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As The Kidnapping Series Against Europeans Continue With The French How Long Will This Continue?

SANA'A: In efforts to release the head of the French embassy's cultural section, as well as a French language teacher, 28, and his wife, who is an archeologist, Mrs. Tara Steimer Herbet, 30, was here on their third day. Both are said to be linked to the embassy as contract employees, and not diplomats.

The two French were kidnapped at around 3:00 pm last Friday while travelling on a trip as tourists from the Marib region. The French man and his wife along with a member of Al-Ashraf tribe were in a traditional marketplace in the Sirwah area some 140 km east of the capital Sanaa. Entering Sirwah has been declared forbidden to foreigners because of many incidents, particularly, kidnappings, etc. However, due to the fact that Mrs. Herbet was an archeologist, she seemed to be doing some kind of study that required her to go into the area. Then the two French went through an unpaved road in an area called Habab (an area located in Khowlan/Bani Jabr, Bani Saad). Their driver, the tribe member from Al-Ashraf stopped the car to go to mosque for prayer. The car which was tracked by the kidnapping tribesmen was surrounded and the hostages were taken away. Despite the efforts of the driver to release them in tribal means, the kidnappers refused to release them.

The kidnappers, who belong to Al-Jabr tribe drove the abducted to a geographically rough area in a mountain called Al-Khanq so that

police forces cannot reach them easily. Later in the same day, the tribesmen were convinced that the two French civilians will not be as useful as they thought, especially since they claimed to be teachers and were about to be set free. Ironically, on Saturday, they changed their minds after hearing from international news agencies and TV channels that the two kidnapped were French diplomats. This immediately influenced them and they insisted on keeping them captive in an effort to coerce and blackmail the government into paying them a lucrative reward. Sheikh Faisal Juzeilan was the person behind the kidnapping. In order to release the couple, Juzeilan, a prominent Sheikh from Al-Jabr tribe, demanded the government to pay compensation for flood damage that occurred a few years ago in the tribes area, as well as other demands; such as machinery equipment, for agricultural use.

The government is trying not to directly interfere in the negotiations with Al-Jabr tribe. It instead, is depending on Al-Ashraf tribe, which is continuing its negotiations with the tribal members to release the kidnapped hostages.

Taking this to another level, the French government is putting intense pressure on the Yemeni government, within the past two days to release the hostages. It is expected that joint efforts by the French and Yemeni governments will eventually lead to the release of the hostages, as it has done in other kid-

napping cases. Some rumors stating that the kidnapped were the French Embassy Commercial Attache had spread all over the country. Later on, news came stating that the Commercial Attache, Mr. Micel Dhe was not kidnapped and in fact, was at the Chancellery on Saturday. Even though the French embassy in Sana'a refused to comment or identify the hostages, the issue seems to have risen in the international arena, while the French government pressures the Yemeni government for a swift and unconditional release of the two hostages.

This incident is the last, in a series of kidnapping incidents that continue to happen, especially to Europeans. Reality is beginning to take its toll on the country's tourism industry which is currently going through the most devastating periods of its time. Yet the question of whether this will end or not is still not answered!

In a special statement to Yemen Times yesterday, Nasser Ali Al-Hayyal, sheik of Al-Jabr tribe said, "Police forces from the Al-Watada unit are currently proceeding to our tribe's location at at Iyal Al-Saeed in Mareb in an attempt to exert pressure to release the hostages. However, they know that reaching us takes a lot of time and effort." However, reports say that the hostages are in fact not in the area where the troops are heading to because the kidnappers took them to another area where troops cannot easily reach.

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YT Weekly Opinion Poll

Yemen Times Opinion Poll Question is at: <http://www.yementimes.com/ytpoll>

The poll reflects the opinions of internet users who chose to participate, and not necessarily of the general public.

Question:
How do you view the latest obstacles the presidential candidate, Mr. Najeeb Qahtan Al-Shaabi is currently facing?

Results:

Do you think that the presidential elections have any relation with the recent government attacks on the independent and opposition press through lawsuits, etc.?

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Bab Al-Yemen Explosion, Murderer Stands on Trial!

SANA'A: Sana'a's Eastern court, chaired by Judge Mohammed Dahman started its first session in the Bab Al-Yemen explosion. Thirteen people, including the 42-year old murderer, Ali Abdullah Hussein Al-Hijri, were accused in this incident which occurred on Wednesday, August 4th. The general prosecutor listed the following accusations:

- The murder of 5 innocent men with a Russian made hand grenade thrown into a crowd of 42 people.
- The murder of 2 men with his machine gun.
- The attempted killing of 38 people with an explosive Russian hand grenade.
- Attempted murder with a deadly weapon on three innocent men.
- Assault of a number of policemen while trying to save the injured and trying to stabilize conditions.
- Breaking and Entering into the house of Fatima Ali Zeyd Al-Sayyani.
- Carrying deadly arms and explosives without a license.

The prosecutor also accused the 4 men of attempting to deceive Al-Hijri by selling him a watch for a much higher price than it is worth. After realizing that the watch was not worth the price, Al-Hijri demanded his YR 4,000 back. However, the watch salesman refused and instead Ammar Mohammed Murad took the watch and ran away. The murderer then could not control his nerves and threw the bomb at him in a crowd. The 12 men were also accused by the attorney to have tried to gain profit by misleading the customer to buy a watch that does not have a value of no more than YR 500 for YR 2000.

A Letter to the President from the Article 19 Organization "Stop Press Oppression"

The Director of the London based Article 19 Organization (International Centre Against Censorship), Mr. Malcom Smart sent a letter to President Saleh regarding the latest incidents against the free press. In its introductory statement, the organization said the following:

"International law states that everyone should have the right to freedom of expression and access to information. These rights make up the most potent force to pre-empt repression, conflict, war, genocide and underpin and safeguard other fundamental human rights". In its letter, the organization expressed deep concern over the recent development regarding the oppression of the free press. They drew the attention to the last lawsuits issued against two newspaper journalists, namely Al-Ayyam's chief editor, Hisham Basharaheel, who received a 6 month jail sentence and reporter Ali Haitham Al-Ghareeb received a 10 month jail sentence. The organization described the clear contradiction between what is said by the government and what is implemented in

practice, especially since the country had gathered 16 nations in the last Emerging Democracies Forum held in Sana'a. The organization expressed its dissatisfaction with the recent violations against journalists. They stated that such acts discourage journalists of doing their job adequately. Knowing the possibility of being interrogated when writing an article or reporting an incident, these journalists prefer not to do it. In the hope that the leadership would prevent such acts in the future, the organization requested a quick response in cancelling the issued sentences.



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The prosecutor demanded that the death penalty be imposed on Al-Hijri and sentence the rest to prison. Attorney Mohammed Naji Allaw had been appointed by the families of the victims in this case. On the other hand, Abdulmalik Al-Khateeb and Mohamed Ahmed Hameed were appointed as the lawyers of the 12 other defendants, while Al-Hijri had no legitimate lawyer because his family did not want to provide legal representation.

Investigation on the Helicopter Crash Complete

SANA'A: The official investigation in the helicopter crash that took place approximately 10 days ago has finally reached a conclusion. The final report states that the incident happened as a direct result of the pilot's fault during the inspection flight over Al-Abr desert in the Hadramout Province. The helicopter crashed in August while on duty. All 17 men who were on board died immediately after the crash, which resulted in a wrecked helicopter. The burned bodies of the victims were barely identifiable due to the furious fire that erupted on the plane, which was thought to be loaded with explosives and other weapons. The government had furiously denied the claims of the Islamist Abyan Army which claimed responsibility for this horrible crash. The report also stated that the high temperatures and the pilot's inability to control the plane moments after takeoff had caused the helicopter to fall from a 1300m height to the ground. The extra weight on the helicopter was also a factor in the crash. The final results of the investigation were given by the official media and newspapers and the dead were buried at the martyrs' graveyard in Sana'a City last Monday.

إقبال متزايد على صحيفة "يمن تايمز"

ارتفعت مبيعات الصحيفة في الأسبوع الماضي بشكل ملحوظ بعد التحسينات في الشكل والمحتويات. كما أرسل العديد من القراء كويونات المسابقة والتي الغرض منها رفع عدد القراء وتشجيعهم على قراءة الصحيفة. وتسمى الصحيفة ترعة قيمة جوائز المسابقة إلى 25,000 ريال على الأقل في المستقبل القريب لتوزع على خمسة متسابقين. ترقبوا تحسينات وإضافات جديدة في المستقبل وتابعوا قراءة "يمن تايمز" كل أسبوع!

Yemen Times Newspaper Sales Increase

As a direct result of the enhancement of layout and quality of the paper, the sales of the Yemen Times increased last week. Thousands of readers participated in the weekly competition that was also an attempt to attract more readers, and encourage Yemenis to read the paper and improve their English. In the near future, the paper is planning for a total YR 25,000 for the competition. Stay Tuned!

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Editorial

Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf
Chief Editor

The Solution to Kidnapping Is a Matter of Commitment

Moments after receiving the news of the kidnapping of the French couple, I decided to change the editorial to focus on the important issue of kidnapping. Today, Yemen is beginning to be well-known for the kidnapping incidents that have taken place recently. Prior to 1999, some foreigners began to think that kidnapping had turned out to be a sort of tour journey or experience. Some even confessed that they wanted to come to Yemen only to be kidnapped and driven to the mountains to experience the world of the bedouins and how they live, what they eat, and to experience the well-known tribal hospitality. However, when the killing of the four British nationals happened at the beginning of the year, the image began to change. "This is no more a tribal hospitality, it is a massacre" they began to think. As the days went on, the number of tourists continued to decline until it reached a record low level this year. The tourism industry, which is one of the most valuable industries for any country, began to fall apart, unfortunately, hotels and resorts felt the difference. Our country lost billions of dollars because of the loss in this public sector. Everyday, it continues to lose more and more.

Despite the discounts offered in the Yemenia flights, hotel charges and unbelievably, the tourist agencies; the tourist number is still remarkably low. There is a good reason for this: "Tourists feel that they are not secure".

In a country where weapons are in the hands of everyone, how can peace and stability be secured? Today, the authorities are paying the price of a continued period of ignorance and carelessness. In the 1980's and 1990's, weapons have been sold and traded everywhere. Although, the government had issued several laws forbidding the carrying of weapons in the last few years, weapons continue to be carried and used everywhere. Some may say, "Well, the same number of weapons present in the 1980's is the same as today so, why didn't the tribes kidnap then?" The answer is quite simple: Tribes in those times were able to cope with life. The economy was much better while the average income was enough to make ends meet. Today, the situation is different. One could perceive of all these weapons as a time bomb. Its effects were not felt in the 1980's as they are today because now there is a reason to use them. Today, the reason is an economical one!

There is not a night I slept at home, in Al-Asbahi Housing Complex, without hearing the gunshots nearby. It has become a part of life which people continue to live by. What has developed over tens of years cannot simply be changed overnight. The solution is not that simple, because the condition is chronic. Unfortunately, this medicative process will be a lengthy one.

I have tried to analyze the problems and solutions by asking the following questions and coming up with the following answers. They are:

Q: Why are these tribesmen kidnapping tourists?

A: They want financial prosperity and accommodations because of the harsh economic conditions in the country.

Q: How do these tribesmen kidnap tourists?

A: They have weapons and networks that follow tourists to where they are. Ironically, the main reason is that this their means to by more weapons.

Q: Can the government disarm these tribesmen and henceforth, prevent them from kidnapping?

A: Of course not! The government cannot disarm a tribe because of traditional and cultural values. For a tribe, their weapon is their honor and by taking it away means waging war against them.

Q: Can the government win a war against the tribes?

A: A resounding "No" is the answer to this ambiguous question. A detailed answer is, "Never! Unfortunately, the tribal influence, on the state has developed extensively over the years and today, has become too strong to take back."

Q: What is the solution?

A: The only solution is a long-term plan of reconstructing the economy, in order to provide the Yemeni people, including the tribes, with adequate services and hence, take away the excuse of kidnapping tourists.

Q: To all our disfortune, the country is too poor and the government can do nothing to stabilize the economy. The investment, tourism industry, and other factors that the economy depends on are almost dead. How can the economy flourish?

A: It is not that there is no lack of funds. There is funds, but it is not used in the proper manner. Look at the thousands of villas there are throughout the country. Look at the fancy cars, the millions and millions of dollars spent on luxuries and miscellaneous things. There are funds, but they are not where they are supposed to be.

Q: How can we direct the money in the right direction?

A: Adequate management of Ministries and the Government Budget, while controlling corruption through proper and reliable government supervision.

Q: If these corrupt officials are the ones in authority, how can corruption be controlled?

A: The commitment of the President is enough! The corrupt leaders should immediately be fired. The honest and hard working leaders should be honored. If these two rules are implemented and directly monitored by the president, the economy will flourish immensely. If the economy flourishes, tribes will no longer kidnap people. Believe me, it is not a hobby that they enjoy. They see this as a means to an end for solving their problems. In all actuality the solution is reconstructing our economy. If Yemen, once again, gets back on the right track and revives its economy, than will on the road, once again, to assuring a secure and promising Yemen.

There would be hope for our country if the proper people are placed in the proper positions. If the authorities want a better tomorrow, they should have a strong commitment. Change and shuffles in cabinets happen. They should happen when needed. However, there also should be another change. It is the change of heart. It is commitment!



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Words of Wisdom

"It may be easy to ask people to rise up to the challenge. But, if there are enough community elders and leaders who can mobilize the people of Yemen, it can happen. It has happened before many times. It has to happen again."

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf (1951-1999)
Founder of the Yemen Times



In Brief

Aden Commercial Chamber to Host the Japanese Delegation

The Vice President of the Industrial and Commercial Chamber in Aden, Abdullah Salem Al-Ramah met Thursday August 19, 1999 with the chairman of the Japanese Exterior Trade Organization. Mr. Abdullah whole-heartedly welcomed the Japanese delegation and talked about the strong mutual bonds between the two countries. He stressed that attempts should be made in order to enhance these relations. He expressed his hopes that the Japanese investors will come to Yemen and invest in Aden, especially after it has been declared as a free zone. He also expressed the Yemeni appreciation for the continuous help Japan provided Yemen with. On the other hand, the chairman of the Japanese delegation appreciated the strong ties between the two countries. He also showed the desire of the Japanese companies to invest in Yemen. Following that, the two sides talked about strengthening cooperation between the two countries, as well as their future endeavors.

The Third Conference of the Yemeni Teachers' Syndicate

Under the title of "To have a more valid educational Syndicate structure", the inauguration of the third conference of the Yemeni teachers' syndicate was started Wednesday August 18, 1999 at the cultural center in Sana'a. It was sponsored by Abdullah Ben Huseein Al-Ahmar, Chairman of the Parliament. It was attended by some of the educational authorities and 310 out of 450 members of the third conference of the syndicate comprised all the governorates. Abdullah Mohammed Abo Ghaith, Chairman of Teachers Syndicate, asserted in his speech that the syndicate has achieved great accomplishments, the most important being their declaration of the teachers' law. This meets some of the ambitions of teachers in difficult times. The syndicate has stood in the face of depriving teachers because of the 20% rise in their salaries which was entitled to each employee in the country. The syndicate has also filed a case against the officials and won. The Chairman of teachers syndicate concluded his speech and said the following:

"The holding of the third conference for Yemeni teachers is a way to enhance the democratic process in our country."

A number of speeches were also presented at the conference to enhance the educational and structural unity."

A Trip to Wildlife Sanctuary Utmah

A cultural and tourist trip was organized by Utmah Wildlife Sanctuary on August 19 - 20, 1999. A good number of officials, ambassadors and journalists attended this visit. The organizers of the trip explained that the purpose of the trip was to make others acquainted with the tourist and archeological places in Utmah. The trip was also organized to prepare things for the two-day inclusive symposium, held in cooperation with UNISCO in the weeks to come. After the symposium, they will visit the protected district to have a closer look at the waterfalls and historical forts. A thorough survey about Utmah has been launched by the Yemen Times, it will be published in the coming issues.

Love Causes Eight Hostages of the Haraz Tribe to go on a Hunger Strike!

Eight persons from Haraz are still being kept as hostages by the Joham tribe for a month. The hostages have declared that if they are not let free, they will go on a hunger strike. It is reported that these hostages have been taken because a girl from Joham had eloped with her lover, Ahmad Sagheer Al-Harazi on 16-6-1999. In a meeting of Kholan tribes last Saturday, they made the verdict that people of Haraz have to accept the arbitration of the Joham tribe and give them 100 weapons, as well as two cars, providing the Joham tribe releases the hostages. Then, a period of two months has to be given to the people of Haraz so in order to bring back the eloped girl and her lover. However, a reliable source reported that the people of Joham will reject this arbitration. They will not release the hostages unless they know the destiny of their girl is known.

A Farewell Ceremony is Organized for the 6th summer vacation of students at Bader Scientific Center

A ceremony was organized

Graduates of The Faculty of Petroleum Still on Strike

After a strike lasting from last Tuesday, a meeting was held Sunday August 15, 1999 at the Ministry of Service to discuss the issue of students who received an order from the President to be employed at The Ministry of Oil. The meeting was attended by Rasheed Ba Rabaa, the Deputy Minister of Oil, the Deputy of the Ministry of Finance, the Deputy Minister of Service and Deputy of the Minister of Education. After a thorough discussion of this issue, they came up with the following solutions:

1- He who wishes to work in any economic

unit is entitled to do so.

2- The Ministry of Oil is obliged to organize summer courses for these engineers.

3- These engineers have to work in education for two years and then are eligible to join the Ministry of Oil.

However, the students highly reject this. They request the application of the President's order. They also decided to continue their strike in front of the Ministry of Oil until their requests are met. They have also decided to file a case against the Ministry of Oil for failing to meet its promises and to carry out the President's order.



Tuesday, 17-8-1999, at Bader Scientific Center in Sana'a for the graduate students on summer vacation. The ceremony was attended by the sponsor of the ceremony, Mohammed Mansoor and a large number of people. The ceremony was initiated with the Holy Qura'n. Then, a speech was made by the establisher of the center and mosque, Dr. Al-Mortadi Ben Zaid. The main objective of the center is to protect children from going astray. The center is actually an example for other centers and schools to be followed. After the speech of Al-Mortadi, a test was made for the graduates. The attendees were amazed because the graduates of this center answered all the questions asked by the attendees in an open discussion.

Wednesday, August 18th, 1999, to enhance the Yemeni-German relationship in the field of commerce and industry. The Germans are interested in the Yemeni market and are deeply concerned with enhancing it. On the other hand, the Yemeni businessmen are satisfied with the worm friendship and the sincerity of the German companies they deal with.

Police Security Set Fire on a Small House

A small house belonging to a family who had returned after the Gulf War located at Al-Shohadaa district, in Al-Hodaia was set on fire. It is reported that the house was set on fire after the police security attacked the house and opened fire on its owner, Ahmad Al-Sabaak and his brother. They were then beat up. It is also reported that the police had intervened to solve a problem between Al-Sabaak family and one of their neighbors regarding a small

The German Embassy held a reception for the Yemeni businessmen in the house of the commercial attaché, Stefan Messerer, last

WARNING

Yemen Times would like to note that its legal and only representative in Aden, Mr. Ridhwan Al-Saqqaf. Any deals or agreements on behalf of Yemen Times with any other person is illegal and meaningless.

تحذير

تود صحيفة، يمن تايمز، إشعار القراء والعلماء الكرام بأن مندوب الصحيفة ومدير مكتبها في عدن هو الأخ رضوان علوي السقايف. لذا يرجى التعامل معه فقط فيما يخص الصحيفة. ونحن غير مسؤولين عن أي تعامل مع أي شخص آخر يدعي أنه مندوب عن الصحيفة.

area behind their houses. Also involved in the problem another person who claims the possession of this land. Police are still conducting investigations.

Two Workers Dead and Six Poisoned at the Water and Sewage Maintenance Factory

Two workers died and six were poisoned last Saturday as a result of shocking gases in one of the main drains at

Al-Sabaliah district, in Hodeida. It is reported that one of the dead as well as four of the affected is daily paid. It is surprising to find some of these workers working for years and they have not been enrolled as permanent employees. They also had no form of insurance. What is astonishing is that these workers do the maintenance work without wearing masks or respirators and especially uniforms.

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Yemeni Press Scanner

Al-Showrah weekly newspaper -15-8-99

Yemeni Fishermen are calling for urgent help!

Yemeni fishermen were stopped by Eritrean Coast Guards to fish in the Yemen shores, which is actually on the Yemeni border. The Eritreans claimed that the Yemeni fishermen are fishing in the waters under Eritrean sovereignty. Accordingly, the Yemeni fishermen urged the government to protect them from the Eritrean government's continued provocation, aggravated lately to obstruct the Yemeni fishing activities, which is their only source of problems. Many boats belonging to Yemeni fishermen are still held in the custody of the Eritrean authority.

Al-Balag weekly newspaper - 17-8-99

The Daham tribe is willing to stop the clash with the Waelah tribe if their ravished lands are returned!

One of the sheikhs in Daham said that his tribe is willing to hand over all the weapons they possess to the government, on the condition that the Waelah tribe should withdraw completely from all the lands on their property. He added, their dispute with Waelah is a case of looting. He asserted that the Daham tribe has submitted several letters to the President of the Republic claiming back their stolen lands by Waelah. "The fight will only end if the Daham lands in dispute are returned", the Sheikh added.

Rai Al-A'am weekly newspaper -17-8-99

The Industrial Bank is to soon be privatized!

