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How the Violin Came to Yemen. Page 10.

Growing Parliamentary Frustration

They are angry. They are frustrated. Some are even ready to throw in the towel. They are Yemen's parliamentarians - the only officials elected by the people. Yemen Times ran a 7-question survey. (please refer to the adjacent box). Of 124 forms distributed (the number of members present in the parliament sessions on September 30th, and October 1st), 102 representatives gave their answers. The results of the questionnaire do not paint a rosy picture of the relations between the legislative and executive branches of authority. The law-makers have concluded that government executives were acting with impunity, thus reducing the ability of parliament to reign them in. They also concluded the executives simply do not listen to them, and do not care about the role of parliament. They finally said that the impunity of the executive authority casts a dark shadow on the checks and balances of the system, and the

meaning of separation of power among the executive, legislative and judicial branches of authority. The dwarfed role of parliament masks the near-dictatorial powers of the executive authority. "It renders elections, and the will of the people as meaningless exercises in our democratic rituals," complained a leading member of parliament, who is also a leading member of the ruling party. The frustration cuts across party lines, and has become a general phenomenon. Some of the notable conclusions from the survey are as following:
- A third of members felt that the first priority in the work of parliament was to please and to go along with the wishes of President Saleh.
- Another third felt that their supervisory and watchdog role was zero effective.
- 76% of the members felt their ability to hold corrupt executives accountable is zero or close to zero.

By: Ismail Al-Ghabry.

The Questionnaire, and the Answers

- List the first objective in terms of its importance based on how the speaker and his deputies manage the affairs of parliament:
- To build and strengthen the legislative authority and process = 45%
- To please and appease President Ali Abdullah Saleh = 32%
- To please and appease the government = 18%
- To please and appease the members of parliament = 5%
- Percentage and how parliamentarians assess effectiveness of their supervisory role:
Zero effectiveness = 32%; 25% = 24%; 50% = 20%; 75% = 8%; 100% = 16%
- The President often issues laws by decrees. Is this a means to abort the role of parliament? If yes, measure the degree using 1-100% to indicate your answer:
Zero degree = 4%; 25% = 36%; 50% = 44%; 75% = 12%; 100% = 4%
- Parliament issued a number of recommendations and instructions to government. To what degree has the government abided by those recommendations?
Zero abiding = 15%; 25% = 18%; 50% = 18%; 75% = 30%; 100% = 18%
- Parliament has issued a report on corruption in government, based on information from the Central Organization for Audit and Control. Using 1-100%, show parliament's ability to hold the corrupt people accountable.
Zero accountability = 76%; 25% = 12%; 50% = 12%.
- To what degree does the executive branch of authority, especially the military and security forces, respect the parliamentarian's stature and role?
Zero respect = 4%; 25% = 36%; 50% = 44%; 75% = 16%.
- Extent to which excesses of members of parliament themselves weaken their role?
Zero extent = 24%; 25% = 40%; 50% = 20%; 75% = 16%.

Putting Out Burning Fires, and Potential Fires!

President Saleh's Successful Hadhramaut Visit

President Ali Abdullah Saleh held one his most extensive direct contact with the people of Hadhramaut last week. First in Wadi Hadhramaut (Seiyun), and then in Coastal Hadhramaut (Mukallah and Shihre), the President and a large entourage of officials and attendants, spent five full days talking to the people. From one place to another, he stopped to take note of the grievances of



the people and, more importantly, their developmental needs. At final count, one estimate puts the total value of the projects the President authorized in this trip in the 1999 budget at YR 14 billion. Call it patronage, or whatever you like, the Yemeni leader was able to absorb a lot of the grudges. As one diplomat put it: "He was like a fireman putting out fires..."

When the State Breaks the Law and Constitution

It was midnight on Friday, 25th (leading to Saturday morning). Several army/security vehicles mounted with machine guns approached silently. Dozens of young soldiers got ready poised in attack positions.

No, this was not part of military maneuvers in Hadhramaut last week. No, the soldiers were not defending Yemen from foreign aggression. They were actually on a mission to overwhelm a 45-kilogram pious man to punish him for his Friday sermon. Dr. Al-Murtadha Bin Zaid Al-Muhawari, in his sermon, said, "The anniversary of the 26th September Revolution requires that we re-assess our conditions. Instead of spending all these resources in extravagant festivities and glorification of the regime, a poor country like Yemen would do well to spend the resources to meet the needs of its people."

Dr. Al-Murtadha's family was also dislodged from the house, the mosque/center he heads has been closed down, and the clergyman is still caged inside the Sanaa Investigations Bureau.



The accusation is stupid. The security organs are now saying that Dr. Al-Murtadha preached a return to the pre-Revolutionary Imamic regime. Yemen Times, which has a copy of the tape on which the sermon was registered, did not find anything against the law in it.

Professor Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Chairman of the Human Rights Committee at the Consultative Council, personally paid a visit to the jailed man. The guards at the investigations bureau would only let him talk to the prisoner through the window. The prisoner confirmed that he was neither tortured nor abused. "Please tell President Ali Abdullah Saleh that this kind of behavior smears his image as a tolerant ruler. I am sure they must have mis-informed him," he said. The event, which was reported to all organizations working on human rights, will give one more proof of the human rights violations in Yemen. Professor Saqqaf wrote to the President asking him to please release the man immediately and to initiate investigations to hold the perpetrators accountable.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

Responsibility at the Top

In all cultures worldwide, responsibility grows with social and political stature. That is probably because more power entails more responsibility, by definition. Also because people with a higher public profile traditionally become role models and, therefore, shoulder a higher burden. In addition, leaders are often seen as a source of inspiration and spiritual and moral guidance. For those and many reasons, people at the top of the power structure carry a bigger responsibility than the average individual.

That is probably why the Americans are putting their President through the wash tub. It is not that Americans do not have extra-marital sex. Many do. Neither is it because they do not lie, even under oath. It is simply because he is the President, and he is measured by a higher moral yardstick.

By the way, one can't help but admire the Americans for what they are doing. Theirs is the best system around at this time, and one should see what they are doing to their President as one more attempt at yet improving the checks and balances of an already good system.

I do not want to dwell on external issues. I want to zero in on our conditions here in Yemen. Our senior politicians are hardly fit to play a role model, nor do they offer much inspiration. In fact, most Yemenis despise the senior politicians - in government or in opposition. One can hardly speak of them as displaying a high level of responsibility. In fact, they show little in the way of love for the country.

Unless a person has a strong sense of belonging - it is called patriotism - it is hard to imagine that such a person would engage in selfless efforts for the nation. There is nothing wrong with making money, if it is earned. The point is that most of our politicians amass so much money simply because they are politicians, and not because they have earned it.

Then there is an ominous twist.

As if their own shameless corruption is not enough, many of our senior officials turn around and try to destroy and dishonor the few honest people we have in this country. It has become a real nightmare for a clean person to be active in this country. The bad guys force all public activists to either join their league, or risk being destroyed, or at least stagnate. In other words, gradual improvements and reform seem an unattainable goal. What are people left with?

I have been asked that question so many times. You preach gradual change, where is it? What can we do? The people of Yemen do want gradual and peaceful change. They would like to introduce more accountability and transparency into the system. They want the leaders to play a more responsible role. But none of that is happening.

Some people are already thinking the unthinkable - some kind of forceful removal of the bad guys, in spite of their complete grip over things. Is this do-able? How will the general public react? How will the world community react?

I hope that my country does not reach a stage whereby that is the only recourse. I personally feel there is still hope in peaceful and gradual change. We should stick to this course.

In the meanwhile, let us all pray for our rulers to see light. Let us ask guidance for them to lead us out of this mess, into which they have brought us.

This place cannot take another big jolt!

The Publisher
Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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Vaccines from Japan to Yemen

Two hundred & thirty thousand vials of oral polio vaccines arrived at Sanaa on Saturday September 26 within the framework of technical cooperation by the Government of Japan to support Yemen's Expanded Immunization Program, particularly its National Immunization Days scheduled in October and November this year.

Women Feed the World

The 16th of October is the UN Food day, this year dedicated to WOMEN FEED THE WORLD. To celebrate this event, the HALAQA Yemeni International Cultural Circle, is organising, at the request of FAO, a Festival in the Yemeni Cultural Center. Together with the Rural Women's Development Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture the Halaqa will bring 50 rural women to the city of Sanaa to show the products they make and to demonstrate some of the activities of women in the field. Three exhibitions will be opened that day.

International Prize to a Yemeni Child

The talented Yemeni child Abdulmueen A. Al-Sam'ee has picked up tenth place in the Nile International Festival for Child Song for his song Jeel Al-Ghd (tomorrow generation) written by Mr. Mahmoud Al-Haj and composed by the famous Yemeni singer Ahmad Fathi. Twenty three songs were performed in the festival. It is the first time for a Yemeni child to win a prize for singing in an international festival.

Northern Ireland Trade Mission Seeks Business in Yemen

Nine northern Ireland companies are represented in a trade mission which will be exploring business opportunities in Yemen from 17-21 October. This mission is the first ever to Yemen by Trade International Northern Ireland, a United Kingdom Government agency responsible for promoting trade and business cooperation. Members of the mission will be meeting Yemeni businessmen and officials from the Chambers of Commerce in Sanaa and Aden.

New Cooperation

The Vice Rector for Academic Affairs at Hadhramaut University met with the cultural attaché of the American Embassy; they discussed cultural cooperation between the university and other American universities and the means of promoting it. The cooperation will be at various levels, e.g. exchanging teachers, scholarships, translation and many more.

At Last it is Done

The Faculty of Education in Al-Mukala has separated from Aden University and from now it has become a part of Hadhramaut University. According to the agreement recently signed by the rectors of the two universities, all the working staff and property of the faculty are now added to Hadhramaut University and become part of the university from January 1999.

Sanaa University Corrects Mistake

The admission and registration period at Sanaa University this year witnessed some violations. The criterion for accepting the students in the faculty of medicine and engineering was done according to the number of the electoral constituencies of every governorate rather than the academic level of the students. This distribution of seats is not found in the university booklet. This measure was detrimental to some governorates, especially Taiz. Yemen Times will try to shed some light on the new measures taken by the university in the coming issue.

Fiona Fell Down

Mrs. Fiona Macaskill, 44, is a British hang-glider pilot. She has been practicing paragliding for 9 years. Recently, she arrived in Yemen with four other hang-glider pilots. She took off from the mountain of Manakha; she told Yemen Times that she went very high; she decided to land. When she was 100 meters above the landing field, she hit a dust devil and fell down. "It is just dust that caused the accident; it is an unusual thing and I was very lucky" she said. The program of her friends will continue; they will be flying in the south of Yemen. For Mrs. Fiona, she will be leaving soon for Britain for medical treatment but her friends will go on flying for one week more.

Prisons Reform Seminar Concluded

Organized by the Human Rights Information & Qualifying Center, Taiz, in cooperation the Penal Reform International Organization, France, and the British Council, Sanaa, a seminar was held during September 28-29. The main purpose of the seminar was to gain public and political support for the program to be launched between September and March aiming at raising awareness among the public and the people in charge of prisons of human rights issues.

The recommendations of the seminar stressed the importance of allowing NGOs to visit and monitor the conditions of prisons and prisoners. The participants also affirmed the necessity of training prison staff. This should be done in coordination with the international organizations, establishing a school for this purpose. The seminar also recommended educational programs, and sports and recreational activities for prisoners.

Tackling Millennium Bug in Yemen



Dr. Sawitzky of the GTZ and Dr. Mutahar Al-Abbasi of the Ministry of Development launched the seminar. Research papers were submitted by Eng. Ahmed Al-Owaili, Director of the Computer Unity at the Ministry; Mr. Neil Steban (Forecasts and Results of the Millennium Bug); Mr. Sattar Mustafa (prepared the questionnaire to gather preliminary information on the problem and create an information network) and other researchers.

Dr. Al-Abbasi told Yemen Times: "The problem of the Millennium Bug is quite serious. We in Yemen may face many problems because of lack of awareness, lack of computer specialists, shortage of finance, and the non-existence of a database to figure out the size of the information market in Yemen."

"The problem could lie in the computer, operation systems, stored data, application programs or the microprocessor. Each one of these five sectors has needs its special means of dealing with the bug. Some can be repaired, while others will have to be thrown away."

Yemen Times will publish further details on the Millennium Bug in order to make computer users in Yemen fully aware of its dimensions and seriousness.

Organized by the Ministry of Planning and Development in cooperation with GTZ of Germany, a special two-day seminar on the "Millennium Bug" started on Sunday, October 4 at the Central Statistics Organization.

A special technical committee was formed by the ministry and is headed by the Minister of Development himself. The aim is to raise awareness among computer users in the both the public and private sectors in Yemen of the importance of dealing with this issue. Vital public organs are targeted such as the electricity, water and communication services, defense, security, banks, etc.

Celebrating the 6th October in Sanaa

On the occasion of the 6th of October the Egyptian Embassy in Sanaa will hold a festival at the Military Officers Club to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the October war of 1973 wherein the

Egyptian army defeated the Israeli army down to the ground. The event will be held under the auspices of Brigadier Osama Al-Baz. The event will be attended by many diplomats and other VIPs.

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“Thinking they are above the law has made certain people despise policemen.”

Brigadier Mansour Al-Shamiry is General Director of Public Relations at the Interior Ministry. Graduating from Police College in 1977, Al-Shamiry, 43, later received a university degree and did higher studies in criminal law.

His association with the media goes back to 1983 when he presented a TV program on police activities in serving the community. He also worked as an editor and later chief editor of Al-Hurras (sentinels) newspaper. Al-Shamiry also teaches human rights at the Police College, Police Institute, and other academic establishments where police officers are trained.

Mohammed Bin Sallam of Yemen Times talked to Brig. Al-Shamiry about various issues concerning police-community relations and crime prevention. He filed the following interview. Excerpts:

Q: First of all, could you tell us about the role of PR Department at the Interior Ministry?

A: The Public Relations Department at the Ministry of the Interior is a relatively new section, established immediately after unification. However, this department has not yet assumed its full role. It is growing slowly but steadily.

In view of the increasing press freedom, the PR Department is necessary to strike a balance with partisan and independent media. It is the mouthpiece of the police force, which is sometimes attacked by opposition newspapers as a representative of the ruling authority. So the police and security apparatus have to have a media organ to be able to reply to allegations made by the independent and partisan press. It tries to present the policeman as a friend of the people, who is always willing to extend a helping hand.

Activities of the police PR Department do not stop at that. It also identifies all shortcomings in the service and attempts to recommend possible solutions.

