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# YEMEN TIMES

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They are tired. They have been in jail since their arrival here in February. Now there is a new complication. The Yemeni Government is going to extradite them to Ethiopia. They are scared. There are 91 of them in the Sanaa Central Prison. There are many more in the Taiz and Hodeidah prisons. The majority are just illegal residents who are driven by economic hardships, and are thus in search of better opportunities. But some of them are political activists. They belong to the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF). The OLF seeks to secure an independent homeland for the Oromo people, who occupy about half of Ethiopia - mostly in the east central and south central regions. Now steps are underway to extradite all Ethiopians who are illegal residents in Yemen, according to the Interior Minister.

The political activists see this as a sign of Sanaa trying to curry favors with Addis Ababa. Article 45 of the Yemeni constitution forbids the extradition of political fugitives. Thus, there is a new Yemeni momentum to block the extradition of the OLF people. "The Ethiopian Government burned our farms and villages. We will be killed as soon as we land there," says Mohammed Yassin Mohammed. Omar Abdul-Samad added that they would like to present their case to the world. "We want self-determination for our people." A third person, Yahia Abdullah Ahmed, developed a cancerous tumor while languishing in Ethiopian prisons before he escaped.



"We escaped to Yemen because we had heard that this is a democratic country which respects human rights. We also thought we would flee to a fellow Muslim society as well as a neighbor," said Ms. Nouria Idris, the only female in the group. Ethiopia's ambassador says that his government would like to help those who

want to return. "We cannot and will force any body. But in stead of languishing in jail, they should consider going back to their country," he said. A distinction needs to be made between illegal aliens and political activists. Local and international human rights groups

have appealed to the Yemeni authorities not to extradite all of them. It is not a matter of sympathizing with their cause, it is a matter of human rights.  
**By: Jamal Al-Awadhi, and Ibrahim Al-Merghamy, at Sanaa Central Prison.**

## This Year's High School Exam Results Show:

### GIRLS ARE BETTER STUDENTS

Female high-school students have topped the lists of graduates with the highest marks at the end of the academic year 1997/98. Of a total of 31,898 students who sat for the science section of secondary-school graduation exams, 26,904 (84.00%) passed their finals. A slightly smaller proportion (80.72%) of the 55,237 students who sat for the exams in the literary section were successful. As for the trade section, 519 students of the 605 passed

their exams. The number of students expelled from exam halls for cheating or other irregularities was 586. Of these, 27 were denied the right to take exams because they exchanged the exam answer books, 18 for tearing off their answer books, 85 for assuming false identities (sitting in for other students), 110 for running away with the answer books, 40 for outright cheating during exams, 13 for differences in handwriting, and 270 for other

offences. About 61% of the top ten students in all categories - 39 of the total of 64 students, were female students. This kind of female domination of the top scores is even more impressive once we realize that female high school students represent less than 27% of the total. "It just goes to show that girls are more serious students than boys," said a teacher.

## Canada Visit Program Finalized

President Ali Abdullah Saleh's program of visit to Canada has just been finalized. The 24-28 August official visit includes many meetings in Ottawa with federal officials, including Prime Minister Jean Chretien, Governor-General Romeo LeBlanc, and many parliamentarians. In Alberta, the President will see Prime Minister Ralph Klein, and other officials. Canadian Occidental Petroleum, which is playing a pivotal role in the arrangements, will give the President a tour of its premises, notably the Yemen Floor. The president will meet with Canadian business leaders, mostly in the oil and mining sectors. He will fly out of Canada from Vancouver. President Saleh is the first Yemeni head of state to pay an official visit to Canada.



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## OUR VIEWPOINT

### Frustration Breeds Extremism

Today, most Yemenis are frustrated. If you talk just about to any one, you will see that they are down. Talk to a layman. Talk to a housewife. Talk to a student. Talk to a government employee. Talk to a merchant. Talk to a soldier or an officer. Talk to a minister. No matter who you talk to, you will sense immediately a feeling of being let down.

This pervasive mood is dangerous. It is like a powder box, waiting to blow off. The mood leads to extremism and fatalism, mostly, religion-based. Already one can see signals coming from various corners of the country. Consider the following:

#### 1) Young Men and Women Go Back to Old Ways:

There are bad omens coming from many regions, especially Aden, Taiz, Lahej, Hodeidah and Ibb - the most densely populated parts of the country and together accounting for more than 60% of the total number of Yemenis. These omens show that young men and women are becoming fatalistic and extremist. The phenomenon includes quite a number of educated people who because they are unable to make in life with their certificates, fall back on simplistic solutions.

#### 2) Anger at Foreigners:

An increasing number of frustrated Yemenis are beginning to blame foreigners for their misfortunes. In other words, the problems have made Yemenis more and more xenophobic. This dangerous development could soon lead to violence against foreigners, notably Euro-Americans and/or Christians, who they see as partly responsible for the local and regional complications and hardships facing Arabs and Muslims.

#### 3) Fighting Over Mosques:

The fight over who gets the chance to brain-wash the general public has taken new violent twists. Over the last month alone, there have been eight incidents of murder, based on rival claims to lead the mosques. The agitations are expected to grow into open gang warfare as each sect and claimant unleashes his followers against the others.

#### 4) More Dogmatic Public:

Yemenis are tradition-oriented people, but they were never dogmatic zealots. Today, their frustrations are making them more dogmatic. While technically puritanical religion is not necessarily a bad thing, if it leads to less tolerance and more fanaticism, it is going to be problematic.

#### 5) Anti-Modernist Sentiments:

Since the government is blamed for the hardships, and as government is represented by so-called modernists, the general public has increasingly become anti-modernist. This quite dangerous development is further justified by rampant corruption among the bureaucrats. Even more dangerous is the conclusion of a rising number of Yemenis that the present system headed by these modernists needs to be changed, even if through violent ways.

It is important that the regime gives the majority of Yemenis a stake in its fortunes. If people have nothing to fear for in the system, they will not be inclined to defend it against any on-slaughter. It is important that all Yemenis should feel that they have a stake in the system; otherwise they won't identify with it.

*The Publisher*  
*Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf*

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### Saqqaf Heads for Japan

At the invitation of the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo, Professor Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf will pay a 12-day visit to Japan. He will hold meetings with government officials, academia, journalists, members of parliament, and other dignitaries.

Dr. Saqqaf will exchange views on bilateral cooperation, President Saleh's coming visit to Japan, and other pertinent issues.

### Capital Punishment for Kidnapping, Gang Action, & Highway Robbery

The Government of Yemen issued a new law according to which severe crimes against the state and society will be punished by death. The capital punishment is now going to be applied to crimes such as kidnapping, highway robbery, gang action, etc.

This law is expected to deter many violators. Yemen has recently suffered from a spate of such crimes.

### HSWS Discusses Dates

The Hadhramaut Social Welfare Society (HSWS) is dedicating its qat chew session on Friday 7th August to discuss the deteriorating situation of palm trees in Wadi Hadhramaut. The HSWS had also discussed the same topic last Friday.

Academics and agricultural specialists will attend the session.

### Yemenis Support Ethiopia

Spearheaded by the Yemeni-Ethiopian Friendship Society (YEFS), an effort is underway to collect contributions from Yemeni citizens to help Ethiopia. The YEFS established account number 0001-01005398 with the Sanaa branch of the Watani Bank for Trade & Investment for this purpose.

Mr. Izzaddin Ali Hibah, Vice Chairman of the YEFS, has been calling on friends to make donations. "We are gratified by the response. We hope to be able to pass on the money and contributions in kind (mostly medicine) to the Ethiopian side very soon," he said.

Ethiopian nationals residing in Yemen have also made generous contributions to their country, which is presently at war with neighboring Eritrea.

### FAO/ACA Agreement

An agreement between the FAO and the Agriculture Cooperation Association (ACA) was signed on Saturday, August 8. The FAO will fund the ACA with US \$70,000 for studies and research on the conditions of agriculture and the needs of agricultural association.

### Sanitation Campaign Launched in Sanaa

More than 5,000 students participated in the comprehensive sanitation campaign started on August 6 in the old city of Sanaa. The Supreme Coordination Council of Charitable Societies also participated in the campaign.

### ESCODA System at Sanaa Airport

The Customs Authority introduced the ESCODA system into Sanaa International Airport. The quarantine health project is also underway. It will cost YR 12 million.

### Aden Free Zone

Mr. Dirham Abdu Noman, the director of Aden Free Zone (AFZ) told the Yemen Times that the number of applications national local and foreign companies for investing in the AFZ has reached 580 worth about US \$1,400 billion. The proposed investment enterprises will cover an area is estimated at 140 million sq. m.

### Indian Film Festival

The festival of Indian Films was launched on Thursday, August 4 at the Yemen Cultural Center in Sanaa. The festival comes as a part of the celebrations marking golden jubilee of Indian independence. It also aims to strengthen the cultural relations between Yemen and India.

### New Piloting Boats

On Monday, August 10, Aden Port Authority will receive 3 piloting boats as a part of the cooperation between Yemen and Holland. These boats will increase the capacity of the Aden Port. The ceremony to celebrate this event will be attended by the Minister of Transportation, the governor of Aden, the ambassador of Holland and many other officials.

### Renewed Violence in Al-Jawf

Seven people were killed on Saturday, August 8 in Al-Hazm town, Al-Jawf. Tempers flared when an armed group of men from Al-Jidaan tribe quarreled with a Central Security patrol. The shoot-out that ensued left 3 tribesmen and 4 soldiers dead. Al-Jawf along with Mareb have witnessed some of the worst con-

frontations between the tribes and army troops following the recent price hikes.

### AGIP Oil Agreement

A memorandum of understanding was signed by the Ministry of Oil

& Mineral Resources and AGIP oil company of Italy on Saturday, August 8 in Shabwa. The agreement specified the duration of oil explorations at 9 years divided into three periods. According to the memorandum an seismic survey covering about 600 sq. km will be carried out.



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# Breaking New Grounds: YEMEN'S FIRST FEMALE PILOT

Yemeni women are slowly breaking new grounds in a man's world. Career women are few in Yemen, and those who have managed to remain on their jobs have done so with two major constraints - a) that their careers are exclusively limited to certain sectors (teachers, nurses, medical doctors, secretaries, low-level to mid-level clerks, etc.); and b) that they are always under the protection of some consenting male guardian.

Now more and more young women are breaking the taboos. Some helpful factors include.

- 1) That women in Yemen have been working since time immemorial - on the farms and at home - although they are not paid for it.
- 2) More and more men are willing to accept women as equal colleagues;
- 3) The international community is supporting the liberalization of women.

Today, Yemen has its first female pilot. She is Ms. Rosa Mustafa Abdulkhaleq. Rosa, 26, finished her secondary-school studies in Aden and went to train to be a civil aviation pilot at the Delta Aeronautics Institute in Texas, USA. She has been working for seven years with Yemen Airlines. Now, she is ready to fly.

Rosa acquired 5 different types of certificates:

- First solo,
- Private pilot,
- Instrument certificate,
- Commercial pilot, and
- Single and multi-engine.

Dr. Selah Haddash, Managing Editor of Yemen Times, spoke to Ms. Abdulkhaleq and filed the excerpts below.

**Q: Is a career in aviation now open for Yemeni woman?**

**A:** Some people think it is difficult for Yemeni women to be

however, is to remain fit. Pilots, for example, have to do medical checkups every six months. Other crew members have to have



pilots, it is not. The assumption arose because men have made this field their exclusive realm.

In the past, everything was considered difficult or taboo for Yemeni women. They couldn't be lawyers, doctors, etc. This was not only in Yemen but also in other countries.

So it was quite a challenge for me to overcome such obstacles and open this wonderful field. Yes, it is now open for women!

**Q: Why did you choose this profession in particular?**

**A:** To become a pilot and enjoy the freedom of flying was my dream since early in my childhood. Some children like animals, cars, toys, dolls, or other toys. And some like birds or airplanes. I was one of those.

As an adult, I thought of studying computer science due to its power in this modern age. But my real passion lay in flying. I went on to study aeronautics because I love birds very much.

**Q: Were you at any time put off by the possible risks involved in aviation?**

**A:** There are risks and hazards in all profession, and everywhere you go. Even crossing the street involves a certain amount of risk. But flying is not really a very risky business.

What is more important,

check-ups every year. In case any one of them has any heart, sight or hearing problems, he or she has to be transferred to ground work. A number of other safety measures also have to be taken by all pilots and cabin crew.

**Q: How many flight hours did you have before qualifying as a pilot?**

**A:** I qualified after 258 hours of flying. There are other types of certificates that are based on a smaller number of flying hours. Many international airlines require a minimum of 190 hours. But I did 258 just to acquire more experience.

I stayed in the US for ten months, seven and a half months of which were exclusively for training.

**Q: What problems did you face in America with regard to your study and social life?**

**A:** I did not face any difficulties to speak of with regard to language and studying. Differences in social customs and traditions may have presented some problems. However, generally speaking, life in America is easy and not complicated at all. I was very determined to continue my training which is the sole goal that took me to America in the first place. I had to fit in with my studying/training environment more than in the vastly different



social life.

Due to the generally cold weather in winter, I found difficulty in flying daily. The time specified to flying with my instructor was two hours per day. So, because of the winter weather, I felt that I did not practice enough. Though difficult in the beginning, with practice it became easier and more interesting.

**Q: Do you think that Yemeni females can live away from their families while studying or even working abroad?**

**A:** I believe that some people are strangers in their own country. I did not find any problem when I went to America. I was expecting some trials and tribulations because of differences in tradition and religion. I actually discussed this matter with my family and relatives before leaving Yemen. Since some of them traveled a lot, I got some good advice and suggestions.

I believe a person - male or female - can create his/her little world within the boundaries that he/she determines. This is possible in the USA.

**Q: What was your family's first reaction to your wanting to study in America?**

**A:** I did not find any objection. My father and mother are well educated and know that studying is very important for my future. Actually, they encouraged me.

**Q: Where are you working now?**

**A:** I was provisionally appointed at Yemenia Airlines in November, 1997. But due to long-winded bureaucratic procedures, the appointment was not officially completed until March of this year. However, I had actually started flight operations training in January.

I am now a pilot under training. I am in a long list of fellow graduates who have been training for about five years. Current work requirements and vacancies do not demand a large number of pilots. Also Yemenia is having some difficulty in training new pilots. For example, there is no flight simulator in Yemen. The normal training period is around three to six months.

I am allowed to attend a refresher course, "but I need an initial course which has not started yet. To do an initial course abroad, a

pilot needs about 20 to 40 hours at \$450 to \$500 an hour.

**Q: Where you easily accepted by Yemenia?**

**A:** I was appointed immediately by the Director of Operations, Captain Abdulkhaleq Al-Qadhi. Moreover, I feel grateful for the interest and support of the President of the Republic.

Unfortunately, a year has passed and I am still on the waiting list, despite the fact that I am the first female pilot in Yemen and the Arabian Peninsula.

**Q: How have your male colleagues reacted to having a Yemeni female pilot working with them?**

**A:** Outwardly, everybody congratulates me on my achievement and encourages me to do more. Maybe very few of my colleagues think that I am getting more attention than I deserve. As the first female pilot, I draw attention, which is normal. But I am not letting that go to my head. I still ask and consult with my older and more experienced pilot colleagues, even if they are still trainees like myself.

**Q: Many Yemeni men refrain from marrying educated or professional women. Which would you choose marriage or your career?**

**A:** My decision to become a pilot was out of a real passion and ambition to excel in this profession. Marriage should be based on mutual understanding. I do not see them mutually exclusive.

