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The Day Sanaa Arrested the BBC!

Today, Monday, June 1st, the three-man BBC television crew is expected to be allowed to leave Sanaa, at the end of a nasty ordeal. Robin Barnwell, Rageh Omaar, and Frank Smith were in Yemen to shoot a feature for the BBC program *Correspondent*. The theme was Tribal Yemen, in the background of the kidnapping of the Mitchells. Appropriately, they chose the Al-Taheri of Bani Dhabian tribe in Marib, where the Mitchells were 'hosted'. On Tuesday evening, May 26th, the trio, who were on their way back after completing their mission, were arrested by officers from the Ministry of Interior about one kilometer before the Sanaa checkpoint. They spent the night at the Ministry. They say they were interrogated and were also roughed up by Brig-General Yahia Al-Amri, Deputy Minister of Interior. Their equipment and passports were taken away. Earlier, and in anticipation of being arrested and/or searched, they gave the films they had shot to a local tribesman in order to deliver the same to the UK embassy in Sanaa. The footage is said to have ended up with the Ministry of Interior, through local tribesmen who are on the payroll of the government.

The three were then interrogated by the office of the Attorney-General. Following 12 hours of grueling questioning, the 14-pages of questions and answers show little other than the repeated charge of "visiting a restricted area without government approval". In addition, the public prosecutor presented a phrase in the press standing regulations (not the law) stating that foreign journalists who wish to cover events outside Sanaa must have a prior approval and 'escort' from the Ministry of Information. The BBC team had neither, according to the Ministry. The BBC trio claim otherwise. They say they had approached the Yemeni Embassy in London with a request to shoot in tribal Yemen. The request was communicated to the Ministry of Information, which approved it. They were given journalist visas. Robin Barnwell arrived a few days before the others in order to discuss their program with the Ministry of Information. "I met with officials there." He says he did bring up their interest to visit Bani Dhabian. The Ministry objected on grounds that it was a dangerous place, and that the authorities

could not guarantee their safety. The BBC team said they will arrange their own safe passage. "But they did not tell us the area was off-limits." As a matter of fact, there is no official Yemeni decision that certain regions are restricted. Foreign journalists are not given any written guidelines to specify the "do's and don't's" of covering events in Yemen. The real dispute has to do with the feeling of the Ministry of Interior that it has been out-manuevered by the tribes. The kidnapers - instead of looking bad in media reports - actually, come out better than the cops or other officials. Even former hostages are sympathetic. That is why the Ministry tries to block any contact between journalists and the tribes lest the latter should succeed even more in presenting their case. A local sheikh put it this way: "The party which controls the information,

controls the situation. We will show respect to the carriers of the word." Sadly, Yemeni officials have yet to learn to play it right with the media.

Parliament Considers Vote of Confidence on Government

Parliament will start discussing the program of the Government of Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, according to which the deputies will consider giving it their vote of confidence. The program, finalized by the government on Saturday, May 30th, calls for continuation of the reform effort. It also stresses sustainable development efforts. Observers believe that the government is virtually assured of a "yes" vote in parliament. However, it remains to be seen if this government will surpass the 250 votes obtained by the government of Dr. Faraj Bin Ghanim, just over a year ago.

Consultative Council Initiates Hearings on Industrialization

The Consultative Council (CC) started a 3-day hearing on Saturday, May 30th, on various aspects of the country's industrialization effort. Officials from the Ministry of Industry, the General Investment Authority, and key industrialists from the private sector came to brief the council. The focus of the discussion was on manufacturing. "We are interested in finding ways to help the infant industrialization effort," said Mr. Ali Mohamed Saeed, Member of the CC, and himself at the helm of a major industrial body - The Hayel Saeed Group of Companies.



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OUR VIEWPOINT SUMMER Programs for Our Children

It is summer time again, and our kids have no where to go. Most of the world undertakes special efforts to arrange diverse programs involving physical exercises, educational efforts, and recreational activities. Government offices, private enterprises, and community organizations come together to keep the children and teenagers busy.

Unfortunately, here in Yemen, there are few options. The Ministry of Education has no summer programs. The Ministry of Youth and Sports has very limited activities. Other government institutions have nothing worth mentioning. The private sector has few ideas or projects. There are a few recreational and cultural facilities, but these are limited to the large cities.

Community-based activities are also limited. There are a few sports clubs, literature centers, etc. But again, the numbers and attractions are limited.

The point is that more than 50% of our 18 million population is less than 18 years old. What will this large number of youngsters do over the next three months? Society has not done much to keep them busy.

It is important that a national plan of action be developed to help provide for the summer needs of half of the population. It is not a matter of resources, it is a matter of vision, desire to do something and commitment. Sometimes, all it takes is a plain field with a coach to keep a couple of dozen kids busy. But there is need for the ideas and commitment.

Somehow, the decision-making process of Yemen today is fixated on pressure groups. If one individual can bring pressure to bear, his 'needs' are easily provided for. The 50% of the population that the kids represent do not have a lobby or pressure group. It would be assumed that the senior officials would have the interest of the nation at heart, and thus work to meet the needs of the children. Unfortunately for Yemen, they do not.

As a result, kids stray. Some of them fall victims to bad habits and influence. We see this most conspicuously in the cities where teenagers run into trouble. We see children who are forced into working or begging or whatever, all of which is illegal at their tender age.

Parents and family elders are not providing good role models, either. Many adults spend their time chewing qat and watching satellite TV programs that represent the lowest common denominator. The children's recreational needs are mostly neglected, leaving them to wander off into the streets and mix with bad company.

Efforts to keep our children fruitfully busy during the summer vacation must start at home, and be taken up by the relevant authorities.

The Publisher
Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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Government Harasses Opposition Press

More and more opposition newspapers are being harassed by the authorities, by one means or another.

The Press and Publications Prosecutor (PPP) office has recently summoned the chief editor of Al-Shourah weekly newspaper, Mr. Noman Qayid Saif for publishing an article on 10 May that the authorities did not like.

Al-Thawri weekly - mouthpiece of the Yemeni Socialist Party - also has a case being reviewed by the PPP. The reason is also a series of very critical articles.

Some journalists also get arrested and beaten up because of what they write. Examples abound. There are at this time, under one excuse or another, six journalists in prison.

Finally, the government is now pushing newspapers to get additional licensing such as commercial registry, municipal, etc. In fact, some government officials have visited the Yemen Times last week for this purpose. The law, of course, stipulates that press licensing is done by the Ministry of Information.

Rogue Chinese Captain Beaten

Local fishermen in the coastal governorate of Al-Mahara had beaten up the Chinese captain of a boat seen fishing illegally in the Yemeni territorial waters on Monday 25 May. Many foreign trawler come to fish in this area without a license from the Yemeni authorities.

New WB Rep Appointed

A new resident representative for the World Bank is in Sanaa. Mr. Gianni Brizzi replaces the outgoing representative, Mr. Osman Sheikh Ahmed.

SA Delegation Arrives

Headed by Dr. Samuel Motinsiani, the non-resident ambassador of South Africa, a delegation of businessmen is currently visiting Yemen. Oil and mineral prospecting as well as air transport are on their agenda.

Teachers Voice Grievances

The Syndicate of Educational Professions (SEP), established in 1990, is suing the Ministry of Social Affairs for refusing to renew its license. The refusal is said to be politically-driven.

The SEP is demanding payment of the annual subsidy stipulated by Yemeni law for all trade unions and syndicates. It is also asking for amendment of the Teachers' Law in order to allow for higher teachers' salaries and other benefits.

There are 3 different teachers' syndicates operating in Yemen at the moment with different political allegiances. "A unified syndicate must be established through democratic elections," said Mr. Abdullah M. Abu Al-Ghath, the head of the SEP.

Yemeni Culture in Vienna

An exhibition of Yemen culture and archeology will be held next October, and is scheduled to last until January of next year. An agreement was signed by the Yemeni Ministry of Culture and Tourism and its Austrian Museum of Art History. According to the agreement, the Austrian museum will renovate some of the Yemeni artifacts and conduct the publicity campaign for the exhibition.

Dutch Frigate Visits Aden

For the first time in decades, a Royal Dutch Navy ship - HMS Abraham van der Hulst - will pay a visit to the Port of Aden during 4-6 June, on its return from the Gulf region to Holland.

A modern frigate, the van der Hulst is 122m long and is manned by 160 crew members. The captain and crew of the frigate will visit Aden and socialize with its officials and people.

INVITATION

The organizers of the First General Conference for NGOs hereby invites all international non-governmental organizations working in Yemen to participate in all sessions and meetings during 16-18/6/1998.

All deliberations of the conference are going to be held at the Police Academy College, on Kulliyat Al-Shurtah Street in Sanaa. The program has plenary sessions (mornings), and several simultaneous workshops and brainstorming sessions in the afternoons.

The objectives of the conference are:

- To discuss and offer feedback on the draft on the NGO law.
- To discuss establishment of an NGO network for Yemen.
- To strengthen cooperation between Yemeni and international NGOs.
- To enhance capacity-building of Yemeni NGOs through workshops.

Participants in the conference include:

- Representatives of about 300 Yemeni NGOs;
- Representatives of about 100 international NGOs;
- Yemeni/foreign government officials working with NGOs.

**ALL INTERESTED NGOs
ARE KINDLY ASKED TO CONTACT:**

**the conference secretariat at (01) 267441, and/or
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Dr. Arwa Al-Rabi':

"Low pay is liable to affect the performance of the Yemeni doctor & nurse."

Dr. Arwa Al-Arabi' is the first female to rise up to the rank of hospital general manager in Yemen. She was appointed by the Minister of Public Health on March 24 to run the Sabeen Hospital in Sanaa. A graduate of Egypt, Dr. Arwa holds a B.Sc. in general medicine and an M.Sc. in gynecology. She is now preparing to start her Ph.D. work.

Dr. Salah Haddash, Yemen Times Managing Editor, talked to Dr. Al-Rabi' about a number of issues. He filed the following interview. Excerpts:

Q: How do you feel now that you are the first female general manager of a major hospital in Yemen?

A: When I first got the post, I had a mixture of contradictory feelings. This is an administrative job which could take me away from my patients and professional research. But it is a challenge.

Q: Have you formulated any plans to further improve services at the hospital?

A: There are now plans to introduce new departments, especially for maternity and mother and child health care. We also hope to establish a cancer treatment center and fertility center. In general we will work to raise standards of services at the hospital. Plans have already been formulated, and implementation is due to start in the near future. Also, a modern center for family planning is scheduled to be established at the Sabeen Hospital within the next few months.

Q: What organizations are you cooperating with in implementing your plans?

A: In addition to the Ministry of Health - our principal supporter - there are several international organizations and local philanthropists which provide a lot of aid. These include the WHO, the Habbary family, Mr. Ahmed Al-Daylam and many others.

Q: Could you tell us more about the Sabeen Hospital?

A: The Sabeen Hospital was established in 1988. Just a general practitioner then, I was one of the first doctors to start working there. The hospital has several main departments: gynecology, mater-

nity, pediatrics, internal medicine, surgery, pediatric orthopedics, ENT, quarantine, and the out-patient department.

There are 296 beds and a staff of 52 specialists, 49 of whom are Yemeni, and 64 general practitioners, only two of them are foreign. There are also 155 nurses, 70 of whom are Yemeni - 65 females and 5 males.

Q: Is there a private section at the hospital?

A: The top floor was built three years ago as a private section, which contains 46 rooms for gynecology, 27 for pediatrics. Each room has two beds, a bathroom, a fridge, and a TV. It costs YR 1,500 per night.

Q: Do you think there are many highly qualified Yemeni women capable of occupying senior positions in public life?

A: If given a good chance to have a proper education, Yemeni women can excel in their professional life.

There is the nagging problem of low wages, compared to what expatriate workers get. This is the reason behind many Yemeni females refraining from working as nurses. Nursing is an essential part of the medical profession. Nurses have stay with the patient around the clock, especially after complicated surgery.

Social restrictions prevent the majority of Yemeni female nurses from working on night shifts, a problem which may be rectified by giving them better wages. That is why there is a strong reliance on an expatriate nursing staff.

Q: How are salaries determined?

A: The expatriate staff are paid



hygiene and the need to go to the doctor during the early stages of an illness. There should be more health education at schools and community centers. Midwives have to be fully trained to do their job properly. Complications also arise because of the lack of a proper emergency and ambulance system. Cases of hemorrhaging in particular get complicated because the patient is not speedily brought to the hospital. There is an urgent need to

provide an efficient ambulance system and a well-stocked blood bank to take care of emergency cases.

Q: How much are patients charged for surgeries?

A: Patients have to pay just the basic cost of the operation. Those who cannot pay get an exemption or a big deduction. A cesarean section at the Sabeen Hospital, for example, now costs YR 5,000 - the same as it did three years ago. Baby delivery costs just YR 1,000.

Q: How can public awareness be raised regarding personal health and hygiene?

A: Primary health care centers and child and mother clinics must

partly in US dollars and partly in Yemeni riyals, according to the civil service charter. Only specialist expatriate doctors are employed. We intend in the future to employ only the best consultants from abroad.

On average, an expatriate specialist get about \$500 a month, in addition to other personal perks such as housing, transport, annual vacation and a return airplane ticket.

Q: What about the salaries paid to the Yemeni staff?

A: Money paid to Yemeni staff is just not enough to cover the needs of a decent life, leaving them constantly on the search for other sources of income to take care of the needs of their families. A Yemeni specialist is paid the equivalent of \$100 a month, while, a GP gets only \$80.

This affects their performance on the job, by one way or another. The nervous tension created by the worry over the chronic shortage of money is liable to affect the performance of the Yemeni doctor or nurse.

Q: Are medicines available free of charge for the patients?

A: We try our best to provide all the essential drugs, especially for the emergency and surgery departments. Free meals are available for all the hospital inmates.

Q: What procedures are followed for admission into the hospital?