The Assessment Committee authorized to evaluate the monetary status of the Industrial Bank; which will be privatized soon, has finalized their duties. The committee reports showed that the main reason of bankruptcy is the unpaid loan made to the following companies: The Yemeni Trade and Industry Company, Yemen Dairy Company, Al-Sawari Group, Yemeni Refined Salt Company, The Yemeni Marble Company and Mr. Mohamed Abdu Rabou Al-Behani. All of them above failed to fulfill their financial obligations to the bank.

Al-Methaq weekly newspaper - 16-8-99

1- Al-Masri's announcements have nothing to do with the facts!

Abu-Hamzah Al-Masri is to be called to the British Court in early September 1999 for a bail trial. Notably, he is accused of arranging subversive acts outside Britain. The Yemeni Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdullah Al-Saidi, said, "Yemen has provided the British Court with new evidence that prove Al-Masri's involvement in many acts of sabotage towards Yemen."

2- Medi area - Hajjah district is observing implementation of several projects

It is expected that in the Hajjah district of Medi will inaugurate the stones of foundation for several vital projects, such as the following:

- 1) The construction of a fishing port financed, in conjunction with the Fishing Production Support Funds.
- 2) Paving the Medi-Harad road financed with joint support from the Yemeni and Japanese Governments. The governor of Hajjah said, "The new projects in the Medi area will revitalize international trading, with Medi being one of the important outlets of Yemen."

3- The election campaign will be launched at the end of the week for an upcoming nominee of the People's General Congress Party

It is expected that during the next few days, Yemen will observe the launch of an election campaign for the nominated candidate of the People General Congress Party.

Rai weekly newspaper - 17-8-99

1-Sana'a court canceled the Ministerial decree regarding the increased salary of the teachers

The West Court of Sana'a announced its final verdict in the cancelling of the Ministerial decree that deprives teachers from the 20% increase in their salaries. The verdict which was appealed by the Teacher's Union is considered a great achievement. The verdict showed that deprivation is illegal and that teachers are one of the civil servants in the government sector.

2- Committee of Shabwah tribes to meet the Yemeni President

Shabwah tribes formed a committee of five sheikhs to meet with the President of the Republic. In the meeting, the committee is intending to approach the President not to sign the final verdict of the death penalty against Al-Mehdar, leader of the Aden/Abyan Islamic Army. Mentioning that, more than 300 persons from Shabwah district were intending to meet the President of the Republic for the same purpose, but they were forced to return back, by the security police at the checkpoint of Yasleh area.

3- Deal for selling Czechs tanks to Yemen

Within the coming few days the Czech Government will approve a deal for the sales of military tanks to Yemen. The Czech Republic will sell Yemen more than one hundred tanks including models T5A and T55, decided to be supplied from the Czechs Military Army. A media source said

that, the Czech's Republic's Minister of Defense submitted a petition to his government regarding the same issue, which will develop the marketing campaign among ten competitors, from previously socialist countries.

4- Efforts are exerted to release the two murderers of traffic policemen

Important political figures are exerting great efforts to release the two men, who killed two traffic policemen in Sana'a city last week. A reliable source said, the Traffic Administration is rejecting any kind of intervention to compromise. The two victims are traffic policemen who were shot to death while on duty. They stopped two young men with a government numbered car that ran a red traffic light. After a fight, the two young men opened fire on the traffic policemen who were seriously injured and then died before reaching the hospital.

Al-Wahdah weekly newspaper -18.8.99

1-All statements of Al-Masri have nothing to do with facts

Political sources mocked the rumors that said the terrorist Abu Hamzah Al-Masri assured the incident of the helicopter crash and the bombing at Bab Al-Yemen were carried out by members of Aden /Abyan Islamic Army. Some sources say that all these statements are reflecting a mentally-sick personality who is seeking to draw the attention and agitate the public opinion. He added the helicopter crash was due to a technical problem and the investigation proved so. The explosion at Bab al-Yemen is a criminal case of an individual who had been arrested and still under interrogation.

2- 90% of the staff in the Free zone are Yemenies

The Deputy Chairman of the General Authority of the Free Zone of Aden, Mr. Derham Noman said that the actual inauguration of the second phase of the Aden Container Terminal and the Industrial Storage Project will be in the near future. He also said that the air transport sector is one of the projects which is given more attention. He added that 90% of the staff force in the Free zone are Yemenies.

3- The Journalist, Jamal Amer was released in the Ibb district

Ultimately, the Journalist, Jamal Amer was released in the Ibb district, due to the great efforts exerted by the Yemeni Media Union. The Secretary General of the Media Union, Mr. Mutahar Al-Ashmouri, highly praised the achievement of the Union. He also asserted that the Union is rejecting and condemning any kind of arrest that does not comply with the official decree from legal authorities.

4- Management Skills and Gender Analysis were the topics at the workshop of the NGO

Last Tuesday, the Non Government Organization (NGO), in accordance with the Post Beijing Follow up Operation Projects (phase 2) inaugurated the workshop symposium that lasted three days at Haddah hotel in Sana'a city. During which the main issue discussed was the Management Skills and Gender Analysis. The Supervisor of the European Mission Program Office, Deputy Resident Representative of the UNDP and other high ranking Yemeni Government Officials attended the symposium. The Chairman of the Women National Committee, Mrs. Amat Al-Alem Al-Souswah made a speech, in which, she highlighted the importance of the women role in the development, mainly depend upon the activation of the potential skills, which are not promoted yet. She added that, the embodiment of a woman in any kind of development can not be achieved without education. She expressed optimistically that, during the year 2000 Yemen will never achieve any progress without women's contributions and their valuable role in participation in developments and productions.

Al-Wehdawi weekly newspaper - Yemen 17.8.99

1- Soudah and Al-Faizi tribes in Al-Kaflah Amran district resumed the fight

The clashes between Soudah and Al-Faizi tribes in Al-Kaflah area, Amran district lately resumed. Both confronted parties using different kinds of weapons. Latest information stated that the Soudah tribe had captured the Sulh area of Al-Faizi tribes, which led to the death of one person and injured many others from Al-Faizi tribes. Sheikhs from different tribes are exerting their utmost efforts to stop the contention between the two confronted tribes to save any kind of further deterioration and destruction which may result to further conflict.

2- 10 people arrested and Accused of killing an Eritrean National

The General Director of the Security Police in Al-Mansorah, Hodeidah district arrested 10 persons accused of killing an Eritrean National. Sources claim that the General Director of the Security Police is bargaining the detainees to pay YR10 thousand in order to post bail, leading to their release. As the offer was rejected, the amount was reduced to YR 2000. The detainees submitted several letters of complaints, regarding their arbitrary arrest.

Al-Sahwah weekly newspaper -19.8.99

Yemeni fishermen released

Currently, the Eritrean Authorities released the Yemeni fishermen whom were recently detained. Last Sunday seventeen fishermen arrived to Yemen, some of the detainees said that, they have been deprived from food in the last two days before their release. They also stated that the Eritrean Authorities have gibbered the arrest of the Yemeni fishermen; due to the fact that some of them used lights at late nights, bordering nearby Eritrean shores, which is prohibited. This is a strictly observed regulation, particularly at the present moment, with the on-going war between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

26 September weekly newspaper - Sana'a 19.8.99

1-Exile of 298 persons, illegally entered Yemen

Issuing computerized passports has started in two Yemeni embassies, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. This measure had been taken as the Emigration and Passports Authority had finalized all arrangements in order to issue such passports in all Yemeni embassies abroad, by the end of the current year. The Chairman of the Emigration and Passport Authority, Mr. Mohammed Nagad said, "that one of the characteristics of the computerized passports is the difficulty of its falsification. It no longer needs the normal ordinary stamp any longer. He further added that efforts are jointly exerted by the Surveillance of the Border Outlets and the Emigration and Passports Authority to capture foreigners illegally entering Yemen." The latest report stated that approximately 148 foreigners are in the process of being deported from Yemen, during the coming week and 150 foreigners have been deported last week as a result. All individuals deported entered Yemen without legal papers.

2-New Italian Ambassador to Yemen

Italian Government has nominated new Ambassador to Yemen. He will soon hand over his credentials papers as new Ambassador to the President of the Republic. The new Ambassador will replace the previous one, who finished his tenure in Yemen.

Attariq weekly newspaper - Aden 17.8.99

1- Yemen has main potentials, which is not yet excavated to occupy a location in the oil map

The General Manager of Canadian Oxy stated that, "Yemen has main potentials, which has not yet been explored in order to occupy a location in the oil map." He strongly believes that, by the end of the current year, the oil produc-

tion will increase up to 413 thousand barrels per day, comparing with the 385 bpd produced last year in 1998. He added that Canadian Oxy is one of the biggest oil producing companies in Yemen. In the first quarter of the current year, Masallah block produced 210 thousand barrel p/d. Canadian Oxy is intending to launch a promotional campaign for oil investment in Yemen by the beginning of September 1999.

2- Unknown group opens fire on military camp in Mawan, Abyan district

Non-official sources said that an unknown group opened fire on one of the military camps in Mawan, Abyan district, leaving behind three soldiers killed. However, the credibility of the information is still uncertain. The attack terrified the inhabitants of the area, as they exchanged fire between the attackers and the soldiers of the camp, which lasted three hours.

Al-Asbou weekly newspaper - Sana'a-19.8.99

1-The Minister of Interior to be called upon to court

Two lawyers appointed by the Chief Editor of Al-Asbou newspaper and the Journalist of Al-Wehdawi newspaper are intending to lodge legal suit against the Minister of Interior, Mr. Hussein Arab, due to the fact that the first journalist was exposed to an unsuccessful kidnapping attempt and the second individual was arbitrarily arrested. A source in the security police said that the arrest came via the instruction of the Minister of interior. The Journalist stated that the arrest came without any trial, which is contrary to the Yemeni constitution, which respects the freedom of press.

Al-Ayyam weekly newspaper -Aden-21.8.99

1- Bomb explosion inside the house of the General Director of Justice Office in Lahj

Last Thursday, an unidentified group threw a bomb inside the house of the General Director of Justice Office in Lahj district. The explosion of the bomb caused minor damages to the house and no casualties were reported. The incident is being investigated and no further information was yet released.

2- The nominated candidate in the Presidential election may withdraw

A Reliable source said that, Mr. Nageeb Kahtan Al-Shaabi, the nominated candidate for the upcoming presidential election hints to withdraw from the election. If so, this means the Presidential election will not take place as scheduled on 23 September 99, thus the situation will call for nomination of new candidates. Source added that, the main reason of Al-Shaabi's withdrawal is that, the Supreme Council Election is not providing him with the required information. Nonetheless, he is not aware of the relevant parties that would allow the budget needed for running his campaign.

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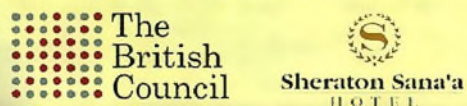
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Amnesty 1999 Report on Yemen: Empty Promises: Government Commitments and The State of Human Rights in Yemen

(iii) Death row
The number of people currently under sentence of death in Yemen is not known. However, when Amnesty International delegates met government officials in Ta'iz in 1998 they were informed that there were 79 individuals, in Ta'iz prison alone, whose death sentences have been upheld on appeal and whose cases are now before the Supreme Court, the final stage of appeal before ratification of the sentence by the President. In some cases trial irregularities indicate that the defendant has not yet received a fair trial in accordance with international standards. Amnesty International urges the government to ensure that such irregularities are addressed without fail in the Supreme Court. Fu'ad al-Shahari is among those sentenced to death. He was found guilty of premeditated murder and was sentenced to death by the Court of First Instance in Ta'iz in November 1996. His sentence was upheld by the Court of Appeal in November 1997. The case is now pending before the Supreme Court. Fu'ad al-Shahari was found guilty of premeditated murder despite the circumstances which surrounded the killing. The killing reportedly took place in May 1996 in the town of Ta'iz while armed men were attempting to arrest Fu'ad al-Shahari without a warrant. Fu'ad al-Shahari had reportedly been stopped in his car by Captain Mohammed al-'Ameri of the PS. He was then surrounded by armed men. A gun battle ensued, the precise details of which remain unclear. However, it is known that a number of shots were fired, including at least one by Fu'ad al-Shahari, and that Captain Mohammed al-'Ameri was killed. After his arrest Fu'ad al-Shahari was reportedly held in incommunicado detention for one month, during which he was reportedly beaten in order to force him to confess. The existence of four different versions of his confession and of contradictory forensic evidence appears to have not been taken fully into account by the court. At the Court of Appeal it appears that Fu'ad al-Shahari did not have a lawyer and, in presenting his own appeal, was not permitted to cross examine at least some of the witnesses. Hamoud Murshid Hassan Ahmed is also sentenced to be executed for murder. Hamoud Murshid Hassan Ahmed, born in 1962, was a captain in the Yemeni army. He was arrested on 17 July 1994, reportedly without a warrant, in connection with the murder of the arresting officer's brother. The murder had taken place in 1982 in the context of political struggles ongoing in the country at that time. In August 1994 the Ministry of Defence ordered that Hamoud Murshid Hassan Ahmed be released under a general amnesty, which covered those detained for alleged murders during the political struggles of 1982. However he was not released and in June 1995 was found guilty, on a separate charge of murder, which also took place in 1982 amidst the same political struggles. He was sentenced to death by the Court of First Instance in Ta'iz. The sentence was upheld by the Court of Appeal on 11 May 1998. His case is now before Supreme Court. Hamoud Murshid Hassan Ahmed has been convicted of a different murder from the one concerning which he was originally arrested. In addition trial proceedings show that the date of the alleged murder has not been accurately established and documentary evidence that Hamoud Murshid Hassan Ahmed may have been abroad at the time of the alleged murder appears to have been discounted without having been fully investigated. In addition to the above two cases Amnesty International is concerned that a number of women appear to be facing charges which may carry the death penalty allegedly without adequate access to legal assistance and

information about the proceedings against them. Amnesty International has called on the government to investigate these cases without delay. Hayat 'Ali 'Abdullah, Naim Ahmed Naji and Samra 'Ubayd Fari are all detained in Ta'iz prison. They have all been arrested in connection with murder and allegedly none of them has had access to a lawyer. Hayat 'Ali 'Abdullah, when interviewed in 1998, had been in prison for a year and a half without access to a lawyer. Samra 'Abd Fari had been in prison without access to a lawyer for a year. Amnesty International fears that these women may be just a small proportion of the people currently facing capital charges in Yemen who are denied guarantees for fair trial.

6. Possible extrajudicial killing or use of excessive force
Extrajudicial executions, including killings resulting from the deliberate use of excessive lethal force continue to be a serious human rights concern in Yemen. Dozens of people have been killed in such ways since the unification of the country in 1990. Some have been deliberately killed; others were shot during protests and demonstrations. Most of the victims did not appear to present any danger to members of the security forces when they were killed. Their deaths may have been as a result of deliberate use of excessive lethal force. The UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials state that in the dispersal of assemblies police should avoid using force, and, in cases where force is used it must be restricted "to the minimum extent necessary". In 1998 clashes between security forces and protestors resulted in dozens of killings, of both security forces and demonstrators. Most of the demonstrations were sparked by the government's withdrawal of subsidies on basic foods and fuels. The government was acting on the advice of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank). The withdrawal of subsidies resulted in price increases of up to 40 per cent. A week of clashes in June 1998, mostly in Sana'a and other parts of northern Yemen, reportedly resulted in about 50 deaths. Other killings took place during demonstrations against other government policies, such as plans to administratively divide the province of Hadramout. Amongst those killed during demonstrations in 1998 were Ahmed 'Omar Barjash, a driver and father of 11 children, and Faraj Murjan Ben Hammam, a teacher with nine children. They were killed in al-Mukalla on 27 April 1998, in circumstances that suggest they were the victims of the use of excessive force or extrajudicial execution. The killings took place during a demonstration against government policies. According to eye witnesses the protestors were few in number and did not present a threat to the security forces. Members of the army, the police and the PS were present. Shots were fired during the march and both Ahmed 'Omar Barjash and Faraj Murjan Ben Hammam were killed.

Amnesty International expressed its concern about these killings in a letter dated 11 May 1998 to President 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh. The organization called for clarification of the reports of the killings and urged that an investigation into the incident be carried out. Amnesty International further urged that the findings of such investigation should be made public and anyone found responsible for the killings should be brought to justice. Amnesty International notes that the parliamentary Committee for General Freedoms and Human Rights carried out an investigation into the killings and that the committee's subsequent report recommended that those responsible for the killings should be brought to justice. Amnesty International is not

aware of any steps taken by the government to implement these recommendations and has received no response to its inquiries.

IV. CONCLUSION: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Amnesty Intehas identified a consistent pattern of human rights violations in Yemen, continuing over a period of several years. Some violations, such as arbitrary arrest on political grounds and torture, are explicitly banned by Yemeni law. They continue to occur, however, because the perpetrators of such crimes are rarely, if ever, brought to justice. Similarly "disappearances" and extrajudicial killings, or the use of excessive lethal force, remain uninvestigated. No steps have been taken to tackle the practice of detaining women beyond expiry of their sentence. The death penalty remains prescribed by Yemeni law and is often carried out after trials which fail to meet international standards for fair trial. Amnesty International urges the government of Yemen to finally act on its previous commitments and to reconsider its position on other concerns. Amnesty International is calling on the government of Yemen to close the gap between its obligations under international human rights treaties and their actual implementation.

1. Political Arrest and detention
Amnesty International calls on the government to hold all arresting authorities, including the PS, to account. The government must take steps to ensure that its own regulations are adhered to so that no person is arrested and detained solely on the basis of their political, religious or other beliefs, ethnic origin, gender, or other discriminatory basis.

(i) Immediate steps must be taken to ensure that arrests and detention are subject to independent and impartial judicial supervision.

(ii) All arresting authorities must be made aware that arrests can only be carried out in accordance with the existing guarantees of Yemeni law. Such authorities must also be made aware that contravening the guarantees of the Yemeni law is a criminal, and therefore punishable, offence.

(iii) The government must take steps to ensure that all detainees have immediate access to a lawyer and doctor and the opportunity to challenge the legality of their detention.

2. Torture
The government of Yemen must take immediate steps to ensure that its own prohibition on torture, provided for in the Constitution and the Penal Code is enforced.

(i) The government should carry out independent and impartial investigations into all cases of torture and bring to justice anyone found to be responsible. Such inquiries should be carried out in accordance with international human rights standards, including those contained in the Convention against Torture.

(ii) The government should put in place mechanisms which allow complaints of torture to be lodged and independent investigations to take place promptly. Such measures will contribute towards ending the climate of impunity currently enjoyed whereby many investigations into allegations of torture take place long after visible signs of torture are no longer detectable.

(iii) All defendants must have regular access to doctors throughout their detention.

3. "Disappearances"
The government of Yemen must take measures which unequivocally condemn the use of "disappearance" as a political tool and make it clear that such practices will be subject to investigation and that anyone found responsible will be brought to justice.

(i) The government of Yemen should honour its commitment, made to Amnesty International in 1996, to investigate all cases of "disappearance" since 1994.

(ii) Amnesty International again calls on the government to fulfill its international obligations under the UN Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance by investigating all cases of "disappearance" in the former Yemen Arab Republic, the former People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the current Republic of Yemen.

(iii) The government should take all the necessary measures to act on all the recommendations of WGEID, including the recommendations to establish a database of "disappeared" persons and to settle all remaining claims to compensation made by families of the "disappeared"; to take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent and terminate acts of enforced "disappearance" in any territory under its jurisdiction; to make all acts of enforced "disappearance" offences under criminal law; to ensure that persons deprived of their liberty shall only be held in officially recognised places of detention; to ensure that nobody is held in incommunicado detention; and to ensure that anyone deprived of their liberty is brought before a judicial authority promptly after detention.

4. Human rights violations against women

As in the past Amnesty International urges the government to take effective measures to end the practice of detaining women beyond expiry of their sentence and other discriminatory practices.

(i) The government should ensure that cases of women allegedly detained beyond their sentence or detained without charge or sentence are investigated. Any women found to be held by reason of their gender should be immediately released.

(ii) The government should remind all

authorities concerned with detention that detaining a woman beyond the expiry of her sentence, or if she is not charged with a recognizably criminal offence, is itself a criminal and therefore a punishable offence.

5. Death penalty and executions
Amnesty International is opposed to the death penalty in all cases, as the ultimate violation of the right to life, guaranteed by Article 3 of the UDHR and Article 6 of the ICCPR. The organization urges the government of Yemen to reconsider its position on the death penalty and to take the following immediate urgent steps:

(i) The Government of Yemen should ensure that all defendants facing the death penalty are tried in accordance with international standards for fair trial, including Article 14 of the ICCPR and the Safeguards guaranteeing the protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty.

(ii) All defendants should have access to legal representation and adequate time and facilities to prepare a defence, as well as an opportunity to appeal the verdict and sentence and the right to seek pardon or commutation of the sentence.

(iii) The government should work progressively towards the abolition of the death penalty, in line with resolution 1999/61 of the Commission on Human Rights, Question of the death penalty

and in due course should ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR Aiming at the Abolition of the Death Penalty.

(iv) Pending abolition the government should commute outstanding death sentences and refrain from imposing further death sentences.

6. Possible extrajudicial killing or use of excessive force

(i) The government should carry out a thorough, independent and impartial investigation into the deaths of Ahmed 'Omar Barjash and Faraj Murjan Ben Hammam and bring to justice anyone found responsible.

