise in this regard.

a) A Question of Time?

Many foreigners tell impatient Yemenis, like myself, to wait. They say, "The process will take its natural time for evolution. It is a matter of time." That is something one can live with, provided one is assured the country is on the right course. That, nobody can tell. IN fact, there is evidence that the evolution has lost much of its momentum towards democracy and tolerance. You can see this from the heavy-handed approach of the state in tackling persons and groups it sees as opponents.

b) Public Opinion:

Politicians in Yemen do not care much about what and how the general Yemeni public feels. If at all, the regime is beholden to foreign politicians who can directly affect its days in power. Any real democracy should see itself accountable to the general public. If that is not true, it is hard to speak of any meaningful democracy.

c) Respect for Law & Order:

Respect for law and order is the other side to the democratic coin. When the PSO has a free hand to do what it wants, and nobody can do anything about it, the system is not only undemocratic, it is not a good one. Let me give another example. Court sentences and orders are not respected or implemented. You can see many citizens pleading with government officials to simply honor a court verdict.

The sad part in our political circumstances is that Yemen could do a lot better than it is doing now. Unfortunately, the clique ruling the country is unable to mobilize the contribution of all Yemenis. It is limited to its own circles. What a pity!



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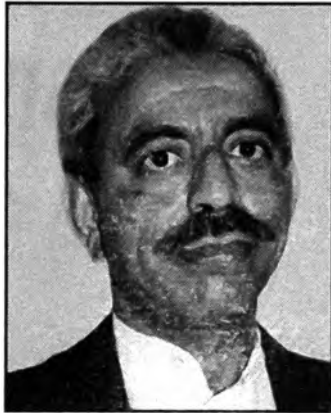


Common Sense

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

What is it Going to Take?

Fadhil and his friend Malik walked to the qat market together. "Look at that guy," said Fadhil pointing to a guy handing the qat salesman a YR 5000 bundle and some loose money. "That is half my salary. Where does a guy like that get that kind of money?" "The way it looks now, the only people who can meet life's needs are heirs to wealthy estates, corrupt government officials or cut-throat merchants," said Malik. "What about qat owners and qat merchants, tribal chiefs and other self-made 'community leaders' even among opposition leaders? All these people also manage without facing any worries. These people all have a lifestyle that seems to be distant from the lifestyle of the masses you see in front of you." "Look at all those beat-out faces. It is hard to believe that all those faces can be so sullen in the first few days of the month - after payday," remarked Fadhil. They met a mutual friend. "Hello, you guys, why not have lunch with me today and chew qat?" said the friend, Saleh. Fadhil excused himself. "Look, we just got paid, and I've bought a nice lunch for the family. This is probably the only day in the month they will see it! I want to see smiling faces in my house for a change - even if it is only one day in the whole month." "Me too," followed Malik. "I have my groceries waiting for me in the corner store," said Saleh in a somewhat stubborn display of arrogance. "Saleh, we really do not want to be so imposing on you. We can come and chew qat in the after-



noon. But, we will buy our own qat. After all, that is why we are here." Fadhil felt a compromise was appropriate. "It is not an imposition at all, you know my house has open doors and lunch for anyone who happens to walk in at lunch time. It is a tradition I inherited from my father. But, if both of you want to miss out, eat wherever you like. But qat time, I find no excuse for you not to come." Saleh's arrogance continued. "Look at him, thinking that people must find no greater pleasure in life than to share their time with him," said Fadhil. Malik was quick to add, "I just think he wants to be there to show his friends that he has people who follow him through the years. I can imagine him speaking in front of his friends saying, 'Look, these are my friends from school. Fortune has broken our mutual path. But they still come to see me all the time.' I have seen so many of his kind. They are fortunate due to circumstances. His father had been a wheeler and dealer in real estate. He made millions from brokering real estate in the areas near his village around the periphery of Sana'a. He was able to convince villagers to sell their farmlands to speculators and big merchants, who bought the properties for relatively cheap prices. Some were straight forward deals. Others were the product of forged documents and title deeds. Sometimes the buyers had to pay twice for the same property just to avoid hassles in the legal system. Some deals ended up in bloody skirmishes."

greetings to the assembled group. Introductions were made by Saleh, who advised the 'regulars' in his qat session. "These two were my best friends in school. The three of us were the best students in our high school (actually, this applied to Fadhil and Malik. Saleh had a below average academic record. He made it through school only because of his father's influence.) Fadhil and Malik conspicuously looked at each other, quickly enough to exchange bemused looks. Fadhil took the opportunity to make some corrections to Saleh's claim. "Actually, Malik here was the no 5 in the list of the top 10." Malik caught on. "Fadhil was No 9 and was president of all the clubs in the school and later in the university." Nobody made any comment about the third of the 'best' trio, so Saleh changed the subject. "Never mind the academic record. That has all passed us by now. Let us talk about the real world." Of course, the favorite theme is politics, and specifically the Supreme Coordination Council of the Opposition. "They think that by continuously discrediting the system, they can bring down the government. The government is doing all it can to deal with some of the minor problems we have. The outside world recognizes this through the good relations we have with our neighbors and friends," Saleh explained. "Friendly countries are still giving the government assistance to help it overcome some of our minor difficulties. Our friends in the opposition still grapple and complain to bring division to the country. They should seek to unite the people behind the government in its efforts," he added. Ghassan, a regular in the qat chew, disagreed. "I am not in any political party - ruling coalition or opposition. I am just saying what my eyes see and what my ears hear. My views and yours differ. In fact, they must differ. If all people had the same views on everything, society would be sterile." "Societies adopt democracy to bring these different views to the open. Public reaction then becomes the parameter that will decide which are the better views," he said. Malik had been a staunch defender of democracy since he was a student. Here he saw an opportunity to speak. "As Yemeni citizens enjoying democratic liberties by law, we should not be too sensitive about open discussions of the issues. Discussing the issues should not be the issue itself!" Saleh wanted to tell them what democracy really meant. "But a line is drawn once the country's image is distorted by ambitious sweet talkers who blow out of proportion minor difficulties. Foreigners then get a bad impression of the country." Fadhil did not like his host's logic. "What about the impressions of the Yemeni people. It gets harder and harder to see a favorable impression out in the street, these days. Doesn't that matter? We need to worry about how Yemenis feel about their conditions, more than about how foreigners view us." "If you take 1000 Yemenis, picked up randomly, what would their views be? It would not be too far-fetched to conclude that 750 of them would find our state deplorable. The majority would cry for change," he said. A man, who occasionally pops in to Saleh's qat chews, showing many years of experience and a respectable degree of wisdom by his contemplative stares outside the window, but lacking a systematic academic record, said, "The shortfall is that devotion is absent from our hearts as we

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tackle the challenges we face. I speak of individuals and groups. Of course public officials are expected to show a greater devotion as public servants. Devotion can only be recognized when values are the driving force that shape our destiny. Even our religious devotion has focused on form and rituals. Values should never lead to misguided emotions and narrow minded judgments. Personally, I can't see how the education most of you went through ignored values from the syllabus. I think we would be a lot different if devotion inspired by value had been given their due attention," he explained. Ghassan was impressed. "Haj Moussa, you hit it again right on the head! But you must admit that our leading celebrities do have devotion, but only to their pockets," he said. Fadhil felt a correction was in order. "Haj Moussa did not speak of that kind of devotion. What you are talking about is called greed." "That kind of devotion," Ghassan added, "is what the Yemeni people can do without. Greed is a consequence of the absence of values. When it comes at the expense of public welfare and the national interest, loyalty to the nation must come before personal greed." "Our people are not so easily fooled any more. They can see who is cheating them and who is not," Malik said. There is one more thing we need to focus on. Mature individuals and societies acquire the ability to work together in the public interest. I think that with democracy given its full respects devotion with values can set in. This takes time, along with a good education."

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4.30 p.m. 3 December 1996

How to Steal a Million PG 116 mins
7.30 p.m. 3 December 1996

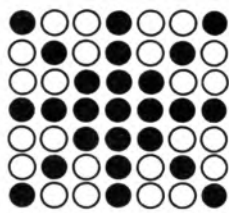
In the Wild: Lions U 60 mins
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For more information phone the British Council on 244 121



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Norwegian Company Prepares Study, Maps the Region:

Making Navigation Safer and Cleaner for Ships in the Red Sea & Gulf of Aden

A workshop to evaluate the dangers of navigation in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden was held at the Maritime Training Center in Aden last week. The workshop, the first of its kind, was funded by the World Bank and inaugurated by Mr. Taha Ghanim, Governor of Aden. Delegates from Yemen, Egypt and Jordan took part in it. Many important issues and dangers that may threaten the safety of navigation were discussed by the participants. Adopting and implementing a joint environmental protection strategy was high on the agenda.

Ridhwan Al-Saqqaf, Head of the Yemen Times Aden bureau, interviewed Captain Saeed Yafiey, President of General Corporation for Maritime Affairs and coordinator of the workshop. Excerpts.



Q: What were the major issues discussed by the participants in the workshop?