A: Admission procedures are very easily facilitated through the out-patient department, in which the patient's condition is first assessed and then referred to the hospital department concerned.

Q: What are the working hours at the Sabeen Hospital?

A: We work 24 hours a day.

Q: How many patients visit the hospital every day?

A: The number varies, but it is in the hundreds.

Q: What are the most prevalent diseases?

A: Diseases differ from one area to another and from one education level to another. As far as feminine diseases are concerned, the most prevalent cases are of child bearing and delivery complications. Children also usually suffer from nutritional deficiencies and diseases caused by lack of hygiene.

Q: What are the main causes of such diseases or complications?

A: The main cause is lack of awareness of the importance of

be improved and equipped with modern facilities so that illnesses and possible complications are diagnosed or predicted at an early stage.

The other important thing is to conduct national campaigns to raise parents awareness of the necessity to vaccinate their little children against the common childhood diseases.

hepatitis viruses. The necessary chemical solutions used to do blood tests are quite expensive. We sometimes seek the help of the Central Laboratory in Sanaa to conduct these tests. All this causes numerous delays. We now have plans to expand and develop the blood bank at the Sabeen Hospital. The new pediatrics emergency ward, due to open in July, will be equipped with a full blood bank.

Q: Do you have good reserves of blood at the hospital?

A: Sufficient blood supplies are hard to come by. Our blood bank contains two small fridges only and the necessary plastic bottles are not enough. Although stocks are replenished by blood donors, the necessary blood tests are not carried out swiftly to make sure that the blood is free of contagions such as the AIDS and

Q: Any last comment?

A: The Sabeen Hospital needs a cancer treatment center and an intensive care unit to be able to provide better services.

There is still a lot to be done in the health-care sector in Yemen. We have already begun the process of modernization so the future seems more hopeful.

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Ethiopians Celebrate National Day



The Ethiopian community in Yemen has on Thursday, May 28, celebrated national day - the 7th anniversary of the establishment of democracy and constitutional rule. A party was held at the Ethiopian Embassy Compound to

mark this happy occasion. The celebrations were attended by several senior Yemeni officials, foreign ambassadors, and a large number of Ethiopian and Yemeni personalities and prominent figures.

On this occasion, Anwar Al-Sayyadi of Yemen Times met HE the Ambassador of Ethiopia, Mr. Teketel Forssido, and filed the following interview.

Q: How do you evaluate the present Yemeni-Ethiopian relationship? Will this relationship be further strengthened in the future and how?

A: The Yemeni-Ethiopian relations have completely changed, since the new democratic governments were established in both countries. I can say with full confidence that a new chapter in the relationship was opened following the visit of the then Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Yemeni (the present Prime Minister), Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani to Ethiopia.

Both Yemen and Ethiopia have free-market economy policies with the free and fair participation of private investors. Due to this reason, they agreed to implement the memorandum of understanding signed in 1992 to promote bilateral cooperation in the economic, social, cultural and trade fields.

Q: What are the major democratic develop-

ments in Ethiopia today?

A: The Government of Ethiopia has several democratic policies, and as a result devolution of power from the centre to the regions (states) has provided the various nationalities with opportunities to be responsible for their administrative affairs within their own regions.

Strong administrative and judicial bodies have been organized on democratic foundations both in the Federal Government and in the regional states, which have enabled the country to have durable peace and stability. At the establishment of the rule of law and good governance, the country now is



engaged in economic development endeavors that increased the infrastructure development, health and educational facilities improvement, agriculture and food production, trade, tourism and increased investment, activities.

Q: What is the position of Ethiopia regarding regional issues?

A: Ethiopians have the characteristic attitude towards peaceful co-existence with all their neighbors at all times. As the country is the home of different nations and nationalities, it boasts of the proud and historic unity in diversity. The friendly attitude of Ethiopia towards its neighbors originates from its own internal values. It is our committed

intention that we live in peace with all our neighbors, and thus one can see the role of Ethiopia today in both local and regional issues.

Regarding the Hunaish Island dispute, it is Ethiopia's intention that any border dispute, be it that of water, island, or any other, should only be resolved through peaceful negotiations. The Hunaish issue is now on the right avenue.

Hence, Ethiopia admires the position of Yemen which allowed the rule of law and peaceful negotiation in place of armed conflict.

With regards to the dispute that arose now between Ethiopia and Eritrea, our position is the same - peaceful negotiation.

Ethiopia still believes that the people of Eritrea at large would not like to go to war. If the Eritrean government has a civilized claim at all, there is a civilized way of solving the issue.

Q: What are the future plans of Ethiopia regarding the economy and attracting investors?

A: Building strong economy is our priority. We have all the basic resources for development. The country is endowed with natural and mineral resources, as well as fertile land. The fauna

and flora of Ethiopia are rich and

diverse. Rivers, lakes and other water sources provide the country with continuous water availability throughout the year. Old, historical and archeological sites provide additional resources for the development of the country.

With regards to attracting investors, we have the resources, we have a large population that is hospitable, hard-working and well disciplined. Second, we have attractive investment provisions for both domestic and foreign investment. The bid to make

Ethiopia more attractive for investment is in high gear and it will continue so.

Q: How do you evaluate the current volume of trade exchange between Ethiopia and Yemen?

A: The volume of trade between the two brotherly countries has not been quite significant. This was probably due to the non-seriousness on the parts of the business sectors. The business community of both Ethiopia and Yemen did not consider the markets existing in both countries.

The population of Ethiopia is close to 60 million, while the Yemenis are close to some 18 million. You can imagine the volume of consumption of such a huge population. Therefore, it is high time that business groups, investors as well as trade and tourism operators pay serious attention to this matter. At present there are strong signals of increasing trade exchanges taking place gradually.

Q: Any last comment?

A: Since my arrival here in Yemen, I have been witnessing continuous growth in our relations. I have also seen more business development between our two countries. I would like to see these two countries to be definitely engaged in serious economic ties. But more so, I would like to see Ethiopia & Yemen play a visible role in the peace and stability of the region whereby such a role will be seen as exemplary for the rest of the countries in the region.



Social Worker Training Intensified

A special training course for social workers from all over Yemen was held during 24-28 May in Sanaa. "This course is in conformance with the directives by President Ali Abdullah Saleh to limit poverty according to the Social Care Law," said Mr. Ahmed Y. Al-Qashar, the General Director of the Insurance and Social Affairs Office in Sanaa. The goals of the course is to train social workers on the following:



Azia Noman

- 1- Taking part in providing financial help and moral support to needy families.
- 2- Securing social care and protection for needy families.
- 3- Providing social and psychological stability.
- 4- Developing human resources to reduce unemployment.
- 5- consolidating the values of social solidarity.
- 6- Providing help for families in cases of general disasters or personal grieving.
- 7- Collecting demographic, economic and social data regarding the population.

Mr. Hassan H. Qadhi, a consultant at the Ministry of Insurance and Social affairs, said: "Of the 70 people that took part in course, 43 were able to pass the written and oral examinations. This number is sufficient for Sanaa."

"I call on all tribal elders and community leaders to cooperate with and facilitate the tasks of the social workers, especially in remote and inaccessible areas," he said.

"Since the beginning of 1998, the

Social Affairs Office in Sanaa started to document the numbers of needy people such as orphans, widows, divorcees, the disabled, families with an absent breadwinner, etc," announced Mr. Al-Qashar. In addition to 17,500 cases that are already registered in Sanaa, there are now about 7,500 more documented cases that are eligible for social security assistance, according to the Social Care Law. "A total of YR 43 million has been allocated for these people. In the rest of the governorates, there are about 206,000 cases for which an annual YR 6 billion has been allocated. Each family will receive a monthly benefit ranging between YR 1,000 and YR 2,000."



Ms. Lateefa Al-Anisi, the Director of the Mother and Child Directorate at the Social Affairs Office, said: "For example, a simple public employee with a family may get YR 5,000 a month only! Such a family is eligible for any assistance, but social security. Those who have a monthly salary exceeding YR 2,000 are not eligible for social security."

Ms. Jameela Nasser, a secondary-school student, is responsible for documenting the case of a widow with five children and no tangible

source of income. She gets YR 2,000 a month. "I think this is just not enough," said Jameela.

Ms. Hanaa A. Al-Areeqi, a teacher at the Halaly Institute for the Disabled, is responsible for documenting the case of an old widow with a mental illness who lives with her daughter and her husband. Also in the family, is a disabled person. "Each social worker has generally ten cases to deal with, which is not very easy," said Hanaa.

Mr. Fouad Al-Hamadani, a social worker, is responsible for an elderly man with a paralyzed wife and an older son, who works as a porter to support the family. They have no other source of income. "Such difficult and urgent cases must have the priority in getting social security," said Fouad.

Mr. Khalid Alwan, a social worker, said: "It is very important to collect accurate information about each case. The media must take part in raising public awareness concerning this issue, otherwise, we'll get misleading infor-

mation." Ms. Aziza Noman, the Director of the Follow-Up Department at the Social Care Fund in Sanaa, said: "There about 38 social workers, most of whom are females. Female social workers tend to concentrate in Sanaa because they do not like to go to remote areas. Intensive training courses are liable to produce more social workers in Sanaa and other governorates."

Ahlam Al-Mutawakil,
Yemen Times

Teachers Trained on Human Rights

The Human Rights Information and Training Center (HRITC) of Taiz, in cooperation with the Canada Fund Program, has organized a special training course for school and kindergarten teachers during 24-28 May in Aden. The course included 30 participants from Aden, Sanaa, Taiz, Hadramaut, Abyan, Hodeida, Ibb, and Dhamar.

The training program concentrated on the rights of the child in international and local legislations and how to successfully convey the principles of human rights to school children. Also presented were the Uni-

participants by the Governor of Aden, Mr. Taha Ahmed Ghanim.

"The Canada Fund for Local Initiatives encourages women's participation in the development process through contributions to centers for productive families and community development in several Yemeni governorates," explained Mr.



versal Declaration of Human Rights, the Civil and Political Rights Convention and the Economic, and Social Cultural Rights Convention. The course included practical exercises. A similar course was held by the HRITC a few months ago in Taiz. At the end of the course, certificates were presented to the par-

Fouad Al-Jawhari, the Canada Fund coordinator in Yemen. "The Canada Fund also started vocational training courses in carpentry and electrical, handicraft and secretarial skills in rehabilitation centers for the disabled, social guidance centers and orphan centers." "The Canadian Embassy in Saudi

Arabia, represented by Ambassador Daniel Hobson, who encourages and supports the Canada Fund local projects initiative in Yemen, will consider any proposal from Yemeni NGOs in the development field."

Dr. Salah Haddash,
Yemen Times

Safe Tourism Promoted in Yemen

As part of the activities of the French Language Association (L'association des Etudiants de Langue Française - ALEF) at Sanaa University, a seminar on Safe Tourism was held on Thursday, 21 May. Attended by the Minister of Culture and Tourism, Mr. Abdulmalik Masoor and Chaired by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, the Yemen Times Chief Editor and member of the Consultative Council, the seminar included the presentation of several papers on difficulties and, sometimes, dangers that plague the tourism in Yemen. The

most crucial point discussed by the participants was that of kidnapping - rare though it may be but still a serious problem.

The seminar stressed the importance of finding a swift and successful solution to the kidnapping of foreigners in Yemen, as "this problem does not only affect the tourism sector in Yemen, but also the country's ties with the outside world."

The participants also expressed the need for a special institute to prepare and train cadres for the tourism sector as well as instituting a media camping, here and

abroad, to sell Yemen as an alternative and more attractive tourist destination.

Concluding the discussions by the participants, the Minister of Culture announced that the government is currently preparing a draft law to specify penal measures for the abductors of foreign visitors.

A society to promote tourism was established and headed by the Deputy Minister of Culture, Mr. Motahar Taqi. Membership is open for all.

Susan Basel, Yemen Times



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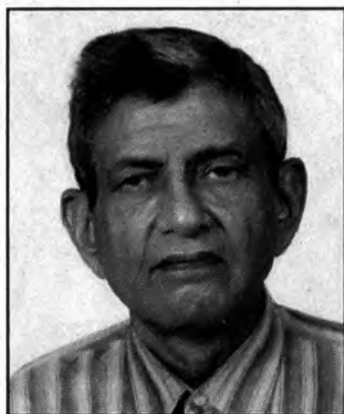
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Attention: Human Resources

This is an *OPINION* page.
Every week, a different intellectual writes a *FOCUS* on a pertinent issue!

