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YEMEN TIMES

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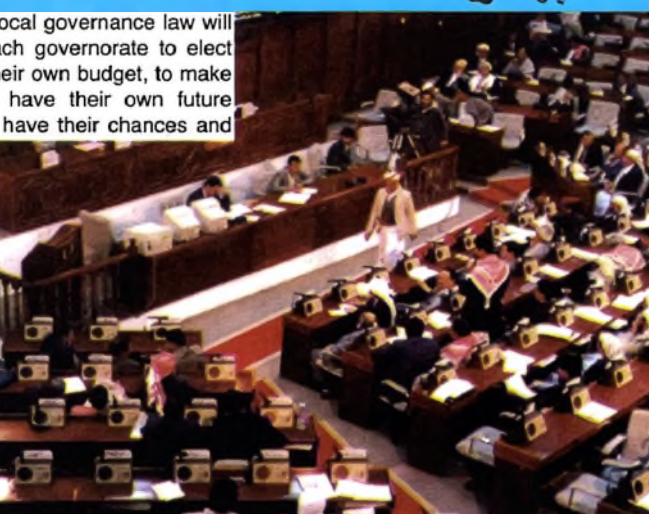
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SANAA: Up to yesterday, the debate in the parliament on whether to fully implement the local governance law continued for its 8th days. Yet, there is still no assurance that the parliament will endorse the law. Some members of PGC and Islah parties in the parliament, especially the ones with tribal roots refuse to endorse the part in the law which stipulates that all governors be elected by the people of the province rather than assigned by the authorities. However, they agree on the general concept of local governance. The other members have given their support to the law as it is. In the mean time, the consultative council is working on the draft of the privatization law. As a Consultative Council Member told the Yemen Times, "We are currently drafting the law that would not only enable the privatization of the electronic media such as TV channels etc., but which will eventually turn out to be the green light to privatizing everything. I mean everything." After completing the final draft and granted the permission of the president, the law will be submitted to the parliament for voting. It seems that after its vacation, the parliament is back to work intensively, for it has a limited time to approve the laws that are still suspended. On the same level, the president was a bit tough on the government asking for a complete report and schedule on how best to implement the election agenda. He gave them a deadline of 90 days to have it completed.



House of Parliament: Local governance law will enable the people of each governorate to elect their governor, to have their own budget, to make their own decisions, to have their own future plans, and to eventually have their chances and opportunities to build their province. These are indeed extremely critical days for our country. The parliament will decide whether Yemen will become a country which implements local governance, and hence effectively takes its first step towards decentralization, or prefers to stay as a country with 100% central rule.



After Some Time of Rest, the Same Old Story Continues **Prices on the Rise, Again!**

SANAA: The people of Yemen were disappointed and shocked by the huge increase in prices of basic food materials and other imported commodities within the last few days. The price of one 50 kg-wheat sack is now YR 1,900 from YR 1,500 a few days ago. The increase was between 20% to 100%. The presidential election agenda focussed on this issue and promised concrete steps that will help strengthen the national economy and enable the poor sections of the people to lead a comfortable life. This price rise took place despite the fact that the Yemeni Riyal in comparison to the American Dollar is still constant, which in turn raised frustration among citizens.

Al-Haq Newspaper Blocked!

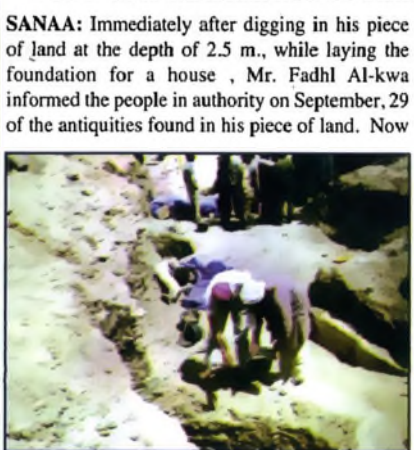
SANAA: Harassment against the press continues. After filing the chief editor of Al-Ayyam, and closing down Al-Shoura newspaper, Al-Haq newspaper seemed to be in line. On Saturday Sept. 9, a primary court ruled out a sentence against Al-Haq and blocked it from being published for one month, and filing a fine of YR 40,000 against its chief editor Abdullatif Kutbi, and YR 10,000 against Bin Huseynoon, the writer of the article titled "Anti unionist actions in Hadramout." Interestingly, the Ministry of Information ordered all printing houses to not print the newspaper despite the fact that the court ruling is still in its first stage and could be appealed. As a matter of fact, the chief editor of Al-Haq has already raised an appeal against the verdict, and claimed the injustice in this action of the ministry, which is the last in a series of steps against the independent and opposition newspapers.

The president prohibits the army to chew qat at work **THANK YOU MR. PRESIDENT**



SANAA: Signs that the president indeed has begun to implement constructive steps guaranteed at the start of his elections program have begun to appear. One of these steps was forbidding the chewing of qat by military and police officers during their working hours. Not to forget that President Saleh himself has quit chewing qat as well. "I have seen the police capturing a soldier wearing a military (green) uniform while he was buying qat during the day. I realized later that they have done this because the president prohibited chewing qat during work," a visitor told the Yemen Times. Police and Military men will have to face up to six months' jail if they are caught chewing qat at work. This last directive issued by the president confirms his intention to ban the use of qat, not only by armed forces, but by all governmental employees. It may seem as a small step, but none the less, it is significant and is considered as a positive indication that things are being straightened up and it is not all just talk. As we thank the President for his efforts, we ask him to further strengthen this attempt by forbidding the chewing of qat in all governmental offices during the working hours. Official sources claim that around 200 violators to this ban of qat chewing during work rule had been held since the ban was issued on the 30th of September 1999.

Discovery of the Year 2000-old Mummies & Antiquities in Sanaa



SANAA: Immediately after digging in his piece of land at the depth of 2.5 m., while laying the foundation for a house, Mr. Fadhil Al-kwa informed the people in authority on September, 29 of the antiquities found in his piece of land. Now is being conducted in full swing by the Yemeni General Authority for Antiquities, Museums, and Manuscripts (YGAAMM) in cooperation with the German Archeological Institute. Dr. Yusef Mohammed Abdullah, General Director of the YGAAMM stated that a total number of 13 excavation have yielded different mummies and pottery, dating back to the Hemarite State existing around 2000 years ago. Dr. Iris Gerlach, chairman of the German Archeological Institute stated that the material on the mummies is made from straw. The mummies were wrapped by leather sacks and then placed in rectangular wood boxes in graves. She also observed that the site is one of the most important discoveries ever conducted by the institute. It has been found that each grave has a specific direction.

Yemeni Abyan Islamist Militants On Trial

ADEN: The hearing in the case of the Abyan Islamist Militants have resumed last week and continued with its session on Wednesday. The group is accused of setting up an armed gang and sabotage in main cities. Their leader, Zein Al-Mihdar had already been sentenced to death. The rest of the group members are being tried in absentia during this trial, which is being held in Jaar in the province of Abyan, where the incident took place, and where the group originated. It is worth mentioning that the incident of the murder of the 4 tourists that happened on December the 29th, had significantly decreased the number of tourists.

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Words of Wisdom

"The law must be respected by all, and justice must be dispensed to all. In today's Yemen, the law does not apply to influential members of the ruling power structure. And justice is not available to the weak. The people need to trust/respect officials before they'll obey them."



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

YT Weekly Opinion Poll

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

Question

Do you think that there will be a cabinet reshuffle as a consequence of the presidential elections?

Result

Yes, the president will probably make a reshuffle to show stronger commitment for improvement (62%)
No, I think the president will see is no need to reshuffle the cabinet (28%)
I have no idea. (10%)

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Do you have hope that the parliament will endorse the Local Governance and/or Privatization laws?

Editorial

Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf
Chief Editor

Urgent Need for Judicial Reforms

President Saleh's call for an independent judicial system, away from the effect of the authorities is indeed a step to appreciate. Today, there is urgent need to have an honest, effective, and independent judicial system in Yemen. I have never before in my life gone to a court room, until the day when I stood in trial in the case of the 22.5 billion dollars that the Yemen Times raised before the death of its founder on the dark second of June, 1999. As soon as I went into the court, I saw many people, some desperate, some in panic, and most in a hurry.

It hurt me a lot to understand from a man in the court how his case was terribly managed by a crook judge. He claimed that he has been going from one court room to another, from one judge to another, and paying to lawyers for more than 5 years. Then I asked him, "now, have you got your land back?" He answered in a desperate way, "I just need to complete the process of these papers, and then it will be all over." I felt a bit relieved, but for not long, as I understood from a relative of his later on, that he has been saying this sentence for more than 4 years.

What a pity, what a mess!
This is not the way it should be in a country, which realized the aspects of Islam, which are built upon justice. That word that brings a lot of difference to peoples lives. Without justice, we would live in a jungle, where the strong eats the weak, and where law and order are never implemented.

We in Yemen, have been suffering from a weak and corrupt judiciary system. It is a system where a judge can sell all his honesty for several hundred thousand riyals. The formula is simple, just as a well-known Yemeni lawyer said to me the other day, "The more money you have, the more powerful you are." When I asked him, "What about the law, doesn't it defend the poor or weak?" He replied in a .. manner, "what law? The law that is currently in Yemen is no more than ink on paper." Such a word getting out of a lawyer's mouth is indeed a dangerous indication that we need urgent reforms in our country.

People do not feel safe because they cannot guarantee that their rights will be given to them when oppressed by a powerful individual or group. They believe that justice is not granted to them, simply because it doesn't exist for everyone.

The president had mentioned that he is going to establish the country of law and order. It that is the case, he must first realize the misery and injustice the people are undergoing. He can go to the ministry of justice, and see how crowded the corridors are. You can find a man asking for refunding because of natural disasters, a woman asking why their son has been put to jail, and another man asking why a corrupt judge refused to give him his rights. There are many issues that can be brought to demonstrate the level of corruption and inefficiency in our judicial system. There are hundreds of examples, and thousands of victims. Today, it is time to change all of that.

A true, transparent, independent judicial system must take charge of establishing justice in this country. The government, army, security forces, and even the president should not be able to interfere in a justice system that is totally honest. However, because of the corrupt justice system we have, their interference is sometimes needed, just to keep injustice from taking place.

Summing up, we can all raise up to the challenge and fight all factors that lead to injustice in our country. The most important factor in my view is corruption, which is a direct result of the current economy crisis. If a judge gets just around YR 30,000 per month, how can he stay honest and frank while he needs to feed tens of people. There is a formula here, and we should know how it is balanced. That formula can be used in a good way if the ones in authority begin acting by dismissing corrupt judges and reforming the judicial system.

There is no doubt that if there is corruption there is no justice. And if there is no justice, there will never be peace of mind. As a lady said to me the other day, "a relative of mine claims that he has the right in my house and land. He must have bribed the corrupt judge to issue a verdict on his favor. I just cannot believe how people can rob others in the name of the law and through legal ways."

After crying for sometime, she raised her head and continued, "I couldn't sleep for two days, because whenever I lay my head on the pillow, I feel insecure, because I can never guarantee my ownership of my own house and land. I am afraid that tomorrow I will wake up on the sound of the police getting me out of my home in the name of the law, because my case is in the hands of a corrupt judge. I always pray for justice. I pray for an honest life."

May god help the lady keep her home, and may God bring an honest judiciary system to Yemen. Amen...

In Brief

Al-saeed Institution in the Pollutants Conference

Dr. Abdul Rahman Thabit, teacher of environment pollution in the College of Agriculture, Sana'a University participated in the 15th Annual Scientific Conference organized by the Egyptian Society for Toxicology in Cairo. During the 2-day conference, Dr. Abdul Rahman presented his research entitled "Natural Herbicide as a Safe alternative for the Chemical Herbicide" for which he was awarded the late Hail Saeed's prize in 1998. Mr. Faisal saeed Fari, general manager of the Saeed Institution said that the participation of Dr. Abdul Rahman in the Intentional Scientific Conference, was a result of the Institution's support to him which visualized the missions of the Institution.

Khawlani Kidnappers Reach Taiz

Despite the high strict official orders banning arms in the major cities, an armed group from the Khawlan tribe kidnapped engineer Ahmad Mahmoud Dail Al-Hashimi, director of the southern district in the Housing and Planning, Taiz office while he was leaving his house for work in the morning of October 3rd 1999. The kidnappers, who were driving a military jeep, stopped the engineer's car. Four of them got down and forced the engineer to get into their car. Five hours later, the engineer's father had a phone call telling him that his son was held as a hostage in Khawlan. The citizens of Taiz have condemned this event and have decided to call upon the President Ali Abdulla Saleh to take the necessary measures to free the engineer and punish the kidnappers for such criminal deeds.

