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صورة «البردوني» هدية يمن تايمز

As Some Signs Show That The Disarmament Campaign Is Over

IS THE GOVERNMENT SINCERE IN ITS CAMPAIGN?



SANAA: After the wise decision of the Interior Ministry to ban the use and carrying of weapons including the licensed in the major cities, citizens welcomed the decision hoping that it will truly lead to the abolishing of weapons in Sanaa and other main cities. However, not even one month has passed until we hear that the checkpoints and other weapon monitoring units were lifted. Citizens have shown great encouragement to the implementation of the law, but it has yet not been fully implemented.

The speculations suggest that the latest incident (read more on page 9) that resulted in the murder of Yahya Hameed Al-Kharashi, and another policeman was the last in a serious incident which made the government raise the white flag of surrender. Is the government giving up the efforts of disarmament in Sanaa? The weapon campaign could have been the most effective if it had also accompanied the banning of arms trade outside the capital. Measures to close all sources of weapons should go hand in hand with the abandoning of arm carrying. Yemenis are still having the hope that the Ministry of Interior is not giving up because of these pressures. The mission of disarmament has a noble objective. That is to secure a safe life for all our people by collecting the weapons in the hands of the ineligible, which we hope that one day, will be reached.

YT Weekly Opinion Poll

<http://www.yementimes.com/#poll>
The poll reflects the opinions of internet users who chose to participate, and not necessarily of the general public.

Question

Does the City Center Explosion seem to you to have been launched with criminal intentions only?

Results

-It only has criminal intentions. (39%)
-From the latest incidents, I believe it might be politically motivated (39%)
-I cannot judge. Let's wait and see (22%)

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Do you think that the disarmament campaign will continue after the presidential elections?

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Released French Couple Flew to France

Last Friday, 3 September, the two kidnapped, then released, French couple flew to France after a frightening experience of being in captivity in the hands of a Mareb tribe for more than two weeks. The safe release of Irene Herbert and his wife Tara was a direct result of the efforts of President Saleh to release the abducted French Couple through the mediation of the prominent Sheik Mohammed Bin Naji Al-Ghader. The

demands of the tribe were mainly to provide money (\$41,667), heavy agricultural equipment (tractors, etc.) and the removal of army bases from the area. The two French diplomats arrived to Sanaa last Thursday evening after two weeks of captivity in the hands of the Al Jabr tribe, in the Al-Habab area, near Mareb city. Last week, the French couple threatened to start a hunger strike in an attempt to draw more attention to their case.

Witnesses in the tribe stated that Mrs. Herbert began breaking the glasses of the room she stayed as an indication that she felt depressed because of the closed and unfamiliar atmosphere she and her husband were held in. The two diplomats were handed to the Embassy by the Foreign Ministry on the same day of regaining their freedom. The increasing pressure on the government to do something, especially after the statement of the kid-

napped saying that they will begin a hunger strike if they are not released truly paid off. Besides relieving the French officials, including the French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin who said, "thanks to all those whose efforts made this happy climax possible." The safe release of the French also relieved Yemeni officials of this situation at a time when our country will witness its first direct presidential elections.

Tobacco Plant In Taiz Burnt

TAIZ: The most significant factory of the Hayel Saeed Anam Group of Companies, the Tobacco Plant, had burnt last Friday morning because of what is thought to be an electrical short circuit. The fire spread rapidly eating away almost everything in the factory, including the machines. Fortunately, nobody was killed. However, several employees were injured because of the fire and the smoke. The Yemen Times Bureau Chief, in Taiz, was in the factory by coincidence, and was the first to rescue the employees who were trapped inside. The devastation is mainly going to disturb the government, which will lose around YR 2 billion, which it used to receive as taxes annually. The families of the 250 employees, who are now jobless, will also be affected by this accident. This is considered to be devastating for the Yemeni economy. However, the Hayel Saeed group, as Abdulwas'i Hayel states, "is too strong to be affected." We believe in this as well. Read more on p14.



Al-Baradouni Died

Abdullah Al-Baradouni, a well educated intellectual, writer, and poet that all Yemenis loved, has passed away last Friday in his 70s. Born in Zaraja village of Al-Hadaa, he was one of the bravest and most talented Yemeni and Arab writers and poets of all time. We heard of murders happening here and there, and we said no problem. We heard of the City Center and the Bab Al-Yemen explosions, we also said no big deal. However, the true loss to all of this in this black month, is the loss of Abdullah Al-Baradouni. A man who has contributed a lot for his country, and in all aspects. Losing such a man is truly unfair, unjustified, and signals a loss to all Yemenis. Al-Baradouni was not just a poet, he was a noble man who feared no one when saying the truth. He was even imprisoned for his daring statements. He has rejected many positions in the government because of his honest attitude, which they didn't like. In short, he was the handicapped hero of the people. The huge number of awards, certificates, and achievements of Al-Baradouni indicate his true value. The funeral of Al-Baradouni was attended thousands of his beloved last Tuesday. Abdullah Al-Baradouni started composing poetry at the age of 13. With perseverance and sheer willpower, he was able to defeat his handicap (blindness) by studying at the Science House and graduated as a teacher of Arabic literature. Known as a revolutionary poet, Al-Baradouni was able to enter the history by being the best Arab writer in modern poetry.



The President Starts His Campaign in a Difficult Time

The Presidential campaign is going as scheduled, despite all the incidents that are taking place. It seems that the authorities are determined to have this democratic process successful. The campaign of President Saleh has already started strong by visiting a number of provinces, including Hodeidah. The official media and press

have started the campaign strongly through promoting President Saleh's achievements through the years, including accomplishing unity, and bringing the democratic process to life, etc. Prime Minister Dr. Abdulkareem Al-Iryani, Vice President Abdo Rabbo Mansour, Chairman of the Consultative Council, and

Abdulaziz Abdulghani have all started their allocated duties in campaigning for President Saleh. However, Najeeb Qahtan Al-Shaabi seems away from the spotlight. His campaign is not evident. His posters are not available anywhere. His speeches, conferences, activities are not displayed on TV or mentioned in the written

press. Many Yemenis are wondering what his campaign is all about. Where and when he is going to give his speeches, is still not known. In his last press conference, the President insisted that the elections will be done on time. But the signs of elections are not evident. Perhaps the recent incidents have diverted the attention of the people. Instead of looking after the elections, families are struggling to make ends meet in a difficult time.

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Yemeni Press Scanner

Al-Ayyam Bi-weekly



1- More than 15 explosions in Al-Dala'a district

On Sunday 29.8.99, at exactly 1:00 am, Al-Dala'a district observed explosions of more than 15 in successions. The explosions were followed by intensive gunshot, lasted for quite a time from the security police escorted in Al-Dala'a. The explosions and the randomly gunshot that took place in different areas of the district, caused financial damages of several houses cars, including the house of Al-Dala'a Governor, who previously made a speech in which he criticized the perpetrators of the explosions incident and described them as mercenaries, targeting Yemeni stability.

2-Poland admitted Tuesday Selling 20 tanks to Yemen

Poland admitted Tuesday that 20 tanks were sold to Yemen earlier this year and illegally diverted to Sudan. The United States was annoyed to have earlier warned that the weapons would go astray. The second-hand tanks had ended up in Sudan. Washington is threatening to impose heavy penalties on Warsaw for ignoring its advice to halt their delivery. "The sale of 50 T-55 tanks to the Yemeni government was in compliance with Polish laws and all international agreements," said a statement from the Prime Minister's office. "After receiving information that the first delivery did not reach the intended owners in Yemen. A decision was taken immediately to stop all further deliveries," it added. The tanks were sold by the state arms sales agency for about \$1.2 million. Foreign ministry spokesman Pawel Dobrowolski said he could neither confirm nor deny that U.S. intelligence had warned Warsaw that the first delivery could be diverted to blacklisted countries by Washington, nor could he say whether Poland might face U.S. action for failing to adhere to Washington's warning that the arms would go other countries than Yemen. "We have not heard anything officially on this," said Dobrowolski, a U.S. spokesman that said the tank sale was being discussed but could not confirm that U.S. intelligence advice was ignored.

3- Antitank mine experiment on Wednesday 1.9.99

Under the sponsoring of the Removing Planted Mines Program in the Aden district, an experimental blow up of an antitank mine was supposed to take place in Kabt Al-Bakar area in the Aden district, on Wednesday, 1st September 99. On the other hand, Canadian experts in the same field arrived Aden to join and supervise the Executive Unity of removing planted mines.

4- US\$25 million is the total losses of Rothmans fire

Reliable source said that the estimated losses of the fire in Rothmans factory in Taiz district that occurred last week was US\$25 million. 30 employees of the factory were admitted to the hospital due to suffocation during the fire, 17 persons already left the hospital, 7 persons are supposed to leave shortly and 6 will remain for more medical treatment. Notably, Rothmans pays YR3 to the Government for each packet of cigarette as a tax, it also hires more than 500 employees of the both genders.

AL-SHOWRAH WEEKLY



1- Foreign Investment projects in Yemen need certain measurements

The investment in Yemen observed a severe decline from the destabilization of the country. As reported, in the year 1997, the foreign investment projects reached 4.8%, comparing with 1992, as the investment varied between 7-8%. Investors believe that attracting more investment projects in Yemen needs major principles, such as more security guaranties, political stability, modern social stable system, economical growth, administration reform, and lastly, amendments of laws

2- Contradictory views of the explosion's motives in Yemen

Five explosions took place in Yemen during two days in three districts, Sana'a, Aden and Abyan. There are contra-

dictory views of the explosion's motives. Security sources said that, the casualties of the explosion in the supermarket (City Center), capital Sana'a reached the death of 2 persons and injury of 12 others, other unofficial source said that, 6 persons died including the owner of the supermarket and complete destruction of the supermarket. Though, the security sources assured that the explosion incident is of a criminal motive, due to financial conflict between the partners of the supermarket, Abu-Hamza Al-Masri, the Leader of Islamic Group in Britain emphasized that, Aden/Abyan Islamic Group is behind the bombing incidents in Yemen.

3- Armed clashes between two tribes in Shabowah district resumed

The truce between the Shams and Humed tribes in Hutib, Shabowah district has come to an end. Apparently, many inhabitants of the area left to Attaq searching for shelter. Recent report said that, during the clashes, where both confronted parties used different kinds of weapons, one person was killed and two others injured. The same source said that no interference of the security police was observed to stop the on-going clash so far.

AL-METHAQ WEEKLY

1- Ministry of Interior prohibited carrying weapons in the main cities

The Ministry of Interior prohibited carrying weapons in the capital Sana'a and all main cities. This new decree addressed all citizens, the banning of carrying weapons including those who have valid licenses. The Ministry of Interior also exhorted that each infraction of the warning will be subjected to legal questioning.

2-Building of a new Yemen depends upon the new generations

The President of the Republic said that the building of a new Yemen depends upon the new generations, who are loyal nationalists, open minded, have democratic attitudes and purified of any complex from the remaining past conflicts. He added that keeping the new Yemen constant is the responsibility of each citizen. He also urged all the leaders and members of the Yemen People General Congress to observe, digest, adapt and activate all the developments of the political sector to release the Yemen PGC of all negative aspects and to keep it as a leading party for good. In regards to the relationship between the Yemen PGC and the Islah Islamic party, he asserted that the cooperation and coordination between both parties are eternal and decisive. The president of the republic added that he has been in power for the last 21 years, during which, he fully realizes the burden of ruling a country. He also emphasized that the main reason of him accepting the nomination of the Presidential post is the absence of serious candidates or a candidate who has no revenge problem with one of the citizens.

AL-BALAG WEEKLY

1-Yemeni Saudi negotiation showed little détente

The Yemeni-Saudi negotiation showed little détente. The friendly negotiation will continue to achieve a positive and peaceful solution to the Yemeni-Saudi border dispute. Regarding the same issue, the President of the Republic said that the border dispute between Yemen and Saudi Arabia, which has lasted for sixty years has been discussed seriously and comprehensively, since the last signing of the memorandum of understanding between both countries.

2-YR50 million is the budget to cover the election campaign

The parliament has ratified the petition of providing the nominated candidates with YR50 million to cover the election campaign, the share of each nominee is YR 25 million, equally payable to each candidate.

AL-RAI AL-A'AM WEEKLY

1-More than 25 thousand foreigners left Yemen

The recent blast of the supermarket in Sana'a city (City Center) badly affected the stability status of the country. Currently, more than 25 thousand foreigners of different nationalities left Yemen in the past two days, frightened of any further subversive acts.