Senior Citizens Association in Yemen



By Yusuf Abdul-Hamid,
Director, Postal Services (1948 - 1989),
Aden,
Yemen

Senior Citizens is the name given to the old age people in the USA, Canada, United Kingdom, Europe and many countries in Asia to citizens of their country over the age of 60. I also wish to address our old people as senior citizens. I'm one of them. Senior citizens in Yemen are people over the age of 60 and have retired from the civil or military services. It includes all others who have reached that age. The majority of Yemeni senior citizens especially those living in urban areas are suffering mental torture because of wanton poverty and rocketing costs of consumer goods. Their pension or end of service benefits are meager, and can't make both ends meet. These poor senior citizens are regarded by the authorities as old age "nincompoops" who should spend the rest of their lives within the family environ-

ment, and wither away. This is quite unfair to persons who were active in their youth, and don't want to be regarded as non-entities on retirement, and deserve a smooth transfer to a super-annualized life. A few professionals in Yemen over the age of 60 are still active though they're out of circulation and abstracted. Old age is a phenomenon which must come in everybody's life. The government must give attention to the problems of the aged who are considered in Yemen tradition as the responsibility of the family rather than the community or the society as a whole. Life span in Yemen is around 50 as the majority of Yemeni's are illiterate and they lack knowledge and comprehension of advanced societies. They tend to feel the infirmity of old age soon after 40. Qat also helps in the retardation of their health and physical fitness. There are Pensioners and Pensioners Affiliated Organizations in Sana'a, Aden and Mukalla. The one in Sana'a is run by a philanthropist, while those in Aden and Mukalla are voluntary organizations. Their activities are limited to the care and concern of

pensioners and they fight for their legitimate rights. There is an old age peoples home in Aden. It is run solely by Al-Ehsan organization and cannot accommodate more than 60 people. Thus, there is a need to form a Senior Citizens Association at a national level. This association should have the base in Sana'a and branches and representations all over the country. It should have the following aims:
1) Accept all senior citizens as members, and assist them as necessary.
2) It should have an establishment in Sana'a and should employ senior citizens as much as possible in its management. Senior citizens should be able to devise and build the organization, and maintain it.
3) It should organize seminars on health care for Senior Citizens.
4) It should arrange special broadcasts from the TV and radio for the elderly.
5) It should fight for free medication and free medical treatment for the elderly in Government hospitals.
6) It should obtain concessional travel for senior citizens on buses and on Yemeni flights and other airline flights on special ID cards

like those of journalists or students.
7) Obtain senior citizen discounts on electricity, water and telephone bills.
8) Write and obtain leading articles from foreign sources on the problems of old age. Compile and issue research papers, notes, brochures and publish articles on the subject of the senior citizens way of life around the world.
9) Seek membership of the International Institute on Aging whose headquarters are in Malta.
10) Ensure that social gerontology forms part of the curriculum at medical colleges in Yemen to enable physicians to deal with the common ailments of the elderly such as diabetes, backache, prostate trouble, dental care, broken bones, heart trouble, blood pressure, cataracts and glaucoma etc.
11) Medical students should be encouraged to study Geriatrics which is a branch of medical science dealing with old age, and its diseases.
12) Establish Old Peoples Homes and Destitute Homes providing free services to destitutes.
13) Ensure that special beds are available at all times in hospitals for elderly sick people.
14) Request for medical practitioners to make concessional charges for all senior citizens visiting clinics.
15) Encourage exercise as a hobby among senior citizens and ensure provisional and adequate

facilities for their walking, swimming and other sports and games through concerned organizations.
16) Study and apply the local law of Social Security and Pensions, and suggest amendments as and when necessary.
The number of senior citizens in Yemen is rising rapidly, and will soon reach or is expected to reach the 50,000 mark. The health and care of senior citizens in Yemen is becoming a top priority. The Pensions Ministry should have a trained staff to understand the need for dealing with the elderly with the utmost care and affection. Their pension papers should be processed in time without hardship. Commercial giants in Yemen like the HSA Group, Rowaishan, Thabet Bros. and others should assist in the establishment and the upkeep of an organization for senior citizens which could be formally backed and controlled by them. Youngsters in Yemen, thou-

sands of whom are jobless tend to disown their parents in old age, and cannot assist them financially. Their morale is low, many of them depend upon their parents' income (pension), making life miserable for the elderly. Thus, an advisory bureau of the newly formed Senior Citizens Association should be created to advise parents and children on how to live together in these hard times.

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Japan Finances Rural Water

The government of Japan has granted Yemen \$7.5 million for the implementation of the Rural Water Supply Project in the southern and eastern governorates. The deal was signed on Tuesday, 19 May by the Yemeni Minister of Planning and Development and the Ambassador of Japan.

"With this grant and its subsequent technical follow-up, the Yemeni government will be able to supply water to about 35,000 inhabitants in 31 villages in Al-Sadara and Al-Raidha in Hadhramaut," announced a

work in Yemen?

A: Our team consists of 8 Japanese engineering experts for studying the water supply project in Abyan and Hadhramaut, to be financed by the Japanese government. This is the first time that the Japanese government has provided such assistance to the southern part of Yemen.

We are registered consultants of the Japanese Techno Company in Tokyo, and are employed by the Japanese International Corporation to undertake this project in Yemen.

Our company has been long

project needed a total amount of \$3 million in 1976.

Q: What does the grant project entail?

A: A grant project means to provide emergency help to the Yemeni people who need the help. So it was nearly ¥500 million. In the big cities like Sanaa and Taiz, which have not found the solution until now.

If ground water is properly managed, I believe the rural areas can be provided with good water supply systems. This country needs to find good ground water resources. Our team has during the last 20 years worked hard to find such resources.

Q: Could you tell us more about the signing of the new grant?

A: Today we announced another assistance package for the second phase in Hadhramaut. This was divided into two stages: first the study and design costing ¥36 million. The two phases will enable 100,000 to receive water.

Q: Will you provide technical training as well?

A: It is permitted by the JICA system to invite a counterpart engineer from Japan, for one month only, to provide know-how for the Yemeni side.

Q: What is your impression about how the Yemeni people receive these projects?

A: People are pleased and have been waiting for the Japanese project. We receive a very warm welcome in all the villages we visit. Our team must do everything to find good water resources, and also to provide effective supply facilities. This is our target.



source at the Japanese Embassy in Sanaa.

Japan had previously extended a soft loan of about \$29 million in 1977 and 12 grant aids that amounted to about \$49 million, almost every years starting from 1981. A total of 69 sites in the governorates of Sanaa, Hodeida, Mareb, Dhamar Ibb, Taiz, Hajja, Al-Mahweet and Abyan benefited from these loans by way of water projects. Ismail Al-Ghabiry of Yemen Times met Mr. Tetsuji Niwano the leader of team of Japanese specialists currently visiting Yemen and filed the following interview.

Q: Could you tell us about your

engaged in studying water supply projects in this country, and the Japanese government provided the main 9-phase project to the northern part of Yemen. This time the project shifted to southern Yemen.

Japan Techno first came to Yemen in 1979 to give the country and its people safe and stable water from deep wells. Fifteen projects were started in 1980, and continued for 3 years. We are now in the 11th phase of this grant-aid project.

Most of the impressive projects, the Japanese achieved was in Shihara. There are 7 stages to the top wells in Shihara; in which special techniques and especially strong pipes were used. This

Major Oil & Gas International Corporations Head for Yemen

President Ali Abdullah Saleh has given his backing to a major new industrial forum aimed at boosting the country's rapidly developing oil and gas sector.

The inaugural Yemen Oil and Gas Conference '98, the only event of its kind to be staged at the request of the Yemeni Government and with its official backing, will be held in Sanaa this September. It is expected to attract leading international industrialists and financiers, many for the first time.

"The official Government support will bring added benefit to sponsors, speakers and delegates," said the Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources, Mr. Mohammed Al-Wajeeh. "It will provide a unique and much-sought-after opportunity to discuss, first-hand with Yemen's decision makers, the opportunities coming on stream in our country."

Yemen currently produces 385,000 barrels of oil per day, providing the country's primary source of income.

"Perhaps more than any other event to date, this conference will identify the vast potential of Yemen's oil and gas industry and the real business opportunities it presents to the world's leading players in the sector with a commercial interest in emerging

markets," said Melanie Hadgraft, President, MEIDC, which is organizing the forum.

"Industrialists and project developers will get a first-hand opportunity to review the current portfolio of projects on offer and those that have long range investment potential in Yemen."

Being totally self-sufficient in natural gas and petroleum products, the Yemeni government wants to achieve several key objectives aimed at maximizing its substantial resources for the long term fulfillment of its country's potential.

The objectives include: addressing the domestic market's liquefied natural gas (LNG) requirements, linking them to the country's power generation and industrial development initiatives and the consolidation and expansion of its LNG export market potential through the Yemen LNG Company, a consortium of Total, Yemen Gas Company, Hunt, Exxon, Yukong and Hyundai.

The Yemen LNG project aims to export early into the next century an LNG production of approximately 5.3 million tons per year. The recent decision by the Yemeni cabinet to privatize the state-owned Aden oil refinery, in a bid to secure financing to upgrade it, is also viewed as

another major step in the state's privatization drive.

Other future projects include building a new private power plant in Aden, new refineries in Hodeida and Hadhramaut as well as increasing storage facilities.

The Yemen Oil and Gas Conference will address the entire range of industrial requirements from surveying to exploration and production.

The conference will also cover the country's substantial finance and investment requirements to implement mainstream infrastructure project development, with the ultimate aim of building long-term, mutually beneficial working relationships between the Yemeni government and the international oil and gas investment community.

The Yemen Oil and Gas Conference is the latest in a series of high powered government-led forums staged by the Dubai-based MEIDC, which has a world renowned event portfolio including the powerful Middle East Infrastructure Development Congress held annually in the UAE and the internationally-acclaimed Gas Utilization for Power and the Industrial Development Forum held in Yanbu, Saudi Arabia, with the support of three Saudi ministers and the Royal Commission.

Yemeni-German Cooperation on Central Budget Decentralization

The Central Organization of Control and Audit (COCA) has, in cooperation with the German Foundation for International Development (DSE) held a special seminar during 12-20 May. Entitled 'Decentralization in

ments related to the preparing, implementing and monitoring the general budget. Solutions and suggestions were made in order to address such problems and pave the way for decentralization.

Future cooperation prospects include holding similar seminars every year, implementing regional programs, preparing the central budget, auditing and control programs, and other important aspects.



preparing, implementing and monitoring the state's central budget', the seminar included the presentation of papers submitted by the COCA, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Local Administration, the Presidency Office, the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Civil Service and the Central Bank of Yemen.

Yemen as well as German researchers presented a number of valuable papers that covered such diverse but pertinent subjects as administrative and financial decentralization, budget implementation and control in view of the local authority system to be introduced into Yemen soon.

Working groups were formed by the participants at the seminar to discuss the problems and impedi-

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Lunar Crescent Visibility and Islamic Calendar

Introduction

Muslims do not have a definite calendar at this time and some of them feel that it is impossible to make one because there is something unpredictable about the motion of the moon. This causes a great deal of argument and confusion in the community and is most embarrassing for all of us. In reality, the calendar based on the holy Quran that was established during the days of prophet Mohammed (pbuh) is quite definite and can be used internationally if we get organized and agree upon certain conventions. Because this has not been done, we often have conflicting interpretations on what the Islamic date is. Europeans went through a similar phase in the last century. As they started traveling over great distances quickly, there was confusion over dates. Soon a date was agreed upon among the leaders and the common man was merely informed after the decision.

With advancements in technology, Muslims have been debating on a possible lunar calendar. The lunar cycle is not as obvious as the solar cycle of day and night. Many people do not realize that just as we can not ascertain whether it is day or

based on emotional and devotional reasons and are often scientifically wrong. It is essential that the community pay urgent attention to solve this problem.

The Motion of Heavenly Bodies

The relative motion of all heavenly bodies is governed by a few simple laws commonly known as Newton's laws of motion and the law of gravity. The curved path of a body through the heavens is such that gravitational force is always balanced against (i.e. equal and opposite to) the centrifugal force due to the acceleration of the body. As a result, planets generally move in an elliptic orbit around the sun such that the sun remains at one of the foci of the ellipse. A circular orbit is just a special case of an ellipse when the foci are congruent. The two equations that have to be solved simultaneously for computing the orbit of a planet are as follows:

$$\text{Gravitational force} = \frac{G \cdot M_1 \cdot M_2}{R^2} \dots (1)$$

$$\text{Acceleration of a body} = \frac{G \cdot M_2}{R^3} \dots (2)$$

Where: G is the gravitational constant, M1 is the mass of the planet, M2 is the mass of the sun

and tables giving relative positions of bodies in our solar system which are available in most libraries. To construct a calendar, all one has to do is to learn to use and read them.

The Earth, Moon and Sun Systems

The holy Quran states that the sun and the moon move according to 'Hisab' i.e. governed by laws. We have known these laws for some time in enough detail to be confident about their location in the heavens at any time. This is all that is needed for constructing prayer time tables and calendars. A calendar can be considered merely as a special time table that tells us when to say Subeh or Eid prayers, etc.

Motion of the Earth

The earth basically moves in three different ways.

1. It spins on its axis to produce day and night. This takes 24 hours. Its spin axis is tilted about 23.5 degrees in relation to its orbital plane.
2. It revolves around the sun in a near circular orbit. Because of the tilt of its rotational axis, the sun appears to move north and south throughout the year. This change in the angle of incidence of light from the sun is responsible for the change in seasons. Its rotational period is about 365.25 days or roughly a year.

3. A third less known motion of the earth is called precession. The axis of rotation describes a cone in space over a period of about 25,800 years. This necessitates frequent correction in the length of the solar year to prevent the seasons from sliding through the year. This is done by means of a system of having or not having a leap year (366 days a year) every four, one hundred, four hundred and four thousand years. This also corrects for fractional number of days in a solar year.

Motion of the Moon

The moon moves under the influence of gravity, mainly of the sun and the earth. It is also slightly disturbed by other planets. Its orbit around the earth is only approximately elliptic because the sun disturbs it. Its orbital plane is tilted in relation to the earth's orbital plane (ecliptic) by about 5 degrees. The moon's orbital plane is not fixed in space in relation to the stars. Even though it maintains a constant tilt in relation to the earth's orbital plane, the line of intersection of these two planes (nodes) rotates slowly in space. Because of the tilt of its orbit, the moon appears to move to the north and south of the sun and the new crescent is sometimes seen to the left and at other times to the right of the setting sun. Viewed from space, the path of the moon is like a sine wave imposed over the near circular path of the earth.

The moon produces no light of its own, but shines due to the sun's light. Like earth, only half the surface of the moon's sphere is illuminated by the Sun at any time. Depending on the relative position of the three bodies we can see varying portions of the illuminated side of the moon from the earth. When the moon is between the earth and the sun, only the far side of the moon is illuminated and we can not see it. This position is called astronomical new moon. When the

earth is between the moon and the sun, we see full moon. Viewed from the moon, the earth appears to change phases much like the moon.

From figure-1 it can be seen that the width of the crescent W that can be seen from earth is $r \cdot \cos M$. Where: r is the radius of the moon's disk and M is the angle between the lines of sight from the earth to the sun and the moon. Since the moon appears to move about 360 degrees around the earth in relation to the sun in one month (29.5 days) its apparent daily motion is about 12.2 degrees on the average.