Yemeni-Israeli

Relationship, a New Turn
In its previous issue the Al-Osbo newspaper highlighted the development of the Yemeni- Israeli relationship. It mentioned that a number of meetings between the two sides were held in Sana'a and America. According to its sources, some Yemeni Minister and the President of the Cabinet himself met some Jews of a Yemeni origin, some of whom were representatives of Jewish Organizations in America. In the beginning of July, Dr. Al-Iriany, the Prime Minister, met Mosa---, The American Jew of a Yemeni origin, and discussed the issue of the proposed fencing of the grave of Al-Shabzy, one of the most outstanding Jewish clergymen in Yemen, by the Yemeni Jewish Heritage Organization. The newspaper denied the news about the Jewish offer to buy the corpse of Al- Shabzy for US\$ 20 million. The paper

added that a letter was sent by the Yemeni Jewish Heritage Organization to the Minister of Culture and Tourism concerning the proposed fencing of Al-Sabzi's grave in Taiz. The letter was handed by Salem Kohin in a meeting with the Chairman of the Yemeni Antiquities Authority in Sana'a who expressed his readiness to fence the grave. However, they did not reach an agreement on the finances involved. On the other hand, Mr. Abdul Qadir Ba Jamal, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in a meeting for the Arab Ministers of Foreign Affairs held in America, rejected the demand to boycott Dizny Company which represented Jerusalem as Israel's capital city. Moreover, some foreign and Arab newspapers have mentioned that the Israeli government is studying the possibility of enclusing Yemen among the countries cooperating with Israel with which military cooperation is possible.

Ministry of Health Increases Salaries

Dr. Abdulla Abdul Wali Nashir, Minister of Health has announced an increase of 100% to 190% in the salaries of those working in the health sector with effect from the current month.

A Symposium on the Educational Survey

The Ministry of Education and the Central System for Statistics jointly organized a symposium to collate the facts gathered during the educational posts survey for the year 1998-1999. Dr. Abdul Karim Al-Iriani, the Prime Minister, attended the symposium and delivered a speech in which he pointed out the importance of the symposium. Mr. Yahia Husain Al-Qaizi, Deputy of the Central System for Statistics, and engineer Abdul Malik Al-Mualimi, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Education also delivered speeches. The report included the following chapters: Aims of the survey and the way it went, A summary of the important facts reached by the survey, Varied supplements. At the end of the symposium, distinguished workers were honored.

Hadramout YSP Secretary General Arrested

Mr. Hassan Ba Oum, YSP secretary general, Hadramout was arrested the day before yesterday in Al-Mukalla. Ba Oum's lawyer, Dr. Mohammed Al-Miklafi said that the arrest was illegal because the allegation against Ba Oum, of organizing and leading the April 27th 1998 demonstration, in fact, was a part of the general rights of freedom of opinion and speech. It is worth mentioning that Mr. Ba Oum was first summoned to the office of appeals on Oct. 4th 1999 though there was no sub-

stantive charge against him. Two days later he was summoned again to the Al-Mukalla Primary Court.

Pirates in the Yemeni Regional Water

Mr. Ahmad Taleb, director of the Marine Wealth in Al-Hodaida condemned the act of piracy some fishing ships, licensed by the Ministry of Marine Life, are prone to. He added that such behaviors tarnished Yemen's image and that it was very necessary to prove violations of regulations by the ship concerned. The director's statement came in the wake of firing and capturing a boat belonging to the Yemeni Company for Marine Life in Beer Ali, Shabwa and laying siege of it for more than a week. The same boat was attacked by the same pirates last month, who robbed it of its food stuff, radio and SR. 500. Another boat, belonging to another investment company was also attacked by the same pirates a few days ago.

British Government Support Children Rights Project in Yemen

The British Embassy is celebrating Tuesday October 12 the second phase of the British government supported project "Children Painting Their Rights" at the Rabiya Al-Adawiya school in Sana'a. This project is designed to raise children as well as adults awareness of the children rights in Yemen. A series of workshops are going to take place in schools across the country during September 99 and February 2000. Children will be talking about basic human rights and then expressing

their thoughts about those rights in paintings. The project is funded by the British Embassy, managed in conjunction with the British council and coordinated by the Egyptian poet, Zein Al-Abdin Fouad.

13th Anniversary of the Yemeni-Germany Friendship

The period from Oct. 23rd to Nov. 7th 1999 will witness the celebration of the thirteenth anniversary of the Yemeni-Germany friendship during which a number of cultural and folklore activities will take place and a film about the various aspects of the German life will be shown. In addition, a festival of the German cuisine will be held in Taj Sheba, in which delicacies from different German cities will be served. Yemen Times will be among the sponsors of the event as the official newspaper of the occasion.

Mr. Noman continued Case against PFU

The ex-editor in chief of Al-Shoura Newspaper, Noman Kaid Saif is still persuing his case against the Popular Forces Union in court. The Party's leaders are not willing enough to solve this problem, despite the hard circumstances the newspaper faces, especially after its seizure two weeks ago. Mr. Noman has been illegally sacked from the Newspaper at a time he was summoned for trial as a result of his published articles. Many friends as well as supporters of the Newspaper are exerting efforts to solve this problem and are joining hands to stand by the Newspaper especially after it was stopped.

Canadian Oxy's Galla at the Sheraton: Great Show on a Great Occasion

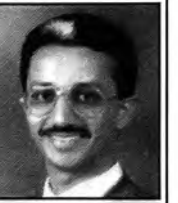
Dr. Waleed Jazrawi, the President and General Manager of Canadian Occidental Petroleum Yemen, held a small celebration on the occasion of autumn thanksgiving in Canada, called "Corn of Plenty" 7th of October. The reception and dinner, which took place at the Sheraton hotel, were concluded with a spectacular show from a Russian group. In his opening statement, Dr. Jazrawi welcomed the recently assigned in the company, and thanked the hard working employees who have spared no efforts for Canadian Oxy through the years. It is worth mentioning that the event is also considered to be a farewell ceremony for Dr. Jazrawi, who will be ending his work in about two months. On behalf of Yemen Times, we wish the company all success, and Dr. Jazrawi a pleasant stay in his last couple of months in Yemen.



Photo by Al-Qurbi

Shawqi Ahmad Hail Championship

The chess union in Taiz will organize the first championship of Mr. Shawqi Hail. This championship will start from Saturday 9/10/ 1999, on Al-Ahli club hall. It sponsored by sport and youth office and Al-Ahli club in Taiz.



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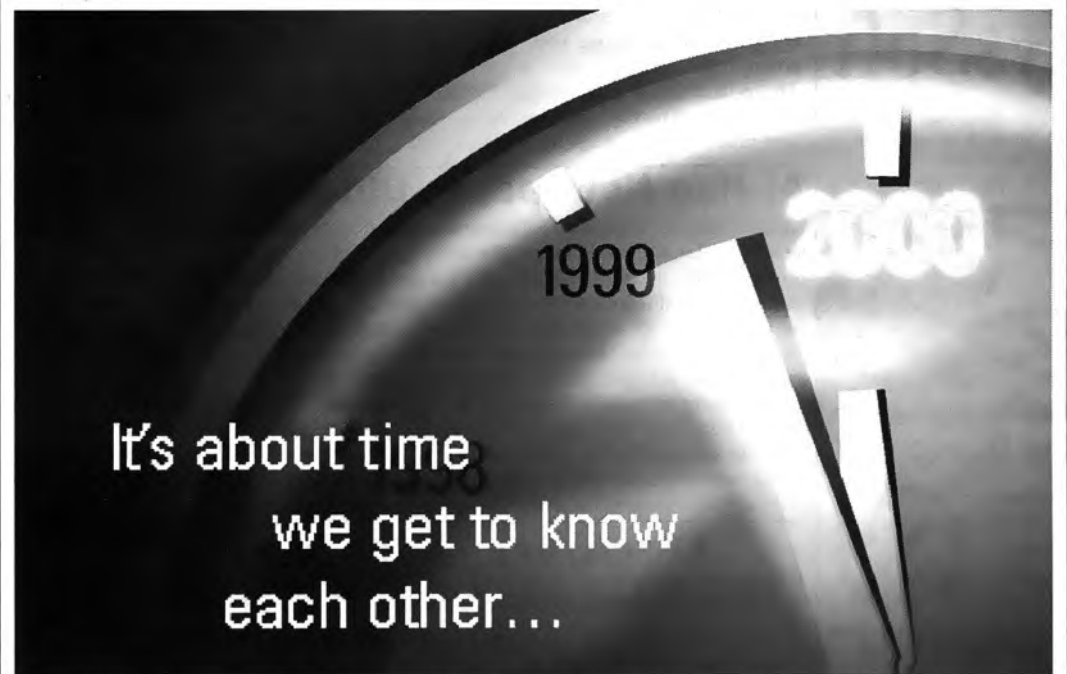
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Yemeni Press Scanner

AL-EHYA' AL-ARABI



Our Foreign Minister and a Zionist Meeting

An unexpected meeting was held following the orders given by the crone Allbright. It was attended by the Foreign Affairs Ministers of ten Arab states and the Zionist Entity Foreign Affairs Minister David Levi. The Foreign Affairs Ministers of ten Arab states including Yemen and Saudi Arabia attended the meeting to discuss what is called the peace process.

Both Russia and the United States of America had sponsored the meeting which was attended by the American Foreign Minister, Allbright, and the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Evonov. Representatives of Japan and the United Nations also attended it.

The BBC said that this meeting was the biggest of its kind during the last three years and was intended to show the positive atmosphere that surrounded the peace process and the massive support for it.

The Zionist entity foreign ministers told reporters that he was sorry for the absence of Syria and Lebanon from the meeting which was attended by the foreign ministers of Egypt, the Palestinian of routine, and, Yemen, Qatar, to NEC as the United Arab e-mail writes. The Arab countries that refused to attend were Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Lebanon and Libya.

It is known that Mr. Ba-Jammal, the Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs is representing Yemen in the current United Nations General Committee sessions and has concluded a number of meetings with American officials, of which the last one was with that the Zionist Martin Endike, the American Deputy Foreign Minister.

Al-Tagammua'a



The Yemeni Socialist Party Re-arranges its Affairs Locally and Abroad:

As circumstances have calmed since the aftermath of the storm which resulted from the interview of the General Secretary by the Qatari Al-Jazeera TV in its program "With No Borders": Mr. Moqbel traveled to Cairo and Damascus, where he supervised the final procedures in arranging the affairs of the YSP Organizations in Egypt and Syria.

News from Cairo report that the YSP Organization there has reverted back to its partisan activity: while things didn't go so smoothly in Damascus; as "picking" the leading persons created some discontent; which forced Mr. Moqbel to reconsider some names and territories.

Al-Tagammua'a has learned that the YSP affairs in the United Arab Emirates had been concluded before. As for its local affairs, all base organizations of the Y S P had been activated in all Governorates; which proves that the YSP is "deep rooted and can't be uprooted whatever storms there are", as expressed by one of its leaders.

Pictures are More Than Votes:

Despite the fact that the Presidential Elections have ended and Brigadier Abdulla Saleh has come out victorious, Qat gatherings attended by prominent politicians continue to debate the conditions and complexities of disagreements between parties and the way the elections ended.

The funniest comment was one about the number of voters who participated in those elections which says that those who voted for the President were much less than the number of his pictures which were pasted on walls, vehicles, trees, electricity poles, and at the back of the chairs of the corrupt and hypocrite public and private sector officials; in addition to those which were forcefully pasted on houses, taxis private vehicles and shops.

New Corruption Parades:

During the last few days parades of new cars and vehicles were seen in the streets

of the capital Sana'a. It was not known to whom they belonged. Old parades used to be distinguished easily and any local person used to easily recognize them.

Some sources say that it was more likely that they belonged to a new generation of future rulers after they have been recently educationally and practically qualified in some of the brotherly and friendly countries.

AL-THAWRI



Most important Yemenis as mentioned in a Report

The Future Studies Center has declared the results of its survey, which was under taken by a specialist team on the most important personalities in the current recent Yemeni history. A full report shall be published later. The results have shown that the most influential personalities in the recent Yemeni history are:

-Ali Abdul Moghni, the pioneer of the 26 of September 1962 revolution

-Rajeh bin Ghaleb Labuzah, the first martyr of the 14 October 1963 revolution.

-Mr. Zubairy and Mr. Noaman, the conscience keeper of the Nation.

-Ibrahim Al-Hamdi, the founder of the state.

-President Ali Abdullah Saleh who has the longest rule in post-revolution Yemen and during whose reign the unity of Yemen and Democracy were achieved.

-Mr. Mohammad Ali Al-Gifri who heralded the first political movement

-Mr. Hail Saed Ana'am the first to establish industries in Yemen

-Mr. Abdul Fattah Ismail.

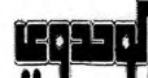
- Mr. Faisal Abdul Latif Al-Sha'abi.