(ii) The government should ensure that all such killings are subject to investigations, which should be carried out in accordance with international human rights standards including the Principles for the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-Legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions. The findings of such investigations should be made public and anyone found responsible brought to justice.

(iii) The government should issue instructions to the security forces not to use force in the dispersal of demonstrations and, in all circumstances, to use force only in accordance with the provisions of the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials.

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Taking Note of Democratic Bloom in the World's Quiet Corners

By: William A. Rugh

In some remote corners of the world, a quiet push for democracy is going on the most Americans never hear about. In June, a US organization, the National Democratic Institute (NDI), organized a conference of 16 small nations that have. In the last decade or so begun to adopt democratic practices. The conference, held in Sana'a, Yemen, brought together representatives of these countries to share experiences and ideas, and reinforce a common determination to transform their societies. That transformation can't happen quickly. It needs a sustained, long-term effort, as the more than 200 participants recognized. But to the handful of American observers, these countries have already accomplished a great deal. Look at Yemen, the conference host. It has had two parliamentary elections (1993 and 1997) involving millions of enthusiastic voters - including women - and many political parties. Newspapers representing dozens of contrasting views, some harshly critical of the government, appear regularly. Private organizations abound, operating unhindered. None of these democratic features existed a decade ago. Other small countries have had smaller experiences, equally unknown outside.

Why haven't Americans paid attention to the emergence of democracy abroad, except perhaps in Eastern Europe? First, all of these countries are small and poor. Most Americans know nothing about Benin, Mali, Malawi, Ghana, Mozambique, and they aren't in crisis or making trouble for their neighbors, so the don't attract attention. Third, they have no oil or other important natural resources, and very limited military strength, so they rarely come up in Washington policy discussions. Yet, Americans should know something about the emergence of democracies in may places. Democracy is probably more likely than a dictatorship to explode in a sudden upheaval than would potentially cause international problems, perhaps requiring US intervention. Democratic regimes, also, are more likely to see eye to eye with America on basic issues of concern. Americans tend to take democracy for granted, but the few of us who were observers at the Sana'a conference were

reminded about some of its basic principles. Third World delegates stressed that free elections aren't sufficient to make a democracy, but other things are needed free speech, a free press, independent judges, the right to organize private groups and the full participation of women in political life. They emphasized that governments must be free of corruption and official acts open to public scrutiny. One politician from central Asian pointed out that because corruption is usually hidden, it is more difficult to combat than street crime. A Moroccan speaker argued that true democracy requires at least one peaceful transfer of national leadership to the opposition party. A Ghanaian speaker asserted that the third world should follow Americas example and have weak political parties rather than the European model of strong parties which he said, distorts the public will at election time.

Completing the transformation to democracy, they explained, is their struggle to promote economic development. Energizing the economy often requires belt-tightening measures, which are likely also to be demanded by organizations like the International Monetary Fund and World Bank as a condition of loans. But the people who suffer from belt-tightening can use the new democratic tools of free press and elections to put pressure on governments to resist such measures. Thus, Sana'a delegates appealed to the US and other for help in easing the economic burden. A US banker urged delegates to create incentive for foreign investments, the Namibian Prime Minister admitted that made sense. But these poor countries such as Yemen, struggling to democratize while privatizing and rationalizing their economies, do deserve US attention and aid in the crucial transition phase. The amounts of money that can make a difference - only tens of million of dollars - are very modest compared with what the US spends on weapons. For America, this would be a very worthwhile investment. It is in the national interest to support these transitions.

William A. Rugh, who served as the US ambassador to Yemen and the United Arab Emirates, is president of America-Mideast Educational and Training Services Inc. in Washington, D. C.

Yemeni Artists are in Full Bright Colors in Ravenna International Ceremony

What our artists have achieved this year in Italy is actually another victory added to their record of achievements. Their excellent performance in the Ravenna international ceremony in Italy, is a sure sign that proves that Yemeni songs are in constant progress and steady development. Our artists have showed that they are distinguished and that Yemeni songs have

Saleh Abdulbaqi,
Cultural Editor

their presence on the international level.

Our country was represented by a good number of artists under the Seera Group. These artists are: Mohammed Ghallab, Saleh Abdulbaqi, Hamood Al-Gonaid, Abdulrahman Al-Amdi, Hana Omar, Omar Bagabeer, Wahib Al-Nowahi and Marwan Al-Haidari, all of them were chaired by Dr. Nezar Ghanem and Abdullilah Salam. There were also two dancers, Kaseer and Zabida.

It is undoubtedly known that these artists have performed their roles in a way that all could not

L'Arena

IL GIORNALE DI FERRARA
ANNO LVIII N. 174
VENERDI' 23 AGOSTO 1999

Musica dallo Yemen, per la prima volta



evening ceremony at the Golden Theater. On that day they presented some of Sana'a'ni, Lahji, Hadrami songs and religious chants - "Al-Moshaha", with the smell of the Yemeni scent which spread all over the stage as well as in the whole theater. Smelling this, the audience was very delighted and awe-inspired that they can not help but admire the august and magnificent performance of these artists. The bands finished their performance by giving a show of the wedding practices in Yemen. This has moved and overwhelmed Italians tremendously. What has really happened after the artists finished their



performance is indeed of the most thrilling and unforgettable things in our artists lives. The whole audience was waiting in crowds to shake hands with these artists and to congratulate them for their grand performance. The same thing happened in almost all the towns of Italy, including Brafina, Rome, Feirona, Genoa, Milano, Audien and Napoli which was their last post. Therefore, our artists could made strategic dimensions for the Yemeni songs to make the world acquainted with them. Their success is best seen when we see different countries such as Austria, Italy, Spain, France offer invitations for our artists to participate in the coming international ceremonies.

To sum it up, our artists, Ambassadors of the Yemeni Art as called by the Italian audience, have given a marvelous picture of Yemen in the outside world. We wish that this picture will never be distorted if these admirers come here to have a down to earth experience. It is worth mentioning to say that media in Italy has also played a vital role in making the Yemeni activities common to all the people of Italy. Certainly, these artists have left a cultural and civilized touch which will memorably be engraved in the imagination of the people of Italy.

FOLK. Martedì a Fagagna Il Sira Ensemble dall'Arabia Felix Musiche e danze dello Yemen



Fagagna
Alla lunga attesa di un concerto proposto dal festival Folkfest, che si sta avviando in Friuli-Venezia Giulia, si sta organizzando nel prossimo giorno un'attività di grande interesse per la musica etnica. Martedì sera a Fagagna, il Sira Ensemble, un gruppo di musicisti danzatori etnici di musica etnica yemenita, per la prima volta in Italia su invito del Festival Folkfest, per esibirsi per una decina di giorni. L'appuntamento è fissato per martedì 23 agosto, alle 21, nella Corte del Municipio di Fagagna. Il direttore del gruppo è Nezar Ghanem, laureato in medicina, etnomusicologo, poeta, direttore del Festival Folkfest, che ha curato la traduzione e l'organizzazione del concerto. Il Sira Ensemble, formato da 10 musicisti, è diretto da Nezar Ghanem, che ha curato la traduzione e l'organizzazione del concerto. Il Sira Ensemble, formato da 10 musicisti, è diretto da Nezar Ghanem, che ha curato la traduzione e l'organizzazione del concerto.



help but be impressed by that exquisite performance. They have managed to form a very nice and sublime picture of Yemen, in all of Italy and in all the different towns visited by these bands.

Despite the fact that this was the first time the Yemeni song was introduced to the Italians in this international ceremony, held in Europe each year, we were amazed to realize the great approval of the Yemeni bands whose artists attracted the attention of all the

whole audience. It was very clear from the first time our singers participated on June 26, 99 in Bagnacavallo, one of the superbs of Ravenna, and on the stage of the Golden Theater. The Yemeni bands inaugurated its first artistic activities in a way which resulted in the theater being crowded with people. The whole audience was cheering the Yemeni artists and was determined not to miss one Yemeni song. This has actually given our artists a strong push to do their best and excel themselves in these activities. As it is generally believed, Italians are distinguished from other European people for their sensitive sense and their admiration for other cultures which they host and interact with. This is actually what has been felt by the Yemeni artists in the



Il Sira ensemble stasera a Fagagna Le radici dello Yemen

FAGAGNA. Un appuntamento unico per la cittadina di Fagagna, venerdì 21, nella corte del municipio. Il Sira Ensemble, un gruppo di musicisti danzatori etnici di musica etnica yemenita, per la prima volta in Italia su invito del Festival Folkfest, per esibirsi per una decina di giorni. L'appuntamento è fissato per venerdì 21 agosto, alle 21, nella Corte del Municipio di Fagagna. Il direttore del gruppo è Nezar Ghanem, laureato in medicina, etnomusicologo, poeta, direttore del Festival Folkfest, che ha curato la traduzione e l'organizzazione del concerto. Il Sira Ensemble, formato da 10 musicisti, è diretto da Nezar Ghanem, che ha curato la traduzione e l'organizzazione del concerto.



Il Sira ensemble sarà questa sera a Fagagna: un inoppugnabile appuntamento con la musica dello Yemen.

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Another Yemen Times Fact-Finding in Taiz

The Underlying Mystery of Qurada

Qurada has been center of discussion for the past few months in Taiz. Then spreading to all the governorates in Yemen. It is actually horrifying to consider the massive scale of destruction during the aftermath of the war. Qurada was a well populated village at Saber Mountain, In Taiz. It is now totally devastated and in ruins; buildings are destroyed, families are homeless and children are orphaned. What has actually happened is unbelievable and inhumane. We then wonder what the reason behind the dispute between Qurada and the Al-Marzooch village was. And we cannot help not ask "Why did the police security intervene in such an aggressive and hostile fashion?"

Surveyed by:
Imad Al-Saqqaf,
Taiz Bureau Chief,



Farook Al-Kamali,
Yemen Times

destroyed at night. As a result men from both villages started shooting at each other. The firing wounded two women and a child from Qurada. The police security in Taiz intervened and arrested the sheikhs of the two villages. Furthermore, the governor of Taiz sent sheikhs to the site to consider the amount of destruction and losses. Following that, the governor him-

self and chairman of the police security, paid a visit to the site to get a closer look and to find the truth behind the conflict. They realized that what was



project. This has put the governor of Taiz in fury so he sent many soldiers to arrest people of Marzooch in captive and to stay there for some time. Not only did they do that but they also slaughtered sheep and destroyed their qat trees and a great number of people became homeless. After Abdullah Al-Kadi's mediation, Army Commander of 33 brigade, convinced the governor of Taiz to withdraw the soldiers. On 21-5-99 the sheikhs of Qurada and Marzooch, imprisoned since the early dispute, agreed to the arbitration of the governor, chairman of the police security and Abdullah Al-Kadi to solve the problem. Shortly afterwards the sheikhs of Marzooch went back on their commitment to the arbitration of these figures, under the pretext that the arbitration is of no use to them. In November 98, a group of men from Marzooch broke the water pipes and exchanged fire with men from Qurada, in the presence of the chairman of the police security. This resulted in 4 injured men from Qurada and 3 from Marzooch. Firing continued in January 99 where 2 were shot dead and 4 were injured from Qurada, whereas one was killed and 5 were injured from Marzooch. After this, a campaign of arresting people from the two villages took place. In March 99, another group from Marzooch destroyed 8 water pipes while another military campaign began to take control and repair what had been destroyed. It is reported that what had made things intensify is that Abdullah Al-kadi, Brigadier General, asked the people and sheikhs of Qurada to accept his arbitration and to give him some weapons and a car as assurance. This happened after he had been given of 50 weapons and a car belonging to Abd Al-Momen Qurada, a sheikh in Qurada. When they disagreed on the articles of the arbitration, the people of Qurada refused to nominate him for the arbitration of water project. They wanted it to be restricted to the penal side. Therefore Al-Kadi, Brigadier General, started sending military forces towards Qurada, whose people tried to defend their village in the face of the conquerors. A heavy firing took place and resulted in the death and injuries of many people.

To be more sure about the last military campaign, we met with one of the people of Qurada who said: It all started by firing from some men of Marzooch when we tried to repair our water tank and pipes. Then two judges, Gassar Al-Adoof and Yahya Al-Aryani were asked to check the

documents possessed by the two sides. After they checked what each side had, the verdict was that the claims of the people of Marzooch had no grounds and are just a pack of lies. However, Al-Kadi and other people who were exploiting this conflict for their personal interest were not satisfied with the judges' verdict and tried to prove Marzooch's right in the water of Qurada. He wanted to prove this because he has already transferred the springfall belonging to Marzooch to his house, located in Salah.

Then on 14-6-99 he started asking his soldiers to surround Qurada from the mountains above. A good number of military reinforcement with heavy weapons were coming in the days to come. Then a heavy and aggressive operations against Qurada took place, aimed at everything including the people, houses, water tanks, fields, water pipes, etc. All this was done to make the rule of the jungle prevail and connect water pipes to Marzooch. When the people of Qurada tried to resist, the firing became heavier. The firing lasted for weeks and the following outcomes occurred:

- 1- Qurada was captured by conquerors and was totally looted and plundered.
- 2- Most of the people became homeless and others were held in custody.
- 3- Heavy damages such as:
 - a- More than 50 houses had been exposed to total and partial destruction, looting of everything inside them.
 - b- Around 41 men were imprisoned in Al-Markazi Prison. Even Gameel Al-Samet, a journalist in Al-Gomhooriah newspaper, was put in prison because he wrote an article in Al-Wahdawi, which exposed the aggression against Qurada.
 - c- A great number of people were injured and are now in hospitals, resulting in, a man being killed.

Following this aggression the people of Qurada made an appeal to consider the amount of destruction and losses. However, upon the forming of a committee from members of parliaments, the soldiers threatened the women to stay silent or the otherwise.

Yemen Times also met with one of the wounded soldiers in this conflict who said: The people of Qurada had already evacuated their houses and inhabited the mountain overlooking their village before we arrived there, upon our arrival they opened fire. Therefore, we were resorted to using force. In regards to looting houses, this happened after the village was evacuated and some soldiers started getting into houses and stealing whatever they found. Of course, not all of them stole items. I was one of those who objected to that, but some were very determined to do that, there was no one to stop them. Some qat trees were also destroyed by mistake. A matter of fact we could easily notice that there were some newspapers which exaggerated the problem and tended to make mountains out of a molehill. For example, there were some newspapers that indicated that there were approximately 25 men killed in this war to the contrary, only one person died and it still unclear how he died. Among the soldiers two were killed and approximately 16 were injured. There was also a committee formed after the withdrawal of soldiers from Qurada. It consisted of Sadek Al-Dabab, Abd Al-Rahman Ahmad, Ahmad Gamel to turn over those who blocked the way and were behind opening fire against the police. Yemen Times also met with Sadek Al-Dabab who said: We have done a lot to reach an end to this problem, including contacting both sheikhs of both villages who agreed on solving the problem peacefully. Regarding the conflict with the police we agreed that we are going to turn over those who opened fire against the police and those who are in prison will be set free, some of them have already been released from jail. In regards to last development of this problem we are waiting for the arrival of the governor



of Taiz from Germany to settle down everything. Regarding the destroyed houses we will hold the suspected soldiers and they will be accounted for. Yemen Times has also tried to contact Chairman of the Security Police, in Taiz, who refused to give any comment under the pretext of the "not-to-tell" on higher hidden code. He said that if we want to get any information, we have to contact the Interior

law and the constitution. All that parties engaged in such actions either those who gave orders or those who carried out these orders, have to be punished for their actions. Regarding the killing of people by the hands of those who are supposed to protect lives is in fact a crime against humanity. The Qurada issue is not an abnormal case for the practices of some factions of the police. It is an issue that



Minister. All of the above mentioned is actually a survey of the "POOR QURADA" from the viewpoint of the people of Qurada and as well as the police. However, we wonder what will be the spirit of the law to whatever happened there! In order to be more certain about what happened we met with Dr. Mohammed Ahmad Al-Mekhlafi, a teacher of law at Sanaa university who said: Whatever happened in Qurada is a sure sign of the prevailing of the law of the jungle. As far as the law is concerned, we find that these actions are banned in our institution. The government has to protect citizens - not to frighten them, to save their lives - not to kill them, to guard their possessions - not to blackmail and blunder them and to maintain order - not to violate it. No one should be arrested unless proven to be guilty. Taking or better say, plundering their possessions and engaging in aggressive and hostile actions against them as well as their families is a flagrant violation of the

renders us a practical proof that the government of Yemen is still living in the era of ignorance. This asserts and the prevalence of the law is of the first priority and we all have to be fully committed to it. The last comment we in the Yemen Times would like to say is that the reservation of Chairman of the Security Office in Taiz was very daunting, not only to us but it also shows total disrespect of the law. We do not know actually the real reasons behind that. Is it because our government is always chicken-livered of the facts or what?

By and all, the Qurada wound will continue bleeding in our country and this was not the first time it happened, nor will it not be the last as we are living in a jungle and not in a law-maintaining country. As a final word, we would like to say, that the government and police have "to protect people and preserve their rights and not to kill them!"



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Principal
Pakistan School, Sana'a



A Special Yemen Times Survey to Reveal the Secrets of Smuggling: The Nightmare of Our National Economy



Surveyed By: Jamal Al-Awadhi Yemen Times

at a military point called "Al-Azraqin". In this case, the dealer is forced to go through a long and unpaved path leading to Sana'a called "Al-Rahba", while on other occasions they go through another unpaved path route passing by Wadi Dhahr. Unlike today, in those days, the Yemeni Riyal was so strong that the dealer did not deal with or even hear of the U.S Dollar.

After understanding what we came for, he tried to justify the act of selling smuggled products which were evident all over his marketplace by explaining the following: "It is true and known that smuggling damages the national economy of our country, however, marketers are sometimes forced to buy smuggled products because of their low prices. If we were to buy the products from the commercial agencies which are the legal resellers of

give them the impression that they are local garlic products. As you see behind me, these piles are all Chinese. We all are selling smuggled garlic because they are much better than local ones and their prices are lower. However, I can confidently tell you that the only obstacle towards the abolishment of smuggling is the high duty taxes that is being demanded for imported goods.



Ibrahim Al-Rajawi

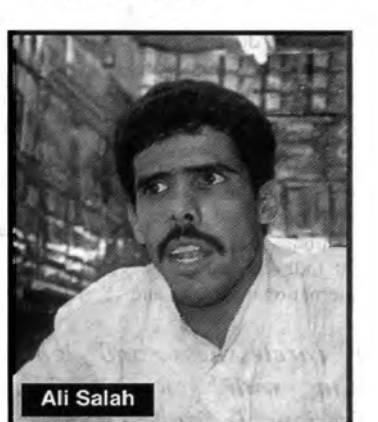
lems still exists and that is medicine trade agencies and their monopoly over the medicine market in Yemen. This along with the need to open the door for importing medicine with superior quality can be summed up in these two points. I think we will rid the country of medicine smuggling for good."

On the important issue of medicine smuggling, we interviewed Ahmed Ali Al-Hasosa, the General Manager of Al-Fuad Medicine Distributing and Trade Agency. In regards to the accusations of Jalal, regarding this exploited monopoly, he defended his agency by saying, "It is true that not all, rather some gluttonous agencies raise their medicine prices hence, indirectly

"Today, even famous businessmen use smuggling to gain profit. What a pity!"

Smuggling of Medical Equipment Regarding the issue of the smuggling of medical equipment with Abdulwahhab Al-Tamimi, the General Manager of the Tamimi Establishment for Medical Equipment. Mr. Abdulwahhab briefly explained the condition of the smuggling of medical equipment by saying, "In the past, Yemen used to depend on neighboring countries like Saudi Arabia for medical equipment and machines. However, four years ago, the smuggling of such equipment was quite common. Nonetheless, today there is no smuggling of medical equipment because many agencies responsible for providing medical equipment by exporting them directly from the manufacturing country to the Yemeni community. Consequently, smuggled equipment turned out to be even more expensive than the equipment provided by these agencies. The smugglers

Stationery Goods As Well? Abdullah Al-Taweely is a stationery store merchant and we wanted to know from if smuggling had reached stationery equipment and books. He surprisingly answered positively by saying the following:



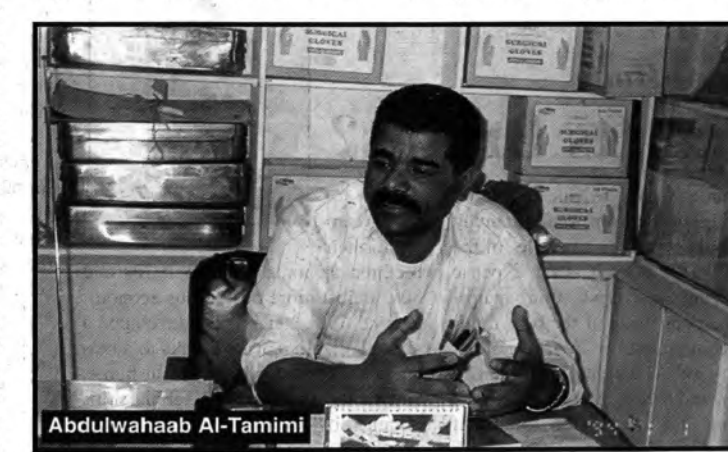
Ali Salah

"Smuggling small goods such as stationery equipment is common. There are some small dealers that realize that if they imported two containers from the Hodeidah Port than there would be another problem and that is the people there sometimes use their positions in order to get extra pocket money from the customer. Instead of importing the goods legally and consuming a lot of the money, why not buy the same goods from smugglers who offer much cheaper prices in exchange for the very same material? I think this procedure is in fact the first step for a small merchant towards maturity and becoming one of the renowned businessmen in the country. Today, even the most famous businessmen in the country use smuggling to gain profit. "What a pity!"