Q: What means do you use to communication with the people?

A: We have a weekly public information TV program, which deals with various issues related to police services, crime prevention, drug abuse, etc. People have been quite responsive to issues covered by the program.

There is also a bi-weekly radio program broadcast by both the Sanaa and Aden radio stations, in addition to a weekly newspaper and a monthly magazine. Official newspapers also publish crime stories, asking the public for information leading to the apprehension of perpetrators.

We are very concerned with how the general public views the police force. It is very important that a positive image is reflected both in reality and through the media.

Q: What future plans do you have to increase the media presence of the police force?

A: There are plans to establish a printing press especially for the Interior Ministry. We also plan to form a special TV production unit to produce public information programs.

Q: Through which channels do you get public opinion and response?

A: There are two major means of receiving feedback from the people. There are complaints or public opinion boxes positioned in specific places. Since there are no research facilities, we do not analyze the people's responses as such, but try to get some indications of what people think about the police. These boxes are opened once a week, their content studied and recommendations are made to the ministry.

The second means of feedback is

through the media. We scrutinize all the opinions and criticism directed at the police and security apparatus.

Q: How do you explain then the lack of direct communication between the independent and partisan media and the police force?

A: This is not quite accurate. When the need arises, we conduct press conferences in order to explain matters and exchange views and information with representatives of the media.

Unfortunately, some opposition publications always look for, and publish, the negative aspects of police work. They never bother with positive points. Neither do they bother to consult with us to get our view.

It is true that the police sometimes withholds information on some criminal cases. But this is usually important so as not to jeopardize the whole investigation or put people's lives in danger. Also not wanting to jump to conclusions makes us careful about giving information to the press. Some media people construe this as a cover-up; thereby, creating mistrust among the general public.

Q: What types of crime are most common in Yemen? What types are on the rise? Why?

A: There is a marked rise in juvenile delinquency. This is most likely because of the current economic crisis, which made many parents unable to send their children to school. They are made to peddle simple goods in the streets of major towns and cities, or even beg for money. This has markedly raised the possibility of children becoming delinquents.

The economic downturn is also to blame for an increasing trend in domestic violence. Repugnant crimes which were absolutely unknown in our society have started to appear recently. Some young girls are forced into prostitution by their parents or brothers.

Also, pick-pocketing and confidence tricks, hitherto unknown in Yemen, have appeared. Such nauseating crimes are eating into the soul of Yemeni society.

Other crimes did exist in Yemen, but previously were not reported by the media. It was in the time before political pluralism and freedom of the press. So when such crimes started to be reported by the press, people thought they have increased within society. There is also a better system of documentation and statistical analyses of reported crimes at police stations around the country. So when put into actual figures, some crimes seem to be increasing. Also more people are now reporting crimes to the police, instead of just relying on tribal or community elders as used to be the case in the past.

Q: What efforts do you make to educate police and security per-



sonnel in order to help put an end to the human rights violations that take place in Yemen prisons and detention centers?

A: It cannot be denied that some violations do take place. So regular lectures and seminars are held to educate police and security personnel on how to deal with suspects, accused and imprisoned people. This is in addition to having human rights taught as a subject in police colleges and institutes around the country. We also send our people to most human rights seminars and conferences, whether held in Yemen or abroad.

Policemen do an essential social function. Some people see themselves as above the law. So when a traffic policeman stops a car to check something, some drivers see that as restrictive to their personal freedom. Personal freedom is certainly not absolute. This is the principle in all democratic countries, your liberty ends where the other's starts. Thinking that they can do as they please and be above the law have made certain people despise policemen, considering everything they do as a violation of their human rights.

Policemen act within the law, by which all citizens must abide. Anyone breaking the law must expect his or her freedom to be restricted. According to the law, a policeman can stop, search, arrest, and detain people for the good of society - provided it is done within legal constraints.

Q: How do you see the human rights situation in Yemen?

A: There are still some shortcomings experienced in this respect. This is true in almost all Third World countries due to political, economic and social circumstances. When there is a fault somewhere, there is bound to be some loss of rights.

A country where half the people are illiterate is a backward country where there is no full understanding of what human rights are all about. Crimes perpetrated by some people against others are violations of the victims' human rights. When a policeman is not giving his full

rights, he is bound to sometimes neglect his duty. So to improve the human rights situation in any country, the cultural and economic questions have to be tackled first. This certainly cannot be done overnight.

Q: Some detainees in Yemeni prisons are still being shackled with steel chains and cuffs around their ankles. Will this practice ever stop?

A: Chaining prisoners is against Yemeni law. Such practice is the legacy of pre-revolution era. Such violations must be brought to public attention so that the practice can be stopped. A policeman can only handcuff an arrested person to prevent him escaping. But when serving a

prisons sentence, shackles are absolutely out of the question.

Q: How can the negative image of the policeman in society be changed?

A: First and foremost, people will have to be made fully aware that a policeman does a very important public service. The societal aspect of a policeman's work has to be highlighted and consolidated.

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Mr. Mohammed Al-Yadoumy, Secretary General of the Yemeni Congregation for Reform - Islah, graduated from Police Academy in Cairo. He also has a BA in History. He started as the chief editor of Al-Sahwa weekly newspaper - Islah's mouthpiece.

Dr. Salah Haddash, Yemen Times Managing Editor, interviewed Mr. Al-Yadoumy, on the occasion of the second general congress of the Islah which starts tomorrow, October 6th.

Q: Where does Islah stand today, in relation to the ruling authority and the opposition?

A: The Islah party is, of course, in the opposition, given the results of the April 27, 1997 elections. We accepted the results of these elections in spite of our major reservations because of the undemocratic practices exercised against Islah. There was an overpowering desire on the part of the ruling

Yadoumi:

"Our presidential candidate is Ali Abdullah Saleh"

party (PGC) to achieve a "comfortable" majority in an "uncomfortable" manner.

Q: What are the main issues in the upcoming Islah congress?

A: Truly, Islah's second congress comes in rather difficult political, economic and social conditions for our country. However, the party is no stranger to such a situation. We held our first congress immediately after the country's victory in preserving its unity. The situation was very strained then.

By holding our congress at this time, we are working to normalize the political life, call for coexistence, allow the wounds to heal, and strengthen national solidarity. It is all in the nation's supreme interest. It seems to be our destiny to work on stabilizing the situation through rationality and moderation. Islah always aims to help find developmental renaissance in all aspects of life.

As for the issues to be discussed in the congress, they will mainly deal with Islah's achievements during the last few years. We find ourselves in need to submit draft amendments to the party's basic statute. It is hoped that such amendments will improve Islah's future organizational performance.

The economic dimension of the party's program will also be amended, in light of our experience - short though it was - in the two governments before the last elections. This experience has immensely helped in giving the party a more realistic outlook. We gained this outlook through our modest involvement in the country's economic reality.

There are also a number of other important issues, of importance to everybody. On top of these concerns comes the question of economic well-being and tackling the deterioration and its reflection on the political and social situation.

tion on the political and social situation.

Q: What is Islah's position vis-a-vis the draft law regulating mass rallies and public demonstrations?

A: We believe that demonstrations should be conducted in a peaceful atmosphere; without rioting, anarchy, subversion or looting. But, we feel that this law intends to strangle freedom of expression and narrow the available margin of democracy.

Q: Will Islah field a candidate in the 1999 Presidential elections?

A: Our candidate is Mr. Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Q: How does Islah view the US and Western attitude towards Islamic political movements?

A: The negative relationship between the two sides has been created through the accumulation of misunderstandings - not just recently, but since a long time in the past. We are totally convinced that, by recognizing mutual interests and rising up to our great responsibility, we can all cooperate to reach a certain level of relations that will serve our peoples' supreme interests.

Q: How do you assess the Islamic political movements in Yemen?

A: The Islamic movement in Yemen is growing, due to the margin of democracy, and its acceptance to coexist with others.

Q: How do you see the economic situation in Yemen?

A: I have to admit, economic conditions are rather difficult in Yemen today. This matter needs a spe-

cialized conference and many seminars. The local currency is deteriorating, unemployment is rising, income is declining, prices are rocketing, and poverty is everywhere. All these problems need to be urgently addressed; otherwise, many dangers will overwhelm the nation.

Q: How do you see the impact of the deteriorating economy on social conditions?

A: Increasing poverty is certainly not conducive to stability. It is detrimental to society's values and morals. Also, the continuous deterioration in social services - if they exist at all - will increase the pressure of poverty, deepen backwardness, and greatly harm human development.

Q: What must be done, from the Islah point of view, to carry out real administrative and financial reform in Yemen?

A: We must look for solutions to our economic troubles. We should not allow our country to become a field experimenting obsolete theories.

It must be recognized by all that a lot of damage is caused by some of the people running our economy, who abuse our resources and mismanage the funds granted by others. Administrative and financial corruption has become so widespread that it is impossible to ignore it. The only way out is to work hard and be honest in carrying out reforms.

Q: How do you view the proposed local administrative and administrative laws?

A: We support local authority and administrative systems that enhance national unity and social cohesion, increase decentralization and decentralize decision making.

Lamri Chirouf:

"Torture remains a major concern."

Mr. Lamri Chirouf is a researcher at Amnesty International Secretariat in London. Last week, he headed a delegation on a fact-finding mission to Yemen. The delegation include Ms. Elizabeth Mottershaw, a researcher at the Middle East Department at Amnesty International. Along with the Amnesty couple also came a film director/producer, and a cameraman.

Dr. Salah Haddash, Yemen Times Managing Editor, talked to the Amnesty team and filed the following interview.

Q: What is the purpose of your visit?

A: The visit has four purposes.
1. We have met with our colleagues in Aden and in Sanaa to see what activities they are preparing for the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We brought them documentation which has been produced by the International Secretariat. We also reviewed the activities they have been carrying so far.

2. Then we came to see how the human rights situation in Yemen is today compared to July 1996 when we had a high level delegation that met with ministers and other government officials.

3. As you notice, we are also shooting a film documenting the cooperation of Amnesty International with local partners worldwide.

4. Finally, we have a book we call "The Big Book" in which we are collecting signatures for the Secretary General of Amnesty International. He will hand all these books on the 10th of December to the Secretary General of the UN. The signatures basically pledge to abide by the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. As you may know, in Africa, Nelson Mandela was the first president to sign this book. In the Middle East Yasser Arafat was the first one to sign.

Q: Is anybody from Yemen going to sign this book?

A: I have asked if the Prime Minister would like to sign. I don't know whether he would have the time. I was told he is very busy at the moment.

Q: How do you go about your assessment of the human rights situation?

We have visited many Yemenis cities, including Sanaa, Aden, Taiz and Mukallah. We have spent time with Yemeni officials, including the Attorney General. We have met with Yemeni opinion makers as well as people with grievances.

Basically, we are trying to find out if previous undertakings have been honored or not. In 1996, the previous attorney general promised to do a number of things to tackle the issues that were of concern to Amnesty International.

Q: What is your conclusion?

A: Of course, we have to go back to London to go over the information we have collected. But basically we still have quite a few concerns.

Q: Can you specify?

A: Torture remains a major concern in Yemen. Arbitrary political arrests continue. Even while we are here, we have witnessed the arrest of Dr. Al-Murtadha Al-Muhawwari, which is a classic case of prisoner of conscience.

The death penalty is a source of concern, especially after the recent law expanding the scope of capital punishment.

Shackles are still in prevalent use in the country. Prison conditions in general are below what could be expected.

Swift trials, especially in cases where there is public pressure is a problem.

Q: Other observers say that in general human rights conditions in Yemen have improved. Do you agree?

A: I think we have summarized our position in the report published in 1997. That was the result of two years of discussions with the Yemeni authorities and in-depth research visits.

We had submitted in June 1996 the big memorandum with all the cases of concern, and the patterns of human rights violations in the country. The Yemeni Constitution and the Code of Criminal Procedures have incorporated most of the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and all those standards were ratified by Yemen. But implementation is the problem.

We need to work together to solve any problem. The Attorney General then proposed that he would set up a monitoring unit in his office to receive and investigate complaints. I also proposed that he should issue a letter to all arresting authorities particularly the Political Security Office to remind them that Yemeni law does not allow anybody to arrest any one except with a court order.

Q: What have you discussed with the Attorney General?

A: We have discussed past proposals. So we have listened to his plans. We are partner in this effort.

Mr. Jeremy Llewellyn James is a producer director of TV documentaries in England, mostly for the BBC and Channel 4 but also for the Discovery Channel in the United States.

Q: What is the purpose of the film you are shooting?

A: We are making a documentary for the BBC about the work of Amnesty International. It is one of our programs, which will be ready for the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human



Rights. It is part of the programs the BBC is doing to commemorate this important occasion.

Q: What have you been filming exactly?

A: The object of the film is to look into areas of Amnesty's work, not to target individual countries. What we are doing is to show how Amnesty goes out, gets information, campaigns on different countries and then brings that information back to write its reports.

We have been to several countries. We have been to Cambodia, USA and Italy where Amnesty is lobbying for the International Criminal Court.

Q: We understand that you have an Amnesty chapter in Yemen. Could you tell us about Amnesty's membership in Yemen?

A: We have two groups - a group in Aden and another in Sanaa. We also have some members in Taiz. According to our charter, Yemeni Amnesty members do not do any work on Yemen. They do not campaign on Yemen. That is a rule that applies throughout Amnesty International. So like other groups throughout the world, the Amnesty groups here are campaigning on issues in other countries.

One of the things they are campaigning on is the marking of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They are working on collecting signatures. We have several books on which local groups are collecting signatures in support of the Universal Declaration.

ألف مبروك
أجمل التهاني والتبريكات للأخ
عبدالسلام أحمد شرف الدين
بمناسبة ارتزاقه مولودة جديدة أسماها
«لمياء»
فألف مبروك يا أبا لمياء
المهنؤون
د. حسن أحمد شرف الدين
د. محمد أحمد شرف الدين
عصام أحمد شرف الدين
وكافة الأهل والأصدقاء

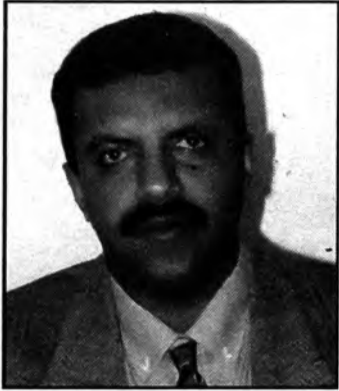
تهانينا القلبية
نهني ونبارك للدكتور
عارف قدار
لارتزاقه المولودة البكر التي أسماها
«نعممة»
الف مبروك وتمنياتنا لها بالصحة والعمر المديد.
المهنؤون
عائلة محمد سعيد قدار، عائلة عبدالرب هائل،
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This is an **OPINION** page.
Every week, a different intellectual writes a **FOCUS** on a pertinent issue!