My future husband should respect my ambition and hopes. He should not try to hinder my professional career. Likewise for him. It is an equal partnership.

**Q: What are your hobbies?**

**A:** I like to read poetry.

**Q: Any last comment?**

**A:** I faced some unforeseen difficulties in being a professional aviatrix. I think any females

wishing to become pilots will find easier from now on. Many female friends and acquaintances visited me wanting to know what it is like to be a pilot. Many of them have had a hidden desire along the same path.

A colleague pilot told me that his daughter wants to become a pilot, but he advised her to wait and see how I'll fare. I think many people still think that aviation is too dangerous a profession for women.

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# HUMAN RIGHTS SYSTEM IN YEMEN



**General**

The amended Yemeni Constitution of 1994, adopted multiple Human Rights principles. Article 6 stipulates that the state confirms that it will act according to the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They are the generally recognized rules of international law.

**Economic Rights**

The Yemeni amended Constitution of 1994 recognizes various economic freedoms and rights such as the protection of private property, which cannot be confiscated except for public good and then in return for a just indemnisation according to a law; [Article 7, (paragraph C)]. The second right considers natural resources, according to the Constitution, as state property. Its exploitation by the state must be guaranteed to be for the national good; (Article

**8) Social & Cultural Rights**

The 1994 amended Constitution proclaims various social and cultural rights, such as:  
\* Equal opportunities for all citizens in various fields; political, economical, social and cultural; (Article 24).  
\* The state guarantees freedom of scientific research; (Article 27).  
\* Education and health and social services being the joint responsibility of the state and society; (Article 32).

**Political Rights**

\* Yemeni citizens have the right to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referendums; (Article 42).  
\* Forming political parties, associations and trade unions; (Article 57).

**Criminal Rights**

There are many rights which are adopted by the Yemen Constitution such as:  
\* The criminal responsibility is a individual one; (Article 46).  
\* The right to recourse to a court of law for the protection of the citizens legitimate rights.

**GUARANTEES**

To implement human rights principles in a full and complete form or way, there are various principles which should exist in any constitution that will guarantee the implementation of these rights. These principles are as follows:

**1) Rule of Law:**

This principle means that all legislation should be impartially implemented on all citizens,

including the Head of the State. According to the Yemeni Constitution, the Yemeni president is to be elected. He also can be accused of high treason or breaking the constitution, etc, and could be put to trial a any other ordinary citizen; (Article 126)

**2) Separation Between Civil & Military Authorities:**

This means that there should be two separate domains. In fact, this separation is a problem in any Third World country because in most of these countries, the head of the state usually comes to power by a coup d'état. Fortunately, this is not the case in Yemen.

The Yemeni Constitution stipulates that the President of the Republic of Yemen is the high commander of the Armed Forces; (110).

In Yemen it is difficult to separate the civil from military authority, for this purpose a Presidential decree was issued to prohibit the Yemeni military from working or being involved in any way in the business field. Also the election law demands that a military person standing for elections should resign from his military post.

The separation of these two domains is confirmed by the establishment of military courts to deal with persons who work in the army, and the existence of other systems of courts for civil persons.

The success of the civil society in Yemen is related to success of the separation of these two domains.

**3) Separation of Authorities:**

This principle means that the three authorities (legislative, executive and judiciary) should be separated from each other. And each one of them should have its own domain of action, its own institution, competence and members. Each authority also issues its own acts based on a special law. The aim of this principle is to avoid the stronger authority dominating the other two. This is important in order to prevent the establishment of a dictatorship, whether civil or military.

The Yemeni Constitution states that there are three different authorities:

A) Legislative authority - the Council of Representatives - is elected directly by the Yemeni citizens; (Article 61).

B) Executive authority consists of;

i- The President of the Republic to be elected indirectly by the Council of Representatives. He is the head of the executive authority; (paragraph, 105).

ii- The Council of Ministers which is the government of the country consisting of ministers and headed by a prime minister; (articles 27 and 28)

C) Judicial authority consists of the courts (primary, appeal, and supreme), the prosecutors general and the supreme judiciary council.

**4) Independence of the Judicial Authority:**

The Yemeni Constitution proclaims the independence of the judicial authority, financially and administratively.

Any interference in the cases or affairs of the justice system is considered by the Yemeni Constitution as a crime punishable by law.

The Yemeni Constitution confirms the independence of this authority by stipulating that judges are also independent in their work. No person can dismiss a judge from his post, except according to the law. This guarantee confirms the independence of this authority only.

The Supreme Judiciary Council is the highest judiciary organ which nominates judges and dismisses them.

This court has the authority to annul any law, if it contradicts the Constitution or if this law will allow an abuse of the legislative authority.

In Yemen there is a department for constitutional affairs within the Supreme Court.

**6) Judiciary Control & the Administration:**

The Yemeni Constitution states that within the court system there will be administrative courts. In the Supreme Court in Yemen there is a department for administrative cases.

This means that any administrative act which contradicts a law or abuses any right can be annulled by a court.

Dr. Salah Haddash, Ph.D. Law (France)

**5) Constitutional Court:**

**تعزية**

نتقدم بأحر التعازي والمواساة لآل القرشي خصوصا، ولجميع متقفي وأبناء اليمن عموما

بوفاة الأستاذ الكبير

عبدالرحيم سلام القرشي

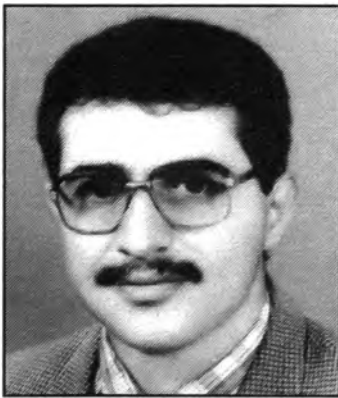
تغمده الله بواسع رحمته وأسكنه فسيح جناته

وإنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون

الأسيفون

أسرة تحرير «يمن تايمز»

## Salafiya Drives Yemen Back into History



**Background:**

Generally speaking, the Salafia refers to a group of people who claim to follow heart and soul the full and literal teachings of prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him) and trace the track of his khalifs who absorbed the inner nature and origins of Islam. I am not trying here to trace this movement back in history; rather I will try to focus on the current situation in Yemen and its perspectives on the affairs of the world as relevant from the salafiya movement.

Generally translated, the salafiya movement is a puritanical effort to purify Islam from the distortions that have fallen on it. The salafia in Yemen was part of the whole Islamic movement. It evolved first as a branch of the Islah party. But after the Yemeni unification in 1998, some differences began to take place among the groups of the Islamic movement. Some dogmatic figures opposed the policy of the Islah party, notably in matters of political affairs like democracy, elections, political plurality, etc.

The gulf between them is actually widening gradually. However, they occasionally come together and join hands to combat a common enemy. The salafia faction has its own leaders and theorists. Sheikh Moqbil Al-Wadi'ey, living in Sadaa, is now considered to be the leading theoretician of the movement in Yemen.

**The Teachings:**

The movement has polarized our society. Many people visit him in Sadaa to learn from his knowledge. And when they go back to their villages and cities, they spread his teachings among people. In this way, they have enlarged the ground of their movement throughout Yemen. The economic hardships and overall disappointments have led people to an utter despair and frustration. Religious salvation is offered as the only way-out for they give them some relief and make them *live* for the hereafter thus forfeiting this world. In other words, fatalism.

This is nothing wrong with being religious or keeping in touch with God. But the salafiya preachers try to convince their followers of the idea of the angry God. They tell them that our world has been gripped by the devil. Everything is under the guidance of evil, and accordingly, we are all sinners. That is an easy explanation of our sufferings and anguish. We are being punished by God. No mercy will be shown on us. Hell is everywhere we go. In short, everything is forbidden (haram). We should all rise against this evil world, and change it, even if by violence.

Even if we die doing it. Some gullible people, due to their hard economic situations, fall easily to this logic. They become 'willing' followers of their sheikhs. They take everything taught to them for granted thinking this is the original purport of Islam. After this brainwashing, they are let loose on society. They go out to implement the orders of the sheikhs blindly and defend them grimly. They don't have the right to express their views rather they advocate ideas and opinions which sometimes they themselves do not understand. I will illustrate by using some issues and facts.

**Salafia & Women**

In the mind of these people, women have no place but home. It is their appropriate place as it protects their *dignity* and feminine nature. Women should not go to school or university. They can only expect to be taught to read and write, and even that, at home, if possible. Formal education is really haram for women, as it drives them away from morality and righteousness. Even the voice of a woman is a shame. The rigidity goes so far that it is haram and unacceptable for a man to talk to his sister-in-law or see her face. Can one imagine this? Women can't walk alone in the streets. They have to be accompanied by some escort, usually a male relative, provided he is legally related to her, like a father, brother, husband, etc. What is more disturbing is that some members of this group have started stopping women who

walk streets and try to investigate their identity and that of their male escort. "Hey, show me your marriage contraction document" is their demand; as if you were in the departure lounge of an airport. Of course, the puritans do not even think of career women. Women are better off at home, and they, of course, know what is good for women.

**Salafieen & Education**

I have mentioned that the Salafia movement does not attach much importance to female formal education. Actually it doesn't attach any importance to formal education, in general. They believe the most important thing to learn is the Quran. In other words, we should ignore other fields of knowledge and expertise. It is not necessary for us to study physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology, computer science, etc. Indeed we have nothing to do with scientific matters for they are all futile, meaningless and earthly. Religion is the bedrock and key of our salvation. Other fields are of mundane and worldly value. I still remember what a teacher once said to his students. "On Judgement Day, we wouldn't be asked about our lives in English." Thus, it is of no purpose to learn English or any other language.

**'Thou Art Kafer!'**

If one opposes their puritanical dogmatic beliefs and views, he or she is classed as an infidel (kafer). I don't have any personal prejudice against this group, and it is up to them what they believe. The problem starts when they try

to impose their vision on others. But I see them doing worries me about the future of our country. Let me report a true story. Some young men in a suburb of Taiz were not favorable to their views. They are well-educated and were able to refute their allegations and bring truth to people about different religious affairs. Feeling their position jeopardized, the salafieen issued a decree sentencing these young men to death charging them with apostasy. Let me give another example. The puritanical leaders even forbid watching TV, listening to music, reading newspapers and magazine. All sorts of games are haram too. They are devilish instruments aimed to deviate people of the right path. The real reason is that these media offer alternatives to the salafia.

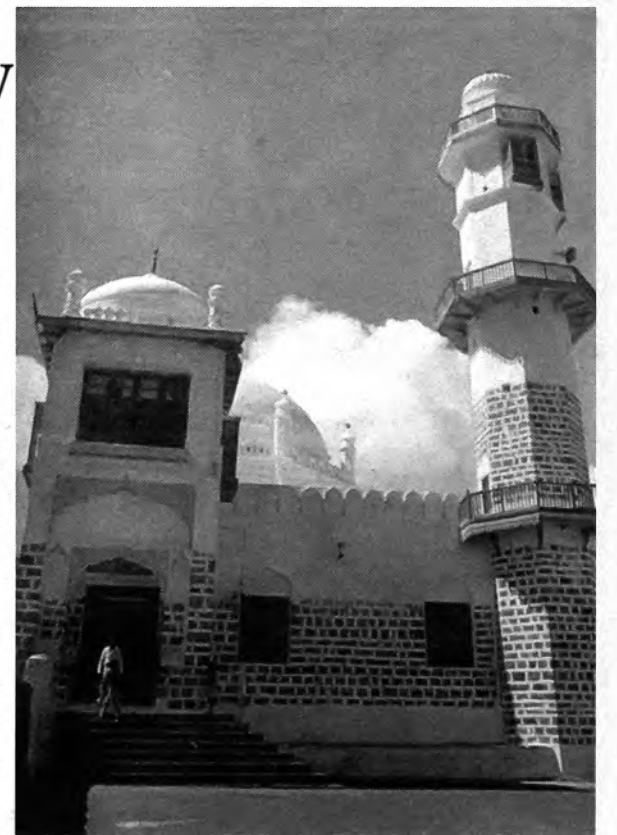
Another more serious point is the recent heated competition for control over mosques between the salafia and followers of the Islah. Clashes and conflicts

between the two groups took place in many places all over the country. The salafia also push for destroying the shrines of former religious leaders.

This narrow-minded movement is a danger. It is now an embryo, but it could grow to become a big problem. Indeed, it is frightening for it could Afghanize Yemen and push the country into turmoil.

The government and opinion makers of this country should work together to help them, and minimize their danger. Will we wake up before it is too late.

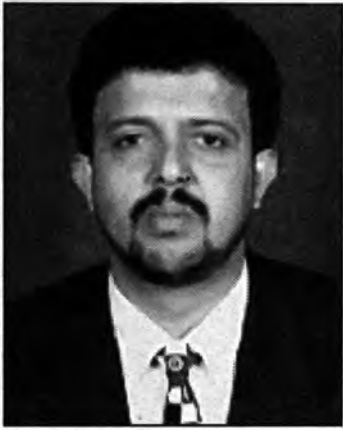
By: Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi, Assistant Managing Editor, Yemen Times





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

## So You Have a Degree?



**Dr. Murad Ahmed Ali, Ph.D.**  
Industrial Electronics, Kiev University,  
Ukraine

the educational system in Yemen tends to rely on theoretical studies. In primary education, a pupil is made to cram in a lot of information in science, literature and religion.

At the end of the first year in secondary education, a student can choose one of four fields: science, arts, commerce or vocational curricula, the last two being more work-oriented. At this stage, a societal bias for degrees pushes the majority of students into the regular secondary system.

### the Bottleneck:

Once a student completes secondary education, there is another nightmare. It seems that the future of the student in terms of continuing university education depends on the grades on the last secondary year. The system relies heavily on the grades of the final secondary-school year to determine a student's eligibility to go into this or that college.

Secondary-school graduates of the scientific section generally have a greater choice. They can enroll in any college at Sanaa University, provided they have the required final grades. Graduates of the literary section have a lesser choice: commerce, Sharia, arts, education, and similar disciplines. Commerce students, on the other hand, have only one

choice - college of commerce. The unfortunate are graduates of vocational secondary schools. They are not allowed to proceed to university level, no matter how brilliant they are.

In order to go to their choice of college at the university - and better still, in order to qualify for scholarships to study abroad, students resort to cramming information from text books. Thus, the secondary school leaving certificate becomes a determining factor in the future of our students.

### Studying Abroad:

It used to be easier to get a scholarship to study abroad. Even the conditions and education bureaucratic procedures were simpler. Nowadays, the story is different. If you are lucky and got one of those scholarships, you are shielded from the complications of Yemen, for a few years. Actually that is not completely correct, as many students have to worry whether their scholarship money will arrive in time, or at all. But still, you are away, and that is a blessing. Yet, it is not without its troubles.

Students going abroad, especially to non-Arabic and non-Islamic countries, find it difficult to adapt to the social rules, morals and standards of a completely alien

society. Cultural and religious differences can mostly cause deep psychological struggle within a student from Yemen or any other eastern culture. Many get accustomed to the more permissive way of life. Many others, however, shield themselves and successfully continue their studies, overcoming all sorts of emotional and material obstacles on the way. Finally it is done!

### You Have a Degree, So What?

Now you have come back to Yemen. A proud young man or woman, and you think the President of the Republic should come to receive you at the airport. Well, he did not come, but still, that is okay. Then you go around to explain your achievements, meaning the degree you got. At first, people listen politely, then you get wicked smiles. Finally, one day someone tells you to shush. They want to talk about the latest political gossip. You are shocked that not many people are taking your degree seriously.

