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Fantastic Success for PM in Debt Negotiations

The Prime Minister did it. At the end of his talks at the Paris Club last week, Dr. Faraj Bin Ghanim achieved something close to a miracle. The US\$ 6.7 billion Russian debt fell to 400 million. And this amount

itself is to be repaid over a 20-30 year period. In addition, the Prime Minister succeeded in including the US\$ 1.2 billion arrears to the same re-scheduling and discounting conditions.

With this new achievement, Yemen's total annual debt service will now fall to slightly more than US\$ 50 million. The budgetary relief is spectacular. Yemen Times takes this opportunity to hail the PM.



Yemen to Sign Ottawa Convention

The Republic of Yemen has decided to sign the Convention on the Prohibition of the "Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and their Destruction" scheduled to take place in Ottawa during December 3-4, 1997. This event comes as the crowning moment for the Ottawa Process - an initiative launched by the Canadian Government in October 1996.

"I hope your foreign minister will personally come to sign the Convention," said Mr. Lloyd Axworthy, Canada's Foreign Minister, who is well-known for his high-moral politics. The anti-landmines momentum was stepped up in many corners of the world. Starting in Canada, it went to the UN whose General Assembly Resolution A/C.1/51/L.46 of 31st October, 1996, was a landmark. Then Japan picked up the initiative when it hosted the Tokyo Conference on Anti-Personnel Landmines during 6-7 March, 1997. But the breakthrough was at the Oslo Conference (1-19/97) where delegates representing 100 states agreed on the text of the Convention.

Unfortunately, some of the big violators of the stipulations of the Convention will not sign up. Key among these are the USA, Russia, China,

India, Pakistan, and North and South Korea. Landmines are a tragic menace to mankind, rightly dubbed as a "crime against humanity". Since 1939, over 400 million landmines have been laid, and 110 million are estimated to be still in place in 60 countries, waiting to claim new victims - mostly civilians and especially children. A further 100 million are stockpiled, and some 5 million are produced annually. The Convention is supported by the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, a coalition of some 1000 Non-Governmental Organizations based in Washington DC. This group, represented by Jody Williams, was awarded the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts. One of the founding NGOs in this coalition, HANDICAP International, has been actively involved in helping landmine victims in Yemen since 1994. Its Program Director, Laurent Blot, told the Yemen Times, "We are now leading a project at the Rehabilitation Center & Orthopedic Workshop in Taiz."

The Republic of Yemen interacted positively with the Ottawa Process. During 3-4/11/1997, an anti-personnel landmine seminar was hosted by Sanaa to mobilize efforts in the region towards the Ottawa Convention.

Yemen's Braindrain Grows

Since the beginning of this year, the Republic of Yemen has lost some 1,328 of its best qualified young people. It is called the braindrain.

Physicians, engineers, pilots, economists, accountants, artists and university professors are among those who have been lost. Economic hardships and political uncertainty are cited as the main reasons.

Destinations vary depending on the background, age structure and qualifications. Destinations are also determined by the fact of whether the emigre wants to come back or not.

Many qualified people who are still in Yemen are here simply because they have not yet found the right opportunity to leave. Conditions are expected to get worse before they will improve.

Yemen & EU Sign Cooperation Agreement

Yemen and the European Union will sign later this week a 22-article 'Cooperation Agreement'. Foreign Minister Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani left Sanaa last night for this purpose. He and Mr. Manuel Marin, Vice President of the Commission of the European Communities, will sign the document. This agreement brings Yemen closer to the EU arrangements

with the Mediterranean basin countries. The agreement has clear requirements in human rights and civil liberties which Yemen has to honor in order to qualify for EU development assistance. The EU provides Yemen with around US\$ 30 million annually. It also calls for cooperation in issues concerning the environment, drugs and money laundering.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

A Generation that Cheats Its Kids

If you are in any gathering and the talk touches on the young generation, the adults will immediately show their dismay. The complaints would focus on how useless the young kids are - so complacent, more keen on play than schooling, etc. If the complaints are justified, it simply means that the present generation has not done its job of raising the children well. If the complaints are not justified, then the generational 'differences' should not lead to such unnecessary criticism.

The fact of the matter is that the present generation behaves in a selfish way. The selfishness of the adults has been causing a lot of damage to the nation. Let us take examples.

1. Look at the consumption level. Since the 1970s, the former YAR and PDRY have embarked on wrong policies and expenditures, mostly financed through foreign aid and loans.
2. Look at the environmental degradation. The agricultural terraces have fallen to ruin, the dams and cisterns are defunct, deforestation and desertification are in full force, etc.
3. Look at the water situation. Underground water reservoirs that have been built up over hundreds of years are depleted in one generation. Rivers that have been running only a decade ago are now dry.
4. Look at what is happening with qat. This poison is now so widespread that only a miracle can stop it. And why? Simply because the present generation has gone to excesses.
5. Look at the flight of capital. For a capital-scarce country, the present generation has looted the nation simply to ensure its own personal well-being. Most of the senior people in charge of the country today have fat bank accounts abroad, even as the nation suffers from hard currency problems.

I can go on and on. What I am saying is that the present generation has no right to complain or criticize the young people. Having said that, let me say that I am dead worried about how well we qualify our children to interact positively with the rest of the world. It is crucial that we raise children who will feel comfortable in interacting with the world, and who will have a good chance in doing well in the future. That is not happening, given the kind of culture and education we give our kids.

A few weeks ago, I spent a couple of hours between flights at Hong Kong airport. While lounging, I witnessed a group of 3-5 year old children, most probably from some kindergarten, who were flying out on a picnic. There were seven or eight groups, each group, wearing a different color cap, numbering around thirty kids. For the 20 minutes or so they were standing in front of me, I was extremely impressed by their discipline. They were standing calmly in straight lines; they were holding on to their boarding cards and other documents; they were quiet; and they were giving their teachers/guides full attention. For a split of a minute I began to imagine, "What if these were Yemeni kids." The picture would be different. Their mothers and fathers would be all around, because they do not trust their kids or their teachers. The kids would be fighting among themselves like hell. Many would be crying and making a lot of noise. Others would wander off in different directions. Some would probably throw or break a few airport things. Still others would lose their boarding cards and other documents.

In short, just imagine the level of self-discipline and responsibility displayed by the Chinese kids. In twenty years, these kids would compete with ours. Are we ready?

The Publisher
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TeleYemen to Revise Prices Downward

TeleYemen, the local internet service provider, is increasingly being shunned by customers. Not only is it losing out on the new demand, but many of its present subscribers have frozen their activities. The reason is unreasonable prices.

Most of the new demand for internet services is being met through direct subscription in the USA. TeleYemen, whose total subscription has been stuck for a while around 10% of the local market, has now decided to revise its prices downward.

There is actually a bigger problem in store for the Yemeni-British company. The e-mail service has been eating away on the number of international telephone calls, the largest source of revenue for the company. In addition, international telephone companies are pushing for enormous reductions in tariffs.

Sanaa Receives More Visitors

The peace and stability enjoyed by Yemen have made Sanaa the focal point of many an Arab and Western diplomat. President Ali Abdullah Saleh had on Thursday, November 20th received the Sudanese Minister of Interior, Staff Brig. Bakri Hassan Saleh who delivered a letter from the Sudanese President Lt. Gen. Omar Hassan Al-Bashir. Fraternal relations and issues of mutual concern were discussed by President Saleh and the Sudanese envoy.

The President also met on Saturday, November 22nd the head of the German Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Werner Schultzerke. This visit comes as a follow up of President Saleh's visit to Germany last August. Preparations are currently underway to receive a delegation of German businessmen and investors to gauge the possibilities of investing in Yemen.

Also, the British Minister for Trade, Lord Clinton Davis has arrived in Sanaa yesterday, Monday November 22nd. Heading a delegation from the Department of Trade and Industry, Lord Davis will take part in the British Week activities which started on November 22nd and look into the prospects of investments in Yemen.

Water & Elec. Seminar

The "Institutional Options and Private Sector Participation in the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector in Yemen," is the title of a seminar that was opened in Sanaa on Saturday, November 22nd. The four-day seminar is sponsored by the Ministry of Electricity and Water, the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and the Economic Development Institute (EDI) of the World Bank.

The Foreign Minister, Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani stressed the need to extend water and sanitation services to as many people in Yemen as possible. He also emphasized the importance of environmental education through schools and the media in order to raise public awareness regarding public hygiene and water conservation. The opening session was also attended by the Minister of Electricity and Water, the Dutch Ambassador to Sanaa, the World Bank representative and many businessmen and entrepreneurs.

British Week Launched

The activities of the British Week in Yemen have started on Saturday, November 22nd with the opening of the Catalogue

Exhibition at the British Council in Aden. Catalogues and brochures from over 250 British companies will be exhibited. Other events include musical performances, the Yemenis in Britain exhibition, and British food evenings. The week's activities are organized in Aden, Taiz and Sanaa.

French Documentaries on Yemen

The French Cultural Center in Sanaa is organizing a number of documentary film shows. Starting today, Monday November 24th, the activities will be launched with a lecture on Yemeni architecture by Mr. Jose-Marie Bel. All in all, six documentary films made by French cinematographers will be shown. Depicting various aspects of Yemen, the films' years of production range from 1936 to the present.

CCCD Formed

Another private initiative institution for promoting democracy in Yemen has been granted license by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The Civic Center to Consolidate Democracy (CCCD) is now officially endorsed.

Korean Film on Yemen

A South Korean team of movie makers is to visit Yemen next December to start shooting a documentary on the Yemeni port of Mocha and its age-old connection with trade, especially that of the world-famous Mocha coffee beans.

This film comes as part of the growing cultural cooperation between Yemen and South Korea.



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A fan of Yemeni architecture, José-Marie Bel:

“Yemen has 6 distinct architectural styles.”

José-Marie Bel is a French architect, ethnologist and artist. He is also a specialist on Yemen, or what is dubbed as Yemenologist. Bel first visited Yemen 23 years ago when he met the late President Ibrahim Al-Hamdi, who encouraged the young artist. He carried out several extensive studies about Yemeni architecture, ethnology, and arts, some of which have been published in books and articles.

In his 130 visits to Yemen, he made many long journeys. He was instrumental in restarting the now closed House of Rimbaud in Aden. He displayed his work on Yemeni architecture and people in France and a few other countries. Bel is currently in Yemen to arrange a two-week exhibition at the French Cultural Center in Sanaa.

Dr. Salah Haddash met Mr. Bel and filed the following interview.

Q: How and why were you attracted to Yemen? What made it tick?

A: For me it is a long story. Being in Yemen today is like being in my own country (France). I am very happy and free in Yemen. I very much like this country.

I spent the first twelve years of my life with my parents in Morocco. For me, it is absolutely normal to be in Arab countries. I travelled extensively in Africa and the Middle East. The first time I came to Yemen was in January, 1974. The people here are very friendly and I think that it is a very fantastic place. By the way, there are many similarities between Yemen and Morocco.

I discovered that there were very few books and studies about Yemen and almost nothing on the architecture. So I decided it is good to know and to show the country to the rest of the world. I met with UNESCO officials and organized things to present Yemen to the world, and explain this especially nice country.

Q: Could you briefly tell us about your work?

A: I have an atelier in France. It is a workshop where I make architectural maquettes, some of which are of traditional Yemeni houses.

Q: I understand that you published a few books on Yemen. What are they?

A: I published four books on Yemen. The first one was ten years ago about the architecture and people of Yemen. I also published a catalogue on four big exhibitions in France, which were

held in the "Institut du Monde Arabe" four years ago. The title was "3000 Years of Architecture in Yemen."

One and a half years ago, I published the first book about botanical diversity in Yemen in French with short summaries in English and Arabic. It is about flowers, plants, frankincense, qat, myrrh and many other plants. I made a special trip to Yemen with Theodore Monod - the very best specialist of the world in this field.