RAI WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

The killer of the Yemeni Consul in Jordan was extradited to Yemen

The accused murderer of the Yemeni Consul in Jordan two months back was handed over to the Yemeni Authorities. The extradite of the criminal to Yemen came as, per the decision of the Jordanian General Secretary. He declared that, as long as the killer is a Yemeni citizen who killed another Yemeni Diplomat in the Yemeni Embassy in Amman, which is considered a Yemeni property, as per the diplomatic customary, then he has to stand trial proceedings in

Yemen, which is declared to be soon.

AL-WAHDAH WEEKLY



Abu-Hamzah Al-Masri, continuous allegations are nonsense

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Galeb Ali Jameel described the continuous allegations of Abu-Hamzah Al-Masri, claiming that the Aden/Abyan Islamic Army was behind the explosion of the City Center supermarket as total nonsense. Mr. Jameel resumed the Ministry Foreign Affairs request to the British Authorities to extradite Al-Masri to stand trial in Yemen. On the other hand, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry has urged the security police to speed up the investigation of the City Center bombing in order fairly punished the perpetrators.

2-Inspection campaign of weapons will last for three months

Security source asserted that, the inspection campaign of weapons in capital of Sana'a and other main cities of the Republic launched two days back intensified checking in search of weapons, which will last for three coming months. Especially it is corresponding with the Presidential election and the occasions of September, October, and November national celebrations.

ATTARIQ WEEKLY



More than 40,000 teachers will launch mass strike on 23rd September

More than 40,000 teachers (male and female) have seriously threatened to go on a massive strike as of 23rd, September, 99. The strike is in protest of depriving them from their legal right stated in the teacher's law. Notably, they are denied of salary increases, similar to the other employees in the Government sector.

26 SEPTEMBER WEEKLY



1- The first conference on the promotion of Yemeni oil in London and Houston..

Intensified arrangements are on-going in the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources for the first conference of the Yemeni oil promotion

which is scheduled between 27th September until early October, in London and Houston. Mr. Nabeel Al-Kousi, the Deputy Chairman of MOMR declared that the conference will be attended by approximately 80 companies from Europe, USA and Japan. The Yemeni delegation will be headed by the Chairman of MOMR. During the conference he will discuss several issues said to deal with the full details of the exploration and production of oil in Yemen. The work also includes the nature of investment in the Yemeni oil sector. Mr. Al-Kousi added that the marketing of 7 promising blocks will be also discussed during the conference which are blocks 25,26, and 27 in Hodeidah, blocks 6,7,28 in Shabowah and finally, block 38 in the Soqatra Island. The Chairman of MOMR will invite the interested companies to participate in the oil tenders, which will be announced at the end of the conference.

2- Spanish loan to support the fourth energy project in Yemen

On Thursday, 2nd Dec.1999, the Minister of Electricity and Water, Mr. Ali Hamed Sharf returned back home after a successful business trip to Spain, during which he conducted talks with relevant Spanish parties. During the meeting, he signed several agreements of bilateral cooperation, between both countries in different fields. As per the agreements, Spain will grant a loan of US\$18 million to support the Fourth Energy Project, that will provide Amran, Al-Mahuit and Hajah districts with electricity. Yemen also obtained a primary agreement from Spain of a loan worth US\$30 million in the near future. Also, a Spanish company has been selected to implement the electricity project in Al-Sadah Al-Naderah area, which is planned to start on 15th of the current month.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Walid Atiq Abdul Rahman announces that he has lost two passports, one of them is Yemeni No. 125805, issued on 05/07/1992 and the other is British NO. 740124311, issued on 09/06/1998. Please contact 214207 or 214413, Sana'a, if you have found them.

اعلان

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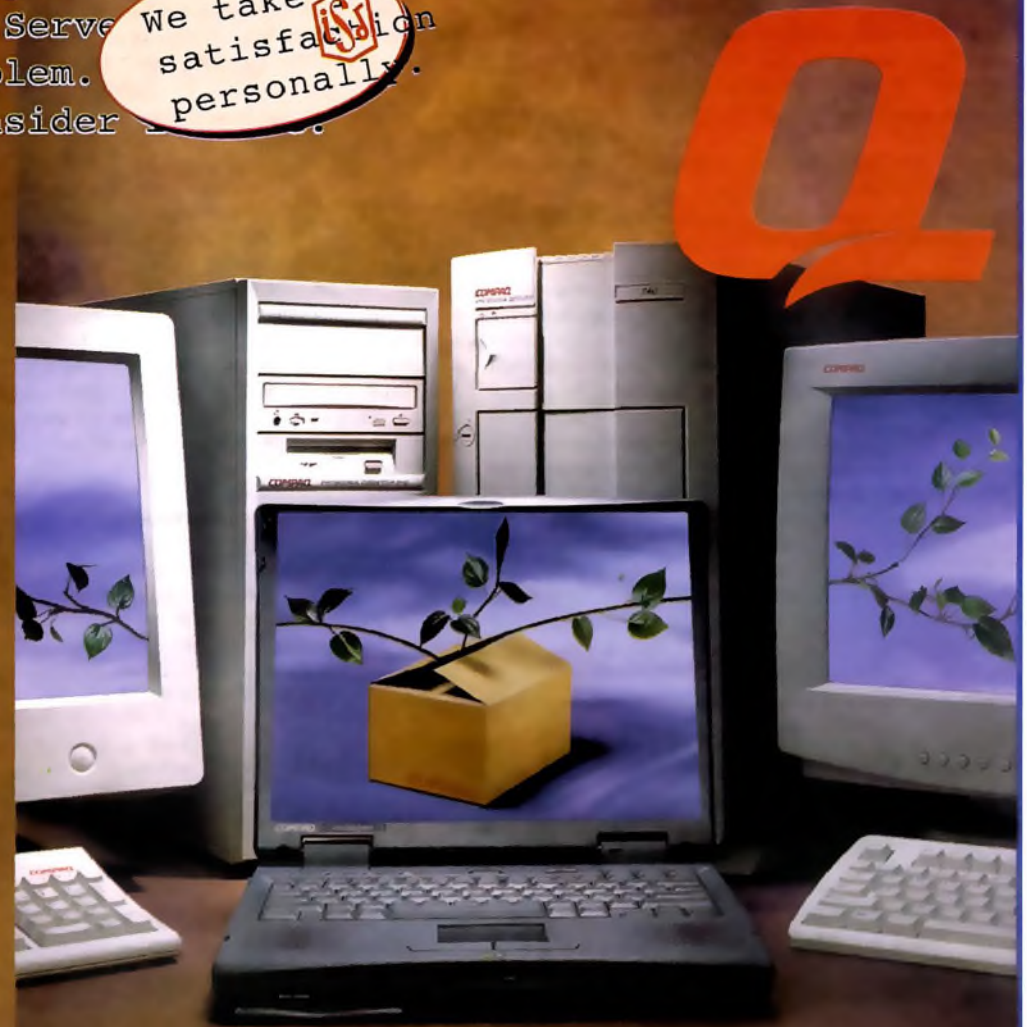
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Socialist Party General Secretary, Ali Saleh Obad Moqbil to Al-Jazira Sattelite Channel:

"Elections have already ended, what we are living is just a referendum.."
"..we should not be addicted to the past, but rather to the future.."

Al-Jazeera TV interviewed Mr. Ali Saleh Obad Moqbil, the Secretary General Yemeni Socialist Party last Wednesday in its program "Without Limits". Mr. Moqbil was asked about the real reasons behind the decision of Parliament not to endorse him as a candidate for the upcoming presidential elections. And who was behind that decision. About accusations that he himself was the reason due to his position towards Parliament and the accusations he reiterated against Parliament and MPs. Whether it is logical to seek endorsement from a body that he has always considered it illegal or unconstitutional. He was also asked about whether there had been a secret agreement between his Party and the Islah to provide him with the necessary number of votes to enable him to run. The argument that had the Yemeni Socialist Party participated in the 1997 elections it might relieved Mr. Moqbil from seeking Islah and PGC votes for endorsement in Parliament. Mr. Moqbil was asked to elaborate on whether his party was offered 35 seats in 1997 elections and the reasons for rejecting this offer. A good part of the program went about the YSP and Mr. Moqbil's own past



SILVER LINING



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

**Something We Lack:
Respect of Time**

It is a common belief that respect of time and adherence to punctuality is one of the major ingredients and factors of the success and prosperity of the advanced world. It is this ethical norm that has brought about the welfare of these nations. This is because the concept of time-respect and reverence is a very important factor that keeps us on track to success, either on the nation or individual level. Time is precious and valuable and hence people have to grasp every moment and exploit it effectively and in a proper way. Respect of time and consideration of punctuality means a lot for any nation or individual. It means that people perceive time as a very important element in the helm of productivity and their welfare. In short, it means that these people are productive and active members of the society. Furthermore, it is an indication that every member of the society has something to do with the society and its development. They are all involved in the development process. However, they don't work till they drain off their energy. Rather, they never miss their vacations and use them in a way that make them when they are back to their work more energetic and full of life. They give everything its due right and always keep balanced. Unfortunately, in Yemen it is only a select few who are punctual and-respect time. Just pay a visit to any ministry. You will be, of course, appalled. Employees just come to the office and sign at 8: 30 in the morning. Then, they go for breakfast. They come back after some time and keep hanging around in the ministry offices. Therefore, if one has some procedures to be done, he/she has to go around looking for the person in charge. You might meet him. But he will tell you to come tomorrow or the day after or give any other baseless excuse. This is the ordinary employees. But the ranking officials might attend at 10 or even 11 in the morning and stay for some time and then leave. These guys do not sign at all or if so they do it once a week or a month. While being in the office, their doors are shut and bodyguards are standing there as statues preventing any one to meet this or that guy. Well, this is the daily routine one almost finds in all ministries offices. It is an acute headache, isn't it? Every employee considers himself a sultan in his office since the sense of accountability is entirely absent. It is an irresponsible behavior that makes our work very much bureaucratic.

Another interesting point is this. I have always attended press conferences, workshops, seminars and other kinds of such stuff. I have never found that even a single seminar or meeting has started as scheduled. They might announce, for instance, that the event will start at 10 o'clock. You have to expect that it will start at around 11. Sometimes, you might have an appointment with a person. He/she might keep you waiting for a long time, which is actually very worrying. He/she might not even call and excuse at that time. If you meet and blame him/he next time for breaking the word, he/she might simply say "SORRY." What a curse! Besides, even few foreigners working in Yemen and who are supposed to be our role models in this respect seem to have adopted the Yemeni way in not respecting time. In other words, these people have adopted the Yemeni way of not giving much attention to the value of time. This is disturbing too. More paradoxically, we always seem to be fully pre-occupied and busy. We are busy at work, at home and everywhere. The result is that we produce nothing sizeable. This, of course, doesn't mean that there are no hardworking people and who are highly punctual in our society. To the contrary, some are highly hardworking and go the extreme in their adherence to hard work and time exploitation. Sometimes hard work is tiring but it is very interesting and makes one enjoy life. Finally, I believe our neglect of time and punctuality is one of the main reasons of being left behind. Time is very important and precious. It is only once we spend the work time duration at offices working could a real growth in the society take place. Do you think so? I do!

From the Agenda



Ayman Mohammed Nasser
Editor in Chief,
Attariq Newspaper

In a country like Yemen, where people keep going around, inside the same circle of traditional cultures and values that praise the past, and watch over the stagnant present with its limited horizons led and controlled by a rusty tool, that has subdued society and hindered any movement forward. In such a situation, any event whatever might be its weight, is meaningless as long as it is unable to pass us through the bottleneck. During my short and humble experience with public affairs, in the last ten years or so, life has proved so pregnant with events crossroads and curves, shaping our destinations, accompanied by a complete absence of the Nationalistic Movements. Thus it could subdue the natural growth and development of our political and social culture. Our current political and cultural output emanates from rusty lungs. We look fearfully at each other on every occasion just to confirm the misery of our situation. In the midst of all that, from far in the wilderness, I heard a deep and warm voice calling for progress, development and modernism. It was Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, the man who filled life with turmoil. He knew many people and was known by more. Many misunderstood him, and he was understood by only a few. I can confirm that his finger prints on our nation's geography and upon our political and social culture and press and on our conscience, far exceeds those made by the Yemeni elite during the last twenty years.

One can only say a little about Dr. Al-Saqqaf in such a small space. Dr. Abdulaziz shall continue to live in our minds and conscience. I personally intend to dedicate a number of writings to him in order to relief my heart and discharge my soul and mind towards a man who was a brother, a teacher and an example. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf was by virtue of his wisdom, vast knowledge, personality and organization and other capabilities, a Yemeni phenomenon of a capable leader into the 21st century.