Prison Reform in Yemen



Dr. Mohammed Awadh Ba-Obaid
Assistant Professor,
Sociology Department,
Sanaa University

meaningful prison reform program can be instituted. Such steps may include the following:

1- Recognizing the History of Prisons in Yemen

The first formal prison in Yemen was opened in 1912 in Aden. Up to 1937, this prison had been run by Hindu Indians according to Indian laws. The prison staff then consisted of the prison governor, commander of the guards, a warden, 30 guards and a few Yemenis who were called upon when the need arose. There were only 40 prisoners in 1937.

A few minor changes were introduced in 1943. The Indian governor was replaced with a Yemeni. The prisoners were classified according to their crimes, nationality, and legal status - whether sentenced or just detained.

When the number of prisoners rose to 400 in 1946, the prison staff became 54. In the early 1950s, a number of prison personnel were sent to be train in

Britain, India and Kenya. After a British inspector visited the prison in 1961, a new prisons' law was issued in the same year to regulate prison administration and lay the main guidelines of prisoner treatment.

The first national prison law was enacted after independence in 1967, superseding all old laws and statutes. This law was amended in 1987, covering prison rules and regulations, prisoner treatment, rehabilitation, training health care, etc.

2- Current Legal Condition

Consisting of 45 articles, Republican Decree No. 48 was issued in 1991. It covers the procedures of internment, release, reform, rehabilitation, vocational training, health care, prison facilities, prisoner classification, disciplinary measures, carrying out executions, and the use of firearms to rein-in the prisoners. The law authorized the Interior Minister to issue the prisons internal statutes.

This new law has taken into con-

sideration the prisoners' human rights, clearly identifies the powers and responsibilities of the prisons administration and stresses punishing those who abuse prisoners or hurt their dignity.

Generally speaking, there are no contradictions between the spirit of this law and the minimum of international standards for prisoner treatment. The problem, however, lies in the absence of an explanatory charter and a statute organizing life within prisons.

Most important of all, though, is to know how this law is enforced in reality. This is important to evaluate the extent of adherence to the minimum of the international rules of prisoner treatment. This is not easy to do, in view of the absence of real information and serious academic studies. A preliminary over-view of prison conditions does not indicate that all is well there. Reports by human rights committees in Parliament and the Consultative Council stress the need to do a lot for conditions in Yemen prisons to become as required.

Other reports indicate that our prisons are in need of real reform and courageous changes. This is especially so considering that the main fault lies in mismanagement and the inefficiency of the cadre, either because of lack of actual personnel or their low training and cultural levels.

Deep and critical studies of the laws and statutes regulating prisons in Yemen are very crucial for achieving real reform.

3- Organization and Administration

Tangible progress has been achieved during the last 8 years in the administrative and organizational aspects of Yemeni prisons. Greater efforts are needed to further improve performance.

Training the staff and developing their administrative skills must

have top priority during the coming period, especially in statistics and registration where there are still many shortcomings and loopholes. Attempts to solve these problems can rely on the successful experiences of some local prisons such as the Mansoura prison in Aden.

According to the above system, a criminal case is given a specific number at the police station. It is then transferred to the criminal register by the prosecutor's representative at the police station. It is assigned the same previous number. When the case is reviewed by court and a sentence is passed, the case file is handed over to the court's police. The latter takes the necessary information to the prison where it is entered with the same number plus another number given by the prison administration.

The criminal investigation department is informed of all the case developments, from reporting it to the police to putting the defendant in prison. This method has proved very reliable from the practical point of view. If adopted, it will help solve many prison problems.

4- Prisoner Reform & Rehabilitation

Article 3 of the Second Chapter of Law No. 48 of 1991 stipulates that prisoner treatment aims to achieve the following:

1- Reforming and rehabilitating the prisoners through the use of all possible means of learning, education, medicine, vocational training, social service, sports, culture and recreation.

2- Creating the desire and inclination among prisoners to lead an honest living and be good, law-abiding citizens.

Applying the above legal text to Yemeni prisons requires the following:

1- Prisoners must be classified according to recognized scientific

basis; some prisoners committed their crimes by accident, while others due to social, psychological or physiological reasons.

2- Assigning a particular category to each prisoner is very important for quarantining the efficiency of the prisoner reform and rehabilitation program.

3- Establishing suitably staffed centers for medical, psychological and social examination will help assess the prisoner's personality, allocate the appropriate category, and specify the suitable training and rehabilitation program.

4- The improvement made by the prisoner in responding to the reform and rehabilitation program can be taken as one of the criteria for parole or release.

Conclusions & Recommendations

1- For the prison reform program to achieve its aims, it is important the previous successful experiences be taken into account.

2- Prison is considered the last judicial "destination" for a wrongdoer. So prison reform must be within a more comprehensive reform justice system. It must also include vitalizing the post-detention support programs.

3- There must be a whole system of laws and statutes organizing prisons in a way compatible with international agreements and conventions signed by Yemen. Obstacles impeding the full implementation of such conventions must be studied and tackled accordingly.

4- Short and long-term training programs must be conducted for the benefit of prison staff. The administrative, statistical and documentation systems should be developed.

5- More attention should be given to social, psychological and legal studies related to prison conditions. It is strongly recommended that a specialized criminal research center be established.



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- A pleasant personality
- Required to perform shift work
- Perfect colour vision

(b) Human Resource Assistant

- Possess a degree in any discipline
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- Able to translate from English to Arabic and vice versa
- Experience in human resource management and/or training
- Good in PC applications
- A pleasant personality

(c) Technician (Electrical) or (Mechanical)

- Must possess a Technical Diploma in Electrical or Mechanical Engineering
- Able to speak and write English
- Able to stand height
- Required to perform shift work
- Perfect colour vision

(d) Traffic Assistants

- Complete and passed high school education or equivalent
- Able to speak and write English Fairly well
- Age 35 years and below
- A pleasant personality
- Required to perform shift work
- Perfect colour vision

(e) Administration Assistants

- Complete and passed Secondary education with good grade in English
- Able to speak and write English fairly well
- PC literate
- A pleasant personality

ACT will train all successful applicants for the positions they will be appointed. If you have the qualities that we are looking for, please send detailed information stating your personal particulars, height and weight, contact address and telephone number, qualifications, a recent passport-size photo (non-returned), and relevant accomplishments. Please enclose photocopies of all your result slips, relevant certificate, testimonials, identification card/passport.

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The Human Resource Manager
Aden Container Terminal,
P. O. Box 70354,
Aden, Yemen

We thank all applicants for their interest; only shortlisted candidates will be notified.



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بطعمه الجديد
ختبئه أكيد

علامة الجودة

الهنا

كامل الدسم

MIL

شركة الألبان والأغذية الوطنية

“Future is for Tourism in Yemen”



Mr. Omar Mohammed Omar, the Vice Chairman & Group Managing Director of the Universal Group of Companies, started working as the General Manager of Universal Travel & Tourism which he helped to establish, along with Mr. Alwan Al-Shaibani, in 1983 with only three employees. Now the company has many branches spanning major Yemeni cities. Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi, Assistant Managing Editor of Yemen Times, met Mr. Omar and filed the following interview. Excerpts.

Q: Could please give us some idea about the new projects of the Universal?

A: As you know the Universal is a group of 8 companies which are Universal Travel & Tourism, Universal Travel & Trading Ltd., Universal Touring Company, Universal Hotels Co. Ltd., Universal Rent a Car, Yemen Club for Touring & Automobile, Yemen Exchange Bureau and Yemen Holidays & Tours. Actually, we have several projects related to travel and tourism; we have Shahrani Hotel in Sanaa which will be opened in mid November and Shamsan

Hotel in Taiz which is scheduled to be opened in the early 1999. We will also have the Meridien Sanaa project due to open late 1999.

Q: What are the obstacles faced by your group of companies?

A: We as well as others in business have suffered greatly due to kidnapping incidents that took place in some parts of the country in the past few months. As I mentioned earlier, our main field of business is travel and tourism so kidnapping is detrimental to us; the occupancy of our, particularly in Marib, has been zeroed. However, with the newly issued law against kidnapers, the situation has clearly

improved and there were no reported incidents since.

Q: Do you have any plan to expand the branches of the Universal Group?

A: Yes, we do have a plan to have more offices in major hotels and airports around Yemen but again that depends on the drive of tourism. We will also open a new branch in Attaq, Shabwa. We also plan to add new offices in locations and hotels in the Hadhramaut and Aden areas.

Q: Tourism is in the horns of a dilemma nowadays?

A: Yes, it is true that tourism is passing a very critical time but our group has not ceased to

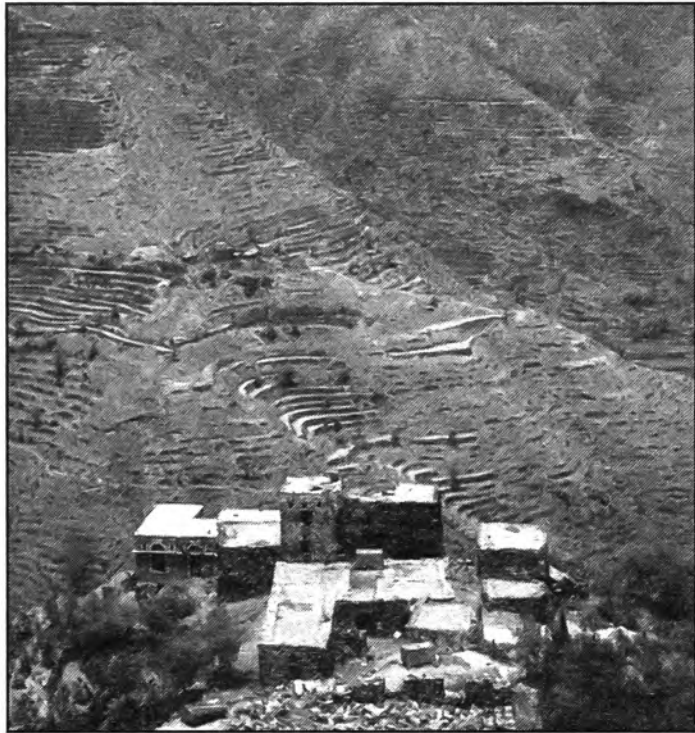
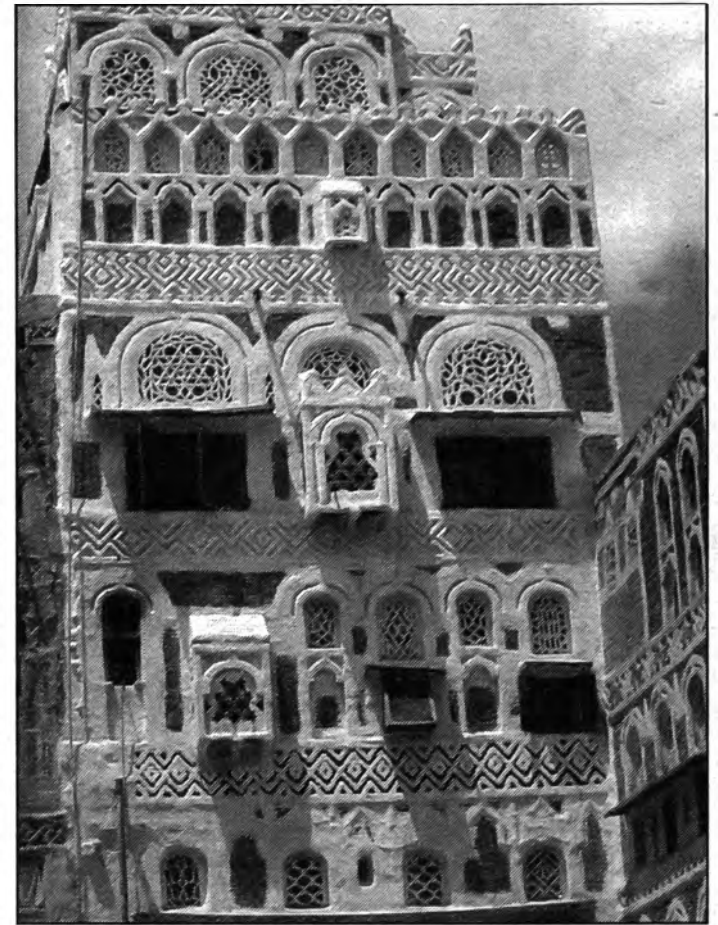
expand since its establishment. We have believed and still do, despite many skeptics, that we should expand our activities, the civil war and what followed it did not convince us otherwise. We are going ahead because the future is for tourism in this country and we believe it should provide real good income for all sectors of society. Currently, the most important thing for tourism is the stability of the security situation. Next, attention should be given to the infrastructure of the country in terms of roads and communication. If these factors are looked after well, I am sure the number of tourists will be doubled in no time. Sure, kidnapping is a major factor behind the stagnation of tourism, but, of course, there are many other reasons like adequate hotels, restaurants, proper training and other tourist facilities which we are lacking in.

Q: How could you describe the relation between the company and its working staff?

A: Those who are related to travel and tourism are over 200 and 95% of them are Yemenis and they have many privileges, the most important of which is a good salary. We have 8 companies and when we achieve any success we all share its benefits from the office boy to the general manager; everybody receives his or her share.

Q: What is the focus of your activities and why?

A: As I said earlier our focus is on travel and tourism. Of course we have different commercial concentrations but the most important one is tourism. We have a lot of things to do with travel, tourism and hotels. And with regard to our relations with



other companies, it can be described as excellent; we also very professional yet friendly relationship with various government agencies.

Q: Has Universal joined the world of computer technology and Internet?

A: Actually, we have an independent department for computer technology that was established in early 1997. This department has focused on automating three main areas, namely finance, sales and communication. All our branches are connected through electronic mail. Our internet site <http://www.universalyemen.com>

attracts many visitors worldwide. Our in-house internet serves as an important means of communication between our various branches. We are now finalizing an upgrade for our phone system, which will provide better customer service and call routing plus cutting on costs. Our airlines sales system takes care of our airlines ticketing sales, our tourism sales system has been running most of the operations in Universal Touring Company for the last 3 years now. We plan to provide these services to others starting from e-mail all the way to group internet and custom-made software.