The Release of those involved with the Algerian

The authorities have released the nine youth, involved with Abu Abdul Rahman The Algerian alias Adam Salahuddin, in the violent incident of Dhala with the soldiers of the 35th Brigade in September 1995. Sources have confirmed the newspaper that the nine youths arrived yesterday at Dhala from the central prison in Sana'a. Citizens and party officials and members of parliament and sheikhs welcomed them. Sources added that this release comes after an agreement reached between those involved according to which relatives of the victims are to be paid an estimated compensation to the tune of 10 million riyals.

It is expected that the Yemeni authorities shall hand over Mr. Abu Abdul Rahman to the Algerian government during the next few days according to an agreement reached between the two sides.

AL-WAHDAWI



Yemen refuses to Boycott Disney.

Yemen with a number of Arab countries has objected to a resolution calling for the boycott of the Disney Company. The resolution was taken in a meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Arab countries held in Washington DC on the eve of the United Nations General committee session.

Sources told the newspaper that this position taken by Yemen was in compliance to a demand by Ambassador Martin Endyke during a meeting with the Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Qader Ba-Jammal. Due to the feebleness of the Arab countries; the draft resolution suggested by the U.A.Emirates was not passed, and Disney wasn't penalized while the Israeli booth went unchanged in the Disney Millennium Exhibition.

After a Forced Disappearance Hassan Ba-Um is Back in Politics:

Hassan Ba-Um, the YSP Politburo member and 1st. Secretary of its Hadhramout Organization was back to normal life and politics last Monday, the 4th. October.

Al-Wahdawi was told by reliable sources that Ba-Um, accompanied by his

lawyers met yesterday the Hadhramout Chief Attorney, Mr. Saleh Abu Hatem, who assured them there was neither a case against Ba-Um nor a file for him.

It is worth mentioning that Mr. Ba-Um was forced to disappear and hide after real dangers against his life appeared when some executive officials said in press statements to official newspapers that there were criminal charges against him; which put his life under threat.

Ba-Um's lawyers had at the beginning of last September inquired from the Hadhramout Attorney Office whether there was a case against him. The lawyers issued yesterday morning a statement quoting the Hadhramout Attorney Office that there wasn't any case against Ba-Um. The statement praised the responsible position taken by the Hadhramout Attorney Office, which confirmed the independence of the judicial system.

Mr. Ba-Um was seen in Mukalla for the first time yesterday. He confirmed that he was restored his rights after he ended his forced disappearance since 27th. April 1998.

Ray



Depletion of Oil Expected Within 5 Years:

A foreign report has disclosed that the Yemeni oil reserves are decreasing in most fields. The report apprehends that the Yemeni oil reserves shall be depleted by the beginning of 2005; the year in which the agreement between Yemen and Hunt oil company expires. This disclosure comes in a time which sees no new oil exploring activities; and the government has opted for a new policy of giving more incentives to foreign investors and marketing new exploration permits; As was stated by the Minister of oil: "Up to now we used to wait for companies to come to us. Now we are going after them."

A Cabinet Reshuffle to Affect Seven Ministries

Rumors are agog on a possible cabinet reshuffle affecting between 5 to 7 ministries despite continuous denials by high officials. Arab newspapers guessed the intention of the President to make a reshuffle that affects the Ministries of Interior, Oil, Construction, Housing, Social Affairs, and Culture and Tourism during the first half of October. The President had in a press conference last week ruled out the formation of a new Government. He confirmed that the Government of the PGC shall continue; but he didn't speak on the possibility of a cabinet reshuffle; while Dr. Abdul Karim Al-Eryani spoke to Monte Carlo Radio saying that a reshuffle might affect five to seven ministries during next November.

Dr. Abdul Rahman Ba-Fadhl, chief of the Islah caucus in Parliament has confirmed that the continuation of the present Government does not enable the implementation of the joint election program of the allied parties. He told Al-Bayan newspaper of the U. A. Emirates that "the corner stone in implementing what was said in the joint program belongs to the Government. He added: "We don't believe that the continuation of the current cabinet shall enable it to execute the joint program. The cabinet is in fact unable to implement less than that, i.e. its announced program. That is why we appeal to the president to equip the executive authorities and public sector companies and corporations with young, capable, honest, specialized and honest cadres; otherwise things will keep stagnant."

The Presidential Elections Cost exceeds 30 billion riyals

Arab newspapers have reported that the Yemeni government has spent nearly 30 billion riyals on the Presidential elections that took place recently. The news attributed to Yemeni sources said that this amount included the cost of the propaganda campaign which continued for 20 days including the cost of the gathering thousands of citizens in election rallies and big amounts of money which was paid to prominent politicians

to organize the campaign in addition to about three billion riyals which was officially specified by the High Election Committee. The sources added that a small amount of this money came as donations from businessmen and traders. The bigger part of the expenditure came from the country's budget through printing 20 billion riyals. Disagreements erupted within the cabinet regarding the printing of money. Dr. Al-Eryani, the Prime Minister raised objections, especially in the context of the objections by the World Bank which supervises the economic policy of the Government expressed to the Minister of Finance who is now in Washington negotiating how this problem is to be solved. An official at the Central Bank of Yemen was quick to deny the press reports that 20 billion riyals were printed without any cover. He called the news as "biased" information.

AL-TAREEQ



New Service for International Calls.

Engineer Ian Blanchard the General Director of Trade, Operation and Marketing of Teleyemen announced that things are being readied for the introduction of a news service of international calls from Yemen by using cards and secret codes. He confirmed, in a short statement to Al-Tareeq that this service shall enable callers to make calls to any place in the world by using these cards without reference to communication centers or offices. Callers shall not need to have the International zero in their systems. It is the same system used in the UK where a person buys the card, which has the secret code on it. By using this service, everybody shall be able to call from his own house.

He concluded by saying: "Equipment are expected to arrive within two weeks... and our engineers are busy training on the new service... which should be available for the public by the end of November."

99 Electricity & Agriculture Exh. Inaugurated

The 99 Electricity, Energy, Agriculture and Irrigation Exhibition, organized by Apollo for International Exhibitions in Expo-Sana'a Center was inaugurated yesterday morning by Vice President, Abdu Rabu Mansour. The exhibition is held in cooperation with the Ministry of Electricity and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation from Oct. 10th to 13th.

Mr. Tawfiq Al-Nehmy, General Director of the organizing company said that the company jointly with the government are trying to bring most of the companies working in the field of electricity and the renewable energy and



its equipment to show the people concerned what technology has achieved in the field of electricity, energy, agriculture and irrigation.

The event was attended by the Minister of Agriculture, Electricity, Sheikh Hameed Abdulla Al-Ahmar, Board Chairman of Apollo and a number of ambassadors and Yemeni businessmen.

NOTICE

Embassy of India, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, has received a notice of intended marriage between **MR. SURESH VELLARAVUNIL KUNNATHIL SUMATHY**, son of MR. V. K. RAMACHANDRAN, Sreenilayam, near Maroor Palam, Konni PO, Pathanamthitta District, Kerala State and Miss **SINIMOLE PAPPACHAN**, daughter of Mr. PAPPACHAN GEEVARGHESE, Kinaruvila Padinjattathil Puthoor PO, Chunkathara, Kollam District, Kerala State, under the Foreign Marriages Act, 1969. Both the parties are presently residing in Raddah, Republic of Yemen. If any person has any objection to the solemnisation of the intended marriage, the same may please be sent in writing, duly signed and stating the ground of objection to Mr. E. Martin, First Secretary, Embassy of India, PO Box No. 1154, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice (ie, 9 November, 1999).

Now in the Market for 300 Riyals Only

In book shops you could obtain **Soltan Ali Bin Salah Al-Kaeiti (1948-1898)** and half a century of the political conflict in Hadramout. The book was written by Mohammed Saeed Al-Kadal and Abdul Azeez Ali Bin Salah Al-Kaeiti. The book is published by the House of Aden University for printing and publication and contained of 196 pages. The book talks about the life of reformer who was very much related to his country. The book was further endorsed by documents as well as personal talks of his contemporaries.



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The Political Alliance in Yemen, with or Versus the Economic Reform

(Final in a Series)



Mohammad Al-Qaheri, M.A. in Economics

Unstable political coalition: Political instability is often measured by the change of regime or its government or by coup d'état or strikes, demonstrations, anarchy, rebellion or by election of a new government. So often, pressures are exercised by the political groups that are independent from the coalition.

However, in the case of Yemen, we have not seen any radical change of the regime or its governments for 20 years. The political instability has taken a different form since the influential groups do exist in the coalition. So as a result of the failure of the government to provide services to the society, they view the potentials as a prey and not allow democratic institutions to peacefully focus the public interests. Thus, protestations to such a coalition is manifest through violence, explosion in petrol pipes exp. kidnapping, killing, robbing, rebellion of tribes, or through other negative means such as blocking reforms, ostracizing technocrats, scientists as well as intellectuals, expulsion of most of the qualified staff, etc. All these factors increase the economic, social and political difficulties which will distinctly threaten the political stability, though this danger may not lead to changing the political system due to its compromising solutions. This threatening may, in course of time, take new forms and lead to even more dangerous results for the reforms, development process, as well as society and the coalition. Generally speaking, the non-existence of political stability is an epidemic in the political history of Yemen. This is mainly because of

the continuance of political violence, conflicts and struggle for power.

6- The political coalition in Yemen tends more to keeping subsistence economy than accomplishing any development, sustaining market economy and capital upgrading. The simple capitalism, we see nowadays, is the crony capitalism, that performs its role without any restrictions for the sectors that are deprived from its benefits. This capitalism can not be generalized to be a general system for the society and the whole market. The coalition is against reforms as it is not united, weak and unstable. Therefore, the political feasibility of economic reforms are destined to fail. While the experts controlling mobilization of the funds of the International bodies such as the World Bank highly recommend the coalition's success in carrying out the decisions to stabilise the structural establishment as the first step of economic reforms. However, we can reply to this by the following: The success achieved is ascribable to the absence of active economists, as well as pressure groups that are independent of the coalition on the one hand and to the aggressive oppression on the other. The success of these decisions has been achieved at the expense of the weak groups as the burdens of these decisions were transferred to the shoulders of these poor and weak group who could not at all withstand their consequences despite July 98 revolution. However, the coalition failed to achieve compensatory procedures to fight poverty and economic equalization and structural reform due to resistance of the pressure groups which are close allies to the coalition. Therefore, that praise and recommendation are baseless and vague and can be explained as follows:

The first one is that those organizations which have introduced

reforms, can not withdraw from this. Therefore, they go on accepting any compromises the coalition offers. It goes on encouraging it with the condition that no violations of conditionality is allowed to occur. The second one relates to the bureaucratic deviation of the employees of these organizations who follow the program in Yemen so as to stay in power. If bribed they may present to the strategic decision makers of these organizations and to the general opinion, a positive evaluation about their mission in Yemen. However, in spite of all that, economic reforms as suggested above are the most viable solutions for the problems of Yemen. Yemen's association with these organizations and donor countries in these reforms will help to proper utilization of resources in a productive form, allowing the productive and developing potentials to grow, correcting the shortcomings of economic policies and making available finance from these countries as well as organizations. If this is done, significant progress in the economic development will be made. The political development will come in succession after the economic development being achieved as there is a strong harmony and coherence between these two dimensions. For whenever there is free hand granted to production potentials, exchange of commodities, and free economy, there will be a corresponding access to political rights, politicians' interest to gain the public satisfaction, peaceful transfer of power in consonance with the adoption of the international and regional norms.

By this Yemen can achieve the twin goals of reaching the market economy and of practicing political democracy. In other words, this will take Yemen out of the shackles of old political value system to the contemporary socio-economic ethos. To sum up, reforms should continue to be implemented despite the weak factors and the partial success of the

reforms which are the best chances for implementing all these reforms, even the change in the constitution of political coalition itself.

References:

- 1,2,10. Haggard, Lafay and Morrison: The Political Feasibility of Adjustment in Developing Countries, OECD, Paris, 1995.
3. Azam et Morrison: La Faisabilite Politique de L'ajustement en Co'te-d'Ivoire et an Maroc. Oced, Paris, 1994.
4. References to structural establishment, fighting poverty, economic equalization and structural reforms can be found in the International Fund and World Bank Documents for Yemen.
- 5,8. Mancur Olson "Dictatorship, Democracy and Development", American Political Science Review, vol. 87, n° 3. Sept. 1993. Olson also says that War Lords used to attack farmers at every harvest in Old China. They used to take all that they needed and then they destroyed everything. Therefore, there was no chance of satisfying population's needs there. This had negatively reflected on the soldiers behavior. Then, dictatorship came to preserve the stability. However, this did not satisfy the really needy people. Besides, it posed some obstacles in the course of democracy. Therefore, that trend was not at all economic or reasonable.
- 6,7. Thomas Callaghy. Lost Between State and Market: the Politics of Adjustment in Ghana, Zambia and Nigeria; in J. Nelson, ed.: Economic Crisis and Policy Choice: The Politics of Adjustment in the Third World. Princeton University Press, 1990.
9. Williams J. Baumol. Entrepreneurship: Productive, Unproductive and Destructive, Journal of Political Economy, vol. 98, n° 5, pt 1. Baumol says that in spite of the presence of entrepreneur a long time ago, he applied, on certain occasions, unproductive rules, and destructive rules on the other occasions. He only applied positive rules on a few occasions. His rule system was based on the three cases related to the values and awards system. The important thing is that this system should have a trend to play a productive and renewing role.