This is the basis for the much talked about 20 or 22 hour rule for the earliest visibility of the crescent.

Criterion to determine crescent visibility

It is apparent that Muslims have to use astronomical facts and data for fixing the beginning of Islamic new month and in particular at the Ramadhan date. Astronomers have been trying to find a simple criterion to determine when a crescent will always be visible. But their efforts did not succeed until the mid 1980s when a renewed interest in the visible moon forced some prominent western astronomers like L.E. Doggett, B.E. Schaeffer and others from the most respected observatories such as the US Naval Observatory and the Royal Greenwich Observatory to start collecting and evaluating 'verifiable' observation reports from around the world.

Mr. D.B. Yallop of the Royal Greenwich uses the moon's 10

column of the table provides an approximate geographical description of the place. The holy Quran clearly says that the sun and moon move according to laws and are for the reckoning of time. There has always been a tendency among common people of all faiths to ascribe some mystical meaning or significance to their appearance and motion. The holy Quran does not support such a view. To us, they are nature's clocks to determine time. Islamic conventions about time keeping are different from those in common use in the western world today. For example, to a Muslim a day (like Thursday or Friday, etc.) begins at sunset, not at midnight. A week, month and year are similarly affected.

The 12 Islamic months are not fixed duration. Muharram can sometimes be 29 days and sometimes 30 days, etc. The month starts with the visibility phase of the moon and not with the birth of the moon or astronomical new moon as stated in some other cal-

Date in 1998	Local Sunset Hr:Min	UT Diff Hr.	Lat to Moonset Min	Geographic Longitude Latitude		Moon Age Hrs.	Approximate Location & Description of the Place
				Deg: Min	Dig: Min		
Jan 28	17:40	-9	51	133:49W	23:11N	20.7	Paicif Ocean, West California
Feb 27	18:33	5	47	68:13E	17:25N	20.1	Indian Ocean, West of Bombay
Mar 28	18:15	-4	45	61:15W	6:47N	19.0	Guyana, South America
Apr 27	17:57	12	46	179:52E	4:51S	18.3	Pacific, East of New Guinea
May 26	17:14	3	49	51:02E	13:59S	18.7	East Cost of Madagascar, Africa
Jun 24	17:18	-7	51	101:33W	19:14s	20.5	Pacific Ocean, West of Peru
Jul 24	17:30	5	50	77:33E	20:03S	22.8	Indian Ocean, South of India
Aug 22	18:17	-8	47	126:04W	15:50S	24.2	Pacific Ocean, Far West of Peru
Sep 21	18:21	1	44	8:47E	7:07S	24.3	Athantic Ocean, West of Angloa
Oct 21	17:35	8	45	122:34E	3:17N	23.4	Wester New Guinea
Nov 19	17:28	-10	47	148:55W	11:35N	23.0	Pacific Ocean, South of Hawaii
Dec 19	17:05	-5	50	68:00W	15:58N	23.4	Caribbean Sea, South of Haiti

Source: Khalid Shaikat of Committee for Crescent Observation

Because of the ellipticity of the moon's orbit, this varies from 11.5 to 13.1 degrees a day. Earliest visibility is possible when the moon is closest to the earth and the angle from the sun is changing fastest. Therefore, the greatest angle $M = 13.1 \cdot A/24$ degrees.

Where: A is the age of the moon or the time of the astronomical new moon in hours. In radians, $M = 13.1 \cdot 3.14/24 \cdot 180$ or about $0.00952 \cdot A$. Since the $\cos M = 1 - M^2/2$ when M is small, the width of the crescent of age A hours as seen from the earth can be approximated as follows:

$$\text{Width} = r \cdot (0.00952 \cdot A)^2 \dots (3)$$

Since the minimum distance of the moon from the earth is about 357,000 km and $r = 1738$ km and the angle subtended by the widest part of the crescent on the eye of an observer on earth is its width divided by distance.

$$\text{Angle} = 1738 \cdot (0.00952 \cdot A)^2 / 2 \cdot 357,000 \text{ radians} \dots (4)$$

$$= 0.045 \cdot A^2 \text{ seconds of arc} \dots (5)$$

Hence, it is seen that the width of the young crescent is proportional to the square of its age. The constant 0.045 is just an estimate, it depends on the distance of the moon from the earth. Since the resolving power of the human eye is about 20 seconds of arc (1 second of arc is 1/2600 of a degree) the approximate age of the crescent for visibility can be estimated from equation (5) as follows:

$$20 = 0.045 \cdot A^2 \dots (6)$$

$$\text{or } A = 21 \text{ hours.}$$

degree altitude at sunset for the moon to be visible to naked eye observers. Muslim experts who have gathered sighting reports for the last 16 years in North America have found that a 12 degree angle of the moon's separation from the sun along with an altitude of 10 degrees at sunset is a more reliable criteria. The experts also take into consideration the following:

- * moon's distance from the earth
- * crescents width and light intensity
- * the brightness of the sky near western horizon at sunset
- * lunar mountain's shadowing effect
- * atmospheric refraction effect
- * human eye's role as detector of contrast etc.

First sighting of the crescent in 1998

The table outlines the calculated date, time and place of the first sighting of the crescent in the year 1998. The calculations are based on the criteria that the best place and time for making the first crescent sighting is where the crescent is vertically above the sun at sunset, i.e. their relative azimuth is zero and where the apparent altitude of the moon is 10 degrees. In addition, the table provides the civil date and local time at sunset for the first sighting, time difference from universal time (UT), the time between sunset and moon set in minutes, the longitude and latitude of the best place and age of the moon since its birth or what is commonly referred to as astronomical new moon.

It should be noted that age is shortest when the moon is nearest to the earth and longest when the moon is furthest from it. The last

endars. Calendars can be based on either the motion of the moon or the sun or both. Most lunar calendars are unisolar, that is although they count a month based on lunar cycle, they introduce some corrections to keep their calendar synchronized with the seasons that depend on the solar cycle. This is usually done by adding a 13th month every few years. This is known as intercalation.

The holy Quran forbids intercalation and clearly states that a year has 12 months. Since a lunar month on the average has 29.5 days, the Islamic year has only 354+1 days. This injunction leaves the Islamic year 11.25 days shorter than the average solar year. For this reason, our observances move through the seasons and come about 11 days earlier in each succeeding year.

International Lunar Date Line

Just as there is a solar date line (180 degrees longitude) to mark the start of a date on a solar calendar, a lunar date line can be constructed to indicate the start of a lunar date. Because an Islamic date begins in the evening with the first visibility of the crescent, these points of first visibility can be considered to constitute the lunar date line.

For a given solar dip angle and angular separation between the sun and moon, the moon appears to be higher above the horizon at sunset near the equator than at high latitudes. For this reason, higher contrast is achieved in the tropical regions. As we move to higher latitudes, because of reduced contrast, a bigger crescent is required for visibility and visibility is delayed. For this reason, the line of first visibility appears like a parabola enlarging towards the west.

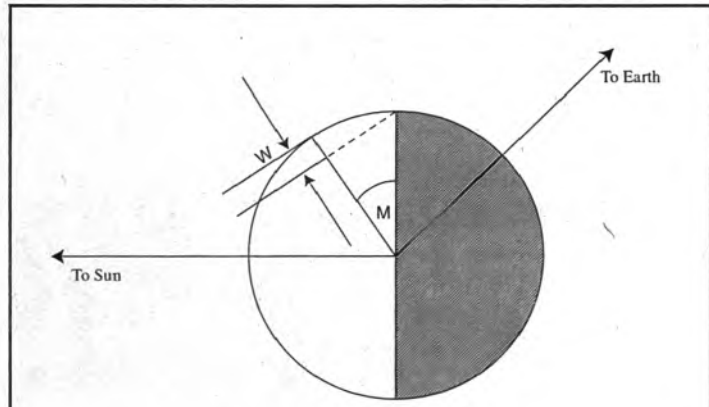


Figure-1 shows the sphere of the moon and the relationship of the directions of the sun and the earth at the time of first visibility of the crescent.

night at our locations by calling relatives in distant countries, we cannot be certain about a lunar date confirmed by someone half a world away. One has to look at the local sky. Not every Muslim is an astronomer, he can not rationally decide about such matters. His decisions are often

and R is the instantaneous distance between them.

For a two-body system, the method is quite simple. As the numbers increase, it becomes increasingly difficult to solve these equations. But, all this has been done by modern computers

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1. The society of the Development of Women and Children (SOUL) announces the availability of the POP-LINE Database System of our office for the use of researchers and development professionals.
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Polygamy in Yemen

Polygamy is allowed by Islam, up to four wives at a time. However, this does not necessarily mean that all Muslim men collect a harem. Many men are content with one wife only, but others are never satisfied. To know more about reasons behind polygamy, Ms. Hanan

of such men.

Ahmed A. is a 40-year old Yemeni, who is married to more than one woman. He recently got married to a new wife because his first wife "has grown older," even though she is actually 5 years younger than

and they sell qat to make a living.

Q: How old are your eldest and youngest sons?

A: The eldest one is 20 years old, married with 3 children. The youngest is 12 years old.

Q: What do you say to people

grace.

M. M. A is married to two wives:

Q: Has your marriage to two women created any problems?

A: My first wife is sterile, so I just married another woman to bring me children. At first, I

it, he just marries a new wife.

Q: Do you think that a wife's ignorance is a good reason behind her husband's marriage?

A: No, it is not. Some ignorant women take good care of their husbands. So ignorance is not a reason at all.

Q: Do you think that not treating the children equally will stir up discord among them?

A: Certainly! A man who marries two wives must not only treat his wives equally, but he must also treat his children equally.

Q: Do you believe that some women prefer not to marry at all than to marry a married man?

A: It depends. Some women believe that by their marrying a married man they will bring ruin to their families.

Amatulmalik Al-Ghurbani is a secondary-school girl, whose father divorced her mother and married another woman:

Q: What did you think of your father when he married another woman?

A: My father has the right to marry another woman as long as he takes care of us. The mistake is when the man does not treat his wives equally, when he doesn't take care of his children.

A woman whose husband married another wife:

Q: Why do you think your

husband married another woman?

A: I bore only one son and daughters. My husband wanted more sons and so he married another woman. His becoming a rich man is also another reason for that.

Q: Are you going to ask for divorce?

A: How can I ask for divorce since I have little children who still depend totally upon their father.

Q: Why do women endure for their children's sake instead of thinking of divorce?

A: There are some women who cannot adapt themselves to the new situation. As for me, when I think of divorce I remember my children. Even if I did not have children, I will not ask for divorce because I cannot leave the man with whom I began my life's journey.

Q: Do you expect a man who marries more than one wife to treat his wives equally?

A: I don't think so. And I think that it is better for a man to be satisfied with one wife. Otherwise, he will bring himself endless trouble.

Q: If you are not married yet, would you agree to marry an already married man?

A: Yes, I would. But I will ask for my own separate house.

Q: How do the children react towards their father's second marriage?

A: They get angry and so they do not obey him, especially at the beginning.



Obad conducted the following interviews with a number of men married to more than one wife, with half brothers and sisters, and psychology specialists to find out about the psyche

him. "I want my wife not to be more than 18 years old," he says.

Q: Do you have any children?

A: Yes, I have young children

who want to marry more than one wife?

A: Marriage is a grace. As long as they can afford the living expenses of more than one household, they should not waste this

faceted some trouble in finding a house for the second wife and in treating them equally. But, despite of all the difficulties, I feel more satisfied now.

Q: Some people think that the husband is the one who makes trouble because of his desire to marry a new wife. What do you think?

A: It is not true. I give both my wives equal love and affection. But, you know that it is very hard to make them satisfied.

Q: Do you think that the men should bare in mind their children's reactions when they decide to marry again?

A: I did not have such an experience because my wife is sterile. But, I call upon all husbands to consider their children's feelings before deciding to marry again. Those who do not do so, think that their children will adapt themselves to the new situation.

Mr. Mohammed Ali Al-Ashwal, M.A in psychiatry:

Q: How are the children affected by their fathers' second marriage?

A: As a result of divorce and all such problems, the children might suffer from psychological disorders including contractions of muscles, dullness and early dotage.

Q: What about the behavior of such children?

A: They will acquire independent personalities and they will impose themselves within the society. They might succeed in their lives or they might suffer some psychological disorders.

Ms. Nabeela Yahya Al-Hakim, a social worker at Arwa school:

Q: What do you think of the men who marrying more than one wife?

A: Generally speaking, marrying more than one wife comes as a result of the woman's carelessness towards her husband or as a result of her illness. But in our society if the man can afford

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Arabian Sea Expedition Reports Findings

A preliminary report was made by the Arabian Seas Expedition on the scientific work executed by the visiting scientists between Aden and the Kamaran Archipelago, From 23 March to 16 April, 1998. The expedition was made on board the sailing vessel "Breakwind" in order to meet the terms of references in the contracts on collecting and exporting biological materials between the Environmental Protection Council of Yemen (EPC) and the visiting scientists, which were duly signed by all parties on March 17th/18th.

Commercial Prawn Trawling

In the last two months, the Salif port has seen an influx of commercial prawn trawlers. Some fifteen plus vessels are now in the Salif area waiting for permission or are already working. Some are

their income for thousands of years. People will be forced to leave these areas in search for work in the cities and swell the already present problem of beggars on the streets.

It is understood that Yemen receives 20-40% of the revenue of the shrimp catch but this is often hard to control and regulate, if not impossible. So Yemen can expect short-term, minimal financial gain but long-term irreparable damage to the delicate and priceless natural resource that should be protected and preserved.

These fishing boats pay a relatively small amount for the annual license with little or no control to the amount or variety of fish they are catching. Discussions with local Yemeni fishermen from Salif suggest that they are also catching shrimps. If these fisherman are allowed to continue in such a way, many

Quban island for example are littered with dead sharks and rays which look and smell terrible and it is a great shame. The most popular method used to catch the sharks are large nets which are set at night and hauled in at first light with the sharks already dead in the nets. These nets not only trap the sharks but also catch other species such as rays, turtles and even dolphins.

