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Breaking the Impunity of Security Officers Who Violate the Law

STANDING UP TO TORTURE



Sanaa City's Head Attorney
for interrogation.

This case had started on November 11th. Khaled Abdul-Bari Al-Qadhi, 34, was called in as a witness in a family dispute amongst neighbors. It was late in the day when he showed up at the Sanaa Criminal Investigations Office to give his testimony. At the end of the interrogation, he was told to stay behind.

Suddenly, two of the officers changed the subject. "Where are the sex video tapes?" they asked.

He was surprised - of the change of subject and the tone. Apparently, one of the people in the dispute was not happy with Khaled's testimony. He had whispered

into the ears of the officers that the witness had sex video tapes at home.

That proved to be a long night for Khaled. The two security officers - Hisham Al-Ghazali and Hameed Omar - worked on him for several hours. A third assistant was on stand-by.

They clobbered him savagely, until there were wounds seven centimeters wide and two centimeters deep on his feet. They clubbed his head and face. They applied electric shocks to the nerves of his finger knuckles leaving painful wounds. They hanged him upside down from the ceiling for a long



time. The next day, more torture was applied.

It was not until the 14th that Deputy Attorney Mansoor Al-Hashedi forced his release.

Al-Qadhi, from a tribal grouping in Al-Haima, contacted his tribesmen

who flocked in for his rescue. He himself works for the Military Maintenance of the armed forces. He also has relatives in the Sanaa attorney office and in the justice system.

Continues on page 5

To Sort Out Border Troubles: Prince Nayif Arrives Here

HRH Prince Nayif Ibn Abdulaziz, Minister of Interior of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, arrives in Yemen today, Monday, November 23rd on a short official visit. Yemen and Saudi Arabia have been overwhelmed by problems emanating from lack of adequate control over their joint border, that stretches for over 1700 kilometers.

Yemen complains that Saudi Arabia bankrolls the border chieftains and tribes, as well as sheikhs and other people within the country with the purpose of buying influence. Yemen

also alleges that Saudi Arabian allies and friends are undermining the Sanaa regime. Saudi Arabia complains that Yemen has become a major trans-shipment point for smuggling drugs and arms into Saudi Arabia. The two sides want better control over the flow across the border.

There have been many visits and letters exchanged between the leaders of the two countries. Unfortunately, there are no visible results. The roller-coaster relations continue to turn round and round.

New Arms for Better Control of Yemen's Borders

A Yemeni military delegation is presently in Warsaw to conclude a US\$ 50 million arms deal. Financed by a bilateral inter-government credit facility, the Yemenis will buy 600 military trucks and 12 patrol boats.

Although Yemen has been a regular client of Polish military hardware, this is the largest single deal. Moreover, the value of the deal could rise to US\$ 150 million, in a revolving facility that will extend to a few years.

This purchase will strengthen the border presence of the Yemeni armed forces. The multi-purpose trucks will add to the mobility of the army, while the boats will give our men better control over territorial waters.

Last Chance to Nominate your YT 1998 Person of the Year

This is the last opportunity to send your nominations for the Yemen Times 1998 Person of the Year Award.

The award is given to a Yemeni person (male or female) who has succeeded in life (family + career), and

who has made a visible contribution to the public. Nominations may be sent directly to the Yemen Times.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

Progress in Human Rights: HOW TO GO ABOUT IT?

The way things work in the Republic of Yemen is often misunderstood. The confusion is there because the rulers project no real vision or direction or even stand, except when the issues concern their direct grip over power. The leaders of Yemen may say they are in favor of this or that, but at the end of the day, what decides the flow of events is the ability and influence of the protagonists and/or antagonists of the ideas and decisions.

Let me take human rights as an example.

The leaders of Yemen constantly say they are in favor of respect for human rights. But you can hardly identify any actual step or decision that they have taken in this regard. Nor can you identify any step or decision they have taken seriously against respect for human rights. In other words, what happens depends on the players at the middle and lower levels of the administrative hierarchy of officialdom.

To drive the point home, let me use specific cases. When the immigration officers decided to violate the rights of Yemenis who were born abroad (e.g., in Africa - so-called muwalladeen), they did not get a green light from the president or prime minister. It is just the judgement and decision of mid-level officials (in this case, officers).

So the immigration department created a two-class citizenship for this country, which is against the law. In fact, the department even put up signs to distinguish between the two classes of citizenship. Ostensibly, this is done to screen out the non-Yemeni Africans from collecting Yemeni passports. But since the immigration department has no ability to do the screening, the burden of proof falls on the muwalladeen at enormous cost and humiliation to them.

Again, this is basically the decision of the director-general of immigration and his men. It is not government policy to create a two-class citizenship. In other words, if there were another director-general, the approach and policies may change.

Take another case. If there is someone who insists on respecting the law in a certain prison, and has enough influence, then, most of the people will simply work by the law. I have seen this happen in a couple of prisons. Nobody will stand up to the person who wants the law obeyed, and tell him not to show respect for human rights.

What I am trying to show is how this country can be helped to be on the right path - full adherence to local and international law. If there are say a hundred Yemenis who have the personal drive and commitment to make this country evolve based on internalizing the new values, it will happen. Think of these 100 men and women as catalysts.

In my opinion, working with them and through them is more effective for Yemen's democratization. That is because in our system today, nobody will stop anybody from pushing through his/her vision of a morally superior system. But he/she should not wait for the president or prime minister to do something to help, beyond lip service.

That is why the best approach to make Yemen a better world citizen is through finding young Yemenis who have ambition and a sense of destiny, and promote in them the commitment for democratic values. I believe this is a medium-term plan that will work.

The Publisher


Yemen Times Prosecuted

The Press Attorney's office has sued the Yemen Times over its story in issue 45/98, volume VIII dated 9/11/1998. The paper had printed an article showing the volume of oil produced by Yemen, as well as the foreign assistance the country had received. The newspaper asked where the money had gone?

BC 25 Years in Yemen

A week of British events is being held during November 19-28 in both Sanaa and Aden. It includes photographic exhibitions, film shows, concerts and a food festival. Also, the British Council is celebrating 25 years of its work in Yemen.

Regional Workshop in Aden

Aden University will host a regional workshop on solid waste management in West Asian countries on December 12-15. On preparing for the workshop, the Center of Environment Sciences and Studies in Aden held a training course in which 11 governorates were represented.

114 Ambulances for Governorates

The Minister of Health launched the event of distributing 114 new ambulances to health sectors in the governorates on November 19. Sponsored by the government and supported by the UNICEF, the cost is approx YR294 million.

Aden UK Consulate Closed

The British Government decided to close 30 of its consulates around the world including its consulate in Aden. This will negatively affect the Yemeni businessmen and investors' work since it will be hard for them to make contact with British companies directly.

EC Aid to Help in Population Problems

The European Union (EU) has agreed to help Yemen solve some of its population problems through technical assistance to the National Information, Education and Communication program for Maternal and Childhood Health Care and Family Planning under the umbrella and co-ordination of the National Population Council-Technical Secretariat. The 3-year Technical Assistance program has a total funding of US-\$2,300,000.

Arab Geographers Meeting Concluded

More than 70 researchers and academics, representing different Arab geographical institutes, participated in the four-day forum, organized by Sanaa University and the Yemeni Geographical Society, from 16 - 19 November. More than 35 researches were submitted on the role of Arab geographers in raising awareness on the importance of development issues. A geographical exhibition, lectures and meetings were part of the activities.

YSP Convention Starts on 28th

The 3-day General Convention of the Yemen Socialist Party will start in Sanaa on 28th November. This is the first convention for the party in ten years. The convention will take place in two stages, in order to overcome complications regarding participation of YSP leaders abroad, some of whom are wanted by the authorities.

YT Weekly Poll

Yemen Times Weekly Opinion Poll question is placed at:

<http://yementimes.com/#poll>

Last Week's Question:

As a Yemeni living abroad, do you send money to your folks in Yemen?

Result:
Yes 89%; No 11%

Polio Immunization: 2nd Round

The Ministry of Health, in cooperation with WHO and UNICEF, held meetings on November 15-16, to evaluate the first round and launch the second round of immunization against polio. The meetings were chaired by the Minister of Health, Dr. Abdullah Abdulwali Nasher, and attended by the Deputy Minister, Dr. Abdul-karim Rasse', and the directors of health offices and health education in the governorates.

"Although the first round was extremely successful, we can still learn a few things in order to top our previous performance," the minister said.



Mohammed Ali, Director of the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), said that the number of polio cases as well as other childhood diseases in Yemen are extensively monitored. "The EPI will be further expanded in the near future," he announced.

By: Ahlam Al-Mutawakkel, Yemen Times, Sanaa.

9th Annual Reunion of Taiz-Based ENT Specialists

The 9th Annual Reunion of Taiz-Based Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists was held on November 17th. It was co-chaired by Dr. Abdul-Bari Moqbil of Yemen, and Dr. Wu of China. The event's moderator was Dr. Yassin Abdul-Warith.

Many papers were presented on various aspects of the profession, including causes and types of diseases, new drugs and medicines, and above all, new break-throughs in the field.

Dr. Hassan H. Udayni spoke about OAEs (Oto-Acoustic Emissions). "This is a new revolutionary technique for testing hearing loss without requiring certain behavioral response or feedback from the patient. This is internationally accepted, and it is now available in Yemen," he said. Udayni indicated the importance of this technique, especially in assessing hearing capability among infants and children.

The meeting was sponsored by GlaxoWellcome Company, which was represented by Dr. Gamal Katab.

By: Mohammed Al-Qadhi, Yemen Times, Taiz Office.



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Editor-in-Chief & Publisher:
Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

General Manager: Walid A. Al-Saqqaf
Managing Editor: Dr. Salah Haddash

Aden Bureau Chief: Mr. Ridhwan Al-Saqqaf,
Phone: + 967 (2) 347-057; Fax: + 967 (2) 347-056

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Vijay Albuquerque:

"Professionalism and dedication are the key to success."

Vijay Albuquerque, General Manager of the Taj Sheba Hotel in Sanaa, is well known around town. His highly personalized and professional service-oriented approach in dealing with people has earned him an excellent standing among the Yemeni and the international community.

When he first arrived in Sanaa, conditions were already bad. The civil war of 1994, the numerous kidnapping of foreign tourists and oil people in the country, the economic break-down leading to major difficulties, and many other conditions all but wiped out the travel and hotel industries. It was clear that the people who work in the tourism industry had a tough job ahead of them.

But Vijay not only was able to, but he is leaving behind a thriving Taj Sheba which continues to command a special place in the sector. He has maintained the leadership role in the business. The hotel, with almost US\$ 8 million of new investments including phase 2, is gearing up to play an even more dominant role.

Mr. Albuquerque has been with the Indian Taj Group for almost 25 years. He finished high school at St. Stanislaus (Bombay), graduated from the Institute of Hotel Management (Bombay), did post-graduate studies in Business Administration at Xavier's Institute of Management (Bombay), attended summer school at Cornell University Ithaca (New York).

VJ, as he is affectionately known to Taj Sheba patrons, served as General Manager in London, Muscat, Madras, Goa and Agra. He will leave Sanaa in a few weeks to take over as the GM of New Delhi's Taj Palace Hotel. Yemen Times used the occasion of his approaching departure to talk to the man who has left his mark.

Q: How do you feel on leaving the Taj Sheba Hotel?

A: I leave with a tinge of sadness and a degree of satisfaction at seeing the first phase of the long overdue renovation almost to fruition. There is an element of disappointment at not being able to complete the entire renovation as planned for, but then duty calls.

Q: You speak of renovations. What are its major features?

A: The fact of the matter is that this is the first intensive renovation ever undertaken by any hotel in Yemen.

Leaving just the shell of the building, we have renovated the entire 80 rooms of one wing of the hotel. This includes the plumbing, electrical mechanical equipment, bathrooms, furniture, fixtures, joinery, upholstery and iron-mongery.

We have also introduced two Club Floors which should be on stream before the end of the year. In addition, the new Coffee Shop is due for a re-launch around the first week of next month.

The renovated rooms will incorporate state-of-the-art technology and several fire prevention and safety features, flame retardant fabrics and fire rated entrance doors. The interiors of the rooms and the facade of the building have design elements that reflect the unique feature of Yemeni architecture.