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

LOCAL GOVERNANCE LAW: Can it Voice the Interests of the People?!

There are two main topics that dominated the panorama of events in Yemen for the last week. Both are of crucial and broad importance and contribute significantly to lead us triumphantly to the next millennium of the the global context. As a matter of fact, these two questions voice our aspirations for a better tomorrow. These issues are the local governance law and change in the government.

1- Local Governance Question

Local governance is actually one of the virtues of a democratic system as it marks the end of centralization. To drive the point home, in the culture of democracy, decentralizing government enables people to participate more directly in governance process and can help empower people previously excluded from decision-making. In this way we can create and sustain equitable opportunities for all people. In addition, closer contact between government officials and local communities and organizations also encourages the exchange information that can be used to formulate development programs that are tailored to local needs and priorities, and thus are more effective and sustainable. In short, local governance results in a sustainable growth in a society.

On the basis of the importance of decentralization and local governance as crucial elements in any democratic country, the Yemeni parliament kicked off the discussion and debating of the draft law of local governance, which had been presented to the parliament several times but its discussions had been delayed since the Yemeni Unification in 1990. The law represents a critical issue that embraced the interest of most of the Yemeni intellectual elite. These luminaries hold an opinion that the law is one of the pillars of building the long-aspired modern civil society. Furthermore, the law will set free all the dormant faculties of the people and ends up the time of bureaucratic and centralized governance. The law will also hand over the power to the people to handle their own local affairs and administration by themselves. In other words, it will broaden the people's participation in administering their own affairs and directly supervising the application of laws. The people, moreover, will be bestowed the right to step down any person not voicing their interests and realizing their aspirations. Thus, the people's satisfaction in the work of political system will define whether it is legitimate or not.

A heated debating among the Yemeni parliamentarians was made last week. They agreed that the chiefs of the local councils should come to authority through elections. But the focal point of differences was whether the governors and directors of districts are to be elected or appointed. Some parliamentarians including the religious and dogmatic caucus of the Islah Party in the parliament argued that elections should be held at all levels. That is, governors, directors of districts and chiefs of local councils should be all nominated directly by the people. But the second group including the tribal wing in the Islah caucus in the parliament held a different opinion. They argued that we should not over-step our realities; if we take too much in one bite, we may not be able to chew it up. In other words, we should go step by step in our democratic process; we should first elect our local councils chiefs and then the governors and directors of districts.

However, if we are really willing to democratize, the law should free the country from centralization and decentralize the authority at all levels in the country. That is because we can not have a democracy, if all powers are focused at the center. Decentralization is one of the manifestations of a democratic system. Therefore, the parliamentarians should live up to their national responsibility and voice the interests of their voters, for this law will mark Yemen's next major move in its political evolution. So, it should ensure total local governance and decentralization of power.

2- Change in the Government

Change in the government has become inevitable to salvage the country. President Saleh pledged in his election program and his speech in the eve of the 26th September Revolution anniversary to fight against corruption and introduce change in the structure of the government. He even asked the government of Dr. Iryani to present its program to solve all the tribulations of the country within 90 days. That is very fine and indicates that the president is willing to change the current situation. But the country needs new faces with new blood and are with fully-fledged plans to alleviate the ailments of the people and have a bias in favor of the under-privileged. In addition, I believe corrupt and crooked figures can never be at any rate and any time a tool for change and development. All people are ambitious for change but they have lost heart in the current officials, for they have stuck to their office despite all changes in the governments, premiers, and ministers. Radical change should start by holding the corrupt officials at the power center accountable. The hidden rotten apples should be thrown away. Once this happens, change and reforms in the political, social and economic fabrics will be effective and fruitful. It is a matter of commitment and determination.

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Embassy of India - Sana'a

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ITEC ALUMNI

The Embassy of India is planning to hold a get-together and a small reception on Thursday, October 28, 1999 between 7.00 PM and 9.00 PM at the residence of the Ambassador of India at building No. 1, Street No. 24, Off. Hadda Road, Sana'a, for all Yemeni nationals who have received training in India under the Government of India's Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme.

All Yemeni trainees who have received training in India under ITEC scheme are cordially invited to attend. It would be preferable if those attending could intimate their names, addresses, telephones, fax numbers to:

Mr E. Martin, First Secretary
On telephone (264-873) or fax (243-439)
Or through a letter to P.O. Box No. 1154, Sana'a

Directions to Indian Ambassador's residence: Coming on Hadda Street in the direction of Hadda, first turn to the left in front of the Hadda Post Office, then second turn to the right (after a distance of about 600 meters). Ambassador's residence with Flag can be seen from this turn.

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دائماً في خدمتكم

Private Investment companies out of the Blue: Life and Death for the People's Money

By: **Imad Al-Saqqaf & Farooq Al-Kamali**
Yemen Times, Taiz

In the 70s and 80s of the twentieth century, a big fuss was made in Egypt about private investment companies which came as a show to collect people's money under the pretext of investing and making healthy profits. However, they ended up in the ruin of families who lost all they had in a tragic end. Alrayan was the biggest of these companies and the most famous. Great number of people, the haves and the have-nots, invested their money in this company. To their dismay this company closed down and its owner melted into thin air. Since then Egyptians have been running from the pillar to the post but to no avail.

This tragic scene has also been enacted here in Yemen but with another setting, different characters, and different unhappy ending. Yemenis have heard many Egyptian stories as well as seen films about these mercenaries who have no conscience or scruples to stop them doing these evil acts. Furthermore, the people in Yemen have never put the companies owners' credibility, claims and attitudes to test. These companies appeared in the 90s of this century with a new propaganda and under the cover of Islamic legislation and pretext of fighting usury.

These companies have emerged to take away people's money, dreams, as well as hopes and let them build castles in the air. However, all of a sudden all these castles and palaces were shattered to pieces when these companies wound up their establishments, and their owners disappeared. The shareholders could not find any person in charge to ask or to be accountable for their lost money. The people's money have vaporized as water vaporizes due to the heat of the sun's rays. The people thought that these companies would give them a chance to earn their living and make both ends meet in these difficult times. However, they found themselves in a deplorable situation. This reminds me of a well known proverb which says "Out of the frying pan into the fire"



These companies came to being after the 1994 war, the first one being G h a l a b I n v e s t m e n t Company. It used to collect the people's money and then start buying lands and construct buildings. The company used to give around 20% to 30% interest. The main branch of the company was in Taiz and there were branches in Aden and Sana'a.

In 1995 Al-Monked Company for Trade and Investment appeared from nowhere. It used to give people fabulous interests extending to 60%. This has never been paid before by any company throughout the world. Al-Monked Company is considered to be the biggest company that has ever been established in Yemen. So shareholders reached a total number of 20,000 from all the governorates of the Republic. The company activities were focused on buying lands and then selling them for fancy prices as there was a prosperous investment drive. The company bought very big stretches lands in Aden for millions of riyals. However, later on they discovered that these lands belonged to the Free Zone. Obviously, these lands as well as the money of the shareholders vanished.

The Third company that came out of the blue and went out like a passing arrow was Al-Emad Trade and Investment Company. It was established with a capital of 45 million riyals. They started their activities with a slogan to combat usury and to apply the principles of Islamic legislation in investment. They used to attract people's attention by such slogans. It is worth mentioning that the people in charge of these companies belonged to the Isha Party, the leader of the religious movement in Yemen.

The reasons asto why these companies became so much popular among the public are the following:

1) At the beginning of floating these companies, the founders have been giving lucrative profits to shareholders up to 60% as was done by Al-Monked Company within a period of 3

months and upto 50% by Al-Emad Company within 6 months period, a rate that has never been given before by any local or international bank. This made people compete to gain quick profits. Many sold all they had in life and put their money in these companies.

2) When the immigrants got back during the aftermath of Gulf War, they dared not take the risk of establishing new projects. Moreover, they thought that these companies would be the only way to be assured of financial gains without exerting much efforts.

3) There was a strong propaganda campaign on the TV, radios and the print media for these companies. These companies became the talk of the town among the people, the rich as well as the poor.

4) The owners of these companies exploited the poor villagers' simplicity and tempted them by profits they may get if they invested in their companies. The villagers could not stand the temptation and as a result they handed all money they had to representatives of these companies. Many of them sold everything precious they had so as to gain profits from these companies. Some forced their wives to sell their jewellery to invest the money in these companies.

5) A number of high officials in the government including ministers, member of parliament, military leaders and sheikhs have also participated in these companies. This gave people encouragement and guarantee that their money was on safe hands.

6) The companies slogans were cleverly modelled on the Islamic religion that propagated combating usury.

7) The government was favourably disposed towards these companies. Besides, there was no surveillance on these companies' projects by the government. Such companies that have emerged in the country have been characterized by nothing other than maneuvering the landed activity. Lands were very expensive at that time. When all of a sudden their prices came down dramatically, this had negatively affected the capitals of these companies. Furthermore, these companies were run without any sound objectives and policies and without any accurate accounts. Even profits, paid to shareholders, were not real profits as

they were taken off the shareholders' deposits. Furthermore, there were no accounts that might be referred to when necessary. These companies could have done better things for the people as well as for the country's benefit. Instead of helping people and improve their situations, they have just made the situation worse; poorer people and more deplorable economy. Finally, these companies disappeared after damaging the people as well as the country's economy. The negative impact of these companies have also reached even families who had no means to keep their body and soul together after they lost everything. Besides, most of these families had social problems. There are real woeful stories of some families that have been destroyed as a result of these companies. One of these stories is the story of a man who was an immigrant from Saudi Arabia. He used to burn the candle to both ends and did all that he could so that he would be assured of a secure and good life for his family in Yemen. Five million riyals was all that he could amass after a long struggle of living abroad. This money was with his wife who used to build castles in the air until these companies came to light. She was infatuated by the idea of investing this five millions till her husband was back home. She thought of surprising him when he came back by showing him that the five million was multiplied to eight or even ten million. When he came back there was a surprise for him, however.

It was not a nice one. He found that all his money has gone with the wind as the company closed its doors. In a moment of fury he divorced his wife. Thus, he lost everything; the money, wife as well as destroyed his family. Stories with similar tragic ends are frequently reported in our day to day life.

* Saeed Mohammed Bin Mohammed, one of those who invested in Ghalab Investment Company, said 'I have sold valuable and precious things and invested around 300,000 riyals. However, I received nothing for the company is closed and its owner disappeared. I used to pin my hopes on the profits I would get, the wife I would marry, the prosperous future I would have, etc. Now I am baffled and do not know what to do.'

* Abdul Ali Saeed, another one who put his

money in the same company, with a tone choked with grief as well as sadness said that he put 600,000 riyals in Ghalab Investment Company which has vanished with the money. He also asked the government to interfere to save the poor in their catastrophe. The government should do something to punish those frauds and swindlers who stole our money under the cover of Islam.

* Fawziah Al-Homidah said 'these crooks have swindled us out off our money'. She also said that she had invested around 1,100,000 riyals in Al-Monked Investment Company and so far she has been still following the people of this company up who have always been giving hollow promises.

* Abdul Malek Al-Kamali said that these companies have smuggled as well as blackmailed people under the cover of applying the Islamic principles and fighting usury. This was done in front of the government's eyes which did nothing to stop this farce and arrest these swindlers. He also added that it was because of the lack of economic culture, pitfalls facing plans for development and small range of investment that made the occurrence of such phenomena feasible. He also said that owners of such companies had transferred the money of shareholders to their accounts; some established private schools and supermarkets, some worked in the contract business with the money of shareholders and for their personal benefit.

* Ahmad Ali Hassan said that when immigrants came back during and after Gulf War there was unemployment, high inflation and continuous deterioration of our currency. All this had given rise to these companies which at the beginning gave fancy profits. He also said "despite my strong belief that such companies were just a fake, I invest around 155,000 riyals in Al-Monked as I found all doing so."

* Ahmad Mahyoub Ahmad said "I invested around 300,000 riyals in Ghalab's Company which was all I had made in life. However, I got nothing." He also said that the owners of the company, the brothers, Kasem as well as Abdullah Ghalab got the money divided up among them.

* Abdul Azeez Abdullah Khalid also said the following: "I sold my own car for 400,000 riyals and hurried to invest my money in Ghalab's Company. Now I live a life of

regret."

* Daif Allah Saleh Mohammed said "I was deceived like others thinking that I would earn money without exerting efforts. He said "Now we are regretting things but after everything has gone."