"the source of these problems still exist, and that is medicine trade agencies & their monopoly over the medicine market in Yemen."

cause pharmacies to buy smuggled medicine. The solution to this, in my view is that agencies should always be satisfied with a profit. Beside this, there should be tougher laws, issued by the Ministry of Health, which raise the price to an unacceptable level. It should also issue stricter laws and implement them against dealers with

no more see this business profitable enough for them so they turned to other products. However, sometimes, the lack of medical equipment becomes disturbing, especially when no suppliers are available. In these particular circumstances, the smugglers take advantage of this and sell their products to pharmacies and



Abdulwahhab Al-Tamimi

smuggled medicine. I think these steps will be sufficient to solve the problem of smuggling, which is a devastating issue for the whole nation and its economy. We should fight this smuggling problem with all the power we have. However, we should always study the cause and effect of smuggling in order to be able to find the appropriate and lasting solutions.

stores. The solution to such a problem would be through communication with the producing company supplying the equipment and send it to Yemen as soon as possible. This way we would once again have medical equipment available for all, with reasonable prices and in a legal manner. It seems that there are preying eyes for these circumstances. When certain equipment or machinery is not available a

"I think that the Ministry of Health should do something about this, especially that these smuggled medicines might be dangerous for the health of the patients who use them, and legally imported medicine are vital for some patients to survive."

Indeed, "what a pity"! After concluding the survey, we went on thinking of the dimensions of smuggling in our country today. We have come to a conclusion that smuggling had turned into a routine for many. It has become a way of gaining profit and a way of securing cheap goods for the average Yemeni citizen who cannot afford the expenses of legally imported goods. We are living in a dark era for our economy. Our economy is being destroyed partially because of the carelessness of our politicians in postponing urgent solutions to this dangerous problem. If the government continues to leave the import taxes at the same level and if it continues to let corruption damage our national economy through the permitting of smuggled goods in return for bribes, we will continue to see smuggled goods all over the country. Finally, we could only ask whether the government is truly committed to fighting smuggling and saving local production. Additionally, they would like to extend a helping hand to the local industry which is drowning every day as a result of counterfeit and smuggled products spreading everywhere at lower prices and better quality. It is about time that our officials wake up and face this issue. Even the lowest rank will recognize that it is too important to ignore. Action is required, and it is required fast!

Serious Indications of Smuggling Effects on our Economy

Today, the smuggling of various goods to Yemen seems to be eating away our national pride towards our products. It is crushing our economy and is bringing tens of local factories to the verge of breaking down and announcing bankruptcy. It is a dangerous phenomenon which is holding back any means of future hope for the national productivity of the Yemeni market. In brief, it is the nightmare of national producers. To further know what smuggling is, let us look at what Mr. Mohammed Sharafuddin, the Chairman of the Parliament's Trade and Industry Committee said "Smuggling is very destructive to our national economy. It is unfair trade for our importers, investors and industrialists. It brings goods unchecked and uncontrolled for quality to our consumers while depriving the state of legitimate revenue. It also creates an underground economy and encourages a law-breaking culture based on bad moral values. In short, smuggling is disastrous for our nation."

Smuggling is the act of bringing in goods with much lower prices and sometimes, better quality to the public without paying customs duties. If a person wants to choose between a can of let's say, beans smuggled from abroad costing YR 30, and a can of beans produced in Yemen for YR 50, which would he choose? Suppose further, that they, like many Yemenis, think that whatever is manufactured abroad is much better than what is produced locally. Obviously, he would buy the smuggled product because it is cheaper and better in quality. If we generalize this for all kinds of products, that would mean total disaster for local producers.

The government had tried to prevent smuggling by opening the way for imported goods from the rest of the world. However, this gave national producing companies another challenge. That is, to meet the quality and price of these imported products. However, despite this courageous step, smuggling continues to grow. The reason behind it is the extremely high taxes that is required to import goods and sell them in the country. If a trader sees that they would gain 50% or more if they smuggle the very same goods instead of getting them through legal means, they would probably choose to do so. However, having them exported legally is causing national producers a headache.

When going to markets, we find all sorts of goods, from Gulf countries, Europe, South East Asia, and many other countries. In price, they may be a bit higher than local products, but in quality, they are simply incomparable. Hence, because people demand better products even for a slightly higher price.

This challenge can be overcome by the local producers because they would hold on to the price

advantage. Their products are not that high in quality, but at least they are cheaper. However, the picture becomes ugly when smuggled products are mostly better in quality and cheaper in price than local products. This would eventually kill any kind of competition.

When coming to the point of who is smuggling, Mr. Mohammed Sharafuddin states, "Yes, smuggling cannot be controlled because those who control it, and do have the power to do so are involved in it." In a supporting statement, a famous businessman, Mr. Tawfeeq Al-Khamiry states, "There is proof that in some cases, the people involved in smuggling are senior military/security officers or tribal leaders who are closely associated with the system."

So, even though we are sure that there is smuggling taking place, we are yet not able to stop it, simply because those who are behind these acts are people closely associated with the system. It is beginning to turn into an unstoppable nightmare for the government as well. It is not to say that the government is not trying to stop smugglers. It is indeed working on stopping them. In some incidents where security officials capture smugglers its always reported, but these captured smugglers constitute a very small fraction. The high cost of living, and the economic burden on the average Yemeni is forcing them to choose the smuggled product, even though they may think it is smuggled or illegal.

He has a huge family to feed and his income could barely enable him to buy these cheap smuggled products.

Today, the level of smuggling in Yemen has reached a record high mark. The products smuggled today vary from small candies, to electronic equipment. Even some vegetables like garlic are being smuggled. In a survey devoted for this serious issue, Yemen Times went to traditional markets in the capital city to investigate the dimensions, methods, and harms of smuggling in all its aspect. In its interviews with many traders and people associated with smuggling it discovered that it had become routine in their life, and for many it had become an essential way to make ends meet.

We knew that this issue is a sensitive one, so we tried not to frighten the people who were interviewed. All statements said by these people are from actual true life experiences in the world of smuggling. For the first time, we were able to reveal much of the secrets behind this mysterious underground world of smuggling. It was a world in itself. The deeper we went into the subject, the more we realized that millions and millions of dollars are indeed involved in what we call the "nightmare of every local producer".

mize the taxes on imported goods as low as possible. It should also supervise the selling rates of the importers and trade agency resellers. It should also facilitate the process of importing goods through its seaports and airports. Look at what is happening at Al-Hodeidah. Many traders have stopped importing goods because of the high taxes on their goods, including spices."

In an effort to get more information from another marketer, we went to Ali Salah, a trader and manager of a market in our community, mainly caused by a downfallen economy. I deeply believe that the solution is in the hands of the government. As an example, many of the smuggled goods come through Al-Mahara and Hadhramout provinces in the East. Spices constitute an important part of these smuggled goods, which are extremely cheap. The smuggler only adds an extra charge for transporting them into the country. These goods attract a lot of dealers who profit a lot by selling

that is legally imported, is offered for YR280 to the dealer, which package would they choose? I will let you figure that one out! Even if the dealer wanted to be honest and bought the legally imported package, he would

reasonable level and pressuring local producers to enhance their products. I am also asking the government to enforce strict rules in monitoring markets and trade agencies in an effort to know more of where the smuggled

prices of medicine to extreme levels, which are not affordable by most Yemenis. This causes some traders to buy smuggled medicine which arrive to the pharmacies damaged because of the long distance travel while being enclosed in hot containers, which are unsuitable for carrying such sensitive supplies. Usually, this medicine is exposed to sunlight for long periods of time.

In regards to medicine, there is also another kind of smuggling called local smuggling. This means the selling of already exempt medicine is available in hospitals and public clinics to commercial pharmacies for low prices. However, there is encouraging news that the Ministry of Health has implemented tough measures against these traders and closed down a number of violating pharmacies. Consequently, more than 80% of the pharmacies in Yemen have stopped buying this medicine.

There is also a lack of demanding medicine in the country because trade agencies do not import them due to their insignificant profit. Hence, due to the demand of this medicine for humanitarian reasons, some traders try to get this medicine, even through smuggling. I think that the Ministry of Health should do something about this, particularly since smuggled medicine is dangerous for the health of the patients who use them. Legally, imported medicine is vital for some patients to survive. After all, it is a humanitarian need that should always be met. Another problem in medicine smuggling is, that trade agencies sometimes monopolize the selling of certain medicine to a substantial amount of patients. The reason for this is their high price, which is unaffordable to many trade agencies. In these cases, smuggling usually takes place through travelers coming into the country. Sometimes, they buy large quantities of medicine and sell them for a lot of money.

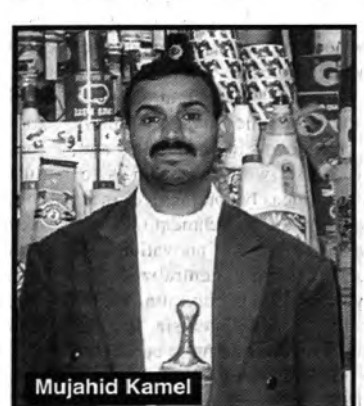
In a general perspective, the selling of smuggled medicine has decreased recently because of the good efforts that the Ministry of Health is making in catching and disciplining smugglers. However, the source of the prob-

"Could you believe that even garlic is being smuggled to the country?"

have to sell each candy bar for a higher price. In this case, the customer would not buy the candy, because the store next to it sells the candy bar a lot cheaper, since it was initially smuggled.

As a Trade Agency owner, I try the best I can to avoid smuggled products because of their harm to economy. In conclusion, certain circumstances force us to buy these illegally imported goods. This phenomenon has decreased recently because of the government's decision to open the door to importing. After this step, the competition between wholesale marketers and trade agencies sharpened acutely. On the other hand, local producers faced the challenge of having their goods compete against higher quality imported goods. Hence, I see that the solution lies in importing taxes to a

goods are being sold and how they had reached the markets. If these steps are taken, I have no doubt that we would rid the country of smuggling."



Mujahid Kamel

Medicine Smuggling One of the most dangerous effects of smuggling is medicine smuggling. There have been many reports of outdated or fake medicine being sold in pharmacies and hospitals. Where did these medicines come from? They were smuggled to the country. To know how this could happen, we talked to Jalal Al-Nuzaili, a trader specializing in the sales of medicine and medical equipment stated the following: "When talking about the smuggling of medicine, unlike other goods, the reason is not because of high tax rates, on the contrary, tax rates for medicine are among the lowest (about 5%). Ironically, the main reason is behind the medicine trade agencies. These agencies raise the

The Solution is in the Hands of the Government

In an effort to ask these experienced marketers of the true cause and solution of the problem, we talked with Ibrahim Al-Rajawi, a spice salesman in Suq Al-Milhi, who said the following: "Smuggling is a chronic and deeply rooted problem. The issue is dependent on a certain problem in our community, mainly caused by a downfallen economy. I deeply believe that the solution is in the hands of the government. As an example, many of the smuggled goods come through Al-Mahara and Hadhramout provinces in the East. Spices constitute an important part of these smuggled goods, which are extremely cheap. The smuggler only adds an extra charge for transporting them into the country. These goods attract a lot of dealers who profit a lot by selling

them in the spice markets. On the other hand, legally imported spices that come through Hodeidah are undesirable because their prices include transportation, taxes, and other fines that have been paid by the importer to the government. These importers sometimes raise the prices of their goods to extreme levels. As a result, the wholesale or normal seller estimates his profit if he buys the goods legally and realizes that it would be too little, or sometimes, no profit at all would be gained. This is true especially since the average Yemeni citizen does not have the income that enables him to buy what he wants with these prices. Hence, I think that there is a fear that our national economy would continue to deteriorate if the present conditions continue. However, I also think that the government has the solution in its hands. It could try to mini-

"today there is no more smuggling of medical equipment"

power is weak. For example, if a smuggled packet of goods such as candy and sweets are offered for YR180 and the very same package,

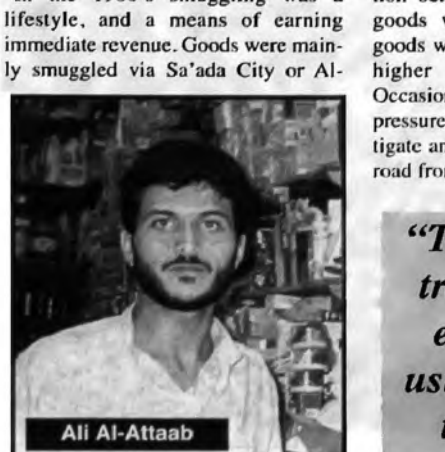


In our mission, we found several marketers who were staring at us in a doubtful way, as if they knew that we aimed at inspecting. Here we started our actual interviews.



Ahmad Ali Al-Hasosah

Baq'a area from Saudi Arabia. After the goods enter Yemen land then the role of a network of Bedouins who deliver the goods to Raida, and sometimes to Amran kicks in. In these areas existed an open and illegal wholesale marketplace, which was not at the time monitored by the government. Merchants and traders from Sana'a City used to come to this area to buy the smuggled goods for extremely low prices. I can tell you that these dealers were able to make huge profits from these sales, particularly at that time, there was no local production of cooking oil and other canned goods. Hence, smuggling was the main method of getting these products into the Yemeni market. After loading their trucks with these smuggled products and driving to Sana'a, they unfortunately faced police on their way and were chased. However, most of these dealers used to give these policemen bribes to let them go and continue their trip to Sana'a, nonetheless, at moments they were captured and their goods were possessed by their captors. However, even though national production began to flourish, the competition between smuggled and national goods was not intense. Smuggled goods were always preferred for their higher profit and demand. Occasionally, the government used to pressure its forces to thoroughly investigate any smuggling operation on the road from Amran to Sana'a, especially



Ali Al-Attaab

"Today's smuggling began to concentrate on products, such as electronic equipment and carpets, etc., which usually come through Hadhramout in the south and Mareb in the east."

realized that things had changed today so he started talking about the present situation. "Today, smuggling is much less than before, partially due to the opening of the way for imported goods. Many legal commercial agencies were formed for the production of goods, which used to be smuggled. Despite the large number of agencies which have stopped competing with each other in trying to provide high cost products, the profit out of smuggling has decreased. Yet, even though it's not at the level of the 1980's, smuggling continues to exist. Today's smuggling began to concentrate on products, such as electronic equipment and carpets, which usually come through Hadhramout located in the South and Mareb in the East."



you know, the importing of vegetables and fruits is forbidden by the state, let alone smuggling them into the country. It may be shocking to tell you that Chinese planted garlic is being smuggled through border in the East to Hadhramout, and then taken out of their boxes and put into pales in an attempt to deceive the inspectors and

The Smuggling of Garlic! As we went into the deep markets located in the inner Bab Al-Yemen marketplace, at "Suq Al-Milhi", we met with food marketer, Ali Al-Attab.



Jalal Al-Nuzaili

The Flowing Sewer Rivers in Sana'a

Our Capital: Going Down the Drain!

Sewage has become a complicated problem for the inhabitants of the Capital city. The problem is more lived on Hail Street and Al-Akamah. All the inhabitants of Sana'a do raise a lot of questions that need to be answered. What is the role of the Water and Sewage Authority in solving this problem? What has it achieved in this regard? What are its plans for the future? How do the people bathe and live in places with this type of sewage? Ahlam Al-Mutawakel of Yemen Times met with Essam Makky, engineer and manager of Sana'a Sewage Project. He answered the above questions as follows:

"One of the most important projects we are intending to carry out in the near future is renewing the sewers of Hail Street, Al-Akamah, the western area, Sawad Hanash, Beer Addar, Al-Shaif and Sana'a University. This project will serve more than 500,000 people. The total cost of the project is \$ 1,600,000. 90% was received as a donation of 90% was received from the International Bank and the remaining 10% is the government contribution. The plan for renewing the sewers of Sana'a was made and agreed upon in 1995 to be carried through for 25 years till 2020. In this regard we got \$ 25,000,000 as a loan from the International Bank and \$ 3,000,000 from the

Our carelessness and ignorance in dealing with sewer problems is a dangerous indication that we are no more true citizens



Sewer leakage is not only an environmental effect, it also causes problems to the underground infrastructure.

Ahlam Al-Mutawakel
Yemen Times

Government. The plan comprises the following:

- An administrative and financial reform in the Water and Sewage sector.
- Renewing the sewers of the whole western sector and Al-Akamah.

- Digging wells in Assab'ein Park and developing the existing ones.

We invited sealed bids to carry out the project of renewing the sewers of the western area and Al-Akamah. One of them was approved by the Supreme Committee for Bids and the President's Cabinet. The material was approved by the Consultative Company and the contractor to be imported. The work in this project will begin in the middle of upcoming October".

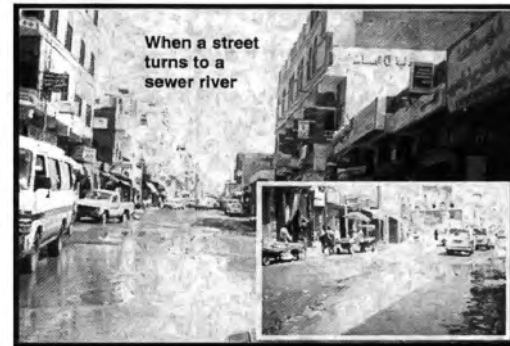
When asked about the reason for the delay of carrying out the project, Mr. Essam commented, "Unfortunately, whenever a foundation stone is laid, people think that work will be soon inaugurated. This project needs time to finish all the needed procedures such as signing the contract, issuing the import licenses, locating the places and

approving the material by the Ministry of Planning as well as the Ministry of Finance. This, of course, needs a long a time. Despite all of this, the project was agreed on and initiated in a remarkably short time. For example, a part of Hail Street was repaired and the rest of it is to be repaired

later on. I assure you that if the project of the Arab Fund and the International Bank is carried out, most of Sana'a areas will have rid the problem of sewage in 2003. All the studies and plans have been sent to the Arab fund to be approved. There used to be some emergency projects but they all were stopped from being implemented because they are to be included in the upcoming project." In



regards to the damages caused by the old sewers, Essam said that all the old sewers would be landfilled. He also said that the new sewers would serve all the inhabitants. Of course, people have to pay for these services, while others might be unable to pay for them. To solve this problem, Essam Makky pointed out that the Sana'a branch would provide installments for the water bills. Ilham Mohammed, lives in Al-Akamah and works as a teacher at the National Institute. She said that only a part of Al-Akamah's sewers were renewed for \$ 150,000 and the



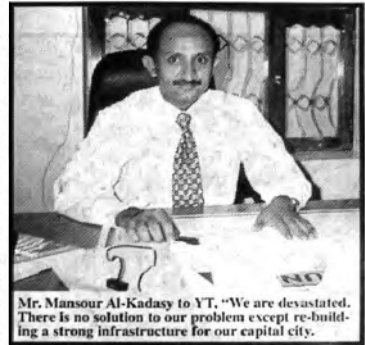
When a street turns to a sewer river

work was stopped due to the lack of pipes which cost no more than YR 600,000.

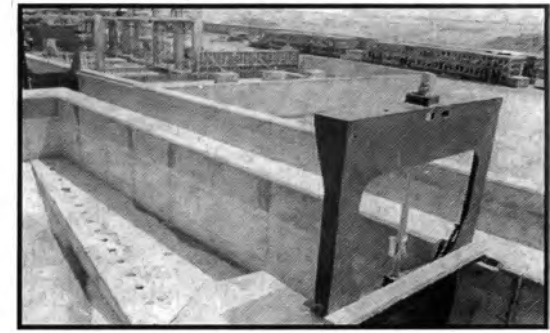
"Sewage spreads all the way in front of our houses and it becomes very difficult for us to clean in front of them. More worse, is that there is no light in our area. This causes many old people, like me, to slip while walking at nights", Said 80-year Mahdi Al-Jo'adoby who lives with his family on 20th street. At the end of my meeting with him, Al-Jo'adoby appealed to the President to look into their problem. "We are deprived of the fresh air as well as the joy of playing. There is no clean place in our area to play. We appeal to the government to create a clean and safe environment for us", said Al-Jo'adoby's children - Ahmad, Hizam and Fatima. "Sewage causes a lot of trouble. It causes many diseases and in addition to this, it covers the bumps and makes them unseen. This does a lot of damage to our cars", said 70-year old Saleh Mohammed Assibaa'e who lives on 20th street. After this quick survey of damages, quick solutions become a necessity. One of the solutions that has been already implemented is the establish-

ment of a sewage treatment station in Sana'a. After its treatment, sewage becomes useful to water some of the bulky trees. In my visit to this station in Bani Al-Harith. I met with engineer Mansour Al-Kadasy, assistant Project Manager who said that the Bani Al-Harith

people are lucky for having such a station in their land to irrigate their farms. "The aim of the station is to protect Sana'a and Bani Al-Harith from pollution", said Al-Kadasy.



Mr. Mansour Al-Kadasy to YT, "We are devastated. There is no solution to our problem except re-building a strong infrastructure for our capital city."



The station was built under the supervision of French and Egyptian engineers and it cost \$ 35,000,000 which was received as loans and credits from the Arab Fund and the OPEC Fund. The purity of this irrigation water is 95.90%. This statistic approved by the World Health Organization (WHO) and FAO to irrigate specific plants and trees."