First Oil & Gas Conference: BIG BANG; NO SUBSTANCE YET

The First Oil & Gas Conference - held in Sanaa during September 28-30 - is over. An important event in the business life of Yemen, some 300 delegates attended, notably representatives from oil and gas companies from all over the world. Unfortunately, however, the level of representation was not senior enough - with Canadian Occidental Petroleum, sending the highest representation - the company's vice president.

The conference - like an academic exercise - was crammed with lots of subjects on Yemen - energy policy; political, economic and investment climate; geology and its main basins; privatization and economic reform program; strategies for financing gas, oil and related industrial exploration, production, transportation and storage; petrochemical and refining projects and several other topics.

Beyond the plethora of people, some companies made a presence in the conference. Canadian Oxy was already mentioned as the highest representation. As the



largest producer of oil in Yemen today, and the company that has just concluded concessions for four new blocks, Canadian Occidental Yemen is gearing up for new business in the country. "We are quite optimistic," said Dr. Waleed Jazrawy, President and General Manager of the company. Exxon's team was also quite visible. Consolidated Contractors

International Company, CCC, made its mark at the conference. The company reviewed its achievements in Yemen as well as the Arab world through an impressive exhibition. Hani Shehadeh, Regional Manager of CCC, was at hand to share the company's experience in Yemen - spanning five decades. Mr. Shehadeh also spoke about the company's future plans. "Our company is now the largest engineering and construction company in the Middle East. With over 40,000 employees composed of more than 60 nationalities, the company figures in all listings of large and profitable companies, worldwide."

Many observers feel that the conference's success will be measured by the real outcome in new business - not just in the media bang. So far, little has been concluded, although some new companies did come to test the waters.



The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Sana'a

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to assist in the implementation of the Netherlands Policy on Water Management and Water Supply within the context of the bilateral cooperation between the Republic of Yemen and the Netherlands.

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Mr. Joep Blom, First Secretary/ Water Sector Specialist
 Royal Netherlands Embassy
 P. O. Box 463
 Sana'a

Fax: 01 264 094
 E-mail: joep.blom@saa.minbuza.nl

Yemen's First Ever Orphanage for Girls!

The situation of orphans in Yemen is different from that in most other country because of the solidarity of the old social relations and the pulverizing impact of the Islamic religion on Yemeni society. Therefore, the problem of orphans is like any other problem that is solved within the family. Usually one of the relatives of the orphans undertake the responsibility of care. The orphanage in Sanaa is not only a home for orphans but also for poor children. The Female Orphans Care First Center, FOCFC, is something new for Yemeni society. The economic hardships will make people unable to support the orphans relatives. Thus, the availability of orphanages becomes necessary lest they deviate. Dr. Salah Hadash, Yemen Times Managing Editor met Ms. Yasameen Al-Awadi Director (FOFC) and filed the following interview.

Q: Could you please tell us something about the center?

A: The center was first established with the help of some

Swiss charitable societies which are basically Islamic societies that are interested in helping poor nations. They have implemented many charitable projects worldwide. They came to Yemen and made a survey of poor families in particular and the situation of society as a whole, in general. They came to Yemen many times and gave some help in different rural regions. Then, they thought of establishing the female orphans center. They discussed the matter with some Yemeni counterparts. They visited the existing orphans center and felt



that a new one was needed. Actually, they met with Ms. Ekhlas Al-Khatib and the Deputy Minister of Housing through the Al-Kamil Group which works in the Urban Development Program.

Q: What is the main objectives of the center?

A: The center adopted the caring of the girls between the age of 5-8 because children of this age are ready to accept the instruction. The center gives them full - healthcare, food, education and training. It prepares the girls for a new life.

Q: What activities are carried out within the center?

A: Girls under the age of schooling are given some training and education so that they will be able to assimilate what is taught to them later.

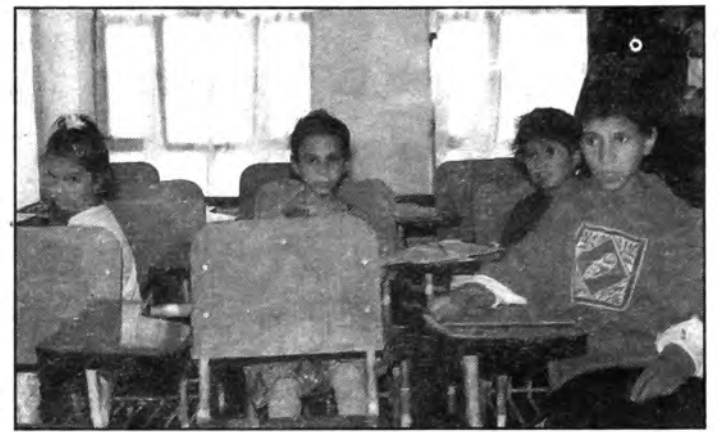
Most of the female orphans coming from the village are afraid of education and medical check-ups. Therefore, we try to make them familiar with all these things. We have all the facilities that make them accept and love education. The center is provided with television sets, videos, educational films for children, environmental films, etc.

Q: How many girls have been admitted to the center?

A: During this month we have received 5 girls and we are expecting more and more. But the center can't accommodate more than 20.

Q: Do you have any plans to develop the center?

A: We can enlarge the center but we are short of money. We do really face a lot of problems. For example, I accepted a 10-year old girl although she is above the per-



mitted age. I was actually forced by her difficult situations.

Q: What are the main difficulties you meet?

A: Right now we don't have factual difficulties but our main problem is that our budget is very limited. I hope the benefactors will help us, especially with food-stuff and health care since these services are of the activities of the center. We don't have a medical laboratory.

Q: Do you have any problems because of social values?

A: The problem is that the society here consider girls or women in general as shame. Therefore, they feel that giving them to any charitable institution to care for them is disgraceful. The result is that the girl grows up with spite for her family. Hence, she becomes an impotent person unable to do something for society. I think the center gives the girls affection, safety and education necessary for them in their life.

Q: Do you have donors from within Yemen?

A: The Swiss Society have donated some good furniture, including beds. Al-Muhandiss office has given us desks and chairs. Jamal Al-Yaf'ee has also donated YR500,000. If we really gain a good reputation and people feel that we are doing a good job, the center will carry on.

Q: Are there any other orphan centers in Yemen?

A: The Swiss Society has promised that if the Sanaa center proves successful other centers funded by them will be opened in Aden and Hadhramaut. Our problem is that we don't have buildings; we spend a lot of money on rent. The rent of this center is now YR 35,000; the

landlord is asking for YR 50,000 after 6 months. The location of the center is very important; we need it to be at the heart near the government institutions. Al-Asbahi zone doesn't have water and so we have to buy it and this is very expensive. The electricity supply is not too regular. We hope that the international organizations will present their moral as well as material support. We also feel that training courses for the teachers of the center would be very useful.

Q: Have you got a license?

A: The concerned authorities have promised us that the procedures of getting a license are being simplified. We tried to contact the Deputy Minister of Social Affairs but he was busy. The license will be issued in the coming few days.

Q: Do you allow the girls to visit their relatives?

A: Yes, of course. They are allowed to visit their relatives. We actually encourage them to develop a sense of belonging. This is also because when they reach adolescence, their relatives have to come and take responsibility for them. Some girls go to visit their families accompanied by someone from the center. We also invite the families to come and visit the girls.

We do our best so that the girls don't feel grieved so we offer them entertaining programs and visits. But so far we don't have a bus. The Swiss society has promised to give us a bus if the number of orphans increase. We have a daily program which the girls have to follow from the morning till the evening. We take them to school and bring them back. We supervise homework and teach them the Holy Quran. They also play games.

Psychiatric Care Home: A Job Well Done!

The psychiatric care home was established in April 1991. It started providing some basic psychiatric caring services. Then, it started giving qualifying services. It employs around 39 persons; 21 in the medical affairs, 10 nurses, 3 psychiatrists, 2 doctors, 2 social researchers, 2 female specialists, a pharmacist and a laboratory technician. The home can accommodate 60 beds. The number of the patients reached 30 in August, 1998 but it is fluctuating. Ten of the patients are homeless and without relatives. When it was opened, the home received 24 patients from the central prison who were subsequently cured. The number of patients who visited the home and stayed for some time is 2,000 and the regular visitors by the end of

the full care needed from our society. People are ignorant of what he/she really needs. Some people take their patients to sorcerers thinking that he/she is under the control of jinnis and evil spirits. Some sorcerers beat the patients up and put them in a dark room for one or two months under the pretext of disillusioning him/her of the evil spirits. People should be educated about the importance of taking them to psychiatrists rather than sorcerers.

Reasons of Psychiatric Disease

1- Hereditary factors and also because of the person's infection since his childhood.
2- The reason can be also economic, fragile family relationship, divorce, failure in study.
3- Other factors that can help in

services, such as giving diagnosis, medicine, health care, educating the working staff, patients and trainees from the faculty of medicine. It also provides some sports and entertainments. He also indicated that the home will have a male branch occupying 60 beds. The home will also start sending missions to different regions in the country. Moreover, it will conduct educating programs through mass media. Dr. Makramy also added that the home is supported by the Islah Charitable Society and some other benefactors. Unfortunately, there is no foreign support for the home but there is, according to Dr. Makramy, a contact between the home, British Council and British Embassy in Sanaa regarding the funding of a course in nursing.

Psychiatric disease is of two kinds: psychotic and neurotic. The neurotic disease results from social and environmental factors like hysteria, blindness, paralysis, hypochondrias, etc. But the reasons for psychotic disease afflicting women of the center are the pregnancy poison, inflammation of the urinary tract. Some patients commit suicide because of the grief resultant from brain disturbance. A study, conducted in the center, showed that 10% of sick females of the center suffer from emotional disturbance, 20% from neurotic disturbance resultant from gastric diseases, 40% from schizophrenia.

In some cases electric shocks are used for treatment. According to Dr. Mohammed Mahdy Al-Zabidi, these shocks are of quicker effect than medicines. He adds that they resort to them because some patients need a constant observation otherwise they will kill themselves. "One shock for a schizophrenic person is better than going to the sorcerers" he said. For the mentally psychotic people they use medicines like chlorpromazine, stelazine, clopixol, perphenazine. And the mentally grieved people are given imipramine, svmmtol, fluoxetine and cipram. For neurosis the following drugs are given: neurdeptics, buspirone,

tranquilizers, clomipramne.

Psychic Specialists

The home has a good number of psychiatric specialists. There are specialists for the internal and external clinics. Ms. Suad Ali Saad says that after the doctor diagnoses the patient, it is the psychiatric specialist who conducts the social research with the help of the patient's family. If her sickness is psychotic, she is brought to the center but if it is neurotic, sessions are assigned by the doctor for sometime till she is cured. The patients watch TV from 10 a.m. till 11 a.m.

They can also practice some skills like sewing, drawing, decorating. When it becomes visible that they have improved, they are taken to the female society wherein they are given some exercises and certificates and then even sewing machines. In fact, they have their own sewing teacher.

Dr. Mohammed Abdu Khalid Al-Shara'aby, laboratory operator, told us that the examinations made in the center are general, kidney functions, x-ray. He adds that the home needs sets like hotairouen, inalabor, anaerobic system, spectrophotometer. The pharmacy of the house, according to Dr. Jameel Saeed Ali, is short of medicines.

A Good Job!

Finally, we can say that the home is doing a lot for society. I have been told that a sick female was once brought from the central prison to the home. At that time she couldn't remember anything about her family. But after medical treatment given to her at the house, she could remember that she had a family and that she was married with a son. She could also remember her village. This encouraged the doctor to take her to her village. When the doctor asked about her, he was told that she had died. But her son was able to recognize her and this made all the attendants weep. This is an example of what the center is doing.

By: Hannan Al-Humaidy



1997 reached 10,000 males and females. It is noted that the age of the female patients range between 20 to 90. The duration of the stay in the home ranges between one to two months and can be prolonged. Food is served; the breakfast consists of beans, bread and tea; the lunch is composed of rice, fish; the dinner of beans and eggs. But it is not the same; it is occasionally diversified.

Difficulties
It is visible that the home is short of many facilities like EEG, CT SCAN, some medical solutions, medicines...etc.

The Patient & Society

A person suffering from a psychological disorder is not given

evolving the psychiatric disease is the death of one of the sick person's relatives, bankruptcy, childbirth and its pressures.

Who Enters the Home?

The patient who has to be kept in the home for treatment should be diagnosed by the doctor and given some medicine and get an order of her stay in the home. She should also obtain a guarantee from the police station. The third condition is that the patient should reach the extent of being a danger to himself and others with no-one to look after him.