The last book has just come out. Written in French, it is on Yemen's architecture. I spent more than 10 years of my life to research and write this book.

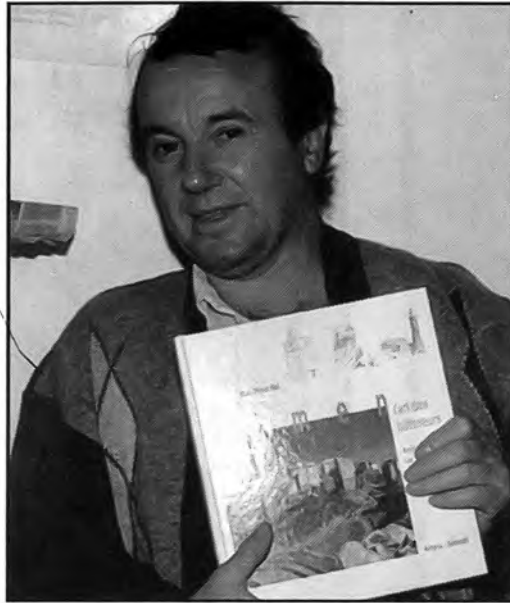
Q: Have you studied the botany of Socotra?

A: For me, this is a frustrating question because I had three occasions to go to Socotra, but each time something happened to block it. At one time, I was already in the plane from Aden but could not go because of engine trouble.

I have not been to Socotra, and it is still a dream to see it. It is a very interesting place. I know a lot about it and we have to make some studies. I feel that Socotra is an island of tranquility.

Q: What about the rare flowers and plants in Yemen about which you wrote?

A: When Yemen separated from Africa - it is still moving away at the rate of some 2 centimeters every year - many very rare plants were left on the mainland and on islands such as Socotra. There are about 3 thousand special plants of which 2 hundred specimen are endemic. I believe there may still be some plants that have not yet been discovered in Yemen.



There is a special market for medicina herbs in Sanaa. People traditionally use plant herbs to treat medical problems. For foreigners, many of these plants are still a mystery. They want to know the plants of Yemen.

Coffee, qat, and myrrh for example, are widespread plants in Yemen. We see people chewing qat but we don't understand the nature of the plant.

Qat has very bad properties and some good ones. My book tries to explain that. I hope in the future, specialists studying the fauna and flora of the region, especially the ones in Dhofar and Hadhramaut, will continue to provide the historic link in this field.

Q: Could you tell us about the distinct architectural features?

A: Yemen is one of the countries which has a well-developed architecture. The people have acquired this tradition themselves. They feel this tradition for a very long time.

The new buildings are very special and interesting and of a very good quality. Yemeni people

at the time of Mareb, Sabaa and Shabwa liked to build strong buildings with solid materials. At the beginning of Islam, the people of Yemen still continued this tradition.

We actually can determine 6 very distinct styles of architecture and about more than 50 hybrid designs in Yemen. Every region has its own character.

Q: What are these types?

A: The first one is Sanaani. It is distinguished by its columns, bricks and special plaster (white-wash) decorations.

Another specific one is the mountain architecture. There are different types of this, as the ones in Jibla, Thula, Khowlan, Taiz, Manakha, Zabeed, Saada, and Hajjah. This is a specific type made only of stones without much plaster. This Yemeni type of architecture was introduced into Mauritania, Morocco, and Algeria by Yemeni migrant builders. You can find this Yemeni type since the 7th century. There are different types again in Zabeed that are absolutely unique in the world. They are decorated with white bricks and the interiors are extraordinarily beautiful.

There is another type in Tihama - the Akhdam African houses. This type is simple but the decorations inside are very good.

There is still another type in Shibam, Hadhramaut which is very interesting but without much decoration. The specimen in

Mukalla and Tareem where there are castles since the 19th century are especially attractive.

Also, we can say there is a modern architectural type in Aden which is British. It is not Yemeni in design but it is very interesting too because it reflects the history of that area.

In Zabeed, for example, there are private gardens inside a courtyard where the family can have privacy. It is a traditional, Spanish style, which was originally influenced by the Islamic style. Also in Zabeed, there are separate houses or buildings within the same family lodging. For example there is a "mafraj" and "diwan" for men, and another built separately for women. So for one family, it is possible to have 3 or 4 separate houses but with just a single decorated facade. It is usually decorated with bricks and the ceiling is covered with lively colored paintings with many designs. For example, there are many Islamic designs influenced by the Indian style and also some figurative designs.

Q: Do you think these buildings and the architecture can survive?

A: There are many points to consider. For example, around the 1980s, I saw modern architecture which was not always very good. People started using different input, such as cement, etc. Clever architects and builders are able to blend traditional architecture with modern material.

Q: What about the 'qamariah' or the half circle of stained glass on top of almost every window in Yemen?

A: While I was conducting a comparative study on the Yemeni and French revolutions, I worked with a Yemeni 'osta' or master builder in Sanaa who makes 'qamaris'. I counted between 5 and 6

thousand types of qamaria in Yemen. They are all different and handmade. I had an exhibition in France on Yemeni 'qamaris'. The French public was quite surprised because in Europe people like stained glass windows. They also admired this technique which is very original. In Yemen, there are about 15 types of qamaria motifs - flowers, animals, geometric designs, etc.

Q: How about the concept of space?

A: Everything is close to the ground, unlike the European furniture. I have a "mafraj" in Paris and my friends like it very much. By sitting near the floor you have a greater contact with people, and can look out the window. It is more comfortable, and we can better utilize the space.

Q: How is Yemeni architecture evolving?

A: When Imam Yahya built a palace with traditional architecture, such as those in Hodeida near the sea or in Taiz near the Saber mountain, the people started copying the style when building new homes. The builders like a challenge to do something new. Not all traditional buildings however, are good. Sometimes one part is good and another is not very interesting. Balconies, for example, have been recently introduced into Yemen. New types of qamaria are also being introduced.

Q: What is the influence of other modern styles on current Yemeni architecture?

A: The house interior, for example, has changed in the last ten years. The geographic location of a country plays a major role in the way it influences others and in its being influenced. Yemeni architecture today is inspired by Arab, African, Indian, and of course, Euro-American styles.

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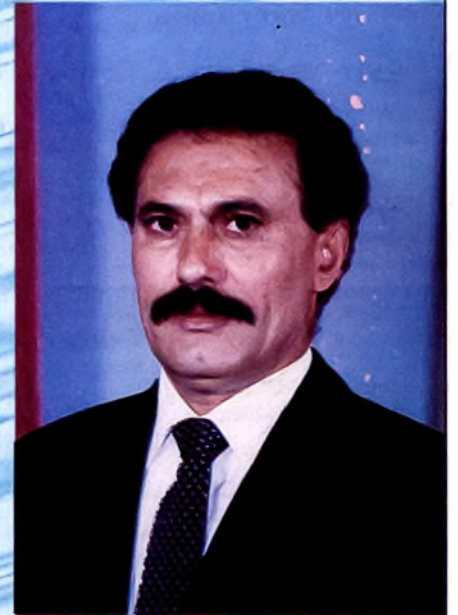
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التبريكات للقيادة السياسية بزعامة

الفريق علي عبد الله صالح رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى الحكومة الرشيدة برئاسة الدكتور فرج بن غانم ، وإلى الشعب اليمني الأبى بمناسبة
حلول الذكرى الثلاثين لعهد الاستقلال وكذلك ذكرى إتفاكية الوحدة : ٢٠ من نوفمبر
وكل عام والجميع بخير



The Chairman, Employees and Workers of
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present their sincere wishes and congratulations to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

The Government of Dr. Faraj Bin Ghanim and the Yemeni people on the occasion of
30th of November, the anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen,
and the signing of the unification agreement.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO ALL.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



The Doha Conference: A SUCCESS STORY

If there is one thing that the recently held economic conference of the Middle East and North Africa proves, it is that 'scare tactics' work in the Arab World. Many Arab officials alleged that the conference was nothing short of a plot. Its goal, they said was to enable Israel to control and dominate the Arab economies. Unfortunately, the scare tactic worked as Arab leaders, which lack adequate self-confidence, either stayed away from the conference or sent junior representatives. The glaring exception is that wise man, the King of Jordan.

I defied a lot of pressure to attend the conference. Yemen Times fully paid for my travel, room and board expenses.

I did not find any Israeli dominance, and I did not find any Americans pushing anybody anywhere. What I found was lots of business people just too happy to be left alone by the politicians

who stayed away. The business people worked on deals, some of which were consummated during the conference, and others are in varying stages of negotiations. Let me speak about three countries in specific terms, as follows:

1. QATAR:

The State of Qatar has a bold and strong ruler. He has a clear vision and he goes for it. Thus, he is not the type of person to be intimidated.

Qatar carried out its obligation to the region and the world community. The Emir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifah Al Thani, in his speech, at the inauguration ceremony charted a clear course. Nobody will intimidate Qatar into abandoning the conference, and Netanyahu's Israel will not have a smooth ride. On both counts, he gained my respect.

For all practical purposes, Qatar has shown the world it is a reliable partner.

2. JORDAN:

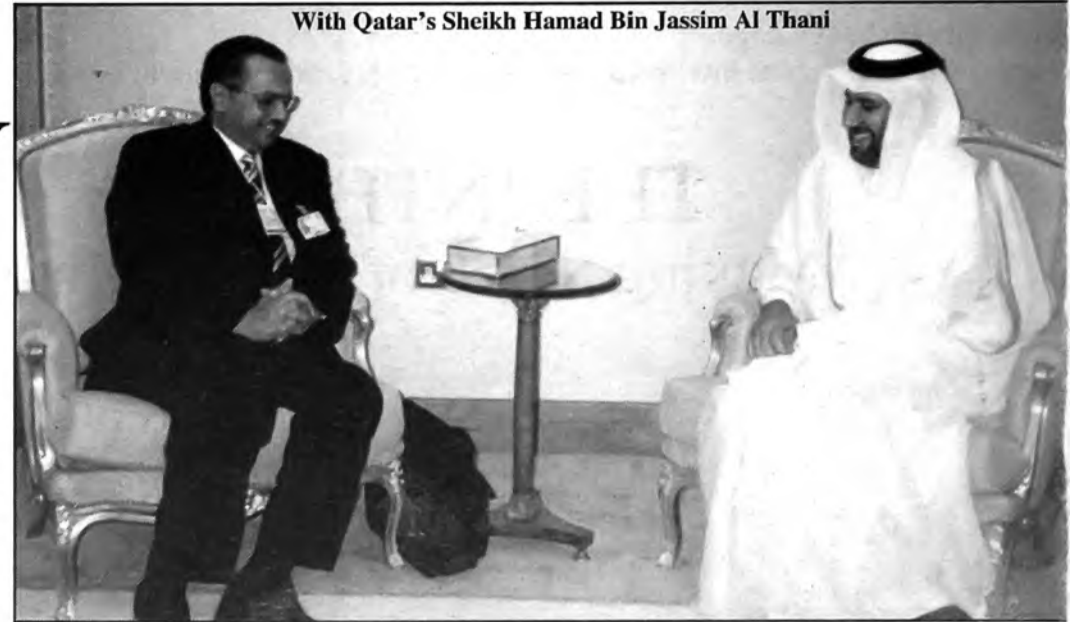
The Kingdom of Jordan played a major role in the conference. The Jordanian team included a Vice Prime Minister, two ministers and a lot of senior officials. They came with lots of information and proposals for joint projects and other investments.

Under the leadership of King Hussain, Jordan is clearly a country that is claiming for itself a place among the future-oriented nations.

3. YEMEN:

Yemen decided to participate in the conference. I am happy with the decision. Unfortunately, Yemen's participation was with a medium-level two-person official delegation. Its mandate was, as the delegates themselves pitifully acknowledged, to do nothing.