In fact, I can't say that I was a close friend of Dr. Saqqaf, but I can say that he was one of my closest. We established a personal acquaintance since the 1997 elections, which developed into a very strong understanding of each other. This strong, built on principal, relationship revealed itself in "Yemen Times" and its pages, as Yemen Times and its owner occupied the same in Al-Tariq.

The way Dr. Abdulaziz died, provoked a number of shared by his friends and partisans. May be we can find the reason then, when Dr. Al-Saqqaf death's complexities are discussed, in the fascination that attracts us in the Geek myth of a personality that I don't read the name of, a half-human half-birth, who is his great desire of wisdom and truth fly towards the sun and get burnt and dies.

Dear Dr. Abdulaziz, we shall continue to write about you, on you and in your faith, so long as God allows.

and policies since independence. Here are excerpts from Mr. Moqbil's interview: "The decision taken by Parliament against me was not taken by Parliament itself. It was a political decision taken by the PGC and the Islah parties a long time before the discussion was brought to Parliament." He said: Whether a person recognizes the legitimacy of Parliament or not is not one of conditions for qualification for endorsement...By going to Parliament and forwarding my papers I proved that I deal with the status queue" He added that he has all the constitutional preconditions to be endorsed for the Presidential elections. He said that all positions taken by him towards Parliament were within the limits of the constitution and operative laws. He said that what his position is against is a political entity of which Parliament is only a by-product. Moqbil denied that he called the MPs as "sheep". He reiterated his party's position towards the 1997 parliamentary elections, and said that they had a number of fair reasons to boycott those elections. He said that the YSP had demanded a dialogue with the ruling parties to straighten those points six months prior to those elections. He said that the YSP seeks and still seeks a fair political game for all parties with equal rights and obligations. Mr. Moqbil denied that there was a secret agreement between his party and the Islah to provide him with enough votes necessary for endorsement. He said: If there is a secret agreement it is between the Islah and the PGC. Moqbil said that during a gathering the President threatened the leaders of the opposition parties that if any party boycotts the elections it shall be erased from the political scene. He said that in that gathering; the YSP position was that it is a legitimate and constitutional right for any party to join the election process or to boycott it, and that the President does not have the right to issue such threats. He reminded that the Prime Minister himself had repeatedly confirmed that it is a constitutional duty to give the Socialist Party the

votes it needs [for participating in the Presidential elections.] He said that the regime is not refusing Moqbil only; it is refusing to deal of a multiparty political and partisan system in Yemen. That the ruling is organizing some kind of peaceful exchange of power within itself. That Mr. Najeeb Al-Sha'abi is a member of the PGC and was one of those who gave his vote for the President during the PGC 6th General Conference. He added that the PGC is in fact nullifying the process of multiparty and multi-political system in Yemen, and that they consider the election process concluded and that what is going on is only a referendum. He said that he is not calling the people to boycott the election, but he calls upon them to gather to reject the elections as the elections are being transformed into a mockery. He said if he himself, as a General Secretary of a legal party, was denied his right to run for elections, how can any body believe that people like [former Secretary General and President] Ali Nasser or Yassin Saeed Noa'man [former Speaker of Parliament] run for elections? All this when the former can only visit the country as a guest while the other was chased by bombardments till he fled outside the country.

A New Presidential Period & New Hopes for Yemen



Ayman Mohammed Nasser
Editor in Chief,
Attariq Newspaper

The presidential elections represent an important constitutional right of the people to elect their president directly. It gives the incoming president the peoples' vote to empower him, to begin necessary changes to our political, economic and social life. We believe that in the next presidential term the people will expect, in fact, demand a real change, in method and substance in our government. Younger leadership should be given a chance. The corrupt officials should be removed. A more effective and efficient government is expected. Democracy, free press, and transfer should develop to monitor the performance of government. Eighteen months after the presidential elections come, the parliamentary and local elections should add to the entrenchment of the democratic process. The different political parties, including the opposition, should develop their structures, plans and decisions to prepare for these developments. Most promises made during the elec-

tions often face difficulty in application, due to faulty mechanisms or failure of process of application. I believe that it is important first, to place the right mechanism, which is principally the strict application of law equally on all. In addition, the appointment of the right persons to the right jobs; depending on honesty, ability and good public image is of vital importance. There are different opposition parties with different visions. Some are in agreement with the PGC, (the ruling party) at least most of the time. However, the natural thing is for political parties to compete with each other for peoples' recognition and trust, and hence, votes. Therefore, we see that the opposition parties of the coordination council have made the wrong decision in 'abstaining' from the presidential election. They have added insult to injury by calling on the president to abolish the elections. These elections are the right of the people by the constitution and their political parties have proven that

they give no credence to the constitution. The people should be encouraged to uphold the constitution and bring change only through the constitutional process. The reasons for the call of boycotting the elections is not convincing. The process of nomination in parliament has gone according to the constitution and law. It is what they have suggested, that they will obtain the people's nomination that has no legal or constitutional basis. It will only confuse people's attitude towards law and order. Political party leaders should understand the responsibility towards their followers and become accountable to them and should not mislead them to disappointments and failures because of lack of vision and planning for the long-term. What some political parties demand is that candidates get public nomination, instead of parliament nomination and to only serve parties outside of parliament. Also, it is impractical and more difficult than the current requisite. Perhaps, more logically, they should seek that each member of parliament should be able to nominate two candidates, instead of one. This should widen the scope of the candidates for president.

Aden Port Paces to Prosperity Through the Free Zone

By: Ridhwan Alawi Al-Saqqaf,
Aden Bureau Chief,
Yemen Times

The strategic, as well as dynamic location of Aden has made officials in our government declare it as a free zone in 1991. From that time, work has been going in bounds and leaps, until today, to make considerable progress in the development of the country to meet the requirements of the modern time. This will eventually yield fruits to the welfare of the society. We will also be able to locate Yemen in the International Trade Movement and Trade Exchange through the terminal project in the free zone of Aden.



* The Initiative: 18/3/1996

This started after the Yemeni government signed a contract with the implementing company Yeminvest and the General Organization of the Free Zone Districts, as a representative of the Yemeni government. The contract states that the company builds container terminals, as well as implementing the project of the industrial storing district. The building of the station has been divided into three different stages and the overall pavement's length will be around 1650m. There will be six anchors that are designed for large ocean-going ships and terminals carrying a capacity of 1.5 million terminals per year. In 1995, after the declaration of law no.(4) and signing a contract with Yeminvest on 18/3/1996, work in the first stage of this project started. It is worth mentioning that the designs of this project have been made by the American Rapton Company, one of the biggest International companies in the world, then, a number of companies conducted the land survey and started cleaning the bottom of the sea.

The Opening of the First Stage and its Operation starting on 8/3/1999:

When working on this stage, that extends over 35 hectare, and costing \$250 million was complete, operation on the first stage of the terminal port had started. The pavement of the port consisted of 16m ready to be deepened to 18m. The overall area of the building of the general administration and its departments is around 10000m², including the general administrative building, main gate, maintenance work-

shop and stores for emptying containers. Then, the project was provided by a 4km-length cable and telephone lines increased from 300-1000 and were connected to the containers port.

The Unfinished Stages of the Project:

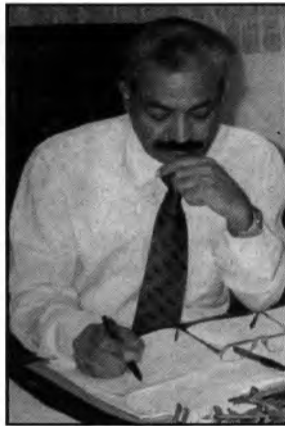
There are four stages left, indicated in the following:

1) The Second Stage:

It will include the project of expanding the Tarmac Airport to 600m, as well as designing new air-planes paths, the deepening of ship canals and anchors, making facilities for containers and to develop the industry by treating the raw materials along the North sea shore from the entrance of small Aden. Also, developing the Refinery/Colander capacity, the transportation net, electricity, water, sewage through building new modern stations, as well as expanding the existing net is required. The cost of this stage will be approximately \$12 million.

2) The Third Stage:

It will include the expanding and rebuilding of the airport,



Mr. Derhim Abdoh Noman, the vice president of the General Organization of the Free Zone

sewage water in small Aden may last for ten years.

Offers and Requests for Investment in the Free Zone:

If we assume that the number of investments in the free zone are around 622, the overall cost will be \$1.53 billion and will include around 24,000 employees, according to records reported by the investment department in these projects. The figures are distributed in the following:

162 projects in the industrial field with a cost of \$337 million.

203 projects in the trade field with a cost of \$50 million.

106 in the storage department with the cost of \$50 million.

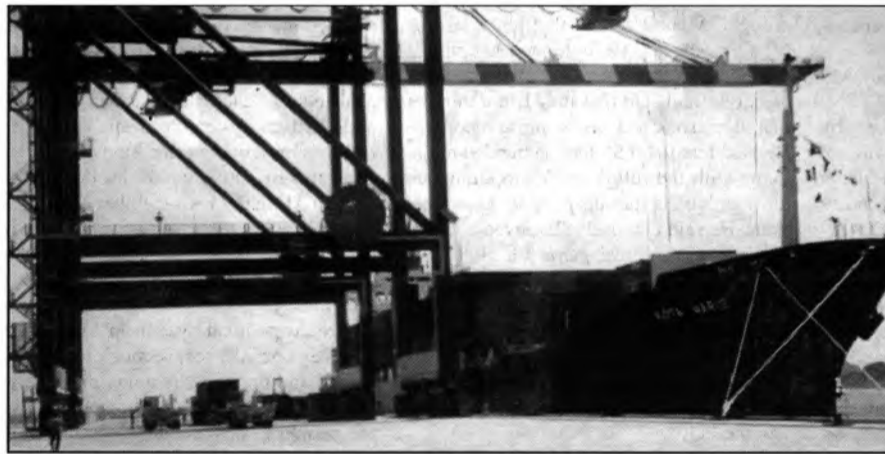
50 orders in the field of tourism with a capital of \$203 million.

84 orders in the services field with the cost of \$602 million.

17 investment orders in the fish field with the cost of \$33 million.

The overall area allocated for these projects is 20, 303, 853m².

In order to have further understanding



as well as its paths. Another department will be added to facilitate work in the containers. A fourth level in Caltex, as well as storage places along the North Coast and Hadeed Mountain, will be established, costing \$27 billion and employing a good number of workers. There is an intention to establish a refinery, new ports, and expand hotels, as well as tourist resorts in Small Aden. The second terminal will be developed to generate energy to 25 megawatt and the constructing of the second terminal to cleaning water. The working in this stage will last for eight years.

3) The Fourth Stage:

The cost of this stage is estimated at approximately \$13 billion. This stage will include improvements and expansion. A new station for generating energy and processing unit

of this, Yemen Times met with Mr. Derhim Abdoh Noman, the vice president of the General Organization of the Free Zone, who said the following: The project of the free zone in Aden is one of the most important economic and strategic projects in the Republic of Yemen. The establishment of the containers is a sure sign of the sincere and constructive efforts exerted by the government. What we have achieved, since we started working in the containers ports on 19/3/1999, is really very promising. On the other hand, the industrial storage district is another

project included in the projects implemented in the free zone. The security of the free zone is another vocal factor of structural administration for the security of the Aden governorate. There are specific and well planned strategies that will ensure the security and order in the free zone. The organization has also signed contracts with different international companies in Europe, America and East Asia to operate new marine lines through the container ports. These



countries will certainly make Aden the most important trade center in the Gulf as well as Arabian peninsula. The first biggest ocean-going ship has already arrived to the containers port, carrying 1600 container.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Sana'a University announces the fourth Post-Graduate Program (Diploma and MSc) in

WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

at the Civil Engineering Department of the Faculty of Engineering for the academic year 1999/2000.

The Program is supported by the Dutch SUS Project "Sana'a University Support" and implemented by both the Faculty of Engineering and the International Institute for Infrastructure, Hydraulics and Environmental Engineering (IHE) - Delft, The Netherlands. The Program is conducted in the English language.

Interested persons are invited to visit Graduate Studies at the Sana'a University or to visit the SUS Project at the Faculty of Engineering for information on the required qualifications and to obtain application forms for the mentioned program (tel./fax 250414; e-mail: susihe@y.net.ye). Applications will be accepted until September 16, 1999.