The new Bilquis Coffee Shop interiors have stucco wall finishes and Qamaris - intrinsically Yemeni in character - and a larger capacity to cater to the ever increasing demand. With this renovation, the Taj Sheba will further consolidate its reputation as the leading hotel in Yemen.

Q: This would consolidate the leading role of the Taj Sheba Hotel in the business?

A: The Taj Sheba has always been and, I am sure, will continue to be the first choice of the discerning traveler visiting Yemen. It is difficult being the market leader, as one has to constantly monitor quality standards to maintain that position.

Staying ahead of the competition is much more difficult than playing the catching up game. We have endeavored to pursue an aggressive marketing strategy. Innovative food and beverage promotions have helped us to be the No.1 venue in the city.

Various national cultural and food festivals organized at the hotel, backed by the respective embassies, have made our food

and beverage outlets extremely popular with the local and expatriate communities.

It is a well known fact that the Taj Sheba continues to remain the in-place to visit and be seen in. The diplomatic community patronizes the hotel as ever before. It is their number one choice for national-day events and celebrations.

In a great measure, the success of Taj Sheba is due to the excellent and dedicated team of professionals, who have been instrumental in helping me in the day-to-day running of the Hotel. I have been privileged to lead a dynamic team of departmental heads and staff, who have worked tirelessly in ensuring that we maintain the highest standards of personalized service.

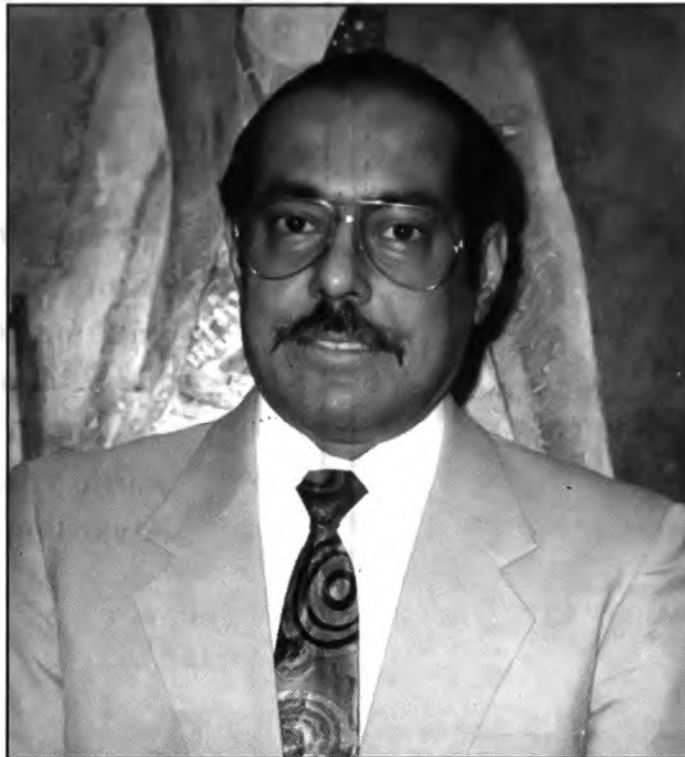
It is a tribute to all members of the Taj Sheba family that we were able to hold together our entire client base, during the crucial phases of the renovation of the hotel. Now that this renovation is nearly complete, it will cement our leadership role.

Q: How do you assess the Yemeni tourism market?

A: The Yemeni tourism market, like any other part of the world, depends on an all round conducive environment in which to relax and enjoy one's holiday. The key factor that often affects tourists inflow to move erratically in peaks and troughs is the kidnapping of tourists, which does no good to the image of Yemen as an exotic tourist destination. Yemen has a lot to offer, but has a long way to go before it can tap its full potential as a mystical tourist attraction. The first few steps have already been taken, which is indeed encouraging.

Q: What has Taj Sheba done to promote Yemen as a tourist destination?

A: Promotion of tourism to any country is an equilateral triangle of efforts from the hotels, airlines, and travel agents/ground handling operators to complete the trinity. Ever present around these is a responsive government, which needs to back all concerned to successfully attract and promote Yemen as a destination. At the moment, quite a number of tourists view Yemen as an extension to their holiday programs in and around the region. Yemen needs to be promoted vigorously as destination tourism. For that, an even greater effort is called for to create an awareness of what Yemen is capable of offering to



the touring public.

There are special interest groups keen on seeing ancient architectural sites. Adventure tourism is another distinct possibility. Water sport enthusiasts can be attracted to the Red Sea coast for diving, ornithologists and bird watchers could be induced to visit specific areas of the country that attract migrant and other bird life. The medievalality of the countryside and markets are symbolic of Yemen living in a time-capsule.

We have in a small measure contributed to the promotion of tourism in Yemen. It is heartening to note the efforts being put in, particularly in recent times by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, headed by H.E. Abdulmalik Mansoor, to further attract the up market tourists from Europe, the States and Japan. I am optimistic this trend will continue in the foreseeable future.

Q: What is your new post?

A: I have been assigned to take over the Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi, which is India's number one convention center-cum-hotel. In addition to 421 rooms and suites, it has a host of banqueting halls, specialty restaurants, state-of-the-art business facilities and a fitness center equipped with the latest equipment and gadgetry. It also happens to be the second largest property of the Taj Group, after our flagship hotel the Taj Mahal in Bombay.

Q: In your long tenure, which post would you say was the jewel in your crown?

A: After 28 long years, this is a difficult question to answer. But in hindsight there are a couple that come to mind either due to emotional attachment or due to the success the venture has achieved. The Taj View in Agra is one, since it was the very first hotel I managed India. It was a newly acquired property, totally revamping all the rooms and public areas in less than six months, and an operation that generated cash surpluses from year one.

The Bailey's Hotel in London with the opening of the Bombay Brasserie, was another interesting and challenging assignment. Had I been in a position to complete in entirety the renovation of Taj Sheba, it would have no doubt been among the top

which is the main reason one can attribute to our premier status in the hospitality industry of Yemen. I will also miss my good Yemeni friends and the new developments that are due to take place in the city of Sanaa, albeit by a mere week or two in some instances.

Q: Any last comments?

A: My wife Blossom and daughter Venita would have been delighted to visit Yemen once more before our final departure. But due to circumstances beyond our control, we have not been able to, as a family, bid farewell to our good friends. Perhaps that gives us an opportunity to re-visit the country, in the future, Insha-Allah. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the owners of the Hotel, particularly Mr. Hayel Abdulhaq for his constant

support and guidance during my tenure at the Taj Sheba. It is imperative for a successful organization to have good understanding and cooperation between its management team and the owning company. We have received this in abundant measure, may be more than we could have asked for.

I also thank the Government agencies such as the Ministries of Tourism and Culture, Labor, Health, Immigration and Customs departments, the Law Enforcement authorities, associated Governmental bodies, Yemenia, KLM, Emirates, Gulf Air, Lufthansa, other airlines, the various travel agents and tour operators and the local press, in particular "The Yemen Times", that have helped in making my job a pleasurable and memorable experience.

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British and Yemeni MPs Compare Notes

A group of British parliamentarians has recently visited Yemen. The main aim is to look into the prospects and possibilities of cooperation between the Yemeni parliament and the British House of Commons. Dr. Salah Haddash, Yemen Times Managing Editor, interviewed three members of the delegation.

1. Jim Cousins, Labor MP for Newcastle Upon Tyne Central:



Q: What is the purpose of your visit?

A: I've been in Yemen for three days. We were invited by the British Council to

come here. The purpose of our visit is to discuss with our colleagues in Yemen's parliament how their parliamentary committees work. We want to see the work of the government. We have both members in the parliamentary Committees in the British Parliament. Their job is looking into what the government is doing in the British parliament. So, we'll be sharing ideas and experiences that we've had.

Q: How did you deal with the Yemenis? Were you lecturing them?

A: No, we weren't. We came to talk about the British Parliament, the way we run committees in the parliament, the changes we've made to the committees' system in the last few years. In our discussions with our friends here, we leave them with some ideas from our experience that they could adapt to the procedures in the Yemeni parliament.

It was also valuable to us because it makes us think about the way we do our work. Many of our procedures are new because we have had to deal with the kind of problems of the modern age, the complexity of government and the mass of information available.

This makes parliamentary life different everywhere in the world.

Q: What have you talked about?

A: I think there was a theme running through most of the questions. It was how does one conduct the business of committees in parliament to enable parliament to make its voice effective? how can it influence government? how can it do its job of representing the people properly?

2. Sir Peter Lloyd, Conservative MP for Fareham:



Q: Do you think that Yemeni parliamentarians will benefit from this gathering with you?

A: Yes, I think so. We were able to compare different systems. In Yemen, it is sort of a young democracy. Our parliament has more resources, more traditions, and more ability to carry out work on behalf of the people. So, there are some ideas for Yemeni parliamentarians to pick up and, perhaps start to apply in Yemen.

There were a great many interesting topics, for example the connection between parliament and logo government, parliament and human rights, parliament and the economic work of the government.

3. Dr. Andrew Buxton, Parliamentary Library Expert, information systems manager at the Institute of Development Studies in Sussex:



Q: What was the purpose of your visit?

A: My role was to give

some technical assistance to the Parliament library, in particular the cataloging system. I'm to implement a database package which came from UNESCO called City Assizes. So, I have been installing it and conducting training by using Arabic in the database system.

Q: Are you going to follow up

There is clearly a great deal of technical work to support our colleagues in the Yemeni Parliament that we can do. I mean we are linked into the Parliamentary computer system through our own computers. There are also practical things that we can do. We recognize that the economy of Yemen has been effected by the falling of prices which are, of

course, beyond the control of the Yemeni government.

This seriously effects what the Yemeni government can do inside Yemen. This is something that we'll be taking back to our own government and to our European colleague governments to see what assistance we can give.

Q: Why you were chosen from the members of the British Government to present the European Parliament?

A: I'm not sure because I haven't enquired. But, I have a pretty

good idea that it is because both of us are on the Treasury Select Committee. It was primarily regarding budget control that they wanted to talk to us.

I'm Vice-Chairman of the House of Commons, old party, Human Rights Committee. I used to be minister at the Department of the Interior which enables me to give a view of committees from both sides having served on my committee and having been on the receiving end under committees when I was a minister.

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Cont'd. from page 1:

TORTURE...

A Yemen Times team was the first to visit the victim in his home in Nuqm, on the 15th, the very next day following his release. The newspaper documented the wounds with many pictures. It also alerted many human rights organizations, including the committees in parliament and the Consultative Council.

Members of the human rights and defence/security committees in parliament, acting on an order from Speaker Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar visited the investigations bureau to collect information on the case. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf and Dr. Abubakar Al-Qirby of the Human Rights Committee of the Consultative Council also paid a visit to get first-hand information on the case.

For three days, the official request of Tareq Al-Aghbari, Head of the Sanaa City Attorney Office, to interrogate the 3 security officers implicated in the torture - Hisham Al-Ghazali, Hameed Omar and Mujahid Al-Quhali - went unheeded. The Minister of Interior insisted that he will not give his men to 'civilians' to be penalized. He, in fact, kept the men in the compound of 'his' ministry.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Olofy, Attorney-General, and a man who has given to the law new meaning by trying to fully up-hold it, called the Prime Minister, Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani. He did not get a satisfactory answer. He was told he could send his interrogators to the Ministry of Interior to do the questioning over there.

It was at this stage - on November 16th - that the Human Rights, Liberties and NGOs Committee at the Consultative Council intervened. It sent a

correct, yet strongly worded letter to the prime minister, asking him to instruct his minister to lift his hand off the case. The security officers, and everybody else, must bow to the law.

After 24 hours, when there was no answer, the Human Rights, Liberties and NGOs Committee dispatched its first "Torture Alert". The circular went to 80 organizations and diplomatic circles inside and outside the country. Thus, hell broke loose. As the situation began to get complicated, the Minister of Interior bowed. Before high noon on the 18th, the three officers were brought to the head of the Sanaa City Prosecution Office. Mr. Tareq Al-Aghbari called Dr. Al-Saqqaf with the good news - IT HAS HAPPENED! "We have broken the impunity of security officers who break the law."