If Yemen had come to the conference with a senior delegation, it would have easily capitalized on side-meetings with many senior



With Qatar's Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassim Al Thani

officials from the USA, Canada, Russia, Germany, UK, France, the Netherlands, Italy, Japan, Korea, etc. It would have linked with the business people and media personalities. We have many things to tell the world about our internal and regional concerns. We have many things to ask of our international partners.

The conference was a foreign

policy mistake, as we missed a golden opportunity. After all, given the absence of the heavy-weight Arab countries, Yemen could have stolen the show had it played its cards right.

The conference was successful. In terms of the number of participants, some 2017 delegates attended. In terms of the total value of contracts signed, the

amount was above US\$ billion. In my opinion however the conference was successful because business people had free hand to go about their deal with the least political interference, as politicians from many Arab countries decided to boycott the meetings.

By: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Yemen Times.



With Jordan's Jawad Al-Anani



Inside the Conference Hall



With Canada's Lloyd Axworthy

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This is an **OPINION** page.
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THE INTERNET: Making Sense of a New 'Myth'

by: *Iskender Heck*

In times of gaping at the internet are over - at least in Europe, or, who knows where around the world. The net is in an omnibus unmasked as a "myth". We talk about the "World Wide Web" is also some kind of sense-making narration about complexity.

After the party comes the headache, after the cat-session then comes disillusionment. After uncountable publications about the undiscovered, praised land of cyberspace, it seemed at times to be a manic, with endless tops of conglomeration of all its political (democracy online), economical (televorld), personal (hat-rooms) or ecological (paperless office) problems. Now the above mentioned omnibus-volume gives us a handful of pirin.

According to its editors, Stefan Hücker and Alexander Roesler, the internet spreads its biggest special effectiveness not on the level of its technical reality, but on a big 'order' and a sense-making narration: "the internet is in particular a myth." It is the discourse, which the technique of global-netting of personal computers unleashed, and which fills the prodigious views and integration of diametrical positions, such as the neo-liberal

followers of friction-free capitalism up to ultra-basis-democratic net-utopists.

One can speak of a myth, because the talk about the internet reacts in accordance with "complexities and difficulties of lucidity of the design of a new unit". And on top of that, the emergence of the Web adds a "new history". No matter how you look at it, it seems obvious that to the story of the 'cyber trek' in this new world, which is spiced with biblical rhetoric, a mythical quality has to be attached.

The most favorable metaphors in use for the internet - like rhizome, trans-hierarchical room without a center, "dimensionless U-Topos" or babylonian library... - present a complexity of the problem of relationships: for whom and in which way is the internet difficult to survey. That a user may get lost between the endless links of the HTML-documents does not necessarily justify a new, or even a hypercomplex quality of the net. After all, some people even get lost in the streets of Sana'a. Instead of simply pre-supposing the complexity of the Web and afterwards dismantling its discourse as a myth, one should initially question its complexity. The usual mention concerning the indefinite amount of data, which no one seems to be able to survey, is - last but not least - not an invention of the information age. That life is too short to get to know everything, was already

clear to Horaz for example, an ancient Roman writer. And if something appears chaotic at times, this could also be in connection with the individual view of the spectator and his or her expectations.

The task is to deconstruct the internet as a myth, and that is what most of the publications do not do. But this is not of any hindrance to the volume, because on the borderline, there are interesting articles about economy (William J. Mitchell), history of media technic (Jay D. Bolter), active possibilities for literary reading and writing (Uwe Wirth), internet in focus as an expression of art (Eduardo Kac) or about the fortress architecture of wired cities (Florian Rötzer). But some of these dedicate themselves to the myth.

Saskia Sassen confronts the proclaimed disbandment of space and time in the cyberspace with the materialism of its technical circumstances: "What I figure to be interesting and politically significant but not considered too seriously is that the leading telecommunication enterprises keep neutralizing the distance to facilitate telecommunication services. One is therefore in need of a real access to land, because the main technology up to now relies still on glass fiber, which itself is material." Since land is needed and it still belongs to states, therefore governments still have

judicial regulatory means and are firmly realistic. Sassen indicates further "Within the growing rhetoric of dematerialization" the above mentioned factor is getting lost. Political sovereignty could mean, in an exceptional case, to cut the cables.

"The short summer of net-hype will pass by" say Geert Lovink and Pit Schulz. The euphoric phase of the so called E-culture is characterized by those two Web-activists in the form of a rather funny compilation of the known phrases of Web commercials from the 'data-highway' to the 'cyberspace' up to the 'digital nomads'. All of those expressions show, that the metaphors in use, which stems out of different areas, is already known. Windows 95 turns its user-windows into an office-world, a desktop with documents, attachments and files, the street metaphoric suggests the colonization of a naturally grown data-world. The metaphor in use serves to generate some kind of issue, just to stimulate its selling. They help to change the strange into familiar even though it remains - like heaven and hell - really strange since nobody knows what a computer really does once we have connected our E-mail attachment. And they function as commercial formulae because of their ability to bewitch the user: Whoever wants to take on the information super highway, needs to have the Pentium Pro-Chip, whoever does not feel like getting stuck in the congestion, needs Ethernet-entry or an ISDN. Future-enterprises sell exactly that: THE FUTURE SOON, or even NOW! Soon EVERYTHING will become quicker and easier.

Up to now, the hype is still not over. Out there are still some self-appointed cyber-pioneers and pilgrim fathers who cross the bridge on their own just to offer the ones that remained behind narrations with 'religious' experience and zeal. The proselytizing is still on. But soon the Web may turn into a boring lot, when the net belongs to T-online and AOL, which may create a digital Biedermeier (former furniture design, which avoided any squiggles). The net will then be secure and clean. Dirt and violence will be left in front of the doors of byte-cities. It will be buried in exclaves of which no media will report. At this point the web-critics of Lovink and Schulz will become mystic themselves because these narrations of isle-like byte-cities in a sea of waste and ghetto-barbarism will merge with the cyberpunk-genre of the science-fictions.

Another myth is the belief that the decentral structure of the internet is automatically democratic. With the internet, a new technology has been created, which promotes decentralization and thereby democratic communication structures, says Mark Poster. Likewise, Eduardo Kac does not have any doubt about the firm democratic belief and decentralisation as well as about free access of information. What does democracy mean if decentralisation is already enough? The

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German model of elected representatives of the people for example, obviously does not correspond to the E-democracy, with regards to the latter. On the other hand, what is democratic if the subversive medium (poster) of the internet on which completely decentral operating facists from the White Arian Resistance can agitate? That any kind of technology has a political influence and consequence and that any T-on line customer with ISDN

linkage will become a grown up citizen are naive. At least, they are correctly reflected understatements. Alexander Roeler is right by saying: "One of the most favorable myths of the internet is the one of virtual community and its blessing effects on democracy and public life." It is, nevertheless, obviously difficult to avoid it.

Iskender Heck, a free-lance journalist has an M.A. in Islamic Studies from the Social Sciences Faculty at Humboldt University in Berlin. His dissertation was entitled: "The Situation of the North Yemeni Women between 1961 and 1984". He is presently working on his PHD here in Yemen.



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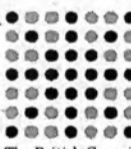
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How To Start Your Small Business

Organized by the Federation of Chambers of Commerce (FCCI) and Industry in cooperation with the International Labor Organization (ILO), a seminar entitled "How To Start Your Small Business" was held in Sanaa from the 16th to 18th of November. The seminar was attended by the Deputy Minister of Supply and Trade, Mr. Ahmed Al-Sayyaghy; the General Director of the FCCI, Mr. Jamal Sharhan; and the ILO Consultant, Ms. Luma Nassr. Participants included representatives of the various chambers of commerce in Yemen, the General Investment Corporation, the Ministry of Industry, the Agri-

needs of potential small investors who do not know how to start. A number of research papers were submitted at the seminar dealing with various aspects of small private projects and their role in economic development and reform. Dr. Antoine Mansoor, the ESCWA expert at the UN, delivered a lecture entitled "Establishing Small Projects." In his lecture he concentrated on developing personal economic sense, the spirit of the pioneer, the ability to take risks, strengthen self confidence and leadership and managerial skills. "The main obstacle may not necessarily be a financial one, but

market and develop personal skills." This seminar is important in that it helps prospective entrepreneurs establish their own small projects. It is quite vital that, after this seminar, the FCCI should follow-up the implementation of the seminar's recommendations. There should also be intensive vocational training courses, especially for women. Many women have become very successful in business management. Therefore, it is essential that more is built on these success. The ESCWA has a wide experience in training women in rural areas and people of limited resources, to start their

Dr. Mansoor cited the success story of a Jordanian woman who started a simple embroidery workshop. Following a training course, the same woman was able to expand her business to the point of employing 200 women, working at home during their spare time. These women are now able to make substantial contributions to their household budgets. "The main problem was not lack of skills, but the inability to profitably market their products," said Dr. Mansoor, adding, "the problem was solved through the specific marketing course." Ms. Luma Nassr of the ILO indicated that the seminar's main goal is to create, among young men and women, an awareness of the importance of establishing small projects. "Creating private trade, industrial and service projects, no matter how small, is bound to revive the local economy, create new jobs, and help the country in its overall economic development," said Dr. Nassr. "Businessmen and entrepreneurs must become fully aware of the need to establish a sound managerial basis for their firms in order to be able to compete in the international markets." Several governments in developing and even developed countries are beginning to realize the importance of the private sector and the future of the country as a whole. Even big industrialized countries are now encouraging small businesses. "They are easier to launch, do not need big capital or very sophisticated technology, create new jobs, and help to locally invest the national capital," indicated Dr. Nassr.



As a major representative of the private sector, the FCCI has a big role to play in encouraging small private businesses. The FCCI General Director, Mr. Jamal Sharhan emphasized the FCCI's commitment to cooperate with the ILO. "Economic conditions in Yemen are very conducive for investments," said Mr. Sharhan, "because many obstacles have been removed." According to Mr. Sharhan, there are now offices within the General Investment Corporation to deal with individual investors and facilitate the implementation of their proposed projects. "Import licenses have been abolished and bureaucratic obstacles in the customs have been sorted out in coordination with the Customs Authority," he announced. As far as financing projects is concerned, Mr. Sharhan pointed out that a seminar will be held soon in cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and the ILO to deal with this issue.

Recommendations
Concluding the seminar, the participants reached the following recommendations:
1- Official bodies should remove all obstacles that may face potential investors and improve the general economic climate to be more conducive for investment.
2- The relevant bodies should expand financial credit establishments and facilities so as to help small projects.
3- Similar seminars should be held again in Sanaa and other governorates in order to benefit as many interested people as possible.
4- A national cadre of qualified trainers should be formed to help potential small investors and entrepreneurs.
5- Intensive local training courses should be held for young men and women to develop their managerial and marketing skills.

By: Yusuf Sharif,
Yemen Times



cultural Bank of Borrowing, and other relevant bodies. Extensive discussions were conducted by the organizing bodies before the seminar was held. The main aim was to ascertain the

there can also be personal, managerial, and technical hindrances," said Dr. Mansoor stressing the importance of vocational training. He added, "it is very important to study the

own small businesses in an effort to combat poverty. It was found that women who have passed such courses have become more self confident, whether in business or in the family.

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FIGHTING POLIO: The War Has Started

by: **Shakib Al-Maqtari,**
Ministry of Health.

Years have passed since the last case of polio was reported in most parts of the world. Yet the wild polio virus is still a common source of tension for the world community. Fear of this disease stands over everybody's shoulder. We are haunted by visions of greatly suffering disabled people in wheelchairs, using wooden legs or the crippled begging in the street. This wild virus respects neither social barriers nor international boundaries. Unless it is eradicated globally we can't guarantee a good future for tomorrow's men.