اعلان

تعلن الدراسات العليا في جامعة صنعاء عن بدء البرنامج الرابع للدراسة الدبلوم/ ماجستير في كلية الهندسة/ قسم الهندسة المدنية للعام الدراسي 2000/1999 م في

هندسة المياه والبيئة

البرنامج ضمن نشاط المشروع الهولندي لدعم جامعة صنعاء والمنفذ من قبل كلية الهندسة - جامعة صنعاء، والمعهد الدولي للبيئة والتحتية والهيدروليكا والهندسة البيئية. سوف تكون الدراسة في البرنامج باللغة الإنجليزية.

علي الراغبين بالدراسة مراجعة الدراسات العليا في جامعة صنعاء والمشروع الهولندي في كلية الهندسة للإطلاع على شروط القبول واستلام استمارات التقديم للدراسة في البرنامج (تلفون/فاكس 250414).

آخر موعد لتسليم طلبات التقديم 16 سبتمبر 1999 م.

Tragi-comedy after the incident that is said to be caused by GAS LEAKAGE?

According to official sources, the catastrophe of the City Center Supermarket that occurred on the 28th of last month, resulted from a gas leakage. The gas leakage lead to the spread of gas air into the whole supermarket and was ignited, leading to the explosion of the supermarket. As sources claim, the experts were not able to find any evidence of TNT explosives or remains of a car bomb. They suggest that the explosion was mainly due to the explosion of the

gas cylinders which were used in the kitchen of the "City Center Restaurant". About the victims of the incident, reports were contradictory to each other. In the last issue of Yemen Times, depending on the Canadian News agency, we mentioned that the blast killed three, including the Canadian Occidental guardsman, Al-Samawi. However, we have received news that the guard is still alive, however he is in a coma because his brain was damaged, and whether he will

live is yet unknown. One of the relatives of the guard mentioned that he is going through a critical time, and that an operation to his brain took place last week in Azal Private Hospital.

The -at least 5- Indian employees who were in the basement of the supermarket, and who were thought to have died, have miraculously survived the huge blast. The Indian embassy however is deeply concerned about them because the police is still interrogating them after more than a week after the blast. "We are disappointed that they are still under interrogation. We want to have them released as soon as possible" said a diplomat at the Indian Embassy. This gives the impression that the police is trying to know why and how they have survived the blast. On another level, there were some tragicomic incidents happening immediately after the explosion. As one witness states, "In the early morning after the blast, while I was heading home, I passed near the site of the explosion. After the fire was turned off by the firemen, I saw a soldier carrying something on his shoulder and walking away from the site. When I went closer to see what he was carrying, I began thinking, 'can it be an explosive or some kind of

machine that helps in the investigation? Later I discovered that a box of coke was all that survived the blast. He was carrying it away, just to have some free drinks with his other companions. These are our soldiers. This is our army!"

Later in the day of the explosion, we went to see what damage the explosion caused to the building where the Emirates office was. We went upstairs to the NDI (National Democratic Institute) office, to be surprised that the door was broken. We asked the guard, he said that the soldiers broke into some offices and probably this office is one of them. They had the excuse of looking after the criminals who were linked to the explosion and who might have escaped and hid in one of the apartments. "When going inside, we discovered that the armed troops stole three of the companies mobile phones and ran away.

On the same level, the markets near the incidents were surprised to see that many of their goods were stolen - probably by the armed troops, because the explosion destroyed the gate and glasses of the market. They asked themselves, "if these are the ones that are supposed to protect us, how on earth will the robbers be?" A question even we wouldn't want to answer!



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The Shrine of the Owais Al-Qarnee

One of the Outstanding, Islamic & Archeological Monuments in Yemen



Saleh Abdulbaqi
Cultural Editor

Casting an eye over the Islamic monuments in Yemen, you will be amazed to discover that they are great and far from any kind of description. These Islamic landmarks had been centers of illumination and enlightenment for the establishment of one of the greatest civilizations history have ever recorded. They become also a tourist bridge that receive local as well as international attention. They are perfect examples of the deeply-rooted civilization of Yemen.

In this cultural article of this issue, I will be focusing on an important milestone of our Islamic culture at Zabeed, Al-Fakeeh House, in Hodeidah. It is the grave of the holy man, Owais Al-Qarnee. His grave is a pivotal monument highly appreciated and admired by Yemenis as well as Pakistanis and Indians who have annual festivals in this place. In writing this article, I also made use of a good book called "The



leprosy, had bluish-black eyes, broad shoulders, long beard, always looking at his praying place and crying over himself, there was a bright spot under

give them. When the Prophet Mohammed passed away Omar and Ali had kept looking for him for almost ten years. However, they could not find him at all. In the same year of Omar's death, a person called Abo Kaiss went at the top of a mountain in

suffered from leprosy and had bluish-black eyes. They told him that they wanted to make sure of another thing to prove that he was the right person. They told him that there was a bright spot under his left shoulder. When they saw it they started kissing him.

and Pakistanis inherited these conventions therefore, visiting this shrine became a practice they did every year. To sum it all up, this Islamic shrine of this virtuous and holy man should be given some attention and care. We

pronounce this plea for those in charge to keep and preserve such Islamic, historical and archeological monuments for we will never achieve anything in the future without preserving our past which was very fertile and rich.



Feature Layers of the Honest and Faithful People" by Abo Al-Bass Ahmad Al-Zabeedi.

Owais Al-Qarnee's whole name was Abo Amer Owais bin Amer bin Harb bin Morad bin karn bin Al-Moradee then Al-Qarnee. He is considered to be one of the good, virtuous people who had done a lot to serve Islam. The prophet Mohammed "Mercy be upon him" talked about him and said that there would someone called Owais from from Yemen who was a sincere follower and was from the "Karn", indicating his nickname, who will come suffering from leprosy. He would ask God to cure him from this disease except for a small spot and that God cured him. The Prophet also said that if he swore by God, God would carry out what he swore for. Then, he pronounced the name Owais and when they inquired about his identity, he said that he suffered from

his left shoulder, very much withdrawn to himself. However, he was very well known in heaven. So the Prophet asked Omar bin Al-Khatab as well as Ali bin Abo Taleb "May God forgive them" if they could meet him one day to ask him to ask God to for-

Yemen and shouted at the top of his voice asking whether they know someone called Owais. They told him that there was no one called so, then a person turned up and said that he had a poor nephew called Owais but he was a mere camel peasant. Omar asked him then about his distention. He was told that he was living in Ba'arak Arafat. Therefore, they rode quickly to Arafat. When reaching there, they could see him praying and his camels were around him. They greeted him and then they asked his name. When he saw their insistence to know his name, he told them to leave him alone. Only then they told him that the Prophet told them that there would be someone called Owais, who

They asked him to ask God to forgive them and he refused. Then, he asked them who they were. Realizing that the two inquirers were not more than the Calif Omar and Ali bin Abi Taleb, he stood up and greeted them and asked God to forgive and have mercy on them. When Omar tried to give him some money and clothes he refused and said that he earned his living from his work and he was content with what he had. Then, he asked them to go on



their ways and leave him lead the same way of life. After this, Owais gave up his career as a camel peasant and devoted his life to worshipping God.

During the caliphate of Ali, he participated in Islamic conquests. He was said to be died in Safeen during the caliphate of Ali bin Abi Taleb in 37. It is also said that he used to pray for a long time that he may spend the whole day or night praying to God and asking his forgiveness.

Many people used to visit this place especially Pakistanis who used to stay there for some days upon their getting back from Al-Hag Season. They stayed there to perform some rituals. They also used to distribute some presents and gifts to the people living around. They had rebuilt and renewed the shrine from time to time. It is said that the French Orientals who visited Yemen in the nineties visited this shrine. She was very sorry and cried to what this shrine had come to of ignorance and carelessness.

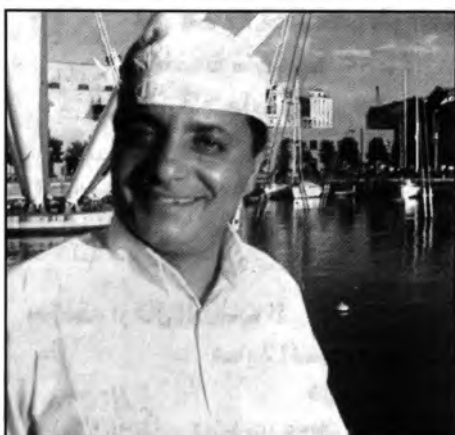
The dome which appears in the picture was built after it was destroyed in the tenth century 1320. The shrine was built during the period of invocation of God.

When I inquire why only Pakistanis and Indians were the most visitors of this shrine, I was told that when Indians used to go to Al-Hajj in the past they used to moor their ships at Mocha, in Hodeidah. Then, they walked the rest of the way to Saudi Arabia through Yemen, as there was no transportation at that time. On their way, they used to pass this shrine. They were very attracted to it for it was eloquently decorated. They used to stay there for some days then, they continued on their way. Thus, Indians

A Distinguished Yemeni Singer, Hamoud Al-Jonaid

Hamoud Al-Jonaid was born in Ibb in 1956. In his yearly days, he was much attracted to the Yemeni classical music and latter on influenced by it. He enjoyed listening to the Great Yemeni singers like Al-Qotoby, Al-Aanisy, Assimah, Al-

Morshidy and Ahmad Fathy to know more about the features of the Yemeni music. In fact, it was this love for the Yemeni songs that molded his talent. His choice for the old Yemeni songs formed a source by which he has been aspired. The start was with the Oud till he become a professional.



Besides this, Al-Jonaid is gifted with a sweet melodious voice. In the beginning of the 1980s, Al-Jonaid started singing in gatherings (maqials), in the house of the late captain, Abdu Al-Rahman Al-Haidary. He used to sing the old Yemeni songs like "Bakhilt bilwasl a'anna" and "Yaaman alaik attwakul". These two songs were later broadcasted from Holland Radio. This marked the beginning of Al-Jonaid's career as a professional singer. he traveled

a lot in the beginning of his career and had parties in many Arab countries like Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Syria. In 1996, he was invited to take part in Folkloric Musical Festival n Britain and achieved the third position. After this Al-Jonaid signed a contract with a company for musical productions o record a number of old Yemeni songs on CDs. As a result of this, Yemeni songs became accessible to their fans. The second international participation for the singer was also in Britain where he took part in the Yemeni Immigrants Festival and was given the title of "The Ambassador of the Yemeni Song." This year, Al-Jonaid also achieved a great success, not in Britain this time but in Italy in the Ravinna Festival. He, as usual appeared in the traditional Yemeni dress and initiated his program by a Sanaani song.

Saleh Abdul Baki
Yemen Times

IMPRESSION ABOUT YEMEN



Yahya Rabah, Palastinian Ambassador & Diplomatic Missions Chief

I arrived in Yemen in the morning of May 22, 1990. I was associated with the President Arafat during his visit. We directly moved to Palestinian Hall in Aden where the announcement of the Unity and the Republic of Yemen was declared. That was one of the greatest moments of my life. That day signalled the start of my life as an Ambassador of Palestine to Yemen. Frankly speaking, I carried a lot of love for this beautiful country. That is because of the great and undeniable friendship between Yemen and Palestine, as well as because of my close relation with a number of Yemeni People who accompanied me in the revolution army when I was a soldier in South Lebanon. Since the day of my appointment, and during those nine years that have passed after becoming the ambassador, I have visited a number of governorates, from Sa'da in the north down to Hadhramout in the South. I passed through Hodeidah, Taiz, Dhamar, Ibb, Mareb, Aljawf, Lahj and Shabwh and had experience in them all. In addition to this, I have been to many districts in the Sana'a governorate. Indeed, I was filled with admiration of what I have seen so far of this country. I have also become familiar in dealing with the Yemeni society, its hospitality, bravery, kind-heartedness and faithful desire of supporting the others. These characteristics are among the most respected in any nation in the whole world. Recently, I have seen what I wish not to see.

However, the only drawback I have seen is the wide spread of weapons in major cities, specifically in Sanaa. I was really terrified to see thousands of men carrying arms and walking around in the cities. I have felt that the Yemeni wisdom is stronger than the thoughts that weapons should be carried or used in cities by normal citizens. I am yet to know what the reason behind the carrying of all these weapons is. Since my arrival to Yemen, I have seen great and promising developments on political, economic, social and cultural levels. The Yemeni Unity was the turning point for the Yemeni society towards a brighter future. Democracy has been adopted and the right of the freedom of the press has been secured for all the sectors of the community. This right has been given to the opposition parties and to the private associations to practice their rights in all fields and in all possible ways. The ruling party, represented by H.E. President, Ali Abdullah Saleh made great efforts in taking care of and pushing forward these democratic values. It opening the way for political movements to express all their views. The democratic process has been implemented in the 1997 parliamentary elections, and in the ensuing Presidential Elections scheduled to be on September 23.