In a matter of two to five years the shark population in Yemen will be severely affected in some places wiping out sharks altogether. This will inevitably have a detrimental affect on the marine eco-system as a whole which is very delicately balanced.

Aquarium Fish Collection

Several speed boats are operating from Salif with Philipino divers and are removing coral reef fish and are removing coral reef fish for the aquarium trade probably in Europe and the Gulf States.

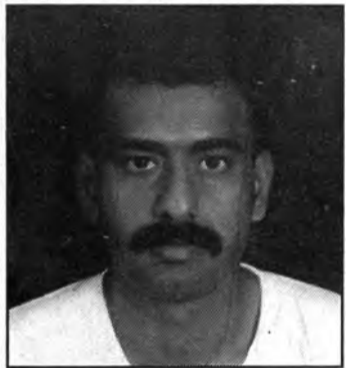
documented underwater. As the Porifera of the Red Sea are in urgent need of a taxonomic revision, the collection should be made accessible to a specialist. Various samples of different marine invertebrates were obtained by hand sampling, dredging, and under-water airlifts. They mainly represent the Crustacea and Mollusca phyla, and only very tentative identifications have been carried out so far. The samples need thorough identification by invertebrate specialists.

Dr. Philip C. Heestra (Ichthyologist)

Mr. Jerry Kemp (Coral Reef Ecologist)

Mr. Michael Eisinger (Coral Reef Ecologist)

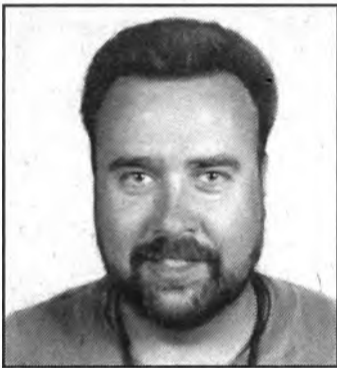
Mr. Uwe Zajonz (Ichthyologist)



Abdul-Kareem



Emily



Jonathan



Uwe

from Saudi Arabia, and are very professional with sophisticated fish finding sonars and processing and freezing plants on board, which grade and package the prawns ready to be shipped out of Yemen via a "mother" ship out at sea that is then directed to Saudi Arabia.

The catch is usually large, each vessel often taking 3,000 - 7,000 kilos of fish per day (perhaps 3,000 kg being prawn), compared to the local fishermen who trawl with the traditional "Sambuk" and net 100-200 kilos over two to three days. The other vessels, it is believed Lebanese owned were previously operating from Aden. This uncontrolled intensive commercial style of trawling is not sustainable and will rapidly lead to the destruction of shrimp and fish stocks in these waters. Especially as the large nets used to have a large by-catch and will throw away many other dead marine species into the sea. With no management policies in place such as quotas and restricted fishing seasons, juvenile stocks and under mature shrimp will be removed before re-stocking can take place.

This in turn will lead to socio-economic problems for the endemic people of the Tihama who have relied on fishing for

areas in the next few years will be left with very little fish and will cause irreparable damage to this sensitive and valuable eco-system.

The Egyptian Red Sea offers thousands of miles of fishing and raises the question as to why they are coming all the way to Yemen. This is because this method of fishing has been occurring in Egypt uncontrolled for many years and fish stocks have been severely damaged.

Shark Fishing

Fishing of sharks for their fins is now becoming a worldwide problem and concern to many governments. In many cases this practice has been banned and sharks have been declared protected species. Large quantities of sharks are being removed from Yemeni waters and exported to the Far East. Fishermen are being paid high premiums for fins which are removed from the sharks (up to US \$80 per kg for some species of sharks).

Thousands of sharks are being removed from the areas around the northern Yemeni Red Sea on a monthly basis. The majority of the sharks are thrown back into the sea with only their fins removed and the rest of the meat just wasted. The beaches of

The divers net selected reef fish then bag them in oxygen and water to be sent to wholesalers. In Japan for example some rare species of coral reef fish can fetch up to US \$400 each!

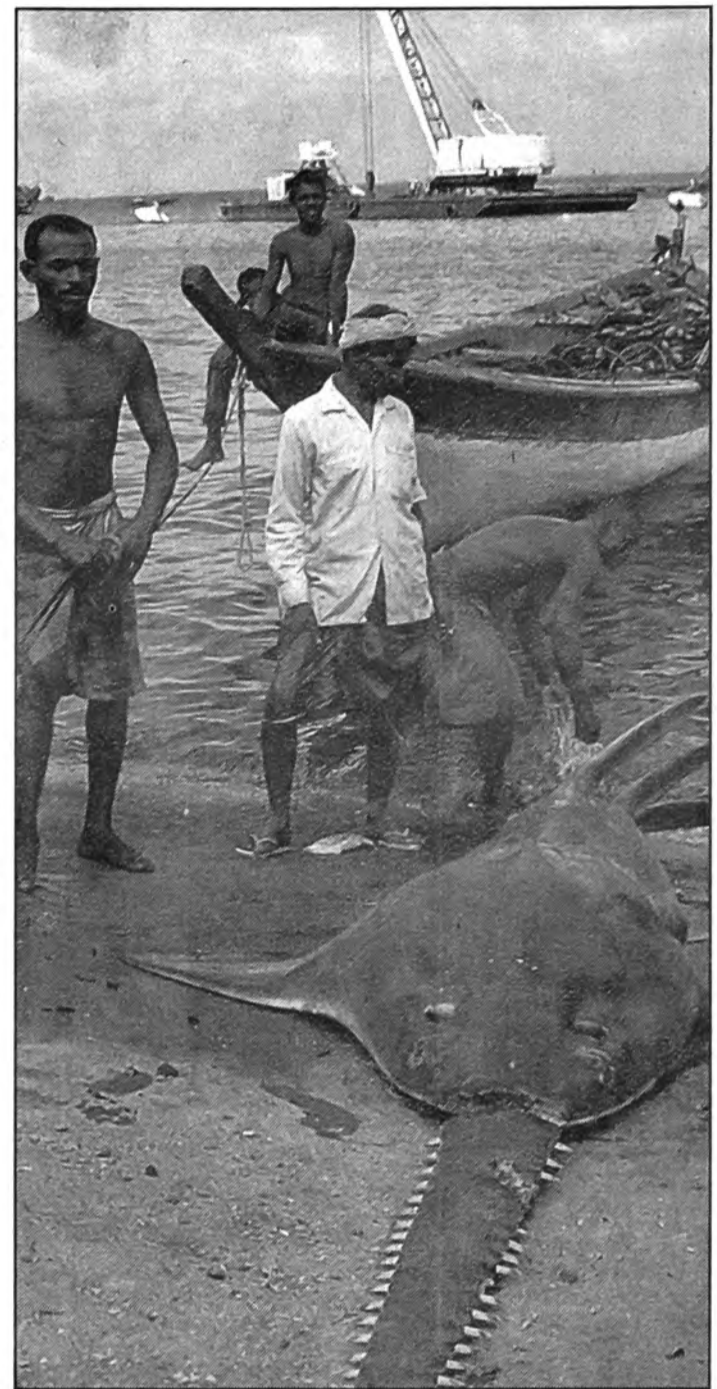
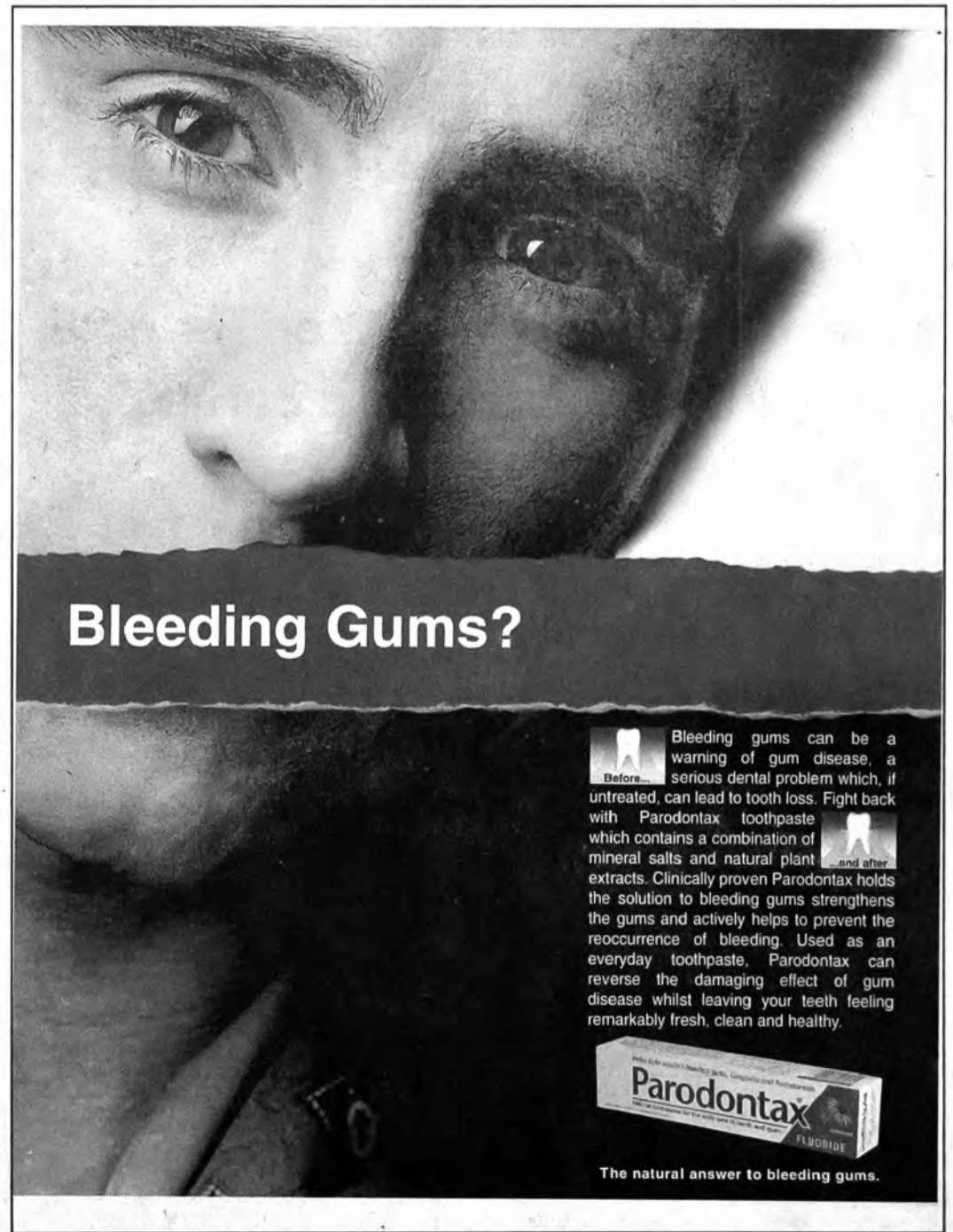
The main problem is that certain reef fish are targeted such as butterfly fish, angel fish and turkey fish. The fishermen will visit a reef continuously until all the species have been removed. Also a large percentage will die during transportation. So numbers caught are greatly exaggerated to compensate for this. Effectively this eliminates that species of fish from the reef with very little chance of re-establishing the population. With each boat removing 100-150 fish per day a complete area can be wiped out in just one day.

In most cases the fish are the prettier, more colourful species which if one considers the impact to areas which are planned for tourism, development will be greatly affected by the absence of the main attraction - colourful fish. Not to mention causing irreparable damage to the natural reef areas and an imbalance to the delicate eco-system.

Most identifications are preliminary so far, and need confirmation. A few specimens may represent new species, and need thorough investigation.

The coral collection revealed a relatively high diversity, which can be assumed as typical for stressed coral communities. Some previously unknown growth forms, probably representing new species, could be identified. Apart from this an interesting coral disease was documented. Surprisingly only 8-10 different species of soft corals were encountered in the area. The collection requires an in depth study.

The sponge collection consists of 18 species, most of which were

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WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS (WFP)
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The WFP is seeking to fill following vacancies in its Office in Sana'a. Interested applicants should deliver their applications along with their detailed CV's in English. Applications from qualified female candidates are encouraged.

1) NATIONAL PROGRAMME OFFICER

The responsibilities of the National Programme Officer shall include but not be limited to the following:

- to assess and plan the utilization of resources made available to WFP in Yemen;
- liaise and provide advice to government; governmental and non governmental organizations and institutions, specialized agencies and multilateral and bilateral donors on optimum utilization of these resources;
- work in close coordination with national counterparts responsible for the implementation of WFP projects;
- Monitoring of Project Activities to analyze output indicators
- Visit Project areas, inspect warehouses and project accounting and initiate necessary action for improvements and monitor food distribution;
- To collect relevant data relating to the economy of the country and prepare relevant information required for various development projects.
- Issue and interpret operating policies, rules/procedures and maintain up-to-date records;
- Co-ordinate with field staff to ensure timely provision of information and action relative to the planning and implementation of activities;
- Consolidate and edit provided for program planning documents; project proposals, project documents and project implementation reports;
- Maintain information on all related aspects of activities within Yemen Country Office and advise management whenever appropriate;
- develop and maintain effective work relationships with counterparts, donors, NGOs and other UN agencies;
- establish priorities and plan, co-ordinate and monitor own work plan and those under his/her supervision;
- draft clear concise reports/correspondence in English and Arabic.
- perform other related duties as required

Qualifications: University Degree, Preferably in economics, agriculture, business administration, development studies or a field relevant to international development assistance. Computer skills-knowledge of relevant WFP specified software (Microsoft Office 95). Excellent command of written English and Arabic.

Language: Excellent command of English and Arabic.

Experience: At least 5 years progressively responsible, Job related experience in business administration, development or food aid support; progressively responsible experience in public sector management, development projects, and/or operational aspects of national, bilateral or multilateral food aid or commercial transactions.