Life-long immunity against this disease is gained through immunization as a result of natural infection by the polio virus.

Two different kinds of polio vaccines are available. The first is the inactivated (killed) Injectable Polio Vaccine called IPV, which was developed in 1955 by Dr. Salts.

The other kind which is used in Yemen is OPV or Oral Polio Vaccine. It was developed by Dr. Sabin in 1961. It is a weakened or a live attenuated oral polio vaccine. OPV works by inducing not only serum immunity, but also secretory immunity particularly inside the intestines - the primary site for polio virus. It causes multiplication as well as inducing individual protection against polio.

IPV also limits the multiplication of "wild," naturally occurring virus inside the gut. Immunization with OPV, therefore, creates an effective barrier against circulation of the wild virus by reducing fecal excretion of the virus. However, a helpful outcome of immunization with OPV is the short shedding of the vaccine virus in the stool of recently immunized children.

In areas where hygiene and sanitation are poor and incidence of polio is highest, immunization with OPV can result in passive immunization of close contacts through the spread of vaccine virus shed in the stool.

The global goal is to eradicate polio, not just controlling the disease. So raising the routine immunization coverage would reduce the circulation of the wild virus but does not stop it.

Thus, the WHO adopted a polio-eradication strategy that involves mass immunization campaigns, door to door immunization, rapid response to suspected polio cases, and investigative work to identify cases that may have been missed. It also includes viral detective work in the laboratory to isolate polio viruses and pin point the original source in areas where polio is no longer occurring. The same investigative methods are needed to provide conclusive evidence that the wild virus is no longer in circulation.

Including Somalia, Yemen is the last country to hold national immunization days against polio in the region. It was said "better late than never." The beginning was last year. The whole nation took part in there was a very high political commitment at all governmental levels, in addition to community participation and a strong international support. Yemen achieved the desired global target in the two rounds of the first stage of immunization.

The first round of the first stage started on October 6, 1997. President Saleh, in meeting with members of High Committee of the Polio Campaign, called the nation to promote this child-saving effort.

Shakib Mensur Al-Maqtari, on behalf of Yemen Times talked to the following senior members of IOPM, WHO and UNICEF.

Dr. Mohammed Hajar is an advisor to the Ministry of Health and the General Director of Public Health. He is one of longest serving senior staff doctors and is regarded as the godfather of PI/public health trail.

About 19 years ago, during the early days of President Saleh's era, conditions were much more difficult. There were less paved roads, little transportation and communication facilities, and a very short shortage of qualified national medical staff. We achieved 100% coverage for the small pox eradication.

Today, there are far more health centers, paved roads, and transportation facilities, and qualified national medical staff. We even use helicopters in some regions. Much more national and international resources, a stronger political will, and a great community commitment and participation were employed in the immunization campaign. The achieved results make me optimistic that we will create a polio-free society by the year 2000.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Anisi is the General Director of Health Education.

There is a great progress which is directly attrib-

utable to the efforts of the government, the WHO, UNICEF, and the CDC Atlanta Rotary International.

"Our media strategy was able to reach every child in every house. For the future, great efforts will be made to raise our community's health awareness.

"I am very impressed by the results, which are greater than we expected. We were able to achieve the target because of our clear plan, sound program strategies, political will, and good resources.

Mr. Ahmed Saeed Zaied is a long standing senior health worker. He is the Director of the National Program on Immunization.

"I really appreciate the government's contribution of \$600,000 to the total cost of the campaign which was \$1,552,818.

"The 1996 campaign played a major role in achieving national, regional, and global goals of polio eradication. It solidified the government's commitment to strength its Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) and to eradicate polio by the year 2000. This will be achieved by implementing the following strategies:

- 1) strengthening routine immunization services to achieve and sustain a high level of vaccination coverage;
- 2) conducting national immunization days to deliver polio vaccines to all children less than five year of age; and
- 3) developing strong and reliable surveillance for acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) including viral surveillance.

"The second round will be conducted on November 24-26. The exact number of children who received a dose of OPV (coverage) is not yet available. But its much more than we immunized in the 1st round of the 1st stage. The targeted number of children is 3,456,526.

"The Yemen Hunt Oil Company agreed to allocate \$50,000 as part of its contribution. But on its other donation, Hunt gave the brush off when requested to present the sum. As a result, there is a shortage of \$50,000. Therefore, I am appealing through the Yemen Times on any one who would like to be a kind donor. He is invited to offer the above amount. "For this global child-saving endeavor, 5452 health workers and 12,938 volunteers took part in the campaign in 227 districts of the country."

Dr. Elias Duri is a WHO medical officer.

"There is a very strong international support for the campaign to eradicate polio by the WHO, UNICEF, CDC Atlanta Rotary International, the Japanese and Italian governments, and the EC. What was missing at the central level was the local private sector and the NGO support and participation.

"The WHO is the main agency of the UN for health. It organizes the global campaign against polio. The WHO assigned two advisors for EPI. It contributed \$138,000 for the company and is strongly supporting the establishment of a surveillance system.

"CDC Atlanta supplies most of the vaccine for the campaign. This will continue till the year 2000.

"There are satisfactory results, but the effort must be continuously supported at all local levels."

Dr. Zayne Al-Saqqaf is the UNICEF Health and Nutrition Officer in Yemen.

"Impressive gains had been made in both the coverage and quality of service. Emphasis must be placed on implementing the strategy of sustainability and in providing more extensive routine immunization service on National Immunization Days.

"UNICEF is the major supporter of the routine immunization. It offers \$ 1 million per year in the form of vaccine and other materials. It contributed \$126,000 in the campaign for social mobilization. In addition, UNICEF will be distributing 2.5 million vitamin capsules in co-operation with the High Committee for the Campaign. The aim is to reduce child mortality by 13%, prevent blindness, and reduce the impact of infections on children. The distribution will begin in the second round of the second stage."

Mr. Aldroos Mahmoud is the Operation Officer in Aden and Lahaj.

"Besides all governmental support, Aden acted exceptionally by means of efforts made by its governor Taha Ahmed Ganim. A large sum of money was donated by businessmen. This sum was four times the governorate contribution. Despite the natural obstacles such as heavy rain, everything went smoothly. Immunization was completed as targeted."



Mr. Ahmed Asharji is the Sanaa GUT operation officer.

In addition to the governmental health facilities in Sana'a, 38 private hospitals and health centers, 89 schools, 15 mosques, and many local community leaders were involved in the immunization campaign. The Sana'a Chamber of Commerce, however, was not involved."

Mr. Abdulkarim Ahmed Al-Towafy is the Mahweet and Hodeidah operation officer.

"Despite the heavy rain in some areas, everything went smoothly. There was a great community participation. The Hodiedah Chamber of Commerce donated cash money for the campaign."

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شركة توتال اليمن

يتقدمون بأسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة

رئيس الجمهورية

الفريق علي عبد الله صالح

وإلى الحكومة الرشيدة برئاسة الدكتور فرج بن غانم ،
وإلى الشعب اليمني البطل وذلك بمناسبة ذكرى عيد الجلاء
وذكرى إتفاقية الوحدة
وكل عام وأنتم بخير

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President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

The Government of Dr. Faraj Bin Ghanim and the Yemeni people on the
occasion of 30th of November, the anniversary of the independence of the
southern part of Yemen, and the signing of the unification agreement.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO ALL.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



سلي سلي سلي

تتقدم بخالص التهاني القلبية والتبريكات الحارة للقيادة
السياسية بزعامة ابن اليمن البار رئيس الجمهورية

الفريق علي عبد الله صالح

وإلى الحكومة الرشيدة برئاسة

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بمناسبة ذكرى الجلاء وذكرى إتفاقية الوحدة
وكل والجميع بخير

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President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

The Government of Dr. Faraj Bin Ghanim and the Yemeni
people on the occasion of 30th of November, the anni-
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 محلات كانون، شارع علي عبدالمعطي، تليفون: ٠١-٢٨٠٠٠٦، فاكس: ٠١-٢٧٠٧٣٥، شارع القيادة بجانب فندق سام: ٠١-٢٧٠٧٣٥
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الفريق علي عبد الله صالح رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى الحكومة اليمنية الرشيدة برئاسة الدكتور فرج بن غانم،

وإلى الشعب اليمني بمناسبة حلول ذكرى جلاء المستعمر من المحافظات

الجنوبية وكذلك ذكرى إتفاقية الوحدة في الثلاثين من نوفمبر

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MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO ALL.

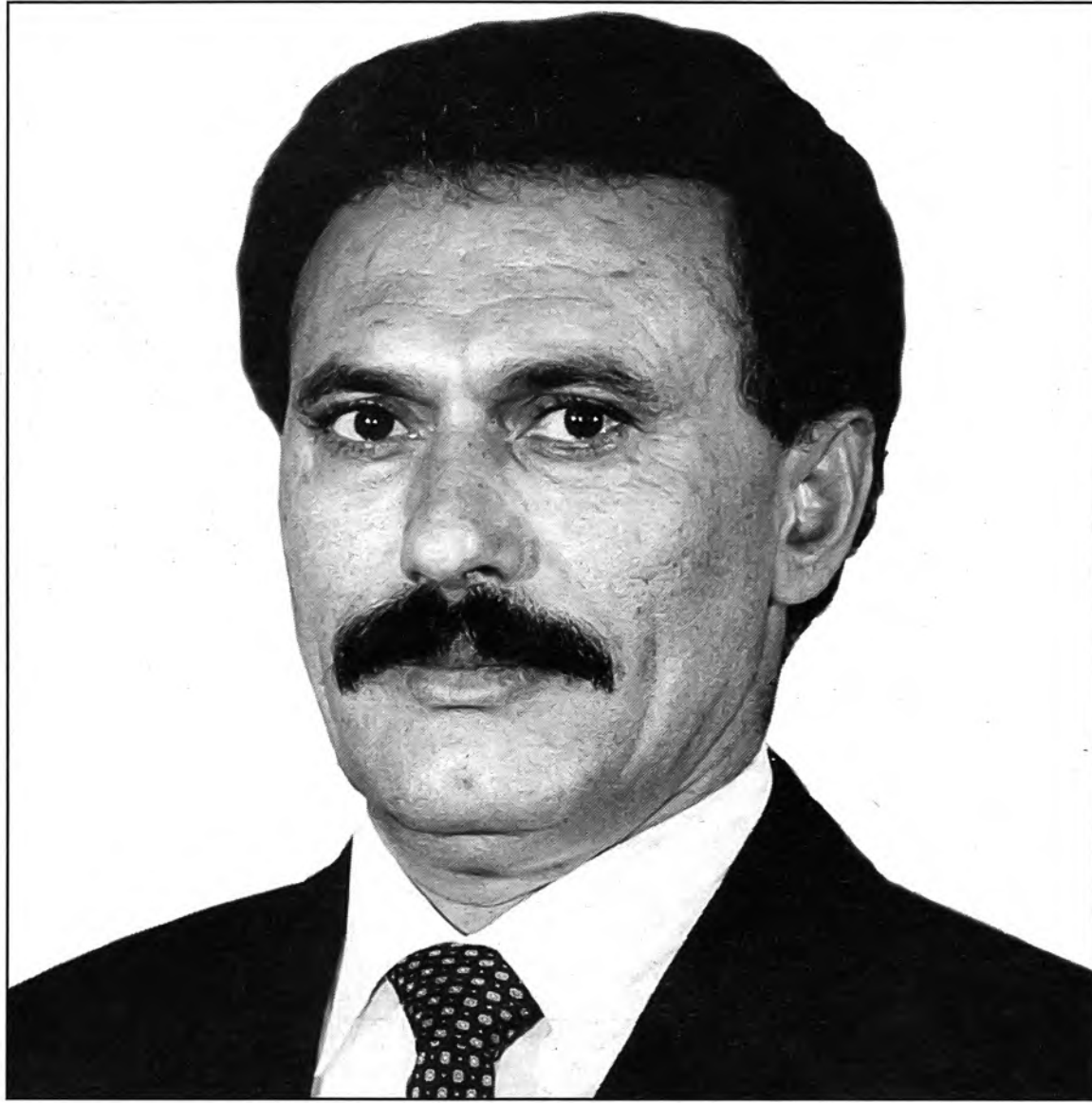
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MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO ALL.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

The British are back in Aden: All is Forgiven... But not Forgotten!