It was a moment to rejoice. It comes only three days after another fight was successfully completed. Dr. Al-Murtadha Al-Muhawari, who had been imprisoned illegally was released on 16th November. There too, the partnership between the office of the Attorney-General and the Human Rights Committee at the Consultative Council brought fruit to bear in upholding the law.

Now, the two partners are working to resolve an earlier problem - the death of Wadee' Al-Shaibani while under interrogation in Aden. The first step in this direction is to allow an impartial autopsy to be conducted on the body, which still languishes in the freezer of Aden Hospital. The new autopsy will be carried out with the full involvement of the family of the deceased Wadee.

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

Islamist Groups In Yemen From 1978 to 1989



By Dr. Adel Al-Sharjabi
Sociology Department, Sanaa University

members were Islamists. The Muslim Brotherhood played an active part in establishing the People's General Congress in 1982. They had a majority in the committee formulating the National Accord, which contained the basic principles of the political trends that made it. Words and phrases used in the National Accord struck a cord with the Islamist political phrasology. Generally speaking, the National Accord can be regarded as a political and economic program of action, which inclines to advocating developmental capitalist policies. It also tries to rectify some of the capitalist system's shortcomings through Islamic principles.

Al-Sahwa weekly - mouthpiece of the Islamist movement - was licensed on April 11, 1985. Scholastic institutes, controlled by the Muslim Brotherhood, were encouraged by the ruling authority. Primary education within these institutes rose from 220 institutes in 1981-82 to 354 in 1987. The number of students rose from 33,762 to 81,611 during the same period. Preparatory education in the scholastic institute expanded to include 2,939 students, both male and female. The same expansion also applies to secondary education. During the 1980s, the Muslim Brotherhood's organizational structure expanded and gained a huge popularity, never enjoyed before. Its close ties with the ruling authority allowed it to be the most politically active group. Thus the Islamist movement occupied the top position among underground political parties in the Shourah Council elections of 1988.

However, the ruling authority at the time was adopting the policy of containment. Thus the official support enjoyed by the Muslim Brotherhood during the 1980s made it easy for the ruling authority to contain the movement. Also official policy at the time was characterized by being balanced, middle-of-the-road and pragmatic. It never reached complete hostility to the opposing political powers, nor did it lose its independence by its alliances. It always had the initiative.

Although the leftist movement was waging a guerrilla war against the government in the central regions of the country and ties between the former parts of Yemen were tense to the point of war, President Ali Abdullah Saleh entered into negotiations with both sides during the first three years of 1980s. He was able during the first half of that decade to contain a large number of Nasserite leaders. This actually divided the Nasserite movement into several splinter groups accusing each other of treason and contacts with the authority. In view of these strategic policies, the ruling authority worked on weakening the Islamist movement and stunting its development so as not to become a political alternative. The first step taken in this direction was to form the People's General Congress. At the beginning, Islamists welcomed the PGC's establishment, considering it a useful tool helping them, and the authority, in their struggle against leftist groups. Thus the Islamist movement played an active role in the PGC formation, supplying its grass-roots and leaderships

with some of its activists. However, the authority's undeclared goal behind the PGC establishment was to contain the rising popularity of the Islamist movement.

A number of Islamist activists won the PGC membership elections in 1982, especially in major cities such as Sanaa and Taiz. Therefore, when President Saleh was keen to appoint in August, 1982, 309 PGC members representing more liberal trends the aim, it seems, was not to tip the balance for the rightists' advantage, especially the Muslim Brotherhood.

The idea to form a ruling political organization, applying popular legitimacy to the ruling authority, was pondered by all presidents of the north. Some of them made few practical steps to realize that idea, but failed for two main reasons. First, the former authorities made their decisions to form such umbrella organization from the top of echelons of power. Now elections were held to form the basic structures and leaderships of these organizations.

President Abdullah Al-Sallal announced the formation of the founding committee of the 'People's Revolutionary Organization' in December, 1966. He did not take any steps to hold elections to form the bases of this organization. The same thing was done by the Chairman of the Republican Council, Qadhi Abdulrahman Al-Iryani in February, 1973, when he announced the appointment of members of the Yemeni Union's political bureau.

The second reason for the failure of organizations prior to the PGC was that the decisions to form them came rather belatedly. Al-Sallal formed the People's Revolutionary Organization four years after assuming power. While Al-Iryani started with his organization five years after coming to power. Ibrahim Al-Hamdi thought about establishing the People's Congress three years after being at the helm of authority.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh benefited from these failed attempts. Less than two years after being in power, he initiated the establishment of the PGC. Starting in 1980, President Saleh held a series of meetings with former President Ali Nasser Mohammed of southern Yemen. A number of unification agreements were signed by both sides, and unification committees became more active. This inclination to achieve unity was one of the major points of contention between the Islamist movement and the ruling authority, since the independence of the south.

The meeting of Ali Abdullah Saleh and Ali Nasser Mohammed in February, 1984 in Aden was quite disconcerting to the Islamist movement. It came soon after the National Democratic Front announced the stopping of its military activity. In actual fact it became unable to carry out effective military operation following a series of debilitating defeats. Meetings between the two heads of state indicated a true desire to achieve unity, or at least closer ties between the two governments. This made the alliance with the Islamist movement in the north less important. Therefore, the Muslim Brotherhood opposed any form of rapprochement with the south.

In 1989, the governments of the former parts of Yemen put the

unified state's constitution to a general referendum. This step actually made it easier for the Islamist movement. Instead of being seen as anti-unity, the Islamists could now oppose the unification constitution, claiming it to be secular.

The Muslim Brotherhood was able to rally the clergy against the unity constitution. A Fatwa (religious edict) was issued by 200 Muslim scholars slamming the draft constitution as secular and against Islam. The Fatwa was accompanied by memorandum outlining the constitution's shortcomings and loopholes, which was widely distributed in towns and in the countryside. The government was able to issue a "counter-Fatwa" by the founding committee of the Yemeni Scholars Association.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh's success in proceeding with Yemeni unification and throwing away the restraints of the Islamist movement can be attributed to several factors:

A- The stopping of military activity by the National Democratic Front reduced the influence of the Muslim Brotherhood, which used to pressurize the ruling authority by virtue of its participation in combating the insurgency.

B- The military establishment was drastically modernized during the 1980s, making the authority less reliant on Islamist and tribal paramilitary formations. The weakening of the military establishment in the south following the events of January, 1986, consolidated that.

C- Since 1982, the Muslim Brotherhood suffered from internal divisions and organizational dissolution. The struggle to gain leadership of the organization resulted in several leaders being expelled and the membership of others frozen.

D- The Islamist movement was not unified. Differences in opinion came to the fore at times of major national events.

This article is part of a Ph.D. thesis by Dr. Al-Sharjabi

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15 Years Of Fruitful Service



At the end of a 15-year tenure in Yemen, the Saudi Ambassador, HE Ali Al-Qufaidy has left the country accompanied by the best wishes of Yemeni officials, ambassadors, businessmen and ordinary citizens.

A farewell party was held in his honor at the Sheraton Sanaa Hotel on November 12. It was attended by a multitude of the departing Ambassador's friends and associates.

The organisers and Sponsors of the British Week celebrating

"BRITISH COUNCIL 25 YEARS IN YEMEN"

cordially invite you to attend the following events

Photographic Exhibition

25th to 28th of November 1998

Evening 6:30 p.m to 8:30 p.m

A photography exhibition of Socotra by artist Richard Boggs.

Taj Sheba, Sana'a.

Concerts

Sensational performances by pop musicians "The Beatels" who play the music of the 60's and contemporary pop music as well.

21st of November 1998

Evening 8 p.m

Palestine Hall, Aden.

23rd and 24th of November 1998

Evening 7:30 p.m

Yemeni Cultural Centre, Sana'a.

Cinema

British Council Aden will be showing three British films at the University of Aden.

22nd of November 1998

"Sense and Sensibility"

Evening 6 p.m

Aden University.

23rd of November 1998

"Betrayal"

Evening 6 p.m

Aden University.

24th of November 1998

"Tess"

Evening 6 p.m

Aden University.

British Food Festival

British Chef Colin Pressdee of the BBC will be preparing British Specialities, together with British beverages and the entertainment of "The Beatels" it will be a night that can't be missed. Tickets must be purchased for all British Food Festival nights, this can be done by contacting the hotel at which the night will be held.

19th and 20th of November 1998

Evening 8 p.m

Elephants Bay Resort, Aden

25th of November 1998

English Night

Evening 7:30 p.m

Taj Sheba Hotel, Sana'a

26th of November 1998

Scottish Night

Evening 7:30 p.m

Taj Sheba Hotel, Sana'a

27th of November 1998

Welsh Night

Evening 7:30 p.m

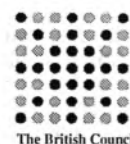
Taj Sheba Hotel, Sana'a

28th of November 1998

Irish Night

Evening 7:30 p.m

Taj Sheba Hotel, Sana'a



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BRITISH AIRWAYS



Bankers Discuss Reasons for Delinquent Loans!

Last week, the Yemeni Banking Studies Institute organized a three-day workshop to discuss the problem of bad loans. Yemen Times reported a YR 15 billion in sub-standard loans.

Given the importance of the issue, it seems necessary to address it one more time, and with the perspectives of the bankers themselves. Yemen Times hereunder summarizes the views of five leading bankers - Mahdi Allawi, Yemen Area Manager of the Arab Bank plc; Mohammed Al-Amery, General Manager of the International Bank of Yemen; and Lutf Mohammed Al-Sarhi, Assistant Supervisor at Saba Islamic Bank.

Mahdi Allawi:

The problem in Yemen is exacerbated by addressing this issue so late. You will recall that the Bank for International Settlements at Basle decided in 1988 to raise the capital adequacy ratio (paid up capital to assets) to 8%. Unfortunately, the banks in Yemen have not adjusted to this requirement, thus making the bad loans disproportionately high. In the recent past, however, many of the banks have raised their capital, which enables them to handle this problem. I would like to stress here that any difficulties in the banking sector will directly reflect itself on the overall economic performance. We can see this from the situation of more advanced economies in Southeast Asia and the Far East. Therefore, it is imperative that we give this matter utmost priority.

One of the first steps needed at this time is to categorize the outstanding non-performing debt. Some of it can bounce back with a little help, others are fully delinquent. Some of the collateral has to be liquidated in order to pay for outstanding loans. But we have to be realistic and fair in our approach.

Mohammed Al-Amery:

One of the key steps in resolving this matter is to increase the level of cooperation among banks, as well as with the Central bank of Yemen in order to address this thorny issue. No bank alone can solve the problem of bad loans.

Another part of the solution is really to ask all commercial enterprises to have better accountants. Some of the local accountants do not provide, unfortunately, adequate and reliable services, and up to international standards.

All financial statements should be prepared according to "Generally Accepted Accounting Principles." The reputation

of businessmen or customers must be highly appreciated by banks. All businesses should operate according to Yemeni law, avoid smuggling and illegal actions.

Lutf Mohammed Al-Sarhi:

One of the problems has been that the banks have been able to adequately screen good from bad applications for loans. While this is an initial step, the environment in which banks work has not been helpful. I say this because if a bank

provides financing to a businessman or company who is in financial trouble, then neither the official government structure nor the legal system will come to the bank's rescue.

So, one of the solutions is really to embolden the state structures to take corrective measures in order to empower banks retrieve their money from bad borrowers.

Another issue is the low administrative capacity, even in terms of filing and document preparation among the local business community.

One of the problems is also training and integrity of bank staff. I have noted that in some cases the bank staff do not act in the best interests of the bank, or even with the minimum professionalism. This leads to bad loans and improper conduct.

The banks are asked to play an intermediate role in the new investments envisaged in the country. They can provide credit. The customer should provide a proposal of a viable project.

Heavy construction, petrochemical plants, industry, machinery, warehouses' material inventories, treating and mixing chemicals for geologic dough under soil, and other projects need enormous amounts of hard currency. Hence, the need to put our banks in order for them to play a meaningful role.

Other financing needs cover merchandise imports and general trade. The service sector, especially in tourism, also need enormous capital outlays.