A: The delegates have agreed on a number of crucial issues that aim to protect navigation in and around the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. A regional agreement will be drafted in coordination with the International Maritime Organization. This will aim to control and supervise shipping in

the Red Sea Gulf of Aden. It will especially address the problems in the Qadibi area where old and dilapidated boats present great dangers to shipping.

Q: What other practical steps will be taken?

A: Navigation signs will be placed in the Gulf of Khairan which runs parallel to the Gulf of Aqaba. Warning and guiding

signs will also be placed in the routes leading to the Bab Al-Mandab straits so as to reduce the number of accidents in this area. The regional Maritime Corporation has assigned a Norwegian Shipping Corporation to conduct a study regarding erecting observation posts to watch ships passing from Bab Al-Mandab to southern Sinai. Training courses will also be organized to enhance the performance of observation and inspection teams.

Q: Will there be any sort of surveying and regulating of navigational routes in the Red Sea? When was the last survey conducted?

A: There are some danger zones in the Red Sea where ship movements are quite frequent and where ships change their directions. Studies must be carried out to assess such dangers. At the same time, special navigational routes must be designated and strictly adhered to. The participants stressed the necessity for the Regional Organization of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden to

cooperate with the International Hydrographic Surveys Organization to prepare modern maps by relying on satellite photography. The last survey of the Gulf of Aden was done 100 years ago!

Q: Has the workshop come up with any specific recommendations?

A: The participants emphasized the importance of careful and meticulous preparations for the upcoming second workshop due to be held in Ismaelia in Egypt early next year. All countries concerned are called upon to cooperate with the Norwegian Shipping Corporation to enable it succeed in the technical study.

Q: How has the Yemeni-Eritrean dispute over Hunaish islands affected your work?

A: Lighthouses on Yemeni Hunaish Islands are out of order due to the recent military operations. So the workshop called on all parties concerned to reach a speedy solution to this pressing problem, given its impact on commercial shipping.

Cont'd from page 1:

The Boys with Golden Hearts

Yemen Times talked to Merwan Abdullah Razzaz, 18, and Taher Mohamed Hussain, 19. Both are in their last secondary year at Ibn Majid Boys School in Sanaa. They are the heroes of a humanitarian story.

Excerpts:

Q: Exactly what is the story?

A: Merwan: We were on our daily recess from classes when we saw this woman and her two babies. It was clear she needed help. We at first hesitated, then we finally approached her to see if we could help.

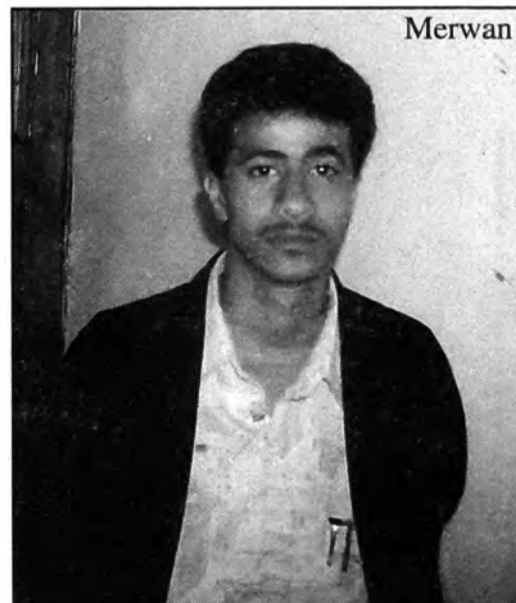
Q: Approaching a woman lying by a street is a risky business in our society. Why did you do it?

A: Taher: Yes, a young man approaching a woman is a sensitive matter. But, since we saw she needed help, we could not just ignore her. She was lying on the street, and her babies were crying. It was the kindest thing to do and it was the right thing to do.

Q: What about her husband?



Taher



Merwan

Q: What did you do, next?

A: Merwan: We emptied our pockets and put together

whatever school allowances we had. We bought some food and drinks. Once they were in better shape, we took them to our school where we raised some more money from our classmates. The teachers in our school responded very kindly.

A: Taher: Then we took the woman inside a neighboring school, Khowlah Bin Al-Azwar Girls's School. Here again, the teachers, school administration and students reacted very kindly. They gave the woman money and some food supplies that the school had obtained from the Hayel Saeed Group of Companies to help poor school girls. Then we took the woman home, and returned to school. That was it!

Cont'd from page 1:

Yemen Observes AIDS Day

An increasing proportion of reported cases are in women, which now represent 42% of HIV infections. Over half of patients are young people under 25 years of age. Altogether, some 22 million people are dying of the AIDS virus. 9 million children under 15 years have lost their mothers and

since the epidemic started, some 6 million people have died of the disease.

The Republic of Yemen has initiated several campaigns to alert the nation about the problem. The number of cases discovered in Yemen has been rising steadily. Medical sources estimate the total number of cases in the

country at 20,000, though only a few are openly seeking medical care.

On a happier note, the mass immunization campaign against polio was successfully carried out during 25-27/11/1996. Dr. Abdul-Wahab Mohammed Al-Anisi, Director of Media Relations for the Campaign, told the Yemen times that the success rate was put at 90%. When asked exactly what that meant, he indicated that 90% of the target children population was reached by the campaign. "In some regions, the coverage was close to a hundred percent," he said. To achieve that goal, 3227 mobile vaccination units, and 1735 fixed units were deployed on this campaign.

Dr. Yassin Ginawi also said that the world community, as represented by WHO, Unicef and other organizations and donors have contributed up to one million US dollars for the program. "I would also like to stress the contribution of the Yemeni Government which was about YR 45 million," he said.

Along with the immunization campaign, the Ministry of Health also carried out a massive educational and informational effort to teach families the aims and importance of immunization. "The head of state himself personally initiated the effort. It shows political commitment to this process," said Dr. Nagib Ghanim, Minister of health. The second and final dose of the polio mass immunization campaign will take place during 29-31/12/1996. The objective is to reach out to the 3 million kids of the first round.

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3. Qualifications and experience required.

3.1 Qualifications and experience required

- Very good understanding of English language written and spoken.
- Minimum 2 years Diploma in Computer Engineering or Engineering or equivalent.
- Minimum 3 to 4 years experience in installing and maintaining PCs and LAN networks.
- Good knowledge of Electronics, Modems, LAN networks etc.
- Good knowledge of PC software packages such as Windows 95, Excel, Word, Microsoft Project etc.

All applicants will be Yemeni National and should meet the qualifications laid down against each vacancy.

Please send your application with supporting documents within 10 days from the date of this advertising to:

MANAGER HUMAN RESOURCES
YEMEN INTERNATIONAL TELECOMM. COMPANY (LLC)
P. O. BOX 168
SANA'A
REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

NOTICE / ANNOUNCEMENT



Middle East Trading Co.

hereby announces that it is the only authorized dealer in Republic of Yemen for Distribution of all the products of

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except American porous plaster

They are registered in the Ministry of Trade & Supply under No. 2705

The company will take all legal actions against any one who violates this right or smuggles any products of

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TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

TENDER NO 25/96

The Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority (CAMA) invites sealed bids from qualified and eligible bidders for:

Quantity of four Fire Fighting Vehicles for rapid intervention (RIV) of 6000 liters capacity which will be found by the World Bank. Interested bidders may obtain the "Tender Documents" against a non-refundable fee of 2000 Yemeni Rials.

The bid submitted must be accompanied by the following:

1. A "Bid Bond" in the form of a "Bank Guarantee" for 2% of the total bid amount valid for 120 days from the closing date and shall be in the same currency of the bid.
2. Bidders in the Republic of Yemen who are willing to participate in the tender are required to submit a copy of income tax certificate.
3. Bids shall be submitted in three copies, sealed and addressed to:

THE CHAIRMAN
CIVIL AVIATION AND METEOROLOGY AUTHORITY
(CAMA)
P. O. BOX. 1042
AL-ZUBAIRI STREET
SANA'A
REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

4. The bids shall be received on or before 11 O'clock AM local time on 15/12/96 at which time the bids will be opened and read in the presence of the bidders or their representatives at:

CAMA head quarters, who may wish to attend.

CAMA reserves the right to reject any bid which is not complying with the above instructions

CAMA also is not bound to accept the lowest price of their bids.