Adel J. Moqbil,
Yemen Times



Thinking that Queen Victoria's statue will be put back in its old place in a Tawahy public garden, one of my Adeni friends was quite indignant. "It'll be unfair to those who suffered and died for the country's independence. His anger was only assuaged by the fact that the statue was put in the garden of the newly opened British Council in Aden, out of public sight. Another friend said that, "compared to the French, the British colonialists were quite civilized, they did not torture or kill indiscriminately." Well, this is debatable since the British forces used airplanes to bomb rebel tribes.

The recent visit to Aden by a delegation of 80 British war veterans and ex-servicemen has aroused a lot of interest and some resentment among the people of Yemen. One of those visitors is Mr. Stephen Day who worked in the Aden government form 1961 to just before independence in 1967. He then became a diplomat working in the Foreign Office in London until his retirement 3 years ago. Now he is partly working in commerce but more in cultural and educational activities with the countries of the Middle East. I had the little chat with him.

Q: In what capacity did you work with the Aden government?

A: I was a political officer in the Western Aden Protectorate mainly in the area of Abyan, and also in Lahaj and Dhali'. I was the last British agent and assistant High Commissioner for the Western Protectorate and advisor to the Federal Government that collapsed in September, 1967.

Q: Did you still have any connections with Yemen after your departure?

A: I had dealt quite a lot with Yemen when I was in the FO in London for a period of about 4 or 5 years. In 1986, when the civil war broke out in the south, I was in charge of the emergency unit in the foreign office that evacuated 1600 people using HM Yacht Britannia. So I followed events in Aden very closely and I have many friends from Yemen from the north and south. But I have never actually been in the north. It was very emotional coming back because I came with my wife. She and I met in Lahaj. We were married there. We had a wedding in Zanzibar and also a wedding in Aden. My daughter was born there. We always regard her as being Yemeni.

Q: How do you feel about the re-unification of Yemen?

A: It was a dreadful mistake to cut Yemen in two. When captain Hanes moved into Aden, he never had any intention of cutting it away from Yemen. He always saw it as the natural port of Yemen and the economic center to the benefit of all Yemenis. It was one of these historical accidents that produced the border which in turn caused all the problems. To see now Yemen reunited makes one very optimistic about the future.

Q: Looking back, how do you see the British presence in Aden?

A: When we left in 1967, we had done some good things. The economy was in good shape. The Abyan scheme where I worked for 6 years was a very successful agricultural scheme. The com-

munist, in my view, had achieved almost nothing. In fact, in many cases they have destroyed what we left behind. I never believed in communism in the Arab world. I think it is entirely incompatible both with Islam as a religion and the natural commercial talents of the Arabs, especially the Yemenis. To try to turn Yemenis into communists always struck me as madness.

Q: In 1963 Arab nationalism was at its peak and people looked to the British as colonialists who were occupying their land. How did you feel about that?

A: In 1963 I was 25 years old, the same age as most of the Arab nationalists. I had every sympathy for them. If I had been an Arab I would have been a nationalist. I have no doubt about that. But I tried to explain to them we did not want to stay in Aden. We wanted to leave. We wanted to grant independence and help develop its economy. That is certainly what I spent 6 years doing. We were not in Aden to make a profit. There was no profit to make. We wanted to leave, but in good shape. Unfortunately we failed.

Q: What do you think about the acts of violence then?

A: All of us there suffered one way or another. Despite that, we left with great respect for the arabs of the south. They were not all against us. All my life there was spent with arabs, and I came out alive because I had many arab friends. I never had a British bodyguard. I was defended by arabs.

Q: How do you see Aden now? Has it changed a lot?

A: Frankly, not a lot. But it has a great potential. It was for hundreds of years one of the great ports of the world. It was still a great port in 1967 when we left. It has the potential now of becoming once again a major economic and commercial center. I am very confident that this will happen.

Q: How did the people in Aden receive you?

A: With tremendous warmth. It was really very moving to see many of our friends in Aden, Abyan, and Sanaa. I had many telephone calls from people who read in the newspaper that we were here. It is wonderful to see how they have managed and how their children have been educated.

Q: How did the young people react to the visit?

A: They were very friendly. Wherever we went we had a very warm welcome by the local people. They realized we had come back as friends not as colonialists. Those days are over.

Q: Has anybody expressed any sort of hostility or resentment?

A: Not a trace of it. We had only warmth and friendship.

Q: Do you remember any particular incident or anecdote from your stay in Aden?

A: The major memory was our wedding in Zanzibar. This was given by the local Arab population. We had 2000 to 3000 guests. There was dancing and a big feast. Our friends in the RAF flew over the area, performing acrobatics.

The funny thing was that we had to have our Christian wedding in Aden the next day. At the end of the wedding they carried us back to my house. Then my mother, future mother-in-law and my future wife left to Aden. All the Arabs came rushing and saying 'what happened? Why has your fiancée left already?' I said I still had to have my Christian wedding and they said 'now you are married you can't leave her.'

There was a terrorist campaign against me. Sawt Al-Arab* particularly targeted me personally. So we had the wedding inside an army camp in Aden.

Q: So what was Sawt Al-Arab saying about you?

A: I was then an advisor to the Fadhly Sultan, Ahmed Bin Abdullah in 1965. He had run away from a conference in London to Egypt, declared his support for Nasser, and declared that his state was no longer part of the Federation. I was the advisor in that state. So Sawt Al-Arab was then beaming propaganda to that state and me in particular. But they were not successful. Nothing actually happened.

Q: Don't you think that Britain should have ensured the future of the colony before leaving?

A: I can only say that we tried. It sounds like a lame excuse. But we really did try very hard. We were very fond of the country. Some of the political officers worked very hard against all the risks to try and bring development into the interior because Aden had progressed very substantially. The problem was, to develop the interior to produce an equilibrium in the country. That was our aim, to work as hard as we could. Eventually because of the politics, against a background of extreme confusion in the Arab world together with the Arab-Israeli war in 1967, we simply lost control and no longer had the ability to improve the situation in the country. So we left. I don't think we had any other alternative. All of us involved regretted having to leave the country in that state. That was on our conscience and still is but we could not have achieved more in a country where we were responsible for 135 years of history. I think that we should still acknowledge the same about Palestine. We had and still have direct responsibility in Palestine and Aden and we should not forget that.

Q: Would you like to add anything?

A: I think it is important to convey to the British public how much Yemen has changed and progressed and to let them know that they are welcome here because Yemen is not regularly in the British news. There is a lingering uncertainty about that.

*Sawt Al-Arab (voice of the Arabs) is a radio station broadcasting from Egypt. During the 1960s and the rule of President Nasser, it used to broadcast pan-Arab nationalist, anti-imperialist propaganda.

Athena Al-Absy

Yemeni people in general do not tend to use flowers in various occasions such as weddings or use them as presents. Some people, however, are beginning to use flowers to express their emotions towards their nearest and dearest instead of sweets and other foods like they did in the past.

There are, however, some exceptions. Women living in coastal areas such as Aden, Hodeida, and Mukalla adorn their hair with flowers, especially jasmine. In Taiz and some other mountainous regions, women and even men use basil to adorn their hair especially on Fridays when going to the mosque.

Florist shops represent a new social phenomenon in Yemen. The first shop was opened two years ago. I visited one of these new florists on Hadda road to see how they are doing and ascertain the development in Yemeni taste.



In Moneer Al-Kahil's shop there are gladiolas, gerberas, carnations, lilies, and dahlias. Large trees, however, are not in big demand so he doesn't always stock them.

"The demand for flowers has of course increased," said Moneer; adding, "when I first went into business, there were no florists in Sanaa." Now there are around 60.

Moneer's customers are mainly female aged between 13 and 20 years. Many of them are university students. Also, people visiting patients at



hospitals or going to wedding parties often buy flowers from him.

"Many people buy flowers on mother's day, new year's day, birthdays, engagement ceremonies, etc," he indicated. Also, flowers are used to decorate wedding halls and the new couple's car. Foreigners often buy flowers for their own occasions and general adornments.

"Some people pay a certain amount and ask for a bouquet of flowers which I arrange myself. Others with better taste choose the types, colors, and number of flowers themselves."

According to Moneer, roses are particularly sought by customers for their beauty and pleasant scent while choosing carnations for lasting a long time before withering. Planted flowers are usually well looked after by the florist. But some customers neglect their plants until it's too late when they come asking for fertilizers or pesticides.

"A single flower costs a minimum of YR 60; while, bouquets usually costs somewhere in the range from YR 400 to YR 5000."

These florists still have a limited variety of flowers. Many Yemeni people still don't recognize some types of flowers widely known in other countries. Planting flowers for commercial purposes may not have a particularly good market in Yemen. Many people still regard flowers as a luxury or something for Westerners only. They do not usually adorn their living rooms with vases of flowers. Many use artificial flowers instead of natural ones. Only some of the educated people consider flowers as a source of beauty in their lives.

Sana'a Through Italian Eyes

By: Martin Dansky,
Yemen Times

This is an artist who came to Yemen before the civil war in 1990, and asked to have her artistic rendition of Sanaa published. Maria Lunghi began her artistic career in 1972. As a child she grew up appreciating the elements which would gradually influence her painting ability and perception of colour, appreciating simple things like sunsets, dawn, people and the world. Maria began her career in Rome about twenty years ago and had her talent first rewarded with a Torlonia prize in 1978. She participated at an art education

"Attitudes VII International Art Competition" in 1989.

One of the exhibition sites was in 1994 at via Margutta, world renowned for its sidewalk artist displays and antique shops. Many shows had specific themes like dealing with Woman's Day held annually March 8th, Christmas or various distant lands. Her last exhibit included works she painted after being inspired by her visit to Sanaa and the surrounding towns like Sharahah and Wadi Dahr.

The famous Italian art critic Aldo Riso once said that as soon as she graduated from arts school in Rome she vividly painted various

did of the country are crystal clear, the artistic is on the one hand realistic in her use of earth colours for the classic early buildings with a "naif" use of blue hues on the city structures to soften their colour tone. There's a childlike innocence behind the compositions, a desire to reveal the solitude of the desert world and the abandoness of some of the countries early landmarks. The artist willingly gave up on some of the particulars of the building architecture, like the classic "qamaria" windows present in the traditional Yemeni houses to concentrate on the stillness, and starkness of the



Old Sana'a by Maria Lunghi

exhibit at Campagnano the next year and at various group shows at different well known galleries and cafes of the Italian capital. Abroad, she participated at an international show in New York,

subject matter and superbly revealed unconscious qualities such as the mystery behind limpid arab dwellings mirrored in stagnant pools. The paintings she

Yemeni cityscape. The artist lives and works in Rome, Italy hoping one day to return to the arab world and continue her artistic itinerary.



Chad's Arabic Gets Repeive in France's Budgetary Crunch

France, given its budgetary problems, has been less willing and less able to promote the French language in black Africa and other parts of the world. One such place affected is Chad. Over the last three years, French financial allocations for language and cultural programs have fallen by a visible 40%.