The Home Future Plan

Dr. Mohammed Hizam Al-Makramy told the Yemen Times that the home performs many



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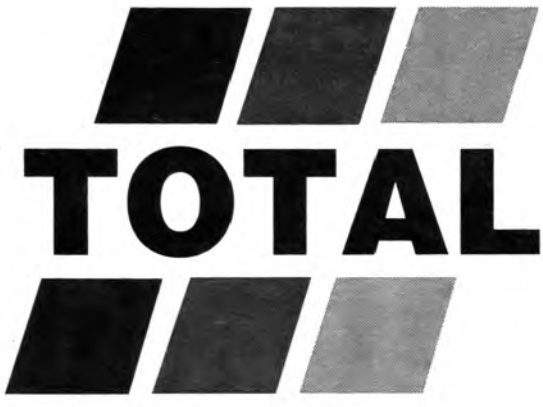
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Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani & Consultative Council,
and the Yemeni people
on the 35th anniversary of 14th of October Revolution

Many Happy Returns



الادارة العليا، والمهندسون والعمال في

شركة توتال اليمن

وشركائها في اليمن: كوفبك، يونوكال وسوكو
يتقدمون بأعطر التحيات وأجمل الامنيات بدوام التطور والازدهار إلى فخامة رئيس الجمهورية الأخ

علي عبدالله صالح

والدكتور عبدالكريم الارياني وجميع أعضاء الحكومة
وإلى الشيخ عبدالله بن حسين الأحمر وجميع أعضاء مجلس النواب
وإلى الاستاذ/ عبدالعزيز عبدالغني وجميع أعضاء المجلس الاستشاري
وإلى الشعب اليمني

بمناسبة العيد الخامس والثلاثين لثورة الرابع عشر من اكتوبر

وكل عام واليمن بخير

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Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar & Parliament,
Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani & Consultative Council,
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on the 35th anniversary of 14th of October Revolution

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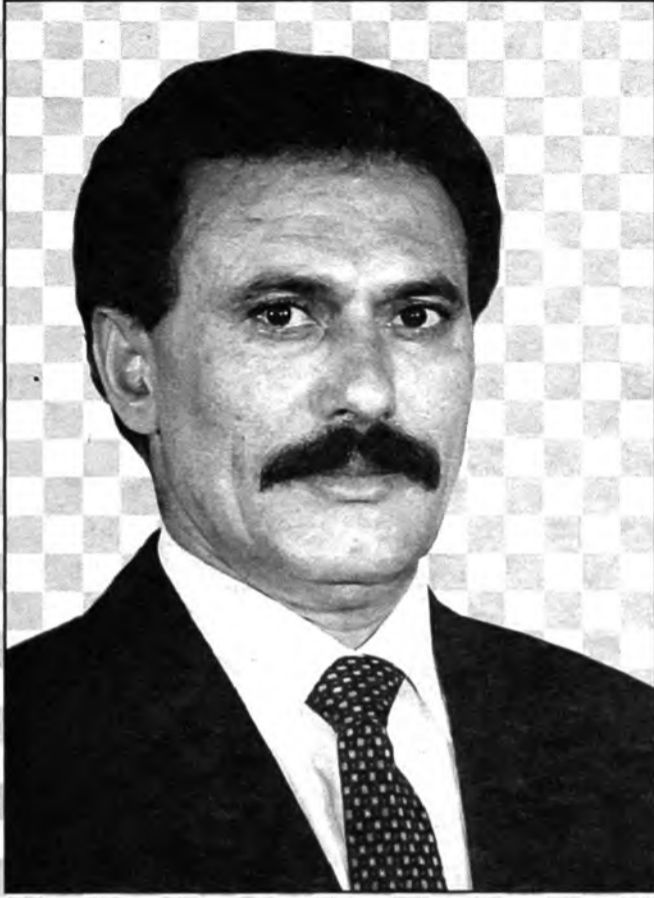
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الشركة الصينية للطرق والجسور

تتقدم

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Many Happy Returns



الإدارة العليا والمهندسون والعمال في

اتحاد المقاولين العالمية

سي سي سي

يتقدمون بأعطر التحيات وأجمل الامنيات بدوام التطور والازدهار إلى فخامة رئيس الجمهورية الأخ

علي عبدالله صالح

والدكتور عبدالكريم الأرياني وجميع أعضاء الحكومة
وإلى الشيخ عبدالله بن حسين الأحمر وجميع أعضاء مجلس النواب
وإلى الأستاذ/ عبدالعزيز عبدالغني وجميع أعضاء المجلس الاستشاري
وإلى الشعب اليمني

بمناسبة العيد الخامس والثلاثين لثورة الرابع عشر من أكتوبر

وكل عام واليمن بخير

October 14

Green Yemeni Innovation



icals." Within three days of putting the organic matter in the machine's tank, gas starts to form and is ready to be utilized. "The process resemble what takes place in the digestive system of an animal. However, using a filtering system, the gas produced is

odorless."

Experts Give Go Ahead

The device had been tested by Yemeni and foreign engineers and specialist, and was found to be fully functional, practical, economical, and environmentally friendly. A Dutch expert, who inspected the bio-gas device, has strongly recommended it to the Environment Protection Council. "It produces no chemicals or noxious fumes. Moreover, the by-products can be used as fertilizer

following a full 12-day operation," announced Al-Ghabiry.

Versatility

Having relatively small dimensions Al-Ghabiry's innovative machine can easily fit into the corner of an average household kitchen. "Size can be varied. A larger plant can be manufactured to supply several houses with cooking, heating and lighting fuel," said Al-Ghabiry with a futuristic vision. "Or it can be made smaller to suit flats and small families in urban areas.

When did he first get the idea to construct such a machine?

"I started toying with the idea in 1989, but, due to lack of funds, was only able to realize in 1993. I got it patented at the Ministry of Trade and Supplies last year. The device's prototype now stands in my mother's kitchen, fully operational."

Possible Benefit to Society & the Environment

According to Mohammed Al-Ghabiry, the mobile bio-gas plant can have the following positive effects:

- 1- Getting rid of animal and plant waste matter and food remains;
- 2- Producing fuel gas, thereby reducing dependence on firewood and halting the process of deforestation;
- 3- Improving living standards in the countryside by providing an alternative, cheaper source of fuel; and
- 4- Encouraging rural people to rear cattle and sheep, enriching the country's livestock.

Adel J. Moqbil,
Yemen Times

Mohammed Abdulkarim Al-Ghabiry, 27, is a budding Yemeni innovator. Although he only has a scientific-section secondary school certificate, Al-Ghabiry has good scientific knowledge, which he acquired through the extensive reading of science books and journals. In short, he is a self-taught inventor.

Environmentally Friendly Bio-gas

One of his major innovations is the mobile bio-gas plant. Necessity is the mother of invention, as they say. So the need for household fuel at Al-Ghabiry's remote home village in Dhamar and the difficulty to transport bottled gas, spurred him on to come up with something useful.

"The basic material source for the fuel gas produced by my mobile plant can be found in every village," said Al-Ghabiry. "It is animal waste and decomposing plant matter, fermented in the machine and converted into methane gas," he explained. Other materials used to manufacture the machine are ready available in the local market. "The gas produced is cleaned through a simple filtering process using water and harmless chem-



Trade Union Media

Supervised by the General Federation of Trade Unions (GFTU) and the American Solidarity Center, a seminar on trade union media was held from September 29 to October 1 in Sanaa. The seminar dealt mainly with the experience of the GFTU concerning labor culture and media. The papers presented in the seminars were:

1. Journalism in the Yemeni Labor Movement.
2. The Egyptian Labor Movement - raising the level of the labor media as viewed by the labor journalism - the cooperation program with the American Solidarity Center.
3. Labor Journalism in Egypt.
4. The importance of internal and external communication.
5. Writing in journals.
6. A practical workshop on writing.
7. Ways and principles of directing journals - a workshop about that.
8. How to publish a journal.

About the working class in Yemen:

The working class began to appear just after British came into Aden on January 19, 1839. Step by step, this class started to take its place in society. The first labor conference was held in March, 1956.

First: Al-Amel newspaper of the Aden Trade Unions Congress:
The first issue of this newspaper

was published in October, 1957 during hard political situations and a conflict between the British forces and the trade unions.

The paper reflected the unions strikes against the arbitrary laws that the British authorities issued such as the immigration and industrial arbitration laws. In October 1958, the newspaper was closed because of that. But again it was reissued after the strikes of October, 1958.

In August, 1960, the newspaper called for a general strike which led to the declaration of a state of emergency to closing the newspaper in the same month. At the end of 1960, it was republished but not for so long. It was closed again by the British authorities. Al-Amel was the first official newspaper of the Aden Trade Unions Congress (ATUC) between 1957-1960.

Second: Al-Omal newspaper:
On April, 24th, 1965, the British authorities allowed several newspapers to be published including Al-Omal newspaper. Al-Omal was the second newspaper to become the mouthpiece of the ATUC. Because of its patriotic stance, the newspaper was closed in August, 1966. This made the ATUC, beginning from August 8, 1966, use the stencil machine to issue a daily paper to be an exact copy of Al-Omal newspaper.

Third: Sawt Al-Omal newspaper:
This newspaper was the mouthpiece of the Central Council of

the Trade Unions General Association. It was established in Aden in January, 1969. During the one-party ruling system, the newspaper worked for labor and trade unionist movement.

The editing staff of the newspaper changed from time to time until the unification of Yemen on May 22, 1990. Unfortunately, the newspaper began to take a turn for the worse before unification. Supplied by information from the leaders of the Socialist Party and its civil corporations and intelligence apparatus, it published many fake stories. It was able, though, to distribute 80 copies a week. Moreover, it was later published in the US after its editor-in-chief paid an official visit there.

Fourth: Al-Omal newspaper:
According to the decision of the Central Council in its August 22, 1994 session, the newspaper was first published after the government forces defeated the separatists in January, 1995. Because most of its editors escaped outside the country, a new editing staff was formed for the newspaper.

Fifth: Al-Omal journal,
It is a seasonal journal published first in Sanaa in September, 1984. As it lacked support and facilities, it was closed in May, 1990.

Ahlam Al-Mutawakil,
Yemen Times

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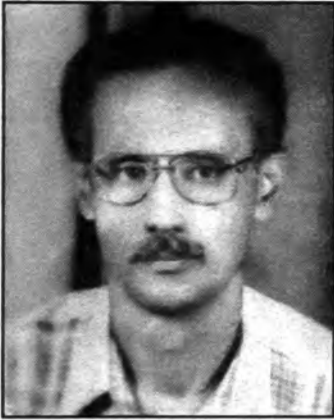
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The Violin Comes to Yemen



Phone Records
Company in 1939.

The Violin & the Revivalist Movement:

During the last 1940s and the early 1950s, a new era for music began to dawn in Aden. The availability of all kinds of musical instruments in the local market enabled many young people to teach themselves to play musical instruments, especially the violin.

The Adeni Music League, led by Khalil M. Khalil, the pioneer of the Adeni song, was established at that time. The League had four violin players, in addition to musicians playing the lute, tam-

The Coming of the Violin to Yemen

In the late 1930s, during his revival of the Lahji folklore song, Ahmed Fadhil Al-Qomandan brought the violin as well as the lute from Egypt to Yemen.

A. Lahji:

In 1939, Fadhil Mohammed Al-Lahji, the most famous lute player then, established the first band in Yemen equipped with a lute, a violin, a tambourine and an earthenware hand-drum. The band accompanied the singer Mosa'ad Al-Lahji when he recorded Al-Qomandan's first works for Al-Taj Al-Adani Gramophones Company. Fadhil Al-Lahji also performed the song "Ya Laile Al-Noor" (O beautiful night).

B. Hadhramaut:

Mohammed Joma'ah Khan, the pioneer of the Hadhrami song, also established another band equipped with a lute, a violin, a tambourine, and a hand-drum. With this band, Khan recorded some of his songs for the Ja'afar-



was five. The band presented Qassem's works at the Al-Baroodi theater in Aden.

After that, Mohammed Morshid Naji also established his own band, which comprised eight violin players in addition to the guitar, flute, samsameiah (a traditional Yemeni musical instrument), and a bass. They also employed the primer rhythm by using the tambourine and the hand-drum. This was the first Yemeni band with such a large number of musicians.

Violin and the Sana'ani Song:

The Yemeni singer Mohammed Sa'ad Abdullah was the first to employ the violin in performing the Sana'ani song. As he used to sing in many social events, he found that it would be a new experience if some violin players joined him. Although the Sana'ani song went with the traditional musical instruments like the lute and the tambourine, it appeared in a nice harmony with the sound of violin.

bourine, and hand-drum. From then on, the violin began to be used as a main instrument by many bands in Yemen.

The Next Step:

In the early 1960s, Ahmed Qassem, inspired by the Arab Music Band, established his own band. It consisted of 12 players led by the famous Yemeni singer Mohammed Abduh Zaidi. The number of violins the band used

Balfaqih, Mohammed Abdu and the Sana'ani song:

In 1972, Mohammed Abdu, the great Arab singer of today, was just starting. His nice voice, the new music arrangement and his wonderful artistic touches made the Sana'ani song popular all over the Arab world. Before that, nobody knew about the Yemeni musical compositions and

rhythms. Arab music bands always tried to avoid playing the Yemeni compositions because they did not know its suitable keys and rhythms. And it went on like this until Dr. Abdulrabb Idris showed its rhythm to be 10/8.

Mohammed Abdu started and Abu Bakr Salim Balfaqih continued the process. Representing many traditional Sana'ani songs in a new suit, he inserted the sounds of the violin and other new musical instruments. The Sana'ani songs "Wa Mogharred" (O singing bird) and "Rasooli Qoom" (go my messenger) found big success around the Arab world.

Thus, we see that the violin contributed to the fast popularity of the Sana'ani song.

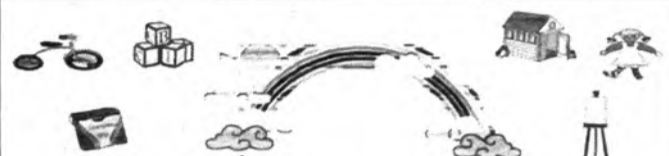
In 1973, the Ministry of Culture opened the first institute for arts

and music in Yemen. At the hands of Soviet and Egyptian professors, many Yemeni students received diplomas in playing the violin, cello, and other musical instruments. Others went to the Soviet Union and Germany for higher studies.

In 1983, a new musical band was established equipped with 6 first violins, 6 second violins, 2 cellos, 2 basses, drums and hand-drums, a lute, and a zither. With a new harmony and a classic musical arrangement, the band played Ahmed Fathi's "Awdat Balquis" (the return of Balquis). One of the good things about it is that the team, for the first time, used a formal musical note on playing this operetta.

By Saleh Abdulbaqi,
Arts Editor
Yemen Times





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The Charge de'afair of the Embassy

Dr. Sawitzki, Head of GTZ Office-Sanaa
Mr. E. Wolf, Team Leader GTZ-NWSA
Mr. W. Eikel,
Mr. T. Schick

on the occasion of National Day of Federal Republic of Germany



Flood Victims Leave Shelters
All the flood shelters in Bangladesh, opened for thousands of marooned people, are expected to be vacated soon as the situation has returned to normal. The number of people staying in the shelters is also very small now. An official statement of the Ministry said over 1 million people had taken refuge at 2,716 flood shelters established by the government during the longest-lasting flood in the country which affected over 3 million people in 366 sub-districts of 52 districts. The situation in 47 districts has become normal and Dhaka, Narayanganj, Brahmanbaria, Noakhali and Laxmipur districts are expected to be totally free from water within a couple of days, the statement said. Official figures showed that 918 people were killed in drowning, snake bite and electrocution during the floods. A diarrhoeal death toll of over 400 so far was not, however, included in the figure.

Mock Attacks Near Afghan Border
Iranian forces last week staged mock attacks close to the border with Afghanistan in preparation for war games involving 200,000 troops. But there was no word on the start of the Zolfaqar-2 maneuvers, which Iran said on last Saturday would begin "within seven days." State television showed shelling of an imaginary enemy by heavy artillery and tanks while helicopters fired rockets and waves of troops dashed across a dusty plain in Iran's eastern region. The television said the first coordinated joint practice of armor, commandos and army aviation units was held in an area covering 50,000sq km close to the border. It included an anti-chemical warfare operation. Tension is high between Iran and the Taliban movement which

controls most of Afghanistan over last month's killing of Iranian diplomats and a journalist by Taliban fighters during the capture of a northern opposition stronghold.