Thousands of people who invested in these companies are now crying over the spilt milk. Now that four years have passed we find that there are many cases filed against these companies in different courts. In regard to Ghalab Investment Company we find that the East Court of Taiz passed a verdict to close the company down and bring its owners to trial. However, neither the company was closed nor its owners were committed to trial. They rather got what they swindled divided up among them and the company's building was changed into a clinic and an institute for teaching computer. Obviously, the courts' verdict to arrest such powerful ones and support such poor as well as weak ones is bound to remain a far cry. The second of these companies and the largest is Al-Monked Investment Company which has declared its bankruptcy after two years of its establishment. It was closed after a judiciary verdict in 1997. In regard to the lands bought in Aden for millions of riyals by this company we found that they were later declared to be owned by the Free Zone. After a long course of pursuing people in volved as well as officials, the General Public Court issued its verdict last August charging area officials and State Registration and owners of Al-Monked Company of forging official documents and using lands owned by the government. The verdict was passed to imprison 13 people for a period that extends from a year to year and a half. Some of those who were convicted included the Deputy of the Area Authority, and Deputy of the State Registration in Aden and the Manager of the Lawful Affairs in the Authority and the ex-Manager of Al-Monked Company, Mohammed Ismael Abdul Raheem and its current Manager Anass Al-Ahdal. This verdict has created big controversy and widespread reactions. It has also terminated the flicker of hope the shareholders used to dream about. Stay tuned till the following issue to know the complete story that includes the following:

1) Mr. Hamood Hashem Al-Tharehi's comment on the verdict.

2) Lawyer: Abdullah Abass' statement on the case filed against Al-Emad Company.

3) Lawyer: Farooq Abdoh Ka'ed talking about the attitude of the law in regard to these companies.

Deterioration of Agricultural Products in Yemen

Ismail Al-Ghaberi
Yemen Times

Politicians and economists affirmed that the food will not exist as a goods which can be bought in the markets as any other goods, but it will be an important material. The one who does not have it, will be threaten by the danger of starvation.

Yemeni people still ignore the concept of food. We find that the main resource of food production is agriculture. But we do not pay attention to this sector. The average product of agriculture is different from the other rates.

The international resources indicate that the development of the agricultural product was the main factor which changed the bad status of the advanced countries. for

a good product.

We can say that the declining of the agricultural product refers to the old traditional ways, which are being followed by farmers. In addition to this, the land is not fertile enough. The problem also lies on the sowing of the same agricultural kinds at the same areas. The different kinds of seeds in Yemen are about 300. Yemeni farmers gathered these seeds from local corns, and brought them from different countries.

The different kinds of seeds are normal, which means that the farmers did not add any chemical material. We should use the modern ways to develop our agricultural product. It needs a fertilizer, water and using of the sowing machines. This product is called the condensed product.

If we look to the international statistics in the countries which produce wheat, we find that these countries have a limited level of the fertile areas from the beginning of the

seeds to develop product.

- The farmers do not get the incomes of agriculture while they are needed.

The country did not achieve its aims:

The causes which affected the development of the agricultural product as follows:

- Most of the agricultural areas depend upon rain water. The product is being affected by the natural factors.

There are big efforts of the country to develop agriculture. The projects concerned economic developments, dams, agricultural researches, production of seeds and agricultural guidance. But these activities do not achieve its aims because there is no policy for this process. We find that the farmers do not exploit the services and loans in agriculture that they get from the government. They used them to develop other agricultural corns as 'Qat'. There is no economic and agricultural policy. The government plays important roles to develop agriculture and wheat product through the Agricultural Researches Association. At the same time, there is no policy which can support the local product. As the agricultural researches began to practice their activities to develop the different categories of seeds. These interests were concentrated on the wheat corns. There happened a prominent development on the production of wheat. But this development went down since the beginning of the 1990s because the old categories were affected and there was no substitute categories. In addition to this, there is no projects which can evaluate the local categories, and determine a size for each category or to develop its characteristics.

Citizen Responsibility:
The Yemeni farmer did not use the local ways which practiced before. These ways help to exploit the natural resources and protect from the natural changes.

There are such reasons which disturbed the development of the traditional ways. The reconstruction of dams needs new mechanisms and devices to be implemented. In the past these projects were implemented according to the law and legislation. The

need of the society helped to implement these projects. The absence of the legislation and the dependence upon the import is one of the factors which interrupted the agriculture. Moreover, we have the urban development; industrial and trading. The farmers turned to sow the financial corns instead of the foods corns. These are the main factors which affected the agricultural process.

The importance of Product:

There are such factors which we must take them in consideration.

1- **The limitation of the agricultural areas:**

Through the statistics of the natural resources in our country, we can say that the fertile areas are limited. In spite of that the total size of Yemen is about 55 million hectare. So, we find that the fertile size is about 1,6 million hectare or 2,9 %.

According to the reports of the International Trade, the needs of Yemen of wheat in 1998 was 2 million ton. If the local product is the same as in 1997, it will cover only 7 % of wheat. Two million ton of wheat needs 1,6 million hectare. This is what we call the horizontal expansion. Now, the exploited size is about 1,1 million hectare.

The raped increase of population:
The reports of the National Conference of the Population Policy titled (Population and Development: Future Challenges), says that Yemen is one of the world countries in population increase. During the period of the 1960s, we did not witness any increase in population because of the increase of death rate. The population of Yemen in 1950 was 4,3 million. In 1975 was 6,9 million. The annual rate of population during 1950- 1975 was 1,9. In 1980 the population was 8,1 million or 3, 1% to 9,9 million. In 1986 the average rate was 3, 3 %.

During the period of the 1990s, the population witnessed a raped increase because of the returning of the immigrants and the rate of the death went down. The rate of the statistics in 1994 was 3,7 %. It is expected that the population of Yemen will



increase during the upcoming 19 years.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT):

It was established in 1947. Twenty three industrial countries met in Geneva to make free trade. The contract of this agreement signed in 1994 in Morocco. About 117 country signed this contract. Yemen was one of these countries. The articles of the contract concentrated on the agriculture. They agreed that the product of the advanced countries should be 20 %, while the product in the developing countries should be 13,3 % during the upcoming ten years. The subsidization of the export should be deleted. Yemen depends upon export to cover about 70 % of its needs.

Solutions:

- We should pay interest to the new researches and developments which help to produce high categories of seeds. We should apply the recommendations which help of increasing the product.

- We should give the opportunity to the investors of the agricultural sector. - We should also give the opportunity to the qualified graduates who are professional on the agricultural sector.

The misusing of the agriculture means caused pollution in the fertile soil. The Ministry of Agriculture should follow new policy to increase the process of product in some governorates as Al-jawf, Mareb, Hadramout, Al-Mahra, Lahj, Abian and Tehamah. This process should be implemented under the scientific control.

The following points should be taken in consideration:

1- The agriculture should depend upon the groundwater.
2- Finding the high productive categories, which respond to the conditions of the product.
3- Giving the possible opportunities which help export.
4- Encourage services of industry & storage.

The projects of the Ministry of Agriculture:

- Using the new ways which protect from drought.
- Finding solutions to the problems of farmers, and show them how to use new mechanisms.
- Preparing new programs and researches to develop the agricultural process.
- Encourage the different activities of the Agricultural Loans Bank, and the Agricultural Product Fund in order to help the small farmers.
- Encourage the invested projects to develop the product of food.

Product	Period: 92-94, ton Hectare	Period:95-97 Ton Hectare	Per Capita
Wheat	1,3	0,9	31
Herbaceous plants	1,4	1,2	14
Vegetables	13,1	12,3	7
Fruits	5,4	5,3	2

example European countries and America control the food of the world.

Product:

We have to recognize the quantity of the total agricultural product. We can get this information from the survey authority. The quantity should be ton kilogram for each hectare.

Through the above table, we find that all corns are declined. All the rates which we mentioned in the table went down.

Local categories of seeds:

Agriculture is one of the oldest activities, which began in the ancient periods. The process of sowing in Yemen was traditional. There was no sowing machines which may help farmers. Because of the declining of the agriculture in some areas, Yemenis moved to other fertile areas to get

1960s. They can fulfill the additional demand of the markets.

Lack of planning:

Because of the traditional ways of our local agriculture, the different categories of seeds give a low product. The causes of the low product as follows:

- Most of the agricultural product's ways are traditional. They do not use the modern ways.

- The number of the fertilized areas is very low.

Lack of water resources:

- Dependence upon import, which led finally to the declining of the agriculture.

- Absence of the agricultural planning, which fulfills country's policy. They depend upon irregular ways.

- They do not use the local categories of

A Reflection of Yemeni Tradition in the International Circles: Yemeni Popular Musical Instruments



Saleh Abdulbaqi
Cultural Editor
Yemen Times

A number of governorates have still used the traditional musical instruments. These instruments are being used in the occasions of marriage. They are inherited by ancient grandfathers. The wind pipe is made from sugarcane. It is known by 'Al-Nai'. The other kind of these musical instruments are drums. We have the big drum, which is known by 'Al-Hajer' or the small drum, which is also known by 'Al-Marwas'. The famous wind pipe in Tehama areas is the one which has five holes. The famous drum is called 'Al-Marfa'a'.



In spite of the humility of these popular musical instruments, they formed a traditional rhythm to our national culture. They also gave a new form to our folk and plastic arts. Yemeni

singers have taken their rhythm from these instruments. They have created the contemporary face of Yemeni originality. We find that the Yemeni traditional rhythm is commonly used in the Arab World.

Yemeni People should not ignore the value and the importance of these traditional instruments. We should give them interest, and put the artistic touches on them. I discovered the faults of Yemeni orchestra as I participated in 'Rafena' festival in Italy. But the Yemeni orchestra has presented a good show



through its participation abroad. However, our popular orchestra is being admired by all countries where it participated on. In addition to this, the traditional dresses are distinguished.

Through this conclusion, I will deal with one of these popular instruments, which is still being used in Tehamah. We really feel proud of these musical instruments because they reflect the originality of popular tradition in Yemen. I have been well known about this instrument through one of the bandsmen of the orchestra in Zabeed town in Tehamah. It is an important instrument in the popular band in our country. It is the drum or the 'Al-Marfa'a'. Obaid Zeid is one of the most famous drummers in

Tehamah. Drum is also one of the oldest instruments, which had appeared since the beginning of the Tehamian folk arts. The tune of drum and wind pipe makes a beautiful sound. These instruments are different from the other instruments in Yemen. Tehamian society are being distin-

guished since the ancient periods by its special popular instruments which are still being used. Al-Marfa'a is made from the burnt mud. It takes the crescent shape, and has a big upper hole. Its height is between 35- 40 Cm.. It is covered with a strong leather, which gives it a special musical tune. This tune does not differ from the 'Al-Teck' or the 'Al-Bongiz', which are being used in the Arab orchestras. The drum is being beaten by long sticks. They are made from nabk tree. The drum and the 'Al-Marfa'a' form a musical harmony while playing out. These musical instruments are being used in marriage occasions. they are very important for folk dancing. These rhythmical instruments formed an artistic path through our Yemeni popular arts in particular, and as a standard of Yemeni civilization in general. I hope that cultural sector in Hoddedah should pay attention for Tehamian popular orchestra, and give the opportunity to participate in the national and international occasions.

The Late Baradouni: Traditional Modernity !

During an annual poetry festival in Baghdad twenty-eight years ago a short, blind and humble-looking man was given the podium to recite his poems, like the hundred of other poets from all over the Arab world who take turns over four or five days to recite their poems. The audience had already grown weary and tired of the tens of poems that hardly demanded attention. The elderly blind poet gave all the impression that he was going to be even worse. As the Yemeni poet recited his first line, he almost confirmed people's fears. But as the lines started flowing one strike after another, heads started turning and silence pervaded the auditorium. The traditional structure and the unfamiliarity of accent gave way to the power of imagery and words which took almost everyone by surprise. Al-Baradouni (1929- 1999) was singing the suffering of his homeland, of the ancient city of Sana'a, which under the impact of poverty and neglect has grown like a beautiful lady ruined by the diseases of mangle and consumption, two diseases that stood typical of poor and underdeveloped communities. The impact of the Yemeni poet's poem was one of those occasions that happen once in a century. He was immediately established as a major poet in whose importance and long neglect the Arab audience, the literati in particular, discovered their ignorance. An especially amazing part of the event was in the fact that Al-Bessouni used a traditional form which had fallen into disrepute under the new aesthetics of modernism where free verse is more valued. What astonished everyone was his ability to use that traditional form mixed with a highly modernized language and imagery. The following image might suggest the combination: "As the clouds squeeze their breasts, walls send a downpour of silence and weariness/Shadows



fall upon shadows like flies which fall on boredom." Another example might be more telling, as it combines the poet's tragic vision with an ironic acceptance of his country's plight. It is from a piece entitled "Sana'a in a plane" in which he pictures the city as a lady travelling beside him and sharing his tragedies. As he starts painting their suffering the lady begins crying. Admonishingly he says to her that cryin will, be useless: "The one beside us will start looking at you, but will immediately forget you when the waitress passes. Then another nice man or a nice lod lady, will give you two tablets of Aspirin. "people will give assistance to Sana'a that will only remind her of her deepening poverty. Al-Baradouni

left about ten collections of poems and five books of essays and studies. So far at least two books have been written about him, and he won several prizes including the major prize of the Baghdad festival which launched his career in the Arab world. When he died a couple of weeks ago, he was remembered as perhaps the most eminent poet in the Arabian peninsula in modern times.