Well, there is a bigger shock. You can't get a job. Imagine in a poor and backward country, and you with your university, or post university can't get a job.

Your ambitions start to crumble. First, you had wanted some important job, then a lesser one, and a lesser one. Finally, you would settle for anything that will generate income, but it isn't there. You don't believe me, just go out there and ask.

You know why? Because this system in Yemen today does not respect hard work or knowledge. Degrees don't matter. The fact that you have the skill and ability to do something don't matter.

### Personal Experience:

When I started my studies at the former Soviet Union, the three months allowance granted by the Yemeni government was \$120. This sum was enough due to the low prices and the availability of the currency exchange black market. This state continued until the early 1990s when the communist system began to crumble. When the former Soviet republic embraced the market economy, Yemeni students there started to feel the bite of the economic crisis. While studying for the M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees, I used to get \$300 per quarter, which still was not enough even for the most basic requirements.

Despite all the hardships, economic and otherwise, I and several of my colleagues were more than determined to go on with our studies. We were motivated primarily by the hope of returning home to serve our people and country. We were not fully aware of the deteriorating economic circumstances and the drop in living standards experienced by the Yemeni people. We did not realize that the difficulties we will face back home will be more oppressive.

Before coming back home, I used to weigh matters with a different scale. I was full of hope of finding a suitable job to compensate for all the years of hardship. There are few people in Yemen who have my specialization - industrial power electronics. So the possibility of not finding work did not even strike me. I felt I will be one of a few pioneers.

I thought I will start by applying as a lecturer at the university. First there is the paperwork. It takes forever to complete that. But more disturbing, the people you come in contact with give the impression that you are one of hundreds of candidates in the same field. They would say, "There are hundreds of other

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To discuss the ordeal of Yemeni degree holders sounds like a funny story. University graduates, post-graduates and educated people generally now find themselves unable to find jobs, and thus unable to feed themselves. It is a tragedy that gets sadder and sadder with time.

### The Educational System:

The educational system in more advanced countries differs markedly from the Yemeni system. There, the system inches gradually towards abolishing class divisions. People realize that progress can only come through closely associating science with work. Therefore, their school curricula concentrate more on applied sciences that are more in tune with everyday life's requirements.

Such a system is able to give the students a bigger opportunity to put what he or she studied into practical use. On the other hand,

applicants just like you."

Administrative corruption and nepotism still rule supreme not only in government, but also in universities. Thus, the fate and future of an educated intellectual is governed by non-academic factors.

### What is the way out?

There seems to be three possible ways out of my situation:

1- Forget about your high academic qualifications and the years of hard work put into it. Be involved in commerce or any other activity that is going to generate a decent income.

2- Working in the increasing number of private universities and colleges seems to be a reasonable way out. However, due to the marked lack of appropriate legislation to regulate employment in these private universities, there future is as yet unclear.

3- When the prospects become gloomy and all hopes are crushed, there seems to be no other alternative but to leave the country. Despite our country's need for them,

educated people leaving for work cannot be blamed if they cannot have a decent life at home.

### Solution?

To solve this problem and many others, real reform must be constituted. The principle of reward and punished must be fully and effectively adopted. Favoritism, nepotism and other kinds of -isms will have to be abandoned. New criteria for evaluating people according to their own merit and achievement must be the norm. Otherwise, the nation will move from bad to worse.

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## CONDOLENCE

The Samahang Pilipino sa Yemen (The Filipino Association in Yemen) offer their deep sympathy and condolence to the Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity for the brutal murder of Sister Michael (Filipina) Sister Aletta and Sister Zelia (from India) in Hodeidah on 27 July 1998.

The Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity have embraced the life of sacrifice in the service of the poorest of the poor and it is deplorable that they were killed in the very place where they are serving.

We request everybody to join us in prayer for the three sisters.



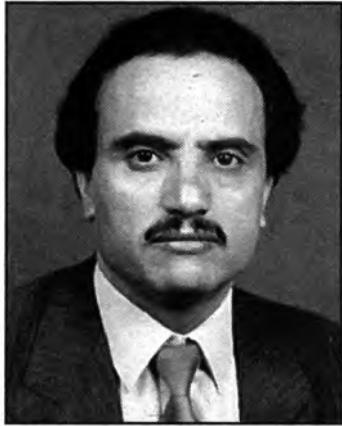
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# YT on the Road: Gauging Changes in Consumer Demand



The economic reform measures have been biting into the family budget - prices are increasing, incomes are falling, subsidized goods are no more, and formerly free services (education, health, etc.) are no more. We are talking of a falling purchasing power. So, how is the family budget coping? The basic answer, is that people are less frequently shopping. To measure how much consumer taste and patterns have been affected, the Yemen Times sent out feelers. Ismail Al-Ghabyri led the effort. Basically, the task was to talk to shop owners. The Yemen Times visited retailers of clothing/garments, household consumer goods, foodstuffs, construction material, spices, etc. The overall picture is that there has been a dramatic fall in business. Economists call the slack in business a recession or stagnation.

actually due to the economic hardships faced by the people. Ordinary people seldom buy spices these days. It is only well-off people who are not affected by price hikes.

"Comparing this year with last year, I find a big difference. The market situation is actually going from bad to worse. What I earn can hardly cover the rent of the shop.

"At my shop people can get ginger, hulba, black pepper, coffee, etc. which are not really necessary and indispensable. Ordinary people do not even dream of luxuries.

"Getting people satisfied with our goods and our services is a very important commercial technique. When your customers feel that you give them good services, they, of course, will visit you regularly."

**Mulhy Ahmad, a cafe' owner:**

"See there are no customers at all. I have spent a lot of money on furnishing and equipping this cafe. I have even allotted a special section for families. My customers are getting fewer and fewer.

"We serve beverages, tea, sandwiches, hookah, juices, cold drinks, etc. We cannot compare this year with the last year. This year is very bad.

"We have to receive our customers with smiles. We have to deal with them in a cordial and friendly way so that they would come back. Of course the number of daily customers is not stable."

**Yahia Hameed Ali, a green grocer:**

personal income.

"The goods we now sell are mainly foodstuffs like vegetables, rice, flour, etc. But other things are not in great demand. There is another problem. People prefer foreign products because of the low quality of the local ones. In addition, people with fixed income can't afford the various daily household demands.

"You have to smile and receive your customers with open arms. You have to make them always happy with you. The number of my customers changes constantly. Sometimes it is high and sometimes it is low. It depends on the prices."

**Ghasan Najeeb Al-Shaibani, clothes retailer:**

"In the past two years there was much activity in the market. Now it is in a state of stagnation. I am now trying to get rid of all the old fashioned stuff I have in stock, even if I do not make any profits, because I have to keep abreast with the new fashions.

"I can't make any comparison between this year and the past years. Yemen is now in the pits. The problem is also with the low-income people. This is the summer season, and we should see brisk demand, but as you can see there are no customers.

"As clothes traders, we always try to import products of high international standards so that we can attract well-off people. Because they always try to get high-quality clothes. Middle-income people look for less expensive clothes. Low-income people have stopped buying

thing is very normal.

"I think that every year has its own characteristic features. So comparisons can be right or wrong. Frankly speaking, the trading movement is excellent for me in every sense of the word.

"The products available in my supermarket are foodstuffs and canned goods made by international companies. They really have the lion's share among other goods.

"Most of our customers are from the international community living in Sanaa. We should deal with them honestly and in a friendly way. This is one of the basic elements in our trade."

**Nasser Al-Kumaim, a wholesaler:**

"The people's economic circumstances underwent a radical change recently. Trading has changed enormously. For example, I used to sell 20 cartons of soap, 10 cartons of cooking oil per month. But these days sometimes the income doesn't even cover the electricity bill or the shop rent.

"The past few years were much better than this year. This is a bad year, and economic life is very stagnant now. In fact, we can hardly earn enough to cover the expenses of the day.

"Products on relatively higher demand are sugar, rice, cooking oil, etc. Many people I know have given up buying luxury goods on account of hard economic circumstances.

"Being honest, sociable and helpful is very useful for us and for our customers."

**Saleh Al-Miswari, a supermarket manager:**

"The retail business is not quite stable these days. The gross daily income at our supermarket fluctuates considerably. Generally

speaking, business is gradually coming to a halt.

"There is a large difference from last year's business performance. Recession started slowly set in towards the end of 1997, and has gained bigger momentum this year.

"Consumers in general go now for the absolutely necessary commodities. They look for cheap goods even if they are not of very good quality. The average income now hardly covers the bare necessities. Luxury goods are now all but abandoned. A very small rich minority can still afford to buy various luxury items.

"Customers often complain of high prices, thinking that retailers deliberately raise prices to make bigger profit margins. It is really not up to the retailer, but price rises come from the wholesalers or the original producers. Our daily contact with shoppers puts us at the receiving end of their anger."



## India Fifty Years of Independence

### INDIA: A GLOBAL SOFTWARE MAJOR

India continues to create waves in the multibillion dollar global software industry with a steady and impressive increase in the volume of software exports. The year 1997 generated for India a revenue of Rs. 58,600 million (US \$1,628 million approximately) through software exports, as against Rs. 35,800 million (US\$ 994 million) in 1996, showing a record annual growth of over 64%. Yet another feather in the cap of the Indian software enterprises is the fact that more than 140 Fortune 500 companies outsourced their software requirements from India in 1997. According to the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), the handsome growth in India's software export is mainly due to continuous increase in offshore services, year 2000 date conversion opportunities and new initiatives taken by "NASSCOM". NASSCOM is confident that during 1998, India software export revenue may cross the target of approximately US\$ 1,513 million, thus making unprecedented growth in this sector. India has secured a rare distinction of achieving a growth rate of 50% to 60% in its exports for seven years in a row.

According to NASSCOM, by the year 2000, India software exports may touch the magic figure of US\$ four billion. Today, India is supplying high quality software to nearly 100 countries around the globe.

Indeed, from being a low profile and slow moving sector, the Indian software venture has blossomed into a high quality, high profile enterprise with a lucrative prospect of netting an ever increasing volume of foreign exchange for the country. The Pune-based National Center for Radio Astrophysics has urged the Indian Government to declare the first decade of the next century (2000-2010), the decade of information technology, so as to trigger software exports to the tune of US\$ 25 billion a year. India's Exports Promotion Board (EPB) has identified software as a thrust area and is planning to remove all hurdles to achieve a phenomenal growth in the export of software from India. On another front, the Department of Electronics (DOE), with the objective of creating a highly skilled pool of software professionals on a sustained basis, is planning to set up the National Institute for Education and Research (NIER) in Bangalore. The institute is proposed to be set up in association with the National Center for Science and Technology (NCST) and the Center for Development of Tele-matics (C-DOT).

A recent survey has revealed that demand for the Indian software professionals is likely to increase at an exponential rate as developed countries will require many more such professionals to work out

a solution for the year 2000 conversion problem. Most of the current genre computers around the world are configured to provide dates up to the year 2000. Unless these computers are augmented by a package of software solution, they will go haywire beyond the year 2000. And as things stand today, the Indian software industry may bag US \$700 million worth of order related to solving this tangle. Indian software companies are already seized of the problem and are working out a solution.

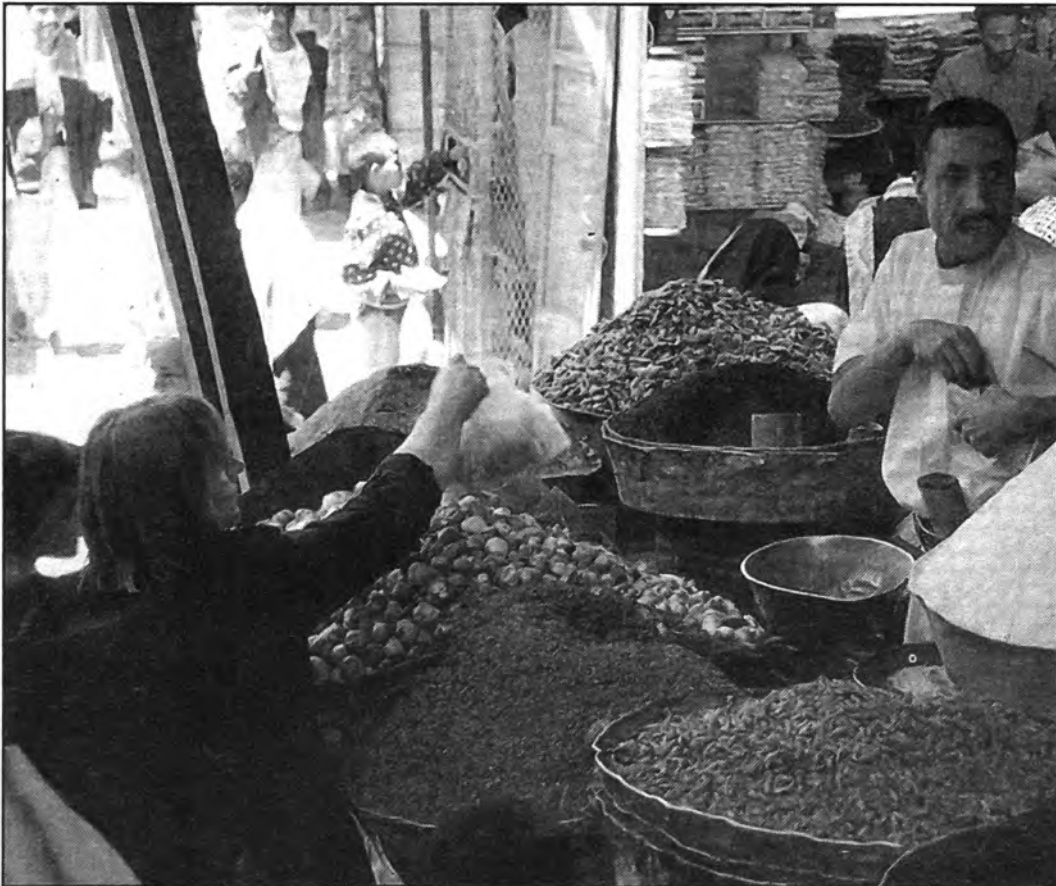
Of late, India has become a favorite destination of computer majors and multinationals for the location of their software centers. Today, more than 130 Fortune 500 companies boast of their software centers in India. Indeed, a study by the California-based Frost and Sullivan Company says that labor is comparatively cheap in India, and the government is very supportive of such projects that have vast potential for foreign exchange earnings.

The world at large has in the meanwhile taken note of the fact the India software exports are no longer dependent on body shopping - an euphemism for deputing manpower to work at the overseas sites of the clients. For, today, Indian software companies are at the cutting edge of the last generation of programs, including multimedia and client server application.

The International Technology Park (ITP), a joint venture of the Tata Group of Industries, Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB), and Singapore-based consortium, recently commissioned in Bangalore, is expected to give a big boost to software export from Bangalore which accounts for more than half of the total software exports from India. Many multinational corporations and global software majors have already set up their shops in ITP.

Of late, the historical city of Hyderabad has also been making it big on India's software front. As observers say, Hyderabad is all set to challenge the supremacy of Bangalore as India's Silicon Valley, thus triggering a healthy competition. The Hi-Tec City (Hyderabad Information Technology and Engineering Consultancy) being set up on the outskirts of the city is all geared to attract many big players in the information industry. The Rs. 15,000 million Hi-Tec city spread over an area of 158 acres will be completed in phased manner.

In addition to Bangalore and Hyderabad, Chennai, Pune, Cochin, Coimbatore and Vishakhapatnam are all set to make it big on software production front and to contribute substantially to India's ambitious software export drive.