2) SENIOR PROGRAMME ASSISTANT

The responsibilities of the Senior Program Assistant shall include but not be limited to the following:

- Assist the Project Authorities (Government Counterparts) on record keeping, commodity tracking; maintaining records and reporting as indicated in the agreements and ensure that reports required for WFP are provided in time;
- Assist Project Authorities in connection with determining the sizes and timing of installments of commodities to be supplied by WFP, preparation of yearly projections and call forwards;
- Assist Project Authorities matter relating to logistics, financial and administrative arrangements for the discharge, reception transport, storage, distribution and accounting of WFP commodities.
- Finalize projects' Quarterly Progress Reports, Implementation Reports and provide assistance for the Country Office Project Reports and final Reports;
- Visit Project areas, inspect warehouses and project accounting and initiate necessary action for improvements and monitor food distribution;
- Draft correspondence relating to the programme section between WFP and Government Authorities (in Arabic and English);
- Translate correspondence from Arabic/English and English/Arabic;
- Assist Project authorities for the compilation / preparation of Quarterly Progress Report regarding the achievements/utilization commodities for development projects.

- Monitoring of Project Activities to analyze output indicators
- To collect relevant data relating to the economy of the country and prepare relevant information required for various development projects.
- Preparation of distribution plans of commodities of each shipment in collaboration with Project authorities and logistic staff.
- Any other duties assigned.

Qualifications: University Degree, Preferably in economics, agriculture, business administration, social sciences, development studies or a field relevant to international development assistance. Computer skills-Knowledge of relevant WFP specified software (Microsoft Office 95). Excellent command of written/spoken English and Arabic.

Experience: At least 3 years job related experience in economics, agriculture, business administration, development or food aid support; progressively responsible experience in public sector management, development projects, and/or operational aspects of national, bilateral or multilateral food aid or commercial transactions.

3) LOGISTICS ASSISTANT

The responsibilities of the logistics assistant shall include but not be limited to the following:

- To handle documents regarding the receipt, storage transportation of commodities to various destinations in the country in collaboration with the contractors and the Government counterparts.
- Assist project authorities on commodity management and accountability pertaining to the activities of the operational projects.
- Follow up shipping documents and exemption certificates for each shipment.
- To ensure the maintenance of comprehensive commodity movement and accounting statistics to allow identification and follow up of individual consignments for the Hodeidah or Aden ports to final agreed delivery points in various Governorates.
- To maintain an inventory of all shipments, with the relevant information of their movement.
- To inspect various WFP project's stores and advise corrective actions when necessary.
- To assist project authorities in preparation of various periodical reports on WFP assisted projects.
- To be responsible for setting up and maintaining computerized records of tracking system of commodities of WFP assisted projects.
- Prepare reports regarding movement of commodities, inspection of stores and visit of ports.
- Visit ports upon the receipt of shipments.
- Maintain contacts with clearing and forwarding agents
- Draft correspondence in English and Arabic.
- To undertake any other duties assigned.

Qualifications: Completion of secondary education preferably supplemented by technical for university courses, familiarity with window/word perfect 6.0, Excel word processing software, and working knowledge of written/spoken Arabic and English.

Experience: At least 3 years experience in Logistics and related matters

4) LOGISTIC CLERK

The responsibilities of the Logistics Clerk shall include but not be limited to the following:

- To maintain inventory of all food shipments, with the relevant information of their movement.
- To computerize/compile data regarding the dispatch/delivery of all shipments from the port to EDPs.
- Typing correspondence documents, statistical table, reports and draft material in Arabic and English etc.
- Follow up dispatches from central stores to various EDPs.
- To prepare monthly port position reports of all food shipments arriving in the country.
- Maintenance of correspondence of Logistics sections, manuals, files and office records.
- Any other duties assigned.

Qualifications: Completion of Higher Secondary Education. Knowledge of written and spoken English and Arabic. Computer literate, having familiarity with Window/Word Perfect 6.0 and Excel work processing software.

Experience: 2 to 3 years experience in clerical tasks.

All applications to be submitted to the Country Director by 10 June 1998 (12:00 hrs) in closed envelope clearly marked from the top of the outside (APPLICATION) at the following address:

UNDP/WFP Building, Off 60 Meter Road, Sana'a or P. O. Box 7182 Sana'a, Republic of Yemen.

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01 June 1998
1800 ABC Good Morning America
2100 CBS 60 Minutes

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01 June 1998
0800 T & J HannaBarbera
1100 The Jetsons
1705 Police Academy

02 June 1998
1030 Akher Al Koala
1730 Batman
2050 Too close for comfort

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0655 New Adventures of Superman
1500 Pinky and the Brain
1640 Animaniacs

Music Now

01 June 1998
1500 Cosmix
1900 Mediterranean
2300 Arabic R.s.v.p.

02 June 1998
1700 Dandana
2100 Awtar
2300 Music Now Jukebox

03 June 1998
0800 The Rush Hour
1100 "360" Degrees Luther Vandross
2300 Sahretna

04 June 1998
1100 Ultra Violet
1530 Fframe/chain Reaction #1
1700 Musabaqa

05 June 1998
1600 Oasis There & Then Special
2100 Arabic R.s.v.p.
2300 Sahretna

ESPN Schedule

01 June 1998
1800 1998 Nike Brazil Soccer Tour
2100 Football Friendly Holland Paraguay Live on air 1755
2300 Top 20 of USA '94 KSA Belgium

02 June 1998
1700 Football Friendly Holland Paraguay
2100 Racehorse Digest
2330 Top 20 of USA '94 Italy Nigeria

03 June 1998
1300 NHL Power Week!
1800 World of Rugby
2030 ESPN News Day
2100 1998 World Cup Morocco Dream

04 June 1998
0400 NBA Basketball Playoffs Finals Game # 1 Live
1600 SportsCenter
2100 1998 World Cup History of KSA Pt 2

05 June 1998
1600 English Horse Racing - Ch. 4 Epsom Downs Live
1900 SportsCenter
2000 1998 World Cup Tunisian Reunion
2330 Top 20 of USA '94 Argentina Greece

06 June 1998
1300 NBA Basketball Playoffs Finals Game # 2
1530 English Horse Racing - Ch. 4

Hollywood Channel

01 June 1998
1600 Travel America
2030 Judge Judy
2300 Ooh La La
2300 Late Show with David Letterman

02 June 1998
1330 Family Business
1630 Preview Theater
1800 The Price is Right
2130 True Hollywood Stories

03 June 1998
1530 E! FYE
1300 Globetrotter
2000 Pictionary
2300 Main Floor

04 June 1998
1900 Jeopardy
1930 Wheel of Fortune
2100 Comedy Awards 1998

05 June 1998
1030 Body Moves
5200 E! Extreme Close Up
2030 Judge Judy
1800 E! Behind The Scenes

06 June 1998
1700 Movie Show
2100 Celebrity Profiles
2330 Late Show with David Letterman

07 June 1998
1530 E! Extreme Close Up
2200 FT: Model Mania
2000 Fashion TV

Super Movies

01 June 1998
1500 Police Academy 2 - 2L
1900 The Inheritance - 2
2300 Innocent Blood - 3SVL

02 June 1998
1500 Fearless - 2L
1900 My Blue Heaven - 2
2300 The New Age - 3SL

03 June 1998
1430 Movies, Games & Videos
2030 E! Extreme Close Up at 17:30 GMT
2300 Empire Records - 2L - (Premiere)

04 June 1998
1900 The Witches - 2
2100 Maverick - 2VL - (Premiere)
2300 [Starts at 20:10] Mad Max - 3SVL

05 June 1998
1900 Who's That Girl? - 2
2100 Being Human - 2S - (Premiere)
2300 [Starts at 20:10] Daybreak - 3SVL

06 June 1998
1900 City Heat - 2VL
2230 E! Coming Attractions at 19:30 GMT
2300 Nobody's Fool - 2L - (Premiere)

07 June 1998
1500 Grumpier Old men - 2L
1900 Little Giants - 1
2300 [Starts at 20:15] Lost In America Double Exposure

The Disney

01 June 1998
1600 Mickey Mouse & Friends
1815 Aladdin
2230 Thunder Alley

02 June 1998
1500 Movie - Almost Angels
1830 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh
2300 Movie - In Search of the Castaways

03 June 1998
1300 Ducktales
1840 Timon & Pumbaa
2000 Movie - Lots of Luck

04 June 1998
1300 Movie - Perri
1630 Bill Nye the Science Guy
2000 Movie - Young Harry Houdini

05 June 1998
1300 Movie - Three Without Fear
2000 Movie - Davy Crockett - King of the Wild Frontier
2330 Movie - Three Without Fear

06 June 1998
1230 Movie - Davy Crockett - King of the Wild Frontier
2000 Movie - Blank Check
2400 Bill Nye the Science Guy

07 June 1998
1840 Timon & Pumbaa
1930 Boy Meets World
2000 Movie - Babes in Toyland
2200 Home Improvement

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A MAGIC-LANTERN JOURNEY

With words in six European languages as well as Arabic, the Second European Film Festival was launched in Sanaa. "It has become a tradition," announced the Deputy Minister of Culture. As traditions go, this one is a certainly a most welcome addition. It gives a breath of fresh cultural air to the inhabitants of Sanaa.

which opened to huge audiences on Tuesday, 26 May. Yemeni and expatriate spectators packed the auditorium at the Sanaa Cultural Center every evening, hungry for the more refined form of cinema art that does not necessarily have fast-paced action, violence and obscenities. The festival's were truly shows for the whole family to enjoy, and get Yemeni audiences better acquainted with the subtle charms of European movies.

Hubert, through a post-war Poland penetrated by the communist regime and its fearsome instrument - the secret police. School children are encouraged to squeal on each other in the name of uncovering "bourgeois and reactionary activity." The strength and unbroken will of the people and their longing for freedom were represented throughout the film by the horses' exuberance and vitality. The film maker's light-hearted approach to the subject matter presented itself in many instances



Minister of Culture & Tourism launches the festival

Cultural Treat

The opportunity to watch top European films, including *Character* - the Dutch film that won the 1998 'Best Foreign Picture' Oscar, does not always present itself, no matter where you are in the world. The American cinema dominates, even in Europe. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism along with the cultural representatives of six European nations - Holland, Poland, Italy, Germany, France, and Britain - have brought to Sanaa some of the best films produced in Europe during the last few years. Altogether, 7 films were shown during this festival,

The Dutch film *Character* tells the story of an eager and ambitious young man, on whom his biological father vents his anger for being rejected by the boy's mother. The father's war against the his bastard son makes the latter more determined. The film's finale and the bloody confrontation between father and son leave the spectators on the edge of their seats. This excellent film was actually chosen by the European Film Festival's organizing committee before it won the Oscar.

The second film took us *In Full Gallop* on a autobiographical journey with a 10-year-old boy,

Film Brief

The films took their Yemeni audiences from the gray and depressing atmosphere of 1930s Rotterdam, to rural Poland in the 1950s, to the nostalgia for a lost youth in Italy, to a journey through a unified Germany, to London's suburbia and finally on an adventure through the City of Light. It was truly an enchanted journey.

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European cultural representatives

such as the scene when Hubert and his school chum burst out laughing while keeping a vigil by the bust of the recently expired Soviet dictator - Joseph Stalin.

The Italian *Voices in Time* 'is a film about the stages of life - the games of childhood, the wonder and torment of adolescence, dating, disappointment, love, marriage and, in the prime of life, nostalgia to one's lost youth. We move into tranquil summer evening conversations, then perhaps a solitary life with perhaps only a television set for company and finally the wistful beauty of the autumnal countryside.'

In a special Friday matinee for families and children, another delightful Dutch film - *The Bag Snatcher* - was shown. More lively and light-hearted than *Character*, *The Bag Snatcher* tells the story of a 12-year-old boy, who gets entangled with a duo of pickpockets in order to help his grandmother!

Although presented previously as part of the regular monthly German film shows at the British Council in Sanaa, *No More Mr. Nice Guy* is worth seeing again on the big screen. It tells the story of two brothers and a Soviet army deserter, who take an adventurous journey from the West to the East of the unified 'new German state' to receive what the two brothers' late grandmother had bequeathed.

As this article goes to press before the showing of the British and French films - the latter was moved from Saturday to Monday - it suffices to say that both films are in keep with the good standards of the festival.

Secrets and Lies is 'set in and around London, but it could conceivably be anywhere in Britain.'

An Indian in the City tells the story of a 13-year-old boy brought from the Amazon rain forest to live with his stock broker father in Paris. "It is difficult to look after a child who has never seen a city." This film is like a more humorous remake of *L'Enfant Sauvage*, directed by Franois Truffaut in 1969.

Big New Screen

The state-owned Polish Cinematography organization has donated a big panavision screen to the Yemeni Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Made of PVC, the screen is about 4X10m. Gone now is the old roll-down little screen which was used at the center.

"The Polish Embassy in Sanaa which arranged this donation expresses its deep satisfaction that this screen can be used for the first time during this festival," said Mr. Kazimierz Romanski, the First Secretary at the Polish Embassy.

Alas, nothing is perfect in this world. The people who hitched up the new screen did not do a good job, its surface is not stretched enough. Creases and folds show clearly when the screen is lit by the film image. Also, the projectionist did not take advantage of the new big surface - the film image is still as small as when the old screen was used. Fortunately, the above problems were later rectified half-way through the festival.

Minuses

As the big efforts and positive points should be commended, the negative aspects must also be underlined so that they can be avoided in the future. In addition to the badly hung screen mentioned above, other faults in the films' presentation

included lack of synchronization between the two projectors used to show a film. When the first reel nears its end on the first projector, the second projector should start automatically to show the second reel. This does not happen; instead, the audience are shown the trailer - the blank piece of film at the end of the reel - with all the numbers and rubbish printed on it.