Sheikh Zayed: Father of the Nation

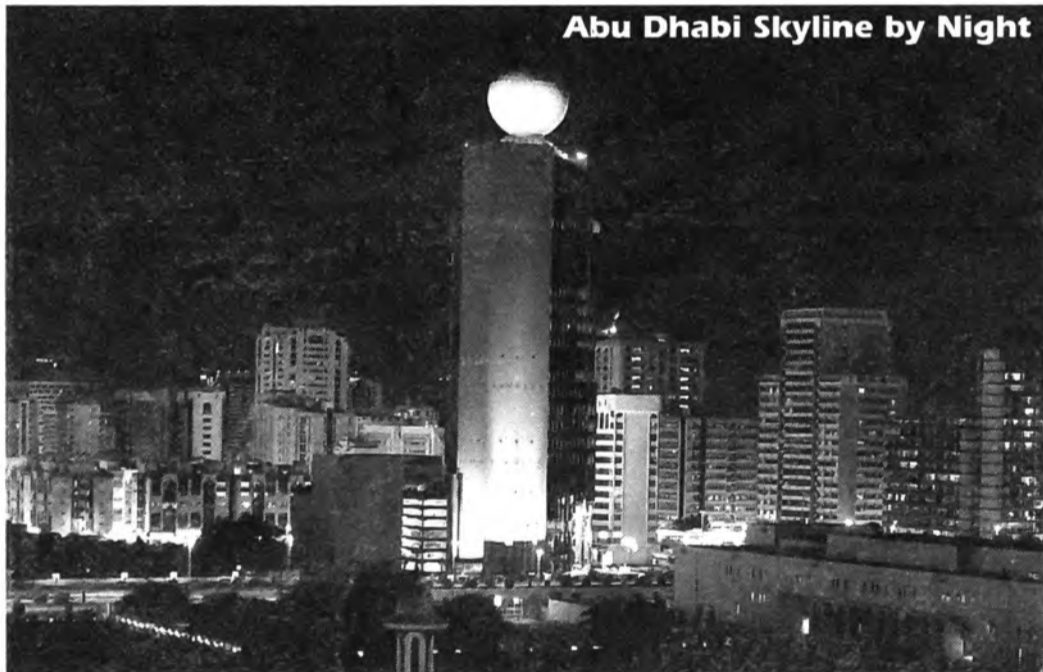
A visitor to Abu-Dhabi, the political capital of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), easily gets the sense of being in a European city. The same is true in Dubai and other UAE cities. Indeed the country has made tremendous progress in modernization. The seven Emirates (Abu-Dhabi, Dubai, Al-Shariqa, Ras-Al-

Industrial Development in the Emirates has witnessed a dramatic surge during the past fifteen years. The base was naturally the oil industry, as downstream activities in refineries flourished. Then came gas industries, petrochemicals, fertilizers, drugs, etc. Very soon, energy-intensive industrialization



**By:
Aneesa Ghanim,
Yemen Times,
On a tour to the UAE**

spring. Finally, visitors can combine some business with leisure, as the country offers some of the best facilities at bargain prices," said Mr. Ibrahim Al-Abd, Director of International Public Relations at the Ministry of Information. A quick look at the government expenditures for the state shows that the Emirates regards human

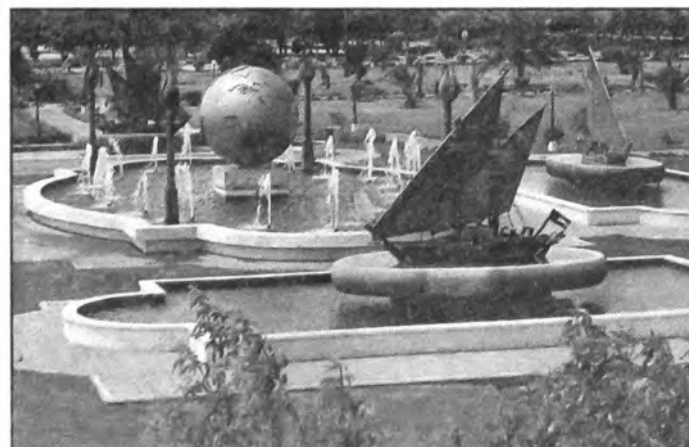


Abu Dhabi Skyline by Night

Khaima, Al-Fujairah, Ajman, Um Al-Quwain) came together in a federal political structure which enabled each emirate to retain its identity, and yet form a part of a modern state. Each sheikh continues to exert his authority in his emirate, and together the seven sheikhs form the supreme body governing the country. Here, the extremely wise and patient leadership of Sheikh Zayed comes into play. Indeed, the man is seen as the father of the nation, and the people have reciprocated with a flowing river of love and respect for him. This was immensely clear a few days ago when he returned following a long and difficult medical treatment abroad. I was there in Abu Dhabi when - as he returned - the people flooded the streets to greet their leader and wish him well. The leaders of the UAE believe that there is no benefit from the wealth of the nation if revenues from oil are not used to create more permanent sources of income. And this is exactly what they have done. Today, the UAE has become a focal point for international trade, shipping and other services. As a result, the future of the two million or so residents of the country is adequately ensured.

set in. Aluminum industries are an example. Finally, development in manufacturing, processing, packaging and other activities established itself. Now comes tourism. Today, the Emirates is regarded as one of the important new tourism destinations worldwide. Indeed, the number of visitors keeps rising steadily. Thus, the tourism infrastructure, such as hotels, has expanded rapidly to match the growing demand. "The tourists feel safe and secure as we have a very low crime rate. Then, there is the fine weather during winter, autumn and

beings as the real assets of the country. That is why human resource development gets the highest allocation of funds. This takes the form of education, culture, sports, children's facilities, and other services. Statistics show a dramatic rise in the budgetary allocations to education. Between the years 1972 and 1989, the rise was 3630%, and since 1989, the rise was 9720%. Part of the focus is on educating the old to achieve the goal of eradicating illiteracy. Today, the percentage of illiterates is 15%, mainly among the very old people.



The UAE: Harmonious & Balanced Development

Evolution of the Role & Status of Women

The woman's union federation in the Emirates, under the chair of Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak, wife of President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Aal-Nahyan, has a happy story. It has done so much to achieve gains for women in the country in all spheres - in education, family care, work opportunities and political rights. The great number of women working in the government bureaucracy is no accident. And the fact that there are 16,200 female activists promoting the rights of women in all parts of the country is not an accident, either.

The role of women is becoming bigger and bigger day after day. Today, the Emirates woman is serving in various capacities ranging from police and traffic officers, to senior staff in government, to prominent businesswomen to university lecturers, etc. This is Emirates in its brightest colours, working hard to enter the new epoch without fear, tackling all issues of life, policy and economy. There is determination and ambition which guides things in this modern state. Hail to all who work for their nation!

Emirates Women Achieve Great Gains A Women's Renaissance

Due to the continuous hard work undertaken by Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak, the president of the Women's General Union and wife of the UAE president, many basic factors for development have been bestowed upon women. "The UAE has adopted comprehensive national plans for the women's movement and specified future goals for the advancement of women's positions in all aspects of life including enacting new laws for improving women's lives," said Ms. Mozah Al-Habrooshi the secretary of the Women's Union president. Mr. Al-Habrooshi also added that, "illiteracy among women is on its way to disappearing by the year 2000. This is especially so considering the fact that 1.3% of males and 2.1% of females between 10 and 14 years old are illiterate."

The Women's Society of Abu Dhabi

I take special care during my travels abroad to meet Yemeni expatriates. A wonderful opportunity was offered to me by the Director of Foreign Information at the Ministry of Information and Culture in Abu Dhabi to meet some Yemenis living in the UAE. I met the executive director of the Women's Society of Abu Dhabi, Ms. Fathia Qassem Al-Nudhari. Ms Al-Nudhari was able to prove herself not only in Abu Dhabi, but also in Yemen as well. Before moving to Abu Dhabi, she was an active socialite and member of the Yemeni Women's society during the 70's. She considers herself as "a mother, first; a wife, second; and the executive director, third. We met together with other Yemeni women in a pleasant and informal atmosphere over many delicious Yemeni dishes and delicacies. Ms. Al-Nudhari said that, "Sheikha Fatima closely supervises the activities and programs implemented by the Women's Society and provides the utmost support and other necessary resources." She also added that, "the society's activities include



Fashion Show in Dubai

establishing adult learning centers for eradicating illiteracy by means of secondary schools, nurseries and vocational training centers." The vocational training centers provide essential skills in many fields such as typing, secretarial activities, telexes, computers, the internet, fashion design, knitting, embroidery, languages and guidance classes for females newly converted to Islam. The society also boasts a 6000-book library, clinic, a mosque, a sports hall, a theater, and seaside fields overlooking the Bateen shore. "These gains were achieved due to the massive support and encouragement of Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan the President of the UAE," said Ms. Al-Nudhari.

The Shariqa Girls' Club

Shariqa is the cultural capital of the UAE and a source of pride and joy to its people. When I saw what girls their enjoyed, I wished I was a young girl again and living in Shariqa. At the Shariqa Girls Club, which is run by Shaika Jewahir the Emir's wife, girls learn swimming, ballet, aerobics, drawing, singing, writing short stories and poetry... etc. I wish that all Arab and Yemeni women received the support and encouragement enjoyed by Shariqa women.