The survey was carried out during July 1998, and only in Sanaa. The following questions were put to people in the survey sample:

- Q1: How do you assess business nowadays?
- Q2: Can you compare it with last year's?
- Q3: What are the products most in demand nowadays?
- Q4: How much has consumer taste changed?

**Taha Dubaey, spice trader:**

"Business is not good at all these days. The number of customers is going down continuously. This is

"You can say that business is now in a recession. This is entirely different to the past years. This is of course because of the continuous price hikes. The authorities have to stabilize prices of everything. This will be good, even for us. Another possible reason behind this economic inactivity is that our market has become open to every Tom, Dick and Harry. Everybody is now a green grocer.

"Business is on the horns of a dilemma. In the past years it was very prosperous and fruitful. The reason for the current recession is the economic crisis, low level of investments, price hikes, and low

clothes, I think. These are bad times.

"To be successful, a businessman has to satisfy the needs and demands of his customers. He has to be cheerful and must smile all the time, and should never frown or look angry. Without these attributes, he can never succeed. Of course, the number of the customers changes from time to time and the reason is purely economic."

**Saleh Al-Faqih, a supermarket owner:**

"For me I don't see any economic stagnation. Most of my customers are non-Yemeni so every-



# Malaria Control: First Promising Steps

The "Malaria Coordination Meeting Between Bordering Countries of the Eastern Mediterranean and African Regions" was held in Sanaa during 27-29 July. Organized by the Ministry of Health in cooperation with WHO, the meeting was concluded with a number of recommendations. Participants from Yemen, Sudan, Djibouti, Somalia and Eritrea suggested that a comprehensive plan should be adopted to monitor the malaria epidemic, a joint political policy should be formulated by the governments of the countries concerned to eradicate this disease as well as calling on the WHO to provide the necessary funds, medicines and training facilities. A paper Prepared and presented by Dr. Mohammed Saeed Amer, Director of the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) at the Ministry of Health, indicated the following:

### Malaria Situation in Yemen:

- \* About 60% of the total population live in endemic malaria areas (at risk all through the year).
- \* 20% in areas where malaria is seasonal.
- \* 20% in malaria-free areas or slightly affected by the disease.
- \* It is estimated that 1,500,000 malaria cases occurred annually. Fatality rate is more than 1% of total cases, mostly among children under the age of 5 and also pregnant women.
- \* More than 90% of the total malaria cases were due to plas. Falci, the remaining 10% is divided between PL. Malaria and PL. VIVAX 7-3% accordingly.

\* The main malaria vector is A. Arabiansis followed by A. culicifasis mainly in Socotra Island and the eastern part of the country. There is a great need for entomological studies to determine the roles of A. Costani, A. Sergenti, A. Detheli and A. Multicular. \* Generally speaking, malaria in Yemen is characterized as an Afro tropical type.

### Status of Malaria Control:

During the past few years (1994-1997) the NMCP was plagued by many difficulties which affected its control measures in general and the vector control in particular. This led to an increase in malaria cases due to epidemics occurring here and there, and now and then. The main difficulties are:

- \* Lack of transportation, (only 6 old vehicles in service for the whole country).
- \* Inadequate support and finance.
- \* Lack of administration connections between the Sanaa HQ and the primary units at governorate levels.
- \* High turnover of technical and trained personnel.
- \* In this year, 1998, the anti-malaria activities were upgraded in 8 governorates as a first step to be followed by 6 other governorates during the 4th quarter of this year.
- \* During the past 2 months, the NMCP received 8 new cars, drugs, spraying equipment, laboratory equipment and supplies from WHO, and 20 tons of DDT WDP 75% gift from the Sul-

tanate of Oman. \* 396 persons will be trained locally for different controlling methods, such as microscopical diagnosis, entomology, treatment of severe cases, data analysis, etc. Training will take place in Sanaa, Aden, and Hodeida. Another 15 persons will be trained abroad.

### Malaria Control Strategy in Yemen

The malaria control strategy in Yemen is planned according to the 4 technical elements of the global malaria control strategy. The recommendations of the regional malaria adviser are as follows:

- \* Early diagnosis and prompt treatment.
- \* Selective and sustainable prevention.
- \* Control of epidemics.
- \* Applied researches.

Taking into account the implementation conditions leading to success control:

- \* Political commitment.
- \* Malaria control is an integral part of the health systems.
- \* Resource mobilization.

**Dr. A.V Kondrachine, Chief Medical Officer, Malaria Control, Division of Control of Tropical Diseases, WHO, Geneva:**

The objectives of this meeting are to exchange information between the neighboring countries, share the same philosophy of malaria control, make rec-

The attendance of the Minister of Education, for example, is particularly important. It is the children who fall victims to malaria and they are the best communicators to their families.

They can share the information on the causes of malaria, the appropriate methods of control, etc. I would like this to be the concern of the government of Yemen.

We had been very pleased to see the health service staff very much aware of malaria. They know how to treat people, so they appreciate the magnitude of malaria. The government of Yemen has provided drugs practically to all the areas affected by malaria epidemics. Unfortunately there is no laboratory for diagnosis. But nevertheless in spite of these, the health personnel are very well

trained to deal with the clinical diagnosis of malaria. Fortunately now because of this awareness, there is no severe cases of malaria.

There is still a long way to go. It takes time and much effort. The second thing I would like to mention is that the organization of this meeting was superb. I was extremely pleased to see the honorable ministers and I must congratulate my Yemeni colleagues on organizing this meeting and of course the malaria control program. There is a long way to go, but the start is very optimistic.

Ismail Al-Ghabiry, Yemen Times



ommendations as to the development of their respective national malaria control plans, and to make recommendations as to how to proceed with coordination efforts.

There is one particular most important type of malaria, the so-called Afro Tropical. Yemen and the rest of this territory is plagued by this particular type of malaria.

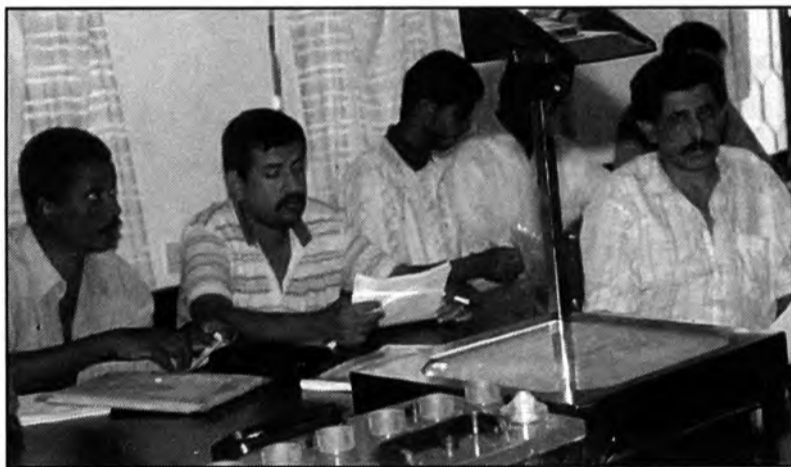
WHO has assisted this country as well as other countries in terms of support and finances to control malaria. The most important thing about this meeting is that it was the government of Yemen who had demonstrated very high political commitment to control malaria. This is very much appre-

ciated. But it is not only political commitment the government of Yemen made. It was also a financially demonstrated support to the malaria control program, in terms of personnel, equipment and support from other sectors.

I was very pleased during the first. It was not only the Minister of Public Health who attended but also the Minister of Agriculture. However, I would be more pleased to see the administrators who are responsible for those areas as forestries, fisheries, etc. These departments are also very important in contributing to different aspects of malaria and the implementations of the activities of malaria control.

## Solar-Powered Refrigerators At EPI

At the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) center a training course was held from July 16 to August 4. It is meant for training some people working in the field of health on how to use the solar-powered refrigerators to keep vaccines in good potency. There are 12 students from different governorates. This new cold chain system will help very much, especially in remote places. Mr. Mohammed Ali Kulais, the director of the EPI center said that the 20 solar-powered refrigerators will be installed in around 15 districts in different governorates in Yemen. "We really do thank the Japanese government for providing the center with this new system. We also thank the UNICEF and WHO for supporting our program. This system will help us very much in integrating hepatitis B vaccine to routine immunization soon,



which will be launched in September 26," he said. Mr. Tawfiq Qaid Abdullah, the director of the Cold Chain Maintenance said that the new system will save a lot of money since the previous refrigerators worked by gas. This means one gas cylinder cost around YR 800 in far off regions. This system will focus on the far off and populated regions. "We have installed two refrigerators in Sanaa and two in

Dhamar. And in the coming few day we will do the same in Taiz, Lahj and Abyan" he said. Mr. Jo Gwillim, a trainer from the UK, said: "We supplied the UNICEF with this system, and a part of the contract is to come and show people how to install the fridges properly. It is necessary that people operating these equipment should be fully acquainted with them. Now we are training 12 students. The program is going very well. We are very interested and pleased to train them since they are learning very quickly. I gave such a course to students in other countries but they were not learning as quickly as these students."

By Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi, Assistant Managing Editor, Yemen Times



# بسكويت زيدة

# أبو ولد

# السكويت الأول في اليمن

ماسة للإعلان



# The Fight over the Aden Sewage Tender

## DO YOU SMELL A RAT?

### THE VIEW FROM ARCHIRODON:

#### Introduction:

It is a locally and internationally recognized practice for an employer to invite the companies wishing to compete to win the implementation of a project. The objectives are to determine the these companies' suitability and capability to implement the project according to the required quality and the suitability of the main materials to be used in implementation. Cost is the decisive factor in awarding the contract, no matter how small or big the cost difference between the first and the following bidders. This is provided that the submitted bid does not contravene the conditions and clauses mentioned in the tender and pre-qualification documents.

#### Facts and analysis:

1. On March 10, 1997, Contractors submitted their prequalification documents for the Aden Sewerage Project. Within these prequalification documents it was required among other information to state the manufacturing sources for the main materials to be incorporated in the Project and prove by means of technical submissions their compliance with the specifications requirements. The evaluation of the prequalification submissions has resulted in awarding Archirodon the highest marks on the basis of the proposed manufacturing sources, the vast construction experience in general, the experience in such types of projects in particular and the high standards of workmanship.

2. A series of remarkable and unusual procedures took place in the following period up until the tender submission date. In the Tender Documents issued following the pre-qualification, the Engineer introduces, contrary to what was requested during pre-qualification, certain materials of patented brand names of a German manufacturer, which is not in compliance with the international practice on public procurement and violates the endeavors taken by, among others, the European Union and the United Nations to guarantee openness and fairness in the area of public procurement.

3. The situation was further exacerbated by introducing after receipt of the Tender Documents substantial changes in the specifications and companies were given the freedom to change their prequalified manufacturers at such a late stage. It remains a mystery how an experienced Engineer has missed such important items while finalizing the Tender Documents.

4. Bids were finally submitted and publicly opened on may 31, 1998. The tender opening results showed that Archirodon's bid was the most competitive.

5. All Bidders submitted along with their offer the standard Letter of Submission which among other things stated the following:  
"We confirm that the above materials and supplies comply with the minimum requirements of the specifications. If, prior to award or during the implementation of the contract it is determined by the Engineer that any of the materials or supplies do not meet the minimum requirements, we undertake to provide and to complete the works in full compliance with the contract and at no additional cost for the Employer"

6. Consequently, all bids were sent to the Engineer's Office in Germany for evaluation. When the Chinese/German JV tender came into focus all nine remaining tenders were immediately discarded and disqualified on poorly administrative reasons, which is highly unusual. In addition and Engineer failed to request for additional detailed technical submissions and clarifications in cases he was not able to judge compliance with the minimum tender specifications as this is the internationally recognized practice.

7. Financial evaluation results are showing that the difference of Archirodon's offer being always the most competitive has increased to 22% which corresponds to about \$650,000. The Chinese/German JV's offer however was the only one considered by the Engineer as substantially responsive.

8. Archirodon has learned that the reason of the contract is being awarded to the Chinese/German JV is only that the latter is purchasing the majority of imported materials from Germany, it is on these grounds that Archirodon is voicing serious concern about the procedure to select and award the project.

9. On July 18, 1998, Archirodon informed the National Water and Sanitation Authority (NWSA) with a copy to the Engineer, of his intention to change the source for a substantial part of the imported materials to German origin in order to put an end to the attempts to by-pass the most competitive offer.

#### CONCLUSION:

There is no doubt that what is happening is irregular. It raises many questions and doubts. Buying material from German sources is the only card left up the sleeve of the people lobbying on behalf of the Chinese company. This issue sets a serious precedent that will lead to many dangerous repercussions, most serious of which include:

1- It will result in disorganizing the system of competitive bidding. It will also undermine confidence in the NWSA and its impartiality in dealing with international companies, which make a lot of efforts and spend a great deal of money to give their best offers, technically and financially.

2- It will give the Chinese company a suspicious monopoly over all the NWSA project and will frustrate any future attempts to break this monopoly. This is especially so considering that Archirodon is markedly more qualified and able than the Chinese company. The Radaa water, sewerage and sanitation project is a good example on that, in addition to a 35-year experience of working in the Middle East.

3- Awarding the Chinese company the contract will consume more than \$600,000 of the financial grant. The NWSA will bear an additional financial burden of more than YR 12 million that will be paid to the Chinese company, instead of using it to expand the project to other areas deprived of sewerage systems such

### THE VIEW FROM THE CHINA ROAD & BRIDGES CO.

#### Introduction:

We were one of many companies that bid for this project. Unlike many of the other companies, we have no big league representatives among businessmen or tribal sheikhs or other influential circles to lobby for us. We submit our offers, and sit and wait, hoping that the system will work reasonably well.

#### Facts and Analysis:

1- The China Road and Bridges Company has been involved in Yemen for many years now, and we have proven the quality of our work. We do not need any person or company to vouch for us. Our work is there for all to see and assess.

2- The China Road and Bridge Company is owned by the government of China. Therefore, although it is important for us to get contracts, it is not like the case of private companies whose owners and representatives go out of their way to secure contracts in any way possible.

3- When companies enter into bidding arrangements, they sign a document, one article of which states that the project owner (the Yemeni Government) or their consultants, are under no obligation to any of the bidders to explain to them how they chose the company that will implement the project.

4- The bidding process is like a football match. The players cannot and should not challenge the referee. If any player feels that the referee has acted unjustly, then they have recourse through other channels such as the courts.

5- The prices being offered by bidders, however important they are, are not the sole factor for choosing the company which will implement the project. There are other factors including sourcing of inputs, quality of work, etc.

6- The analysis of the tenders was carried out by specialized and professional consultants in Germany (Dusseldorf). It is easy to accuse them of favoritism, but proof is really required.

#### CONCLUSION:

We feel that Yemen's best interests are not served by making accusations against a transparent tender process. In our opinion, such efforts, if successful, will also lead to delays in implementation of badly needed projects in a vital city like Aden.