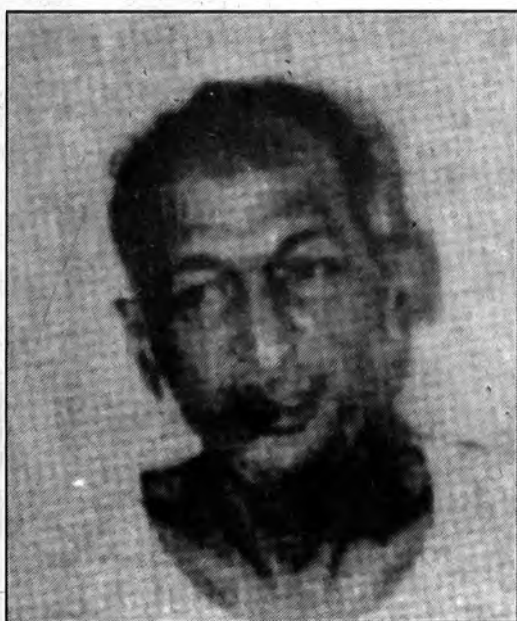
Bad framing was also prevalent. The black line separating two successive frames on the film comes into the middle of the screen, and the subtitles go out of frame leaving the audience unable to understand the dialogue. The projectionist is sometimes not at hand to rectify the situation.

Showing a film is an essential part of the process of movie production. There is no point in spending millions on a film that is going to be badly presented to the cinema audience.

No Arabic Subtitles!

All shortcomings aside, the biggest drawback is the absence of Arabic subtitles. Except for the French film, all other films in the festival were shown in

Mohammed Jomaa Khan & the Golden Age of Hadhrami Songs



mother was enabled Khan to introduce from Hadhrami folk tunes to the Hadhrami musical band. After the sultan had given the Indian players the sack, he replaced them with natives of Hadhramaut who had a positive interaction to their country's tunes and songs.

Mohammed Jomaa Khan who took up singing as a profession, started performing in public concerts. He received encouragement from the people and became the only artist that had no competition, this being due to his skill in playing and the softness of his voice. He excelled in Indian, Hadhrami and Egyptian tunes. From this he gained more popularity and fame in Hadhramaut and in many other Arab countries. At that time, Hussain Al-Safi sent for Mohammed Jomaa Khan and made a contract with him to produce 30 records. Audiences admired his voice and they were eager to buy his records.

Mohammed Jomaa Khan sang various poems by many Arab poets such as Ahmed Shawqi, Yazid Bin Mawiya, Abi Firas Al-Hamadani and Ali Mohammed Taha. He was the first to compose the poem "You broke my heart when you left me", before being composed and sung by Farid Al-Atrash. He also performed songs written by local poets such as Abdul Ba Hassan, Al-Muflihi and others.

Kahn was also famous among the immigrant Hadhrami and Yemeni communities in Ethiopia and elsewhere, where he was invited to perform. Thus, the artist was able to revive and refine Hadhrami singing. He died on December 25, 1963.

By: Saleh Abdulbaqi, musician

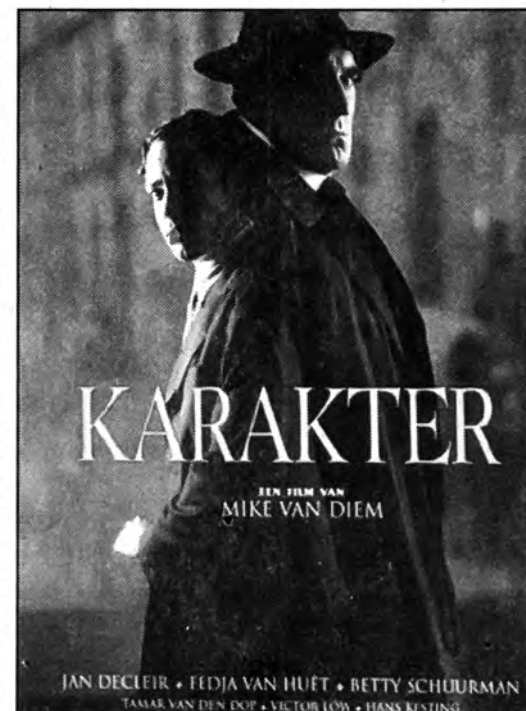
Mohammed Jomaa Khan is considered a prominent figure in the development of Yemeni singing. Abu Ali, as he was known to his fans and friends, adored arts and his audience loved him. His songs were sung by Yemeni and Gulf artists, and were hummed by people in the street. At that time, Hadhramaut was going through the golden age of folk songs and dances such as *Al-Shabwani* and *Al-Adaa*, which relied on rhythms of drums and reed pipes.

Later on, *Qanbous* (an old type lute) came to be used with the help of the Hadhrami artist Sultan Bin Al-Sheik Ali, who developed the local folk songs and set them to music in the Hadhrami style. Mr. Khan, on the other hand, was the first to introduce the harmonica and tambourine to Yemen from India. Mohammed Jomaa Khan was born in 1902 in Al-Mukallah. His

that liked to sing. He used to read the Quran and chant school songs before the age of 10.

Khan was brilliant in music and joined the Sultani musical band, which he worked with for 29 years until he became the leader of the band. Then, he was pensioned off when Sultan Saleh Bin Ghalib held the reins of government.

When he was a member of this band, he learned to play stringed instruments. Tunes which were played by the band were mainly Western and Indian. Hadhrami tunes were never played, so it was the Indian tunes that influenced his songs. He also learned to play the *Qanbous* while he was a member of the band with the help of a student at the Sultani school called Sa'adallah Faraj. His talent helped him to excel in the Hadhrami tunes that he received from his teacher. This



the languages of their countries of origin with English subtitles. Unlike American movies, European films are generally known for their art-house features, slow-moving action, rather complicated plot and a dialogue that is full of subtle innuendoes and carefully chosen and placed words. Much of this is unfortunately lost to the general, Arab-speaking Yemeni audiences due to the absence of Arabic subtitles.

The excuse given is that it is very difficult to find a European film with Arabic subtitles. Surely, it is not worth it to get one of the many subtitling companies in Beirut and elsewhere in the Middle East to do a translation of these films?

Winning Formula

Only the French seem to have hit upon a winning formula: action, humor and Arabic subtitles. In last year's festival and during the recently held French Film Festival, Yemeni audiences responded enthusiastically to the French films. However, the Yemeni spectators should also be treated to the more high-brow or intellectual auteur films for which the French cinema is renowned worldwide. The Franco-Arab film festival, due to open in mid-June, is eagerly awaited, especially so if the great Arab director - Yousuf Shaheen - can be invited to attend the showing of his latest award-winning film - *Le Destin*.

All in all, the European Film Festival remains an excellent opportunity for watching excellent films, which are otherwise not possible to see.

Adel J. Moqbil,
Yemen Times

Royal Jordanian Honors Top Sales Agents



The Royal Jordanian has made an annual tradition to award its most successful agents in Yemen. There are now three weekly flights from Sanaa to Amman and one flight from Aden to Amman.

An award presentation ceremony was held on Monday, 25 May at the Hadda Hotel in Sanaa, where a total of nine Royal Jordanian agents were presented with certificates of appreciation and symbolic gifts. The ceremony was attended by the Ambassador of Jordan, Mr. Fouad Al-Batayna; the Royal Jordanian Regional Manager in Yemen, Mr. Abduljaleel Al-Abadi; Chairman of Universal Group of Companies, Mr. Alwan Al-Shaibani; Vice Chairman and



Managing Director of U.G.C., Mr. Omar M. Omar and a large number of travel agents, tour operators and representatives of the media.



In his welcoming speech, Mr. Tajmmul Khan, the Royal Jordanian Sales & Marketing Manager in Yemen outlined the company's past achievements and future plans:

Personal care and involvement are the prerequisite for getting quality results, and that is the difference between active involvement and neglect. All endeavors start with a vision that needs a great deal of focus, patience and hard work.

The best example is the Chinese bamboo tree. Farmers usually prepare the ground, plant the seeds, fertilize, cultivate and water the ground with their mind-focused on the vision of a fully grown bamboo tree. In the first four years all the growth is underground, the only thing visible at this point above the ground is a little green shoot. In the fifth year the bamboo tree grows up to 80 feet. Farmers then realize what it means to reap the benefit of working hard and get a wonderful harvest. This story invites us to look forward and ponder on what lies ahead.

RJ-TWA Code Share
The signature of the first major code-sharing alliance with TWA was made to connect the passengers more comfortably with US destinations. With this new code-sharing agreement we were able to link up to most cities in the USA through TWA flights. There is no need to switch terminals, only one ticket and one check-in on two of the most hospitable carriers together. Expect your trip to be easier and a more pleasurable one. By teaming up with TWA, Royal Jordanian takes you to the USA, arriving at Kennedy Airport where TWA takes you directly to Los Angeles, Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, St. Louis, San Francisco and New Orleans. This demonstrates our commitment to passenger services.

Crown Class, The Luxury of Travel
Starting March 1st, 1998 Royal Jordanian introduced its new special Crown Class on the Far East, Europe, North America, and the Indian Sub Continent routes. The current First and Business Classes will be replaced with the new Crown Class, a class that offers a First Class service at a Business Class rate. Crown Class passengers will enjoy a wide variety of special services on ground and during the flight. Advanced boarding facilities will allow passengers to choose their preferred seats and receive their boarding passes 24 hours in advance. At Queen Alia International Airport, a dedicated team is specially assigned to receive Crown Class passengers and facilitate their check in procedures. The CIP Lounges are equipped with Fax, Computer, and Internet services. In-Flight Crown Class offers the renowned First Class



Complementary Mobile Phone Rental for London Passengers

Royal Jordanian offers a new service to passengers travelling to London by offering them free of charge rentals of high quality mobile phones during their stay in the UK. Passengers will only be charged for insurance fees and the cost of phone calls, in addition to VAT. The free rental period will be offered to Crown Class passengers up to 21 days

and 7 days for all other passengers. The phones can be obtained by calling First Class Mobile Co. in London at Tel 0171 495 3300 provided that they produce a valid credit card and RJ Boarding Pass. First Class Mobile undertakes to deliver the phone to the passenger's address free of charge if located in central London.

Frequent Flyer Program
Royal Jordanian is pleased to invite its passengers to join the Frequent Flyer Program. This feature provides the passenger with a unique level of service. A service will earn you awards that range from upgrading to free tickets.

How does it work?
Simple. All you have to do is fill in the application form and mail it to Royal Jordanian. Once it is received, you will be sent a supply of 20 personalized mileage coupons, which will be used to report your mileage.

RJ Awards Top Agents
Royal Jordanian congratulates the travel agents on their remarkable achievements on winning the Top Agents Award. It is the fine tribute to your contributions to RJ. You have our sincere admiration.

RJ Awards Top Agents
Royal Jordanian congratulates the travel agents on their remarkable achievements on winning the Top Agents Award. It is the fine tribute to your contributions to RJ. You have our sincere admiration.

Sanaa Travel Agents Award List 1998

A) Golden Certificate

- 1- Al-Rawhani Travel Agency

B) Silver Certificate

- 1- Abu Yaser Travel and Tourism
- 2- Al-Sunaidar Travel and Tourism

C) Bronze Certificate

- 1- Al-Nasim for Travel and Tourism
- 2- Marib Travel and Tourism
- 3- Wings Travel and Tourism
- 4- Yemen Intercontinental Travel and Tourism
- 5- United Travel and Tourism
- 6- National Travel and Tourism
- 7- Yemen Felix Travel and Tourism





AL-WAHDAMI: Sanaa weekly, 26-5-98. (Nasserite Unionist Party)

Main Headlines:

1- Saudi Arabian forces occupy two Yemeni islands opposite the Directorate of Midi, Hajja.

2- Yemeni engineers and technicians working on constructing a runway were kicked out by Saudi troops from a border area in Hadhramaut.

3- Eritrea claims that Yemen is interfering in the Ethiopian-Eritrean dispute.

4- During his visit to Yemen, Commander-in-Chief of US Central Command, Gen. Zinni said: "The US has not started negotiations on obtaining military facilities in Yemen."

5- The Teachers' Syndicate calls for staging a sit-in in front of the Council of Ministers' offices, protesting the arrest of 4 teachers for allegedly leaking exam questions.

6- 251 graduates of the Petroleum College protest being referred to the Ministry of Education to be employed as teachers. Ministry of Oil said it does not need them.

Article Summary:

Significant Numbers

* \$27,500 was given to a general director in one ministry as expenses to study in US. He pocketed the money, but have not gone to study.

* YR 238,208,127 is the amount of overspending by the Council of Ministers during 1996.

* YR 3,000 was allocated for staff training at the Ministry of Civil Service during last year.

* YR 16 million is the amount of tax arrears that has not been paid by Al-Towaiti Contracting Company during the last few years.

* 30,000 tourists canceled their trips to Yemen in 1997 because of kidnapping incidents.



AL-TAJAMMU: Aden weekly, 25-5-98. (Yemeni Unitary Congregation Party)

Main Headlines:

1- Following a peaceful demonstration on 22 May, security forces in Abyan arrested two leading opposition figures.

2- US officials specify the priorities for the Yemeni government: reform on the national level and peaceful settlements on the regional level.

3- Opposition Coordination Council plans to organize a mass rally to mark the passing of 40



Yemeni Press in a Week

By Adel J. Moqbil

days since the death of two men at the Mukallah demonstration of 27 April.

4- A bomb exploded in a mosque in Jaar, Hadhramaut, on 23 May. The mosque used to be a cinema prior to the 1994 war.

Article Summary:

Three Bulldozers

Three bulldozers and a security patrol went last week to demolish the home of Ali Moqbil, 75, in Aden. The house inhabitants, women and children, came out holding a primary court order suspending the demolishing order until the dispute between the house owner and the Seera municipality is resolved. A rich landowner is claiming the site for a tourist project.