Preparing the New Generation

The cultural director at the headquarters of the girls' clubs in Shariqa, Mr. Zuleikha Al-Hawasni said that, "girls' clubs are a new experiment in which monthly programs include fashion shows, literary evenings with well known female writers and critics, movie shows, poetry recitations and competitions, carrying out various trips and activities, ... etc." All these activities are conducted monthly in a state consisting of 7 small emirates with a population of 400,000 only

Female military recruits in the Emirates



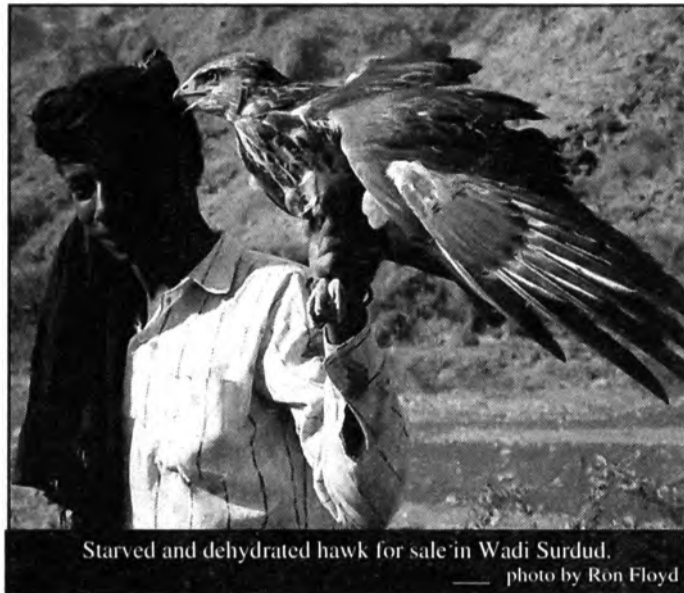
Say "NO" to Wildlife Exploitation

Years ago, European explorers encountered strange creatures as they pushed back the frontiers to new lands. News of their discoveries were often greeted with skepticism, even when specimens of these bizarre beasts were brought home. The first skins of the Duck-billed Platypus for example, were thought to be hoaxes; elaborate collages of animal parts stitched together from the remains of birds, reptiles, and mammals. Often, living creatures were shipped home, and keeping exotic menageries became fashionable among the aristocracy. Peacocks strutted through palace gardens, and every self-respecting squire had his waterfowl collection, manor monkeys, or other unusual animals.

With scant attention paid to their welfare, the creatures in these private zoos were often kept in appalling conditions. Spartan cages of iron and stone were dank and dirty. Food was limited and of the wrong type. The animals languished and died of disease and malnutrition.

At the time, it was inconceivable that there could be an end to the natural bounty of the earth. Obtaining new and different animals to replace those lost to attrition was easy. Private collections continued to tap tropical jungles and swamps for a steady stream of wildlife.

With the passing of time, knowledge and attitudes are slowly changing. In many places the 'green lobby' has created a popular movement to 'Save the Earth.' Conservation organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund, BirdLife International, the Yemen Ornithological Society, and a host of others work tirelessly to educate the public and



Starved and dehydrated hawk for sale in Wadi Surdud. — photo by Ron Floyd

counter the relentless destruction of habitat which accompanies 'progress' and 'development.' People have begun to appreciate the finiteness and fragility of a planet which once seemed infinite and indestructible.

The task is enormous, but gains in the fight to save wildlife are being made. People are people, however, and the ethic that led our ancestors to keep private zoos lives on the minds of many, particularly in countries such as Yemen where conservation education is only just beginning to make an impact.

In spite of legislation to counter it, the trade in wildlife, and the keeping of wild creatures, continues unabated here. This trade is often innocently carried out by poor folk who are ignorant of the law and have no other means of support. Unfortunately, the same can and always be said for the people who buy and keep

wildlife. Many hotels and restaurants keep collections of wild birds and mammals for the amusement of their guests. Quietly, inform the managers of these establishments that dining under the gaze of a vulture which languishes in a cage too small for it to even spread its wings, is not amusing. That a covey of balding Partridges which suffer from mites and overcrowding, is not an appetizing sight. If we can convince these people that business is better when they don't exploit wildlife, we will be contributing to the preservation of a more natural Yemen. We will be creating a sustainable 21st century attitude towards wildlife, rather than perpetuating the antiquated values which have led to so much destruction in the past.

By: David B. Stanton
(YOS Chairman)

A New Art Sponsor Is Born

Fine Art Exhibition at Private Home

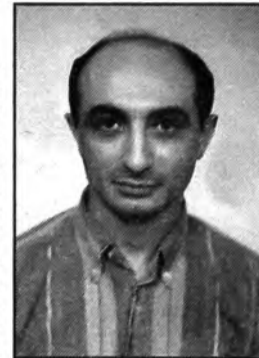
By: Aneesa Ghanim,
Social/Cultural Editor,
Yemen Times.

Paintings adorned the home of Mr. Dali Belgasmi, the WFP Director. Dali hosted the exhibition of oil paintings of the Yemeni artist Kamal Al-Makrami, at his home on 21st and 22nd November. The exhibition included 29 oil paintings depicting various aspects of Yemeni life and culture. Women, as symbols of life and fertility, featured prominently as a subject for the paintings. The paintings realistically portray, through an expressive cubist style, the different roles of women in society.

"The talent and creativity expressed by Al-Makrami are what led me to extend my support for hosting this exhibition," said Mr. Belgasmi.

The event came as a part of the activities of the Yemeni International Cultural Circle (HALAQA) and was attended by many journalists, artists and art lovers. The great enthusiasm shown by the public was manifested in the sale of 14 paintings to private collectors on the very first day of the exhibition.

Kamal Al-Makrami, 36, did his studies in oil painting at the Soricoff National Academy in Moscow after he received his university-level degree from the Institute of Fine Arts in Aden.



اعلان

تتقدم مصلحة الموائى اليمانية (ميناء عدن) بإشعار لكافة الأخوة الحاصلين على أراضي في المعلا كبسة بعقود من الميناء بأن هذه العقود أصبحت ملغية، وعليهم الامتناع عن القيام بأعمال انشائية فيها، ولا يحق لهم التصرف بها وعليهم الإسراع بإعادة تسليم هذه الأراضي للميناء والتي خصصت لأغراض استثمارية ضمن الخطة الجارية لتطوير وتحديث ميناء عدن. وسوف يتم تعويض الأخوة الحائزين على عقود مع الميناء بمواقع أخرى مناسبة.

والله الموفق

Tuesday 3 December 1996

4.30 p.m. David Copperfield (U) 108 minutes

An animated film of one of Dicken's most popular novels. This story is set in Victorian England and describes the life of David Copperfield, a sensitive boy, whose troubles begin when his widowed mother remarries and his cruel stepfather appears on the scene.

7:30 p.m. How to Steal a Million (PG) 116 minutes

A comedy featuring one of the most unusual robberies in screen history. The object of attention is a Cellini statue that finds its way into a Paris museum. The trouble is this statue is a forgery and if this is discovered it will ruin the reputation of its maker Hugh Griffith. They need to hatch a plan to steal it

Tuesday 24 December 1996

4.30 p.m. In the Wild: Lions (PG) 60 minutes

Anthony Hopkins' fascination for the king of the beasts inspired him to journey to East Africa to come face to face with this majestic predator.

7.30 p.m. Hook (PG) 116 minutes

Peter Pan - the hero who never grows old - has grown up! And he's even forgotten how to fly! Enter the mystical world of a hundred fun summers as the ageless avenger and faithful fairy Tinkerbell return to Never Never Land in search of Peter's forgotten childhood, his lost children and a fearless confrontation with his evil pirate enemy- captain Hook.

Tuesday 7 January 1998

4.30 p.m. Golden Voyage of Sinbad (PG) 50 minutes

This delightful tale of a shipwrecked English adventurer, washed ashore in a strange and distant land - to find himself a giant among the tiny citizens of Lilliput - will captivate children of all ages. Adapted from Jonathan Swift's timeless classic Gulliver's travel, now animated on video for the first time.

7:30 p.m. Treasure Island Part I (PG) 100 minutes

This BBC version of the adventure classic by Robert Louis Stevenson describes the hunt for treasure on an island appropriately named Treasure Island. Two rival groups are searching for treasure, one consisting of pirates led by Long John Silver. As the mutiny develops on board ship who will succeed with the bounty.....

Tuesday 21 January 1997

4.30 p.m. Golden Voyage of Sinbad (PG) 109 minutes

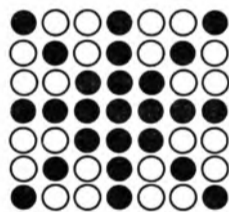
A spectacular adventure set in mysterious ancient lands inhabited by incredible creatures and monsters. Great fun and entertainment for the whole family!

7.30 p.m. Treasure Island Part II (PG) 100 minutes

See the description of the first part for information.

All films are free and open to everyone.

For more information contact the British Council on 244 121/2



Winter Film Guide:
A guide to film shows in the British Council Library



Test

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Algerians Ratify New Constitution

Algerians ratified last week a draft constitution banning political parties based on religious belief, meaning Islam. The new constitution also embodied lots of articles committing the country to pluralist politics, respect for human rights, press freedom, and a system that will involve the general public in public affairs through a vast array of civil society organizations.

The Armed Islamic Group (GIA), blamed for massacres of villagers and other civilians in the past six weeks, had warned voters to stay at home on referendum day. "We will strike with force at the neck of anyone who goes to vote," the GIA said in a statement sent to news organizations in France.

The Algerian government announced a ban on truck traffic across the country on Thursday in an attempt to pre-empt any rebel attacks with trucks laden with explosives. Army soldiers and security forces increased the number of roadblocks and patrols in and around main cities. The process was carried out in relative peace and calm.