I am optimistic about the future of Yemen because Yemeni people have patience and are capable of overcoming any obstacle ahead of them. I can clearly feel the ambitions of the Yemeni people for a better future. I am glad that the Republic of Yemen has chosen the right way to move into the future, and that is resembled in choosing democracy. Yemen has shown to the world that it is a wise country that is heading towards new developments in the next millennium.

In addition to this, the Yemeni government is seeking ways to administrate the country's resources in new ways. It also is working hard to preserve security for the sake of Yemeni people. It seems to be following a successful and peaceful policy which will consequently enable it to cope with the rest of the world in a better way.

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THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION OF DISARMAMENT IN THE CITIES WISE, BUT DANGEROUS

Immediately after the Interior Minister banned the carrying of weapons, even for licensed carriers, the police and security officers were distributed all over the cities. You can see them everywhere. For the first few days, they were the Security Police officers (brown spotted yellow uniforms), then came the police to take over (black spotted blue uniforms.) Instead of seeing fewer weapons, we all witnessed an extremely high number of weapons in the hands and arms of these police officers everywhere. Security measures have increased everywhere, including western establishments, such as Pizza Hut, etc. The Ministry of Interior sent the policemen and security to the main streets to inspect cars and take weapons. There are some people who respond positively to this campaign by surrendering their weapons, while others refuse to give them. Last week, we witnessed the final days of the campaign, which has ended without any tangible results. The Ministry did many campaigns before, and they all ended uselessly. We are here to affirm that the failure of disarmament in our country is due to the fact

"We face lots of problems, especially with the tribesmen who refuse to give up their rifles who consider their weapons as their honor, and no might on earth can take them away."

peaceful country.

In one of the inspection points, we asked one of the soldiers, Bandar Mohammed Doqaish on his view regarding this latest law and if what they are doing is worthwhile after all. He replied, "We are now carrying out the instructions of the Ministry of Interior, by inspecting people and their cars in the morning and evening. We confiscate weapons and give a receipt. Indeed, we face a lot of problems during this campaign. Many people reject to give their weapons. Some will even prefer to die instead of giving their rifles. This is because some men, especially from tribal backgrounds know their weapons as their honor, and can not go around without it. Indeed, it is very difficult to find a solution for this issue."

Haidar Al- Dubyani, a trader and among the ones inspected says, "I do think that carrying weapons in cities and even in rural areas is a dangerous problem for all



The country should take it seriously and try to find a lasting solution. I think that this problem developed because of the

negligence of the government to secure the city. Also, because of the the inequality of implementing instructions, such as the one stated by the Ministry of Interior. They take the weapons from the weak, and don't even try to negotiate with the tribes about confiscating their weapons. The country must use the media to illustrate to people the danger of this problem. Regarding the campaign of disarmament, it is a good step, provided that it is equally implemented on all, we want it to continue."

Ali Hassan Mohammed, who is another soldier working on implementing this latest instruction, says, "most people think that we do not carry out our responsibility in confiscating weapons. Now I want to tell them that we face all sorts of dangers during this campaign. For example, yesterday one of our colleagues was stabbed with a 'Jambia' by one of the tribesmen, while he wanted to inspect the car. The soldiers could not capture them because there were no police cars in the crossroads. They only took the number of the car, and I don't think that the driver will ever be punished. If people help us do our job right, we will actually find a solution for this problem."

Fawaz Al- Ansi, a police officer says, "We try to find and eliminate weapons captured at the crossroads, etc. However, our job is not easy. We face lots of problems, especially with the tribesmen who refuse to give rifles thinking that these weapons are their honor, and no might on earth can take them away. Sometimes they did no

we still face many problems with people who refuse to give their guns."

6- Abdulilah Al- Jarmozi is a government employee who was passing by the check point to be inspected, he said, "The decision by itself is not sufficient. The right

armed. Then, I looked at the inspecting soldiers to see what they will do. Guess what? They did not even dare of asking to inspect the car, simply because its owner is a high ranking official who sees himself above the law, and hence, cannot be

"Sometimes they did not even stop their cars for inspecting, which makes us shoot at their cars with our guns. What can we do? We have instructions to do so, when required."

that most tribes think that this process is against their traditions, and because the sources of these weapons are still open. Hence, a confiscated weapon is still available for smugglers, and importers. Yemen Times surveyed this issue and tried to get the views of both the inspectors and inspected to see the possible solution which could turn Yemen into a more



solution is to prevent the selling of guns in all places of the country. The country must put a limit on the weapon sellers who are the ones behind this mess. I would also stress on the fact that this decision is not

inspected. That is the reason that makes people feel that there is inequality, and these inspection missions are usually useless, time consuming, and most of the time causing harassment to the normal citizens.

"..people feel that there is inequality, and these inspection missions are usually useless, time consuming, and most of the time causing harassment to the normal citizens."

being implemented on all. It is implemented on the weak only. I will give an example here. I saw a car heading towards the airport full of soldiers who were all

It will eventually fail just like the previous ones. Here we affirm that the disarmament is a good way, but it needs the work of all of us and needs to be implemented on all.

"The decision of the Ministry of Interior is not good enough. One should stop the problem from its roots and close down the sources of those weapons. On the other hand, up to now, we still face many problems with people who refuse to give their guns."

not even stop their cars for inspecting, which makes us shoot at their cars with our guns. What can we do? We have instructions to do so when required. Regarding the decision of disarmament, it is a wise decision but still, we need more time to make people understand the noble mission we are doing. We also wish that this campaign will include the rural areas which are full of weapons."

5- Mohammed Al- Sharabi, a soldier said the following: "The only solution which will definitely help in solving this problem is to launch various campaigns against, not only who carry these weapons, but most importantly, against the ones who sell them, whether in the cities or in rural areas. The decision of the Ministry of Interior is not good enough. One should stop the problem from its roots and close down the sources of those weapons. On the other hand, up to now,

بجبين
جديد بطعم الأناناس

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Pampers

شركة رائدة في مجال الصناعات الاستهلاكية تبحث عن شركات تسويقية أو وكالات متخصصة في احدى أو كل المجالات الآتية:

- 1- خدمات التسويق والقدرة على تنفيذ برامج تثقيفية بيعية في اوساط المستهلكين.
- 2- أبحاث تسويق بين اوساط المستهلكين والتجار وذلك لتنفيذ برامج تثقيفية وابحاث تسويقية في المناطق الحضرية والريفية في اليمن.
- 3- القدرة على إنتاج الاعلانات التلفزيونية واللافتات وماشابه.

فعلى الشركات والوكالات المتخصصة في هذه المجالات والرغبة في تأهيل نفسها لتنفيذ هذه الأعمال التقدم وارفاق مايلي في طلب التأهيل:

- 1- اسم وعنوان الشركة او الوكالة كاملاً.
- 2- اسم المالك أو مدير عام الشركة أو رئيس مجلس ادارتها.
- 3- تفاصيل كاملة عن البناء المؤسسي للشركة او الوكالة.
- 4- تفاصيل كاملة عن نشاطات الشركة او الوكالة السابقة.

يمكنكم ارسال الطلبات إلى شركة بروكتر وجامبل اليمن المحدودة
عناية السيد / حسين درغام
ص.ب (٢٣٨٦)
وليزيد من المعلومات اتصلوا بطنون (٤١٢١٢٦/٧/٨)

PANTENE PRO-V **Head & Shoulders**

When a Wedding Ceremony Turns Into a Military Confrontation

Just 50 meters away from the Yemen Times premises in Sanaa, near the Palestinian Embassy on Hadda Street, what was supposed to be a traditional wedding turned

shot the gunfire then found no other way other than to get out of his hide-out. The gunfire continued to be heard from many locations as far as Al-Safiya area more than 2 km away from the place of the incident.

table night. This is the second time in a week that I could not sleep at night after the City Center explosion near by."

It is worth mentioning that a number of such incidents took place in the capital city to a number of either rich businessmen or officials whose guards have weapons but do not wear military uniforms. Another incident took place last Saturday noon when the police shot dead the son of the Head Chief of the Security Police because he refused to give up his weapon to the policemen who were only carrying out the clear instructions of the Ministry of Interior to prohibit the carrying of arms even if licensed.

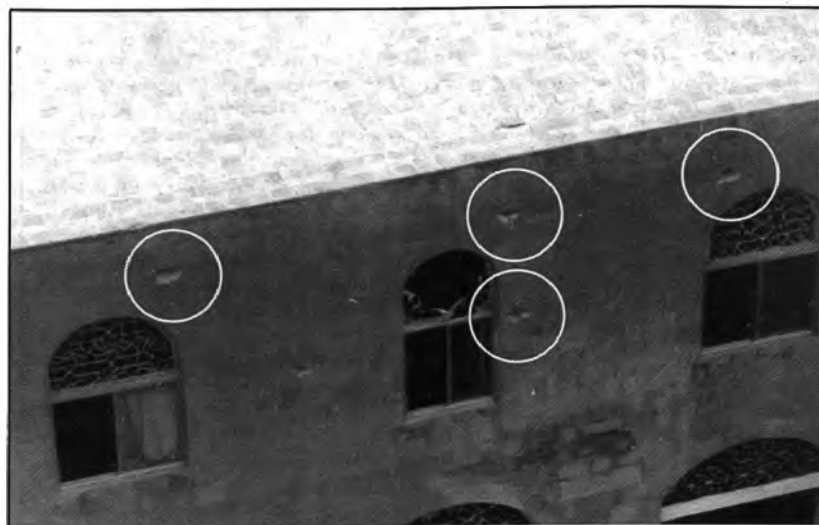


After the many incidents that resulted from the strict measures by the police, the Ministry seemed to have ordered the stopping of the campaign for the time being as if they wanted things to cool down.

It is worth mentioning that this attempt to disarm the Yemeni public is the last of a series of attempts which have failed all to reach their goal of abolishing the use of arms in Yemen's main cities. The reason, analysts say, are mainly three:

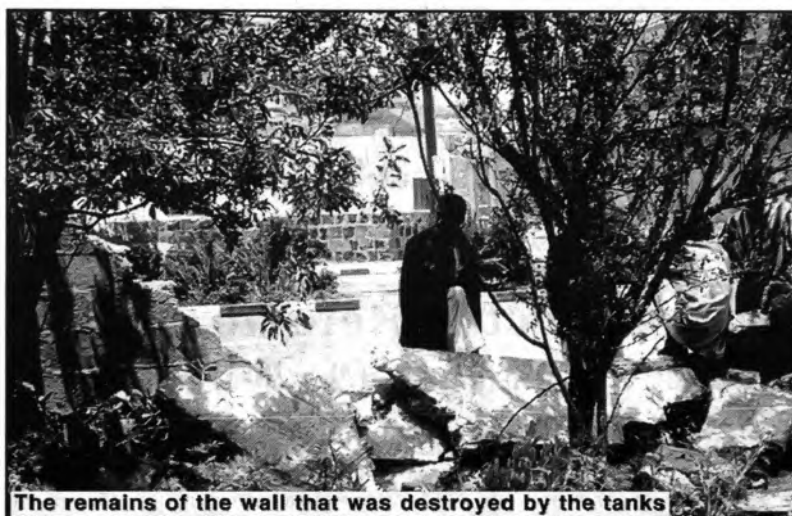
- 1- Many Yemenis, specifically tribesmen, cannot afford giving away their weapons due to it being a shame in traditional reasons and giving it away means relinquishing their honor.
- 2- Some see weapons as an essential security measure (when traveling long distances, for self defense from kidnappers, robbers, etc.) especially

that the state does not provide adequate security to its citizens. 2- The sources of these weapons are still open. The weapon markets at Jihana, and other rural areas are not controlled or even monitored by the state. Hence the flow of weapons continues even though the available weapons are being taken away from their carriers. Hence, unless these three causes are dealt with, the carrying of weapons will continue, and will continue to be impossible to control.



out to be a military storm. It was around 12:30 am last Friday when one of the men in the wedding, perhaps forgetting about the last extremely harsh measures against the carrying and using of weapons, shot some gunfire to the air as usual in any wedding. However, this led to unexpected results, as immediately after hearing the gunfire, the police and the men started exchanging gunfire and shooting at each other until the police forces realized that they had to get assistance, so they asked for troops along with two tanks to get things done. After arriving to the location, one of the tanks, directly drove through the wall of the garden where the wedding was taking place, and immediately surrounded the house where the men stayed. The man who

As Yemen Times guard explains, "We could not sleep that night because of the exchanged gunfire and shouting that gave us the impression as some kind of battle is going on outside. Although I couldn't dare to go the roof to find out what is going on, I yet saw the battle from the 2nd floor window. The number of troops was so high that I thought that some kind of murder or so could have taken place. Later on, I discovered that there were no victims. The owner of the house which was stormed along with the neighboring buildings called me to see the damage that was caused by the gunfire and tank storming. It was an unforget-



The remains of the wall that was destroyed by the tanks

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ANNOUNCEMENT

**TENDER NO. (1/99)
FOR THE SELECTION OF LICENSEES
TO OPERATE GSM SERVICES IN THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN**

In accordance with the policy for restructuring of the telecommunication sector in the country and to consolidate the participation of the private sector in the development process, it has been decided by the cabinet of ministers in its resolution No. 183 for the year 1998 to specially encourage the local and foreign investment in the telecommunication sector through the issue of two new licenses for GSM operations, the Ministry of Communication of the Republic of Yemen invite national and international tenderers to submit application to obtain license for the operation of the Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) in the Republic of Yemen.