Quoted from Riadh Daily
Dr. Saad Al-Bazez

تهنئة
أجمل التهاني وأرق الأماني نرفها من أصدق قلوبنا مع باقة من الورد والرياحين
للأغ الشاب الطويق /
عبد الخالق علي البيوع
بمناسبة زفافه الميمون متمنين له حياة مليئة بالبهجة والسعادة
المهنتون
نصر الدين صالح المراني
صالح يحيى المراني
محمد يحيى المراني
عادل محمد القلاصي
يحيى صالح المراني
كافة موظفي صحبة يمن تايمز
وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

شعيرية **مكرونه**
المائدة
SABON
Maeda
SPAGHETTI
Maeda
Maeda
Maeda
مكرونه المائدة غذاء وفائدة
شركة الصناعات المتنوعة ومواد التعبئة
GenPack
والحاصلة على شهادة الجودة العالمية الأيزو 9002
تليفون: ٢١٨٠ ٢٧ - ص ب: ٦٢٢٨ - تعز / الجمهورية اليمنية
مارس للإعلان

Impression about Yemen



Ibnu Ash Djamil Siregar
Indonesian Ambassador

I arrived in Sana'a in the night of Sept. 9th, 1996 as the second ambassador of Indonesia to Yemen. The Yemeni-Indonesian bilateral relationship is as old as the history of the two countries. It did not start after the reunification of Yemen as some would tend to think. If we look into the history of the relationship between the two countries, we find that Yemen was among the first Arab countries to recognize the independence of Indonesia on May 3rd, 1948, just after three years of the declaration of independence by President Ahmad Sukarnofi, on August 17th, 1945. The official visit by President Ali Abdulla Saleh to Indonesia in February, 1998, added further impetus to the fiftieth anniversary of the diplomatic relationship between the two countries.

I was not surprised when I was appointed an ambassador to Yemen, because most of the Indonesian people hold Yemen in high esteem. Yemen has played a crucial role in spreading Islam on the Indonesian land since the eleventh century. Moreover, most of the respectable clergy men in Indonesia are of a Yemeni origin. At the present time, more than 400 Indonesian students are studying in Yemen. We highly appreciate this.

About five million of the Indonesian population are immigrants from Hadramout. These, with the original Indonesians, have formed a united family, and hand in hand, they fought for the country's independence. After the independence, many of them have become national figures and were placed in high ranks, civil, as well as military. Yemen is very close to the Indonesians due to this historic relationship which has never stopped at any stage through the whole history of the two brotherly countries. Before the reunification of Yemen, our relationship with the "two Yemens" was going strong. After the unification the two countries agreed on opening embassies in their respective capital cities. On Nov. 15th, 1992, the Indonesian embassy was officially inaugurated in Sana'a.

During the three years I have spent in Yemen, I have witnessed many achievements under the regime of President Ali Abdulla Saleh. The bilateral relationship also has witnessed a

substantia progress, especially, after the official visit by President Ali Abdulla Saleh to Indonesia. Many Yemeni businessmen have been engaged in direct business with their Indonesian counterparts. In addition, some Yemeni investors, the Hail Saeed Group, for example, have started investing in Indonesia. At the same time, there are Indonesian investors investing their money in Yemen, too, especially in the field of Petrol and gas.

Yemen, like other countries, is faced with a lot of problems and challenges, but I am very sure that President Ali Abdulla Saleh would be, as he has always been, able to find a way out. What I am really interested in is the rapid progress of the democratic institutions in Yemen in a remarkably short time. What Yemen has achieved in the field of democracy during the nine years is also very remarkable. For example, the presidency period has been specified, the president is elected directly by the people. Moreover, the constitution envisages the nomination of more than one candidate for presidency. This, in fact, is considered to be a historic achievement that will strengthen the democratic principles in the country for the new generations. After the establishment and consolidation of such principles, what Yemen needs is some time and experiences to apply them thoroughly.

I have been to a number of places, and I have noticed that Yemen enjoys unenviable historical backgrounds. The history of Yemen can be found in the Western manuscripts. It is even mentioned in the Holy Quran. We can still see and feel the traces of this ancient history which attract many tourists from different countries. I can assure you that, Yemen will be one of the important countries with outstanding tourist potential in the Mideast, if such historical monuments are projected in a befitting way in the global platform. If this happens, the tourism sector might become a main source for the national income. Besides this, Yemen is gifted with mineral and marine wealth that can support its economy in the future. One of the main issues that needs special attention is the issue of internal security, arms and its trading which has become a source of scare to potential tourists. Yemen also needs to be able to provide the primary necessities, especially foodstuffs through improving and supporting agriculture.

On the subject of the future of the bilateral relationship, I can foresee that it will get stronger in the near future, especially after Indonesia getting rid of the economic crisis and Yemen improving its economy. I will never forget the solidarity and the cooperation of the Yemeni people and officials who have made it easy for me to carry out my duty as an ambassador. I highly appreciate their efforts.

The History of the Yemeni Jews

2nd in a series

By: Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadli
& Mohammed bin Sallam
Yemen Times

Due to many troubles Jews faced by the Migration Centers, they were compelled to migrate from Yemen in a clandestine way. During 1881-1882 about 200 people migrated from Sana'a and the districts around. In 1885 about 450 people migrated. The first Jew who ever reached Yafa was in 1890. The migrated Jews of Yemen worked with the Jews of Russia in Yafa where economic prospects used to be better than those in Jerusalem. Although, they took up different jobs, they were very much interested in the technical work.

In 1907 some of 200 people migrated from S'adah and the districts around. In 1908 about 2500 migrated and scattered in Jerusalem and Yafa. This group started ploughing lands. They worked with the Arabs under the supervision of Rabin. The process of migration continued from 1923 to 1931 during which about 2500 people reached Palestine and inhabited cities especially Tel Aviv. Some of them worked in trade and construction's work. During (1929-1948) around 15838 Jews from Yemen reached Palestine. It is said that this migration was planned by the Zionist movement. The overall number of the migrated Jews from Yemen from 1922 to 1950 reached about 58436 people within the framework of the planned migration. Other sources do also endorse these numbers for they reveal that the immigration of the Jews of Yemen to Palestine took place during the period (1923-1934), and their number reached about 19221 people. These numbers are also supported by the Zionist sources for it is revealed that the migration process of the Jews of Yemen to Palestine took place during (1917-1948) during the period of the British Colonization in Aden. These sources reveal that their number reached about 15360 people, which is rated to 3.8% of the total migration number that took place before 1948.

Migrations from Yemen to Palestine at that time were called "Magic Carpet". A rough estimate of the overall expenditure involved was around \$4, 500,000. The number of the Yemeni Jews reaching Palestine had reached 112,670 in 1920. The Zionist movement paid \$500 for each Yemeni Jew leaving Yemen, \$1000 for each one coming from the Eastern African Arab Countries and \$500 for each one coming from the then Soviet Union.

The last migration process of the Jews of Yemen took place on September 24, 1950 as two planes landed on Al-Lad in Palestine carrying 577 Jews from Aden airport, 200 from Djibouti airport and 200 from Asmara Airport, the capital of Eritrea. It is said that these 200 Jews traveling from Asmara had traveled from Yemen shores through catamarans seeking migration. The migration period and the "Magic Carpet" was bound to be over as the Yemeni people realized that it was a potentially terrorist campaign aimed at the Jews scattered in different Yemeni districts including villages as well as towns. The migration process of the Jews forebode danger and the Yemenis felt that there was a popular will stronger than that of Imam Ahmad living in Taiz. This popular will was crystallized



Hebrew writing on the wall in a Jew's bookcase in Rayda

the top authority of the new order which existed after the declaration of Israel Country as an independent country on the Arab Palestine lands on 15/5/1948. This Council consisted of 14 members of the Zionist Executive Social Council, 11 members of the Executive Jewish Agency and 12 members from other parties and communities.

Hayem Wise man, the chairman of the elected Council, was member No 38. He was also one out of the 12 elected members who represented different parties. He was a representative of the Jews of Yemen though they were opposed to the existing parties dominated by the Laborer Party which was represented by 12 members in the Council. This party used to have six ministers in the Interim Government, besides the Prime Minister who used to hold the Defense Ministry. The Jews of Yemen held a seat out of 120 seats in the Kenisit "Parliament". The Labor Party got 46 seats as a result of the January 1948 elections in which the Jews of Yemen had 3399 votes which was 1.2% out of

the total number of the 415260 legal votes, that is, 95.545% out of the overall total. The Jews of Yemen had faced a lot of difficulties as a result of identifying the Jews as the Arab Jews and Ashkenazis as "non-Arab Jews". The Jews of Yemen suffered from the despotism of Ashkenazis. They were very sad for they could not be given the same treatment they used to have in Yemen. They were ostracized in separate surrounding camps so as not to allow them to mix with the "Elite Corps" represented by Ashkenazis. Within this environment of racism, the Jews of Yemen started pining for the "Promised Land". They remembered how they fooled into believing that religious trick. All these feelings made them got united in the settlement camp. This also made them feel a big void that they still feel till now. Many years have been passed and the Jews of Yemen are still ostracized in closed districts. Some of these districts are known as the Yemeni districts which are close to Karyan Ana and Rosha Ayeen. Some other Jews became homeless and as a result joined criminal gangs. It has been found that the Zionism was practiced from the beginning of the migration process so as to build a strong work force. Lands were confiscated from their Arab owners and delivered to the Jews of Yemen and Egypt. What is clear over the years is that the Zionist project had never had at any time a real man work force that could form a constant base. This had been very clear during the aftermath of the aggression of June 1967 when there was a popular trend to avoid such jobs such as agriculture and construction. This made the Zionist leadership feel that they were in danger. For

the more lands which were cultivated by Arabs, the more their situation was to be like South Africa; Ashkenazis' situation would inevitably be like the situation of the whites in South Africa. So as to prevent such a consequence, the Jews of Yemen were distributed into the following four settlement groups which were called Al-Kipotssat:

- 1) The National Al-Kipotssat founded in 1927
- 2) The United Al-Kipotssat founded in 1927
- 3) The Settlement Union Group founded in 1951 having a total Yemeni membership of 30,000.
- 4) The religious Al-Kipotssat founded in 1935

The source of influence of the Jews of Yemen:

The Jews of Yemen constituted a strong force that could never be ignored among the settlements in Palestine. The fruits of their organizations were first felt in 1923. Chief among these organizations are the following:

- 1) Al-Rabin Council for the Jews of Yemen
- 2) Yemeni Women's Organization
- 3) The Yemeni Youth Organization
- 4) Sons Organization
- 5) The American Committee to for repatriation of the Jews of Yemen. It is related to the Jewish Agency in all its activities.

The groups of the Jews of Yemen were the only Eastern groups in Palestine that were successful in Kenisit first and second elections through their congregation which all along remained independent. They were represented by one member as mentioned above. The Yemeni Jews congregation could force the governmental institutions and organizations fulfill some of their demands. They could also participate in the regular elections of Kenisit. However, the dominating force of Ashkenazis

An old photo of a Yemeni Jew immigrating to Israel



remain the poorest among all of them till now. At the beginning of their settlement there, they accepted their situation silently. However, the racial policy exercised by the Israeli policy has created a strong resentment among the Jews of Yemen who remain at the bottom of the social ladder. They have not found any other alternative and so far they have been thinking of solutions even if they may have to have a counter immigration from Israel.

The Jews of Yemen, like other Jews from the East, are living today in miserable conditions due to different reasons. Chief among them is their feeling of inferiority and inability to integrate in the Israeli society which has proved to be full of malice and hatred even towards their own people.

We, however, feel that we are very proud of those few Jews who fell victim of the old religious trick during the immigration process and preferred to stay in Yemen. We hope that they would be given more attention as well as care hereafter.



A Typical Yemeni Jew



A Scene from the daily life of a group of Yemeni Jews

The Jewish Temple in Rayda



into the Jews Congregation Migration Center in Taiz. Besides, it is reported that about 300 Jews migrated from Nagran. These Jews were recommended by the King of Sudi Arabia to stay in Yemen. However, Imam Ahmad did not heed this request and allowed the Jews to migrate to Aden and then to Palestine.

Features of the Migration Process:

We can note that migration of the Jews of Yemen had the following features:

- 1) The first migration of Jews from Yemen did not include those who were old.
- 2) When the Jews of Yemen traveled to Palestine, they transferred with them some of the Yemeni traditions, conventions that were part of the Yemeni culture.
- 3) The Jews preserved the social traditions and ways of life which were transferred with them to Palestine.
- 4) The Jews of Yemen were very much influenced by the Yemeni people in the sense that they transferred many Yemeni facets including those of food such as "Saltah, Holbah", planting and chewing Qat and even the way of construction of houses.