Track records of customers might help them, at least initially. In the longer-run, it is the viability of the projects and their proper management that will lead to good relations with the banks. It is here that the system can play a role by providing adequate feasibility studies, putting in place a reliable accounting system, and first and foremost, strengthening the judicial system to be credible and effective.

By: Ghassan Al-Ahdal,
Yemen Times.

Is Someone Trying to Bring the House Down?

NEW INCOME TAX LAW

There is something cynical and even evil in the new amendments proposed on income tax law number 31 of 1991, which parliament is now discussing. In part, this proposal is motivated by the drive of the government to boost its revenues, as projected in the 1999 budget.

The main affected sources of income are salaries and other payrolls, revenues from rented real estate, profits from commercial and industrial activities.

With respect to taxes on payroll, the new law will basically double government revenues. In its drive to tap into this goldmine, the government is proposing to increase the top bracket of tax on payroll from its present 16% to a hefty 35%. The bait is supposed to be raising the minimum non-taxable income from YR 2,000 to YR 4,000.

In a country that collects less than 50% of its tax dues, payroll taxes are the best collected - reaching up to 82% of the total base. Thus, the new law will lead to more than doubling of government revenues from this source.

The law proposes to actually reduce the top bracket on commercial and industrial profits from its present 35% to 30%.

The negative implications of this step on the living standards on the low-income and middle income people, such as government bureaucrats and clerks working for the private sector is visible. Apparently, the government and law makers are not listening to the general mood of an already impoverished and aggravated poor class.

If the government is interested in increasing its revenue base, as it should be, it should tap into the wealth being accumulated by the well-to-do members of our society, especially those who have not earned it.

Another source to tap would be the massive smuggling operations which are carried out under the eyes and noses of everybody. But then again, the government is not interested in confronting powerful groups. But it can push around the voiceless majority - only for a time.

3rd Conference of Businessmen in Aden Focuses on:

NATIONAL INDUSTRIES

The Aden Chamber of Commerce and Industry is holding its annual gathering of businessmen on 28-29 November, 1998. This year, the theme will be about industrial development.

About 200 businessmen and industrialists - Yemeni and foreign, will participate in the Third Conference of Businessmen. Some will even fly in from other countries for this purpose.

The program shows four major sessions, with the following themes:

- Session 1: Present Conditions of National Industries;
- Session 2: Comparative Advantage in Which Industries?
- Session 3: Challenges of a Changing World;
- Session 4: A National Vision for Industrial Development.

"We expect this gathering to come up with specific ideas that can be worked jointly by the business community and the government," said Mr. Abdullah Ba-Moshmoos, Chairman of the Aden Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Aden Free Zone people are only heavily involved. "We are almost ready. In March, 1999, the first phase of the new Aden Free Zone is going to be ready for business," said Mr. Dirhem Nouman, Chairman of the Aden Free Zone. Even some of the foreign investors are hopeful. Mr. Aref Shamas, General manager of Sigma Gas, one of the sponsors of the conference, said that he will give specific thoughts on how to improve relations with foreign investors.

Seeing is believing.
Ridhwan Al-Saqqaf, Yemen Times, Aden.

Yemen & Mid-East Economy

As the state of Israel and Palestinian National Authority approved the Wye River Accord, the way to peace is being paved and secured for all countries in the Middle East. Every modern economist predict a progress in economic developments in the Arabian Peninsula and close-by areas. The land-for-security deal has deleted tension and created the probability of new relations to be established among countries in the region. Progress and prosperity can not be advanced or spread in Arabia without being tolerant towards cases settled finally near-by. The Republic of Yemen, an essential member of Al-Mashreq and the Gulf states, stood in favor of peace solutions towards a final-status agreement. Yemen is a positive-neutral country, which did not issue yet, official economic boycott against any country in the world without exclusion. The status of business developments in our country is encouragingly as long as our parliament have chosen the right

method in dealing with foreign and commercial policy successfully. It is important to deal with all happy events happened here or there in responsibility and truth. There is a great need for diplomacy to perform new economic ties among all nations of the world. President Ali Abdullah Saleh is one of the greatest leaders of the world, Arab history has ever seen, who insisted on a global peace and co-operation built on mutual trust and respect. The presidential role in keeping Yemen out of the external troubles is becoming a full-course for all leaders to follow his steps. Our Middle East economy is improving fastly, because all countries in the area preferred the peace-process-system. Yemen is exerting efforts to create a Free-economy-system market by depending on all its resources to drive the development wheel onwards. The governmental new plans expand progression of oil exploration, drilling and production and the policy of addi-

tional foreign investment is certainly sagacious and meriful. Other discoveries of Uranium, Radium and various Radio-active materials should be exploited fully in electrical power generation and water disalination along the Western and Southern coast. An up-to-date industrial mode of operation for the purposes of peace, safety, security and stability should be brought into existence. Engineering genetics' concepts are required to be used in agriculture or farming to improve the quality and quantity of food industry. In summary, Yemen is going ahead towards its economic targets within recent changeable state of affairs around Arabia to promote its gross national production and national unity. Therefore, more tolerance and wisdom is an exigency to achieve all goals in the near future.

By: Ghassan Al-Ahdal
Yemen Times



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There is no doubt that neuro-diseases are quite common in Yemen. Every year, thousands of victims die because of brain disorders and other neurological problems.

Dr. Yahya Ali Al-Thawr, one of a few specialists in neuro-surgery in Yemen, studied and specialized in neurology in Germany. He worked there for 13 years as a senior consultant. Today he is the head of the neuro-surgical center in a private hospital in Yemen. In addition, he pursues his career as a surgeon in Germany.

Ms. Nadwa Al-Dawsari of Yemen Times met Dr. Al-Thawr and filed this interview:

Q: Coming home after a long time of practicing surgery in Germany, what have you found?

A: There are no opportunities available for practicing neuro-surgery in Yemen. Coming back home in 1994, I brought the proposal for a huge project with me; a hospital for internal and neuro-surgery. The EC agreed to give me a loan to start the project here in Yemen.

Although it was a personal loan, the government refused to give me permission to implement the project. The loan was totally refused and the project was never implemented.

Imagine that US \$700 million goes every year for treating Yemeni people abroad. This of course does not include all Yemenis, but upper-class people. Often those who are sent abroad do not usually suffer from serious diseases.

My project would have offered much less costly treatment inside Yemen. I studied the project carefully with some German specialists. It cost me about DM 70,000 preparing the feasibility study of the project. I talked to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance then. I approached the relevant authorities, but they said that no permission can be given for implementing private projects. We asked

them to take the loan and implement the project as a public institution, but they also refused.

Q: What are the reasons that cause neuro-problems and diseases in Yemen?

A: Neuro problems are divided into two parts:

1. Neuro-diseases.

2. Accident-related neuro-problems (backbone and skull fractures, internal bleeding, etc.).

In Yemen, there are many patients who develop neuro-problems like palsy because of shooting accidents. This unfortunately happens because of social practices like revenge and land dispute fighting.

Other neuro-diseases prevalent in Yemen are engiums, eneuresma, hypophyse tumors, posterior-fossa tumors, meningo-encephalitis, meningocele, and spinal tumors.

What is really sorrowful is that there are many neuro cases among children. There are about one million disabled children in Yemen; of whom, unfortunately, 80% belong to the lower classes. People in Yemen are unaware of how important taking care of women and children is.

Most Yemeni women deliver their babies at home. In complicated pregnancy cases, lack of oxygen causes serious neuro-problems to babies. About 70% of disability cases among children are caused by this. After birth, some children get meningo-encephalitis. Most often, they are not quickly taken to hospitals, leading to brain atrophy and eventually to palsy.

Another reason is that some women go to doctors for treatment and do not say that they are pregnant. I'm very sad to say that some doctors also prescribe wrong medicines for pregnant women which causes congenital deformities.

Another reason behind neuro-problems in Yemen is that marriage among relatives is so common here. This causes different hereditary diseases, including serious neuro-diseases like meningocele and hydrocephalus. Those patients may live after treatment but, unfortunately, as disabled.

Q: What difficulties do you face as a neurosurgeon?

A: Lack of medical equipment! The magnetic resonance machine (MRI) is a diagnostic piece of equipment which costs US \$800,000. This machine is capable of detecting diseases at their early stages, making treatment more effective. MRI is not available in Yemen. It is available in many countries like Djibouti and Ethiopia, but not in Yemen. In Jordan an MRI became available 18 years ago.

We also need blood-vessels diagnostic equipment.

This is usually a check-up piece of equipment that discovers engiums and eneuresma diseases at early stages. Such a device is also not available in Yemen. After removing malignant tumors, we need to administer radiotherapy to the patient. The necessary equipment for that is also not available here. Anyway, we try to make do with the equipment available.

Another problem is that doctors' efforts are not appreciated in Yemen. Imagine that a doctor's monthly salary is around YR 8,000 (\$60).

Q: What cases of neuro-diseases exit in Yemen?

A: A common disease among young people in Yemen is multiple-sclerosis (MS). This disease causes pamplegia (total palsy). Young women are likely to be afflicted by the disease 50% more than young men. Another common disease here is partial paralysis caused by blood clots.

So basically, we want a real community health program, especially for children. About 250 out of 1,000 babies die in Yemen. About 40% of the rest are disabled.

About 6% of the government budget is given to the Ministry of Health, of which 1% is allocated for actual medical treatment. I doubt it goes for that purpose. The other 5% is allocated as salaries for officials there.

Q: Are all kinds of treatment and surgery available in Yemen, or do patients have to go abroad for that?

A: I do all kinds of neuro-surgeries. I perform operations like vertebral disk repair, treating sudden hemorrhages, and removing brain tumors. After removing malignant tumors, some patients need to have Radiotherapy treatment. Since this kind of treatment is not available here, or should I say the equipment necessary for that is not available, we send them to Jordan. I'm telling you, if we were well-equipped, I'm sure nobody would need to go abroad for treatment.

Q: Anything you want to add?

A: I hope that the media plays a bigger role in educating people. I see that no real health education programs are published in newspapers or broadcast on radio or televisions. Such programs greatly help avoid many problems.

People should know the basic health principles, which, if we apply, we can avoid many health problems in Yemen. Most health problems are caused by ignorance.

For two years, I have been working to establish a specialized hospital not only for neuro surgery, but also for other fields like heart and internal surgery. In this respect, I'm looking for investors who can support the project.

What I really need in the next step is the government permission to implement the project. There are good surgeons here who are going now to Germany for specialization. They will join hands with me to start the project.

Vacancies

The United States Information Service (USIS) announces for two vacant positions within its organization.

(1) INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER ASSISTANT

Information Resource Center Assistant provides research, outreach, and collection development of wide scope. Researches Information Research Center's (IRC) electronic and traditional resources to respond to complex inquiries for information from the target audience, USIS staff, and other agencies at post. Develops and maintains contact with target audience, USIS staff, and other agencies at post. Develops and maintains contact with target audience members. Contributes to the outreach program and assists with collection development.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Responds to inquiries for in-depth information primarily from the target audience, (e.g. Parliamentarians, academics, senior ministry officials and other policy makers, the media, researcher), as well as from USIS staff, and other agencies at post.
- Analyzes content of the inquiry and, if needed, contacts the client to discuss and clarify the request.
- Researches inquiry by interpreting U.S. government, legal and legislative documentation or other appropriate resources.
- Assists in designing promotional materials and assists in developing marketing strategies highlighting USIS IRC products, programs and services. Monitors and assesses advances in information technologies in order to electronically transmit IRC products.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

A university degree in information science, library science, political science, international affairs, or American studies.

Experience:

Two to four years of progressively responsible experience in the field of information research.

Skill and Ability:

Excellent service orientation to target audience, interpersonal, and cross cultural skills. Ability to carry out reference searches and respond rapidly to complex requests, often for breaking news.

Knowledge:

Good knowledge of U.S. reference and resource materials in subject areas emphasized in the Post's Country Plan and Mission Program Plan, and current trends and development in American and host country information science and technology. Knowledge of electronic retrieval and delivery tools, in particular the Internet and standard information science practices and procedures.

Language Proficiency:

Level IV (fluent) in both spoken and written English and in Arabic. Fluency in terminology used in information science, the Internet, and desktop publishing.