When asked about the underground water, Al-Kadasy said it would be used only for drinking and many other purposes other than irrigation. He also said that Bani Al-Harith underground water would be used to supply the capital city. At the end of the interview, Mr. Mansour Al-Kadasy talked about a plan to train the employees of the station to manage the station properly.



COMMON SENSE

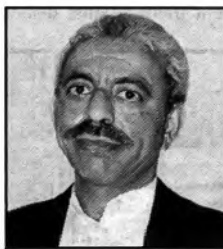
By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Is Yemen Loosing Its Brains?

While Yemen, at the present time, is confronted by so many problems and difficulties, it would be unrealistic to believe that merely pointing this fact out to the Government, to the concerned authorities, or to the rest of the world - in the hope that at least someone somewhere in this world could be listening and may have some way of being able to convince the authorities in the Republic of Yemen to take heed as well - would lead to the magic exit from our perpetual journey to an eventual demise. For years many voices have been literally crying, begging and warning that there are ominous signs that the situation in the country cannot be left to management by just "getting over it" through time and prayers. This situation continues to creep on from bad to worse and from worse to disastrous, with the society slowly finding itself unable to just adapt to the adversely blowing winds of change nurtured by an inexcusable evil drive, which looms under different legal, social and cultural covers, some of which have even taken on institutional manifestations, without any signs that good can ever have any chance of giving the verve that is needed under such dim circumstances, to slowly, but surely, inspire us to believe that indeed we have all finally reached an understanding that suffering and self - oppression can no longer be tolerated as the order of the day. And why should they be - just so a very few of our fellow Yemenis who

have found it easy to ride this tenacious villainous current shall maintain a monopoly on all the amenities of the modern world, even if at the expense of depriving the overwhelming majority of the population of the bare minimum requirements of a free normal life that God Al-Mighty has ordained for man, and blessed the land with the resources that are enough for all, if channeled wisely and justly. There is no question that these difficulties and problems have left no one without the perplexing question: "What am I going to do now? If there is no foreseeable way out of the mess, then the only way is to seek greener pastures elsewhere". Before the Second Gulf War (1990), Yemen was enjoying a much healthier situation, economically and socially, notwithstanding the fact there were inescapable trends that the future does not hold much promise, with mismanagement and inefficiency having having strong roots planted in government over the decade that preceded the crisis - a crisis, which for us only became a crisis due to the poor conceptual reasoning behind our policy decisions, on the issues of the day. It should be borne in mind that what ever health and signs of prosperity that held sway for that period of time was more the fruits of popular contributions to the economic well being of the nation, fostered by the million or so emigrants, who have indeed, then, found their green pastures and passed on

some of the greenery to their brethren at home. In the 1970s and 80s, amidst more prosperous economic conditions, Yemen also developed a sizeable intelligentsia, thanks to a better educational environment at home, and to the thousands of scholarships obtained by Yemenis to pursue higher educational credentials at universities and vocational and technical institutes overseas. While this intelligentsia was still far below, quantitatively and qualitatively, what Yemen needed to embark on for a smooth ride towards development and healthy economic, social and cultural progress, there was sufficient reason to believe that this intelligentsia could have become a nucleus for setting the wheels in motion for further human resource development and institutional arrangements that will lead to its own expansion. It was also expected and willing to pave the way for the rest of the population to break away from the gloomy attachment to the past with all its deprivation and capitulation to unsound and constraining social and cultural retardation, brought on by a long separation from the rest of the world and from the strides of progress man has made, elsewhere, in almost every field - a halt in the movement of time brought on by centuries of political instability, an uncompromising xenophobia and impassable geographic barriers, which even ideas could not



penetrate through. What happened to that intelligentsia and why has it not been able to leave any permanent mark stamped on the country's road to progress and its efforts to catch up for lost time? At the start, this small group of educated Yemenis, did not hide their enthusiasm for taking on the challenge of trying to get their country to cross centuries of time. In fact, in the early 70s most of the educated Yemenis had foregone seeking a stake in the oil boom that had made the nearby countries more lucrative to any aspiring young man to make his ambitions of prosperity and wealth at an early age. In fact there was a sense of persuasion that the challenge of uplifting their country was more rewarding and, what is even more important, much more self-satisfying. Many felt that it would be akin to treason to go take advantage of more lucrative job markets nearby, and refuse their country, whatever they could offer in terms of skills, professions and cultural and social enhancement. Recalling those early days, brings back memories of many Yemenis from this group who were enthusiastic and equipped with a strong belief that they really can offer their country something. Of course, it should be borne in mind, that individual initiative had plenty of room to maneuver then, and there was a stronger reception to ideas and innovative efforts by the government and the society. In those days sustenance was not a primary economic concern of the vast majority of the people of the country, thanks to those flowing remittances by the Yemeni laborers overseas, who were not about to deprive their kin at home of the amenities which their hard work has brought their way. It was a short lived nation-

al experience that the country can now only enjoy through recollection of the relative ease by which people managed to get by, and by which the slowly growing intelligentsia found little difficulty in finding the work that will give them some inkling of middle class status and, more important, a chance to do something meaningful for the progress of the nation as a whole. The fact that most joined the civil service was clear testimony that they wanted to insure that public good is derived out of their output. With the economic situation rapidly going on a downslide in the 90s and, what is worse, with the channels for the flow of ideas becoming ever more clogged by the entrenchment of a less receptive regime to innovation and ideas, with highly centralized and tightly controlled communications channels, the intelligentsia lost all hopes of ever continuing to contribute to the further progress of the land, for the simple reason that there was just no means or avenue for this contribution to reach its intended target. Even those intelligentsia who have tirelessly produced tons of literature portraying their ideas and suggestions for the proper course their respective fields should be put on or their employers should take to foster efficiency and quality in the management of their respective institutions, were just that: tons of paper! The absence of any medium that could turn those ideas or proposals to meaningful live action brought on a strong sense of depression and helplessness to those who once had hopes of nothing more than to foster the development of their own country and to be recognized for nothing more than their sincere and loyal intentions. But alas, such idealism could not be recognized by decision

makers, who have become the helmsmen of the regime by meeting criteria that make national interest and the welfare of the people as merely decorative slogans with out any substance or any vitality. So, what is happening? The intelligentsia has increasingly gone to look for greener pastures also. When one asks where so and so is, one is given only one of two answers: He has passed away in frustration - a heart att, or some other fatal symptom of frustration, or has gone overseas to find more receptive ears to creativity and innovation! Only in seldom cases is sustenance or a better standard of living, the primary cause for many of the Yemeni intelligentsia deciding to pack up their bags and leave the land they wanted to give so much to. No one for sure can give a definite number as to how many professionals and highly educated people have left to work elsewhere - in the Gulf, Europe, the United States, Canada - even Australia and New Zealand, but the number is increasing progressively. The fever has even hit some of the vocational and technical skilled crafts. This is a serious matter that should not be overlooked by the government, like all the other matters it seems to overlook, for it means that the best minds in the country, and perhaps the only hope for the country's reestablishment in a more predictable course, will not be here, just when we need them the most. Furthermore, the present output of the educational system is far from being anywhere near the class of quality and national affinity, which this draining intelligentsia was characterized by. On the other hand, it would not be easy to attract them back, since they had left the country for the major reason that they were just fed up.

Letters to the Editor

NOTES: Any Letter sent to the Yemen Times office is subject to correction and modification. Letters which are seen suitable for publishing will be published as soon as there is space. Letters without the name of the author will not be published.

Dear Sir,
I bring up this topic with tears in my eyes and a heart of fire for the sake of my country. I am majoring in International Business and reading journals and magazines of economic structure as a daily routine that comes along with the mere interest of the profession. Today, I ran upon an article in The Economist, a widely respected economic magazine. The article brought up the subject of our new free-market zone which is located in Aden. I would like every Yemeni to read what I read and give the prosperity of our nation a second thought.

Quote
"Dubai, which is the Gulf's main trading entropy and claims to be the world's tenth busiest port, used to reign unchallenged as the main transshipment point between Europe and Asia. But now, two completely new ports have opened, one at Salalah in Oman and the other at Aden in Yemen, have opened for business, just as Asia's economic slowdown has hit shipping. The logic behind the development of the new ports is unimpeachable. Dubai lies inside the Gulf, three days' extra sailing off the main route from Europe, through the Suez Canal, around the Arabian peninsula and on to India and East Asia. Furthermore, with the ever present risk of war, insurance has risen slightly for vessels passing through the Straits of Hormuz. Mainline ships that stop in either Salalah or Aden and send Gulf-bound goods on by smaller feeder vessels should thus save time and money. East Africa and the Indian subcontinent also only a day or two's sailing away. Authority, meanwhile, is running Aden and has enticed two of its biggest customers, APL and Pacific International Lines, to use the new facility. Yet, Dubai Port Authority (DPA) shrugs off the threat. "IT MAY LIE A LITTLE OUT OF THE WAY, BUT YEMEN AND OMAN HAVE DISADVANTAGES TOO, ITS OFFICIALS POINT OUT. SHIPPERS WILL THINK TWICE, THEY SAY, BEFORE ENTRUSTING CARGOES TO THE KIDNAPPING- AND BOMBING-PRONE YEMENIES".

It hurts me to see International traders divert from Yemen because of the lack of control in our lands. I don't know why its taking our

officials all this time to deal with what seems to be a minor problem to them of course, on the contrary, it is a major one that affects our economy severely. I think it is time for us to overcome our petty differences and work for a higher goal in putting Yemen's mark on the world-business map. Otherwise, we are surpassing a great chance for coping with the next generation of businesses. I believe its not of my own will that I speak for the rest of the enlightened Yemenies in our country that action is necessary for the current situation and to gain back the trust of foreign companies and firms that we have long lost. I wish that this message could ring a bell in every Yemeni's heart and mind who cares to see his country once again a great land, as it was in the forgotten past.

Hisham K. Al-Omeisy
University of Calgary
Canada

Dear Editor,
In the beginning, I would like to express my deepest sorrow and sadness for the loss of a great man Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqa, founder of Yemen Times and brave, famous fighter for human rights and racial discrimination. He was the best Yemeni nationalist ever. We all pray to Allah to rest his soul in peace and paradise. On behalf of the so-called Muwalladins and myself we refer to the newspaper as our Martin Luther King.

The new weekly competition is an interesting and useful program for both the readers and the newspaper, however, please consider the following:
- Don't make it so simple on the first try.
- Increase the number of questions (three or more).
- Encourage more old questions.
- Question on vocabularies, phrases, and idioms from other issues.
• Create competitions on poems and articles, this will especially encourage the Yemeni poets and writers.
• Please don't stop the section, "Letter to the editor". This part will encourage readers, writers and complainers and even they definitely could be participants.

Mohammed M. Shatabi

Disappointment!!!

For many years, we have been studying very hard and doing our best to get high averages in secondary school to join the university and get jobs. Some students joined private

universities while others joined a government university. Unfortunately, those students who joined the private universities are faced with a decision. This decision stipulates that the graduating students of the private universities are not allowed to get jobs in the governmental sectors. It is said that this decision is decided by the Minister of Civil Services. I am sure that it is thought out because these students joined private universities because they have money.

In fact, every one has money and there are many classes. Therefore, it is not a matter of money but these students have joined the private universities because of the following reasons:

- 1- There are not enough departments at the government university, especially in Taiz's Scientific Department.
- 2- At the Government University, there are many students in the same department. In other words, it is very crowded.

There are also other reasons that shouldn't be mentioned. To Yemen Times, I am writing to whom it may concern. On behalf of my poor friends, we are calling the Minister of the Civil Services to do something for us or to find a solution, otherwise it is a disaster.

Another point I want to express is that some of my poor friends who graduated two or three years ago went to get licenses to start their own business. Wherever these poor friends go they hear, "We haven't heard about these universities, nor do we know about them"

If the treatment is like this then I have some questions to raise about these private universities:

- 1- Why are these universities licensed?
- 2- Why are they encouraged?

For the last time, I am asking this question, "WHAT IS OUR FATE?"

Abdulaziz Al-Boreihag
Taiz, National University

Suggestion

Many thanks to all the workers of Yemen Times, headed by the son of the late Yemen Times founder and special thanks to the Managing Editor for his beneficial articles that are always of vital importance because of the phenomenal social problems it discusses. I have been reading Yemen Times for the last three years and I benefit from it in two ways. I read it for information, as well as vocabulary, to improve my English.

My suggestion, which I hope you will take into consideration is, to add a new paper to the press that will include English literature. We would like to participate in short verses and romantic writings. We will be very glad and thankful if we are given a chance to do that through our mother, Yemen Times. Thank you, very much Yemen Times and I wish you a brighter future.

By: Fuad Al-Sabri

Dear Editor,

I wish to express my gratitude to the Yemeni People whom I have special respect for in my soul. I had lived three years in Sana'a, in which I didn't feel for a moment that I was a foreigner, but I always felt I was at my native Iraq. I have contributed to the development projects, and left my fingerprints in this lovely country. I have successfully performed many projects; among them were the Range-Rover show room in Sana'a, the Electrical power station in Al-Dhaleh, Al-Rowaishan Foundation, and Al-Helewa oil-field & Dhahab, in Mareb. Please send my best compliments to your colleague Sa'ad Salah Khalis and my best regards to you. Finally, my best wishes for the Yemeni people.

Ghalib H. Kummona

Dear Editor,

Your newspaper is the only newspaper I read from the few newspapers from Yemen, available in the U.S.A.

The reason being is, you cover issues, subjects and stories in Yemen that I am interested in and concern me, as well as many others. Many other Yemenies feel that your newspaper represents them in every way.

Unfortunately, I don't see you write about Yemen culture and its people for non-Yemeni readers. The only such articles are advertisements for SABA travel or other travel agencies. Don't you think it will be a good idea to have a column dedicated to the culture and travel in Yemen? You will do the country a good favor, and make it easier for me to tell my friends and co-workers about Yemen. So, maybe next month, I will take Yemen Times to work and show my co-workers what Yemen is all about.

Thank you,
Mohamed A.S. Assana
Email: assanayemen@Prodigy.net



When Will The Big Guys be Held Accountable?

I believe we all still remember the massacre and catastrophic incident of Luxor in Egypt in 1997 when some terrorists charred a bus carrying a number of tourists from different countries. That heinous action broke the hell loose and drove the Egyptian leadership nuts. The Egyptian immediate reaction towards it was stiff and wise at the same time. The Egyptian Minister of Interior was discharged and high-level and accurate investigations were conducted to find out the perpetrators and the shortcomings on the part of the Egyptian police department. Accordingly, a drastic change in this department took place. Another interesting story happened also in Egypt sometime ago. The Egyptian president Mr. Mubarak was very upset and furious due to the failure of the Egyptian football team against the Saudi team. Furthermore, he called for an investigation to know the heart of the matter. The technical department of the national football team also resigned as a result.

Unfortunately, in Yemen seldom do such courageous actions take place. So many of such infringements of law and order have been visibly observed. So many corrupt and crook officials have been caught with their pants down, but what is the result? NOTHING. Yes, nothing. One wonders why.

I believe the absence of the factor of accountability is the major reason behind the chaos and disorder overwhelming the country. Punishment is more or less not existing. Rather, the more one is outlaw and perpetrator, the more he gets promoted and higher position.

The Bab Al-Yemen terrible crime that happened recently was good enough to bring the Minister of Interior and his officials accountable. The murderer has been arrested by the policemen. That is fine. The Ministry of Interior issued a report after the incident stating that the murderer is mentally diseased and he is nuts. How come? Is it irrational that a mad person can carry a bomb and a gun machine and goes wherever he wants in the streets of the capital of the country? It is confusing, isn't it? The Minister should have resigned since his ministry has proved failure in bringing harmony and stability to the society. The event should have made the whole cabinet restless, but nothing happened as if it doesn't matter. Killings and murders have become a daily routine in the Yemeni society. Almost everyday a homicide incident is reported in the capital Sanaa. The recklessness of the sons of the influential people has become intolerable. They murder in the streets and are protected by their fathers or relatives. The traffic policemen are from time to time targets of such outlaw people. I think the ministry of interior is to be responsible for the sense of insecurity and instability in the country. People really feel afraid of the influential figures in the society and their irresponsible behavior. Imagine, one of the sons of the dignitaries in the society wanted once to lure a girl walking on the street and pick her up to his car. But she refused. The man felt insulted because he considers himself someone. Therefore, he took off his gun and shot her down and run away. Everybody knows that he is the murderer. However, he was not even investigated. Something staggering, isn't it?

The main business of the police is to tease the opinion makers and journalists in the country. Every now and then, we hear about the harassments and arresting of journalists. An example of the hard times faced by journalists is that two journalists have filed cases against the Minister of Interior, an indication that freedom of the press is backsliding. Policemen are meant to protect the people. However, they have even become a constant source of threat and menace. I believe the political security office can be very instrumental and effective in improving the security situation in the country.

We also find that these policemen have their eyes peeled when they tease people walking on streets or strolling in parks or wherever else. I think if they do the same to protect the safety of the people, almost murder or homicide reports will gradually go down. Unfortunately, they are working against the people. It is this security situation that gives a clue whether the government is strong enough to safeguard the interests of its people or fragile and can do nothing to bring them harmony and peace.

More cynically, the official reports always laud the security situation describing it as excellent. This is our fault which is that we don't confess our mistakes and accordingly try to avoid them in the future. It is time that we stop such behavior and try to convey the real situation. It is a matter of courage, isn't it?

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Emirates, the award-winning, international airline of the United Arab Emirates invites application for the post of EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, for its Yemen office. Successful candidate will be reporting to the Area Manager Yemen.



Responsibilities include the following:

- Handling Company's mail
- Drafting Minutes of the meetings
- Assist the Area manager in handling day-to-day's operational issues.
- Liaise with the Head Office in regards to Customer complaints/Staff Training etc.
- Assist in processing/forwarding the visa applications to head office.
- Typing letters in English & Arabic.
- Translation from English to Arabic or vice versa as and when required.

Candidate should be:

- Female
- Fluent in English & Arabic (Read/Write/Speak)
- Should have completed a degree form a recognised university.
- Minimum 2-3 years secretarial work experience.
- Pleasant Personality
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اتصل الآن

The World of Stewardesses

Ahiam Al-khawliani &
Abdu Al-Hakeem Hashim
Yemen Times

Since the first days of Islam, woman has been given the freedom that she had been deprived of in the pre-Islamic period. She has stood by man in wars, where she worked as a cupbearer and a nurse while even fighting alongside him. In the course of time, as education become accessible to everybody, she got educated to hold high ranking positions in society. Now, woman is recognized as an active member that has proved her success in various fields such as teaching, medicine, engineering, journalism. The introduction above breaks the ice for a number of interviews I have had with women working as stewardesses to know what do they think about their career, how the people and their male colleagues perceive them and what the problems they face are.

Wafa Assaid Saleh

I have chosen this career because it is the best in the world. I don't care what the people say about us and I am not bound to please them. They envy us, unlike our colleagues who respect us. We, like other women in their careers, have our own problems. One of the problems we face is the passengers misunderstanding of the nature of our work. I am not-married or engaged at the

moment. I prefer my life-long partner to be educated and broad-minded.

Saniah Anwar

I have chosen this work because I want to represent my country in the world. I don't pay any attention to what others say about us. We live in a male-chauvinist society that regards women as the second sex. I work with respectable stewards and stewardesses and we respect each other. Many girls like this job because it enables them to know about many other countries. Regarding the problems we meet, they are few. The main one is the passengers' complaints about everything.

Noor Sinan

I always wanted to travel to see the world and to know more about the traditions and cultures of nations. Air-hosting is like the other jobs. Unfortunately, people are unable or unwilling to understand this. All the stewards and stewardesses respect themselves and each other and this is



enough for us. Girls are preferred for this position because of their grace and flexibility. This, of course, is not enough. Besides this, they should be educated, in order to know how to deal with the passengers. One of our problems is the way people look at us. They don't want to give us the chance to represent our country.

Waheedah

It has been always my hope to represent my country. There are two different attitudes towards us. One of them reflects the opinion of the educated sector in our society. The other reflects the opinion of the ignorant. We don't care about what they say. We are confident and know what we are doing. When I get married, I hope that I will be able to strike a balance between my duty as a wife and my job as a stewardess. If it happens and I get proposals, I will think of a sincere and faithful person. As far as air-hosting is concerned, it needs talented people because it is not an easy job. The most outstanding problem we face is the passengers' disdain for safety measures.

Naemah Qahwi

I have chosen this work because I like traveling to see the features of the other countries. The people's attitude towards stewardesses differ from one social sector to another. Regarding my colleagues, they all respect each other. One of the problems we face is the teasing of passengers. I am married. My husband is a businessman and he respects my career very much.

Majid Saleh

Many people think that the most suitable work for women includes temptation and attraction. This is why they see women's availability in the work place as a necessity. Although I respect all the stewardesses, I don't want my fiancée or relative to be a stewardess. I am an Eastern man who believes that



woman must be in a position that is consistent with our culture and traditions. If I fall in love with a stewardess, I will persuade her to give it up. There are different attitudes towards stewardesses. Personally, I believe that the most suitable place for woman is home.

Mohammed Al-Alemy

Air-hosting attracts not only women, but men also. As a steward, I respect all my colleagues. In my opinion, air-hosting is not different from the other kinds of jobs and woman has to prove herself in this field. I have no objection to marrying a stewardess. If I marry a stewardess, I will not ask her to stop. On the contrary, I will encourage her to go on. This might be objected to by many people who look at the work of the stewardess as something against our culture and traditions but I shouldn't let them take charge of my own attitude.