The Tender Document can be bought from the secretary of steering committee for GSM Project, PTC Headquarters Al-Giraf, Airport Road, priced at five thousand (US\$5,000.00) United States Dollars (on a non-refundable basis) during the period (8:00 a. m. to 12.00 noon) on all working days beginning from Monday dated 6/9/1999. The application should conform to the following conditions:

- The applicants should have the necessary technical and managerial expertise in the field of telecommunication and specially in the GSM services.
- The tenders should be submitted sealed with red wax in the form and manner prescribed in the Tender Documents (one original and four copies).
- The application shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of tenders.
- It should be accompanied with a Bank Guarantee (Bid bond) as specified in the request for tender valid for 150 days from the date of opening of tenders. Closing date of receipt of application 10:00 a.m. 5th December, 1999. The envelopes will be opened in the presence of such applicants or their representative who may wish to attend at 11:00 a.m on the same date at PTC Headquarters.

The tenders shall be addressed to:

Ministry of Communications
Secretary of Steering Committee for (GSM) Project
Public Telecommunication Corporation
P. O. Box 17045
Airport Road, Al-Giraf
Sanaa, Republic of Yemen
Tender No. (1/99)

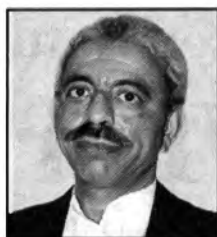
COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

The Loss of Three Giant Abdullahs

Within the space of a week, Yemen lost three giants, who have completed their destinies and left a void that, is not easily refillable at this time. Paradoxically, all three were carrying the name Abdullah: Abdullah Sa'ad, Abdullah Al-Omeri and Abdullah Al-Baradouni. All three were unrelated, in blood, profession or cause of death. In at least two of the cases their death is still a mystery to some, with one being somewhat bizarre and obviously premeditated. The country could not have a loss as great as this, especially at this time when their respective fields, would not show that a replacement is readily available. All the three Abdullahs had been pioneers in their fields, political, economic and cultural. All three men, will undoubtedly, leave a lasting mark in their fields, even after their untimely death, but more important, they will leave a scar in the hearts of the many that dealt with them and knew them well. Their achievements were the source of recognition, not only nationally but also regionally and internationally as well. On the other hand, these men were the product of a different world - or rather three different worlds - that produce the kind of caliber that prides on taking the initiative and sticking to those initiatives that will have a marked popular appeal - a rare phenomenon these days. In the three cases the challenges that were before

these men were the driving force that led them to where they got to be. Such a drive is also rare these days, because the challenges have become so great and so difficult to overcome that most people would not find the energy, or the recognition that would be deserved. In fact in most of the three cases, the challenges have become instituted in the society, because the leading institution in the society takes no pride in recognizing initiative and work that is good for the people. Moreover, people these days are bogged down in an endless struggle for sustenance and access to the minimal public services, which this leading institution - Government - is unable to provide efficiently and equitably. Moreover, initiative entails a certain degree of freedom, to enable the mind to float in the endless expanse of free thought and creativity, that produce the kind of caliber these three men, each in their respective fields could tread on to become - to a certain extent - masters of their own destinies. These days the criteria of success and achievement have become subject to illogical criteria and are gauged by standards that more or less fall under the illogical and incomprehensible. Popular appeal has no bearing on these criteria and standards, and men (and women) become marked only by their service to a system of rule that caters only to the interests of a few, who have found easy grounds to establish those interests as the only meaningful thing



that matters: in government, economics and in culture. It is a façade that is created by men

who, ignorantly, claim to be somewhere between humanity and the Divinity - God forbid. This kind of a society is unkind to achievement and success that matters most to the people at large, although it will surely not forget that when fate has taken its course and decides that even the greatest of men will find that their end is also a matter of time! It is when that end comes that at last, men will succumb to the question: just what did I leave behind; it is a question that will also be asked by the Lord, Al-Mighty! How many palaces and bank accounts did you leave behind to have people look at and then curse the very grounds you once walked upon? Where did you get all that real estate here and there and in the vacation resorts throughout the world, as you and your colleagues chewed up all the resources of the people that God has entrusted you with? These are questions, in the three cases, which will not be of great worry to the three Abdullahs. If one of them happened to be wealthy, it was not because of any evil plunder or illicit deeds. No! This wealth that he may have come under was the product of an enterprising spirit that God accepts, encourages and rewards! Let us now look at just how these three Abdullahs will have the right to place lasting impressions on our hearts, and will cause us to wonder, where is the replacement to come from in such an evil and mind stalling environment that we now live in? The order presented below does not signify any

preference of one to the other, because the three men did not compete in the same field. It is a random placement, with equal respect dutifully meted to all three accordingly. **Abdullah Al-Baradouni:** It never ceases to amaze me how God, Al-Mighty surely compensates men for any handicap that men may be afflicted with, either from birth or by an ailment that strikes one, as life, with its unexpected, creep up to strike and take whatever it can from you, reducing your natural capacity, to bring upon one a challenge that is indeed awesome and bewildering. Our first Abdullah was afflicted with blindness at a very early stage in life that has passed the infancy stage, but not reached any significant stages where the mind can recall the details of life. At best, the only thing that may register in the minds of such an early affliction of blindness may be color. Yet, Mr. Al-Baradouni, went on to produce a mind that registered a great expanse of scholasticism: literature, both poetic and narrative; history, with his own anecdotes and viewpoints that may not agree with the thinking of many, but nevertheless were recognizable observations with a great respect for the human side of the lives of those who preceded us; and current events, not so the sensationalism that journalists would like to create, to reach front page, but really observations that involve highly critical judgements upon those who have taken on the helms of power and decided to put themselves above all those they profess to govern. He was a highly outspoken opponent of oppression, in both its royalist and republican manifestations. In fact he was later to give justice to the royalist past in Yemen, as he chronicled his life of intellectual development amidst a world of poverty and poor access to the tools for learning, by noting the good sides of

that dark past and the many light moments that even such dark ages produced. At least, he noted there was some respect for human decency and integrity. As for the present, this writer recalls an article in one of the official papers, in which he called the status quo as being the most "corrupt system that has ever existed in man's history!" Of course he was careful to note that this was the observation of a French visitor! On the other hand this writer recalls the man's great honesty and humility. His mark in literature is rarely challenged, but when, in one interview, he was asked about what another great literary genius of Yemen, Mr. Ahmed Al-Shami had said about him, criticizing Mr. Baradouni's poetic structuring, etc., Mr. Baradouni just responded, that Mr. Al-Shami's criticism are justified and well in order, in view of Mr. Al-Shami's great grasp of the world of letters and poetry. These are truly the signs of greatness that never leave the heart. **Abdullah Al-Omeri:** Abdullah Omeri hails from a mercantile family that has made its head start, not in Yemen but as an emigrant family in Africa. Coming back in the Seventies, the family embarked on a poultry project, that was the first in Yemen and moreover introduced an enterprise that was not just good for its owners, but went on to open up an economic occupation that provided a vital nutritional input to the society and produce a livelihood for thousands of people to live on. Abdullah Omeri, even with the presence of his father was an important factor in getting the business going. He arranged the financing, then provided by Citibank (which then had an active branch in Yemen), which was basically a US\$ 500,000 Term Loan. Mr. Abdurrahman El-Moassib arranged the financial package for them in Citibank (He was then AssiManager, along with this observer

who, with the former, shared all the Credit Portfolios of the Bank then). The rest was history for the Omeri Poultry Farm, which remained as the number one producer of high quality poultry for some time to come. Most important about Mr. Omeri, was not so much his business acumen, but personal character and high standards of manners and politeness. The method of his untimely death at the City Center will remain a puzzle that shall become the subject of another Common Sense discussion to come. **Mr. Abdullah Sa'ad Mohammed:** Mr. Sa'ad came to prominence, as many of his fellow journalists of this decade, during the Transitionally Period after unification, just when freedom of the press let loose a number of pens that have been clamped down for some decades. Mr. Sa'ad was an outspoken critic of political oppression and never failed to attract the reader to his open and frank discussion of the deplorable state of affairs we have become subjected to. His death also still raises many questions about why this inescapable moment just had to come when he was needed the most. It was hoped that he would be able to return to *Al-Wahdah* Newspaper the open forum it used to be, which was the base from which many an outspoken journalist, whose fields have now taken them to leadership status in the trade (including this writer), thanks to the environment created by the its first Editor - In - Chief, Mr. Ahmed Al-Hubeishy, who unfortunately, for him and for us, got tied on the loosing side in the last Civil War. The kind of journalists, of Mr. Sa'ad's caliber, is slowly being eradicated as the greats like Abdulhabib Salim Muqbil, Omar Al-Jawi and Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf have left us, and their replacements have yet to appear, if they exist at all!

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 Editor,
The problem that we face in Hajja is that we can not read the newspaper one Monday or Tuesday, sometimes it comes on Friday, and other times it does not arrive at all. We love Yemen Times so much. So please try to do something to solve this problem. Thanks for your cooperation. The high institute for teachers training.
Amen Ali Al-Hajjaj
Hajja

Dear Amen,
Yemen Times is expanding and increasing the numbers distributed to towns and cities other than Sana'a. We have been receiving complaints from other towns as well. We are paying attention to the whole country. We are working on it, but it needs time. I hope you understand.
The Editor

Supermarket of Yesterday and Dust of Today
It is surely disappointing to hear of the disturbing news about the tragic incidents happening which directly negatively affect the country and its people. These incidents have its toll on the poor citizen, who is struggling to live in a harsh economy. The latest "City Center" explosion, which is a much-speculated incident, is said to have happened, due to criminal intention. How on earth can an incident with criminal intentions cause such disastrous results and lead to the killing of

innocent people, and the destruction of their property?
What is happening today is truly a reason to compare the past of Yemen with its future. These incidents are truly reflecting that we are living in an era where the hopes of many generations are being destroyed, and where the rosy future is being demolished before it even starts. Are the incidents happening today causing a temporary effect on our lives, or will it have a long reaching effect on our future?
We can truly suggest that what will happen from now on, will be an obstacle towards improvement. We are yet wondering who is responsible for all these horrible incidents? How can we stop them from continuing to cause more harm to the already devastated citizen and to the country? These are important questions that need to be answered before it is too late.
Najma Ali

First, our Halawa
It is no doubt that if we shelter or keep silent about wrong deeds which are practiced among our society and are detrimental to the whole nation, it means that we are encouraging corruption and we are all corrupt people. Concerning these few lines above as a preface in my letter. I am writing you this following these latest events. It was on Monday 23rd of August 1999 when I was at the corridors of the First Instance Court of Mukalla. I saw in front of my own eyes, a briber

and a bribe. Open and without shame of the people, they gathered there outside the closed door of the courtroom. A soldier in his formal uniform stood arranging admittance for the people to see the judge, by turns. At the same time and place, there was another soldier in plain clothes whose work was to receive the bribes from the people who were in a hurry to see the judge. Though there was a list involved, those who were requested by the judge for that day, through the soldiers, could delay and advance as the wish. When I asked the soldier what he was doing, he claimed that the money he collected from the people was not for him alone. It would be divided after them between him, the other soldier and the clerk of the court, who stayed near the judge writing the verdicts of the cases. During the day I was following a case concerning a plot of land which was taken by another man illegally. I was required by the judge to show up at the session for the last judgement in my case. But my name was not on the list and the soldiers did not let me go in. They asked for money. I complained to them that I had no money and promised to bring them money the next day. So one of them told me to write my name on a small paper and took it to the clerk of the court who told him to tell me, to come next week and that I must bring their Halawa(bribe) with me. I then agreed and left the court back to my house. Now the matter is,

how is life going with us? What kind of life are we facing in our country? Everything is done by bribery to our officials, even the doorkeeper, at any government department wants money to let us go in.
We are poor and jobless. Our future seems to be more darkening. There is no light for us. Shall we hang any hopes on our forthcoming presidential elections? We are aware that our present president will win the contest and he will do good for his people. He must change the old ways to a new and prosperous means of life for the nation of Yemen.
Abdul Majid Ahmed.
Mukalla.