(2) LAN System Administrator

The LAN System Administrator is responsible for installation and maintenance of the local area network hardware and software, installation and maintenance of personal computer applications on both the file server and local hard disks, training and support of the user community, planning for and procurement of local area network hardware and software.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Responsible for the procurement and installation of all LAN hardware and software products.
- Installs file server and concentrator hardware entails the determination of proper procedures and setting of option board switches and jumpers.
- Analyzes USIS needs and requirements, examines available commercial and non commercial software to determine its suitability for USIS.
- Assists in installing user PC's and applications which reside on local hard disks.
- Responsible for providing users with network ID's, creating user directories on the network, and setting up the correct access rights to network files and directories.
- Responsible for user training assistance.

Education:

A university degree is desirable in liberal arts, business, or computer sciences. Technical training in management and use of ASP system, in particular personal computer hardware, application software, and telecommunications is a must.

Experience:

Two years of experience in the automation field, at least one year of which must be in a LAN environment with significant telecommunications systems.

Language Proficiency:

Level III English and a thorough understanding of Novel LAN and microcomputer operating systems, as well as PC hardware.

How to apply: Interested Applicants should collect application form (OF 174) from the Embassy's gate and attach to it a C. V. and any kind of certificate related to the same field, at any time between Saturday and Wednesday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Application will not be accepted after December 06, 1998.

P.S. Applicants who were interested for the "Computer Management Specialist" advertised on (issue #36 dated September 7, 1998) position and wish to apply again for the "LAN Operator" position announced on Yemen Times (issue No. 45 dated November 09, 1998) should contact the Embassy's Personnel Section

UNPF Program Makes Progress in Yemen

Ms. Kerstin Trone, Deputy Executive Director (Program), United Nations Population Fund has recently visited Yemen. She came to learn about the progress of UNPF program in particular.

The program of collaboration with the government of Yemen started in January 1998. It is UNPF's second program since the unification of the Republic of Yemen in May 22, 1990.

Interview by Dr. Salah Haddash, Yemen Times Managing Editor.

Q: What is your program concerned with?

A: It is primarily concerned with reproductive health and family planning. There are components of population and health strategies that include supporting the National Population Council. We will also have a component of adequacy on issues linked to population and reproductive health.

Q: Have you conducted field visits?

A: I visited developmental projects such as clinics, youth projects, agricultural and irrigation projects, water and sewerage plants and all projects associated with reproductive health.

Q: What are the main population problems in Yemen?

A: There are a lot of essential needs in Yemen. For example, maternal mortality is still very high, contraceptive prevalence is still very low and infant mortality is still high as usual. Judging from the meetings I have



had, there is recognition at the highest level for population issues and problems. This is of course what you need to be able to progress. You have various programs to deal with these issues already. But you should also have guaranteed political support from the very highest level, which will help so much to overcome these problems.

Q: How do you estimate problems concerning population?

A: There is still a visible lack of information, information systems and analyses. Hence complete details about the issues of population are required for all development programs.

All people at the government level are concerned with high population growth rate, because this problem might be doubled in a very short period of time. The results will reflect negatively on the Yemeni economy. Rapid population growth will create different dilemmas such as health risks of early marriages, frequent pregnancies at the very early and late ages.

Q: Could you specify how these problems can be solved?

A: All the previously mentioned hazardous phenomena are not well quantified by figures. We still have a lot to do on registration, recording data and providing information to the public and international organizations for the aim of society and development.

All standards are set by the international community in general and the International Conference of Population and Development (1984) in particular. All world countries signed the convention, including Yemen. As certain international goals are set, every country has to state its goals clearly and work accordingly.

Q: How much progress has Yemen made towards achieving these goals?

A: Yemen already has its own population strategy. Our main goals are to provide you with facts, information, data, experience and lessons from what is happening elsewhere.

All detailed programs have a lot of things to do with women status, pregnancy, and female activities. So even now we do not know accurately what are the funds needed to be spent for general education programs either in scholastic and/or undergraduate levels.

We do know that along with males, the need for education of females is always crucial and important. Our program here should always reach the standard of adequacy in all fields, including reproductive health and for all other developments in Yemen without exclusion.

ORACLE in Yemen

Mr. 'Ammar Wa'el Izzat Al-Saggadi, a computer science instructor was on a short visit to Sanaa to teach Yemenis the "Oracle Products, RDBMS and Software Development Tools". Mr. Ghassan Al-Adhal of Yemen Times met him in the Computer and Research Center (CRC) and filed the following report:

Q. What is your background?

A. I am a Jordanian national, born in 1964. I studied B.Sc. (Electrical Engineering) in the U.S.A., and completed my MA degree in Computer Science in the University of Jordan in Amman in 1988. I started studying Oracle computer programs and bases related to data. In 1995, I established a training center in Jordan and concluded a representation deal with the "Oracle" company head office. Today, our company represents "Oracle" in the Arab World, offering to develop and implement training programs, and transmit information.



Q. What is your relationship with the Computer and Research Center?

A. We were introduced to each other through the "Oracle" company. There has been a firmly established relationship between them since 1987. "Oracle" was a

Q. How many students attended the course?

A. Twenty students attended the course. One of them is a female and the others are males. The number is just appropriate, given the kind of hands-on training.

Q. What will these people be able to do after the course?

A. These are programmers and analysts. The course was tailored for advanced users, not amateurs.

Q. Does "Oracle" offer a complete set of courses?

A. There are different kinds of courses. Starting with "Basic or Fundamental Oracle", one can go on to advanced levels and "Post-Oracle".

Q. What is the importance of

"Oracle"?

A. The "Oracle" program is widely used in banks, ministries and corporations because of the high security level in "Oracle" data-information bases. In addition, 75% of the centers in the world uses "Oracle" data-information-system. The program can ring-up billions of records, bases, information

and data. The performance is very high when exploiting the work-systems in a good way. You can help the programme in performance by practical equipment.

For example, inserting report and information data by using "Windows" system. Our company arabized the whole "Oracle" program. The arabization of the program includes alphabets, words, days, months and even the Hijri calendar. We stepped onwards to insert Arabic as an essential language for our computer programs. Most international banks in our region depend today on Arabic information data systems.

Q. Do you want to say anything to our readers?

A. In fact, I want to thank the center for their support. This is my fourth visit to Yemen. I am really very happy with the intimacy of Jordanian-Yemeni relations.

Q. Can you introduce yourself?

A. My name is Dansha Kademian, a business development manager and "Oracle" representative for Yemen, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

Q. What is the reason for your visit to Yemen?

A. I came to develop the information data technology for "Oracle" in Yemen.

Q. What is your relationship with the Computer and Research Center?

A. The Computer Studies Center is an business partner to our Amman branch in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and in any country. There is growing cooperation between us. This is especially true in the field of training programs which last for about 29 days in "Oracle" programs.

Q. What is your impression of what you have seen during your visit?

A. This my seventh visit to the Republic of Yemen since February 1998. I stay in Yemen an average of 5 days every month to organize various basic and fundamental training sessions in "Oracle" information data systems. All sessions studied by local computer engineers are on Programming Technology, Marketing and Licensure. During this period, we see developments in

"Oracle" technology fields and tenders in a big scale. Our policy is to raise the level of technology in Yemen as soon as possible. My impressions are excellent.

Q. What is the main goal behind this symposium?

A. The main goal is to have at least 20 trained computer engineers with experience in "Oracle".

Our objective is to use these new trainees to spearhead the "Oracle" technologies in Yemen.



Mohammed Hamdan Al-Ghafry.
Deputy General Manager, Sales and Marketing Manager.

CRC Profile.

CRC was established in 1984 by a group of computer software and hardware specialists, all of whom are at the top of their profession. CRC is dedicated to fully satisfying customers and providing them with a comprehensive, integrated and high-quality information technology solutions. This includes the most powerful, reliable and scalable computer hardware (Compaq/Digital Products), the best available applications software and computer accessories and peripherals as well as other associated activities. All of these are backed by first rate custom services and support.

Oracle Training Objectives.

The main target of holding Oracle training is to provide Oracle partners in the Republic of Yemen with qualified and certified Oracle programmers. On the other hand, as the first Oracle distributor since 1987, CRC through its long experience realizes the capabilities of Oracle products. Therefore, its target is to spread the Oracle products expertise in the country which will contribute to improving information technology utilization.

CRC Training LAB.

CRC has prepared a highly equipped training LAB with highly qualified Oracle-certified instructors. The courses were fully booked and successfully completed. Further Oracle-dedicated training courses will be held soon.



link between Amman and Sanaa. We now have a fruitful and very happy relationship. I am at this moment helping with a course in conjunction with CSC.

Q. What kind of course is this?

A. This is one and a half month course for studying "Oracle". The time is fully used.

Students Gain Immense Benefit

Ghassan Al-Adhal of Yemen Times interviewed three students of "Oracle". Here is what they have to say about this advanced computer technology.

(1) Mohammed Al-Mihdhar

I hold a Master's degree in Computer Engineering. I currently work as an engineer for TeleYemen after taking part in training sessions in Bahrain, Britain, and the U.S.A. The course I have taken was highly concentrated. Everybody wants to be in this training center to study advanced Arabized courses of "Oracle".

This course helps me in my work on TeleYemen's invoicing system and mode of operation. Yemen needs well trained nationals to replace expatriate workers, as in TeleYemen.

"Oracle" courses are beneficial to the whole society. The necessity and essence of "Oracle" in practical life increases day by day in all major fields of technology. "Oracle" expanded the development of education and knowledge growth in the Republic of Yemen.

(2) No'man 'Abdul-Rahman Al-Mu'alemi.

I have a Computer Engineering certificate from the University of Liverpool, Britain. Now, I work for the General Electricity Corporation, main office and the ministry. The General Electricity Corporation nominated me as a candidate to attend the training session organized by "Oracle" representatives and the CSC. Generally speaking, the course was quite com-

prehensive with enough time to complete it successfully. As you know "Oracle" systems are well-known and cover large sectors of human endeavor. All companies are using "Oracle" information data-systems and databases. In the past we were using command to work on computers, but now we are using "Oracle".

In the past, information data-systems and databases were very limited. Today, "Oracle" consists of billions of information in data-systems and databases to facilitate the duties of ministries, banks, big corporations and multi-national organizations.

(3) Saleh Salem.

I hold a Bachelor degree in Computer Engineering. I am the Programming Sector Manager of CSC.



The purpose of this training session is to develop the standard of programmers. In addition to concentrated applications in "basic or Fundamental "Oracle", the course helps adapt all daily

routines to the high-level requirements of the administrative reform in Yemen. The government, ministries and corporations need extended information data-bases.

"Oracle" is necessary and useful in all fields of practical life. Everybody knows that "Oracle" expanded the development of education and knowledge in Yemen.



Rimbaud House Revisited

The Mythical Port of Yemen. To talk about his book and other work, Dr. Salah Haddash, Yemen Time Managing Editor, interviewed Mr. Bel.

Q: What are your main areas of interest?

A: In my workshop in Paris, I'm preparing maquettes of Yemeni

houses for an exhibition in Paris about the life of the French poet Rimbaud in Aden and Ethiopia.

I also work for a special theater in Paris for three months between January and April with very famous actors as well as organizing exhibitions.

My new plans for next year include writing about my life and memories in Yemen for the last 25 years spent here.

I may collaborate with a very famous French actor in his new film, which will be shot in Paris, Tunisia and Yemen (Mareb and Shibam Hadhramaut).

Q: What made you write your new book on Aden?

A: I wrote several books about Yemen. Last year I wrote about the country's architecture.

"Aden: The Mythical Port of Yemen" is my 5th book on Yemen, a very important book for me. I hope it will be so to all Yemenis.

The book is the story of life and passion, about the historical arts and society of Aden. It is the first complete book about the arts of Aden. I dedicated this book to Mr. Abdullah Muhariz, a

great man of Yemen and the World. I wrote this book because I knew Aden for nine years.

I spent five years writing this book, since the French government chose me to restore the house of the Rimbaud. When I was in Aden, I talked to many old people about the city's recent past.