Table1: Summary of Ranking

TENDERE	Tender Sum Without Discount YR	Tender Sum as per Tender YR	Arithmetically Corrected Tender Sum YR	Total Real Cost of the Tender YR	Remarks
1. ARCHIRODON	4.547.993.264	4.191.057.698	No Corrections	4.192.057.698	Tender partially incomplete, substantially unresponsive
2. JV CONS. C.C./ BIWATER	4.474.178.194	4.218.430.031	No Corrections	4.222.430.031	Tender incomplete, substantially unresponsive
3. JV China Road / Riepl/Harsen	No discount	4.238.286.542	4.278.397.585	4.278.397.585	Tender incomplete, substantially responsive
4. Wiemer & Trachte	No discount	4.349.443.838	4.349.294.560	4.353.294.560	Tender substantially incomplete
5. HYDROEXPORT	No discount	4.497.334.765	4.516.589.008	4.520.589.008	Tender substantially incomplete
6. JV SADE/OTV	No discount	5.000.000.000	No Corrections	5.004.000.000	Tender partially incomplete
7. DANDA	No discount	6.350.000.000	No Corrections	6.354.000.000	Tender partially incomplete
8. DYWDIDAG	No discount	6.378.394.527	6.378.558.116	6.382.558.116	Tender incomplete, substantially unresponsive
9. JV Dumerz/Degr.	No discount	6.673.412.994	No Corrections	6.677.412.994	Tender incomplete, substantially unresponsive
10. LURGI/Arab Contr.	No discount	6.827.588.058	6.843.476.142	6.847.476.142	Tender part. incomplete, substantially unresponsive

### TENDER RESULTS

Tenderers who received documents	Country	Tender Sum YR	Equiv. Million USD	Rank
Archirodon	Saudia Arabia	4.191.057.698	31.512	1
TEKSER	Turkey	not submitted		
JV Sade / ORV France	France	5.000.000.000	37.594	6
JV Chnal Road / Riepl / Harsen	Germany	4.238.286.542	31.867	3
DANDAR	Denmark	6.350.000.000	47.744	7
HYDROEXPORT - KEVIEP	Hungary	4.497.334.765	33.815	5
Heikamp	Germany	not submitted		
Dyckerhoff & Widmann	Germany	6.378.394.526	47.958	8
Wiemer & Trachte	Germany	4.349.443.838	32.703	4
JV Consolidated Con/ Biwater	Greece	4.218.430.031	31.718	2
JV Preussag / Salzgitter / Meis	Germany	not submitted		
JV Dumerz / Degremont	France	6.673.412.994	50.176	9
Lurpi Barnag / Arab Contractors	Germany	6.827.588.057	51.335	10
Gul Contracts	UAE	not submitted		

### THE VIEW FROM YEMEN TIMES:

This tender documents are now being processed at the Supreme Bidding Committee for Government Procurements.

Yemen Times has proof that Mr. Ali Hameed Sharaf, Minister of Water and Electricity, has forced some of his staff, including those of NWSA, to sign the analysis results of the tender without reading it. Furthermore, the involvement of this minister in pushing the project, and given that he is a man who is trying to get into the Guinness Book of Records for corruption, makes us uneasy about the procedures that were followed.



# Contemporary Yemeni Theater

## Students Started It:

In his extensive study "Seventy Years of Theater in Yemen", Saeed Awlaqi indicates that the first acting in Yemen was in 1904. An Indian troupe, headed by Jomlat Khan, came to Aden to entertain the Indian community. In the process, they enlisted the services of some locals. That, of course, was not the real beginning of the theater in Yemen in the professional sense. Even the language was not local. But the event triggered more developments.

The first serious acting in Aden was in 1910. School students performed *Julius Caesar* on a small stage in Crater, Aden. This was probably the first play to be performed in Arabic in Aden.

At the beginning, Yemeni theater was dependent on translated foreign plays, especially Indian and English. But later on, Arabic historical novels were adapted for the theater, again by troupes from various schools. The first such

play - "Salah Al-Din Al-Ayubi" - was performed in 1929.

Thus, it is clear that acting in modern Yemen was born in Adeni schools, to which the beginnings of contemporary Yemeni theater can be traced.

## Non-political Themes:

Soon, acting became an important part of the entertainment world of Aden. But, themes were almost always non-political.

By the end of the 1930's, various historical, religious and love plays were performed in Lahaj. Such themes had been common because the Yemeni people were politically isolated and these plays helped establish bridges, connecting them with their history. The dramatists, at that time, were greatly influenced by the poetry plays which drew big crowds.

Also, they took an interest in historical folk tales and novels such as "Antra Bin Shadad" and "Abu Zeid Al-Hilali." In *Seventy Years of Theater in Yemen*, Mr. Awlaqi

traces the history of modern theater, mainly in the Southern governorates. The school theater, which used to show some historical drama, flourished towards the end of the 1950s especially when political ideas had been dealt with in some dramas.

## Poetry Plays

The first dramatic work in Yemen was a poetry play called "Pygmalion," a Yemenized version of the famous play adapted by the poet Mohammed Ali Luqman in 1948. Also, another poetry play was written by Mohammed Ali Luqman called "Samra Al-Arab" (the Brunette Woman of the Arabs), in 1966.

Many poetry plays were written at that time. Seven were written by Mohammed Al-Sharafi, five by Mohammed Abdu Ghanem and one poet Abdulrahim Al-Qirshi.

By far, the most popular plays were "Samra Al-Arab" of 1948, "Ardh al-Jannatain," (Land of 2 Paradises), written in 1963, "Saif Bin Dhi Yazan" written in 1964, and "Hariq fi Sanaa" (Fire in Sanaa) written in 1974. Those four plays were major landmarks in the development of Yemeni theater.

**Samra'a Al-Arab:** In June 1948, Ali Luqman published his Yemenized version of Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*. In June 1966, he published his drama "Samra'a Al-Arab," exactly 18 years after publishing "Pygmalion." The latter seems to be better in terms of poetry and performances.

Being influenced by the struggle against the British forces, Luqman wrote "Samra'a Al-Arab," a political drama full of national symbols. Although the drama was written about Tadmor and the

Roman Empire in the third century AD, everybody knew that Tadmor actually represents "Aden" and the Roman Empire represents the British colonial

play. It deals with the tyranny of Imam Ahmed, his brutal revenge on the revolutionaries from 1948 until 1955, the uprising of 1955, the assassination of the Imam, the nationalists such as Al-Thulaya, Al-Luqayya and Al-Olufi.

**Saif Bin Dhi Yazan's** first act deals with some aspects of the Najran events. At the end of the act, the Abyssinians sought revenge for fellow Christians. But the Yemeni king Du Nawas

Yazan loved Shams and asked the help of Persia to free her from Abyssinian bondage. The traitor Hassan was also fond of Shams and tried to win her by siding with the invaders.

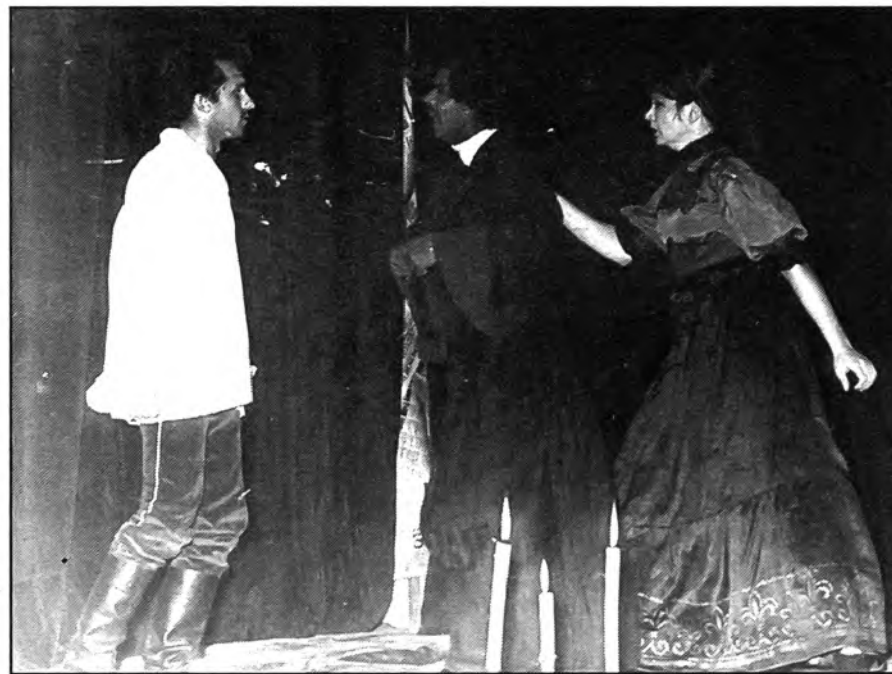
Also, the Abyssinian leaders Irbat and Abraha adored Shams, but she only wanted Saif as her redeemer.

**Hariq fi Sanaa** (Fire in Sanaa) consists of three acts and, two scenes. Its main theme is the fire which broke out in a cinema house during a drought and famine period. The uneducated people of Sanaa believed that this natural disaster which hit Yemen came as a result of the films shown at the cinema. They forgot that Yemen had been afflicted with many such disasters during the reign of the Imam even before the cinema came into being.

The theme is rich and vital. The microbe symbolizes the fire. However, the writer used the modern free verse, which disconnected this dramatic structure.

Today, the modern Yemen continues to witness important plays establishing this profession in the country's culture in a solid way. Acting is improving day by day. In 1971, the National Theater Group was established. Another group was established in 1973. These groups and many others performed many local, Arabic and even translated works. They also presented many serials and stories for television and radio programs.

**By: Farid Al-Dhahiry, Actor/Director**



forces. Khairan, the Arabic ruler and traitor in the drama, is a dramatic creation embodying all the collaborators who served the British forces. Luqman talked a great deal about the political conflict inside Tadmor between the Romans and the Persians who were planning to conquer the city. The same was going on in Aden, when Luqman was set to write "Samra'a Al-Arab." The drama's fervently nationalistic poetry added fuel to the revolution against colonialism. This was its real message.

**Fi Ard al-Jannatain** (Land of Two Paradises) is a long four-act

fought ferociously. When he lost, he jumped into the sea and drowned.

In the second act, Saif Bin Dhi Yazan was captured by the enemies when he fell unconscious in battle. The third act shows the preparations made by the Abyssinians for invading Mecca. The fourth act is about the journey of Saif to Persia to meet its ruler, and his return journey to Yemen with an army to achieve his victory over the Abyssinians.

This play lacks the symbolism which could have given it some richness. However, Shams - the play's heroine could be the symbol of Yemen. Saif Bin Di

## Al-Harithi: A Distinguished Singer

Mohammed Hamoud Al-Harithi is considered one of the greatest figures in the traditional Yemeni style of singing, known as "Ghinaa Sanaani" or Sanaa singing. Ghinaa Sanaani commands a most distinguished place among singing styles in Yemen. It was performed in both Sanaa and Aden by leading singers.

Al-Harithi was born in 1935 in Kawkaban, Sanaa Governorate, which is well-known for its fascinating natural beauty, ancient history, and distinct contribution to arts and culture.

He took up singing early in his youth, and used to listen to the old traditional songs by outstanding artists such as, Al-Qa'atabi, Al-Mass, Ba-Sharaheel and others, which were recorded on the old-style gramophone wax discs. Al-Harithi used to listen to these songs in private and in secret because singing was frowned upon in Yemen during the Imam's reign.

He began to learn playing the Qanbous; the old lute. This is locally made and has of 4 strings. Encountering the Qanbous for the first time being played at a qat-



chewing session, Al-Harithi said he became very keen on learning how to play this wonderful instrument. In that qat chew, he picked the qanbous at the intermission as it was left near him.

Al-Harithi first song was "Al-Hashimi Gal" or Al-Hashimi said. He continued memorizing many old and traditional songs with his

friends. His reputation soon reached to Sanaa. So when he arrived in the city, people rushed to host him to join in their qat sessions. Attending qat chews in Sanaa, Al-Harithi saw a new instrument - the "Kabang", a five-string lute brought from Iraq and Egypt.

He offered to buy the Kabang from its owner, who actually agreed to sell it. But Al-Harithi did not know how to tune this new lute, since it was different from the Qanbous. When he later met Mr. Hussein Refaat, who was proficient in the newly imported lute, he was tutored to tune the strings. At this stage, he joined the world of traditional singers using his new lute.

After the September 26th Revolution, the revolutionary leaders wanted art to play a more prominent role in Yemeni culture by encouraging performances at victory-celebrating ceremonies. Therefore, Marshal Abdullah Al-Sallal, the first President of the Republic, sent a letter to Al-Harithi inviting him to be employed at the Sanaa Broadcasting Authority. Accepting Al-Sallal's invitation, he brought his artistic dreams and

aspirations to government circles, which was an opportunity for the development of Yemeni art. His first patriotic song recorded by Sanaa Radio was 'Sahaqna Al-toghat' or 'We crushed the tyrants,' which is distinguished by its wonderful tune. It made the Yemeni people respond with great enthusiasm and added a lot to his artistic credit.

It goes without saying that Al-Harithi had special characteristics distinguishing him from other

artists such as Al-Anisi and Al-Sonaidar, who were his contemporaries. He played a major role in popularizing traditional songs.

I first met Mr. Mohammed Al-Harithi during my visit to Sanaa in 1967-68. I was at that time a musician in the Arab Music Band, under the famous maestro Ahmed Hadid. We both sang at the Sanaa Broadcasting Authority, which greatly contributed to the distribution of songs

by Al-Harithi and other artists. The band invited Al-Harithi, Al-Anisi and Al-Sonaidar to visit Aden and participate in musical performances by the band. Al-Harithi and the other artists were received with much respect by the people of Aden, when they later came. They were able to record their songs for TV and radio.

Al-Harithi, as a well-known Yemeni singer, represented the nation in various cultural and international gatherings in Arab countries. He was decorated several times for his distinguished creativity and contributions.

**Saleh Abdulbaqi, Arts Editor, Yemen Times.**

## VACANCY FOR ENGINEER-IN-CHARGE

Universal Hotels Ltd. is inviting qualified and professional national applicants for the above post in Bilquis Mareb Hotel to submit their resumes before 15th August 1998, to the following address:

*Alsteen Road, P. O. Box 2745, Sana'a, Yemen*

### Qualification Experience Requirement:

- Electrical/mechanical having 5 to 10 years experience in hotel industry.
- Ability to carry out maintenance & operation of generators centralized Air-conditioning plant, and boilers.
- Responsible for department's functioning.
- Age should be not more than 40 years.



# Letters to the Editor

## DIVORCE

People get divorced all the time, it's a common fact. But it's the women who are at a great disadvantage. Some women are locked up in their houses. She is accused of not keeping the family bondship. Of course in divorce cases, the husband is always right. Apparently, she is an irresponsible housewife and person in general. All divorcees are watched carefully and suspiciously, as if they were thieves. Friends and families use her, they consider divorcees an easy target. Families generally reject every opinion or fact that the woman makes. This is agonizing and obviously will turn into mental instability. The woman generally gives up on all modes of socializing, nobody can be trusted anymore. Why do people treat divorcees this way? Why is it normal for the husband? They expect the wife to put up with her husbands ill treating. Is this fair?

By Nadia Ali

## "Innocent outcast"

She has ran out of patience, she is losing all hope, She is sick of the fighting, she just cannot cope, The only way she can end her problems of course, Is to leave her once beloved husband and file for a divorce, She's had enough of him, she's tried her very best, But if she gets a divorce, she'll never have her rest, She's scared of the community and what people would say, With or without him, her life is at risk anyway, Eventually she gets a divorce, she can no longer stay,

Her jewelry and children get taken away, Like a reject she's been sent back home, Deprived of happiness, she can't even use the telephone, She cries in desperation, "where did I go wrong?" To hold her children one last time is what she truly longs, She is imprisoned in her home, she can't be seen or heard, And when people get together, she doesn't say a word, People look at her suspiciously, she's not feeling at ease, They stare as if she has a disease, To have asked for a divorce she was very brave, But in her families home, she is treated like a slave, A humiliated divorcee is a scandalous disgrace, She gets treated like rubbish, too ashamed to show her face, She's too afraid to walk, blink, or make a sound, She wants to avoid the rumors going around, If she knew it wasn't a sin, she'd put a gun to her head, Because a divorcee in the Arab world would rather be dead.