Two languages are increasingly filling up the vacuum - Arabic and English. Mr. Basheer As-Sammni Adam, Secretary-General of the Arab Intellectuals of Chad, has been able to mobilize support for Arabic programs. "The country's 7 million population is 85% Muslim and 65% of which are Arab. So, we are not really Islamizing or Arabizing. We are simply strengthening the local value base of the people," he said in a chat with the Yemen Times. Mr. Adam is visiting the Gulf countries in search of financial support.

The 1993 National Conference on the Future of Chad approved the Arabic language as an official language of the country, along with French. Since then, twelve Arabic language secondary schools and one Arabic-language university have been built. Many more primary schools exist. He especially mentioned Sudan, Egypt, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia as countries which have previously assisted Chad.

"We are happy with the policies of President Idris Debbie, who is himself an Arabophone," he added.

Death Toll Rises in Ethiopia & Somalia Floods

At least 2,000 are dead, and hundreds of thousands are starving and homeless after a month of flooding. Heavy rain pounded Ethiopia feeding the overflowing rivers that have killed about 2,000 people, and are threatening to create an inland sea in southern Somalia. The Juba River, which originates in Ethiopia and runs south to the Somali port of Kismayu, was 8 miles wide at some points. A month of flooding has inundated large areas of southern Somalia between the Ethiopian border and

the Indian Ocean. High water has wiped out the freshly harvested staple crop of sorghum and left hundreds of thousands homeless and hungry. The death toll is rising so fast that aid agencies can only guess at the losses.

The Red Cross has been making twice-a-day deliveries of high-protein biscuits and plastic sheeting, landing at the few airstrips in Somalia that are still above water.

Indians to Invest in Palestine

Palestinian President Yasser Arafat said his people were bearing the brunt of the deadlocked Middle East peace process and appealed for Indian investment in his fledgling nation.

Mr. Arafat told a leading Indian trade forum he had inherited a shattered nation with infrastructure, hospitals, telecommunication, schools and roads being destroyed during Israeli occupation.

Mr. Arafat, who flew in late on Wednesday to drum up support over the stalled peace talks, has met Prime Minister I.K. Gujral and Defense Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav. India has long been a staunch advocate of the Palestine Liberation Organization. New Delhi recognized the state of Palestine in November 1988, before establishing diplomatic ties with Israel in 1992. President Arafat will visit the southern city of Hyderabad on Saturday.

Kurdish Reconciliation Frustrated

Officials in Ankara said on Thursday that the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), led by Jalal Talabani, has deadlocked the Ankara peace initiative sponsored by the United States, Britain and Turkey. The officials confirmed the reports that members of the PKK are situated, together with the PUK, along the cease-fire line drawn between the two rival Kurdistan groups, the PUK and the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), but emphasized once again that all the air raids carried out in northern Iraq by the Turkish army were against the PKK.

"The PKK's ability to stage attacks has almost been eliminated. Our troops will soon withdraw from the region," said the officials, adding that Turkish troops had postponed their withdrawal from the area because of the joint PUK-PKK attack on the KDP. In addition, the officials denied reports that a secure buffer-zone had been established within Iraqi territories.

Gulf War Victims Compensated

Pakistan has received the second installment of \$12.313 million from the United Nations Compensation Commission for forward payments to the people affected by the Gulf War. The Overseas Pakistani Foundation (OPF) will start making payments from November 14th.

Around 44,460 people applied for compensation, out of which 35,000 have been accepted. The payments to the claimants will be made from the OPF head office. The first installment of \$10.292 million was received in March to compensate 4126 claimants, while the second installment of \$12.313 million released by UNCC to Pakistan will benefit 4930 claimants. UNCC will release more money during the two year period to compensate the rest of the 25,000 people affected.

نهنيء ونبارك للاخ
نهر احمد حيدر الادبي
بمناسبة الخطوبة وقرب
الزفاف الميمون باذن الله
مع اريج الورود و عبق
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الياسم السعيد
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الياس قايد حيدر

Russia Supports Iraq

Russia called on the United Nations to certify that Iraq no longer has a nuclear capability as a first step towards lifting the seven-year-old sanctions. The move came at an emergency meeting of the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) called to discuss possible changes in the UN arms inspections in Iraq after the Iraqi leadership dropped a threat to expel US nationals working with UNSCOM. The meeting was attended by 16 disarmament experts from as many countries.

Russia, backed by France, believes that Iraq has satisfied the UN inspectors by dismantling its nuclear capability and that long-term monitoring should be sufficient to ensure that Baghdad no longer poses a threat to its neighbors.

In his last report to the Security Council in October, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Hans Blix pointed to much progress in dismantling Iraq's nuclear capability but refused to close the file. UNSCOM and the IAEA are verifying the dismantling of Iraq's nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and missiles with a range of more than 150km.

Luxor. Security forces were continuing searches in the cave-filled mountains on the eastern bank of the Nile river in search of hidden Jama'a members, the police sources said.

The arrests come as the government prepares to implement a new security plan to protect tourists after security lapses were blamed for allowing the devastating attack against one of Egypt's top tourist sites.

The Jama'a, Egypt's main militant group which has waged a violent anti-government campaign since 1992, offered on Thursday to stop its attacks if the government releases militants held in its prisons. The government has not responded officially to the Jama'a offer, which repeated a similar offer by the group last summer.

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Breaking Ground in Cardiology in Yemen

The Second Yemeni Cardiac Meeting is due to be held during 2-4 December in Sanaa. Participating cardiologists will come from Yemen, Egypt, Jordan, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, Italy, the UK, and Belgium. The sponsors include the Yemeni Patients' Friends Charitable Association (YPFCA), the Yemeni Cardiac Society, the Ministry of Health, and the Faculty of Medicine at Sanaa University. The main topics to be discussed will touch on health problems related to rheumatic and ischemic heart diseases, cardiomyopathy, arrhythmia, hypertension, pediatric cardiology, congenital heart disorders, qat and CVD.

Many of these heart problems now account for major health problems in Yemen.

Bin Sallam of Yemen Times met three of the meeting's organizers and filed the following report.

1. Dr. Ahmed Lutf Al-Mutarreb, a cardiologist and deputy head of the (YPFCA).

Q: Could you tell us more about this cardiac meeting?

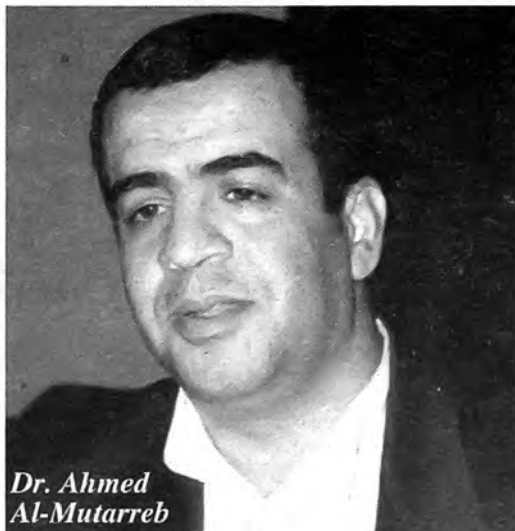
A: The first meeting was held in 1996. This meeting will be attended by about 400 leading specialists and more than 30 professors from outside Yemen. A lot of attention will be given to pediatric cardiology due to the large proportion of heart diseases, congenital or otherwise, among children. In coordination with the Italian team of specialists, a number of Yemeni children with heart ailments will be treated in Italy at the expense of the YPFCA and the Yemeni government.

Q: What role does the YPFCA play?

A: The YPFCA encourages scientific research and gaining up-to-date medical information by inviting top international specialists and surgeons to participate in such meetings.

Q: Are there any plans to establish a special cardiac hospital?

A: The human resources for such an undertaking are available, but the will and financial capabilities are still lacking. The cost of a national heart center can reach over \$ 10 million. The YPFCA is now looking for a site for such a center.



Dr. Ahmed Al-Mutarreb

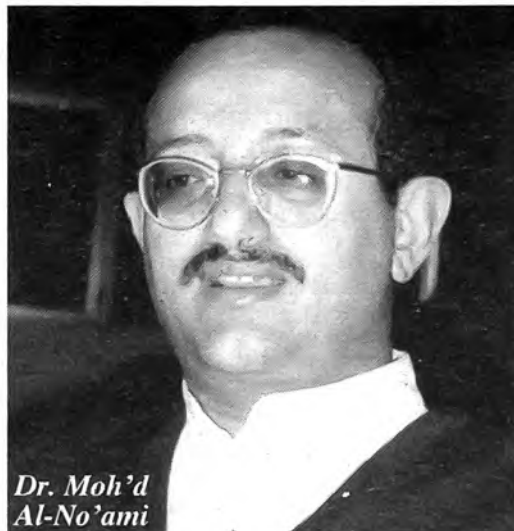
2. Dr. Mohammed Yahya Al-No'ami, a cardiologist, the head of the Yemeni Cardiac Society, and the YPFCA secretary-general.

Q: What are the main goals behind organizing this meeting?

A: The primary goal is an educational one. Yemeni doctors eagerly want to know the latest world developments in medicine. Instead of the Yemeni doctors going abroad, which many cannot afford, we invite specialist who are well versed in their field to lecture and train their Yemeni colleagues. The second goal is to make bilateral agreements with some of the visiting organizations to train both junior and senior Yemeni doctors abroad. Italy, Jordan and Saudi Arabia have expressed their willingness to receive Yemeni doctors for training at their medical establishments.

Q: Who is funding this meeting?

A: The meeting is supported by the Sanaa Municipality, the Ministry of health, the Presidency Office, the Dutch Embassy in Sanaa, drug companies, some international organizations, and a number of benevolent Yemeni businessmen.



Dr. Moh'd Al-No'ami

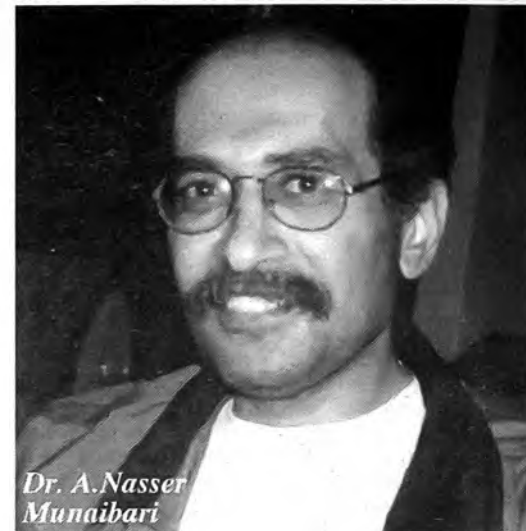
Q: What are the criteria observed in sending Yemeni patients for medical treatment abroad?

A: An extensive medical check-ups such as cardiology are first conducted to find out the extent of the patient's need for treatment abroad. As far as heart surgery is concerned, there are several well-qualified surgeons, but the facilities are not sufficient for major heart surgeries. I call on the Thawra hospital and the Ministry of Health to start to seriously consider the opening of a cardiac unit as a first step towards a more comprehensive national cardiac center.

3. Dr. Abdul-Nasser Abdu Munaibari, a cardiac consultant and assistant lecturer in CVD at the College of Medicine at Sanaa University.

Q: How many heart surgeons are there in Yemen?

A: When I started as a GP 10 years ago, there were only about 3 or 4 heart specialists in all Yemen. There are now around 30 to 40 highly qualified cardiologists. There are many other doctors with enough practice to be able to deal with heart diseases.