Delhi Fails to Curb Fake Doctors
The Bharatiya Janata Party-led Delhi State Government, which had given repeated assurances it would enact the Delhi Quackery Prohibition Bill 1997, to ban illegal medical practice by unqualified doctors in the Indian capital, has failed to keep its promise even at the last sitting of the State Legislative Assembly on Wednesday. Although no official statistics are available, it is widely believed that over 30,000 unqualified doctors are practicing in Delhi. Hundreds of Delhi citizens, especially those in slum areas, become victims of such medical practitioners. Stringent action is seldom taken against such people causing harm to patients.

Israeli Arab Clashes Spread to Nazareth
A surge of unrest among Arabs in Israel spread to the historic city of Nazareth on Wednesday after the apparent failure of an attempt by Israeli President Ezer Weizman to ease tensions. Weizman had earlier visited the northern town of Umm Al-Fahem, where disturbances began on Sunday over land confiscation, but residents said clashes with security forces had continued into the night for the third consecutive day. A municipal spokesman in Nazareth, sacred to Christians as the place where Jesus grew up and Israel's largest Arab city, said protesters had pelted the local police station with stones and bottles after security forces raided two homes of a prominent local family. The spokesman, Ramzi Hakim, said police responded with tear gas. Hakim said Nazareth's Arab

mayor Ramez Jarayseh had also staged a sit-in demonstration inside the police station for several hours until police allowed him to leave with 13 people they had detained in the raids. This week's violence has been the worst in more than 20 years involving Israeli Arabs, who make up nearly one million of Israel's population of almost six million and complain of deep discrimination.

R.J. Privatization
The Jordanian government gave Royal Jordanian Airlines (RJ) the go-ahead to finalize agreements with two European firms setting it en route to its final destination - the international market to sell off a major stake of the indebted airliner to a strategic partner. Banque Paribas and Clifford Chance, working in tandem, will evaluate the airline's assets, restructure the balance sheet, recommend ways to handle the company's JD700 million debt, set up a debt-free subsidiary and eventually sell up to 60% of the new entity to a foreign partner. After reviewing the agreements, initialed last month, the Higher Ministerial Committee for the Privatization of RJ authorized the head of the Prime Ministry's Executive Privatization Unit and RJ board member Adel Qudah to sign a 36-month, \$1.2 million deal with Paribas and a 10-month \$925,000 agreement with the British law firm of Clifford Chance, officials said.

Rushdie Deal: Credit to Khatami
The agreement between Britain and Iran over Salman Rushdie represents a triumph for moderate President Mohammed Khatami in his struggle with diehard veterans of the Islamic revolution for the soul of Iran. But conservatives opposed to Khatami's policy of openness to the West could yet attempt to

sabotage the deal announced in a statement issued by Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi in New York on Thursday. In a landmark exchange with his British counterpart Robin Cook on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly, Kharrazi stated Iran's formal assurance that it would not seek to kill the British writer, who has lived under an Iranian death threat for alleged blasphemy against Islam for almost a decade. Iran had tried to reassure Britain previously by saying it would not send agents to carry out the death sentence issued in a fatwa (religious decree) by the spiritual leader of Iran's Islamic revolution, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, shortly before his death in 1989. The fatwa was retribution for Rushdie's novel *The Satanic Verses*, which blasphemed against Islam. A wealthy Iranian foundation not directly linked to the government put a \$2 million bounty, increased last year to \$2.5 million, on Rushdie's head. Islamic scholars said the fatwa could only be rescinded by the person who decreed it and, since he was dead, the death order would stand forever.

Libya Sidelined
The Arab League meeting in Cairo concluded on 17 September leaving Libyan delegates sorely disappointed at the lack of Arab support for their position on the Lockerbie issue. At the conclusion of the meeting there was only a 15-minute press conference featuring chairman of the Council of Arab Foreign Ministers, Syrian Farouk Al-Sharaa and League General Secretary Esmat Abdulmajid. The two talked mostly about the dangers of Turkish-Israeli military cooperation and sidestepped or ignored questions about Libya and the Palestinians. While one delegate asserted that

VACANCY

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is looking for candidates for the position of:

Interpreter/Translator and Political Assistant

Candidates should be available immediately and have the following qualifications:

- MSc or equivalent degree in English, Political Science or other relevant subjects
- Fluent in Arabic and in English (speaking and writing)
- Good knowledge and understanding of political environment in Yemen
- Capable of working with Windows 3.1 and WordPerfect 5.2

And have preferred experience in (part of) the following areas:

- Direct interpretation of Arabic/English conversation
- Translation of documents
- Daily summarizing of main headlines of local press and maintaining clipping files
- Analyzing relevant political information and producing specific issue overviews

Proven affinity in a similar job will be considered an advantage.

Interested individuals are encouraged to apply by submitting a brief statement in English describing their interest in this position, together with a recent copy of the curriculum vitae, a photo, and names and addresses of two references. Applications may be sent to the Embassy in person or by mail only, within 7 days after publication of this vacancy announcement, to the attention of:

**Royal Netherlands Embassy
Hadda Road, P. O. Box 463
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there were more than 40 resolutions, the press office of the League said that only two were distributed to the press, one condemning the Turkish-Israeli military cooperation, and another on the Libyan issue.

Red Cross Active in Uganda
The ICRC has completed distribution of 141 tones of seed (groundnuts) to some 212,000 people in northern Uganda: 94,000 people displaced near Gulu and 118,000 displaced in the Kitgum area. The final round of distributions, completed in middle of September, was held at the very end of the planting season. The ICRC's aim is to make people forced to flee the conflict in northern Uganda less dependent on humanitarian aid. ICRC operations in Uganda focus on helping the displaced, visiting detainees and aiding people wounded by the fighting. The ICRC has been working in Uganda since the 1970s. It currently has 22 expatriate personnel in the country and 123 locally recruited staff.

Orbit Orbit Orbit Orbit

America Plus

Mon, 05 October
1710 ER
1800 The New Adventures Of Superman
1900 Highlander The Series:
2000 Moesha
2200 *Homicide: Life on the street*

Homicide: Life on the street
Mon 5 1900
When a twenty-something woman is found apparently strangled in the park, Ballard & Gharty think the motive is a sex crime or robbery. After searching the scene, they realize not only is the woman wearing her jewelry & her purse & wallet are all intact, but her make-up is hardly smudged & there is no evident trauma to the body. Lt. Giardello meets with detective Lewis & begins to piece the Mahoney puzzle together.

Tue, 06 October
1900 The New Adventures of Robin Hood
2000 Chicago Sons
2030 It's a Man's World

Wed, 07 October
1800 The New Adventures Of Superman
1900 FX The Series:
2000 Pearl
2030 Martin

Thu, 08 October
1530 Kung Fu
1620 Hangin' with Mr Cooper
2000 Friends

Fri, 09 October
1800 Bless This House
1830 Camp Wilder
1900 Due South
2000 Union Square

Sat, 10 October
1300 Sunset Beach
1350 Beverly Hills 90210
1440 Moesha

Sun, 11 October
1800 The New Adventures Of Superman
1900 Babylon 5
2000 Family Matters
2030 Murphy Brown

Hollywood

Mon, 05 October,
0930 Crook & Chase
1430 Uncut Halle Berry
2200 M&S

Tue, 06 October,
1300 Sunshine Cuisine
1530 Mysteries and Scandals
1600 Travel America
2130 True Hollywood Stories Janis Joplin

Wed, 07 October,
1430 Uncut George Clooney
1500 E! Gossip Show Daily
1730 Flare TV

Thu, 08 October,
1500 E! In Focus
1330 Mysteries & Scandals
2000 Pictionary
2030 Judge Judy

Fri, 09 October,
1630 Uncut
1700 Videofashion
1730 Arts & Minds
1800 The Price is Right

Sat, 10 October,
2030 Judge Judy
2100 Celebrity Profiles
2200 E! News Week In Review

Sun, 11 October,
1730 Ooh La La
1800 The Price is Right
1900 Jeopardy
1930 Wheel of Fortune

Orbit Orbit News

Mon, 05 October,
2100 ABC 20/20
2200 CBS 60 Minutes
2300 NBC Dateline

Tue, 06 October,
2000 NBC Dateline
2100 CBS 48 Hours
2200 ABC Nightline

Wed, 07 October,
1800 ABC Good Morning America
2000 NBC Dateline
2100 ABC 20/20
2200 ABC Nightline

October 10, 1998
1540 Ducktales
1365 Darkwing Duck
1900 Boy Meets World
1930 Torkelsons

Thu, 08 October,
2200 ABC Nightline
2230 CBS: Public Eye w/B. Gumbel
2330 NBC Dateline

Fri, 09 October,
1800 ABC Good Morning America
2000 ABC News Thursday Night
2100 CBS 48 Hours
2200 ABC Nightline

Sat, 10 October,
1300 ABC 20/20
1800 CBS 48 Hours
2200 ABC Nightline

Sun, 11 October,
1730 CBS Face the Nation Live
1800 ABC Good Morning America
1900 Wall Street Week
1930 CBS Face the Nation

The Disney

October 5, 1998
1400 Gummi Bears
1540 Ducktales
1605 Darkwing Duck
2000 Movie - Treasure Island

October 6, 1998
1515 Goof Troop
1700 Aladdin
1730 Gargoyles
1800 Bill Nye the Science Guy

October 7, 1998
1200 Movie - I-Man
1450 Chip Dale Rescue Rangers
1800 Bill Nye the Science Guy
2000 Movie - TRON

October 8, 1998
1300 Movie - 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
1630 Gummi Bears
2300 Torkelsons

October 9, 1998
1300 Movie - Honey I Shrank the Kids
1430 Mickey Mouse & Friends
1700 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh
2000 Movie - Ernest Green Story

October 10, 1998
1540 Ducktales
1365 Darkwing Duck
1900 Boy Meets World
1930 Torkelsons

October 11, 1998
1200 Movie - Spooner
1515 Goof Troop
1540 Ducktales
1730 Gargoyles

Music Now

Mon, 05 October,
1500 Cosmix
1900 MEditerraneE
2100 Awtar

Tue, 06 October,
1500 Cosmix
1700 Dandana
2300 Music Now Jukebox

Wed, 07 October,
1100 "360" Degrees George Michael

FUN Channel

Mon, 05 October
1210 Barney
1440 Beetlejuice
1505 Roadrunner Show

Tue, 06 October
1235 Rimba's Islands
1300 Flinstones Comedy Show
1710 Superman Animated

Wed, 07 October
0940 Underdog
1005 Chip & Charlie
1325 Richie Rich
1050 MOT

Thu, 08 October
0825 Sylvester & Tweety
1145 Peter Rabbit & Friends
1415 Dumb & Dumber
2100 Love Boat

Fri, 09 October
1005 Alf Tales
1120 Rupert
1440 Beetlejuice

Sat, 10 October
1005 Chip & Charlie
1210 Barney
1410 Superman Animated
1940 Anti-Gravity Room

Sun, 11 October
1055 Ra'ad al Ou'mlak
1210 Barney
1505 Roadrunner Show
1530 Cattanooga Cats

Orbit ESPN Sports

Mon, 05 October
1330 NFL Yearbook
1400 NFL Football Oakland Raiders at Arizona Cardinals
1700 NFL SportsCenter

Tue, 06 October
1700 UEFA Champions Teams Tba
1900 Sportcenter
2000 ESPN ews Day

Wed, 07 October
1300 World Football Report
1500 MLS Conf. Semifinals Game # 2
1700 UEFA Champions Teams Tba
1900 Sportcenter

Thu, 08 October
1500 UEFA Champions League Highlights
1600 Boxing Superbouts
1700 MLS Conference Semifinals Game 3

Fri, 09 October
1730 World of Rugby
1800 Racing to the Breeder's Cup
1900 Sportcenter

Sat, 10 October
1800 Motorsport Asia
2000 Australian Basketball USA v Australia
2130 Euro 2000 Qualif. Northern Ireland Finland Live on air 1825

Sun, 11 October
1700 SportsCenter
1800 Brazilian National Football
2000 Euro 2000 Qualif. Portugal Romania Live on air 1655
2200 NFL Yearbook

Super Movies

Mon, 05 October
1700 The Hunchback Of Notre Dame - 2V
2030 E! Behind the Scenes
2100 Crisscross

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didates, which is an indirect vote. In order to ensure that tiny splinter parties cannot be represented in parliament, there is a requirement that the parties must poll at least 5% of all votes in the 16 states to qualify for admission. Candidates contesting constituency seats are nominated in a secret ballot by party members or their delegates.

The German Bundestag elects the Federal Chancellor and is thus involved in the process of forming the government. Together with the Bundesrat (Federal Council), which represents the federal states, the Bundestag enacts the country's laws. Members of the Bundesrat are members of the governments of their respective states and therefore bound by their instructions.

Article 38 of the Basic Law says that members of the Bundestag are not bound by instructions and are responsible to their conscience only. When a member leaves the Bundestag, for example because he relinquishes his seat or dies, the next candidate on the state list of the party for which he was elected takes his place.

Federal Ministers are appointed and dismissed by the Federal President on the proposal of the Federal Chancellor. They may head a department of be without portfolio.

Major Contributions to EU

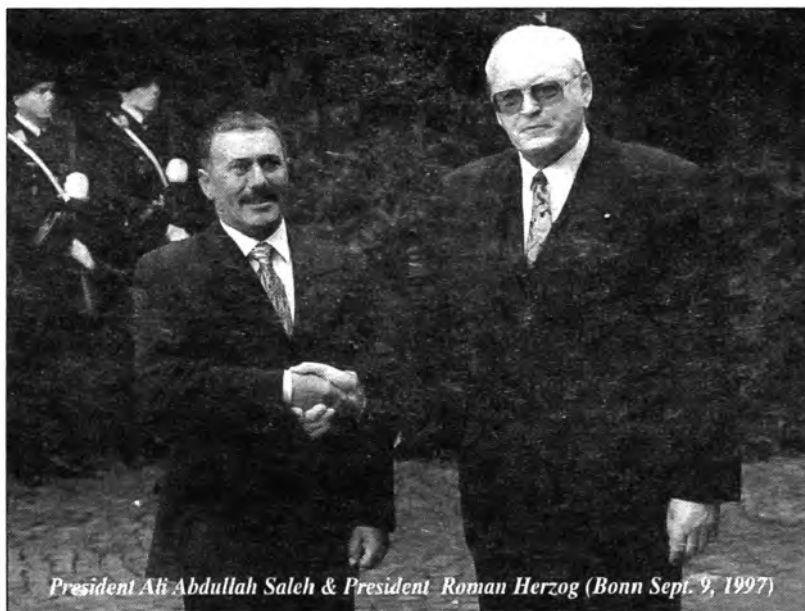
One of the central tasks of German foreign policy - besides further expanding the transatlantic partnership - is to strengthen and foster Europe's political unity. Over the last 12 months, the EU has marked important milestones on the path to European unity. The Treaty of Amsterdam was signed by EU foreign ministers on October 2, 1997. The first members of the Economic and Monetary Union in Brussels were named in early May of this year. The Treaty of Amsterdam cleared the way for Central and Eastern European nations to enter the EU. The institutional reforms that will be necessary for this enlargement have been initiated and will be implemented in stages. The treaty also substantially improve the EU's scope for internal and external action. On May 7 of this year, Germany became the first EU nation to deposit its ratification certificate for the Amsterdam Treaty in Rome. The stability pact and the independent European Central Bank which began operation in Frankfurt on June 1, 1998 serve as the most important instrument for ensuring the stability of Europe's common currency - the Euro.