By Nadia Ali

## "From The Frying Pan Into The Fire"

I felt very exhausted and fatigued. My mind was preoccupied with thinking about my big family and the source of their livelihood. Through all these bothering and confusing moments inside my room, I found myself rushing to my reading table to write anything related to that weary position. Fortunately, my eyes fell on a book on my table, I read the proverb "from the frying pan into

the fire". It was as a proverb, but I found it convenient to write my thoughts through it. I divided that proverb into three parts; one part was the frying pan. The second part was the fire and the third part was the thing that turned from the first into the second. So the first part was the division of Yemen. The second part; the unity or reunification. The third is the people of Yemen who turned from the first to the second. Then I entered into detail as follows: during division the people of Yemen suffered too much from the two regimes. Many people were killed, exiled, tortured, and robbed illegally, when they opened their mouths to say "yes" or "no" against the ruling parties, especially in the Southern part. Nothing the PGC or the YSP did for the people and the country as a whole. The YSP was used as a moving picture by the Soviet Union who sucked and stole the wealth of our country for more than 20 years. They ruled the people by force and piled up more debts in favor of their founding partners. The YSP used to kill people who opposed them and threw their dead bodies to wild animals in the mountains. When we usually passed by we smelt the rotten and decayed bodies there. Meanwhile, we cursed the YSP for their ugly and criminal actions against the people of the South. At the same time, the Northern regime did not differ from the South in treating the people during that time. As everyone of them pretended to be better than the other, while all of them were the same if not one of them was more dangerous. That was the first part of the proverb. The second part was the reun-

ification. The people of Yemen in both the two parts became very cheerful for being reunited, and expected much relief. But unfortunately, things did not appear so good. Unity became an outside appearance, but the inside was worse than before. Our unity became full of discrimination. Our democracy became mere words without implementation. The rich became richer and the poor became poorer. The streets became full of beggars. The jobless people wandered around everywhere. The decent people became more humiliated. The whole living standards of most of the people deteriorated because of the hikes in prices of everything. Very few people enjoyed the sweetness of unity, but most of the people swallowed the bitterness of it. Until now, there was no pointer of a better life. Life seems to be moving from bad to worse. That was the fate of the third part of the proverb which was the people of Yemen. It is really "from the frying pan into the fire".

By: Abdul Majid Ahmed, Mukallah

## Mareb & Environmental Pollution

Many people spoke and wrote about pollution in the Mareb province in various newspapers. Other people from Mareb sent several complaints to the authorities. But unfortunately there were no positive responses. Now I'm writing again and complaining about the Yemen Hunt Oil Company, which is the main reason for this pollution problem. There must be compensation paid to the farmers who lost their land because of the pollution coming from the oil smoked chimneys. There is another important point, which is of employing foreign

employees such as Ethiopians, Somalis, etc, as well as others from different governorates. There are many qualified youths in Mareb who have computer and English skills. Finally, our requirements are not impossible. We just need a fair share of the development projects and opening of training center to receive more students every year from Mareb. If the company does not respond, that means it does not care about Mareb and its people - the source of its wealth. It does not care about the consequences of its continued negligence.

By Ahmed Ali Saud, Mareb

## Our Children: What Can We Do For Them?

Our children are our life. They can't get their rights, they want to play, sing, cry, live in peace and happiness within their families. Factually, I want to talk about the fathers' duty towards their children. Actually there is a good number of duties and advice our fathers have to put in their minds to live in happiness. The duties that I want to give our fathers are listed below:

\* Firstly to bring them wholesome food monthly and never let them work out of the home. Some fathers will give unacceptable causes that their cir-

cumstances are burdened and can't bring wholesome food for their children. But I believe that if they quit chewing qat, they will find that the main problem is chewing qat.

\* Secondly, to treat their children kindly and mercifully and don't beat them when they make mistakes, but try to show them their mistakes with wisdom and explain to them that their behavior was wrong.

\* Thirdly, help them solve their problems and handle their affairs.

\* Fourthly, we must name them beautiful names.

\* Fifthly, we must deal with them as young men or women, who have ideas and suggestions when they grow up.

\* Finally, I'm sure that if our fathers did their duties properly, we would not hear about boys killing themselves or killing their fathers and running away from home. That way our families will live peacefully.

By: Nayif Awadh Ali Al-Saqaf, Lahj Governorate.

## Note

Letter writers are requested to write their letters clearly or get them typed, preferably in English.

## تهانينا

من اعماق قلوبنا نرف آيات التهاني واحر والتبريكات للاستاذ/ نبيل علي عبدالله الاصبحي بمناسبة ارتزاقه مولودته البكر والتي اسمها «احداق» جعلها الله قره عين والديها، والى الف مبروك المهنؤون وليد وريدان عبدالعزيز السقاف، رضا واكرم وهيب عبدالرحمن السقاف، عدنان فضل السقاف، مأمون محمد السقاف، ياسين وسعيد ومحمد احمد الاصبحي، عبدالحكيم علي الاصبحي، نائف عبدالله السقاف وجميع الاهل والاصدقاء

<h3>Orbit Fun Channel</h3> <p>10 August 1998 1405 The Flintstones Comedy Show 1430 The Mask 1640 Animaniacs</p> <p>11 August 1998 2200 Reboot 2230 Beast Wars 2300 Love Boat</p> <p>12 August 1998 1500 Pinky and the Brain 1525 Reboot 1640 Animaniacs 1730 Batman</p> <p>13 August 1998 1400 Batman 1430 The Mask 1830 At the Zoo 2030 Superman Animated</p> <p>14 August 1998 1230 Sylvester and Tweety 1330 Merry Melodies 2005 Fantastic Voyage of Sinbad 2200 Roadrunner Show</p> <p>15 August 1998 1730 Batman 1915 Cattanooga Cats 2300 Love Boat</p> <p>16 August 1998 1430 The Mask 1615 Sky dancers 1850 Bump in the night 1915 Cattanooga Cats</p> <p>10 August 1998 1100 All My Children 1600 Moesha</p> <p>12 August 1998 1100 All My Children 1600 Moesha</p> <p>13 August 1998 2130 Suddenly Susan 2200 ER 2300 Due South</p> <p>14 August 1998 1400 Kung Fu 1830 Camp Wilder 1900 Due South</p> <p>15 August 1998 1200 General Hospital 1630 Madman of the People 1900 Flipper</p> <p>16 August 1998 1900 Babylon 5 2000 Family Matters 2030 Murphy Brown</p> <p>August 10, 1998 1700 Bill Nye the Science Guy 1840 Gargoyles 1905 Zorro 2030 Boy Meets World</p> <p>August 11, 1998 1500 Thunder Alley 1600 Dinosaurs 1815 Aladdin 1905 Zorro</p> <p>August 12, 1998 1300 Movie - Young Harry Houdini 1700 Bill Nye the Science Guy 1840 Gargoyles</p>		<h3>Orbit News</h3> <p>11 August 1998 1410 Little Mermaid 1700 Five Mile Creek 20 2000 Movie - No Deposit No Return</p> <p>August 14, 1998 1300 Movie - Barefoot Executive 1600 100 Lives of Black Jack Savage 2000 Movie - Herbie Rides Again</p> <p>August 15, 1998 1500 Honey I Shrunk the Kids 1815 Aladdin 1840 Gargoyles 2000 Movie - Miracle of the White Stallion</p> <p>August 16, 1998 0900 Gummi Bears 1130 Ducktales 1600 Dinosaurs</p> <p>10 August 1998 1600 CBS This Morning 1800 ABC Good Morning America</p> <p>11 August 1998 1800 ABC Good Morning America 2230 CBS 48 Hours 2330 NBC Dateline</p> <p>12 August 1998 1600 CBS This Morning 1800 ABC Good Morning America 2000 NBC Dateline 1800 Apollo I</p> <p>13 August 1998 1330 NBC News at Sunrise Live 1400 NBC The Today Show Live 2100 CBS: Public Eye w/B. Gumbel</p> <p>CBS Morning News reports on the latest overnight news developments as well as the top news stories for the day ahead.</p>		<h3>Orbit Super Movies</h3> <p>14 August 1998 1300 CBS Morning News Live 1800 ABC Good Morning America 2000 ABC News Thursday Night 2100 CBS 48 Hours</p> <p>16 August 1998 1300 The Adventurers: Armstrong, Reluctant Hero 1730 CBS Face the Nation Live 1800 ABC Good Morning America</p> <p>10 August 1998 1700 Legends Of The North - 2V 2030 E! Behind The Scenes 2100 Framed - 2S 2300 The Bodyguard - 3VL</p> <p>11 August 1998 1500 Akira Kurosawa's Dreams - 2 1900 Empire Records - 2L 2030 Movies, Games &amp; Videos</p> <p>12 August 1998 1700 Nobody's Fool - 2L 1900 Neverending Story 2 - 1 2100 Man On Fire - 3VL</p> <p>13 August 1998 1430 E! 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Behind The Scenes 2130 True Hollywood Stories</p> <p>13 August 1998 2230 E! Behind The Scenes 2300 Hollywood Profiles 2330 Movie Show</p> <p>14 August 1998 2030 Judge Judy 2100 Inside The Actors' Studio Season 2 2230 E! Coming Attractions 2300 Arts&amp;Minds</p> <p>15 August 1998 1530 E! FYE 1600 Globetrotter 2100 E! Behind The Scenes</p> <p>16 August 1998 1700 Movie Show 2100 Celebrity Profiles 2200 E! News Week In Review</p>		<h3>Orbit ESPN</h3> <p>2000 Fashion Emergency</p> <p>16 August 1998 1530 Dutch Football: Ajax v PSV Live 2000 Racing to the Breeder's Cup 2100 1998 PGA Tour Golf Championship Redmond, Washington Final Round Live</p> <p>10 August 1998 1600 AVP Beach Volleyball 1700 Cart Miller Lite 200 Lexington, Ohio 2200 Australian Basketball: Japan v Australia</p> <p>11 August 1998 1530 WNBA Basketball: Cleveland Rockers at New York Liberty Live 2200 AMA Motocross 2300 WCW Wrestling</p> <p>12 August 1998 1400 Ultimate Inline Challenge 2030 ESPN News Day Live 2100 Gillette Sports Special</p> <p>13 August 1998 1600 Best of 1998 World Cup 2000 1998 PGA Tour Golf Championship Redmond, DC 1st Round Live 2300 European Football Weekly</p> <p>14 August 1998 1530 Sportscenter 1630 4NFL Football Pre-Season Match: Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Miami Dolphins 2000 1999 PGA Tour Golf Championship Redmond, Washington Second Round Live</p> <p>15 August 1998 1300 MLS: Tampa Bay Mutiny at N.E. 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# Yemen's Graduation into Today's Civilization



examples. But we simply cannot live in the past anymore. We've had our history, now let us make our future. Towards that end, here are a few changes that we need.

#### Government & Education:

Do we honestly benefit from people who tell us or dictate to us how we should live and think? I'm asking a reasonably fair question: What have we really got from government? Yes, it generated a few employment opportunities, but what good is that in the long run? Even the majority of those working for the government do not have a say in its workings.

Then there is the educational system, which is a total failure. We raise our kids to memorize a few facts for exams, and which they soon forget. We don't raise them to think independently, analyze objectively, and decide correctly. What is the point of going to school or work, when we don't have any opinions taken into consideration. We would be like robots.

#### Bribery:

To get anything done in this country, you have to pay the public employees concerned, even if it's your right to get that service done by the government in the first place. For example, you have to pay the police for their assistance, when it's their job to assist you anyway. Money is everything here, why should we pay for things to be improved when it's not our job to do so. The people are already

financially unstable, yet the authority's actions lead to more impoverishment. You can pay your way to success, you will be heard if you have money. To get a good exam result, just pay the teacher, why not? It seems so simple, why work for your ambitions, just pay the employees concerned.

But would you really feel good about it? It's actually illegal and unethical, not only to society, but to our religion itself. And the people who are involved in this continuous corruption, bribery and blackmail claim to be the most righteous of them all. Having said this, still nothing gets done, just think of the phrase "take the money and run".

#### Infrastructure:

There are not many adequate roads built through and around Yemeni cities, and they're not going to be built. Our roads are full of stones, rocks, dust and dead animals. This is certainly a dangerous situation for people to be in. A city means it has roads, streets, and pavements. Only an under-privileged village or hamlet has no streets or pavements. Road construction is essential in this day and age.

The state of our streets is a danger to youngsters who play in them and have nowhere else to spend their free time. When cities are planned and houses are built, don't you think it's wise to build roads, streets, extend electricity lines, etc.? Yemen has an inadequate water supply system. Yemen's water

situation is a big problem, and it always will be. You can also include the sewage problem, in fact it's not a problem, it's a crisis. Rubbish accumulating in the streets is a danger to all people causing the spread of diseases and epidemics.

#### The Poor & Social Security:

A poor family may receive, by means of social security, an income of roughly YR 500 up to 2000 a month, depending on the size of the family, whether the bread winner is present or not, or disabled, etc. But this is not enough, and not all of the poor are covered - only a small proportion. There are relatively big families out there, this security income is not entirely adequate. About a third of our population is poor.

Hostels for the homeless and destitute need to be established. Professional help needs to be given to all disadvantaged people, whether they be children, adults or the elderly. More food resources need to be offered to the poor and needy. Sharing is not so much of a bad thing.

#### Women:

In Yemen, women are at a disadvantage in almost every circumstance, whether it be in the home or in the community. We're not considered important to the development and reform of this society. We have ideas and solutions of our own, yet we're still considered as unpaid home employees only. We should be given the chance to stand up and speak.

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#### Introduction:

Yemen has faced many problems over the past decades, and still faces many more. People hope for change, yet sit back and do nothing to bring about such change. Ordinary people are not given the chance to express themselves in a meaningful way, or to participate in bringing about change. When they do express themselves, they are not heard.

We're the ones considered "below" the social status. It's the unfortunate who don't get the chance to demand their needs. There are so many changes or should I say innovations that are needed at present to overhaul Yemen into the modern times.

Yes I understand that Yemen is not considered the most financially stable country in the world. Yet, the beauty of its architectural heritage, the richness of its ancient history, the splendor of its antiquity are a few remarkable

Women of the world have struggled and been oppressed for centuries. We will always be so only if we choose to be. Yet we lose no hope and have no fear in fighting the oppression.

Women can't be stopped from doing something that they truly believe is right. No rules and regulations say that women can't work, as some of them are forced not to. Women can have an education if they want. Yes women play an important role within the household, but is that it? We would be like robots.

I see no public announcements or official rules saying that women can't be free to fight for their rights of education, work, and most of all not to be oppressed and treated like anything other than human beings. Don't listen to the oppressing men, do what you want, within reason.

#### Conclusion:

I'm not purposely trying to criticize Yemen. I'm merely stating the facts. I have nothing against Yemen itself, only the way it's run. In fact it's quite immoral, but to believe in freedom and honesty is a great achievement. But as always, it takes a tragedy to put things right. But how long will this tragedy continue before we can receive as well as give help? We're all willing to cooperate with others, including the rules and regulations that once oppressed us. This is not a deal or proposal to all leaders, it's merely something that should have been done long ago without question.

By: Ms. Waffa Alawi Nasser,  
Yemen Times

## القمرية

## القمرية... أصل السر.

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# Vocational Centers

The vocational training issue is actually of great significance because of the crucial role of the qualified human element in the overall development strategy. Its main purpose is the creation of a self-sufficient

society. We believe vocational centers in Yemen should contribute a lot to the development and welfare of the country.