Ossamah Ali Ahmad Al-Jaawy

I will not allow my fiancée to work as a stewardess. Marrying a stewardess can never be a successful marriage. A successful marriage needs a wife whose only concern is her home!

The Rights of Women in Islam



Dr. Azza Mohammed
Abdo Ghanem
Professor of
Psychology

Shahwar Hegazi presented a paper (The Child Welfare Association in Cairo) in Istanbul 1997 in a conference on Women in which she said that in 586 A.D. some of the top clergy in Europe met to discuss the issue of women and whether they could be considered as equal human beings to man. It was happily decided that they were human beings, second class citizens created to serve men. Islam came 60 years later to give women rights they had never envisaged. In a previous paper I had promised to clarify some misconceptions. I must warn you that my knowledge is tantamount to a drop of rainwater in a huge lake. But let us share that drop. Amongst the most important rights given to women by Islam - that might interest our foreign friends who should get to know the social milieu they are in - are some of the following issues. All I ask is that you read with an open mind and forget your line of reference that you are familiar with.

Equality in origin:

"O mankind! Be careful of your duty to your Lord who created you from a single soul and from this created its mate and from both spread a multitude of men and women" Surat Al Nisa - Women VI

Equal right to work:

"And their Lord hath answered them: I will not waste the work, or let it be lost whether of male or female; you proceed one from another." Surat Al-Imran - The Family of Imran V.195. Women have equal rights to work or take a job provided they are decently dressed and not in seclusion with a man to incur temptation. But even if she works, she is not responsible to support the family it is her prerogative.

Right to Education and learning:

Women participated in education circles and discussion groups throughout the life of the Prophet (P) e.g. Asma bint Omais, Fatma bint Qais and Aisha bint Abubaker retold the Prophets Hadith for many years.

Right to inheritance:

It is half that of the male only in the case of parents death. "Allah charged you concerning the inheritance of your children, to the male the portion of 2 females" Surat Al-Nisa - Women V.II. But in other cases it is not necessarily so. Females remain the males' responsibility even after getting their share. Before Islam no woman could inherit from relatives, but rather women were inherited like other possessions. The issue of inheritance needs an article of its own.

Right to business management and financial transactions:

These rights became available to women, they could buy and sell, own a business in their name and make goods for sale.

Rights to a dowry and financial support:

This is stipulated in the marriage contract so that there will be no argument. This money and gold becomes her insurance in times of need. In addition anything that the husband gives her during the time of living together, she gets to keep.

Rights to choose or accept a husband:

A girl must be asked for her consent by her father or next of kin if father is dead.

Right to give testimony and act as witness:

"And call to witness from among your

men two, or one man and two women".

Surat Al Baqarah - The cow V282. Some use this as a sign of inequality, but in fact in matters of great delicacy and intimacy such as childbirth, breast feeding maternity etc. a man's testimony is not accepted and only a woman's. In murder issues and violent acts it is feared that a woman's emotional bias might interfere. But more important than the gender issue is the security of the trait of justice and fairness in the witness.

Right to be protected from slander and accusation:

False accusations were punishable, and whoever accuses a woman say of adultery has to prove that and provide 4 witnesses.

Islam stressed the independence of women in civil rights, and warned against gender envy:

"And covet not the thing in which Allah hath made some of you excel others. Unto men a fortune from that which they have earned and unto women a fortune from that which they have earned."

Surat Al Nisa - Women V. 32.

Women in the first stages of Islam, were given the right to protect in safe custody (الاجارة) those who begged for protection e.g. Um Hani - the sister of Khalifa Ali bin Abi Taleb - protected a non-believer from Ali's wrath and the Prophet (P) supported her.

Amongst the first political rights of women was the swearing of allegiance of the leader (المبايعة) which both men and women performed. The Prophet (P) accepted it by words from women and shaking hands in addition of men. Consultation and discussion (الشورى) was one of the basic rules of legislation. It is the duty of both males and females. The Prophet (P), Abubaker, Othman and Omar invited guidance from women e.g. Omer ibn Alkhattab consulted Aisha the Prophet's widow as to the maximum period of separation from spouse, and he decided according to her advice to make 4 months the upper limit for male expeditions.

It is also a woman's right to give (فتوى) Shariah explanations if she is knowledgeable in juris prudence.

Women are not allowed to become heads of states or Khalifas, however they are eligible and acceptable in all other positions below that. This is partly because the head of state must lead all in prayers and fights (جهاد) etc. duties from which women are exempt and have not asked for equality. Thus women can be ministers, heads of offices, ambassadors etc. It has been said that the Prophet (P) said "No people who let a woman rule them will succeed". But it was explained that this was a specific text referring to the case of Buran, a queen in Persia. Besides it does refer to the head of state and not other general leadership positions of lower magnitude.

In acting as judges in law matters, there are different interpretations. The sects Al Shafey, Alhanbaly and Shiah do not allow females as judges. Al hanafy accepts them in minor issues but not say in crimes or murders. Al maliky accepts female judges in all matters. These multi sectorial interpretations are quite prominent in many issues and to me they represent the epitome of democracy.

Performing prayers in the mosque is not obligatory in order to avoid inconvenience for mothers and children. but it is complemented. In all other issues prayers, zakat, fasting and pilgrimage men and women are equal.

There are many other issues that non-believers sometimes throw as sources of doubt of the equality issue. Amongst these are the rules of marriage, divorce, polygamy, the wearing of the veil, and dominance by men (القوامه). They are vital issues and In Sha Allah will be attempted in a future article to clear some of the extant misconceptions.

Impression about Yemen



H.E. Sanli Topcuoglu,
Ambassador of the
Republic of
Turkey to Yemen

In 1996 when I was appointed as the Turkish Ambassador to Yemen, I knew that I would be serving in a friendly country with which we have deep-rooted historical and cultural ties. Yemen occupies an important place in Turkish history and culture. Yemen, today is no stranger to the Turks nor are the Turks strangers to the Yemenis. We have even several popular folksongs regarding this country. Thus, I was very enthusiastic to start my office in Yemen.

It is now almost three years that I have been in Yemen. Within this time I have had the chance of observing the country and the Yemeni life in all aspects. I have been following with deep appreciation the progress of the brotherly people of Yemen in all spheres of their lives.

In my very first days here, I was deeply touched by two distinctive characteristics of the Yemeni people. One was the traditional Yemeni hospitality and the other one was the warmth and modesty of all people, from the man in the street to the highest level dignitaries.

Historically, one should remember the glorious times of the Queen of Sheba in order to comprehend the magnitude of the contribution made by Yemen and its people to the history of the peninsula. Therefore, I think it should not be wrong to say that Yemen was one of the most important cradles of civilization in the region.

In our time, from the geopolitical point of view, Yemen still continues to have a very important place in this peninsula.

I am so happy that following some painful years, the strong desire for unity among the people of Yemen prevailed and the Yemeni unity has been fully realized.

It is my sincere conviction that unity of Yemen represents a pillar of peace and stability in the Arabian Peninsula.

Today, democracy in Yemen is yet another common important factor that complements and bolsters the Yemeni unity. In this regard I would also like to emphasize the fact that Yemen has become a model of genuine and efficient democracy in this part of the world. I must stress how very happy I am to have the opportunity to closely observe the last general elections and to witness the achievement of the democratic process in Yemen.

The increasing role of the women in democratization and modernization of the country is also worth mentioning.

I have no doubt that coming presidential elections would constitute yet another important step in the democratization process.

From the economic point of view, Yemen is a developing country and is giving sustained efforts to provide economic progress. I do not share the comments that Yemen is a poor country. In fact it has very important natural resources such as oil and gas. Yemen has a very young and dynamic population as well. Furthermore, the country enjoys a very rich historical and cultural heritage, which constitutes an important asset. And I sincerely believe that inspired by its cultural welfare and making use of its rich natural resources Yemen will achieve further progress in all the fields. Of course, optimum use of all the resources is highly essential in this regard. Undergoing substantial economic and administrative reform programmes will certainly contribute to the development process of Yemen. The accomplishments in the Yemen's economy in the last three years are quite visible and noteworthy.

As an ambassador serving in Yemen I have had the chance to closely observe the basic principles of the foreign policy consistently pursued by the Government of Yemen. In this regard I should emphasize that peaceful ways which Yemen prefers in solving the problems and conflicts with its neighbours deserve appreciation.

Having all those impressions about Yemen, I can comfortably say that with its mainly young population of 17 million, its cultural heritage, natural resources and highly strategic location, Yemen will be playing an increasingly important role in its region and the international arena.

I would like to conclude by underlining the fact that the strong sense of the independence of our peoples, the strategic importance of the two countries, the multi-party parliamentary democracy and basic principles of foreign policy adopted by Turkey and Yemen are the major factors bringing our two countries together. Such basic values and factors that we share contribute greatly for further strengthening the relations between our two countries and to promote in all fields a mutually beneficial cooperation.

It is my sincere hope that during my tenure the relations between our two countries will grow even stronger.

Mr. Najeeb Qahtan Al-Shaabi:

“ In Spite of the Difficulties we Face, We Haven't Taken any Decisions on Withdrawal”



Yemen is to witness the first ever presidential elections in its modern history in the 23rd of September. The parliament has endorsed the nominations of two persons only. They are the current president, Mr. Ali Abdullah Saleh and Mr. Najeeb Qahtan Al-Shaabi. The last is running as an independent candidate and is the only competitor of president Saleh.

Mr. Najeeb, a father of 2 sons and 2 daughters and the son of the first president of the South of Yemen (Qahtan Al-Shaabi), was born in Lahj in 1953. He finished his elementary, preparatory and secondary schooling in Aden and Cairo, Egypt. He graduated from the Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences, Cairo University in 1976. He obtained his MA. from the same college in 1983. In 1983 he enrolled in the same college for his Ph.D. with the thesis titled “ the Political Integration between the South and North of Yemen.” His father was one of the leaders of the armed struggle against the British colonization of South Yemen. His father became the president of South Yemen in 1967 and resigned in 1969 due to a conflict with the Marxist wing in the National Front. He was put in prison and his death was declared in 1981. Due to the bad treatment Najeeb and his brothers faced in the South, they left Aden and lived in Cairo since 1976. In 1981 Najeeb and his mother and brothers came and lived since then in Sanaa.

In 1990 Mr. Najeeb became a member of the first parliament after the Yemeni Unification. Then, he was appointed as a consultant of the president for the parliament elections affairs but he resigned for nominating himself in the elections of 1997. He is now a member of the parliament and a member of the oil and mineral wealth committee in the parliament. He has published a lot of political writings in different well-known Yemeni newspapers. To know more about his electoral campaign as well as the problems he is facing and his program for the presidential elections, Mohammed Bin Sallam of Yemen Times interviewed Mr. Najeeb Al-Shaabi and filed the following:

Q: How do you reply to allegation of the apposition that you are the shadow of the president?
A: This allegation was made the day following the nomination from parliament by the Opposition Coordination Council. They did so before even reading my political program. It was a pre-judgment decision that should not have been made by seasoned politicians.

Q: How do you see the statement made by the opposition Coordination Council that they obtain nomination for their candidate from the people directly?
A: I see that as a propaganda move which I doubt that they will go ahead with. In any case, I see that very little can be achieved from such a move as this process is not constitutional.

Q: We have never heard that one political party nominates two candidates for presidency of the state. What is your comment?
A: We, as well, never heard of such a thing in any election, parliamentary or presidential. Therefore, it is not true what some opposition parties allege that the president and I, are nominees of the same party. The president is a nominee of the PGC while I am an independent candidate. Besides, we have different programs.

Q: What are the differences between your program and that of the president?
A: There is a basic difference between the two programs as they stand on different points of political and economic spectrum. My program basically seeks a modern state, where law and order, social justice, democracy, local government, equal citizenship and strict abidance by the constitution are pillars. My program particularly has strong views on free education, health-care umbrella and economic policy. In fact, in our views on social justice, we have gone beyond the program of the Opposition Coordination Council.

Q: Where is your popular base that has encouraged you to run for the presidency? And where do they concentrate?
A: We shall depend upon voters from all parts of Yemen. We are able to reach the people and convince them with our agenda. We shall depend on Yemenis who are not convinced that the current administration will affect improvement and I hope that I am able to affect such a change towards law and order, equality, and modernization of the states' institutions.

Q: What are your plans on corruption? Are you willing to remove the corrupt collectively in one move?
A: Corruption is a major chronic problem facing our country. There are many official reports involving many officials, some in high offices. It needs application of the law, strictly and equally and setting a strong example from the beginning. Once this principle is established, I believe things would be easier to manage. It is also important to have aides who are honest, knowledgeable and of decent public opinion. This would

enhance public trust and assistance to face and solve this serious disease. Also we should promote the principle of reward and punishment. We should also enact a law on “where did you get this from?” to audit the wealth of officials. All these principles are expressed in my program

Q: What about local government?
A: Local government law is already in the parliament and we are strong advocates of strong local government with wide jurisdiction. It should be a big development in our political, economic and social life.

Q: Your withdrawal from the election process - as quoted by Al-Ayyam newspaper - is it an agenda plot to re-nominate the candidate of the opposition?
A: We have not taken any decisions on withdrawal - in spite of the difficulties we face for our campaign. For the second part of the question we are not a part of any plots to re-nominate the opposition nominee for this will never happen.

Q: What difficulties are you facing in your campaign - as you mentioned?
A: Basically they are of financing and mismanagement by Supreme Election Committee. Financing from treasury as stipulated by law is still not decided till now. The law states that the parliament presidium should propose the amount

and parliament approves it. Parliament is still in vacation till the 1st of September. Time is very short for a complete campaign, and the amount suggested as we heard unofficially which is 25 million riyals, is hardly sufficient. The SEC has not approved to be taking the process seriously as we made clear last week in our statement published in the Yemen Times. There is also talk that the campaign time will be shortened to 14 days which does not give us sufficient time. We feel that these difficulties seriously undermine the principle of equal opportunity as our competitor, the president, is already a well known personality.

Q: What are the means through which you will express your program and ideas?
A: Before the campaign period, we have depended mainly on newspapers and magazines. But during the campaign period we will seek to meet the people directly through public fairs in capitals of governorates, in addition to the media, both official and independent. The law stipulates that both candidates get equal opportunity and we hope that everyone abides by that. We should also use posters and pamphlets and such means throughout the country, through our offices in the various govern orates.

Q: How do you see the future of Yemen after the elections?
A: We see that these elections represent an important step towards deepening and establishing the democratic process. The upcoming president should also begin seriously to tackle the huge problems facing us today politically, economically and socially. Our security situation needs attention and public faith requires enhancing. The coming local and parliamentary elections should provide a turning point towards establishing effective constitutional institutions. There are basic necessities towards establishing a modern democratic state.

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Leading Exponent of Arab sports

Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz, the eldest son of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd, died on Saturday, August 21 after a sudden heart attack.

"Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz gave up his soul after a heart attack at the age of 54," the royal cabinet said in a statement. "He devoted most of (his spirit) to encouraging young people and lifting Saudi sports so it could reach its current honorable level," the statement said. The prince was buried in Riyadh yesterday following afternoon prayers.

Sources earlier said the prince, who headed the Arab Sports Federation and who has been at the helm of the Saudi Sports and Youth Organization since 1974, died in a hospital in Riyadh where he had been admitted earlier in the day. He had no previous history of heart ailments and always appeared to be in robust health.

Prince Faisal had returned on Thursday from Jordan where he attended the opening of the ninth Arab Games in Amman. A 1971 graduate of California University, Prince Faisal had

many contributions to the advancement of Arab sports over the past quarter century. He was a senior member of various Arab sports federations and was active in the international Olympic movement, in the field of sports for the handicapped and in Arab campaigns to combat narcotics and the misuse of drugs.

The late prince has five brothers.

He is survived by his wife and five children. He was often in the news because of his philanthropic activities and donations. The last such donation was made last week in Amman when he gave \$1mn for an orphans home in Amman named after Jordan's late King Hussein.

His acts of charity earned him the title 'the prince with a big heart.'

The Arab Games in Amman halted for three hours yesterday in the prince's memory.

According to SPA, Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz has received condolence calls from several Arab leaders, including the presidents of Yemen, Egypt and Tunisia.

King Fahd is currently sojourning in the Spanish Mediterranean resort of Marbella.

UNIFEM

Post-Beijing Follow-up Operations, Phase II

Aiming at developing the administrative skills as well as analyzing the gender role in society, the UNIFEM, in cooperation with the National Committee for Women, organized a three-day training course for 60 participants from the Yemeni governorates. The course aimed at developing the administrative skills of the secretaries of the non-governmental organizations whose concern is to follow up post-Beijing operations as well as providing the participants with the practical administrative equipment. It also aimed at the formation, execution and evaluation of the development projects and adding concepts of gender to these projects. Aamal Al-Basha, head of the project, said that the participants are now able to:

* Understand the administrative work and its elements.
* Understand and take advantage of development projects.
In addition, the course also discussed the following topics:

- 1- The administrative work and its elements.
- 2- The planning period
- 3- Directions and Decision Making
- 4- The Supervision Machinery
- 5- Planning for Development Projects
- 6- The gender concepts in the steps of the development

projects' planning
7- Writing Reports

During the course, the participants were divided into work groups to practice the steps of the development project planning under the supervision of Aamal Al-Basha and Dr. Haifaa Abu Ghazala, the UNIFEM consultant for West Asia. "This course is one of the activities of the Post-Beijing Follow-up Operations, Phase II. The UNIFEM has formed a regional project in Yemen, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Palestine to follow up post-Beijing operations. In the period between 97-98, the UNIFEM, in cooperation with the National Committee for Women in Yemen, formed a number of national plans and strategies out of the international work plan. The second step which has been initiated this year lasts for five years and it focuses on the constitutional development of women", said Dr. Haifaa Abu Ghazala. "We are now preparing for the 5-Year-Post-Beijing Meeting which will be held in March, 2000. Delegations from all over the world that attended Beijing Forth Conference and committed themselves to the constitutional development of women as well as the following up of the Post-Beijing operations will attend the 2000 meeting to evaluate the first phase as well as see what is to be done in the upcoming millennium", continued Abu Ghazala. Abu Ghazala expressed her happiness for the orders given by the Prime Minister to the official organizations to make general administrative departments for women and regarded it as a leading step in the Arab world. She also hoped that the National Committee for Women will be able to cooperate with this national machinery in order to develop itself. At the end of the course, all the participants appreciated the role Dr. Shireen, the project regional manager and a teacher in the course, played to make the course a success.

Ahlam Al-Mutawakel
Yeme Times

WARNING!

M. El Haddad Group of Companies for General Trading, Consultants & Import-Export warns the people against any commercial dealings with :

- 1- Subhan Yaseen Mohiyuddin, Indian national, passport no. 5248976
- 2- Mohammed Sharief Kareem, Indian national, passport no. 332735

The persons mentioned above used to work for M. El Haddad Group and have fled away with many important papers belonging to the group. Any information regarding the two mentioned above will result in a lucrative reward. Please phone 223594-271643 if you have information.

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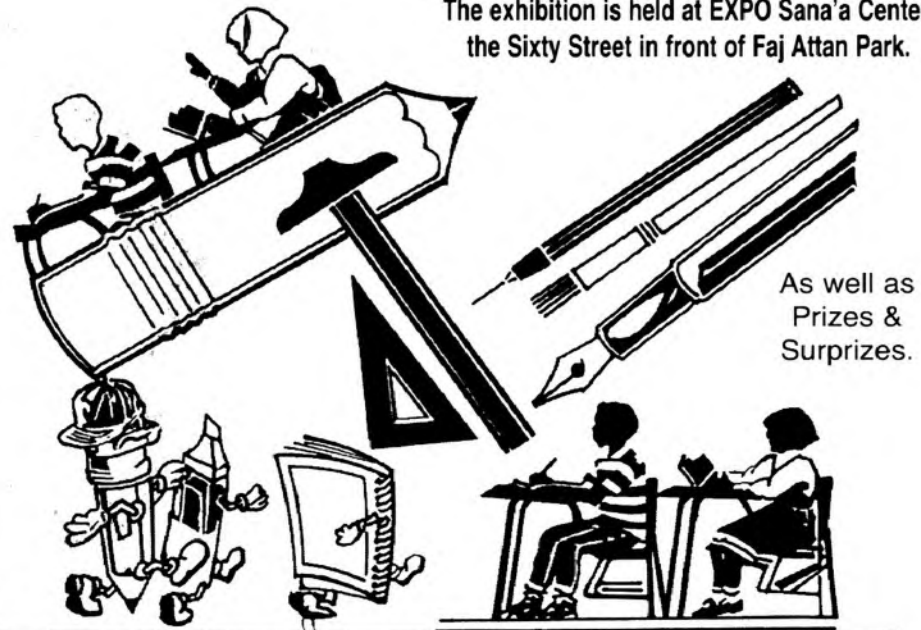
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نظرا للطلب المتزايد في المشاركة بالمسابقة، ونظرا لبعد بعض القراء عن العاصمة وبطء وصول أجوبتهم إلينا، فقد قررت الصحيفة تمديد فترة قبول الأجابات إلى أسبوعين (13 يوما). لذا فالصحيفة ستقبل أجاباتهم للسؤال في هذا العدد (34) حتى يوم 5 سبتمبر 1999.