There are 735,034 expatriate Algerians eligible to vote, most of them living in France, Algerian Interior Minister Mustapha Ben Mansour told APS. "Many nationals voted early in the morning before going to work," the Algerian General Consul in Paris, Said Abdiche, told the agency. Voters were also lining up to cast ballots in polling stations in Italy, Belgium and neighboring Tunisia.

Taliban Militia Softens Stance on Girls' Education

The education of Afghan girls has not been banned by the Taliban movement, but only suspended until a segregated system can be organized, the religious militia's education minister said last week. "Lady teachers and girl students will be given permission to return to school when a specific program has been organized for them by the Taliban," explained Education Minister, Maulavi Abdul Salam Hanifi. No elaboration of this "specific program" was given by the minister, except that it must meet the approval of Afghanistan's highest ruling Taliban authorities, based in the southern capital Kandahar. He stated that under the Taliban, girls up to the age of nine were permitted to go to co-educational schools, but from the age of 10, they must be segregated from the boys.

"According to Islam, the illegal mixing of men and women leads to moral corruption," state Maulavi Hanifi. He stressed that the education of girls was neither prohibited under Islam nor by the Taliban, merely that boys and girls over the age of nine could not attend mixed schools.

"Islam is not opposed to education for anybody, but Islam is against corruption within the education system," Hanifi said.

The Taliban toppled President Burhanuddin Rabbani on September 27, but still face a military threat from a coalition alliance of ex-Kabul government troops and Uzbeks under northern warlord, ex-communist General Abdul Rashid Dostum.

Infantry fighting north of Kabul has stagnated on two fronts, but exchanges of artillery-fire and air-raids are a daily affair.

The future status of girl students and women teachers under the Taliban will not become clear for some time yet. All schools in Kabul are currently closed for the winter recess, and will re-open after the Afghan New Year in mid-March 1997.

The minister said the fundamentalist movement was not anti-education or anti-feminist as people outside the country might like to believe.

Bhutto Re-files Petition in SC

Deposed Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto re-filed her petition to the Supreme Court (SC), challenging her dismissal, which was earlier returned to her by the SC saying it contains "scandalous, frivolous and unnecessary" sections.

However, while re-submitting the petition, she raised certain "objections" and showed "disagreement" to the order issued by the SC registrar when he returned her previous petition. All the objectionable paragraphs, underlined by him, were deleted in the new petition.

Before re-filing the petition, Bhutto's counsel, Senator Barrister Aitzaz Ahsan, accompanied by Senator Raza Rabbani, had a meeting with the registrar and told him that he did not subscribe to his views contained in his refusal order, and that Bhutto would, for the sake of the record, place her disagreements on the record along with the modified petition.

Aitzaz said a modified petition has been re-filed to "save time in a matter of extreme urgency and public importance" despite the fact that the registrar's refusal was not valid, and requested that it may now be placed before the SC for hearing on November 24, provided that is convenient for it.

50 Survive the Ethiopian Hijacked Plane Crash

A hijacked Ethiopian airliner carrying some 180 passengers and crew crashed into the Indian Ocean just off the Comoros Islands last week, killing about 126 people on board.

The Boeing 767, hijacked on a flight from Addis Ababa to Nairobi, came down on a reef of the holiday island, apparently after running out of fuel as it was trying to land, witnesses said. The manager of a hotel near the crash site said rescuers had counted 120 dead.

A doctor in Moroni, the capital of the tiny island group off the coast of Mozambique, said burned and deformed bodies were taken out of the water by volunteers and holiday makers. Comoros government officials said 50 people had survived.

The hijacking may be the bloodiest in history, exceeding the death toll of the December 1977 hijacking of a Malaysian airliner, in which 93 passengers and seven crew died.

Unconfirmed reports suggest that Frank Huddle, the American Ambassador in New Delhi, his wife Shania and the Italian Consul are among the survivors. One of those dead is believed to be Hungary's Ambassador to Ethiopia and Kenya who was returning to Nairobi.

The Israeli foreign ministry said in Jerusalem eight Israelis were aboard the airliner and that it had sent a crisis team to the crash site.

Israeli radio, which had been the first to announce the hijacking and crash, said 11 hijackers, "probably Ethiopians," had seized the plane and ordered it to fly to Mauritius and then on to Australia. As it turns out, there were four hijackers - all of them Ethiopians.

Kenyan aviation officials said in Nairobi the plane had been hijacked at around 12.30 local time while in Kenyan airspace. It was then ordered to head for Dar es Salaam in neighboring Tanzania.

Survivors told rescuers who had rushed out into the shallow waters of the site, on the northern end of the islands which are popular as a tourist destination, that after several hours in the air the plane had run out of fuel.

A private Comorian pilot said after visiting the site about 40 kilometers from Moroni that the plane had broken into three pieces and was floating just off the beach.

In Addis Ababa, where the flight originated, an Ethiopian Airline official said that during the long hours the plane was aloft the hijackers had been: "waiting for information and were trying to get in touch with the Ethiopian government. The plane was circling in the middle of the ocean until there was no fuel."

Arabs to Invest \$38 Billion in Petrochemicals, Refining

Arabs states will invest nearly \$38.1 billion in the next four years to set up new petrochemicals and refining projects and expand existing units, according to a Gulf study. Around \$2.5 billion will be pumped into the petrochemicals sector while the rest will cover up-grading existing refineries, the Saudi-based Arab Petroleum Investment Corporation, APICORP, said.

The study, published in the *Arab Oil and Gas* magazine, showed Saudi Arabia and its Gulf neighbors Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will be the main investors, spending around \$19.4 billion on petrochemicals and \$6.2 billion on refining. The bulk of investment by Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil producer and exporter, will cover petrochemicals as it is already the biggest refining center in the Arab world. Its petrochemical investments are expected to exceed \$8.2 billion, covering ethylene, ammonia and urea.

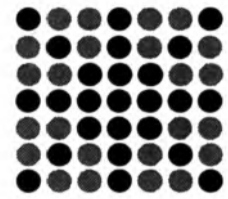
The UAE will spend more than \$1.0 billion to establish a petrochemical industry and it is set to become a major regional refining center when expansion at its largest refinery is completed by the year 2000. According to the state-run Emirates Industrial Bank, EIB, refining output capacity in the UAE will climb to around 620,000 barrels per day, more than double current capacity.

The increase means that the UAE will refine around 25% of its projected crude production in 2000. Expansion in the petrochemical sector was prompted by growing domestic and external demand and is part of attempts by Arab nations to diversify their economies and lessen reliance on volatile oil earnings.

World demand for petrochemicals is set to surge as more markets are expected to establish themselves following the 1994 creation of the World Trade Organization, WTO. Arab states sit atop 60% of the world's recoverable oil reserves and 20% of gas reserves. Most of the Arab reserves are based in the Gulf.

APICORP, owned by the Governments of 10 Arab oil producers, said Saudi Arabia and the UAE could finance their investments from their own resources, but the other Arab countries need to borrow around 70% of the costs of their projects.

The report said the new projects and expansion of existing facilities would sharply boost Arab refining and petrochemical production.



The British Council

The British Embassy

The British Embassy invites candidates for the CHEVENING SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

which funds young dynamic professionals to undertake short-term training/study from 3 months to one year in the UK.

Candidates must be Yemeni citizens. The ideal candidate would:

- be aged 25-40
- be a young professional with a key job in the public or private sector (for example in politics, government, the civil service, media or business, or be able in some other way to contribute to the development of Yemen)
- have a good working knowledge of spoken and written English (the equivalent of IELTS Band 6.0 or TOEFL 580)
- have completed some form of tertiary education
- have a clear and detailed idea of what sort of training or study they would do (and where) under this scholarship scheme

Candidates should collect the application form from The British Council and then deliver in person their application (covering letter, application form, CV, copies of qualification certificates/diplomas and references) to the British Council by Monday 10th December. The address is:

As-Sabain Street No 7
Opposite the Saudi Embassy

For help in choosing a suitable training or study course please contact Raja'a Bazar'a, Librarian, and for advice on filling the application form contact Abdullah Al-Duraibi, Projects & Exchanges Manager, on telephone 244121.



ACCOUNTANTS

We offer challenging opportunities in line with our Yemenization Program in Sana'a. You will be offered a comprehensive orientation and training program which will vary depending upon your work background.

Job Duties

- Process local invoices for payment and ensure transactions and adequately supported for cost recovery purposes.
- Assist supervisor in analyzing operating cost centers and reports.

Analyze, provide explanation and initiate adjustments.
Assist in the preparation of variance analyses and explanations

- Assist in the preparation of annual budgets and monthly outlooks.
- Prepare various account reconciliations, follow up and correct reconciling items.
- Prepare invoice details for back charging to contractors in accordance with contractual terms and conditions.
- Maintain detailed records and control of various local deposit accounts.