Active UN Member

During its 25 years as a member of the United Nations, Federal Republic of Germany has been involved in all areas of UN activity as one of its most important members - alongside the GDR from 1973 to 1990 and as one state since German reunification. However, even before it became a full member of the UN, Germany was active in virtually all UN bodies in which it could take part without being a UN member. In November 1949, the newly founded Federal Republic was granted the right to participate in international organizations.

In the years since reunification, Germany has intensified its efforts in the UN and its international organizations, in keeping with its increased international weight and growing responsibility. This is also evidenced by its strong, multi-faceted participation in UN peace missions and particularly by its large contribution to the UN budget. With 9.6% share, Germany is the third largest contributor to the UN today.

Germany exercises a considerable influence within the UN as a member of the EU. Germany's interest in a per-



President Ali Abdullah Saleh & President Roman Herzog (Bonn Sept. 9, 1997)

manent seat on the Security Council is an expression of its desire to play a role in central political UN decisions that is commensurate with the level of its involvement in the organization.

Great Economic Power

German foreign trade continued its upward swing last year. Germany maintained its number 2 position in world trade - behind the US and ahead of Japan. Data on German foreign trade in 1997 show that the Federal Republic's trade turnover increased by 11.7% over the previous year. Germany's positive trade balance rose in 1997 to DM 121.8 billion (a rise of DM 23.3 billion over the previous year). It is the highest in eight years. The export surplus thus returned to three-digit billions for the first time since German reunification. The surplus was accounted for chiefly by trade with the EU countries (DM 81.6 billion), the developing countries (DM 26.4 billion), US and Canada (DM 19.6 billion) and the middle and eastern European countries (DM 15 billion).

Working for World Development

Funding commitments totaling nearly DM 7.7 billion have been included in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development's draft budget for the coming year - 1999. It is approximately the same amount appropriated for this year. The ministry is planning funding commitments totaling DM 3.3 billion for bilateral technical and financial cooperation next year. Mitigating the conditions that induce people to emigrate to flee is also an important concern of cooperation activities with the Mediterranean and Middle East regions. Some DM 597 million is being allocated for this purpose. By providing these funds, the German government also wants to help keep the Middle East process going. Specialized development priorities focus on fostering economic activity, supporting population programs, protecting tropical rain forests and preserving the environment. Reducing poverty is the foremost cross-sectoral priority.

Berlin... Berlin!

Berlin is once again the capital of a united Germany. By the time the election of the next Federal President takes place in Berlin in May, 1999, everything should be ready for the seat of government to be transferred from Bonn to Berlin. Manfred Rettig, who is in charge of the Berlin move at the Construction Ministry, is confident that by the above date all ministers will be able to move into their new quarters in Berlin. Work on the Federal Chancellery is also well underway. Only members of the Bundestag will have to be a little patient. The political parties and their asso-

ciated foundations are looking for suitable Berlin premises for the coming year. In the heart of the city, an entirely new complex is to be built. It will provide 230 flats for embassies and associations as well as shops, restaurants, and a number of other buildings.

According to UN estimates, every year Berlin is the venue for 15,000 to 20,000 congresses, symposia, exhibitions, and direct business contacts. Over 50 national and international organizations, associations, and internationally operating banks and companies have a presence in Berlin. With its wide variety of nationally and internationally important cultural amenities, Berlin is one of the focuses for the promotion of German cultural life. In 1996 and 1997 alone, some

DM 432 million was allocated by the Federal Government for this purpose. About DM 415 million is being spent this year on rescuing old cultural relics.

Technology in the East

Eight years after unification, the eastern German federal states are developing more and more into host regions for the technologies of the future. In the summer of 1998, the region around the city of Jena, on the banks of the River Saale, unveiled a new image at "Bio '98" in New York. It is the world's most important venue for the biotechnologies of science and industry. The state of Saxony's capital city, Dresden, hosts German and American microchip plants serving computer technology. Eastern Germany already has a telecommunications network for the 21st century. This advantage will help attract more investors to this part of the country.

Against this background, people are setting up new businesses. New suppliers are coming into the market and creating competition.

The East Rediscovered

For decades, eastern Germany was a region practically shut off to western visitors. It was not until reunification the eastern German towns, cities and landscapes were reopened to people from the rest of the free world. Since then, tourism has become an economic factor of growing importance in the eastern states. A whole host of cultural and historic attractions can now be rediscovered.

Relations between Yemen and Germany go back to the 18th century when German travelers and orientalist visited the region. They contributed a lot to making Yemen known in Europe. The similarities between the reunification of each country can only enhance and strengthen their bonds.

Germany is currently a major provider of aid and assistance to Yemen. "We are very much interested in building Yemen's infrastructure," announced Dr. Helga von Strachwitz, the German Ambassador to Sanaa.

"In addition to our involvement in vocational training, health and education, we are also closely cooperating with the World Bank to save the historical city of Shibam from declining," she added.

Unity Day

German Unity Day (October 3) is commemorated every year with a major cel-



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

bration, alternating from state to state. This year it falls to the Lower Saxonian state capital - Hanover. As it happens, Hanover will also be the venue for the World Exposition in the year 2000. Gerhard Schröder, the state's Minister-President who is now the Federal Chancellor designate, will act as host to the unity anniversary festivities.

Germany was formally reunited in December, 1990, following the fall of the Berlin Wall and collapse of Communism in 1989.

Last year, the process of bringing living conditions in the five new federal states of eastern Germany in line with those in the original states of the Federal Republic once again made major progress.

Next year, the Federal Government and the Bundestag (parliament) will move from Bonn to Berlin, setting the seal on the reunification of Germany.

Empowering the People

"All state authority derives from the people. It shall be exercised by the people through elections and referendums and by separate legislative, executive and judicial bodies." [Article 20, Paragraph 2 of the Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany (the Constitution)].

Germany's electoral roll contains 60.5 million names. About 3.3 million (1.7 men and 1.6 women) of those voted for the first time in the 27 September general elections. On 27 September, as in every election, each person had two votes. One is cast for one of the candidates in his or her constituency which is, therefore, a direct vote. The other vote is for one of party list of can-



Dresden on the River Elbe

Elections for the 14th Bundestag

A total of 60.5 million Germans were called to cast their votes in the Bundestag elections on September 27. The participation was very high - 82.3% of the Germans entitled to vote cast their ballots.



Gerhard Schröder

Elections Results

	No. of first votes	% compared to number of second vote		% compared to the elections of 1994		
		1994 election	vote			
entitled to vote	60 710 333	-	0 710 333	-		
voters	49 946 094	-	49 946 094	-		
participation in elections	-	82,3	3,3	82,3		
invalid votes	787 624	1,6	645 639	1,3		
valid votes	49 158 470	98,4	49 300 455	98,7		
1 SPD	21 532 507	43,8	5,5	20 178 838	40,9	4,5
2 CDU	15 853 598	32,2	-5	14 004 907	28,4	-5,8
3 CSU	3 602 027	7,3	-0,5	3 324 325	6,7	-0,5
4 GRÜNE	2 446 911	4,97	-1,5	3 300 133	6,7	-0,6
5 F. D. P.	1 486 911	3	-0,3	3 080 661	6,2	-0,7
6 PDS	2 415 040	4,9	0,8	2 513 788	5,1	0,7

SPD = Social Democratic Party of Germany, CDU = Christian Democratic Union, CSU = Christian Social Union (Bavaria), Grüne = Green Party, FDP = Free Democratic Party, PDS = Party of Democratic Socialism.

About the Victor

Gerhard Schröder of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) was born in Mossenberg on April, 7, 1944. He studied law at Göttingen and worked as a solicitor in Hanover. He became the national chairman of the Young socialists during 1978-1980. Schröder was elected member of the Bundestag in 1980. In 1986, he became leader of opposition in the lower Saxony parliament, Hanover. Since 1990 and up to the victory of his party, Schröder was the Minister-President of Lower Saxony.

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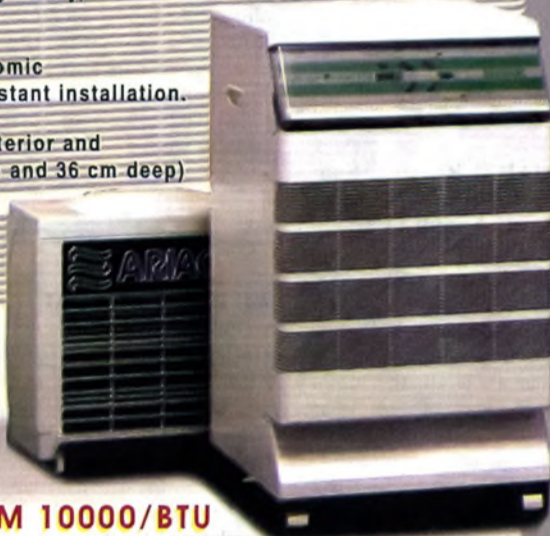
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Al-Nedari Brings ILDONG Pharmaceuticals to Yemen

Organized by the Yemeni Medical Charitable Society, a special exhibition for pharmaceuticals and medical appliances was held between 24 and 30 of September in Sanaa. It was launched by the Speaker of Parliament, Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmer. Several leading national and international pharmaceutical companies, including Al-Nedari Co. for Medicines and Medical Appliances, exhibited a large number of medicines produced by Ildong Pharmaceuticals Company of South Korea.

based in Seoul, South Korea. A giant manufacturer of medicines, Ildong has a worldwide reputation. Its high-quality products are marketed all over the globe.

What Ildong products are imported into Yemen by al-Nedari?

Dr. Al-Nedari said: "We have started distributing several top-quality medicines produced by Ildong in the Yemeni market. All these medicines are registered with the Medicines Supreme Corporation at the Ministry of Health. They are all of very good quality and quite effective in treating the illnesses for which they are intended. So much so, that Ildong pharmaceuticals are competing with top European brands of medicines, both in quality and cost."

"We at Al-Nedari do our

best to ensure that the Yemeni people get the best medicines in the world. Pharmaceuticals are just not like any other commodity. Extra care must be taken that they are of the highest quality, a thing we always ensure at Al-Nedari. Making profit is not our priority. The health and lives of the people who use our products are of utmost importance to Al-Nedari.

"Although Al-Nedari is a relative new-comer to the pharmaceuticals market in Yemen, we have been able to gain the trust and confidence of doctors, pharmacists and ordinary citizens. This is all due to the great efforts we made in this regard. Many Yemeni importers of pharmaceuticals are now looking towards South Korea as source of top-quality medicines."



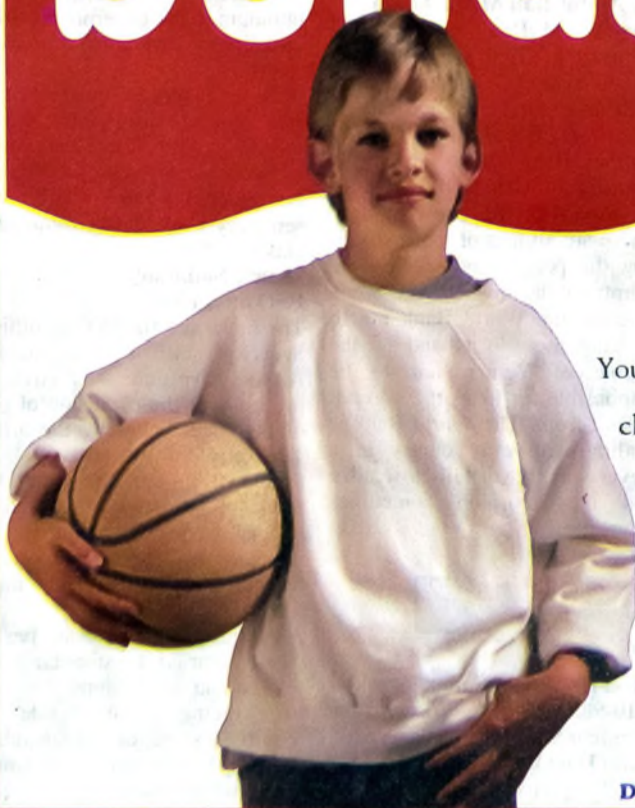
Dr. Abdulbasit Al-Nedari is the General Manager of AL-Nedari Co. for Medicines and Medical Appliances - the sole agent of Ildong in Yemen.

He had the following to say about Ildong and the recent exhibition:

"The Ildong Pharmaceuticals Company is a pioneering drug company



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Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Adel J. Moqbil



AL-WAHDAWI:

weekly, 29-9-98.

(People's Nasserite Unionist Organization)

Main Headlines:

1- Opposition Coordination Council holds the government responsible for lack of security and economic decline.

2- Despite tip-offs to the security apparatus, 3 bombs went off in Zanzibar, Abyan, during the Revolution anniversary celebrations.

3- Sanaa University works on rectifying the irregularities in its student admission policy.

4- Due to American pressure, Yasser Arafat abandons his intention to declare a Palestinian state.

Article Summary:

Bloody Tribal Conflict

A dispute between the Murad and Al-Tohaif tribes over a 400sq.km piece of land in Mareb left 18 people dead and 26 wounded. Fighting with light and heavy weapons lasted from 4pm last Thursday, September 24, to 5am the following day. The Murad tribe was able to occupy some positions previously held by Tohaif.

Thanks to efforts by the prominent Sheikh, Mujahid Abu Shwarib, fighting stopped and a 6-month cease-fire agreement was signed. Prisoners and the wounded were later exchanged.

Sanaa

AL-SHOURAH: Sanaa weekly, 27-9-98.

(Federation of Popular Forces)

Main Headlines:

1- Bomb explosions and tribal wars are on the rise.