Issue no.
34

Yemen Times Weekly Competition

مسابقة يمن تايمز الاسبوعية

ابحث في محتويات هذا العدد عن إجابة السؤال المبين في الأسفل مع كتابة الإجابة باللغة الانجليزية وكتابة عنوان المقالة مع تحديد رقم الصفحة التي بها الإجابة بخط واضح وإرسالها إلى عنوان الصحيفة الرئيسي في صنعاء. لا تقبل الإجابات من دون إرفاق هذا الكوبون الخاص بالسؤال. الأجابات التي تصلنا بالفاكس غير مقبولة. سيتم اختيار الفائزين من بين جميع المتقدمين بواسطة القرعة، وسيمنح الفائز بالمركز الأول مبلغ 5000 والثاني 3000 والثالث 2000 ريال. وحتى يتسنى للجميع إرسال الأجوبة إلى بريد الصحيفة فإن باب المشاركة سيظل مفتوحا لمدة أسبوعين من يوم الإصدار (أي بعد 13 يوما من الإصدار). ستنتشر أسماء الفائزين في العدد بعد القادم لاستلام جوائزهم. كما نرجو كتابة رقم عدد الصحيفة على مظروف الرسالة. كما بإمكان نفس الشخص إرسال أكثر من كوبون بإسماء.

Search for the answer of the below question within the contents of this issue and write the answer clearly along with the article's title and page number. Please cut out this coupon and send it to our head office in Sana'a. The winners will be selected through drawing lots. The awards are YR 5000 for 1st place, YR 3000 for 2nd place, and 2000 for 3rd place. The winners' names will be announced on issue after two week's to receive their prizes. Answers will be acceptable within 13 days only after the date of issuance. Please write the number of the issue of the Yemen Times that you cut the coupon from on the envelope. One person can send more than one coupon to have a higher possibility of winning. Answers sent by fax will not be considered.

Question of the Week

Why does the Dubai Port Authority (DPA) see no potential threat on the part of the commercial ports in Aden and Salalah?

Answer: _____

Article's Title: _____

Page no. _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. No.: _____

Winners of Last Week's Competition

First Prize (YR 5000)

Maged Saleh Saeed Al-Qubati, Sanaa

Second Prize (YR 3000)

Sheeren Al-Ashqar, Sanaa

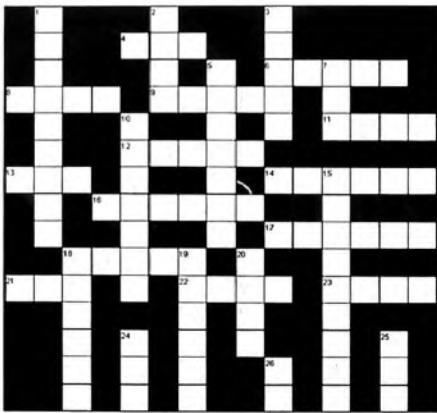
Third Prize (YR 2000)

Adel Ahmad Yahya Al-Haddad, Ibb

Congratulations to all winners. To receive their prizes, winners should come with their IDs to the Yemen Times Sanaa Office, near the Palestinian Embassy, Hadda Street. Tel. 268661.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across Clues:
 5. I have two ____s. I use them to h ____.
 6. I listen to music on my _____.
 8. A ____ is a tiny ball with a hole through it.
 9. A ____ is a straight stick used for measuring.
 11. My sisters are ____s. My brothers are boys.
 12. I am standing ____ my friends. I am in the middle of them.
 13. A ____ is used to shoot an arrow in the sport of archery.
 14. I have four ____s and a thumb on my hand.
 16. ____ is a season. The war is hot and we don't go to school during ____.
 17. I ____ see the monkeys at the zoo. I see them every time I go.
 18. ____s help doctors take care of people who are sick.
 21. I ____ my shoelaces after I put on my shoes.
 22. There is a ____ on top of our house. It keeps the rain and snow out.
 23. A ____ is one sheet of paper in a book. Books have many ____s in them.



Down Clues:
 1. We are dismissed from school in the _____.
 2. A ____ is two of something. Socks and gloves come in ____s.
 3. We must ____ so we are not late for school. We must go quickly.
 5. I have a ____ on my bed to keep me warm at night.
 7. I have a pet _____. He likes to run and bark.
 10. ____ is the first month of the year. It is a winter month.
 15. People read the ____ to know what happened in the last day.
 18. My mother sewed my button on my shirt with a ____ and thread.
 20. A ____ is a baby horse.
 24. I use my ____s to see. I have two ____s.
 25. This loaf of bread hasn't been sliced yet. I will ____ a piece for myself.
 26. An ____ is a tool which is used to cut wood.

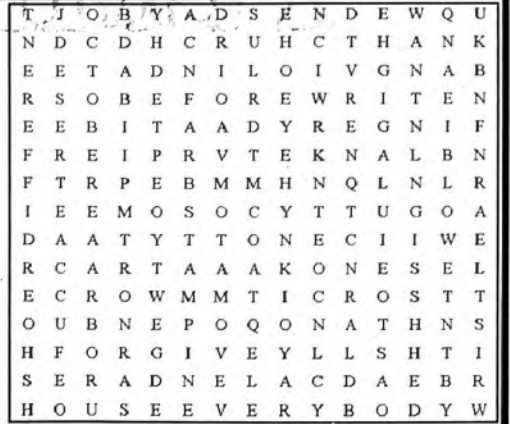
Answer to Last Week's Puzzle



WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Scratch all the below words from the the box on the right in all directions.

- | | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|-----------|
| job | wrist | honey | finger |
| cat | write | appear | dentist |
| shoe | watch | before | forgive |
| open | tired | bottom | blanket |
| date | stamp | camera | October |
| blow | quiet | desert | calendar |
| bead | north | church | bookcase |
| bang | learn | potato | everybody |
| stain | hurry | violin | different |
| thank | house | insect | Wednesday |



From the Internet

This section is dedicated to linking the people in Yemen with Yemenies abroad. It will act as a tunnel between the readers who live in Yemen and read the printed copy of the paper and our readers online at www.yementimes.com. The thousands and thousands of online readers, mostly immigrants, are interested in knowing more of what is happening in their country and therefore, turn to the Yemen Times all the

time. There is a page at our site titled "Yemenies abroad" @ www.yementimes.com/yemenies.htm, which includes information for Yemenies and others interested in Yemen. There is also a discussion room and offers many other services.

We, at the Yemen Times, are trying to give the Internet more importance and attention. It is a new world with unlimited opportunities. Please follow this section every week as it includes interesting information and ideas that could attract you more to the unfamiliar world of the Internet.

Online Debate Lawlessness in Yemen

Currently taking place at (www.yementimes.com/bbs)

Abdul: Why is lawlessness so pronounced in Yemen? Is it the local culture or lack of culture that seems to encourage and inhibit obedience to 'civility in Yemen'?

Osama: I think that the lawlessness is a fact in many areas in Yemen. Being a Yemeni and living in Yemen, I realized that money is the absolute power. If you have money, you can not only pass the law, but you can invent a law of your own, and let others abide by it. We are living in a jungle where the strong dominates the weak.

There is no law implemented, even the most basic rules are implemented with money. A recent story I heard is, when the general prosecutor's office was robbed, and even though he asked the police to investigate, they refused because he did not give any money. He thought that it was their duty, but they think that they should be paid for it.

It is a pity! We are yet asking for democratization, and other nonsense. If we are truly willing to have our country develop, our officials should seek ways to enforce the law in the land. Otherwise, the country will turn into a true jungle in no time!

Abdul: Thank you, Mr Osama for the explanation. Your explanation, however, raised (2) new questions. You say: (1) If you are truly willing to have our country develop, our officials should seek ways to enforce law in the land. Otherwise, the country will turn into a true jungle in no time! My question is, 'what and/or who is stopping your officials from enforcing the laws? (2) You also indicated that money invents laws(), which is contrary to the commonly held belief that Arabs hold their honor and dignity above material rewards. What has happened, or was I dubbed into such untrue belief?

Osama: Yes indeed. You said it. Today's officials are somehow different than what they are supposed to be. If I say, "they should", that means that they are not doing it. They are not doing it because they prefer their interest over the public's interests. Hence, I believe that change of commitment should be from the top spot (the President). He should launch strong campaigns against these irresponsible people. About the other point of inventing laws, of not being an Arab and honor. That was long ago, today only money is important for those people, and they do not have

anything else to think of! This is truly a pity.

Raffaella: Regarding Lawlessness In Yemen, I am married to a Yemeni man who always says that it will be a long time before Yemen's political and economic affairs will be in order. Every civilization follows God's law first then their politicians/kings. If the government is financially sound and headed by a responsible party than the country is sure to see order in the future. We have to look at world history and recognize that it is very, very hard to oversee the affairs of a country. That's why so many heads have changed over the years. The only true form of democracy, I feel, being practiced today, is by America. However, America, as we know it, is only three hundred years old and no one knows what the future holds for Americans politically. I think Yemen is going through the natural process of reform. It will mean a lot of blood, sweat and tears.

Abdul: Raffaella, I appreciate your input into this topic; it helps if someone has first hand information. Your statement, makes me wonder if the 'blood, sweat and tears' you mentioned is due to the violation of God's law. By the way, what is God's law?

Intelligent Yemenies Online Form their Site Yemen Electronic Media Network

Yemen Electronic Media Network relaunches www.Sana'a net.com and merges www.sanaa.net.com & www.YemenNet.com.

Brooklyn, NY, Aug. 17, 1999 - Yemen Electronic Media Network is planning to introduce its newly designed sites www.sanaa.net.com and www.YemenNet.com on Wednesday August 18, 1999. The sites with their new designs are scheduled to commence operation at 10:00 a.m. Eastern time, August 17, 1999. The two sites contain more than 1000 files, and contain more than 120 Mb of data. The most up to date technology and programming have been used to produce the two sites. Sana'a.net and YemenNet.Com offer you information, and a Yemeni Internet Community. For those who want to experience Yemen, the Virtual tours will take them on virtual journeys to the land of Sheba, real videos and multimedia presentations that will bring Yemen closer to Sana'a.net & YemenNet.com surfers.

Search Engine A powerful search engine has been configured and enhanced. For those who look for information on Yemen, look no further! Don't search using a "crawler", use our search engine and save time. Webmasters can add their sites, will also be added by Yemen Network staff.

Yemen On the Web YemenNet.Com has been featuring Yemen on the Internet since 1996, and will continue to do so. Through multimedia presentations, real videos, and other multimedia features Yemen Network will bring Yemen closer to you. You'll find information, links and

Islam An Islamic site linking you to all the Islamic sites and contains a great collection of Hadiths. This area will undergo further construction (the rest is ready for you to explore today).

Arabia The Arabian Oasis is the place to find Arab related sites. This area will be under construction. The rest is ready for you to explore today.

Yemen Business Directory Our modern servers allow us to operate powerful, fast search engines and directories. Yemen Business Directory is the place to add your business or find other businesses that do business in Yemen.

Yemen Personal Directory As the name implies this is the place to add your name and look for friends. It's not just a directory; visit it and see for yourself.

Yemen Banner Exchange Network A great web service for Yemeni webmasters. This is a great way to advertise your site. You submit your banner and add a link and we'll do the rest for free, while giving your site greater exposure.

answers to your questions.

Forums and Chat Rooms Sana'a.Net was distinguished for its forums. We have redesigned those forums, and added more functions and various controls. Forums and chat rooms continue to offer Yemenies a free environment to interact online, make friends and exchange views.

Yemen Business Directory Our modern servers allow us to operate powerful, fast search engines and directories. Yemen Business Directory is the place to add your business or find other businesses that do business in Yemen.

Yemen Personal Directory As the name implies this is the place to add your name and look for friends. It's not just a directory; visit it and see for yourself.

Yemen Banner Exchange Network A great web service for Yemeni webmasters. This is a great way to advertise your site. You submit your banner and add a link and we'll do the rest for free, while giving your site greater exposure.

Yemen Network will be the largest Yemeni Website on the Net. We will need volunteers to help maintain Yemen's presence on the web. Become a community leader and a forum leader, links manager, and Web page rater. We have many positions available.

Yemen Network Business Services Advertising Both YemenNet.Com and Sana'a net are popular sites and are definitely sites that you should consider advertising in. Check out our page to learn more.

Hosting and Design Yemen Network has two servers, which allow us to offer you great web hosting and design packages. Check out our page to learn more.

Become a Sponsor In addition to advertising on our pages, Yemen Network offers companies a chance to become sponsors of the sites.

-President, Shaker Al-Ashwal yalnet@aol.com -Vice President, Yasser Al-Ghrazy yasser@sanaa.net

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If you have updates or additions to this list, please call Anwar Al-Sayyadi at Tel: 268661



FOR EMERGENCY

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Commercial Bank Sana'a	213662/6
Hodeidah	217040/3
Int'l Bank of Yemen	272920/3
National Bank of Yemen	275373
YBRD	271623/4

BRANCH OF FOREIGN BANKS:

Arab Bank Ltd.	276592/3
Bank Indosuez	272801/3
United Bank Ltd	272424

GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

Foreign Affairs	202544/7
Interior Affairs	252701/7
Immigration	250761/3
Tourism	254032
Inter-City Bus Co.	262111/3
TV Station	332001/2
Radio Station	282061

INSURANCE COMPANIES:

Y. I. & Reinsurance Aden	273311
Marib Insurance Sana'a:	206112/4
Aden:	255668
Taiz:	222162/3/4
Hodeidah:	217370/1
Yemen General Sana'a:	265191
Aden:	241171
Taiz:	221561
Hodeidah:	239184
United Ins. Co. Sana'a:	272890/2
Taiz:	215012
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AIRLINES:

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Austrian Airlines	272432
British Airways (Sana'a)	267929
British Airway (Aden)	241534
Cathay Pacific	272432
Egypt Air	275061
Emirates	244444
Ethiopian Airlines	272437
Gulf Air	265274/75
KLM	278747
Kuwait Airlines	272503/4
Lufthansa	213400
Royal Jordanian	275314/028
Russian Airlines	272540
Sabena	285865/925
Sudan Airways	279210
Syrian Airways	272543
Universal Travel (HO)	275028/9/30
Universal-Zubeiri	245888
Universal - Bonia	272861/2/3
Universal Aden	221146, 243475
Universal Taiz	225383/4
Universal Hodeidah	226980
Universal Mukalla	(05)354842/4/5
Bazara Travel	78093/270879

USD-YR Exchange Rate:

160.7

Sunday evening 22/8/1999



Sana'a:		
Embassies:		
Algeria	209689/206350	
Bulgaria	208469	
China	275337/341	
Cuba	417305	
Czech Republic	247946	
Djibouti	415985	
Egypt	275948/9	
Eritrea	209422	
Ethiopia	208833	
France	268888	
Germany	413180/413174	
Hungary	263586	
India	243440/264872	
Indonesia	414633	
Iran	413552/3/4	
Iraq	269571/4/5/6	
Italy	269165	
Japan	207356/208753	
Jordan	413275/6/7/9	
Kuwait	268876/9	
Lebanon	203959/733	
Libya	267636/4	
Mauritania	264188	
Morocco	247964	
Netherlands	263323/4/6/3	
Oman	208874/5	
Pakistan	248812/3/4	
Palestine	264236/66	
Poland	413523/4	
Qatar	269654/7/11	
Rumania	205515/209003	
Russia (FR)	278719/283142	
Saudi Arabia	240429/30	
Somalia	208864	
Sudan	247885	
Syria	414891/2	
Tunisia	240458/9	
Turkey	263476/241395	
U. A. E.	248777/78	
U. K.	264081/4	
U. S. A.	238842/52	
2. Honorary Consulates		
Austria	266725	
Belgium	286965	
Canada	208814	
Denmark (Taiz)	04-215170	
Finland	207018/20/21	
Greece	272218	
North Korea	272987	
Norway	272983	
Spain	208745	
Sweden	207595/470	
Switzerland	414844	
3. International Organization		
FAO	207331/607	
UNDP	415505/6/7	
UNHCR	201856	
UNICEF	211400/1/2	
WHO	252220	
World Bank	413706/8/10	
European Union	248495	
UNFPA	417713	
Aden Consulates:		
China	233115	
Egypt	231270	
Germany	232162	
Libya	233611	
Oman	233433/460	
Russia (FR)	232792/232625	
Saudi Arabia	233009	
Somalia	241101	
U. K.	232712/3/4/5	

COURIERS:

Aramex Sana'a:	240741
Aden:	255333
Taiz:	213489
Hodeidah:	218168
DHL	268551
American Express	272435 / 6
FedEX Sana'a:	412604
Hodeidah:	247422
Aden:	232911
Taiz:	232838
SkyNet	212698
UPS	416751

HOTELS:

Sana'a (01)	
Sheraton	237500/1/2
Taj Sheba	272372/3
Plaza Suites	209074
	209903
	205483
Hadda Hotel	415212/4/5
Shahran Hotel	418320/1/2
Aden (02)	
Movenpick	232911
Elephant Bay Beach Resort	202055
Crescent Hotel	203471/2/3
Hodeidah (03)	
Ambassador	231247/50
Al Burj	239336
Al-Fakhama	247881
Bristol	239158
Taiz (04)	
The Plaza Hotel	220224/26
Mareb	210350
Qaser Hemyar Tourism Hotel	223129
Yazan	217997
Mareb (063)	
Bilquis Mareb	2666/2371
Sadah (0751)	
Al Mamon	2203
	2459

Mukalla (05)

Hadhramaut	2060
Al-Itmad	552493

CARGOES:

AEI	285540
GAS Aviation Services	412309
ITS Agency	218142
Pacford Int'l Forwarding	203375
Red Sea Pac. & Gen. Services	26489
Shebani Shipping and Clearing Corp.	212989
Hodeidah:	207028
Sana'a:	243319
Aden:	219292
Taiz:	303913
Mukalla:	272135
Yemen Freight Agency (YFA)	208898
YEMPAC	208898
NATIONAL TEL. CODES	
Sana'a	01
Aden	02
Lahj	02
Al-Dhale	02
Yaf'e	02
Abyan	02
Hodeida	03
Taiz	04
Ibb	04
Mukalla	05
Seyoun	05
Attaq	05
Al-Gayda	05
Al-Shuhr	05
Soqatra	05
Dhamar	06
Marib	06
Al-Bayda	06
Al-Jawf	06
Mahweet	07
Amran	07
Saada	07
Hajja	07

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Hayel Saeed Group of Companies



presents its deepest condolences
to the president of the Republic of Yemen

Ali Abdullah Saleh,
and to all the victims' families
as well as to all the Yemeni people
on the death of the deceased:

Staff Brigadier- **Ahmed Ahmed Faraj**, Deputy Staff General
Staff Brigadier General- **Mohammed Ahmed Ismail**,
Commander of the Eastern Region

Staff Brigadier- **Awad Mohammed Al-Sunaidi**
Staff Colonel- **Ahmed Ali Sayfan**,
Staff Colonel- **Ahmed Noman Al-Mashriqi**
Airforce Colonel- **Abdulkareem Al-Nezari**
Airforce Major- **Qasim Ali**
Major- **Seilan Saad Al-Najjar**
Technician Major- **Yahya Dawood Al-Ra'ee**
Captain- **Abdulhaq Al-Arasi**
Captain- **Abdullah Al-Theyfani**
Captain- **Abdulmajeed Hasan Al-Habbari**
The Honorable- **Fadhli Mohammed Ahmed Ismail**
First Lieutenant- **Yahya Hasan Al-Shahtari**
First Lieutenant- **Yahya Mohammed Al-Qadhi**
Lieutenant- **Moqbil Haydar Murshid**
The Honorable Soldier- **Shayif Ahmed Ali Ismail**

**We all pray to God to peacefully
rest all their souls in Heaven**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

(يا أيتها النفس المطمئنة ارجعي إلى ربك

راضية مرضية فادخلي في عبادي

وادخلي جنتي) صدق الله العظيم

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تتقدم بخالص التعازي القلبية إلى

الأخ علي عبدالله صالح
رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى أسر شهداء الواجب وإلى عامة أبناء الشعب
اليمني بالفاجعة المؤسفة التي أدت إلى استشهاد
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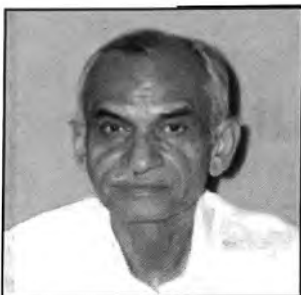
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عن مجموعة شركات هائل سعيد أنعم:
علي محمد سعيد أنعم وأحمد هائل سعيد أنعم

Arabic Words and the love-idiom of Hindi Film lyrics



K. M. Tiwary
Professor of English
Taiz University, Taiz

For these love-songs, love is **muhabba(t)** (Ar. محبة). A lover is either **mahboob** (Ar. محبوب) or **mahbooba** (Ar. محبوبة) depending on the sex of the lover. The former refers to the male lover, and the latter to the female lover. Or else love is **ishk** (Ar. عشق), and the lover is **aashik** (Ar. عاشق), and the beloved is **maashooka** (Ar. معشوقة), of course. One of the terms of endearment used for the male lover in these love-songs is **sanam** (Ar. صنم), which means 'idol', and the other one is **saajan** (Ar. سجان). Hindi appears to have innovated the term **sajani** to refer to the woman lover; it pairs off neatly with **saajan** (Ar. سجان), and it follows the grammatical pattern of deriving feminine nouns from masculine nouns in Hindi. The denotation of **saajan** (Ar. سجان) calls for some comments at this point. In Arabic the dictionary meaning of **saajan** (Ar. سجان) is 'prisoner, captive'. In the songs the word is used, metaphorically, to refer to 'a prisoner of love'. This metaphorical extension of the meaning of **saajan** (Ar. سجان) seems to be in keeping with the poetic conventions in Arabic itself. Notice the following:

To be sure, there is a similar sounding good old Hindi word, which may be transcribed as **sajan** meaning a true man, a man of integrity, a moral man. But surely love songs sing of prisoners of love rather than people of moral virtues. With the literary convention of Arabic love-lyrics in mind it does not seem very far-fetched to interpret **saajan/sajani** of Hindi love-songs as borrowed from Arabic (سجان) with its Arabic meaning.