The General Authority for Vocational and Technical

Training (GAVTT) is a government authority, financially and administratively autonomous. The minister of Labor and Vocational Training is the chairman of the board of directors.

GAVTT is responsible for the management, planning, organizing, and steering of the vocational and technical training process in all Yemen. Its aim is to develop and upgrade human resources in different fields, specializations and trades to the levels of semi-skilled and skilled craftsmen and technicians. The ultimate goal is to meet the social and economic requirements and to satisfy the labor market's needs. GAVTT is also responsible for setting national standards concerning curricula and training programs and developing the system for job classification. It is also responsible for technically supervising the private and public institutions and accrediting their certificates. GAVTT has around 23 vocational and technical training institutes and centers distributed all over the country. There are 4 centers in Sanaa, 5 in Aden, 3 in Hodeida, 2 in Taiz, 3 in Abyan, 3 in Hadhramaut, 2 in Lahaj, and 1 in Dhamar. Some of these institutes and centers accept students who finished basic schooling. They study for three years. Some other centers are meant for secondary-school graduates, who study for two years. The fields of study in these centers are agriculture, industry, commerce and veterinary.

applicants were 1,000 but the number accepted was 175. This is actually distinguished from other institutes in the sense that the duration of study in it is 3 years.

### Needs of the Institute

According to the director of the institute, Eng. Yahia Al-Shuhary, the institute lacks many facilities like regular maintenance, cleaning, water and sewage network, etc. It also needs many new technical systems and equipment. However, the number of the students wishing to join the institute is increasing constantly. The reason, according to Mr. Al-Shuhary, is that graduates of such vocational centers have better job opportunities.

The students are provided with housing and food, which is a good incentive for them to enroll. The students practice some extra-curricular activities like football, basketball and other activities. But there is no library. The health care in the institute is not sufficient. The students also complain about the shortage of furniture in the institute.

The food according to Mr. Basem Taha Sulaiman, a student, is enough but of bad quality. But Mr. Khalid Ismail Al-Qadasy, General-Supervisor of Food, holds a different opinion. He says that the food is enough and cooked in special restaurants all over Yemen and under the supervision of health experts. The menu is provided by the International Food Program in collaboration with the Yemeni government.

### Students' Difficulties

As a matter of fact, students face many problems in their study. They complain about the lack of textbooks and absence of practical elements in their courses. Mr. Taher Shawkat Al-Bayyati, a teacher, thinks students coming from villages have no good basic education and ability to cope with city life. Some of them still cling to the outdated views towards work. He also believes that if the level of the students is to be improved, the admission test and interview should be considered as a criterion in choosing the students. This is because there are students who are not fit for operating machines. The number of these centers should be increased and distributed equally all over the country and provided with hostels.

### Female Students

According to the director of the institute, female students were there in the institute in the 1980s. There were 3 female students who joined the Construction Engineering Department. After graduation, they went to university. One of them traveled to the USA while the other two graduated from the faculty of engineering. But now no females have applied in the institute, although the institute doesn't reject their presence.

By Faisal Ahmad Farhan



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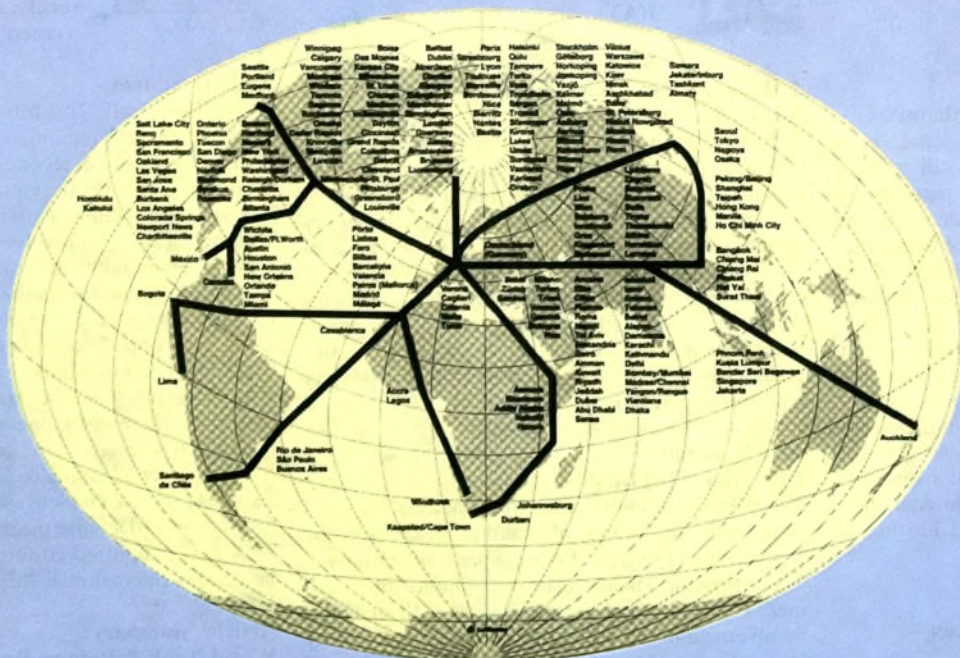
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الطريق

Al-Tariq: Aden weekly, 4-8-98.  
(Independent)

#### Main Headlines:

- 1- Workers at agricultural cooperatives in the southern governorates have not been paid their salaries for the last 5 years.
- 2- Citizens of Mareb, Al-Jawf, and Shabwa conclude their congress with a strong call for tribal solidarity and a vehement condemnation of acts of violence, subversion and kidnapping.
- 3- Yemeni migrant workers contribute a total of YR 10 million towards public utility projects in Dawaan, Hadhramaut.

#### Article Summary:

##### Constitutionality of Administrative Divisions By Dr. Mohammed Ali Al-Saqqaf

As usual, as soon as parliamentary sessions are adjourned for the summer vacation, republican decrees start coming fast and thick. The recent amendments to administrative divisions are a good example. Two new governorates have been created. This was done despite the following:

- 1- Draft laws for administrative divisions and local authority are still being reviewed by parliament.
  - 2- Article 143 of the Yemeni Constitution has clearly specified the number, borders and basis of the existing administrative divisions.
- Divisional amendments should be instituted on a national level, not on selected parts of the country. Also, such changes can only be carried out according to a ratified law, not by a republican decree. Republican decrees having the power of law can be issued during parliament's recess in cases of emergency and if there is a real necessity.

الوحدانية

AL-WAHDAMI: Sanaa weekly, 4-8-98.  
(People's Nasserite Unionist Organization)

#### Main Headlines:

- 1- Political analysts say the 6-clause Yemeni-Saudi agreement has mostly come to Saudi Arabia's benefit. It has enabled the oil-rich kingdom to contain the crisis while its royal family tries to organize its internal affairs in view of King Fahad's deteriorating health condition.
- 2- In his talk to tribal sheiks from Mareb, Shabwa and Al-Jawf, the President renews his accusation to Saudi Arabia of trying to create civil unrest and instability.
- 3- The government refuses to pay compensations for flashflood damages under the pretext of not having financial allocations.
- 4- Allegations by US information and cultural attaché, Adam Erel, that Yemeni press publishes lies about US are strongly rejected by media representatives in this country.

#### Article Summary:

##### "Algerization" By Ali Al-Saqqaf

The number of political and sectarian murders has increased in Yemen. Such an issue needs to be seriously addressed by the government as well as the opposition. The absence of a strong central authority and recurrent lapses of security are not the only factors behind this disturbing phenomenon. The Yemeni psyche seems to have incurred some disturbing changes. If no unified stance is taken to put an end to the rise in these killings, Yemen is on its way to become another Algeria.

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# Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Adel J. Moqbil



AL-THAWRI: Sanaa weekly, 6-8-98.  
(Yemeni Socialist Party)

#### Main Headlines:

- 1- Prominent figures and political organizations in Mareb, Al-Jawf, and Shabwa say conclusions reached by the so-called '1st National Conference of Middle Region Citizens' do not represent the real opinions of people living there.
- 2- Russian Mafia pockets millions of dollars in an illegal arms deal with the Yemeni government. Yemeni ambassador in Moscow is ordered to retrieve the money.
- 3- University teachers and students as well as many other citizens condemn the governor of Lahaj's decision to grant agricultural lands belonging to the Nasser College of Agriculture to private owners. The original owners were to be compensated with lands in another area.

#### Article Summary:

##### Is There Capitalism in Yemen?

By Abdulkarim A. Al-Souswa

For privatization to succeed in Yemen, there must be a true capitalist system. There is no capitalist class in Yemen to transform the country from tribalism to civil society. What is here is a parasitic class that lives on trade in consumer goods, services and sales agencies of foreign companies. These sectors actually hinder the development of a true national capitalism.

The feudal system still prevails in the countryside where the means of production are still primitive and social relations are tribal. The proportion of people working in modern industry is negligible. Actually, there is no manufacturing, heavy or production industries. Within such conditions, privatization would be a disaster. It will hand over state-owned enterprises to a weak parasitic class of owners, who transfer their money abroad instead of investing it to build a real industrial base.



AL-SHOURAH: Sanaa weekly, 2-8-98.  
(Federation of Popular Forces)

#### Main Headlines:

- 1- Parliamentary report warns against a real catastrophe in water, electricity and sanitation services in Sanaa, Taiz and a number of other Yemen cities. Successive Yemeni governments have done virtually nothing to improve these services, stated the report.
- 2- Governor of Sanaa blames 80% of the sanitation problem on the government and 20% on the citizens.
- 3- 27 people die in Taiz because of water pollution.
- 4- The Shawlan tribe in Al-Jawf hands over a number of its kinsmen to the authorities as hostages in return for withdrawing army troops from their area.

#### Article Summary:

##### Yemeni Women in Political Parties

By Ft'hiya Al-Haithamy

The ruling party and other opposition parties still give lip service to female participation in political life. Male politicians acquire some sort of democratic legitimacy by giving women a limited role in their political parties. In other words, women do not obtain their positions through hard work, but are bestowed upon them by men. Nonetheless, a number of women have been able to occupy senior positions in some political parties through their sheer diligence and ideological beliefs.

AL-UMMA  
Sanaa weekly, 6-8-98.  
(Al-Haqq Party)

#### Main Headlines:

- 1- Fighting between various fundamentalist groups over control of mosques has spread from Sanaa to other governorates.
- 2- Family of Abdu Athrab who was killed in an attack on a

mosque demands the implementation of the President's directive to apprehend the killers.

- 3- Islah leader, Sheikh Al-Zindani: "A foreigner is safe in our country. If he transgresses, then he must be advised by ordinary citizens to stop. Otherwise the matter is left to the authorities."
- 4- A bomb explosion rocks the home of the scholar and Haqq Party member Ali Hussain Al-Sharafi in Al-Mahabsha area.

#### Article Summary:

##### Economic Gamble

By Mohammed S. Al-Hadhiri

Yemen seems to be going round in a vicious circle due to lack of feed-back between the government's economic policies and the public opinion that criticizes them. Many economists see that the general state budget should be reduced by 70% in order to narrow the deficit. While the government wants to increase public spending to reduce unemployment. The recent price rises are putting extra burden on the citizens. The economic reform program seems to have become a means of the state's acquiring more money from the populace.

There must be more reduction in public spending and developing the production bases of the national economy. As an example of the irrationality in public spending, the state had recently spent more than YR 50 billion on buying new official cars.



AL-WAHDAMI: Sanaa weekly, 5-8-98.  
(Official)

#### Main Headlines:

- 1- The President emphasizes that dialogue is the civilized method of dealing with various issues without resorting to violence and subversion.
- 2- A republican decree is issued establishing a special school for training policemen.
- 3- The Yemeni-Saudi joint military committee starts its sessions in Riyadh to resume the border demarcation talks agreed upon in Sanaa recently.
- 4- Agricultural Bank of Borrowing raises interest rates to 14% on short-term loans (one and a half years).

#### Article Summary:

##### Role of the Opposition:

By Alawi M. Ali

The opposition in a democratic country must adopt a clear role through which it can actively and fruitfully engage with the ruling authority in developing the nation. It can with ample justification oppose the government's declared intentions. The opinion of the opposition must be taken into consideration as it is the unofficial side of the government. Mistakes are bound to arise in a new democracy. But as the President said; "shortcomings in a democracy can only be rectified by more democracy."



RAY: Sanaa weekly, 4-8-98.  
(League of the Sons of Yemen - RAY)

#### Main Headlines:

- 1- Five Yemeni volunteer fighters were killed in Kosovo by Serbian forces.
- 2- Several prominent RAY activists are arrested in Abyan in the aftermath of a peaceful demonstration organized by the party in protest over price hikes.
- 3- Arab Human Rights Organization enumerates several gross human rights violations because of the crisis in normalizing political life in Yemen.
- 4- Law experts indicate that kidnapping incidents cannot be eradicated simply by meting out severe punishments. They cited several factors behind this phenomenon: lack of respect for authority, poverty and deprivation of remote regions.

#### Article Summary:

##### Operation "Taj Bilquis"

The Palestinian ambassador to Yemen held a press conference to refute allegations made by the Yemeni weekly satirical newspaper - *Summ Bumm*. The allegations made against a number of prominent Palestinian and Yemeni figures indicated their involvement in the smuggling and sale of a quantity (a total of 65kg) of enriched uranium and red mercury to Israel.

The ambassador rejected all such allegations. One of the people implicated is Col. Ahmed Jibrael, chief of the Palestinian Preventative Security organ. *Summ Bumm* indicated that the material was smuggled from the Khawlan area in Yemen to Israel via Mareb and the UAE. Operation Taj Bilquis (the crown of Bilquis) was worth \$1,650,000.



AL-AYYAM: Aden bi-weekly, 9-8-98.  
(Independent)

#### Main Headlines:

- 1- US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Ronald Newman stresses US cooperation with Yemen and Saudi Arabia to resolve their border dispute.
- 2- Minister of Interior rejects allegations that Yemen will deport Ethiopian political refugees.
- 3- 15 armed men broke into the Al-Baidha municipality office to release one of their kinsmen who was detained there.
- 4- Governor of Central Bank of Yemen: "The Bank's hard-currency reserves are increasing."
- 5- A court injunction imposed on reporting on the trial on the Aden bomb explosions.
- 6- Russian police insists on carrying out a post mortem on the Yemeni student who died in Russia in mysterious circumstances.
- 7- A fire breaks out in the offices of the National Human Rights Organization at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 8- Mobile phone and pager services are restored.
- 9- Fresh water supply still cut off from Aden Port
- 10- Fire destroys and sinks a Maltese ship docked in Aden.

AL-SAHWA: Sanaa weekly, 6-8-98.

[Yemeni congregation for Reform (Islah)]



#### Main Headlines:

- 1- Mohammed Al-Yadoumi, Islah Secretary General, receives a delegation from US State Department.
- 2- General Authority of Free Zones Occupies some of the Aden University grounds.
- 3- Court of Urgent Affairs orders the postponement of the Doctors' Syndicate's 2nd meeting until its general assembly has held its conference.
- 4- Teachers' Syndicate in Taiz demands annulling of unfair dismissal of 19 teachers.
- 5- More than 500 male and female students take part in 35 summer camps organized by Islah in and around Taiz.
- 6- A bomb went off at the house of the court of appeal judge in Abyan, no casualties were reported.
- 7- Strong quarrels often erupt between citizens living in Muallah and bootleggers and moonshiners who operate mostly in that area.