The huge number of the Yemeni Jews in Israel was stronger than the Zionist congregation. The Jewish Agency was chaired by David Bin, leader of the Israeli Laborer Party and the first President of the Interim Government in the Zionist existence that lasted from 14/5/1948 to 10/3/1949. This government tried to impose discriminatory partisan laws over the migrated Jews, the Jews of Yemen included. However, the Jews of Yemen were represented by one representative in the Interim Council of the country which contained 38 members. This Council constitut-

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Human Beings and Environment



By: Yasser M. Ahmed,
Yemen Times

B iologists have recognized that environment is the soft stratum on the planet, which extends under the surface of the earth. It includes the atmosphere which surrounds the earth up to the height of ten Kilometers. Scientists call it 'the biological atmosphere'. In other words it means the atmosphere in which we live

world have to instill the environmental consciousness in the minds of the growing generations. Pollution of environment will help spread different diseases amongst humans and animals. Human beings live in three main systems; biological, technical and social. These systems also have different branches, which form other systems.

point out to the common man, but to the man who administrates the different industrial corporations.

The problem of environment began in the advanced countries during the last part of the 1960s. The Non-governmental Organizations and Youth Associations began to deal with this problem, while the international governments did not show a serious interest in this field at that time.

In 1969, preparation was going on to held a conference on the environment in the United Nations. However, it was held in Stockholm in 1972. The conference evolved a strategy of coordinating between the different factors of

taking part. But now there are about 112 countries which have different means for protecting environment. The Non-governmental Organizations, which are interested in the environment affairs, were about 2500 in 1972. About two or three organizations were from the developing countries. But now, there are more than 2000 Non-governmental Organizations in the developing countries. The importance of the environment problem came from the industrial countries because of the rapid proliferation of industries. The problem of environment is a universal problem; so it means that the whole world must look to this problem cutting across political boundaries. The big industrial companies must take this problem into consideration.

The nuclear radiation will cause danger for human beings and animals in the whole world. In spite of cautions, the production of atomic energy is still going on. Reports indicate that the world will get half of the total requirement of energy in 2000. The hiding of the atomic offal which has a long radiation is being put in a giant masses of concrete cement and is thrown into the depth of seas and oceans, but the nuclear radiation comes from this to pollute the environment.

In our country, the Vice Minister had issued a resolution No. (94/1990) concerning the foundation of Environment Protection Council as a governmental wing in the Cabinet. The objectives of that council were as follows:-

1- suggesting a general policy for pro-



tecting environment, and taking the research of environmental planning as a means for the solution of problems of pollution in the rural, urban and sea areas.

2- putting the qualitative standards and protecting environment from pollution, and working to get the modern scientific strategies. It also works to control the industrial pollution, and protect the animal and botanical wealth.

3- Mounting active programs to secure the international cooperation for protecting the environment properly.

4- observing the environmental and natural resources changes which happen in the Republic of Yemen.

5- organizing local symposiums and lectures concerning the protection of the environment, and representing Yemen in the regional conferences.

Sana'a and Aden Universities began researches and training programs on this field, in spite of the modesty of experiences and equipment that they have. A number of Non-governmental Organizations participate in this field, and highlight the level of the environmental consciousness for people.

The problem of the environmental administration in Yemen can be summarized as follows :

- there is not an actual organization for the environmental and informative sides in the Environment Protection Council.

- Weakness of the environmental legislation; There is no connection between the different systems.

- Resorting to the environmental standards and to the local specialized people, and the required equipment.

- Absence of control and environmental consciousness.

- Weakness of the Non-governmental Organizations, which are specialized in the environmental sides, and the disconnection between these organizations and society.

- Lack of financing for augmenting the environmental reconstruction which is necessary to be put in use.

Finally, preserving and protecting our environment is the guarantee for a promising future, and for establishing a strong generation. Now, do we perceive the volume of dangers ? we hope so.



. All the animals that live on this earth affect and are affected by this environment.

Pollution of environment will be a grave source of danger for men and animals. This is one of the most important problems that the world will suffer from in the future. All nations in this

Most of the problems of environment are being caused by the failure of interactions between the aforementioned systems. Hence, we can say that the human being is the main source of the environmental degradation, but his consciousness is the unique solution to those interactions. Hence, we do not

development; human beings, money and the natural wealth resources. All points of view stressed that environment is a n inalienable affair, not a separate one.

The countries which participated in Stockholm conference were only 11, and there were no developing countries

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Ala'adl Social Society:

A Good Way to Help the People

Ala'adl society was established five years ago. It involves itself in serious issues related to the suffering of the people and their problems. Its aim is to try to identify some destitute families and help in efforts of rehabilitation.

Ala'adl Society has a vital continuous participation in good projects that do a lot to relieve the pain of lots of people "orphans, handicapped, blind, deaf, dumb, old people, widows". The

Society also mounts some projects for students in summer vacation. It also helps families with low incomes by providing them with free health and medical services.

The ideologies and policies of the society can be classified as follows.

1- Voluntary Humanitarian services:

A great section of people derive the benefit of these voluntary services in the form of food stuff, clothes, financial support to some deserving cases under

tional circumstances such as death, child birth, wedding, etc.

2- Environmental Services:

These services cover the whole society of Yemen. Services such as arranging seminars and making programs to emphasize the importance of environmental cleanliness are organized.

3- Academic Training Services:

These services, meant for students during the summer vacation, are held in terms of different courses offered either by the society or by private institutes.

4- Health Services:

These services are for the whole society and include periodical check-ups, distribution of free medicine, holding vaccination camps, etc.

5- Democratic Services:

They are also intended for the whole people and include organizing annual ceremonies for art and holding workshops, symposia etc. to discuss issues related to building a civilized society. The society has also been contributing five human projects each Ramadan for the past five years. The society struggles much to achieve its goals stated in the charter of the society. The society depends mainly on generous support received from some individuals and some business men in the society. If we get enough support we have big hopes to build the infrastructure of the society and expand the sphere of our activities. We actually face a lot of difficulties in meeting the needs and requirements of the center and the need to open new departments with new apparatus, mainly due to our limited resources. We have also another charitable project aimed at providing widows with work and helping them to earn their living. This obviously needs a lot of financial support. Therefore we request both the governmental and non-governmental organizations to give us a helping hand for discharging our sacred duties for the people of our society. The society welcomes those interested to pay a visit to its place in Maidan Althareer, in the west of the Alwotharee Group.

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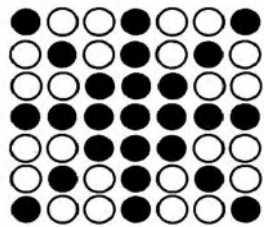
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• Developing reading skills	02 March 2000
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The Romance of Teaching:

Boosting the Self-Esteem of Yemeni Teachers



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
College of Education
Mahweet

The success of any profession squarely depends on the extent to which its members are able to put in their best into it and derive satisfaction for doing their job creatively, imaginatively, and insightfully. In other words, it is the quality of people, their vision and outlook, their sense of involvement, commitment and dedication coupled with the degree of their professionalism that decides the inner strength and the vitality of the profession. Teaching as a profession is no exception. Teachers are the builders of the architects of tomorrow and, as such, are, without any fear of exaggeration, builders of the nation. The progress of any nation is intricately interconnected with the quality of teachers - their intellectual caliber, emotional maturity, humanly traits, and professional refinement.

Self-esteem, self respect or self image is one of the most important cornerstones for the maximization of the potential of a teacher, enabling him to justify himself as a member of a noble profession. The qualities of self awareness, of cultural awareness and of professional awareness endow him with courage, confidence and commitment enabling him to march ahead with self-sustaining vigor. Lack of these sterling virtues tend to cripple him with a sense of hollowness, and purposelessness, jeopardizing the prospect of achieving an elevating sense of fulfillment that is the very essence of teaching as a profession.

On the basis of my long experience as a teacher - educator in India and as one who is currently responsible for preparing a section of Yemeni young men and women to join the rank and file of the teaching profession, I have a deep realization that the two foremost qualities that the Yemeni young men and women maturing as potentially vibrant professionals need as an integral part and parcel of their professional repertoire are self-esteem and a positive attitude towards their profession. A perceived lack of these enduring qualities, on the other hand, has the potential to drive the teaching subculture into the inescapable edge of a crisis which may have a far reaching implication for generations of students who are eagerly awaiting to be led along the path of enlightenment by the teachers, the torch bears of knowledge and wisdom.

It is no denying the fact that a major segment of the teaching community currently finds itself in cross-roads. Most of the members are bewildered by their inability to cope with an awe inspiring bulk of incoming information, generating in them a corroding sense of insecurity as well as a feeling of loss of identity arising out of lack of proper social accountability. At this crucial juncture, there is an abiding need to stop for a moment, look back in retrospect, deeply introspect and then get ready to face upto the challenges, actual and potential, coming our way in the new age of informatics, which in the words of a poet is 'the best of times and the worst of times'. Qualities of self-analysis, self-monitoring and self-correction are of crucial importance at the present moment to gear up for a rewarding future. Alexander Pope's dictum

"Know then thyself, presume not god to scan"

seems to be most apt in the present context. No educational system has ever achieved its goal without a group of professionals fully committed to their job.

If our goal is to produce a cadre of self-actualized teachers, or reflective practitioners, skilled at exercising their craft even under difficult circumstances, and capable of leading the country to the new millennium, we have to ensure the following attributes in them:

- Self-motivation:** We have to have people in the profession who are teachers by choice, and not by chance and who do not need others to motivate them to go about their job faithfully, honestly and sincerely.
- Good educational background:** They should be well-educated, not only in terms of university degrees, but with proper cultivation of mind, good personal and social

attributes which would make them sound role models for the students.

c) **Good coordination:** The teacher in the modern educational ethos is a manager of people, a resource manager. He should be adept in interpersonal skills. Personality of the teacher is just as important as the teaching skills.

d) **Familiarity with new technology:** New technology may have made the life of the teacher simpler, but it has not done the job of teaching easier in this hi-tech age. Teachers should at least be computer literate to make teaching stimulating and varied.

Gone are the days when possession of a university degree was the only passport to enter the fascinating domain of teaching. In the modern age, however, a mere acquisition of required qualification does not necessarily make a successful teacher. Teachers by choice, as mentioned above, are people who take the profession as a mission, as their religion, not merely a means of earning livelihood. They achieve a sense of fullness, of fulfillment, of profundity, through teaching.

Seen from this perspective, teachers can be classified into three categories:

i) **Imitative teachers** - those who lack originality and blindly ape other people's practices

ii) **Interpretative teachers** - those who critically evaluate several practices in vogue, and apply their discretion and analytical power to pick out the ones which suit best to their situation

iii) **Creative teachers** - those who are original in their approach. As path finders they innovate and create new ideas for others to emulate.

It is the last type of teachers who are indeed, the pride of our profession. They invariably have a high degree of self-esteem as well as respect for the profession. Both self-esteem and love of the profession are interrelated. In fact, one of the best ways to boost one's self-esteem is to love the profession as much as one loves oneself.

The second way to boost the self-esteem of teachers is to try and refine their professional equipment. Apart from keeping themselves abreast of their respective academic disciplines, there seems to be an urgent need for strengthening their professional network through forming teachers' association, not so much fired by the spirit of trade unionism, as being inspired by the abiding need of breaking personal and professional barriers, thereby building bridges of understanding. Such organizations at local grassroot levels can affiliate themselves to apex organizations at the national level, like the British Association of Applied Linguists (BAAL) in Britain or Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) in the U.S.A. The basic objective of these professional bodies would primarily be mutual caring and sharing, professional enrichment as well as dissemination of the latest information in various pedagogic fields among the members through organisation of periodic symposia, workshops, seminars, etc. which may be scheduled during the summer holidays, or other such breaks.

We can also think of publishing a professional journal in Yemen embodying seminal ideas, path breaking teaching practices tried out by innovative teachers, theorisations on various classroom based problems and their solutions and so forth. This can provide a much needed avenue of self expression for the teaching community, liberating them from the corrosive influence of the 'burnt-out effect' and at the same time achieving professional enrichment and professional renewal.

It is usually seen that once an individual enters the teaching profession, he stops growing professionally. In fact, when someone says he has ten years of teaching experience, it amounts to only one year's experience multiplied ten times. He has been practically moving in a circle without achieving any progression, resulting in a despic-

able state of stagnation. Well directed efforts to resuscitate, rejuvenate, recreate, renew teachers in Yemen through periodically organized, peripatetic orientation programs would go a long way to boost the self image of Yemeni teachers.