Qualifications

- University degree in accounting with 1-2 years minimum accounting experience.
- Familiarity with computer and computerized financial applications is desirable

If you have these qualifications, please send your C. V. to the following address:

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Fax 269885, 269897
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REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

منظمة الأمم المتحدة للطفولة
United Nations Children's Fund

VACANCIES

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is involved in the implementation of an integrated area-based community development program in Abyan Governorate. UNICEF invites applications for the position of **TWO Assistant Project Officers - Area Based Programme** each based in **Lawder** and **Rusud** town of Abyan Governorate. The selected candidates will be responsible for:

1. Field coordination of all Area Based Programme project activities in Lawder, Mukairas and Al-Wadee districts of Abyan Governorate including coordination with local government authorities and communities.
2. Mobilization of local communities in order to maximize the community's organization and participation.
3. Coordination of the timely and cost effective implementation of the education sector activities which aim increase girls enrollment and retention rates.
4. Monitor the performance of the assisted health units and centres with regard to cost recovery systems, immunization, health education activities, and other aspects of health.
5. Coordinate the implementation and management of water and sanitation sectoral activities.

Qualifications and Skills Required

- The Successful candidate should have an advanced degree in Social Sciences, Education, Public Health/ Community Medicine, or Water Engineering from a recognized University.
- A minimum of five years experience in community development with local governments and / or non governmental agencies is essential. Long and sound experience can substitute degree, but not vice versa.
- Fluency in English and Arabic both written and verbal is essential.

If you have the necessary qualifications and background for the above assignment, we would encourage you to submit your Curriculum Vitae with a brief covering letter expressing your desire to be considered for this post to UNICEF Yemen, P. O. Box 725, Amran Road, Al-Hasaba, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen or to UNICEF Aden Sub-office, P. O. Box 5208 Maala, Building No. 52, Al-Jala Street, close to Al Jala Secondary School, Khormaksar, Republic of Yemen.

The deadline for receiving applications for the above is **12 December, 1996**. UNICEF is an equal opportunity employer, therefore, women are encouraged to apply.

The United Nations Children's Fund invites applications for the position of **Driver/Mechanic** based in Sana'a to undertake the following tasks. Duties will be supervised by the Sr. Administration/Personnel Asst.

Tasks

1. Responsible for the mechanical integrity of the UNICEF vehicle pool and identifying reputable vehicle repair shops in Sana'a in the event the vehicle requires more sophisticated repair.
2. Performs driving duties for the UNICEF Sana'a office under the direction of the Sr. Administration/Personnel Asst. In this capacity, the position is responsible for the daily maintenance of the log book and equipment in the vehicle assigned.
3. Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Skills Required

- A minimum completed primary education with reading and writing skills.
- Excellent proven driving skills and through knowledge of local regulations.
- Thorough knowledge of the country.
- A minimum two years working experience as a driver with a safe driving record.
- Fluent Arabic and sound basic working knowledge of English.

The United Nations Children's Fund invites applications for the position of **SR. FINANCE ASSISTANT**. Duties will include working under the supervision of the International Operations Officer and will be responsible for the handling of all UNICEF Yemen financial transactions.

Tasks

1. Responsible for the analysis of bill/invoices/other supporting documentation according to UNICEF financial rules and regulations. Confirms availability of budget and supervises preparation of payment/deposit vouchers with correct coding and issuance of cheques.
2. Responsible for the preparation of the monthly Local Staff Payroll in accordance with personnel actions generated through the month, overtime, outstanding advances or recoverables for personal use of office facilities.
3. Responsible for the generation of recurring financial reports from the UNICEF automated financial system including Monthly Statement of receipts and Payments, Bank Reconciliation, Local Staff Personal Accounts and other reports as required by the Operations Officer.
4. Assist in the coordination of banking facilities in the country, including the monthly bank reconciliation, coordinated funds transfers from headquarters and reporting on funds availability to ensure sufficient liquidity is available at all times for programme implementation.
5. Generates monthly budget reports, assists in reconciling by updating the expenditure with charges from other field officers as headquarters, and prepares required detailed cost estimates and participates in budget analysis and projections for the biennial budget preparation.

Qualifications and Skills Required

- At a minimum, completion of Secondary School.
- A degree in book keeping and accounting is desirable.
- Familiarity with computer Word Processing and spreadsheet applications
- Six years progressively responsible experience in the field of finance and accounts
- Fluency in English and Arabic both written and verbal is essential

The United Nations Children's Fund invites applications for the position of **Librarian/Greeting Card Coordinator** based in Sana'a to undertake the following tasks. Duties will be supervised by the External Relations Officer.

Tasks

1. The incumbent will be responsible for the maintenance of the UNICEF Sana'a library and resource room. This will include the proper cataloguing, indexing and classifying of all books, periodicals and releases received at UNICEF Sana'a.
2. Responsible for the provision of information and assisting in the retrieval of information both from the UNICEF library and other outside institutions when requested by UNICEF officer.
3. Responsible for the development and implementation of an annual marketing strategy for UNICEF Greeting Card products to commercial institutions and diplomatic missions in Yemen.
4. Responsible for the maintenance of stock and records for the UNICEF Greeting Card products. The incumbent must have the ability to report on sales volumes, inventory levels and is responsible for re-ordering as stock get low.

Qualifications and Skills Required

- The successful candidate should have a degree in Library Sciences from a recognized University. Qualifications in sales and marketing, accounting and book keeping would be an advantage.
- A minimum of five years experience in operating/working in a library is essential. Procurement and accounting experience is highly desirable.
- Fluency in English and Arabic both written and verbal is essential

The United Nations Children's Fund invites applications for the position of **National Officer, Monitoring & Evaluation**. Duties will include working under the supervision of the Programme Coordinator in evaluating and reporting on the effectiveness of UNICEF programming inputs and coordination.

Tasks

1. Contributes toward the preparation of the Yemen country Situation Analysis and preparation of the Country Programme integrated monitoring, evaluation and research plan.
2. Participate in Programme mid term reviews, annual reviews, and preview meetings. Provide technical advice to programme staff, government officials and other counterparts on planning and management of integrated monitoring and evaluation.
3. Design data collection methodologies and research related to programme interventions (Sentinel Site Survey, RAP, KAP, etc.). Conduct research and data analysis. Assist in the introduction of new approaches and methods in project monitoring and evaluation.
4. Assess trends and measure outcomes relating to achieving NPA goals in the context of the country programme. Maintain data bank of social indicators on the situation of women and children in Yemen.
5. Prepare programme status reports required for management, Board of Directors, donors, budget reviews, programme analysis, annual reports, etc.

Qualifications and Skills Required

- Advanced university degree in social sciences, demography, development planning, statistics, or related technical field with strong statistical and EDP components or equivalent experience.
- Strong analytical, quantitative and qualitative research skills.
- Knowledge of computer management and applications.
- A minimum five years of responsible experience in project administration, monitoring and evaluation.
- Fluency in English and Arabic both written and verbal is essential.

The United Nations Children's Fund invites applications for the position of **Sr. Secretary, Area Based Programmes (ABP)** to undertake the following tasks. This is a Sana'a based position.

Tasks

1. Undertake all secretarial work for the Area based Programme section under the supervision of the International Project Officer (ABP). This function includes word-processing, distribution of correspondence, coordination of sub Project offices and other duties as required.
2. Files all ABP documentation and correspondence in the appropriate filing system.
3. Assists in the financial monitoring of the sub Project offices and liaises with the Administrative section of the office to ensure a minimum of interruption in the programme implementation.
4. Assists in the liaison with government counterparts and performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Skills Required

- A minimum secondary education is required with training and proven abilities in word processing, translation, operation of modern office equipment.
- A minimum four years experience preferably in an international or governmental organization.
- Familiarity with Microsoft Windows 2.1, Word-Perfect 6.x for Windows, Spreadsheet Software and preferably E-Mail Systems.
- Fluency in English and Arabic both written and verbal is essential.

The United Nations Children's Fund invites applications for the position of **Sr. Secretary, Operations (Admin/Finance)** to undertake the following tasks. This is a Sana'a based position.

Task

1. Undertakes all secretarial work for the Operations section under the supervision of the Operations Officer. This function includes word-processing, distribution of correspondence, coordination of the various sections in Operations, administration, personnel, supply and finance. Some liaison responsibilities with external agencies, government counterparts and various suppliers may be required.
2. Files all Admin/Personnel and Finance documents/correspondence in the appropriate filing system.
3. Assists in the transactional processing of various administrative and personnel actions including travel arrangement and claims, personnel activity forms and attendance reports.
4. Assists in the preparation of monthly and yearly financial accounts and reporting requirements from headquarters and performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Skills Required

- A minimum secondary education is required with training and proven abilities in word processing, translation, operation of modern office equipment. Knowledge of accounting and administrative systems an asset.
- A minimum four years experience preferably in an international or governmental organization
- Familiarity with Microsoft Windows 3.1, Word-Perfect 6.x for Windows, Spreadsheet software and preferably E-Mail systems
- Fluency in English and Arabic both written and verbal is essential.

The United Nations Children's Fund invites applications for the position of **FINANCE ASSISTANT**. Duties will include working under the supervision of the Senior Finance Assistant in the handling UNICEF Yemen financial transactions.