2- Opposition Coordination Council condemns the assault by security forces on the Badr Scholastic Center in Sanaa and the arrest of its director, Murtadhah Al-Mohatwari.

3- Amnesty International representative: "Yemen refuses to abolish the punishments of flogging, amputation and execution."

4- US Embassy official, Ms Angela Dicky held a meeting with the Yemeni Organization for Defending Human Rights and Democratic Liberties.

5- The Bani Matar and Bani Haima tribes refuse government intermediation efforts to stop their 3-month-old war, which led to 7 people dead and more than 15 wounded. Both tribes are still buying and stocking light and medium-weight armor.

6- Some 180 MPs demand that two cars be allocated to each MP, the same as government ministers.

7- Ministry of Fisheries office in Hadhramaut lost \$1 million because a government official intermediated to let the owners of two foreign trawlers, caught

fishing illegally in Yemen's territorial waters, off the hook. They were going to be fined the above sum.

Article Summary:

Air-conditioners Retrieved

A dispute over the ownership of 20 air-conditioners erupted between the management of the Olufi Hospital in Hodeida and the Chinese medical team who used to work there. Diplomatic intervention led to the Ministry of Health ordering the hospital to hand over the machines to the Chinese, who proved their ownership.

On their part, the Russian medical team left the hospital and went back to Sanaa in protest over the management's refusal to install air-conditioners in their rooms.



AL-TAREEQ: Aden weekly, 29-9-98.

(Independent)

Main Headlines:

1- Political parties and prominent national figures strongly condemn the stabbing to death by a 30-year-old man of Sheikh Abdulqader Al-Hibshi, 80, Imam of the Ba-Alawi mosque, Seiou. Sectarian motives were cited.

2- The President inaugurates water and electricity projects in Hadhramaut.

3- Socialist Party Politburo member, Jarallah Omar: "The

(1994) war has led Yemen into a dark tunnel."

4- Aden municipality is to register and give number plates to the carts of street vendors.

5- A security officer in Taiz shot dead a man after taking over his plot of land and starting construction work on it.

Article Summary:

Firing at President's Cup

While a football match was in progress at a stadium in Ataq, Shabwa, part of the President's Cup, a Central Security soldier started firing his weapon. The cause was a scuffle with one of the spectators. Other soldiers also started firing in the air, while a truck-mounted machine gun was also fired inside the stadium.

A stampede ensued by frightened spectators, who either fled the place or fell to the ground in fear for their lives. The firing lasted for 5 minutes.



AL-JAMAHEER: Sanaa weekly, 1-10-98.

(Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party)

Main Headlines:

1- Financial irregularities worth millions of riyals were uncovered at the Immigration and Passport Authority. It was found in some cases, that 99% of the money received by way of fees is not entered into the Authority's accounts.

2- Prices of vegetables and basic commodities rise in Haradh, on the Saudi border; while, petrol disappears altogether.

3- Rabies becomes prevalent in Ahwar, Abyan. Affected people cannot afford the YR 15,000 medication.

4- A student at the Hayel Saeed Secondary School beat up his teacher.

Article Summary:

Judicial Violations

Violations in the judicial system include the following:

- Several bodies are putting people in prisons.

- Prisoners are kept incarcerated despite completing their sentence.

- Ministry of Interior officials detain people without referring to the prosecutor's office.

- Sentences for theft, adultery, and alcohol drinking are not carried out.

- Laxity is witnessed in carrying out some sentences.

- People are detained without charge for longer than the legal period.

- Court procedures are very slow.

- Court officials are not punished if they neglect their duties.

- Some judges put people in prison without conducting the proper legal procedures.



AL-WAHDA: Sanaa weekly, 30-9-98.

(Official)

Main Headlines:

1- Inaugurating several public service projects in Hadhramaut, the President says: "We do not have any other task but to provide people with services that raise their living standards. The electricity project is one of the fruits of cooperation with friends and brothers."

2- In a letter to the government, the President stresses that no public employees should be expelled from office because of their partisan allegiances.

3- Papers and discussion at the oil and gas conference centered on investment opportunities in

Yemen.

4- Head of Parliament's Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee: "Local administration is a qualitative democratic move."

5- A new production line at the Amran Cement factory raises its production capacity to one million tonne.

Article Summary:

Scandalous Report

By Abdullah A. Al-Kibsi

The report submitted to parliament by the Central Organization for Control and Audit (COCA), documenting gross financial irregularities and administrative mismanagement, is the first of its kind. It has indicated that corruption is widespread in many public service ministries.

The report has shown the danger of not allowing parliament and other monitoring bodies to exercise their full duties. COCA should be allowed to follow-up all the cases it refers to the courts. The report also proves that there are in Yemen many honest and diligent people who wish to serve their country well.



AL-RAY AL-AAM: Sanaa weekly, 29-9-98.

(Independent)

Main Headlines:

1- Celebrations of the great Yemeni Revolution take place all over the country.

2- The President inaugurates major projects in Hadhramaut worth tens of billions of riyals.

3- Security forces broke into Al-Badr Scholastic Center in Sanaa, kicked the seminaries out, arrested its director and hung a banner saying, 'this center is closed because it is against the Republic and calls for the return of the monarchy.'

4- Ministry of Trade and Supplies destroyed 7,500 tons of rotten flour seized at the Port of Hodeida.

5- Aden citizens demand the swift trial and punishment of the three men who sodomized and killed the child Mazin Qahatan during the Holy Month of Ramadhan.

6- An agreement is reached by the Ministry of Information and the British Council to train Yemeni journalists in Britain.

7- Gross negligence at Al-Jomhourya Hospital led to the death of a man after being administered expired medicines.

Article Summary:

A Scorpion Stinging Itself

By Abdul-Ilah M. Al-Aqam

The World Bank provided the Ministry of Civil Service a loan of \$80 million to conduct a comprehensive public service survey. The survey failed miserably. The World Bank also gave the Ministry of Health 125 4-wheel drive cars of the latest models. These are all part of loans shackling the people and leading the country to the abyss.

I advise the World Bank not to give any more loans, and ask the people of Yemen not to be responsible for loans they do not benefit from. The World Bank is dealing with our country in a clever way, but it fails to realize that the 'scorpion sometimes stings itself.'



AL-THAWRI: Sanaa weekly, 1-10-98.

(Yemeni Socialist Party - YSP)

Main Headlines:

1- YSP prepares to hold its 4th

congress.

2- YSP Politburo member, Mohammed Ghalib Ahmed: "The ruling authority deal with our party as if it's banned."

3- Government procrastination is behind the continuing tribal wars in Mareb.

4- Bomb blasts continue in Abyan.

5- Some 36,000 tons of dangerous chemical waste are produced by factories and hospitals every year in Yemen. What is safely destroyed is just about half of the amount produced.

6- Despite celebrating the revolution's anniversary, the families of 553 revolutionary veterans are excluded from the lists of people receiving monthly financial assistance.

Article Summary:

"Sultans" are Back

A number of "Sultans," who were defeated on November 30, 1967, have kicked out more than 100 farmers from their lands in Abyan. The expelled farmers gathered outside the police station with their title deeds, which they held for the last 50 years. It was all to no avail.

Some of the confiscated land was given to high-ranking military and government officials in the governorate, who took part in carrying out the eviction. This has taken place despite explicit orders by the Council of Minister and the President to allow the farmers to keep their lands. The "Sultans" are supposed to receive only the lands that were under their control before nationalization.



AL-AYYAM: Aden bi-weekly, 4-10-98.

(Independent)

Main Headlines:

1- A bomb blast destroyed an electricity pylon holding the Taiz-Aden power line. Another explosive charge found at the same site was de-fused by the police.

2- An Iraqi Shiite working for an international agency in Sanaa was arrested for intending to publish a book deemed to be fomenting sectarian hatred.

3- Prime Minister Al-Iryani visits Aden to inaugurate several new projects.

4- Ministry of Religious Guidance and Endowments asks the security organ to protect the life of the director of the Badr Scholastic Center, Al-Mohatwari, who is detained for allegedly being monarchist.

5- Parliament is to submit a memorandum to the government citing violations committed by some ministers.

6- Security forces closed an Islah-run scholastic institute in Dhamar following a break-in by an armed group of youths, who fired on the building's walls while the seminary student where attended classes.

Article Summary:

PSO on Strike

The ranks and file of the Political Security staff at the Seiou Airport have gone on a strike in protest over the expulsion of two of their colleagues by the army. The cause of the strike is also attributed to the duality in the task of searching passenger baggage and guarding the premises. Both army and security personnel are assigned these tasks.

A security officer was beaten when he tried to stop an army officer and an Ethiopia national from taking photos inside the airport. Instead of reprimanding the army officer, the security man was expelled from work.

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Ahli Defeats Wahda & Wins Tourism Cup

In a thrilling match attended by Minister of Youth and Sports Dr. Abdulwahab Raweh and Minister of Culture and Tourism Abdulmalik Mansour and a large crowd, Ahli Sanaa defeated Wehdat Sanaa 1/0.

The winning goal was scored by Ahmad Alsunaider in the 30th minute of the second half. That was followed by continued offensives by Wehdat Sanaa but to no avail.

Wehdat Sanaa is currently warming up for the October 9th match against Alhilal of Saudi Arabia here in Sanaa within the qualifying matches of Asian soccer league cup winners.



ABYAN :

Table Tennis:

The Table Tennis Tournament in Abyan was concluded last Thursday. The final match grouped Khanfar vs. Hassan and it ended 3/0 for the first team.

The Khanfar team included Rashad Mohammed Nasser, Shukry Ali Ahmed and Ali Bakr Mubarak while the Hassan team grouped Saeed Mohammed Farhan, Jalal Alshafei and Ahmad Bashadi.

The referees were Zaki Mohsen, Mahfouth Ali, Khaled Albadeel and Ahmad Mahdi

Football:

The Abyan soccer league second division last Thursday witnessed a hot match grouping, Alderjah vs. Alhilal, which concluded with a 3/1 win for the first team. Alderjah started the game with strong offensives and controlled the first half despite Alhilal's attempts to counterattack but the first half time ended in a goalless draw.

Alderjah again started the second half with strong offensives that succeeded in scoring a goal by Akram Awad in the 4th minute. Scorer Jalal Haidera netted another goal in the 9th minute only to be followed by the third by Bassam Salem in the 29th minute. Two minutes later and despite desperate attempts by Alhilal to score, Jawad Muqad netted the losing team's only goal thus ending the match 3/1.

TAIZ:

Football:

Last Wednesday, the second football league division in Taiz opened with Ahli Taiz scoring a 2/0 win over Alsherrouq netted by Jamal Mohammed Ali and Hamza Ahmad, thus grabbing the first three points in the tournament.

Basketball :

The second basketball league division began in Taiz last Friday grouping the four teams of Taliya, Saqer, Seha and Rashid.

Sports Activities in Various Governorates

HADHRAMAUT :

Athletics :

Hadramout's Athletics Technical Committee for youths (under 17 years) organized a number of track and field games in various races, high and long jump, disc and javelin throw.

Teams from Wehda, Sayoun, Ittihad and Taliya clubs took part with Ittihad winning five championships, Wehda two and Sayoun and Taliya one each.

HODEIDA:

Football:

Hilal Alhodeida last Thursday trounced Alrashid from Taiz 4/1 thus qualifying for a strong match against champions Wehdat Sanaa next Monday in Sanaa. The match comes within the President's Cup Soccer Tournament organized by the Yemeni football federation in cooperation with a number of commercial companies on the occasion of the country's celebrations of the revolution festivities.

IBB

Karate :

A new branch for the karate Federation was elected in Ebb governorate last Wednesday in the presence of Director of the Youth and Sports Bureau Ali Alhobeishi and representatives of Alshaab, Alittihad, Shabab Jibla and Alfajr clubs. The results were as follows:

Sheikh Ameen Abdulwahed	chairman
Waleed Mohammed Alsalama	deputy chairman
Fawzi Mohammed Aldeify	assistant secretary
Mohammed Ali Alibby	secretary
Nabil Dammaj	technical official
Ali Dammaj	financial official

Football:

The second football league division in Ebb witnessed two matches last Wednesday, the first grouped Dhafar Alsadda vs. Alshaer and ended 5/0 for Dhafar while the second ended in Alkarama scoring a 2/0 win over Sayyan.

National Basketball Team Honoured for Winning Bronze

Minister of Youth and Sports, Dr. Abdulwahab Raweh last Thursday honoured members of the national basketball team who won the bronze medals of the West Asia Championship for Youths that was held in Beirut in the period 20-26 September 1998 for the first time in history of the game in Yemen . The minister donated a bonus of 200,000 Riyals for stars of the

team and thanked them for their achievements. He announced that a Chinese coach was on his way to Yemen to train the national team.

Dr. Raweh said that construction of the indoor sports hall will commence next year and that a number of sports items were purchased from Dubai to the tune of 10 million Yemeni rials.

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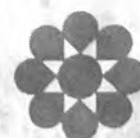
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YCTA Grand Raffle Gala

The Yemen Club for Touring & Automobile (YCTA), a member of the Universal Group of Companies hosted a grand raffle gala for its members holding The Club Card, on September 29, 1998 at the Holiday Restaurant at 7pm. Most of the members and the VIP invitees gathered on time in the garden

restaurant. A pleasant atmosphere with flowers, greenery and lights enchanted the place with a warm reception of the Club staff



and Universal Managers.

The function started with a brief of club activities by Mr. Abdulbasit Al-Shaibani followed with a welcome speech by Mr. Omar Mohammed

Omar, the Vice President of the Club and Chairman of the Universal Group of Companies. Mr. Salai Sheikh Saleem, Business Development Executive of the Club welcomed the guests and explained the concept of The Club Card and future activities of the club.

A musical concert was performed by Yasser Al-Absi along with a light dinner served with the hospitality of the restaurant staff.

The raffle coupons were asked to

picked by some of the guests to ensure impartiality.

The prizes were as follows:

- 1- Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Nassar of Canadian Oxy won the first prize of return air ticket Sanaa - Amman - Sanaa by Royal Jordanian,
- 2- Mr. Talal Hussein Bin Mahdi from Seioum won the second prize of a return air ticket from Thai Airways, and
- 3- Mr. Anwar Abdulqawi Al-Sayyadi, a Yemen Times Staff won the third prize from American Airlines ticket for USA - Europe - USA.

Many other prizes like complementary hotel accommodation from Al-Mahweet Hotel, Bilquis Mareb Hotel and Al-Hawta Palace Hotel and clock radios from Philips were distributed.

The function ended with Mr. Saleem expressing his thanks for the guests and YCTA members.





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