It wasn't by chance!
Through our experience in life we have learned that the first step of every project is the hardest one. It should be stable and fulfilled with real intention, motivations and a strong desire to move the project forward. In other words, anything to be achieved in life must have good and reliable people with bright minds, because stupid people can do nothing nowadays.
Yemen Times is a good example to clarify my idea. This newspaper began as a simple idea in the mind of its founder, may God be merciful with him, who worked very hard for our society and nation. Then with brave decisions and strong desire it began to have its simple office with only two computers, which was the hardest step. Then it developed and grew slowly and gradually in stable steps, as a lovely girl, till it got its own admirable position over the local and the international newspapers. It has its three floor building on the best street in Sana'a with a very successful staff. But that is not all. I am sure that the paper is still growing and blossoming forever.
So, that was not attained by chance. No, it was a matter of hard work and a matter of persistence. I have heard Mr. Walid Al-Saqqaf saying, "It will be a bi-weekly news paper and then a

daily, we will never rest." So, this is the reason behind its existence.
We will all work very hard to keep its face shining forever because it is part of our life. We will never let her go and we will never stop loving her.
Fuad Al-Sabri
Tai

Private Universities from an acceptable idea to a heavy burden.
Private universities began to open in Yemen about six years ago. Nobody can deny that they helped our society very much in different fields of study, especially the fields that are not available in the government universities. The problem now is that we, who graduated from private universities, are not allowed to get jobs in the governmental sectors. Our files are not accepted in the Civil Service Office. It is said, in general, they do not to accept us. Why?

I need clear answers to many questions asked by many people. Why did the government allow the private universities to open? Why did it let the students join them? How many times have we heard the president and the Ministry of Education saying that private universities were good because they lessen the burden on the public universities?

So, who made the generalization? What is our fault? We want to know answers to those questions. We are calling our officials who make crazy decisions to carry the consequences for help. We are advising them to feed the hungry, to cloth the naked, to guide the blind and to give the poor, before it is too late. They may forget that everybody's life is too short according to their dreams.
By: Fuad Al-Moulaiki
Taiz

تهانينا
نهنيء الطيار / محمد علي عبده بمناسبة
خطوبة نجله الشاب الخلووق
عيد الله محمد عبده
وقرب الزفاف، مع تمنياتنا بحياة زوجية
سعيدة وهانئة وبالرفاه والبتين إن شاء الله،
ألف مبروك
المهنتون
تقريب الصحففين اليمينيين / محبوب علي
الحاج / علي علي عبده وأولاده
وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

عيد ميلاد سعيد
احتفلت أسرة الطفلة الحبوبة
«ندي»
بعيد ميلادها الأول.
تمنياتنا لها بحياة مديدة سعيدة.
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Head & Shoulders **PANTENE PRO-V** **PERI PLUS**

As Yemeni Shores Inhabitants Continue to Destroy Natural Life Stop Killing Our Sea Turtles

By: Abdullah Hamoud
Abulfutuh
Director of Environment
Protection

Here we talk about the way inhabitants off the shores in Yemen deal with natural resources. It is said that they treat them according to the international customs and conventions, including, distributing water equally among the inhabitants of the district where natural resources exist.

To make it clear, for example, some



inhabitants are not hunted unless they reach a specific age, the females are prohibited to hunt. Trees are also taken care of until they grow again. However, what happens in reality is

actually something else for those inhabitants that do not even give such conventions the slightest attention. As a result, we are losing our natural resources greatly.

Regarding the inhabitants of the shores, we find that they do not adhere to hunting and non-hunting seasons and even if they adhere to these rules and conventions in their districts, they go somewhere else to break these rules and conventions. Ultimately, they come to complain of the scarcity of fish in these districts.

What we have observed recently, I could not believe. However, in our visit to Hadramout, especially Dabiah

District, we were amazed to see two big turtles killed even before they laid eggs. It is worth mentioning, that one of them is about 130m in height and 34m in width. Its age is around 50-80 years. The second one is smaller. That sight was horrible! It is actually a heinous crime. It was hard to describe the situation of killing such an animal, because this animal starts shedding tears if it is caught by anyone. However, it seems that there is no mercy in these people's hearts. On another hand, it is clear that the people in charge do not move a finger to put an end

to such criminal acts, despite the fact that the Council of the Hadramout governorate has declared Ra'as Sharmah a wild sanctuary district, for turtles which come to Yemen in July

and August to lay eggs in different periods.

Such a district could be better used as a tourist site, which will entail a lot of financial gains for the inhabitants of these districts, as well as the governorate of Hadramout.

The point is that people are not aware of the importance of these turtles and the significance of protecting and keeping them alive, so that they will not become extinct. So the people in charge, as well as the media, should play an important role in raising the people's awareness to the great dangers of killing these creatures in this random way.

Turtles are animals that are now threatened with extinction because lots have been killed. Generally speaking, turtles go far away from their food places for the sake of laying eggs. It is worth mentioning that the green turtles fed at Khor Ameera on the West Aden Gulf. They lay eggs on the East Aden Gulf, especially Sharmah Coast, in the Hadramout governorate, which is considered to be the most important site of laying eggs for green turtles.

Kinds of Natural Sanctuaries

Ten kinds of coastal sanctuaries were introduced in a study made by Kellcher, 1982. He discussed in his

research the objectives of its administration, as well as how to carry out and organize this. They are divided as follows:

Sanctuaries

- 1-a) The scientific sanctuary
- b) The natural prohibited sanctuary
- c) marine prohibited sanctuary.
- d) A sanctuary for protecting nature, the sanctuary of the wild life, and the sanctuary of the sea life.

Clubs and Attractions

- 2- a) social club
- b) social marine club.
- c)- A natural public possession district, and a natural monument.
- 3- The land natural views, the sea and culture views.

Political Aspects

- 4-a) The protecting of the natural sources.
- b) Anthropology.
- c) The administration of a district that is used for different things.
- d) The special care of the vital ocean (Beiosfeer).
- e) The international heritage.

Each one of these has certain features and characteristics. Sometimes we could even mix some of these natural sanctuaries for the sake of the Soqatra Island, as well as the whole of Al-Arkhabeel is deemed as the vital



ocean sanctuary. Also, there is a district that is used for different things, one is a natural sanctuary and another one is protected for the sake of scientific purposes. In order to specify the kind of the sanctuary, we have to base ourselves upon the general standards stated by IUCN. We have also to take the site's local features in consideration, the natural, as well as the human

The People's Participation:

To specify the kind of the natural sanctuary needed, a precise evaluation of the environmental standards and inhabitants' response to abide by the rules and regulations is needed. The relations between natural sanctuaries and local societies are very complex and changeable. It is very important, then, that inhabitants will not feel that the sanctuary area will create obstacles and restrict their abilities to earn a

living. Therefore, having an understanding of these societies and their features is very decisive and is very essential before declaring the area a natural sanctuary.

Finally, we request the following:

- 1- Stating that the government protect all the turtles in Yemen.
- 2- Protecting the main places where turtles lay eggs on sea shores.
- 3- Protecting the main places for the food of turtles.
- 4- Prohibiting the killing, selling and exporting of turtles.
- 5- Taking care of the places where they feed and lay eggs.
- 6- Establishing centers for scientific research and keeping turtles under observation in the Red Sea, Aden Gulf, Soqatra island, as well as the Arabian Sea.



Y.C.C

ALBARH CEMENT PLANT Laboratory & Quality Control Dep.

Tel: (04) 355008/9, Fax: (04) 355004/5

المؤسسة اليمنية العامة لصناعة وتسويق الإسمنت

مصنع إسمنت البرح دائرة المختبر ورقابة الجودة

تلفون: ٣٥٥٠٠٨/٩، فاكس: ٣٥٥٠٠٤/٥ (٠٤)

For Those interested in the Cement industry and contracting activities

In order to go on improving execution and quality, the administration of the factory has done its best to make cement available in the marketplace. The sulphate resisting cement is our new product in the world of construction and with international standard as it is clear in the quality certificate enclosed hereby. We are always here to meet your requests and our slogan is "Quality is our aim and satisfying the customer is our purpose."

PRODUCT CERTIFICATE

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Date: 03/05/1999 | 1- التاريخ: 03/05/1999 | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Producer: ALBARH Cement Factory, Yemen | 2- الجهة المنتجة للإسمنت: مصنع البرح / الجمهورية اليمنية | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. Cement Type: Sulphate resisting | 3- نوع الإسمنت: إسمنت يورتلاندي مقاوم للكبريتات | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. Laboratory: Tests were carried out in the laboratories of cement companies in Syria in accordance with the Syrian standard specifications | 4- المختبر الذي أجرى التحاليل: أجريت التحاليل في مختبرات شركات الإسمنت في الجمهورية العربية السورية، طبقاً للمواصفات القياسية السورية | | | | | | | | | |
| 5. Test results: | 5- نتائج التحاليل: | | | | | | | | | |
| 5.1. chemical test results (a): | 5-1- نتائج التحاليل الكيميائية (أ) | | | | | | | | | |
| (1) Loss on ignition | (2) MgO | (3) CaO | (4) Cl | (5) K ₂ O | (6) Na ₂ O | (7) SO ₃ | (8) Fe ₂ O ₃ | (9) Al ₂ O ₃ | (10) SiO ₂ | |
| 0.81 | 3.33 | 60.43 | - | 0.075 | 0.43 | 2.08 | 4.99 | 3.99 | 22.04 | |
| 5.2. Chemical test (b): | 5-2- نتائج التحاليل الكيميائية (ب) | | | | | | | | | |
| Liquid phase: | C ₂ AF | C ₃ A | C ₂ S | C ₃ S | SM | AM | KST | | | |
| 27.23 | 15.17 | 2.14 | 34.33 | 38.57 | 2.454 | 0.8 | 86.75 | | | |
| Consistency: | 3-5- نتائج التحاليل الفيزيائية | | | | | | | | | |
| Setting time: | نسبة الماء (%): 26.5 | | | | | | | | | |
| Initial | بداية الأخذ (دقيقة): 195 | | | | | | | | | |
| Final | نهاية الأخذ (دقيقة): 280 | | | | | | | | | |
| Soundness | - التمدد (طريقة لوشاتوليه) (مم): 0.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| Lechutelier mm.Max | التعومة (يلين): 2985 سم ² /غ | | | | | | | | | |
| Fineness: surface area (blaine) cm ² /gm | - المتبقي على المنخل (0.09 مم): 1% | | | | | | | | | |
| Residue on 0.90 sieve % max | 4-5 نتائج الاختبارات الميكانيكية: | | | | | | | | | |
| 5.4 Strength test results: | اختبار على نماذج موشورية: 16*16*4 سم (كغ/سم ²) | | | | | | | | | |
| Tests on cylinders: 16x4 cm (kg/cm ²) | مقاومة الضغط | | | | | | | | | |
| Compressive strength | 3 Day | 7 Days | 28 Days | | | | | | | |
| | 171 | 249 | 466 | | | | | | | |
| Flexural strength | مقاومة الإنعطاط (الكسر) | | | | | | | | | |
| | 3 Day | 7 Days | 28 Days | | | | | | | |
| | 46 | 54 | 80 | | | | | | | |
| Comment: | - تعليق: | | | | | | | | | |
| In comparing the test results of the cement sample presented by ALBARH Cement Factory of Yemen, it is revealed that the cement conforms with the requirements of the Syria standard specifications for sulphate resisting cement. Syrian standard specifications have been elaborated by adapting the European standard EN 196 | عند مقارنة نتائج الاختبارات الموضحة لعينة الإسمنت المقدمة من مصنع إسمنت البرح في الجمهورية اليمنية، اتضح بأن العينة تطابق الاشتراطات القياسية المطلوبة للإسمنت المقاوم للكبريتات، طبقاً للمواصفات السورية المعتمدة، والمستقاة من المواصفة الأوروبية الموحدة EN 196 بأجزائها المختلفة. | | | | | | | | | |

The Yemeni General Organization For Cement Manufacturing & Marketing AlBarh Cement Plant The Laboratory & Quality Control Dep.