I have a special collection of pictures and 500 different postcards showing scenes of the old city. I am lucky to have organized an exhibition in Paris three years ago about Aden and Rimbaud. In the book I show some unpublished black and white pictures.

Q: What are your next plans in Yemen?

A: I was approached by the Lonely Planet company (a company dealing in tourism books), who have asked me to write stories and information regarding tourism in Yemen.

I still have more things about Yemen with which I could write another book. And I would also like to organize exhibitions in Yemen itself, in Sanaa and Aden.

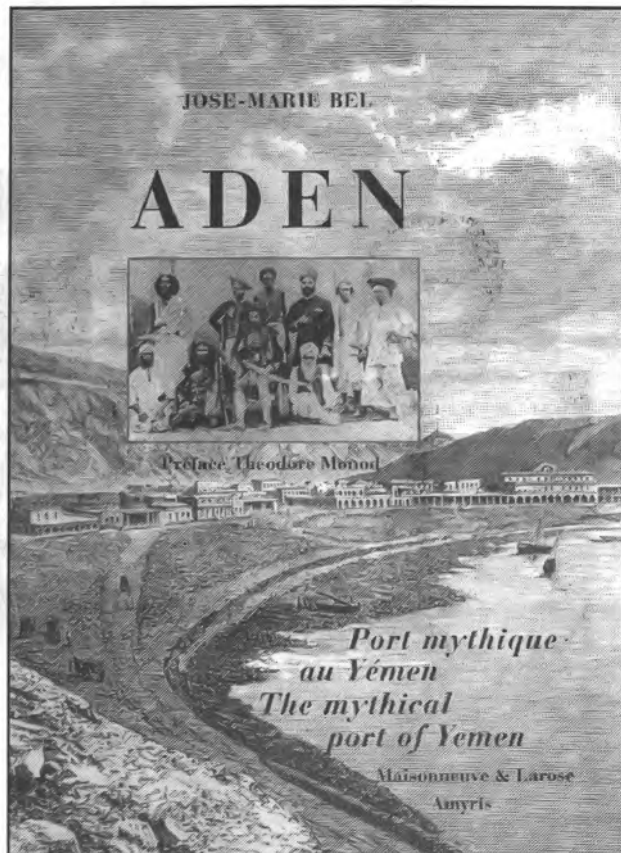


Q: Which period of Yemen's history does your book cover?

A: The book covers nearly 5000 years. It starts 3,000 years ago, around the time of Solomon, and goes on to the year 1998. This book is a tribute to Yemen's civilizations throughout history.

José-Marie Bel is the co-founder, with Academy member Theodore Monod, of the 'Les Amis de Rimbaud' (friends of Rimbaud) and Arabia Felix associations. He supports the activities of UNESCO in Yemen, a country on which he has authored five books.

A keen walker, a marathon runner and great traveler, Bel crossed Yemen on foot in 1974. Being a graduate of plastic arts, architecture and ethnology, he helped restore the Arthur Rimbaud House in Aden. He lived there for a year collecting from around the world ancient documents related to the Port of Aden. Bel has recently written a new book - "Aden:



Khawaja: A Singing Prodigy Comes of Age

He started young. Quite young. Abboud Zain Khawaja first sang in front of a big audience at 11 years of age. It was during his elder brother's wedding party, which was attended by some of the top singers in Lahaj. That was in the early 1980s. Then nothing could stop him. Now he is an accomplished and very popular young singer and musician.

Lahaji Nadwa Fan

Abboud Khawaja was born in 1972 in Lahaj, where he went to primary school. Lahaj in general and the town of Rahat in particular witnessed a renaissance of the famous traditional Lahaji song. It was where the famous poet Abdullah Hasait and the prodigy singer Mohammed Saleh Hamdoun appeared in the 1950s. Ever since he was a little child, Abboud was enchanted with songs and music, to which he listened with visible pleasure. During his early boyhood he admired the old songs and music of the Lahaji Nadwa, a forum established in the early 1950s by renowned poets, singers and musicians such as Al-Qomandan, Fadhl Mohammed Al-Lahaji, Abdulkarim Tawfeeq and others. To further hone his remarkable talent, Abboud enrolled in the Institute of Fine Arts, from which he graduated in 1992. One of his early, very popular songs was "Yaquully Al-Lail Toub" (the night tells me to repent), written by the famous lyricist Saleh Najeeb and set to music by Fadhl Al-Lahaji.

Fame Beckons

Shortly after he sang at that destiny-making wedding party, Abboud Khawaja was invited by Aden TV's Second Channel to appear in its popular program



"Samar," presented by Abdulqader Khidhr. Abboud's popularity now extends beyond the boundaries of Yemen, enhanced by a beautiful singing voice and a delicate sense of esthetics.

He was invited to perform in a society wedding party in Saudi Arabia when he was still 13 years old. He went there accompanied by his two elder brothers, Ali and Mohammed. His talent drew the attention of guests at that party, despite the presence of very famous Saudi and Gulf singers. He did not only sing, but also played the Oud, accompanied by

Yemeni musicians living in Saudi Arabia. According to his brother Ali, the audience's enthusiasm was quite remarkable.

First Albums Released

Record companies in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, such as Shamsan and Al-Jazirah released five albums by Abboud Khawaja. The music was composed by some of Yemen's most famous musicians, including Saud Ahmed Saleh and Abdu Abdulkarim.

"Launching Pad"

Abboud Khawaja, quite cleverly,

employ the traditional Yemeni song - from Sanaa, Hadhramaut, Yaffi, etc - as a launching pad for his singing and musical career. He was able to build a solid foundation for his career by adopting the principles of folklore art. Thus he is now able to write his own lyrics and compose the music for them.

International Acclaim

Khawaja took part in several Arab and international art festivals: Oman's national day celebrations in 1990, Al-Hadhar Festival in Iraq in 1992, Yemeni Heritage Festival in London in 1997, and the Jarash Festival in Jordan earlier this year. During the Jarash Festival, which brings together a gigantic galaxy of Arab stars, Abboud was interviewed by Jordanian TV, which was also transmitted by the encoded ART satellite channel. A similar interview was made by Tunisian TV; while, the local media also talked to him.

Saleh Abdulbaqi,
YT Arts Editor



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We are pleased to announce that Mr. John A. Garufi, president of the company will be in Sana'a on 03 Dec. 1998 and in Aden 04 Dec. 1998. Candidates wishing to apply for immigration to Canada as business investment, professional category (accountant, engineers, executives, pharmacist, technicians etc...) and have the requirements:

- 1- University degree
- 2- Work experience for 4 years
- 3- Fluent in English or French
- 4- Good financial assets.

All existing clients are welcome to meet
Mr. John A. Garufi.

To make an appointment please call: I. E. C. Sana'a Office Tel/Fax 01-278163 or 272 689, Aden Office Tel/Fax 02-344170

Expo Sanaa Biggest Exhibition Center in Yemen

Inaugurated by Vice President Abdu Rabbu Mansour Hadi, the Expo Sanaa International Exhibition Center was officially opened on Tuesday, November 10. It is part of the Apollo Group of Companies, chaired by Mr. Hameed Abdullah Al-Ahmar. Expo Sanaa includes a VIP lounge, conference hall, offices, communication center, a small mosque, first-aid center, car park, restaurant and playing grounds.



Expo Sanaa is the largest of its kind in this country, providing modern facilities and services for Yemeni and international exhibition companies. It is the fruit of a YR 3.5 million investment.

Expo Sanaa started by hosting the 2nd Egyptian Exhibition during November 10-20. Some 80 Egyptian companies and manufacturers took part.

More exhibitions will be held soon presenting cars, food-stuffs and other commodities.







Orbit Weekly Programs













Disney Channel

23 November 1998
1800 Bill Nye the Science Guy
1830 Student Bodies
1900 Boy Meets World

24 November 1998
1540 Ducktales
1605 Darkwing Duck
1630 Carmen Sandiego

25 November 1998
1800 Bill Nye the Science Guy
1830 Student Bodies
1900 Boy Meets World

26 November 1998
1600 Little Mermaid
1630 Gummi Bears
1900 Thunder Alley
1930 Torkelsons

27 November 1998
1800 Shnookums
1830 Student Bodies
1900 Brotherly love
1930 Sidekicks



Orbit News

23 November 1998
2100 CBS 60 Minutes
2200 NBC Dateline
2300 ABC 20/20

24 November 1998
2130 NBC Dateline
2230 CBS 60 Minutes
2330 ABC World News Live

25 November 1998
1330 ABC World News this Morning Live
1400 CBS Morning News Live
1430 NBC News at Sunrise Live
1500 NBC The Today Show Live

26 November 1998
1900 ABC Good Morning America
2100 NBC Dateline
2200 ABC 20/20

27 November 1998
1400 CBS Morning News Live
1430 NBC News at Sunrise Live
1500 NBC The Today Show Live
1700 CBS This Morning



America Plus

23 November 1998
1330 Murphy Brown
1530 Babylon 5
1620 Hangin' with Mr Cooper

24 November 1998
1400 CBS Morning News Live
1430 NBC News at Sunrise Live
1500 NBC The Today Show Live
1700 CBS This Morning



News CBS

Face the Nation - One of the longest-running news programs in the history of television, having premiered on the CBS Television Network on Nov. 7, 1954. Each Sunday, CBS News Chief Washington correspondent Bob Schieffer interviews newsmakers on the latest issues. The program broadcasts from Washington, DC, where Schieffer has spent more than 25 years covering government & politics. He has anchored Face the Nation since 1991.

28 November 1998
1100 NBC Nightly News
1230 NBC Nightly News
1300 Secret History: Bloody Sunday

29 November 1998
1300 ABC World News
1330 CBS Evening News
1400 Secret History: Drowning by Bullets
1500 NBC Nightly News



Music Now

23 November 1998
1200 Ultra Violet
1400 American Chart Show
1900 Mediterranean

24 November 1998
1200 In Motion
1330 Musabaga
1700 Dandana
1900 Mediterranean

25 November 1998
0900 Retro
1500 Cosmix
1700 Dandana

26 November 1998
1500 Convwith/chainreaction#2
1700 Musabaga
1830 (a)convwith../chainrt3
1900 Mediterranean

27 November 1998
1200 Indimage
1300 American Chart Show
1700 Dandana
1900 Mediterranean

28 November 1998
1200 In Motion
1300 American Chart Show
1700 Dandana
1900 Mediterranean



Hollywood

23 November 1998
1400 E! News Daily
1430 Uncut: Sigourney Weaver
2130 E! FYE

24 November 1998
1210 True Hollywood Stories John Belushi Part 1
2230 Uncut: Shirley McLaine
2300 Model TV 97

25 November 1998
1430 Uncut: Ethan Hawke
1700 E! Extreme Close Up
2130 Emerging Fashion Worlds: Reviza Racocevic



Emerging Fashion Worlds: Reviza Racocevic

Wed 25 at 2130
Reviza Racocevic, model, designer, scandalous tabloid target is just one of a number of Yugoslavs leading their country's post-war commercial & artistic resurrection. This Sep. Belgrade's city hall played host to her latest collection. And now take a break from the stranglehold of the Paris, Milan, London, New York follow-fashion axis & engage with the new & refreshing perspectives arising from the most unexpected places.