Tasks

1. Assist in the analysis and preparation of bill/invoice/other supporting documentation, verifies accuracy by checking sources, confirms actual obligations according to financial rules and regulations. Confirms availability of budget and prepares payment/deposit vouchers with correct coding and issues cheques.
2. Uses UNICEF financial automated accounting system to maintain financial records and monitoring systems to record and reconcile expenditures, balances, payments, statements and other data for day-to-day transactions.
3. Assists in the reconciliation of the locally generated staff personal accounts and ensures the timely recovery of all outstandings.
4. Assists in the reconciliation of cash advances to government for UNICEF assisted programmes to ensure proper liquidation of same against verified documents provided from government counterparts.
5. Deputizes for the Sr. Finance Asst during absences. Performs other duties as assigned by the Sr. Finance Asst.

Qualifications and Skills Required

- A minimum, completion of Secondary School
- Some training in the field of accounting or finance is desirable
- Familiarity with computer applications including Wordprocessing and spreadsheet applications
- Three years work experience in the field of finance, accounts or administration
- Fluency in English and Arabic both written and verbal is essential

UNICEF is an equal opportunity employer. If you have the necessary qualifications and background for one of the above positions, we would encourage you to submit your Curriculum Vitae with a brief coverage letter expressing your desire to be considered for this position to UNICEF Yemen, P. O. Box 725, Amran Road, Al-Hasaba, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen.

The deadline for receiving applications for the above is December 12, 1996.

UNICEF Yemen works in a smoke free environment.

OMAN: Progress Continues

A New Giant Industrial Project Is Underway

On Monday, November 18th, to mark the 26th anniversary of independence, H.M. Sultan Qaboos Bin Saeed laid down the foundation stone and uncovered a Muriel for the natural gas liquefying plant at Al-Aaleela in Soor, (360 km from Muscat). This is one of the many industrial projects that the Sultanate of Oman has undertaken.

Industrialization is a backbone of the development of the country. This includes crafts and cottage industry, manufacturing and heavy industry, and the petrochemical. As part of the industrialization drive, the government has assigned industrial zones and estates which has all the services and basic infrastructure.

This project, work on which will start before the end of this year, is estimated to cost about \$6 billion. The Omani government owns 51% of the project, while the rest are jointly owned by Shell, Total, Bartex, Mitsubishi, MidSio and Datishu. The newly established Omani Company for Liquefied Natural Gas will be responsible for the transportation and sale of the product, while the Oman Oil Company will deal mainly with developing the gas fields, extracting the gas and transporting it through pipelines to the liquifying plant at Al-Aaleela. The newly discovered natural gas reserve is estimated to be over 11 trillion cubic feet.

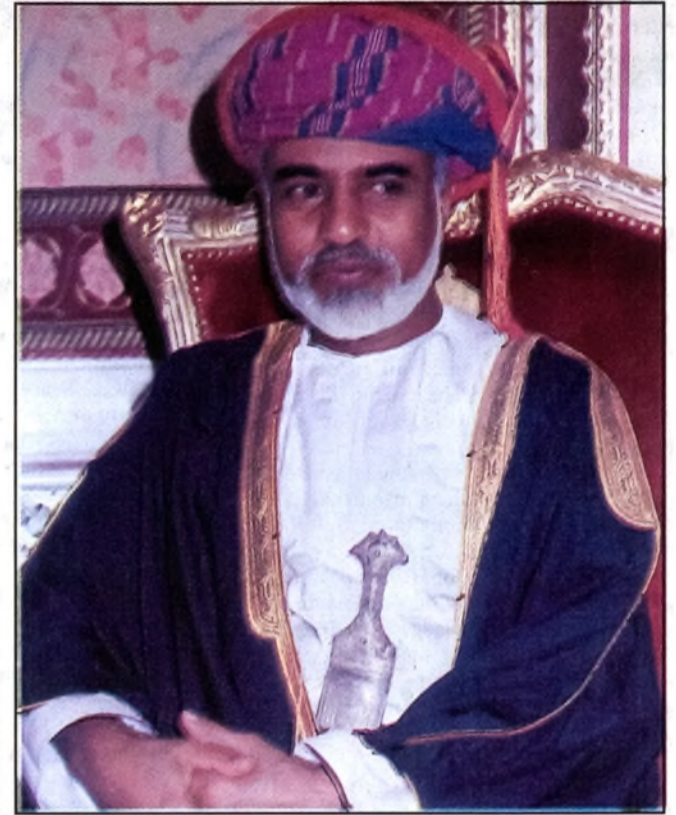
"In addition, there are other reserves discovered in 1989 and 1990 which stand at 6 trillion cubic feet," said Mr. Saeed Ahmed Al-Shanqari, the Omani Minister for Oil and Minerals. He also added that the project output will last for 25 years." International financial circles have expressed great interest in guaranteeing exports and participating in financing the project. According to the Omani Minister, the project overtook similar projects worldwide by the short period between discovering the gas and implementing the liquifying plant project. "Around 80% of project's capital investment needs have already been secured," he said.



Visible Emphasis on Female Contribution

The Sultanate of Oman has successfully integrated women in the mainstream development process. Measures were taken to strictly enforce girl education, female participation in the labor force, and to allow full and fruitful development of career women. This was achieved even in the political arena as women have successfully competed in the last parliamentary elections. Today, the Sultanate of Oman represents one of the successful models for female integration in a modern society while still preserving traditional values.

By:
Emad Al-Saqqaf,
Yemen Times.
(dispatch from
Soor and Muscat)



The 4th Batch of Female Graduates from Sultan Qaboos University

Environmentally-Friendly Development Program

One of the striking features of the development process of Oman has been the extreme care given to the environment. While actually rushing to catch up with the rest of the world, the Omanis have been careful not to repeat the blunders committed against nature in other countries. The Omani drive to protect the environment is clear from many laws enacted in this regard. Then there are the many sanctuaries and natural preserves that have been established in various of the country.



The Qurum Natural Open Park



Finally, there is the Sultan Qaboos Prize for distinguished Environmental Effort. This is awarded to individuals and associations that contribute in an exceptional way to environmental issues. As a result of these efforts, the Sultanate of Oman has been able to give a much needed chance to different wildlife such as the leopard, the wild gazelle, and various bird species. Oman's effort has also covered marine life along its long shoreline. Indeed, Oman's environment-friendly development is an example for all.

Yemeni Ambassador in Muscat:

"Yemeni-Omani relations are excellent."

Yemen Times interviewed Mr. Ahmed Dhaifullah Al-Uzaib, Yemeni Ambassador in Oman.

Q: How do you evaluate the Yemeni-Omani relations? And how do you see the future of these relations?

A: The two peoples are linked by historical and brotherly relations. The proximity of the two countries and the social ties have given a special character to the relationship, which is indeed special. I see the two countries complementing each other even more in the future.

Q: The last border area was recently handed back to Yemen according to the October 1992 border agreement. What is the next step?

A: This piece of land was given back to Yemen as stipulated in the agreement signed by the two countries in October 1992. The action is a clear indicator of the good faith with which the agreement is being implemented and good will shared by Sultan Qaboos and President Ali Abdullah Saleh. Such an attitude helps in solving any potential dispute and in removing any strain left in the relationship between our countries.

The next step is to work together to further strengthen our relationship for better



Emad with Yemeni Ambassador Al-Uzaib in Muscat

future cooperation and understanding.

Q: What are the main aspects of cooperation between Yemen and Oman?

A: There are a number of bilateral agreements signed within the joint Yemeni-Omani Committee. These are intended to foster trade, joint investments, media affairs, cultural and sports activities. More cooperation details and possibilities will be discussed during the upcoming 3rd round of the Committee next May.

Q: Oman has given some grant aid to Yemen?

A: The Omani government has donated \$21 million to construct a road between the Yemeni border area of Shihr

and Al-Ghaidha in Al-Mahra. It has also allocated funds for building grain silos in Aden. Additional projects are under discussion.

Q: How about private sector cooperation?

A: We expect the private sector in both countries to be active in commercial exchange and investment. The governments in both capitals are doing all they can to encourage private sector cooperation. With the construction of the road connecting the two countries, and the Omani Industrial Estate and Free Trade Zone in the region adjacent to the Yemeni border, we expect more business between the two sides.

AL-SHOURAH: Sana'a (Weekly), 24-11-96
(Federation of Popular Forces Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) A New Round of Conflicts Between Islah and the PGC.
- 2) Opposition Coordination Council Unifies Its Stand Towards Elections
- 3) Rotten Flour Seized in Taiz and Sa'ada.

Article Summary:

"The Affliction of Illiteracy,"
by Hassan Al-Qadhi.

Illiteracy has become a threateningly widespread affliction. It is prevalent among old and young, males and females in almost all classes of society. This problem deprives the citizen from many of his/her rights, and precludes many means for earning a living.

Illiteracy leads to low living standards and deprives the nation of massive human resources. It opens the way for despots and tyrants to control and manipulate the population according to their evil purposes. Illiterate people pass through life unaware of the heritage of their ancestors or the scientific and cultural knowledge of the present. They are severely restricted in their lives, and do not have any freedom of choice. Illiteracy is a true disease afflicting our people and must be seriously tackled.