PRODUCT CERTIFICATE

CEMENT TYPE: sulphate resisting cement type-V

Test are carried out according ASTM-C150

1-CHEMICAL PROPERTIES:-

| ITEM | UNIT | ASTM C150 Requirements | Product test result |
|------------------|------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Loss of ignition | % | Max. 3.0 | 0.92 |
| Insoluble | % | Max. 0.75 | 0.47 |
| MgO | % | MAX. 6.0 | 2.83 |
| SO ₃ | % | Max. 2.3 | 2.02 |
| C3A | % | Max. 5 | 3.2 |
| 2C3A+C4AF | % | MAX. 25 | 19.5 |

2- Physical properties:-

| ITEM | UNIT | ASTM C150 REQUIREMENTS | PRODUCT TEST RESULT |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Specific sur. Area (blaine) | Cm ² /g | >2800 | 2960 |
| Time Of Setting | W/c | % | 24.4 |
| | Initial time | Minuts | >60 |
| | Final time | Minuts | <600 |
| Tensile strength | 3 Days | MPa | 2.6 |
| | 7 Days | MPa | >1.7 |
| | 28 Days | MPa | >2.2 |
| Compressive strength | 3 days | MPa | >8.0 |
| | 7 days | MPa | >15.0 |
| | 28 days | MPa | >21.0 |
| Autoclave | % | <0.8 | 0.1 |

Abdullah Al-Baradouni (1928-1999)

عبدالله البردوني (١٩٢٨-١٩٩٩)



UNHCR AND REFUGEES IN YEMEN



By Mr. Mazin Abu Shanab
Representative, a.i. in Yemen

(Part 1) UNHCR Mandate / Refugee Convention, Protocol and its Implementation

In 1980 Yemen became a party to both the 1951 Convention and to the 1967 Protocol relating to the status of refugees. UNHCR first established a presence in Yemen in 1987 to monitor and promote the implementation of these international instruments in Yemen, particularly in regards to refugees who originate mostly from neighboring countries. Since then, it has maintained in Yemen, a Branch Office located in Sana'a and a Sub Office in Aden. Under the above mentioned international agreements signed by Yemen in 1980, UNHCR in Yemen has since 1987 been discharging the following responsibilities:

(a) Monitor and report to the international community the extent to which Yemeni authorities fulfill their obligations under the above Convention and Protocol.

(b) Assist the Government to extend effective protection to recognized refugees. According to Article 31 of the Convention, this means assisting Yemen to maintain an open-door policy towards asylum seekers and to consider their asylum request appropriately.

(c) Cooperate with or assist the Government to provide minimum material assistance to refugees so that they can meet their basic needs in Yemen.

(d) Coordinate with the Government to facilitate the achievement of Durable Solutions for the refugees through:

- (i) Voluntary repatriation.
- (ii) Self-sufficiency of local integration and
- (iii) Resettlement when such opportunities are available from the host countries.

Yemen is one of the few Arab countries which signed such a humanitarian Convention and protocol and it has been hosting refugees/asylum seekers on humanitarian basis despite the economic difficulties it is facing. Such humanitarian actions are highly appreciated by UNHCR. At present, the Government of Yemen practices an open-door policy towards refugees through the following procedures:

- (i) Prima-facie recognition of all Somali asylum seekers.
- (ii) Individual refugee status determination of all asylum seekers from countries other than Somalia
- (iii) Refugees sur place' (on the spot) as agreed between UNHCR and Government. These cases relate

mostly to specific individual cases who approach UNHCR on their own.

In November 1995 the Cabinet designated a National Refugee Committee comprised of representatives of various Government agencies and to the earlier establishment of a Department of Refugees in the Immigration Department to liaise with UNHCR in the implementation of its protection and assistance programmes. UNHCR Yemen is now able to keep constant contact at Sana'a level with Government agencies which deal with refugee issues mainly Africa Bureau at Ministry of Foreign Affairs which is the counterpart of UNHCR Yemen. Government representatives have also been appointed by the Governors in the Southern governorates to ensure effective collaboration and cooperation at Aden, Lahj and Abyan.

To ensure that there is a common appreciation of the refugee situation in Yemen, UNHCR organizes regular missions with Government representatives to various parts of the country to jointly monitor the situation in the principal refugee entry points i.e. Mokha, Ahwar, Mayfa, and Mukala, and also ascertain when and how many refugees enter the country. In this regard, UNHCR has also offered to or in some cases assisted the Government to organize structures for receiving and transporting refugees to a temporary facility in Al-Gahin camp administered by UNHCR and its partners. To ensure that refugees are properly identified from illegal immigrants and effectively protected and assisted, UNHCR embarked on a country-wide registration exercise which is carried out on regular basis in collaboration with the Yemeni authorities. Nowadays a joint UNHCR/Government Team is renewing/screening refugees all over Yemen, UNHCR will register and document all refugees who wished to obtain the joint protection of UNHCR and Government.

All data on refugees has been computerized and the last registration records show around :-
(i) 62,000 Somalis in urban areas
(ii) 15,000 Somalis in Al-Gahin camp
(iii) 3,000 different nationalities
The registration process is still in progress and it is expected to be concluded mid of November 1999.

A Fire at the tobacco plant in Taiz How A small Ignition Could Cause A HORRIBLE CATASTROPHE

Imad Al-Saqqaf
Farouq Al-Kamali
Yemen Times, Taiz

In May and July of this year, many fires in the city of Taiz took place. One of these fires devoured Osama stationery in the city. The other was in a grocery in AL-Salkhana, and there were so many other fires caused by an electrical wire short circuit. As Yemen Times Taiz Bureau Chief Editor, I had dealt with this matter in a previous issue of Yemen Times explaining that the infrastructure of our electricity structure in Taiz as too weak and need to be reorganized and restructured. I talked about the reasons behind these fires and the negligence of the Electricity Administration Corporation in Taiz. On Tuesday morning, August 31, 99 marked yet another evidence of this need. While I was in a mission to sign some contracts with the Rothmans Cigarette Factory administration, specifically with the Manager of the United Company for Industries, Mr. Mohammed Abdulwadood Tarish, the fire broke out in the Factory. This fire started with an electrical short circuit in the room next to the GM's office and ended in a horrible catastrophe & big costs.

The sources say that the reason of this fire was the friction that took place between two loose unshielded electrical wires. The fire began in the staff room and then spread with the help of the air that came out of the fan into the wooden ceiling. The workers tried to extinguish the fire but

employees are about 250". He also added, "we are not the only losers, but there are the injured, and the workers families who will suffer a lot because of the catastrophe. But the biggest loser is the Government, which receives about YR400,000,000 as taxes on a monthly basis."

As we asked him if an explosion caused the incidence, he said "I have just received a telephone call from Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, the Chairman of the Consultative Council, questioning about this allegation, but they are not true. Unfortunately, it was because



of the negligence of the Management in upgrading and maintaining the electricity network in the factory." We asked him if the costs would stop at this level, he responded "of course not! There are hundreds of workers and employees who found themselves without work in minutes."



they could not. Mr. Mohammed Tarish, rushed quickly to the gate to inform the security. As he returned back, he found his office eaten by the fire. The fire then, spread into the stores, which are full of tobacco, boxes and aches.

The workers escaped out of the factory as soon as they saw fire eating away everything, even the machines in the stores. The smoke poisoned some of the workers and some were slightly injured. Extensive call were made to the airport firemen to extinguish the fire. The firemen did not take this seriously, and they arrived late to the destination. As soon as they arrived, they hopelessly tried to put out the angry flames. However, it was too little and too late. The firemen interestingly alleged that they did not receive official instructions, and without the instructions they cannot do anything.

The fire has began at eleven O'clock in the morning and ended at Seven O'clock in the evening. The firemen came very late with the presence of the policemen, governor, Hail Saeed Members Group and the workers at the factory.

Yemen Times was the first newspaper that arrived to the burning site. There we met with the Staff Security of Taiz and a number of Hayel Saeed Group members. They all pointed out that an electricity fault and not an explosion caused the fire. They partially blamed the administration for its negligence.

They all were bemoaned about the factory, which has turned into ashes. The workers and the employees found their future burnt with the factory. Mr. Mohammed Tarish, the manager of the United Company and Rothmans Factory was very astonished for what was happening. He still could not recover from the shock. It was really a catastrophe. The factory, which was founded and established by Mr. Tarish, turns to be a pile of ashes in no time.

Yemen Times was presented in the incidence place. We stayed there about eight hours. We have taken a number of photographs and met with policemen and Hayel Saeed Group members. Later in the day, we met with a member of Hayel Saeed Group, who indicated that the cost of the loss is approximately USD 25,000,000. He said: "the total costs of the factory are approximately \$25,000,000. The workers and the



strength is much beyond any such possibilities. It only means that the group will need extra money and time to re-build the factory, which will take at least a year.

However, there is yet good news about this incident. The factory was insured and will receive full compensation for the loss in money, time, and even salaries of the workers will be paid by the insuring company. "We are yet lucky that we made our precautions and insured our company in all aspects" Mentioned Abdulwas'i Hayel Saeed, one of the Groups prominent members.

It is quite sad for such a group with excellent reputation to have such a loss. It is well known that the group founded charitable projects, schools, mosques and hospitals. No one in the whole country wants such a group to lose anything because of their good deeds and charitable hands to all Yemenis. This Group is the most generous Group, which supports the needy in the Yemeni society. This incident will never alter the stature of the group's founder, Hayel Saeed Ana'am will stay alive in the hearts of the Millions who are benefiting from him till today.

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Second Prize (YR 3000)

Talal Shamsan Ahmed Hashim, Sanaa

Third Prize (YR 2000)

Hamed Nasser Abou Hligah

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. No prizes will be given to winners who do not come within one month from the day of announcing their names.



Draw of the lucky winners

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Back to School!

At last and after three months of summer vacation, students are going back to school. Almost 800,000 students are heading to their classes and beginning their studies for the 1999/2000 academic year. The official starting day of the academic season was last Saturday, the 4th of September. The level of education in Yemen is among the lowest in the world, and most Yemenis (according to 1997 statistics) are illiterate. Less than 53% of school-age students actually go to school, and about 47% of those are often truant. The figures are markedly different for girls: only 40% go to school.



As the Minister of Education desperately says "We need 23 years to eradicate illiteracy in our country."

On the other hand, the image is not so shiny for this year. Analysts suggest that the number of students is expected to decrease this year because of the high fees of schools, especially private ones which seem to be allocated for rich students only.

It is worth mentioning that the results of the latest secondary exams have consequently lead to the graduation of more than 80% of the students. However, many graduates complain that high Sana'a University fees are causing them difficulty, in applying for the university. On the other hand, private universities are not preferred by students because of their high fees and -in most cases- a lower quality in teaching.

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Reserve Your Ad in Yemen's Most Updated Tourist Guide

Time is running fast and the last spaces in the first ever commercial tourist guide on Yemen are being reserved. The guide which will exclusively cover the fascinating beauties of Yemeni tourist sites and the fabulous services of luxurious hotels and resorts, is being prepared to be published by the Yemen Times soon. The number of hotels, resorts, restaurants, travel agencies, and other companies has reached more than 30 and is increasing. Don't lose your last chance to advertise your company in this guide which will be distributed in Yemen and abroad. This guide is aimed to be the first guide to reach the hands of all tourists visiting Yemen in the future. They will find it on Yemenia airplanes, in airports, and even in Yemeni Embassies abroad. Within the country, they will be distributed in travel agencies offices, hotels, resorts, restaurants, bookstores, and will be distributed free of charge with the Yemen Times issues. The guide, which is expected to be out in September, will include all the information a tourist would need to have a successful journey in the Arabian Felix.

A special staff is being allocated to design this special guide with the most attractive and appealing designs. All advertisements will be in full color and all information will be updated. We expect this guide to have a great effect on introducing Yemen to the world through our Embassies abroad. We are planning to have thousands of copies of this guide printed and sent to Yemeni embassies in the rest of the world. To say the least, missing this chance can be a loss which will have a long time effect, because the guide is not a temporary one. It is a guide to keep all the time for years and years to come. **Hurry up and seize the chance before it is too late!**

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