Of course, the lovers are beautiful people; the male lover is **hasiin** 'beautiful' (Ar. حسيب), while the female lover is **hasiinaa** (Ar. حسناء). They have beauty **husn** (Ar. حسن). Indeed, lovers find every part of the visible world, **duniya** (Ar. دنيا) charged with beauty. In the love-songs they sing of **hasiin fiza** (Ar. فضاء حسيب) or of **hassin samaa** (Ar. سما حسيب) and **hasiin zamaanaa** (Ar. زمن حسيب). The value that governs their love-relation is **wafaa** 'fidelity, loyalty' (Ar. وفاء) to each other. Their love-songs are prone to lament bitterly the slightest possible deviation from it. Infidelity is their ultimate

sorrow. Of course, there is the sorrow **gam** (Ar. غم) of separation **furqa(t)** (Ar. فرقة), but it can be for a short while and can be borne, but not the ultimate sorrow produced by the loss of **wafaa** (Ar. وفاء).

We can cite many more examples of such Arabic words borrowed into Hindi which have come to constitute the idiom of love crafted so charmingly in Hindi film songs. However, our aim at the moment is not detailed documentation; our aim is to state simply what is perhaps plain to all who enjoy these songs that **nagma** (Ar. نجمة) may not be sung, and **gazel** (Ar. غزال) remain unborn without these Arabic loans.

Some Arabic-knowing readers might have observed that Arabic words borrowed into Hindi, and as recorded here, are not exactly the same as they know them to be in their native habitat. They are right and their observation is just and undeniable. But I should point out that there are two processes responsible for the difference between them; one of them is a general process that operates in the case of every word borrowed into any language from any other, and the other is a specific process peculiar to Arabic words borrowed into Hindi in particular. The general process is inevitable; it accounts for modifications, large or small, phonological grammatical or semantic, of the loan words as they adjust themselves and adapt to the genius of the host language. In the case of Arabic words borrowed into Hindi, the general process of adaptation and assimilation is mediated through the Persian language. That is, most Arabic loans have entered Hindi through Persian; in other words, they have undergone two sets of modifications in two stages; the first of modifications were introduced by Persian and the second by Hindi, and later than the Persian modifications. However, there is strong linguistic evidence to support the hypothesis that a sizable number of Arabic words were borrowed into Hindi unmediated through Persian. That is, mediated or not, Arabic loan-words in Hindi have undergone a variety of modification; moreover, such modifications are inescapable. These general observations can bear some elaboration, but this does not seem to be the right occasion to elaborate them or illustrate them; we shall rest content with their simple statement here.

However, there are some other interesting aspects of this subject that deserve mention, if not a detailed description of this stage. One of them relates to the question whether these borrowed Arabic words filled any real communicative needs of the speakers of the borrowing language or not. In other words, the question is: is it possible to assert categorically that without these Arabic words the love-idiom of Hindi film lyrics would not exist at all, or if exist would be in the negative, for the meaning, if not the form, of every Arabic word exist from before in Hindi, and exists even now. If even then the love-idiom of Hindi film lyrics cannot get off the ground without these borrowed Arabic words, the explanation has to be sought in Indian history, not in Hindi semantics. There was a time in Indian history when the rich and the cultured, the privileged and the sophisticated, considered those love-lyrics elegant, charming and worth listening to which were articulated in and through Arabic words processed through the Persian language. And this tradition, hundreds of years old, continues even today through the powerful medium of cinematography. It seems that even today listeners of Hindi film love lyrics can afford the luxury of cultivating and enjoying more than on love-idiom and a variety of love-lyrics not possible for other linguistic groups.

What is really intriguing is that most listeners of Hindi love lyrics of films seem quite ignorant of the meanings, however defined, of the borrowed Arabic words and yet appear to be genuinely affected by them. The most striking example of this phenomenon can be gathered from the fact that when they propose love to their lovers, these listeners tend to do it in terms of the love-idiom crafted through Arabo-Persian loan words

Finally, it is possible to account for their behavior by assuming that what they respond to is the charm of a style rather than the content of the message, the presumed elegance of a little understood love-idiom intrinsic to a culture that not only has a long past, but endures even today in India. But what really ensures the living presence of this elegant style of fugitive charms is the abiding reality of the love-idiom Arabic loan words have given birth to.

Beggars on The Rise



By: Tawfeek Mohammed,
Yemen Times

Many are the diseases that distort the image of Yemen, not only in the eyes of the people but also in the eyes of Arabs as well as the international countries. Sana'a, the capital of Yemen, is the picture through which we are introduced to the world. It is then highly important to give it special attention and care. Unfortunately, Sana'a suffers from an epidemic number of diseases that is not only haunting on the people but come to destroy nearly almost every thing beautiful. One of these diseases that continues to plague our society is begging. It seems that it has become a never ending problem that the majority of the people suffer and people in charge enjoy.

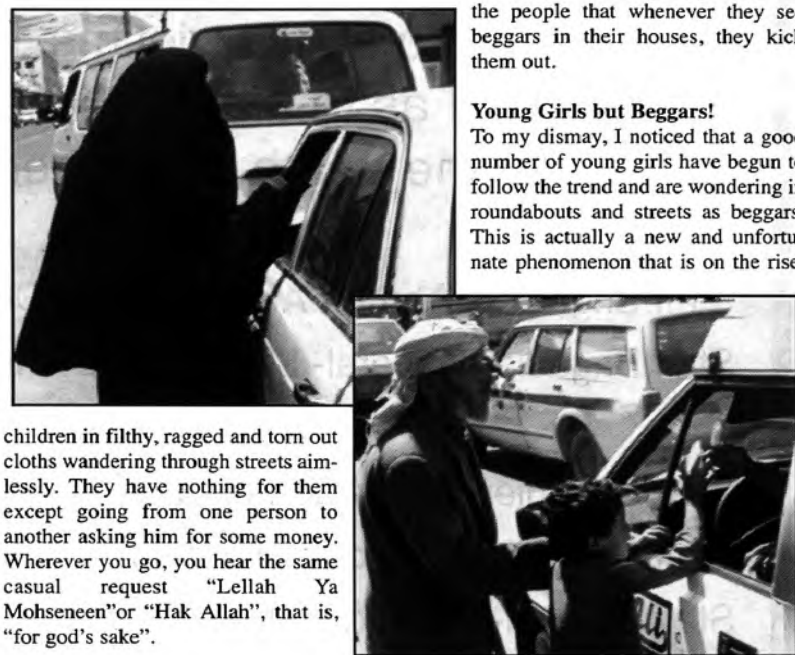
What I want to display here is the negative and long-terms effects of begging, which has become part of our life. It is really disgusting and heartbreaking to see flocks of

all that they could including clothes, food, money. The funny thing is that some of them refuse to get second hand clothes and demand new ones while others refuse to take anything but money. Some of them break into private and public buildings and go around offices asking for hand-outs' assistance. Going into such places has actually become a daily routine for them. "They are actually a pain in the neck because if you have mercy on one of them and hand one something, you will soon be surrounded by a group of them." an employee in a public company said. This obviously creates lots of lets and hindrances for employees to work as it takes up their time from their jobs.

What is more hazardous is, that some of these beggars enter buildings with the intention to steal. They come in under the pretext of begging and while being in they wander around while examining these houses carefully. They obviously become acquainted with everything. Eventually, when time permits they carry out their plans and sweep everything they face. So often we hear stories in our day to day life of stolen carpets from roofs, gas bottles, furniture and even shoes from houses. This has created a strong suspect among the people that whenever they see beggars in their houses, they kick them out.

Young Girls but Beggars!

To my dismay, I noticed that a good number of young girls have begun to follow the trend and are wandering in roundabouts and streets as beggars. This is actually a new and unfortunate phenomenon that is on the rise.



children in filthy, ragged and torn out cloths wandering through streets aimlessly. They have nothing for them except going from one person to another asking him for some money. Wherever you go, you hear the same casual request "Lellah Ya Mohseneen" or "Hak Allah", that is, "for god's sake".

Beggars in the Roundabouts

I really had a cultural shock since being here in Sana'a. I was stunned when I saw the great number of beggars in the roundabouts. It is clear that the traffic system in all countries is used to organize the passing cars. However, the situation in Sana'a is the reverse; the traffic lights have become a source of disturbance and annoyance for lots of people. As soon as any vehicle stops a group of beggars surround it. Some drivers can hardly drive when they see the green light. So often they keep knocking at the car doors and windows until they get what they want. The tradition was that only old men and women asked for alms, but these days we could easily notice that children of different ages have also joined in. As a matter of fact each one of them has his own ways and techniques of begging; old men used to ask God to help you, as you help the poor. However, in these days they have changed a lot. Because the time they feel certain that you won't succumb to their prayers, the time the poor and timid creatures radically change and turn into monsters swearing at you with offensive words. Small children also have their own ways. They stick on you like a leach and start kissing and touching you pretending to be so weak. Frankly speaking, even if you do not want to hand them some money, you find yourself forced to do it so as to get rid of them. Many people go into a fury when these children start touching and kissing them. It really breaks one's heart to see families who have no homes, inhabiting roundabouts. The other day While I was riding a mini-bus, I could not help but sigh for I see a whole family sitting under the shadow of some trees and having lunch in one of the roundabouts on Hada Street. Now, haven't we ever asked ourselves what other people might say about us? If we can not stand them ourselves, how can others?

Most of them are veiled, so no body would recognize them. However, driving such young girls into the streets may result in tragedies. They may face some silly, nasty and dirty mannered men who may tempt them and lead them astray. Do they really deserve this? "I do not think so." On the other hand, some of these girls have already been perverted. So if an ill-mannered one catches you on a street, she won't let you go until you give her some money or she will shout, scream and say that you are trying to seduce her. So, to make a long story short, I believe that we should help such people. However, special attention should be given to the logistics of solving this problem. Neither handing money, nor kicking and swearing at them can solve it, it may rather lead to a negative results. My viewpoint is that it is not solely one person's handled responsibility. We all share the blame as we are all part of this society. I believe we will never be able to eliminate this problem unless there are sincere efforts exerted by all, governmental and non governmental organizations to tackle this problem. One of the solutions that I recommend here is, that there should be a real commitment to specify the poor people in each district and then try to help them in a way or another.

What I seen in Taiz was really impressing, although we could still see some beggars in the streets. Sponsored by the governor of Taiz, a syndicated fight to stop begging was established. The syndicated members contacted different governmental and non-governmental organizations, companies, businessmen and good samaritans to ask them for financial support. A list of indigent people was made and finally, an allocated stipend was determined to be paid each month for the deserving people. This may be used as an example here in Sana'a.

To sum it all up, begging has tarnished everything beautiful in our country and is certainly reflecting a very bad image for Yemen, in the eyes of foreigners. We should not stay silent, because silence is slavery. We should join hands to put an end to this problem. Will this have an echo in the ears of the people? I wonder!

Beggars at Homes, Public and Private Buildings

Although most people believe that most beggars resort to beg on streets, some beggars tend to prefer houses. They move in and never want to leave until they collect

Water = Life



Yahya Husin Al-Sultan
Central Bank of Yemen

have no idea how much they should drink. In fact, many live in a dehydrated state. Without water, we would be poisoned to death by our own waste products. When the kidneys remove uric acid and urea, these must dissolved in water. If there is not enough water, wastes are not removed as effectively and may build up kidney stones. Water also is vital for chemical reaction in digestion and metabolism. It carries nutrients and oxygen to the cells, through the blood, and helps to cool the body through respiration. Water also lubricates our joints. We even need water to breathe: our lunge must be moist to take in oxygen, and excrete carbon dioxide. It is possible to lose pint of liquid each day just exhaling. So if you do not drink sufficient water, you can impair every aspect of

your physiology. Dr. Howard Flaks, abariatric (obesity) specialist in Beverly Hills, Calif., says: "By not drinking enough water, many people incur excess bodyfat, poor muscle tone and size, decreased digestive efficiency and organ function, increased toxicity in the body joints and muscle soreness and water retention." Water retention? If you are not drinking enough, your body may retain water to compensate. Paradoxically, fluid retention can sometimes be eliminated by drinking more water, not less. "Proper water intake is a key to weight loss," says Dr. Donald Robertson, medical director of the Southwest Barfatic Nutrition Center in Scottsdale, Ariz. "If people who are trying to lose weight do not drink enough water, the body can not metabolize the fat adequately. Retaining fluid also keeps weight up, the minimum for a healthy person is eight to ten

eight-ounce glasses a day." Says Dr. Flaks. You need more if you exercise a lot or live in a hot climate. Overweight people should drink an extra glass for every 25 pounds they exceed their ideal weight. Consult your own physician for his recommendations." "At the International Sports medicine Institute, we have a formula for daily water intake: 1/2 ounce per pound of body weight if you are not active (that's ten eight-ounce glasses if you weight 160 pounds) and 2/3 ounce per pound if you are athletic (13 to 14 glasses a day, at the same weight). Your water intake should be spread throughout the day and night. You may wonder: If I drink this much, wont I constantly be running to the bathroom? Yes, but after a few weeks, your bladder tends to adjust and you urinate less frequently but in large amounts. And by consuming those eight to ten glasses of water throughout the day, you could be on your way to a healthier, cleaner body. Is it not a time for us to be more careful about our water?"

Do you think you are drinking enough water? If you think so, then you will have too much fat, poor muscle tones, digestive complications, muscle soreness, and even water-retention problems. Besides air, water is the element most necessary for survival. A normal adult is 60 to 70 percent water. We can go without food for almost two months, but without water only a few days. Yet, most people

وقيدت نفسي في هواك محبة
ومن وجد الاحسان قيدا تقيدا
المتنبى (٢٠٣-٢٠٤هـ)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
(يا أيها النفس المطمئنة ارجعي إلى ربك راضية مرضية فادخلي في عبادي وادخلي جنتي) صدق الله العظيم

شركة اتحاد المقاولين العالمية

تتقدم بأحر التعازي القلبية إلى فخامة الأخ /

علي عبدالله صالح، رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية

وإلى وزارة الدفاع وهيئة الأركان العامة، وإلى أسر الضحايا وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني بوفاة المغفور لهم بإذن الله
نائب رئيس هيئة الأركان عميد ركن أحمد بن أحمد فرج، العميد ركن / محمد أحمد إسماعيل، قائد المنطقة الشرقية
ومرافقيهما الذين استشهدوا يوم السبت الموافق 14 أغسطس 1999م نتيجة حادث سقوط طائرتهما المروحية في صحراء العبر.
ندعو الله العلي القدير أن يتغمدهم بواسع رحمته، ويلهم أهلهم وذويهم الصبر والسلوان. وإنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون.

Consolidated Contractors International Company (CCC)

presents their heartfelt condolences to the president

Ali Abdullah Saleh,

the president of the Republic of Yemen,
to the Ministry of Defence, the General Staff Department,
all the victims' families and to all the Yemen people on the death of the deceased
Deputy Staff General **Ahmed Ahmed Faraj,**
Brigadier-General **Mohammed Ahmad Ismaeel,** the chairman of the East Region
and their fellows who died with them on Saturday August, 14 1999
as a result of the fall helicopter accident in Al-Abbr desert.

We all pray to God to rest their souls all in peace in Heaven

Assist Earthquake Victims in Turkey



As you are all aware, the crisis resulting from the 7.4 earthquake in Turkey has killed thousands and left tens of thousands injured. Here, we request you for urgently relief. At this time we are asking for your monetary donations, tents, blankets, medicines and food which are most urgently needed. Anything you can do to assist in this tragedy will not only help bring relief to those in desperate need, it will be an act of compassion from our community to

our brothers and sisters across the globe.

Any donation from your side will be so valuable to save lives in our brotherly Muslim country. Even if you are unable to give, please remember all those who are affected by this disaster.

The death toll resulting from the quake is currently more than 10,000 and it is still rising. The quake measured 7.4 on the Richter scale and was centered on the northwestern industrial city of Izmit, some 90 km (55 miles) east of Turkey's largest city, Istanbul. There is an estimated number of 35,000 still thought to be under the building recks. It is a total disaster, and your help will be significant for your brothers and sisters in Turkey.

Those interested in helping quake victims may forward their contributions to

A/c: USD 4284 301030 126000
Turkiye Is Bankasi
Balgat Branch, Ankara
Turkey

Please call the Turkish Embassy at Tel. 241395 or 263476 for more information of possible ways of contribution. **Remember that any penny you send to those victims could save many lives and could be a critical point for many families. Please hurry, your help is urgently needed.**

دعوة إلى الفيرين إلى مساعدة المنكوبين في تركيا



قال تعالى "وما تقدموا لأنفسكم من خير تجدوه عند الله هو خيرا وأعظم أجرا". كما تعلمون، قد أصابت هزة أرضية عنيفة بقوة 7.4 بمقياس ريختر غرب تركيا مما أدى إلى كارثة حقيقية في الأرواح والأمل في البلد المسلم الشقيق. لقد أدى الزلزال إلى مقتل أكثر من عشرة آلاف وجرح العشرات من

الآلاف. لذا فنحن ندعو الخيرين والقادرين منكم للمساهمة في إرسال مساعداتكم المادية إلى المنطقة المنكوبة لتوفير الطعام والأغطية والعلاج والمسكن لإخواننا المسلمين. ونحن إذ ندعوكم لهذا العمل الخير نؤمن بأن ما تصنعونه من أجل إخواننا المنكوبين سيكون عبءا في التلاحم والتكافل بين المسلمين في كل بقاع الأرض.

يمكنكم تقديم الدعم بإرسال ما أمكنكم إرساله إلى الحساب التالي:

A/c: USD 4284 301030 126000
Turkiye Is Bankasi
Balgat Branch, Ankara
Turkey

نرجو الاتصال بالسفارة التركية في صنعاء على تلفون 241395 أو 263476 للحصول على المزيد من المعلومات عن كيفية إمكانكم إيصال مساعداتكم بأسرع وقت ممكن. تذكروا أن أي مبلغ أو دعم لأخوانكم في تركيا ما هو إلى أجر وخير لكم. كل قرش ترسلوه لهؤلاء المنكوبين قد تنقذ العديد من الأرواح فسارعوا لعمل الخير وإرسال المساعدة وجزاكم الله خيرا.



CONDOLENCE

Yemen Hunt Oil Company

presents its deepest condolences
to the president of the Republic of Yemen

Ali Abdullah Saleh,
and to all the victims' families
as well as to all the Yemeni people
on the death of the deceased:

Staff Brigadier- **Ahmed Ahmed Faraj**, Deputy Staff General
Staff Brigadier General- **Mohammed Ahmed Ismail**,
Commander of the Eastern Region

Staff Brigadier- **Awad Mohammed Al-Sunaidi**

Staff Colonel- **Ahmed Ali Sayfan**,

Staff Colonel- **Ahmed Noman Al-Mashriqi**

Airforce Colonel- **Abdulkareem Al-Nezari**

Airforce Major- **Qasim Ali**

Major- **Seilan Saad Al-Najjar**

Technician Major- **Yahya Dawood Al-Ra'ee**

Captain- **Abdulhaq Al-Arasi**

Captain- **Abdullah Al-Theyfani**

Captain- **Abdulmajeed Hasan Al-Habbari**

The Honorable- **Fadhli Mohammed Ahmed Ismail**

First Lieutenant- **Yahya Hasan Al-Shahtari**

First Lieutenant- **Yahya Mohammed Al-Qadhi**

Lieutenant- **Moqbil Haydar Murshid**

The Honorable Soldier- **Shayif Ahmed Ali Ismail**

We all pray to God to peacefully
rest all their souls in Heaven



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

(يا أيتها النفس المطمئنة ارجعي إلى ربك

راضية مرضية فادخلي في عبادي

وادخلي جنتي) صدق الله العظيم

شركة هنت اليمنية للنفط

تتقدم بخالص التعازي القلبية إلى

الأخ علي عبدالله صالح
رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى أسر شهداء الواجب وإلى عامة أبناء الشعب
اليمني بالفاجعة المؤسفة التي أدت إلى استشهاد

المغفور لهم بإذن الله :

العميد الركن / أحمد أحمد فرج
نائب رئيس هيئة الأركان العامة لشؤون التخطيط والتسليح

العميد الركن / محمد أحمد اسماعيل
قائد المنطقة العسكرية الشرقية

العميد الركن / عوض محمد السنيدي
مدير دائرة التسليح بوزارة الدفاع

العقيد الركن / أحمد علي صيفان
العقيد الركن / أحمد نعمان المشريقي
العقيد طيار / عبدالكريم النزاري
المقدم طيار / قاسم علي
المقدم / سيلان سعد النجار
الرائد فني / يحيى داوود الراعي
النقيب / عبدالحق العراسي
النقيب ملاح / عبدالله الذيفاني
النقيب / عبدالمجيد حسن الحباري
الأخ / فضل محمد أحمد اسماعيل
الملازم أول / يحيى حسن الشحطري
الملازم أول / يحيى محمد القاضي
الملازم / مقبل حيدر مرشد
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