26 November 1998
1500 E! In Focus
1600 Globetrotter
2030 Judge Judy



Super Movies

23 November 1998
1710 Something To Talk About - 2L
1900 Fluke - 2
2030 E! Behind the Scenes
2100 Convicts - 3VL

24 November 1998
1500 Short Time - 2L
1470 Three Men And A Baby - 2
1900 The Fencing Master - 2V
2030 E! Uncut

25 November 1998
2030 E! Extreme Close Up
2100 A View To Kill - 2V - (Premiere)
2320 Under Siege 2 - 3VL

26 November 1998
1430 E! Extreme Close Up
2030 E! Coming Attractions
2100 The Living Daylights - 2SV - (Premiere)

27 November 1998
1700 Free Willy 2 - 2
1830 E! Uncut
2100 Goldeneye - 2SV - (Premiere)

28 November 1998
1700 Nobody's Fool - 2L
1900 Grumpier Old Men - 2L
2100 The Other Side Of The Law
Tales Of The Wild - 2SV

29 November 1998
1800 Mannequin On The Move - 2
1730 E! Behind The Scenes
1900 Major League 2 - 2L



Fun Channel

23 November 1998
1350 My Hometown
1415 Inspector Gadget's Field Trip
1440 Beetlejuice
1505 Roadrunner Show

24 November 1998
1350 My Hometown
1530 Cattanooga Cats
1620 Pinky & The Brain

25 November 1998
1530 Cattanooga Cats
1620 Pinky & The Brain
1645 Fantastic Voyage of Sinbad
1710 Superman Animated

26 November 1998
1415 Dumb & Dumber
1440 Beetlejuice
1500 HAYA NAMRAH

27 November 1998
1440 Beetlejuice
1500 TFC
1700 Animated Classic Hero

28 November 1998
1800 Power Rangers
1825 Tattooed Teenage Alien Fighters
1850 Animaniacs

29 November 1998
1235 Rimba's Islands
1300 TFC (from Friday)
1505 Roadrunner Show
1530 Cattanooga Cats



Orbit ESPN Sports

23 November 1998
1030 SportsCenter International
1100 ATP Magazine
1400 College Football

24 November 1998
1500 College Basketball: Indiana at Kansas State
1700 1998 Cart Rear View Mirror
1800 Latin Football Weekly
1830 World Football Report



Cinema City

Sat. 28th 1915
The Great Escape
It's A Classic Because: Steve McQueen on a motorbike - one of Cinema's enduring images, in one of its most riveting films. Another memorable Bernstein score, great acting from a huge cast & tension mounting throughout, even more so once the few have broken out. We had to wait about thirty years, for The Shawshank Redemption, before we saw a better escape movie.



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present their congratulations and best wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani and his Government,
Sheikh Abdullah Bin Husain Al-Ahmar & Parliament,
Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani & Consultative Council,
And the Yemen people

on the occasion of 30th of November,
The anniversary of the independence of
the southern part of Yemen
and the signing of the unification agreement.

Many Happy Returns to all



الادارة العليا، والمهندسون والعمال في

شركة هنت اليمنية للنفط

يتقدمون بأحر التبريكات وأطيب الامنيات بدوام التطور والازدهار إلى فخامة رئيس الجمهورية الأخ

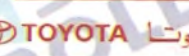
علي عبدالله صالح،

والدكتور عبدالكريم اليرياني وجميع أعضاء الحكومة
وإلى الشيخ عبدالله بن حسين الأحمر وجميع أعضاء مجلس النواب
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وإلى الشعب اليمني

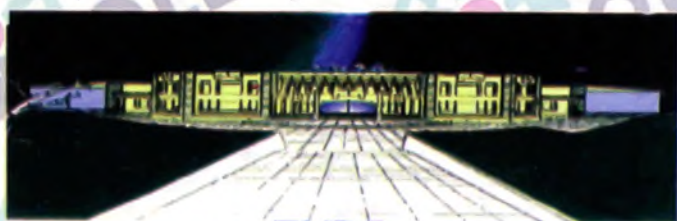
بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية
وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع اتفاقية الوحدة
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تتقدم بأرق وأصدق التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة

الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى حكومة الدكتور عبدالكريم الارياني

وإلى الشعب اليمني الآبي

بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية

وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع اتفاقية الوحدة

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The Government of Dr. Abdulkareem Al-Iryani,

and the Yemeni people

on the occasion of 30th of November,
The anniversary of the independence of the
southern part of Yemen
and the signing of the unification agreement.
Many Happy Returns to all



نوفمبر 30
NOVEMBER 30



Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Sameer Farawna

AL RAY AL AAM

Sanaa, weekly 17/11/98
(Independent)

Main Headlines

- The government decides to purchase 4,000 new cars for its various officials during the year 1999.

- Two grenades were hurled at a house in Nuqum, Sanaa inflicting severe material damage and two injuries.

- A Yemeni businessman living in Saudi Arabia has warned his countrymen against buying Saudi entry visas, saying that they are sold at a very high price but with no guarantee of any job there.

- The Yemeni bar has warned against the serious repercussions of the Aden's branch step in forming an independent bar in that governorate.

Wheat Shortage Due to Minister's Decision

An Article Summary

Wheat has notably disappeared from the country's various markets, leading to a soaring price of that important commodity. The price of one sack of wheat (50 kilograms) reached a record 1800 Rials leading to more sufferings for the citizens.

Economic sources attributed the phenomenon to the latest decision by the Minister of Supplies and Trade decreasing the monthly imported quantity of that vital material to 50,000 tons. The Yemeni market needs 80,000 tons of wheat per month, out of which 17,000 is produced locally and the rest imported.

The sources charged that the Minister's irrational decision was the main reason for the shortage, noting that domestic production is currently not worth mentioning. They speculated that such a step meant that the fourth economic reform package, in which subsidies are being gradually lifted, is coming soon.

On the other hand, the government-controlled Economic Institution was marketing wheat not suitable for human consumption, according to well-informed sources.

They added that inadequate storage was the reason for the wheat being damaged and underlined that the Institution had formerly imported expired milk powder and circulated it in the local market.

ATTAGAMMU

Aden, weekly 16/11/98

(Yemeni Unitary Congregation)

Main Headlines

- Saudi Arabia had annexed 8,000 kilometers of Yemeni territory and its royal family members are divided whether to accept the idea of international arbitration.

- About 6,000 crimes were recorded against anonymous persons in the capital, Sanaa during the first half of this year.

- Saudi citizenship is being awarded to inhabitants of several Hadhramaut areas including the historic city of Tareem.

- Former President of South Yemen Ali Nasser Mohammed has left the country reportedly carrying a message from President Ali Abdullah Saleh that the general pardon to the socialists (excluding the 16 convicted leaders) was still valid. The news had leaked that a number of them wished to attend the Socialist Party's fourth general conference

but were fearing arrest on return.

- Farms, formerly owned by Democratic Yemen in Ethiopia, are currently being sold to leading personalities, mostly military, at a price of 1,000 Rial per hectare.

RAY

Sanaa, weekly 17/11/98

(League of the Sons of Yemen)

Main Headlines

- The Interior Ministry has suspended Col. Abdul Karim Al Houthi, Director of the Investigation, Observation and Inspection in the capital after writing a newspaper article revealing corruption in the country's Traffic Department.

- Professor of International Law at Sanaa University, Dr. Mohammed Ali Al-Saqqaq has asserted that the international arbitration ruling on the Hunaish Archipelago had awarded Eritrea a number of Yemeni islands.

- The controversial medicine Viagra has been sold at 7,200 Rials (almost 50 U.S. Dollars) a packet (five pills) in various Yemeni governorates since last week.

- Yemen is approaching a serious water shortage due to the random use of underground reservoirs to meet the population's increasing needs.

ATTARIQ

Aden, weekly 17/11/98

(Independent)

What is the Purpose of Ali Nasser's Short Visit?

Article Summary

The four-day visit of former President of South Yemen Ali Nasser Mohammed to Aden raised numerous questions among political observers. They noted that he carried new ideas of reconciliation between the Yemeni Leadership and members of the Socialist Party living abroad who wish to attend their party's fourth general conference expected later this month.

They noted that the visit was not mentioned in the various media channels with the exception of a short item in the Yemeni Armed Forces' mouthpiece, 26 September in addition to the Socialists' newspaper Al Thawri which said that an invitation was extended to the former president to attend the conference.

They also speculated that Mohammed was carrying a message from United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahayan, enquiring about the Yemeni plan during the international arbitration on the Hunaish Archipelago. The UAE aims to benefit from it in dealing with the Iranian-occupied UAE islands in the Gulf.

AL SHOURA

Sanaa, weekly 15/11/98

(Federation of Popular Forces)

Main Headlines

- Mines claimed 700 casualties in Yemen, 211 of whom were killed, as efforts are underway to clean the country from more than 1.2 million mines.

- The World Bank is currently discussing a strategic partnership document with Yemen to determine new methods of offering loans to the country on the basis of what previous loans had achieved.

- Taiz governorate's Customs Bureau has renewed its complaint that security officials were col-

laborating with smugglers.

- Following nine days of being lost at sea, seven navy elements were rescued by a local fishing boat amidst growing dismay over the lack of serious efforts, on the part of the Yemeni Navy, in searching for the missing boat.

AL WAHDAWI

Sanaa, weekly 17/11/98

(People's Nasserite Unionist Organization)

Main Headlines

- The higher elections committee has presented to the government amendments to the elections law.

- Khalid Abdul Bari Qadi was tortured by police officers in Sanaa who demanded a confession that he owned pornographic films. The officers, not accepting his denial, used electricity in torturing him in addition to depriving him of food and water for three days.

- Popular and political circles in Hadhramaut governorate have denounced the continued detention of two petrol station workers, on suspicion of involvement in the bomb explosion that rocked Al Mukalla recently near their place of work, despite lack of evidence.

- Central Security forces are storming houses in Sabbir in the Taiz governorate following renewed exchange of fire between two areas. Citizens there complain that the security men were arresting inhabitants then asked for money to set them free.

AL SAHWA

Sanaa, weekly 19/11/98

(Yemeni Congregation for Reform - Islah)

Main Headlines

- More than 25 Parliament members have summoned the Minister of Health Dr. Abdullah Nasher to question him on the spread of malaria, typhoid and hepatitis in various governorates.

- The kidney dialysis center in Hodeidah has reopened after a few weeks closure due to absence of necessary materials which had led to the death of 14 patients.

- The Freedom and Human Rights parliamentary committee along with that of Defense and Security have summoned the Minister of Interior, Hussein Arab to question him on complaints of torture being practiced against prisoners in the country's jails.

- Seven prisoners in Thee-Sefal, Ibb have appealed to the governorate's human rights committee to save them from torture which included beating, depriving them from food and water and banning visits.

- Inhabitants of Tawahi/Aden have complained to the police against the screening of a foreign movie which contained indecent shots that were advertised on that suburb's cinema walls.

The Government Rejects The Teacher's Law

An Article Summary

Following popular and political circles' satisfaction with Parliament's recent endorsement of the long-awaited Teacher's Law, the government of Dr. Abdul Karim Al-Iryani surprised all by rejecting to ratify it.

In a message to the Parliament, Dr. Iryani asked the parliamentarians to re-discuss the Law particularly the articles that

allowed an increase of 100% of the teacher's annual raise and which introduced new allowances. The message considered those increases as new burdens on the country's state budget which would affect the amount of deficit agreed upon with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The Parliament referred the Law to the Education Committee anew to re-debate the articles included in the Prime Minister's message; and the question remains: will the committee approve the government's demands to wipe out those articles or remain loyal to the popular requests and insist on keeping them.

AL UMMA

Sanaa, weekly 19/11/98

(Al Haq Party)

Main Headlines

- Sources close to former South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Mohammed said that his mediation bid between the President Ali Abdullah Saleh and socialist leaders living abroad has failed.

- A Saudi Counselor survived a shooting incident that targeted the car of the Rector of Aden University, Dr. Saleh Ali Basurra, more than a week ago.

- Security sources said that they have dismantled a time-bomb which was installed at the main entrance of the Television building's Second Channel in Aden one hour before its explosion more than ten days ago and that a number of suspects in the vicinity were rounded up for questioning.

AL THAWRI

Sanaa, weekly 19/11/98

(Yemeni Socialist Party)

Main Headlines

- The ruling party (People's General Conference) was putting pressure on YSP members not to

attend their party's fourth general conference.

- The YSP's Central Committee is to meet this Thursday to set the final touches on the Party's fourth general conference as the preparatory meetings for YSP representatives in various governorates are currently under way.

- Under-secretary of the Jauf governorate Col. Abdul Salam Al Dal'ee survived an assassination attempt ten days ago when a group of armed men shot at his car in Jauf city center.

- The army's 35th armored brigade stationed in Al Dali city opened light and medium fires at Al Houd village for a quarter of an hour last Monday. Reason for the incident, which spread terror among villagers, was not known.

- Directors of a number of government institutions in Abyan were arrested because they refused to carry students and citizens in their official cars to Doufes to receive the President upon his visit to that area.

- Compulsory donations are being imposed on merchants and shopkeepers in the governorate of Amran for the sake of the People's General Conference (the ruling party).