AL-TAJAMMU'U: Aden (Weekly), 25-11-96
(Yemeni Unionist Congregation Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) A Ministerial committee to Review Problems of Fish Workers.
- 2) Polio is an Entrenched and Border-Crossing Epidemic.
- 3) A Conference for Businessmen and Financiers in Aden.

Article Summary:

"Leprosy is Not Infectious!"

An innovative Yemeni method for proving that leprosy is not infectious was recently introduced by the deputy prosecutor in Taiz. "He is trying to take away a piece of land set aside for lepers as part of the National Project for Fighting Leprosy," stated a letter addressed to the Taiz Health Bureau by Dr. Yasin Al-Qubati, the project's general director. If the deputy prosecutor succeeds in usurping the land, then it must be internationally patented and attributed to this man as a new method for integrating lepers back into society!



Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Adel J. Moqbil

AL-MITHAQ: Sana'a (Weekly), 25-11-96
(PGC Mouthpiece)

Main Headlines:

- 1) The President Instructs the Government to Implement Education Law.
- 2) PGC Secretary-General: "Our duty is to be true to our slogans and clear in our Principles."
- 3) The Vice-President Calls for More Efforts to Alleviate Citizens' Sufferings.

Article Summary:

"The Foreign Tourists and Us"
by Abdulaziz Al-Hyajim.

The assault on an Italian tourist a few months ago by a so called Islamist represents a serious crime. The Islamist justified his attack by the fact that the tourist was taking photos of a mosque! This sort of mentality and behavior are completely and utterly rejected by Islam. Such attitude darkens the image of Islam and its principles of tolerance. Foreign tourists are not our enemies.

They come here, traveling long distances, to know more about our society which fascinates and enchants them. They bring much needed hard currency. They provide live channels of contact with the outside world. We must treat them with respect and provide them with bright images of Yemeni society and Islam.

AL-WAHDAMI: Sana'a (Weekly) 26-11-96
(Nasserite Unionist Party Mouthpiece)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Will the Islah-PGC Coalition Break Down?
- 2) Oppositions Decides on Election Guarantees.
- 3) A Court in Ja'ar Confirms the Existence of Elections' Irregularities.

Article Summary:

"The Electric Generators of Mukallah
are Old and Inefficient."

The nightmare of the 12-hour electricity blackout is back in Mukallah, especially after the burning out of the newly installed emergency generator. The security apparatus in Mukallah arrested and inter-

rogated several of the electricity workers on suspicion of sabotage. That possibility was completely ruled out by technical reports which blamed short circuiting. According to sources at the Electricity Office in Mukallah, the recently delivered 4 Swedish electric generators are old and inadequate for our purposes. It is feared that the "strategic" project for electrifying Hadhramaut is nothing more than an electioneering gimmick for the benefit of the ruling parties.

AL-AYYAM: Aden (Bi-Weekly), 27-11-96
(Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1) The President Orders the Investigation of the Department of Surveys and Real Estate Registry in Aden.
- 2) An electricity Employee Cons 60 Citizens.
- 3) A Fire in Zanzibar Destroys Six Commercial Concerns.

Article Summary:

"A Strike and Peaceful
Demonstration by Female
Students in Makallah,"
by Ahmed Bamendood.

The students at Al-Siddeeq Secondary School for Girls in Eastern Dees have gone on strike a week ago in protest against evening classes.

A statement issued by the students said, "The decision of evening classes has negative effects, and imposes extra burdens on us. It will lead to many problems, especially in transportation." The female students went out in a peaceful demonstration carrying protestation placards. The local authorities sent the police against the girls.

AL-SAHWAH: Sana'a (Weekly) 28-11-96
(Yemeni Congregation for Reform [Islah])

Main Headlines:

- 1) Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar Renewed Islah's Policy to Hold Talks with all Political Powers.
- 2) The Minister for Religious Endowments Calls on all Yemeni Clergymen to Bear their Responsibilities for Protecting Islam.
- 3) Teachers' Syndicate in Taiz Confirms the Just Demands of Its Members.

Article Summary:

Moon's Family Union for World Peace is Illegal. The Department of Legal Affairs at the Ministry of Planning and Development has confirmed that this organization is illegal and cannot be allowed to continue its activities in Yemen. A memorandum issued by the above department said, "This is a destructive activity that runs contrary to the principles and values of Islam."

The memorandum also recommended that, "a legal case against the Family Union should be filed." The Women's Union for World Peace was also asked to terminate its activities and leave Yemen.

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البنك العربي:
العمق في الخبرة والمتانة في الأصل



Dutch Assistance Targeting Female Athletes

A new financial aid scheme has been introduced by the Dutch embassy in Sana'a. For the first time, assistance is being provided for sports facilities that will benefit female athletes at the Yemen Olympic Center.

The grant of \$8,180, will be used to purchase sports equipment and books to stock the newly established library at the Center. The money will also be employed in repairing an refurbishing the sports hall so that it will be ready to receive visitors of both sexes. "This new step will further help cement the already strong ties between Yemen and the Netherlands," said Jamal Al-Awadhi, the Olympic Center's General Manager, who received the Dutch contribution.

The Dutch ambassador, Mr. Arend Meerburg, said, "The support we gave to the project at the Olympic Center is geared towards promoting the participation of women and girls in sports. We think it is very important for women to be involved in sporting activities. This is the main reason for supporting this project."

The second secretary at the Dutch Embassy, Mr. Ronald Goldberg, gave Yemen Times a short interview, as follows:



Ronald, Arend, and Jamal at the Embassy Compound

Q: What effect will this support have in advancing women's activities in Yemen?

A: I hope it will have a positive effect on female participation in sports. It will also upgrade the facilities at the Olympic Center in Sana'a.

Q: Will you continue your support for the

project if it succeeds? Or will it be just a one-off grant?

A: Normally, we support a particular project once only. Although there is very good reason to continue our support, we usually give one grant to help launch a particular project.

Q: Will you support other sports activities in the future?

A: Not really. It is not a priority area for us. We usually deal with bigger projects like water and sanitation, the environment, economic development and education especially for girls.

Cont'd from page 3:

Judge Al-Jindary...

Q: Administrative corruption is endemic in many aspects in our lives. As the Head of the West Sana'a Primary Court, you have succeeded in keeping your court relatively clean. What is the secret?

A: The Judicial Council has recently issued decisions giving heads of courts the right to supervise the judges working with them. In the past, the chief

judge was given freedom to act, but no specific guidelines were adopted to regulate his relations with other (subordinate) judges in his court. The chief judge did not know how to act exactly in the case of a complaint against one of the judges in his court.

Another step that could help in this direction is for the Judicial Council to ask head judge to nominate the team of judges who will serve with him. This way, a

more harmonious atmosphere can be created in court.

Q: What can you suggest for the media to do to help?

A: The media has a vital role to play in raising public awareness. The judicial system can achieve greater progress if the citizens become more aware of the laws and their rights and obligations. More respect can be commanded by the judiciary through positive media coverage. Media attention is usually focussed on sensational reporting, but it ends when the case reaches court. In other works, the media is primarily interested in police and detective

work, not in court proceedings. Sometimes, we order a particular case to become public knowledge, but the media refuses to help. The courts also gets a bad press when a previously publicized capture of a suspect ends with a court acquittal due to lack of evidence.

I also want to stress the role of educators and preachers.

Q: Any further comments?

A: I'd like to call upon the leading figures in the judicial system to take advantage of the positive attitude of the political leadership to reform the system. It is now up to us.

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2	Alexander	البيكساندر	0194
3	Mohamed H Ibrahim	محمد حامد ابراهيم	0983
4	Samar Faisal Kaid Ali	سمر فيصل قائد	0154
5	Noha Y Abdul-Hamid	نهى ياسين عبدالحميد	0111

Next week, the winners of the 3rd and final draw of the Pizza Hut Raffles will be announced.

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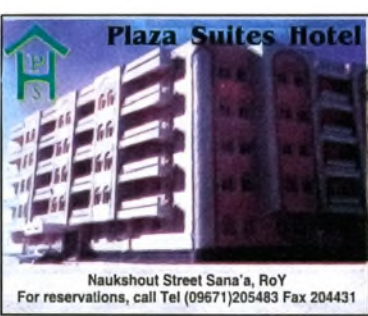
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Italian Festival Sees a Re-run in Next Year

They were 5 great evenings. All of those who visited the Taj Sheba Hotel during 21-25/11/96 enjoyed sumptuous Italian food and the hotel's excellent hospitality. "If only the festival could be extended..." That was the most recurrent comment of many Italian food lovers who visited the Golden Peacock. It was too brief. Chef Orazio and his wife Yole, and the music band of Aldo & Velia were already leaving. "The Italian Food Festival was a really great success. I would like to thank the Taj Sheba and all the patrons of the event," said one Italian food lover. But, if there is any consolation, Chef Orazio has been invited to come back to the Taj once again in November, 1997.



Meanwhile, the Sheba Hotel is planning various other activities, just as enjoyable.

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