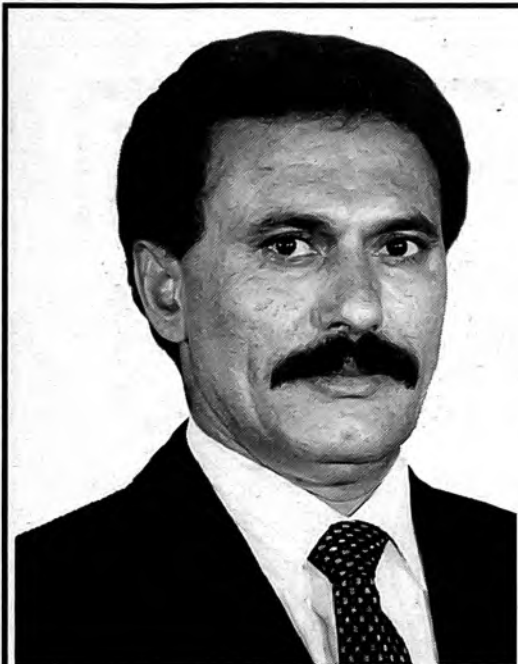
Dr. A. Nasser Munaibari

Q: Are there enough resources to open a cardiac center in Yemen?

A: This question has been raised since long ago. The Thawra Hospital used to give each patient eligible for treatment abroad \$2,500, in addition to 'plane tickets. During a previous seminar on heart diseases in Yemen, we found that the money spent in one year on sending patients abroad was enough to establish a highly specialized health center.

Q: How many research papers will be submitted at the meeting?

A: We are now reviewing 29 papers covering diverse topics related to heart diseases. We are trying to make our esteemed guests present the utmost of their experiences and expertise. Some will not actually be papers, but major lectures on heart surgery and other crucial topics. We have already received 16 such lectures on the most modern heart disease treatments and surgical techniques. Yemeni doctors will benefit a lot from this meeting. It will help raise their research and diagnostic capabilities. Most Yemeni doctors are trying their best to achieve this. It is bound, in the long term, to enhance the Yemeni patient's trust in his Yemeni doctor, something which has been quite lacking.



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وإلى الشعب اليمني الأبي بمناسبة حلول ذكرى إستقلال المحافظات
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30th of November the anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen,
and the signing of the unification agreement.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO ALL.



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شركة هنت اليمنية للنفط

يتقدمون بأجزل التحايا وأجمل التبريكات للشعب اليمني الأبى بزعامة

الفريق علي عبد الله صالح

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President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

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MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO ALL.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



AL-WAHDAWI: Sanaa (Weekly) 18-11-97 (Nasserite Unionist Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1- Mass rally against MENA: Yemen's participation is a brand of shame
- 2- Tribes in Mareb, Jawf, & Khawlan accuse PSO of attempting to assassinate prominent tribal leader, Sheikh Sinan Abu Lohoum
- 3- Abducted American is still held, and is asking for his wife and daughter to be with him
- 4- Trial of 16 secessionists leaders adjourned till December; defense counsel discredited some evidence provided by prosecutor

Article Summary:

Islah Sit-In

A sit-in has been staged by almost 1000 members of Islah in protest over the replacement of some Islahi employees in the Education Office in Taiz. The Syndicate of Educational Professions (PROPGC), on the other hand, has threatened to go on strike protesting what it called Islahi interference. The sit-in started on Sunday, November 16 by some students, teachers, MPs, and ordinary citizens. The police arrested 3 protesters for allegedly carrying firearms and explosives. The Minister of Education went personally to Taiz to resolve the problem.



AL-TAREEQ: Aden (Fortnightly) 18-11-97 (Independent)

News Review:

- 1- Secretary-General of Nasserite Reformist Party escaped a kidnap attempt during an arranged meeting with party's renegade member in Jawf.
- 2- For the 1st time, a powerful car bomb went off outside state-owned Economic Establishment in Aden - property damage but no casualties.
- 3- Committee for Defending Hadhramaut emphasizes peaceful means to achieve its goals.
- 4- League of the Sons of Yemen's Secretary-General was detained while inquiring about his car that was seized by traffic police.
- 5- Three British MPs expressed concern for worsening human rights situation in Yemen.
- 6- State-owned National Shipyard Company has successfully repaired 68 ships in 1996 and 43 during up to September, 1997.



AL-AYYAM: Aden (Bi-Weekly) 19-11-97 (Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1- Parliamentary Speaker, Sheikh Al-Ahmer was taken by private Saudi plane to US for medical treatment
- 2- Aden car bomb weighed 20 kg of TNT
- 3- League of the Sons of Yemen (Rabita) warns against human rights violations in southern Yemen
- 4- Egypt demands extradition of terrorists taking illegal refuge in Yemen, and latter demands extradition of Yemeni opposition figures from Egypt

Article Summary:

Yemen & the Commonwealth

By: Dr. Moh'd Ali Al-Saqqaf

Yemen's recent application to join the British Commonwealth have caused some astonishment. It is true that the former British Foreign Secretary Malcolm



Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Adel J. Moqbil

Rifkind said that it would be nice if Yemen joined the Commonwealth, subject to the Harare conditions or something to the effect. The Yemeni Foreign Minister claimed later that the Harare declaration was unknown to the Yemeni government, despite the fact that it was made in 1991. "It was not sent to us," he said. Is it possible that the Yemeni officials really thought that the British Foreign Secretary's words meant that Britain itself would support Yemen's application in some kind of imaginary favoritism? In addition, it is quite strange that Yemen should apply to join the world organization that stipulates respect of human rights.



AL-UMMA: Sanaa (Weekly) 20-11-97 (Al-Haq Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1- Political parties and people's organizations condemn recent bomb explosions in Aden
- 2- National Committee to Resist Naturalization with Israel held mass rally in protest over MENA conference in Doha
- 3- The President asked British PM to transform Yemeni-British ties to a level similar to French-Lebanese ties

Article Summary:

A Day of Terror

Residents in the Tawheed quarter, Sanaa had probably experienced the most terrifying day in their lives on Saturday, November 16th. They were awakened by the sound of bullets and grenade explosions. It transpired later that the culprit was Lt. Col. Abdulrahman Hussien Taher. He broke into the home of his late brother and held his family as hostages, claiming that the house is his. The 'gallant' officer threatened to kill anyone who came near the house. Some neighbors later indicted that Taher, wearing full battle fatigue and carrying five grenades and a submachine gun, fired at his nephew while forcing his way in. More than 25 security patrols stood helpless until the assailant surrendered late in the evening. Many of the residents could not leave their homes that day for fear of being killed by Taher.



AL-SAHWA: Sanaa (Weekly) 20-11-97

[Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah)]

News Review:

- 1- Islah official: Aden car bomb explosion is a criminal act that contravenes all Islamic and humanitarian values.
- 2- Explosives were seized in connection with bomb explosion at (Islah run) Radaa Scholastic Institute.
- 3- Two Bodyguards of Taiz Appeal Court's president are still detained following assault by unknown men on the judge 2 months ago.
- 4- Imam of a Hodeida mosque was savagely attacked by bodyguards serving a prominent figure
- 5- Fishermen in Seera, Aden demand that they be housed in their traditional area near the coast, Urban Planning Office claims their area is outside city bounds.
- 6- Malaria takes epidemic proportions in Hawta, Lahaj due to accumulation of rubbish and faulty sewage system.
- 7- A sit-in, a strike, and a mass demonstration in Taiz in protest against replacement of Islahi employees at Education Office.



AL-THAWRI: Sanaa (Weekly) 20-11-97

(Yemeni Socialist Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1- Socialist Party calls for a comprehensive national dialogue

- 2- Armed clashed on Yemeni-Saudi border, 3 Yemeni and 6 Saudi soldiers died
- 3- Public sit-ins are staged in solidarity with people detained in connection with Hadhramaut's recent bomb explosions
- 4- YSP Politburo member, Masdoos, denies any connection with bomb explosions

Article Summary:

An 'Israeli' Burned in Sanaa

After much haggling with the vendor near a Tahreer Square, Abdulsalam - a young Yemeni man - bought the second hand coat he saw a few days ago.

Arriving home, Abdulsalam discovered to his chagrin the sad truth. "Made in Israel," read the coat's label. Abdulsalam's friends, after discussing the matter, decided to collect the coat's cost and give it to him. The coat was later ceremoniously burnt in a Sanaa street.



26 SEPTEMBER: Sanaa (Weekly) 20-11-97 (Yemeni Armed Forces)

Main Headlines:

- 1- The President expressed condolences to Egyptian President for Luxor massacre
- 2- Inflation is down to less than 5% and annual real growth at 5.5%

- 3- Council of Ministers discusses report on development requirements in Hajja
- 4- Several suspects in Aden car bomb explosions were arrested, and modern surveillance equipment seized

Article Summary:

Mahra Saboteurs

The East Sanaa court is continuing its hearing of the case in which 32 men are accused of acts of sabotage in the Governorate of Mahra. A large arsenal of weaponry was seized in connection with this case. Among these were explosives, modern military communication equipment, Russian-made SAM 7s, US-made Strella anti-aircraft missiles, grenades, and submachine guns. The accused have all confessed their involvement in various acts of sabotage, attempted assassination of high-ranking officials, bank robberies, and other acts of violence. The court chose three lawyers to defend the accused men who also confessed to collaborating with foreign parties.

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Chess Championship Concluded

The Republic Chess Championship ended on Wednesday, November 19th with the Wahda of Sanaa getting the winner's cup by gaining 29.5 points. Al-Shula of Aden came in second position with 29 points, followed by Khanfar of Abyan with 17.5 points. The award-giving ceremony was held on Friday, November 21st at the Youth House in Taiz.

Yemen to Participate in WAOG

A Yemeni sports delegation has left for Iran on Tuesday, November 18th to take part in the West Asia Olympic Games (WAOG), which are set to continue until November 29th. Mr. Hussein Al-Awadhi, General Secretary of the Yemeni Olympic Committee said, "those chosen to participate in these games are the most outstanding players who achieved excellent results in the last Arab Tournament in Lebanon."

Hadhramaut Wins Cycling Championship

Despite being a new comer, the Hadhramaut

cycling team was able to win the Republic Cycling Championship. The race started at Martyrs' Square in Abyan and ended outside the Youth and Sports Office in Tawahy, Aden. The Governor of Aden, Mr. Taha Ahmed Ghanim presented the winners with the championship trophies in a ceremony held in Aden.

Taekwondo Championship Concluded

Al-Yarmook Sports Club had organized an open taekwondo championship to mark the anniversary of National Independence Day of November 30th. Many athletes of various ages took part. Al-Yarmook Club won first position followed by Al-Qadisnia Club.

Athletics Games to be Developed

Three major athletics activities are to be held at the beginning of December as part of the plans made by the Yemeni Athletics Association for the coming season. Organized by the Yemeni Olympic Committee and the Athletics Association, a primary training course for coaches will be held during November 22nd to December 2nd.

UNPF Supports Sports

The Minister of Youth and Sports, Dr. Abdulawahab Raweh met on Thursday, November 21st the UNPF representative in Sanaa. They discussed the UNPF's efforts to sponsor sports activities and integrate youth events with populations issues in Yemen. A delegation from the UNPF will arrive in Sanaa to assess several proposed projects involving youth activities and population concerns. A plan will be proposed for the period from 1998 to 2001.