The security, however, ordered the bulldozer drivers to proceed with the demolishing, and started firing in the air. A short while later, a grenade was thrown onto the place, wounding the son of the house owner and some of the security soldiers. Eyewitnesses claim that the grenade came from the direction where the rich landowner was standing with his body guards watching the situation develop. Another son was later arrested and detained at the Khormaksar police station.



AL-BALAGH: Sanaa weekly, 26-5-98. [Islamic Action Movement (being formed)]

Main Headlines:

1- Fake paracetamol tablets flood Yemeni markets. They are sold cheaply with the logo of the Yemen Drug Company (Yedco) on the packets.

2- US cancels \$17 million of the \$102 million debt owed by Yemen as part of a recent agreement.

3- Yemen and Egypt aim to achieve economic integration.

Article Summary:

Chemical Waste in Hodeida

Informed sources in Hodeida indicated that there are more than 130 tons of chemical waste buried in the Sardood farm since 1983, affecting a total area of around 55 sq.m

The Ministry of Agriculture started to exhume this material to be destroyed, but discovered that it could not cope with such a big problem. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) did not include the treatment of the Sardood waste on its program because of lack of funds. The cost to safely destroy this amount of chemical waste is around \$700,000.



AL-JAMAHEER: Sanaa weekly, 28-5-98. (Arab Baath Socialist Party)

Main Headlines:

1- Both Yemen and Eritrea submit new documents regarding their dispute over the Hunaish Island. Yemen submitted documents showing that the Total company had previously done some oil exploration on the island for the benefit of Yemen.

2- Armed confrontations over blood revenge among the tribes of Raima, outside Sanaa, left two dead and several men seriously injured. About 20 families left the area in fear for their lives.

3- An HIV-positive female patient was discovered by chance at the Jumhoori Hospital in Sanaa when she went for a medical check-up.

4- Students at the colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy have not yet received their textbooks!

Article Summary:

Saudi Occupies Islands

Saudi forces had occupied the Yemeni island Dhu-Hurab, which lies about 114 km off the Yemeni coast. There were no Yemeni troops on the island, and the 8 fishermen found there were deported to another island. Within 12 hours of landing, the Saudi forces set about erecting pre-fabricated buildings and installing heavily armed military positions, along with all the necessary utilities.

The occupation went on while talks were being held on land between military officials from the two countries. Saudi Arabia is insisting that the inhabitants of 7 islands in the archipelago, 2 of which are now occupied by its forces, should be evacuated as a precondition to proceed with the talks.

The Saudi forces had also occupied the nearby

Island of Al-Ashiq on the same day - 22 May - 8 years ago.



AL-THAWRI: Sanaa weekly, 28-5-98. (Yemeni Socialist Party - YSP)

Main Headlines:

1- The YSP celebrates the 8th anniversary of unification, and calls for national reconciliation.

2- Several governorates are witnessing bomb explosions, two of which occurred in Aden - one man was killed and 5 were wounded.

3- The Council of Ministers puts a moratorium on paying compensations for damages incurred through natural disasters.

4- Journalists continue discussing the crises plaguing their syndicate.

5- The Central Security apparatus in Hajja denies arresting 7 Yemeni engineers. "They were brought for questioning for interfering in the activities of a company doing sewerage work."

Article Summary:

Confrontations with Extremists

Widespread armed confrontations took place on Tuesday between groups of extremists holed-up in the Hatat camp, 35km north of Zanzibar, Abyan. Joint police and army forces attacked the camp using heavy artillery and helicopter gunships.

Tribal and community leaders in Yafi' had previously requested the authorities to put an end to the activities of the extremists, who started their military training in the area 3 months ago with the help of instructors of different nationalities.

A shroud of secrecy is surrounding this army operation, as it seems that the extremists' mountain positions are well defended and almost impregnable.

تهانينا الحارة
للدكتور سند عبدالعزيز طرموم
بمناسبة ارتزاقه مولودته البكر
والتي اسمها
«وئام»
جعلها الله قرة عين والديهها،
ومألاً بها حياتهما بهجة وسرورا.
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F&B Cashiers
Storeroom Handyman

MARKETING & SALES

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Sales Executive
Clerk

PUBLIC RELATIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS EXECUTIVE
Senior Clerk

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANAGER
Clerk

RESTAURANT MANAGER

Supervisors
Captain
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Waiters/Waitresses

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1st Commis
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Steward

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Runners

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PERSONNEL MANAGER
Senior Clerk

SECURITY
Security Clerk
Guards

FRONT OFFICE
FRONT OFFICE MANAGER
Clerk

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Night Auditors
Senior Bellman
Bellboys/Valets
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REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation General Directorate for Forestry and Desertification Control Watershed Management & Wastewater Re-Use Peri-Urban Area of Yemen GCP/YEM/026/NET

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Suitable candidates are invited to apply for the following vacant in the WWPU Project:

1) Forestry Extension/ Community participation Expert:

5 positions: Northern Sana'a, Southern Sana'a, Dhamar, Hodeidah and Aden Units.

Specific Qualifications:

(1) B. Sc. in Forestry or related field with at least 7 years of professional experience including forestry or natural resources extension programs; or (2) Msc degree in forestry Extension/ Social forestry or related field with 5 years of Professional experience in planning, implementation and management of forestry or natural resources extension/ community participation programs; (3) knowledge and experience in methodologies and approaches used for involvement of local communities in development and environmental programs.

(2) Women Extension Expert:

5 positions: Northern Sana'a, Southern Sana'a, Dhamar, Hodeidah and Aden Units.

Specific Qualifications:

(1) B. Sc. in Forestry, Range Management, or related field with at least 7 years of professional experience in Women Extension; or (2) Msc degree in Forestry extension/social forestry with at least 5 years of related Professional experience in planning, implementation and management of forestry or natural resources and extension programs. (3) knowledge and experience in methodologies and approaches used for involvement of local communities in development and environmental programs.

3) Afforestation and Desertification Control Expert

2 positions: Hodeidah and Aden Unit

Specific Qualifications:

(1) B. Sc. in forestry, soil sciences or related field with at least 7 years of on-hand experience; or (2) Msc degree in Forestry, Soil conservation or related field with a minimum professional experience in planning, implementation and management of afforestation and desertification control programs. (3) Technical knowledge and experience in designing, implementation of Plantations, sand dune fixation and other desertification control packages.

4) Afforestation and Range Management Expert

2 positions: Northern Sana'a, Dhamar Units:

Specific Qualifications:

(1) B. Sc. in Forestry, Range Management or related field with 7 years of professional experience, or (2) Msc degree in forestry, Range Management or related field with at least 5 years of related professional experience in planning, implementation and management of forestry and range management program, (3) knowledge and experience in people oriented afforestation and range land management and rehabilitation methodologies and approaches.

5) Watershed management Expert

1 position: Southern Sana'a

Specific Qualifications:

(1) B. Sc. in Forestry, soil & water science or related field with at least 7 years of on-hand experience; or (2) Msc degree in Forestry, Soil & Water Science/Watershed management or related field with at least 5 years of professional experience in planning, implementation and management of integrated watershed management or integrated natural resources programs, (3) Technical knowledge and experience in designing and implementation of community based watershed or natural resources interventions.

General Qualifications:-

(1) working knowledge of both Arabic and English Language, (2) good knowledge and experience in computer use, (3) ability to prepare technical document and progress reports, (4) ability to prepare training material and deliver lectures on related subjects (5) working experience in Yemen or similar conditions.

Candidates from inside the country should collect the application form from GDFDC in Sana'a, Applicants from outside the country should send a comprehensive CV.

All applications with complete CVs should be forwarded to the following address:-

Director General,
General Directorate for Forestry and Desertification Control (GDFDC)
P. O. Box 1867 Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Tel: 967 (1) 250976/7 Fax 967 (1) 250976 or (1) 208852
Deadline: 2 weeks from the date of this announcement.

Minister of Youth & Sports Honors Champions

Sponsored by the Ministry of Youth and Sport, the winners of the excellent-division football tournament along with the top goal strikers were honored last Thursday in a ceremony held by the Yemeni Olympic Committee at the Ministry of Youth and Sport.

The ceremony was opened with a speech delivered by Mr. Amin Saeed Ali, the secretary general of Al-Shoula team, who congratulated the Wahda of Sanaa - the winner of the tournament - and Ahli of Sanaa which won the second place. During the ceremony, Mr. Hussein Al-Awadhi the Olympic Committee Secretary General, praised the attention paid by the Minister of Youth and Sport to this ceremony. Mr. Hussein Al-Awadhi also indicated that holding such a ceremony is considered to be a recognition of the achievements realized by the football winners.



The Minister of Youth and Sport made an address during the ceremony and mentioned that this tournament is one of the most successful tournaments. He gave credit to the media people who played an effective role through their writings which motivated the teams.

At the end of the ceremony the Ahli of Sanaa was awarded YR 100,000 and Shoula of Aden was awarded YR 50,000.

The top three goal scorers were honored as follows:

- 1) Adel Al-Salmi was awarded YR 30,000 and a ticket to Cairo
- 2) Fouad Anqad was awarded YR 20,000 and a ticket to Cairo
- 3) Muteh Al-Alimi was awarded YR 10,000 and a ticket to Cairo.

Also everyone of them was awarded a Swiss-made watch. The Yemen Olympic Committee honored at the end of the ceremony the late Ahmed Abdulrahman Salem who worked as a secretary general of the Olympic Committee during the 1970's. His son, the player Hani Ahmed of the Wahda of Sanaa received the prize. The ceremony was attended by many representatives of various teams and some sports officials.

Police volleyball Team Reaches Finals

Last Thursday, May 28, was the last day for the Sanaa volleyball tournament. The Police team was able to win qualify for the excellent tournament for the governorates' champions. Before that, the Police team has defeated the Sha'ab of Sanaa 3/0 and also defeated Al-Yarmook team.

Supported by Yemenia Sanaa Marathon in June

Mr. Fouad Al-Komaim, the head of the General Association for Gymnastics, emphasized that the Sanaa Fifth Marathon on the President's Cup will be organized in a "very different and better way this year."

The Vice President, Mr. Abd-Rabu Mansoor Hadi directs that more chances must be given to athletes from all over the country. In addition, the festival accompanying the marathon will come as a celebration of the 7th of July - the triumph of unity.

Under the theme "Yemeni Unification is a Nucleus for Arab Unification," the Yemeni General Association for Gymnastics is inviting all Arab countries and some international champions to participate in this marathon. Mr. Fouad Al-Komaim and Mr. Abdulwahab Sidq, the manager of Yemenia Airlines have signed a contract according to which Yemenia sponsor the marathon.

Chess Team in Lebanon

On Wednesday, May 27th, the Yemeni chess team went to Beirut, Lebanon to participate in the Arab Championship for Top Arab Chess Players, which will last until June 8th. The Lebanese Chess Association will host the championship and will offer all the living expenses for all the participants. The Yemeni team includes Hatem Al-Hadrani, Hameed Al-Qadhi, and Khaleel Al-Sabeehi.

The Yemeni Chess Association plans to participate in the 3rd Arab Chess Championship, to be held in Baghdad from 17th to 26th of June 1998. Hameed Al-Qadhi, Yahya Faraj, Hatem Al-Hadrani, Khaleel Al-Sabeehi, and Zandan Al-Zandani will represent the Yemeni team in that occasion.

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National Day at the Industrial Institute

The Industrial Institute of Yemen (IYY) celebrated the National Day of Vocational Training on May 28th. The Prime Minister was at hand to join in the events.

The IYY is the oldest of such institutes in Yemen.

Khalid Doghaish, one of the teachers, said that the technical training that students receive at the IYY has become more diversified in recent years. The institute, like all other vocational and technical centers, runs its programs independently. However, it is the General Authority for Vocational and Technical Training (GAVTT), which has overall responsibility for management of vocational programs in the country. The GAVTT is almost thirty years



old. I went on a tour of the different branches at the school and in

particular the arts and crafts sections where students were busy at various projects. These

were readied for exhibit during the visit of the Prime Minister. Students used clay, gypsum modeling, paints and paper designs in an art studio on the premises. Subject matter for the clay models of the 18 - 20 year old students varied from mythological figures to incense holders and classical model houses of the old city of Sanaa. These can be seen on exhibit at tourist shops in the old city sector.

The visitors were taken to a technical drawing room, where they had the chance to see the manufacture of paper lanterns pictorial advertisements, and still life pencil sketches done under the guidance of Chinese teachers who were busy with their students.

In recent years, GAVTT has been trying to upgrade and develop human resources in different fields to the levels of semi-skilled and skilled craftsmen to meet the demands of the labor market. The GAVTT is also responsible for issuing appropriate certificates to the graduates. In the case of art students, the certificates indicate ability in the field of graphic design. Students get certificates after a three year course.

Also exhibited on the occasion were colorfully painted glass designs with inscriptions from the holy Quran. The calligraphy was impeccable. Other products exhibited for the national day covered such fields as mechanics, roads and construction, electrical technology and refrigerator and heating technology.

Martin Dansky,
 Yemen Times

SU Graduates Brace for a Vibrant New World

Students at Sanaa University (SU) celebrated last week the graduation of class 22 of the Department of Business Management at the College of Economics and class 23 of the Department of English at the College of Arts. A colorful ceremony was held on this happy occasion, which was attended by a large number of university professors, students and their families, businessmen and notables in the community.

Dr. Abdul-Khaliq Ba-Alawi, the head of the Business Management, gave a speech expressing the importance of "injecting young blood into the professional world." He also called on the new graduates to "continue learning and acquiring new information so as to keep abreast with the rapid developments in this world." Other university speakers also urged the graduates to prove themselves in the real world.

Various activities such as poetry recitation were presented. In his opening speech, Dr. Thakur, head of the Department of English, appreciated the excellent performance of the graduates. He also thanked both teachers and students for the

fruitful partnership. The English Department graduated 68 students, most of them are females.

Now they are headed for real life.

Yasser M. Ahmed,
 Yemen Times



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