AL OSBOO'

Sanaa, weekly 19/11/98

(Independent)

Main Headlines

- The Ministry of Health set strict measures on the circulation of the Viagra medicine in Yemen including commitment by the distributors to present lists of pharmacies selling the product and a doctor's prescription that would be later inspected in surprise visits by the Ministry.

- The London-based Arabic-language newspaper Al Quds Al Arabi has decided not to send editions of its issues to Yemen following repeated and unwar-

ranted confiscations by the Ministry of Information.

- Corruption, incompetent administration and economic and legal misbehavior were the reasons for the financial failures of the Yemeni banks.

- Militants of the Jihad group in the governorate of Abyan have transferred their headquarters to Shabwa awaiting results of negotiations with the government. The group had allied with the government troops during the 1994 war and was promised a number of leading positions in return, but the government did not live up to its promise.

AL JAMAHEER

Sanaa, weekly 19/11/98

(Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party)

Main Headlines

- The international arbitration ruling on the Hunaish Archipelago gave the Eritrean fishermen the right to fish 160,000 tons of fish per annum in Hunaish waters, according to Deputy Foreign Minister Abdullah Al-Sa'idi.

- A group of armed men last Wednesday intercepted the main Sanaa-Amran road seizing at least ten cars, according to eyewitnesses who said that the nearby military checkpoint did not interfere.

- Numerous foreign fishing boats in Yemeni territorial waters are not presenting a true number of their fishing activities to curtail the payment of official dues, reliable sources said, adding that the matter is done in full harmony with the concerned marine observers and inspectors in Aden.

- The Yemeni Syndicate of Educational Professions has affirmed its full solidarity with the Iraqi people in face of American arrogance and called on Arab leaders to unite vis-a-vis that threat.

تحت رعاية الأخ / رئيس الجمهورية

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تقديم الخبرة التجارية والصناعية حاض



المؤتمر الثالث لرجال المال والأعمال

للفترة من ٢٨-٢٩ نوفمبر ١٩٩٨م

علماء بان فعاليات المؤتمر سيتم نقلها مباشرة عبر شبكة المعلومات التجارية

(بمنت) الخاصة بالخبرة التجارية - عدن مباشرة من قاعة المؤتمر مجليا ودوليا

للإشتراك في فعاليات المؤتمر يرجى المراجعة على

ت : ٢٥١١٥٤ - فاكس : ٢٥٥٦٦٠ - عدن

Excellent-Division Football Tournament Starts End of November

A meeting was held in the Ministry of Youth & sports, on the recommendation of Dr. Abdul-Whab Raweh, Youth & Sports minister, to speed up preparations to start matches of the Excellent and the First divisions. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Homood Obad, Deputy Minister of Youth & Sports; Mr. Ali Al-Ashwal, Chairman of the

Yemeni Football Association (YFA) and Mr. Ahmed Al-Hada, Director of Youth & Sports fund. The general budget for sports activities (1998-99) was endorsed. The general budget of the General League (Excellent, First Divisions & the Governorates' tournaments) was approved. On the other hand, the YFA decided the Excellent-division

football tournament should kick off the on November, '98. They decided to postpone the start of the First-division matches till after the Governorates' tournament, which will commence on December 3, '98. Teams are divided into four groups to play in the following governorates:

- Group 1 - Aden
- Group 2 - Sanaa
- Group 3 - Taiz
- Group 4 - Seioum

The winner of each group will qualify for the semi-finals

The Excellent-Division Matches Timetable 98 / 99

TEAMS	DAY & DATE	STADIUM	WEEK
Al-Saqer vs Wahda Sanaa	Mon. 30 / 11 / 98	Taiz	1st
Ahli Sanaa vs Al-Majd	Mon. 30 / 11 / 98	Sanaa	
Al-Hilal vs Al-Shola	Mon. 30 / 11 / 98	Hodeida	
Shab Ibb vs Wahda Aden	Mon. 30 / 11 / 98	Ibb	
Hassan vs Al-Taleah	Mon. 30 / 11 / 98	Abyan	
Shaab Al-Mukala vs Al-Zohra	Mon. 30 / 11 / 98	Al-Mukallah	2nd
Al-Tilal vs Al-Itehad	Mon. 30 / 11 / 98	Aden	
Al-Hilal vs Al-Saqer	Fri. 4 / 12 / 98	Hodeida	
Ahli Sanaa vs Wahda Aden	Fri. 4 / 12 / 98	Aden	
Al-Tale'a vs Al-Shola	Fri. 4 / 12 / 98	Taiz	
Al-Zohra vs Shaab Ibb	Fri. 4 / 12 / 98	Sanaa	3rd
Al-Itehad vs Hassan	Fri. 4 / 12 / 98	Ibb	
Wahda Sanaa vs Al-Majd	Sat. 5 / 12 / 98	Sanaa	
Al-Tilal vs Shaab Al-Mukallah	Sat. 5 / 12 / 98	Aden	
Wihda Sanaa vs Al-Hilal	Thur 10 / 12 / 98	Sanaa	
Shaab Ibb vs Al-Tilal	Thur 10 / 12 / 98	Ibb	4th
Al-Majid vs Wihda Aden	Fri 11 / 12 / 98	Sanaa	
Al-Saqer vs Al-Tale'a	Fri 11 / 12 / 98	Taiz	
Al-Shola vs Al-Itehad	Fri 11 / 12 / 98	Aden	
Shab Al-Mukala vs Hassan	Fri 11 / 12 / 98	Al-Mukala	
Ahli Sanaa vs Al-Zohra	Sat 12 / 12 / 98	Sanaa	5th
Ahli Sanaa vs Al-Tilal	Wed 16 / 12 / 98	Sanaa	
Al-Shola vs Shaab Al-Mukallah	Wed 16 / 12 / 98	Aden	
Wahda Aden vs Wahda Sanaa	Thur 17 / 12 / 98	Aden	
Al-Hilal vs Al-Tale'a	Thur 17 / 12 / 98	Hodeida	
Al-Majid vs Al-Zahra	Thur 17 / 12 / 98	Sanaa	6th
Al-Itehad vs Al-Saqer	Thur 17 / 12 / 98	Ibb	
Hassan vs Shab Ibb	Thur 17 / 12 / 98	Abyan	
Wahda Sanaa vs Al-Tale'a	Thur 28 / 1 / 99	Sanaa	
Wahda Aden vs Al-Zohra	Thur 28 / 1 / 99	Aden	
Al-Itehad vs Al-Hilal	Thur 28 / 1 / 99	Ibb	7th
Shab Al-Mukallah vs Al-Saqer	Thur 28 / 1 / 99	Al-Mukallah	
Al-Tilal vs Al-Majid	Fri 29 / 1 / 99	Aden	
Hassan vs Ahli Sanaa	Fri 29 / 1 / 99	Abyan	
Shab Ibb vs Al-Shola	Fri 29 / 1 / 99	Ibb	
Wahda Sanaa vs Al-Zahra	Mon 1 / 2 / 99	Sanaa	8th
Al-Tale'a vs Al-Itehad	Mon 1 / 2 / 99	Taiz	
Al-Hilal vs Shaab Al-Mukallah	Mon 1 / 2 / 99	Hodeida	
Al-Shola vs Ahli Sanaa	Mon 1 / 2 / 99	Aden	
Wihda Aden vs Al-Tilal	Tue 2 / 2 / 99	Aden	
Al-Majid vs Hassan	Tue 2 / 2 / 99	Sanaa	9th
Al-Saqer vs Shaab Ibb	Tue 2 / 2 / 99	Taiz	

Trading Companies Tournament Strong Competitions

The Trading Companies Tournament organized by the Arab Investment and Tourism Company, was concluded on November 17 in Aden. Twelve teams participated in the tournament. They represented Aden Hotel Movenpick, Radfan Tobacco Co., Ball Mall, the Arab Investment and Tourism Co., Yeminvest, the National Bank, Indosuez Bank, the Abyan Training Center, the National Institute, Aden's Canada Dry (Cola Branch), the Yemenia Airlines, and TeleYemen.

A group of famous Yemeni players including Sharaf Mahfoodh, Jamil Maqtari, Nasr Maqtari, Adel Isma'el, Saleh Al-Shihri, and Al-Zohairi participated in the tournament.

The concluding match grouped the Radfan Tobacco Co. team with the Arab Investment and Tourism Co. team.

During the first half, the Arab Co. team made several attempts, but missed more than one chance to score. The Radfan Co. team did better during the second half. They tried many times to get through the defenses of the Arab Co. team.

The match's official time ended with a no-score draw and the teams had to do penalty kicks. By the penalty kicks, The Radfan Co.

team won the cup. Instructed by the young coach Arif Qaddar, the Radfan Co. team won.

In the concluding ceremony, the tournament cup was given to the Radfan Co. captain Basil Qaddar. The Runner-up cup was given to the Arab Co. team, and the Ideal Team Cup to the Indosuez Bank team. The tournament scorer was Jamil Maqtari from the Radfan Co. team, and the Best player was Saleh Al-Shihri from the Arab Co. team.

International Weightlifting Coaches Course

International weightlifting training course, organized by the Yemeni Weightlifting Association (YWA) in collaboration with the Yemeni Olympic Committee (YOC) and financed by the International Olympic Solidarity, commenced last Saturday at the Yemeni Olympic Center.

Twenty-five participants from different governorates (Aden, Lahaj, Sanaa, Hodeida, Abyan and Dhamar), the Sports Association of Yemeni Universities, the Police Association and The Army Association attended the course.

Mr. Sameer Hanna, Vice President of the Arab Weightlifting Association and a member of the Technical Research Unit in the International Weightlifting Association, gives the lectures. The course will conclude on 30 November 30, '98, the last course sponsored by the International Olympic solidarity for this year.



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- TAIZ: Jamal St. - Al-akaba - Opp. Ramzi Studio.

The Nature Shop: Launches in Sanaa

"The Nature Shop", Yemen's first concept store, was officially launched on November 19th at the Sanaa Trade Center on Al Jazaer Street. The event was attended by the German Ambassador, Dr. Helga Von Strachwitz; the President of Al-Ahmar Trading and Investment Company (ATICO), Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar; the General Manager of ATICO, Mr. Ali Haidary, and a large crowd of Yemeni and expatriate businessmen.

Commenting on the opening, Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar said: "The Nature Shop is a German company for body and healthcare products. It is the first shop of its kind in Yemen, and the first one we have opened here in the Sanaa Trade Center. The interior décor, as you see, is designed according to the highest international standards. Moreover, The Nature Shop's goods do not cost much in comparison with other trade marks sold in Yemen whose products are all made of synthetic chemicals."

"By opening The Nature Shop, our ultimate objective is to help protect the environment, as our products are 100% natural, and to serve people by making these goods available here for the first time," he added. Dr. Von Strachwitz said: "I think it is just



displayed, and all products are from European countries, including my own." "I wish this shop, its owners, and the team running it all the

success they deserve", she added.

Mr. Ali Haidary, General Manager of ATICO, was very happy and optimistic after the Nature Shop finally opened its doors to the public. "The Nature Shop is only the beginning for us. ATICO still have many surprises in store for the Yemeni consumer in the near future," he said.

"At ATICO, we are trying hard to change the face of retailing in Yemen. God Willing this will prove successful, and will serve as a lead for others to follow," he added.

"Eventually, the Yemeni consumer will gain in having more top quality international brand names and products to choose from," he said.

Nadwa Al-Dawsari,
Yemen
Times



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إلى أحد العناوين أدناه:

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المركز الرئيسي	ص ١١٢	حي السلام	شارع الفضل العمودي	شارع الليث
شارع المواصلات	عمر - كرم	جوار البحث الجنائي	ص ١١-أ	ص ٣٧١
ص ٢٠٢		ص ٢٢٩		



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المهنة: _____

الهاتف (إنه): _____

نوعية السجاير التي تدخنها عادة _____

الإجابة لا تؤثر على فرصتك في الفوز _____

أنا مدخن وعصري ١٨ سنة أو أكثر: _____

التوقيع _____



سيارة لاندروفر - ديسكفري وجوائز ذهبية عدة

**NOTHING
BETTER**