Rearing to Roar Lion & Jambia Holds AGM

The Lion and Jambia Cricket Club (L&JCC) has held its annual general meeting on Friday, November 21st at the Taj Sheba Hotel in Sanaa. The participants reviewed last season's achievements - L&JCC came 4th - and discussed their plans for the 1998 season. The following club officers were selected to serve for the 1998 season:



Lion of the Series Waris Ali receiving cash award from Mr. Dominic, Sales Manager-Rothmans

1- the chairman is HH Mr. Victor Henderson, the British Ambassador to Sanaa;
2- the treasurer and secretary is Mr. Ash Z. Mehta, F.C.C.A.;
3- the captain is Mr. Casper Ridley;
4- the vice captain is Mr. Waris Ali; and
5- the team manager is Mr. Ajay Tandon.
The notable achievement for batting was the fastest century in Yemen - hundred runs in 40 balls - by Casper Ridley, the L&JCC's new captain. Ajay Tandon, the team's current manager and former captain, distinguished himself with a continued bowling performance. Once again, the Overall No. 1 Player of 1997 is Waris Ali.
So Casper Ridley won the Best Batsman Award, Ajay Tandon is Best Bowler, and Waris Ali the Lion of the Series.
"I am looking forward to being the captain of the L&JCC," said Casper; adding, "we have a good and strong team and I hope we'll have more fun playing next year than we did this year."
On his part, Ajay confidently announced, "the Pakistan Tigers team won last season but the Lions

will definitely be kings of the jungle next season." Composed of players from 5 different nationalities, the L&JCC is also hoping to get some Yemeni players in its ranks. "We'll try to train some Yemeni players this year," said Ajay inviting all those Yemenis out there who are interested in cricket. "If cricket is to prosper and grow in Yemen, it needs Yemeni players," commented Casper. "That is something we should all in the league try to encourage as much as possible as it is my philosophy is to encourage anyone who would like to play to come along," he added. There is a Yemeni cricket team based in Aden, but no Yemeni team in Sanaa.
How about complete novices who eager to learn? Even if they do not know how to play, they could join us in the practice session when we take up new players on Thursday afternoon, announced Casper. So anyone of you folks out there who is interested in joining can contact the team manager Ajay Tandon at KLM.
"I'll be taking over the job as a team manager. My job as a team manager will include coaching and training the players so I would welcome Yemeni players because I think they have enormous sports



Cedric Lane, Ron Farrer, and Ajay Tandon

strength with them," noted Ajay. "Yemenis are great learners and we would like to have them on the team," added Casper to his colleague's welcoming invitation.
The L&JCC official sponsor is Rothmans Royal; while, the co-sponsors are Halliburton, Sodexo, Taj Sheba, and Yemen Times.

By Adel - Yemen Times

Correction & Apology

I published in the Yemen Times issue number 46 of November 17th a wrong result of the female volleyball match between the Sanaa Modern School and the Olympic Center Team. The correct result is the Sanaa Modern School Team defeated the Olympic Center Team 30-7.
The mistake was far from deliberate. I extend my apologies to the winning team of the Sanaa Modern School, wishing them all the best in the future.

Jamal Al-Awadhi,
Yemen Times Sports Editor

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<p>25 November 1997 1300 Great Chefs 1700 Arthel and Fred 2100 The Price is Right</p> <p>26 November 1997 1130 Wheel of Fortune 1600 Slim Cooking 1930 Jerry Springer</p> <p>27 November 1997 1400 Sally Jessy Raphael 1830 The Best of George and Alana 0230 E! FYE</p> <p>28 November 1997 1330 Ooh La La 1730 Hollywood Spotlight 2230 Wheel of Fortune</p> <p>29 November 1997 1500 Body Moves 2200 Jeopardy 0330 Comedy Central</p> <p>30 November 1997 1400 E! News Week in Review 1800 Hollywood Spotlight 2100 The Price is Right</p> <p>25 November 1997 1300 Musabaqa 1700 The Rush Hour 0100 Awtar</p> <p>26 November 1997 1300 RSVP 1500 Cosmix 2200 Cosmix</p> <p>27 November 1997 1300 Indimage 1630 Chain Reaction 0100 In Motion</p>	<p>28 November 1997 0900 Retro 1700 Musabaqa 1900 360 - Inxs</p> <p>29 November 1997 1300 The American Chart Show 1900 Vital Soul 0100 Awtar</p> <p>30 November 1997 1100 The Rush Hour 1300 Indimage 0000 Retro</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>DISNEY CHANNEL</p> </div> <p>24 November 0800 Ducktales 1430 Darkwing Duck 1700 Movie: The sword and the rose</p> <p>25 November 0830 Chip 'n dale rescue rangers 1530 Gargoyles 1830 Brand spanking new doug</p> <p>26 November 1300 Raw Toonage 1500 Aladdin 1900 Empty nest</p> <p>27 November 0630 Fraggle Rock 0930 Mickey Mouse and Friends 1630 Stick with me kid</p> <p>28 November 0800 ducktales 1330 Sidekicks 1730 Movie: Pollyanna</p> <p>29 November 12.30 New adventure of Winnie the Pooh 1430 Darkwing Duck 1630 Boy meets world</p> <p>30 november 0700 Quack Attack 0930 Welcome to Pooh corner</p>	<p>1130 Mickey Mouse and Friends</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>ORBIT NEWS</p> </div> <p>24 November 1997 0730 CBS Face the Nation 1500 NBC The Today Show Live 2300 Wall Street Journal</p> <p>25 November 1997 0930 ABC Nightline 1430 NBC News at Sunrise Live 2200 Rescue 911</p> <p>26 November 1997 0800 ABC World News 1400 CBS Morning News Live 2200 CBS Face the Nation</p> <p>27 November 1997 0930 ABC Nightline 1500 NBC The Today Show Live 2200 CBS 48 Hours</p> <p>28 November 1997 1000 NBC News Channel Night-side Live 1400 CBS Morning News Live 2300 CBS Public Eye with Bryant Gumbel</p> <p>29 November 1997 0900 NBC Nightly News 1500 NBC Weekend Today Show Live 2200 ABC 20/20</p> <p>30 November 1997 0800 American Journal 1500 Nelson Mandela 2330 NBC Meet the Press</p>	<p>v FC Utrecht 2300 FA Premier League: Tottenham v Crystal Palace Live</p> <p>25 November 1000 SportsCenter Live 1700 English Horse Racing: Cheltenham/Huntingdon Live 0030 College Basketball: Maui Invitational First Round</p> <p>26 November 0630 College Football 1730 Extreme Sports: ASA World Tour 2230 UEFA Champions League Live</p> <p>27 November 0830 UEFA Champions League 1500 UEFA Champions League 2130 World of Rugby</p> <p>28 November 0500 College Basketball: UCLA at North Carolina Live 1130 SportsCenter International First Whistle</p> <p>29 November 0630 ESPNNews Evening Live 1330 NFL Blast 2100 F-3 South America Championship</p> <p>30 November 0730 ESPNNews Evening Live 1500 Davis Cup Tennis: Final Round Doubles Match 1850 90 Minutes: FA Premier League - Arsenal v Liver pool. Spanish Football Live</p>	<p>1405 Skysurfer Strike Force 1430 Shirt Tales 26 November 1997 1145 Snagglepuss 1930 The Muppets Tonight! 0100 Mr. Bean</p> <p>27 November 1997 0950 The Adventures of Madeline 1800 World Youth News 2330 The Tomorrow People</p> <p>28 November 1997 1300 Paw Paws 2050 The Muppets Tonight! 0030 Three's Company</p> <p>29 November 1997 0920 The Adventures of the Little Prince 1900 Going Bananas 2210 Hypernauts</p> <p>30 November 1997 0855 Happily Ever After 1405 The Adventures of Madeline 1430 The Adventures of the Little Prince</p>	<p>24 November 1997 1300 Sunset Beach 1930 It's A Man's World 2100 Party of Five 25 November 1997 1730 Ink 2000 Grace Under Fire 2200 Peacable Kingdom</p> <p>26 November 1997 1200 General Hospital 2030 Boston Common 2300 Homicide Life on the Street</p> <p>27 November 1997 1030 Mama's Boy 1600 The Commish 0100 Cosby</p> <p>28 November 1997 1300 Sunset Beach 1730 Free Spirit 2030 One of the Boys</p> <p>29 November 1997 0730 Hardball 1930 It's A Man's World 2300 Mini Series - In Cold Blood - Part 1</p> <p>30 November 1997 1100 All My Children 1530 227 0000 Hardball</p>
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HOLLYWOOD CHANNEL

24 November 1997
1130 Wheel of Fortune
1530 Alive
1930 Jerry Springer

ORBIT ESPN SPORTS

24 November
0300 NFL Primetime Live
0830 Dutch Football: Feyenoord

FUN CHANNEL

24 November 1997
1250 Atom Ant
1900 The New Schmoos
0000 Mary Tyler Moore

25 November 1997
1120 Little Rascals

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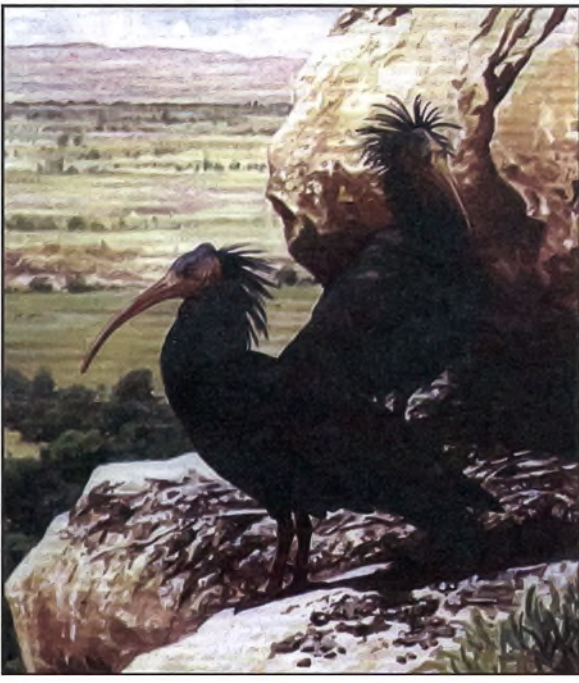
Bald Ibis Search Continues

Last February the Yemen Times published an article inviting readers to join in the search for the Bald Ibis. Based on reports that a colony of these rare birds had been seen in the vicinity of Yarim in the 1970's, the Yemen Ornithological Society posted a YR 10,000 reward for information leading to the rediscovery of nesting Bald Ibises in Yemen. Two readers responded to the request with reports of these birds in northern Somalia, and Al Radda. As there was no incontestable evidence of a nesting colony, the reward which has since been increased to YR 25,000, remains unclaimed.

The Bald Ibis is one of the world's rarest birds with a wild population of around 200, most of which live in Morocco. Sadly, 38 dead Bald Ibis were found in Morocco in May 1996, at Souss-Massa National Park. This calamity reduced the wild population by as much as 20%. The race to locate undiscovered populations of this critically endangered species is therefore more urgent.

The only other known population of Bald Ibises is a semi-wild colony at Birecik, Turkey. During the summer, the Turkish birds are free-flying, while in the winter they are locked in cages to protect them during the lean winter months. Each winter, some of the Turkish birds disperse to unknown regions. Also, each year there are reports of Bald Ibises in parts of East Africa and the Middle East. It is possible that the Bald Ibises which are occasionally recorded in Eritrea, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen come from Birecik. Some researchers believe, however, that these birds are unlikely to fly so far, and originate from an as yet undiscovered colony, possibly in Yemen.

Bald Ibises are large, dark birds with an iridescent sheen to their plumage. The adults are distinctive for their unfeathered heads, and the fringe of long shaggy plumes on their necks. They are quite long-legged, with a long down-curved beak. Bald Ibises nest in colonies on cliff ledges, sometimes, as in Turkey, quite close to human habitations. They



feed on invertebrates in open marshy areas and cultivated fields. This summer, a Turkish researcher ringed 57 Bald Ibises at Birecik to help solve the mystery of the disappearing birds. Each of these ibises was fitted on its left leg with a metal ring bearing the letters 'TR.' Anyone who sees a Bald Ibis in Yemen (or elsewhere) is asked to report the details of their observations to the Yemen Ornithological Society at: P.O. Box 2002, Sana'a, Tel: 248 309, Fax: 234 438, email: david.s@netqsi.com (In previous years these rare birds have been positively recorded from the Taiz sewage lagoons, Laudar, and Al Kadan). If you locate a colony, notify us with the details, and collect your reward.

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