#### Article Summary:

##### Fishing in Hadhramaut By Mari' Hameed

The Hadhramaut coastline extends for 320km giving people there ample opportunity to exploit its great wealth of fish and other marine life. Alas, there are many problems. Boats belonging to large companies, both national and foreign, often come within the three-mile limit off the coast. Their big nets often sweep off fish farms and natural egg-laying places.

Local fishermen in small boats complain of their nets being swept off by the larger foreign ships. Moreover, these big fishing trawlers catch all sorts of marine life, big and small, thereby depriving many of the bigger fish of their natural food. Huge amounts of dead small fish are then thrown off board, creating widespread pollution.

The Ministry of Fisheries does not have any sort of monitoring facilities or equipment in that area.



26 SEPTEMBER: Sanaa weekly, 6-8-98.  
(Yemen Armed Forces)

#### Main Headlines:

- 1- The President: "This tribal conference [of people from the middle region] will be the nucleus of a general process of reconciliation that will solve blood feuds all over the country."
- 2- Execution by hanging will be the punishment of whoever heads or is involved with a gang of abductors, looters or highwaymen.
- 3- The President directs that a cargo ship be given to the state-owned Economic Establishment to assist in its import and export transactions.
- 4- The Council of Ministers emphasizes the necessity of referring public employees who are registered in more than one government job to the general prosecutor.
- 5- Minister of Planning & Development announces a strategy to face challenges of the next century.
- 6- Minister of Defense meets US ambassador.
- 7- A new simplified customs system is introduced into Sanaa International Airport.

#### Article Summary:

##### World Bank & Reform By Iskandar Al-Asbahi

Many ordinary folk see the World Bank as an international organ set to further control and impoverish Third World countries. While others tend to exaggerate its abilities, portraying it as if it has a magic wand to cure all maladies.

Some experts believe that the World Bank aims to help developing countries get the optimum of their available natural resources in order to institute a viable economic and social development process.



## Junior Football Team Leaves for Qatar DIFFICULT MISSION!

Our junior football team left Yemen last Friday for Qatar to start a training camp. The team will participate in the Asian tournament for juniors held from August 21st to 25th. Yemen is in Al-Doha group which also includes Qatar, Bahrain, and Iran. The team started a local training camp on July 7th. However, the team is

still not well prepared and has not participated in any preparatory matches. That is why, the coach, Mr. Ameen Al-Sonaini, decided his team should play with Qatari teams before the tournament starts. The Yemeni players seem to have a very high morale. Many of them are optimistic about achieving good results. Al-

Sonaini says to Yemen Times: "The task is hard but when you see how optimistic our players are. The team is in very good spirits. I hope that we will overcome all the difficulties and do well" Yemen Times wishes the best for our national team. They have good ambition, but is that enough?!



## Kung Fu Institute Opens

The first specialized kung fu institute was opened in Sanaa last Wednesday. "The Golden Claw Institute" aims to train amateurs, though it is run by an expert, Mr.

Nabil Saleh Al-Gaiefi. At the opening ceremony, many kung fu players performed to for a large audience that included the chief of the Kung Fu Association,

Mr. Hamood Obad and the Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports. Mr. Nabil Al-Gaiefi told the Yemen Times, "Many young boys are interested in kung fu. So, this institute is opened to bring together the large number of kung fu fans.



The Kung Fu Association will organize a training course to qualify junior referees at the end of this month. I will lecture in this course about the skills and teaching methods in this game. We are working on developing this game in order for amateurs to practice it in the correct way adopted by the International Kung Fu Association."

## Neighborhood Football Tournament

According to a program prepared by the Yemen Association of Sport for All, the Association's branch in Sanaa launched the first if the summer events on Sunday, August 9 with a football tournament for neighborhood teams and Arab and foreign communities living in Sanaa. A total of 32 teams divided on four main centers are taking part in the tournament:

- 1- University center,
- 2- Industrial Institute center,
- 3- Ahli Club center, and
- 4- Orphan Home center.

Matches are to be held in each center to qualify the first and second teams for the quarter finals. A team will disqualify for the semi-finals at its first loss. The final match is scheduled on

September 26 to coincide with the celebrations marking the 26 September Revolution.

## Cities Gymnastics Concluded

The Cities Gymnastics Championship for Youngsters was concluded on Sunday, August 8 at the High Institute for Physical Education. The Hodeida team came first 86.6 points, followed by the Sanaa team with 86.5 points and the Taiz team with 58.4. The championship's best player was Ghalib Al-Ariqi from Taiz, who achieved 58 points. The concluding ceremony was attended by Mr. Mohammed Al-Hajary Deputy Minister of Youth and Sport, who stressed the need to support such games for Yemeni youngsters. "We hope to

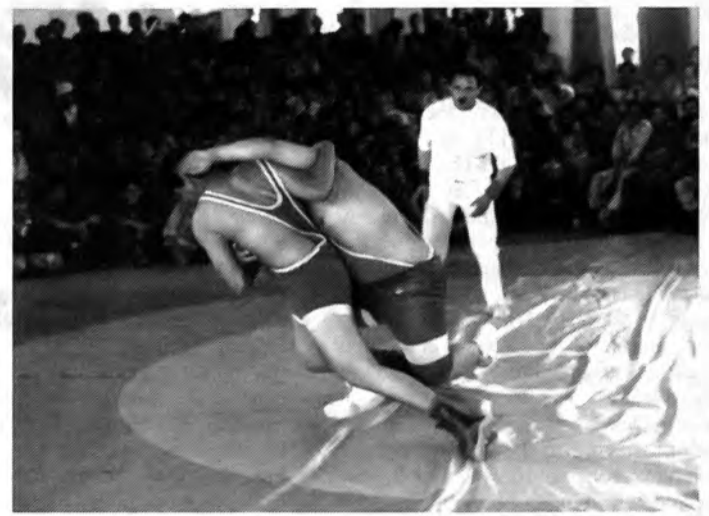
see young champions representing Yemen in international tournament," he said.

## Junior Tennis Tournament

The primary tennis tournament started in Aden last Thursday, 20 players participate in this tournament, preparing themselves for the Cities Juniors Tournament. This primary tournament will last until September 5th, 1998. It is held at the Aden Tennis Club in Crater. Morning and afternoon matches are held according to the new international rules and regulations. The first four players in this tournament will play with 10 other players in the real tournament. In the real tournament 3 matches will take place every day.

## Wrestling Training Course for Coaches

A training course for coaches of wrestling was opened last Saturday at the Olympic Center. This course is organized by the Yemeni Olympic Committee and the Yemeni Wrestling Association. It is sponsored and supported by the International Olympic Solidarity. It will last from August 8th to 19th, 1998. An international Iraqi wrestling expert, Mr. Marwan Abood will give lectures in this course. Twenty-five beginner wrestlers from Sanaa, Taiz, Aden, Hodeida, Ibb, the Police Sport Association, the Military Sport Association, and The Yemeni Universities Sport Association, will participate in this course.



## Minister of Sports in Lisbon

The minister of Youth and Sport, Dr. Abdulwahab Rawah, left Sanaa last Friday to Lisbon to participate in the international conference for youth and sport ministers held from August 8th to 12th. Mr. Kofi Anan, the UN Secretary General, will head this international meeting. All in all, 170 countries will participate in this event. Before that, from August 2nd to 8th, the participant committees met to formulate the World Youth Document. Official committees like the



Family Planning Society and Family Care Society represent Yemen among the other international committees. At the beginning of this year, the Arab youth and sport ministers agreed to present a unified document containing the problems of youth and sport in the whole Arab world. Dr. Hamoud Obad, the deputy minister, and Hussain Al-Awadhi, the Secretary General of the Yemeni Olympic Committee, will join Dr. Rawah in this conference.

## Karate World Published

The Karate Center in Taiz published the 4th issue of the Karate World newspaper last week. This karate center boasts among its members the top karate coaches and referees. The Karate World newspaper is published monthly, and specializes in karate as well as in boxing and Taekwondo. In spite of the insufficient resources and facilities, yet the Karate World newspaper is still published regularly to deal with the problems and technical impediments facing this game in Yemen.

العدد: 4  
يوليو 1998م

عالم  
World of Karate

الكاراتيه  
وخطوة القتال

الزواج لم يواتر على نسيم

بمدرسة المركز العام للكاراتيه بطنين

5  
من التميز  
طالع... ص 2

الافتتاحية

يقدم  
رئيس التحرير

The editor-in-chief of this newspaper is the well known karate coach Mokhtar Hamid Saif. The Arab Karate Association chief, Mr. Nader Sharif along with some other international coaches praised this newspaper. Yemen Times also wishes this newspaper more progress and continuity.

## Excellent Volleyball Tournament

Volleyball Excellent Tournament With financial allocations released, the second round of the Excellent Volleyball Tournament will start on August 20, following a 3-month stop. See table below for mach dates and venues.

Week	Team	Venue	Date
1	Minaa vs Shula	Aden	August 20
	Wahda (Aden) vs Sanaa (Ahli)	Sanaa	August 21
	Sayoun vs Hassan	Aden	August 21
2	Zuhra vs Ahli (Hodeida)	Hodeida	August 21
	Minaa vs Shamsan	Aden	August 27
	Shula vs Sayoun	Sayoun	August 28
3	Ahli (Sanaa) vs Zuhra	Sanaa	August 28
	Ahli (Hodeida) vs Wahda (Aden)	Aden	August 28
	Shamsan vs Wahda (Aden)	Aden	September 3
4	Minaa vs Ahli (Hodeida)	Hodeida	September 4
	Zuhra vs Shula	Aden	September 4
	Sayoun vs Ahli (Sanaa)	Sanaa	September 4
5	Shula vs Wahda (Aden)	Aden	September 10
	Shamsan vs Zuhra	Sanaa	September 11
	Ahli (Hodeida) vs Sayoun	Sayoun	September 11
6	Ahli (Sanaa) vs Minaa	Aden	September 11
	Shula vs Shamsan	Aden	September 17
	Zuhra vs Wahda (Aden)	Sanaa	September 18
7	Sayoun vs Minaa	Aden	September 18
	Ahli (Sanaa) vs Ahli (Hodeida)	Hodeida	September 18
	Minaa vs Wahda (Aden)	Aden	September 24
8	Shula vs Ahli (Sanaa)	Sanaa	September 25
	Zuhra vs Sayoun	Sayoun	September 25
	Ahli (Hodeida) vs Shamsan	Aden	September 25
9	Ahli (Sanaa) vs Shamsan	Aden	September 30
	Shula vs Ahli (Hodeida)	Aden	October 1
	Sayoun vs Wahda (Aden)	Aden	October 2
10	Zuhra vs Minaa	Aden	October 3

**ألف مبروك**

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حافظ البكاري ورحمة حجيرة

بمناسبة الزواج الميمون

المهنون:

محمد بن سلام، د. عبد العزيز السقاف و كافة منتسبي يمن تايمز

**ألف مبروك**

تهانينا وأطيب أمنياتنا بالسعادة والهناء للاخ

علي محمد عبدالله مثنى الصباحي

بمناسبة الزواج الميمون

المهنون:

محمد بن سلام، حمود محمد عبدالله الصباحي نجيب سعيد عبدالله الصباحي، وكافة آل الصباحي

**تهانينا الحارة**

أجمل التهاني وأطيب التبريكات للشباب

مروان أحمد محمد هزاع

بمناسبة عقد القران

المهنون:

عبدالله الريمي، عادل النجار، بشير سلطان، جميل الصرابي، وكافة عمال وموظفي الشركة اليمنية لصناعة وتجارة الأدوية، وكافة الأهل والأصدقاء



# Ashes to Ashes... Dust to Dust

A special meeting was held at the Indian Embassy in Sanaa on Monday, August 3rd to pay tribute to the 3 nuns killed by an insane fanatic in Hodeida, on July 27th.

The successor to the great Mother Teresa, Sister M. Nirmala, Superior General of the Society of Missionaries of Charity came to Yemen specially to condole the nuns working here in the aftermath of the killing. "The killing of the 3 sisters came as a deep shock for every body. Nobody expected this. At the same time we know when we follow the word of God, we must be ready for everything," said the serene-looking, soft spoken, petite Sister Nirmala.

Does any one of the sisters feel strongly disheartened or being let down as to want to leave?

"Nobody wants to leave. We are going to continue staying in the country because we have given our life to God for His people. We want to continue this service, which we love," resolutely replied the Superior General.

During her visit to the Hodeida center, where the sad incident took place, Sister Nirmala met the nuns and the elderly and disabled inmates. "Many of the old people are afraid because they think we are going to leave the country. But we

protection," said the faithful sister. She added, "We are grateful to the government and people of Yemen for all their help and sympathy in this unfortunate incident."

Sister Nirmala; Sister Raphael, Regional Superior of the Missionaries of Charity (based in Amman, Jordan) and Sister M. Aroti, head of the Sanaa mission talked to the Minister of Health, Dr. Abdullah A. Nasher about ensuring the safety of the nuns working in the Missionaries of Charity's 4 centers in Yemen.

"The Ministry of Health had booked a hotel room for sister Nirmala during her stay. But she, out of sheer humility and feeling of equality, preferred to stay with the other sisters in their ordinary residence," disclosed the minister.

"It is a very sad and shocking incident. The perpetrator is now under arrest and investigations are underway. He will be punished according to the law," insisted Minister Nasher.

"Neither the Ministry nor the sick, elderly and disabled people being taken care of by these sisters can do without their assistance. All necessary protection is given to these sisters at their workplace and residence," he explained.

"They provide a very distinguished service and we hope that they expand their activities in the future. It is very difficult for many Yemenis to do the sisters' job. They are now taking care of more than 400 patients in 4 centers in Sanaa, Taiz, Hodeida and Aden. Many more patients are waiting to be taken in. The Ministry's resources are, unfortunately, very limited and the Missionaries of Charity cannot send us more nuns either."



From left to right: Sisters Aroti, Nirmala and Raphael

Sister Aroti of the Sanaa mission told Yemen Times, "We are quite shocked because we are very much loved by the people. They care about us as we care about them. But we are determined to stay and work in this country because who is going to look after our people. This is why we came here in the first place."

The sisters have been here for the last 25 years. There are homes for the elderly and abandoned men and women in all in 4 centers. They also look after sick people afflicted with diseases such as leprosy which makes them outcasts in Yemeni society.

"The Sanaa center is home for 35 handicapped children and about 55 elderly men and women. Some of them were picked up from the streets or from hospitals or even taken from poor families who cannot cope with taking care of them," said Sister Aroti

The killing of the 3 sisters, though very sad, seems to have provided stronger motivation for the other nuns to stay in Yemen and continue the good work. They feel the mission.

But the event also galvanized the Yemenis around the sisters. All kinds of Yemenis - starting with President Ali Abdullah Saleh, all the way to the most ordinary person have been shocked and disgusted with the attack on the sisters. They have asked for the capital punishment to be immediately passed on the murderer.

By: Adel J. Moqbil,  
Yemen Times

*"The fruit of love is service;  
The fruit of service is peace."*

— Mother Teresa

assured them otherwise. The sisters, though frail looking, are strong in spirit. But emotions are still a bit raw," she announced.

Overseeing the burial of the slain sisters in an Aden Catholic cemetery, the senior nun said: "We are missionaries - our mission is our country. Wherever we die, we are buried."

Two armed guards will be temporarily stationed at the gate of the Hodeida center to ensure the nuns' safety. Also, the sisters will now live in special living quarters at the workplace itself, hence they do not have to commute every day to and from their centers. "We are depending very much on God and His

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