The third major direction of the efforts to boost the drooping self esteem of teachers would be to give them an instrument for analyzing and monitoring their own classroom performances and practices. Every teacher may ask himself three vital questions, namely,

1. Do I look forward to my class with interest and plan for it well in time?
2. Do I enjoy teaching? Do I allow flexibility in my class or rigidly cling on to my teaching plan?
3. Do I analyze my performance in the class after it is over and think of ways to improve in future?

If the answers to most of those questions is positive, they unmistakably point to a conscientious teacher. It would be quite productive if we continually reflected on our classroom performance and judiciously pondered about what concrete steps we should be taking to make the lesson more interesting and enjoyable for the students as well as how to make it still better. So continual self monitoring monitoring of our performance is crucial to be reflective practitioners.

One often hears a rather cynical and condescending comment about teachers being the 'leisured class'. It is true that the members of the teaching community enjoy the unenviable privilege of vacation, unavailable to other professions. But this free time should not be frittered in trivial things. If we learn how to make a creative use of the free time by making a well-planned investment for professional self improvement, think of strategies for providing new and imaginative learning experiences for the children, and engage ourselves in an array of activities and programs targeted at improving the quality of community life such as creating environmental awareness, participating in immunization programs, organizing literacy drive, and so forth, then the much talked about social accountability of the profession can be maintained and the image of the teaching fraternity can be improved.

There is no denying the fact that the existing living and working conditions of teachers everywhere are far from satisfactory which is why it does not attract the best brains to teaching. The society must, on a priority basis, create conditions conducive to the maximization of the teacher's potential so that they are in a position to give their best to the society. For instance, there should be adequate provisions for promotional avenues and other similar benefits to the promising teachers. In fact, promotion should be based on performance of the incumbent and not linked to his seniority alone. In the West it is customary for dynamic and academically prolific professionals to supersede their relatively lazy seniors. We, here in Yemen, could formulate a set of criteria for continual evaluation and monitoring of the faculty and suitably reward the hard working, imaginative, innovative minds for their achievements.

On the teachers' part, they should not always have a grouse. 'A bad workman blames the tools'. Let's adapt ourselves to the new ethos, the new value system and, as ambassadors of change, groom young minds as fitting citizens of future. We have to deserve before desiring. Let's have faith in ourselves. Let's feel the pulsating rhythm of teaching. Only then can we contribute to the creation of a new world order.

تهنئة

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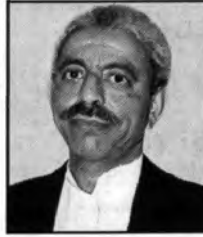
المهنؤون،

جميع الاهداء والاصداق من آل السقايف وآل القرشي

COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

It Is Time to Stop Waste



One of the major characteristics of good government and a civilized society is the efficiency in the use of the resources available to it and in the optimal use thereof without any needless waste or disregard for the need to sustain that use for as long as possible. In looking at the way our government has functioned, for literally decades now, and the way the society has behaved, perhaps in line with the way the government seems to follow in the use of its resources, it is clear that we have much to learn about how to competently make the maximum use of these resources. The truth of the matter is that we are horrendously wasteful, as a government and a society and surely we tend to disregard that these resources are both scarce and irreplaceable. We (as a government and a society) have surely shown a great sense of irresponsibility in managing these available resources and behave as though we have an infinite tapline to these resources. We waste everything: money, food, water, oil, gas, paper, etc. Moreover, we tend to fail to realize that there will be future generations of Yemenis who will be deprived of any of the resources that God, Al-Mighty has blessed the land with. Surely this must end, or fairly soon we will

find ourselves, in our own lifetimes, unable to harness any resources for our own needs and the needs of the society, although we could have taken the appropriate measures that would have made such resources readily available to meet our basic needs and the needs of generations to come. Part of the problem lies in the fact that the government itself is the worst entity in the land in managing the not so ample resources it has available to it. We have seen the government, over the decades, throw money left and right to needless causes and political adventures that bear no fruit, and without any professional adherence to budgetary control and monetary adherence to deriving value for expended funds, which entails financial as well as social returns that are tangible and meaningful. Moreover, the government's use of public funds and assets is not subject to any regulation, control and accountability. Thus, we have a public treasury that is the victim of wanton misuse and misappropriation of badly needed and scarce funds to serve a real public interest and to provide the normal services that are expected of government, that seemed to have vanished as the years passed by, without anyone in the government caring or even seeking to find answers as to why the government has reached such impotency. This being

despite the ample funds it collects from the hundreds of levies that it has rightfully or unjustly imposed on the increasingly poorer society - whose poverty is due, in great part, to such official and unofficial levies - and the billions of dollars, which the government has received as donor support for its "development" schemes and in fulfillment of social needs. Yet there is no transparency in the government's financial management and there is no accountability to those who are responsible for such pathetic disregard for the minimal sound principles of fiscal and financial management. We see billions of riyals thrown into political maneuvers that serve no real tangible political purpose, in terms of protecting the active rights of the population to - political empowerment and autonomous self-rule for the day to day management of public affairs. On the contrary, such political maneuvers tend to make a mockery of the entire political democratic process and tend to ridicule the intellect of the general population. On the other hand, such political maneuvers have become an exploitative angle for political opportunists to enhance their own materialistic ambitions and to fulfill their ever spongy craving for amassing the greatest amount of wealth at the expense of not only the current generation of Yemenis, but of the generations to

come as well. We see hundreds of billions of riyals thrown into projects of deadweight significance, many of which are left without the appropriate funding that will operate and maintain such projects, in order to insure their viability and functional continuity - at least for those projects that do have a functional and a usable attribute. We can find many hundreds of assets in the warehouses of the ministries and the public sector enterprises that are just left to sunbathe and become victims of climatic erosion, sometimes even for projects that have yet to close, never mind that their loans have yet to be repaid! Who is responsible for such waste and when will it end? Of course, the donors are not ignorant of these facts, and it is only fair to stress that they have pointed out time and again to the government that such horrendous waste of resources is not exactly what they had in mind when providing these funds. Moreover, it is only fair to state that the donors have, time and again provided and offered to provide all the technical assistance required by the government in the proper management of these assets, but again the government insists that the only way to overcome the problem is by carrying on with its perpetual policy of waste and pilferage of these resources, by adding more projects and deadweight so that the ministers and other senior officials can stand in front of the television cameras to lay down foundation stones and cut ribbons for the "inauguration" of projects, the components of which will eventually turn to scrap and rust within a few years, to be only replaced by additional deadweight, on the grounds that the older projects have decayed and the project is important "polit-

ically". Moreover the insistence of the government on maintaining control and management of these projects, without transferring ownership and responsibility of running them, after they have been completed, to the beneficiaries themselves is clearly a deliberate intention of preventing the sound operational management of these projects, just so the officials can still bleed as much as they can from the appropriations needed to manage and operate these projects - which they fail to do anyway, although the appropriations are allocated! Eventually such allocations are reduced just to meet the salaries of the overstaffing that has arisen to keep these projects "viable". While much more can be said about government waste of resources, it goes without saying that such "waste culture" has filtered down to the population itself. This of course is not a general social attribute, but rather is prevalent among those who have managed to amass great wealth, legally and illicitly, as they compete amongst themselves to display the extravagance of their wealth and the limitless ability to spend on fruitless social extravaganzas like weddings, circumcisions, and what have you, to assure that they do not become the object of social ridicule of not paying a hundred thousand riyals for a singer that cannot sing or for an overdose of make-up for the bride, by untrained coiffures and "make up artists", whose work would make Christian d'Or and Armany fumigate if they had a chance to see the masterpieces made on the faces of these poor brides. Yet, because of our disregard for good taste, "social rules" dictate that our poor brides become the victims of these con-

sumer sponges that have evolved in our society, which used to manage such functions with the minimal burdens on the families and without any sign of social inequity - with a great amount of taste and simplicity. Yet, we carry on. Look at our affluence in construction. How many rooms does a family need and how much decoration can we put into a house. But we have given up on the idea of building roofs over our heads. We now must build several ceilings above our heads and we must build a separate bathroom, not just for each member of the family, but for each limb and organ! Look at all those sumptuous palaces and their adornments, which would make Haroun Al-Rashid and the great pharaohs turn in their graves if they see the kind of residence that are sprawling in the south side of Sana'a and elsewhere in the country. What is distressing even more, is that all this affluence is being exercised, and diligently adhered to, by none other than the senior government officials and the social dignitaries who have yet to answer the question: where did all that wealth come from, and how much taxes have been paid on all the income, legal and illicit, they have obtained? It is well known by Moslems that waste of money and resources is prohibited in Islam and, surely, the Prophet Mohammed (and the other prophets before him, peace and blessings of Allah be upon, them all), and his early disciples took great pains to set an example of the humility and trust that Moslems, especially at the forefront of the society, should painstakingly exercise. But then, hell is a vast welcoming abode, that eagerly waits all those who have forgotten what life is really all about!

Letters to the Editor

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. Yemen Times is not responsible of the contents of the letters.

Another Millennium Bug, but in the Health Sector

While we are about to enter the 21st century, we are promised with the "Health to all" slogan. This slogan has been used as a slogan only for many years during the election campaigns, but still there are no signs of implementing what it refers to, i.e., health to all. A simple look at any "typical" hospital will show the miserable situation of health conditions in Yemen. All departments staff in a hospital, including doctors, administrative staff, technicians, are mostly unqualified. We can easily notice that they do not have enough skill and knowledge while in their duties. They exploit the illiteracy of people to pass any thing over them, and get themselves out of any embarrassment. The hygiene level of medical equipment and tools are terrible. Infections of diseases are high, especially in dental clinic, where there are virtually no means of preventing diseases from affecting others. People are losing the confidence in their hospitals. They cannot trust Yemeni doctors any more. Yet, they also don't have a choice. Hospitals should be the most organized place, those who work in a such place should be well-trained. Doctors must never forget the oath they took when they started their jobs or when they received their academic certificates. I don't mean all doctors are not good, of course there are exceptions. However, in Yemen the number of those frank doctors is limited, pushing us to make a generalization. On the other hand, I pay my respect to the very few doctors who have not lost their respect to their profession. Finally, I would like to ask, will the slogan "health for all" come to life one day?

Roweida Al-Saqqaf

Do You Have a Chip on Your Shoulder?

People in Yemen cannot seem to change. The same people of the sixties still exist. I mean, of course, their way of thinking not the way they dress, eat or talk. Many people have been abroad, went to universities and rubbed shoulders with many people of different cultures still, they think in the same way. Is it because of the dominance of illiteracy or is it ignorance? In Yemen string pulling is known as "wassata", and is not like in any other country. In our country bribe and string pulling dominate the employment policy in most of the companies and organization. A person applies for a job and he/she is very much legible for it but the chief or manager gets a call from a friend or relative. "Hi, old bud can you do me a favour? My cousin needs the job you advertised." The other would most of times say "O.k. No problem just let him/her apply and the job is his/hers." What a way to hire people! Then, we can't ask ourselves way we still do not take our jobs seriously. It is because most of us are simply not legible and unqualified. Same may say it is found everywhere in the world, would say yes that is true but it is not as serious as in Yemen and not in important jobs. They may hire a friend if he is qualified or if the job does need being professional like waters or secretaries. But in our country even if the job is very professional and demanding they would not care about that. What adds insult to injury is the fact that the people doing this are the some people who appear in public talking about change and modernization. They don't mind hiring unqualified people and them the prestige of their institution is tarnished because of that. Those who see themselves as modern people with open minds and mentalities do these things. I think it's time they thought about this matter and reconsidered it. Those who have chips on

their shoulders should be intelligent enough to understand. Do you have a chip on your shoulder?

By: Bu-Madyan Mohammed Al-Abasi

Modern thoughts

The Darwinism & the 'Miss Link' Problem

People scattering throughout the world are from Adam. Adam was made up of clay. He dwelt in different places of the world. He had been learnt various kinds of knowledge which became very fixed on his mind and he inherited it to his sons. When he had landed on the earth, this knowledge was screened by instinctive needs, i.e., the important body needs of food and reproduction. The recent human being (Homo sapiens) mind was divided into two parts. The "Living Mind" and "the post living Mind". The former deals with the body needs, i.e., satisfying the mandate needs of food and reproduction, while the latter deals with the soul needs i.e., the ultimate knowledge which had been learnt in the past. Now many theories are looking for the origin of the universe. Here we will standardize "Super Nora Theory" (Laplace hypothesis). A big burning could of hydrogen. This cloud was split in process of time into many stars i.e., many suns. Each sun originated it's own set of planets. From each planet has emerged the moon, which revolves around it. So the sun and it's set of planets including our earth have existed. "O not the Unbelievers see that the heavens and the earth were jointed together (as one unite of Creation), before we clove them a sunder? We made from water every living thing. Will they not then believe" Surat Al-Anbiyaa 21-30. According to "Modern Periodic Table" in chemistry, the hydrogen atom was the least element. The rest of elements were fixed gradually according to the increase of their atomic number, i.e., the electron or the proton number. The solid and soft body of the earth was composed of these elements either in a single form or in compounds. From hydrogen and oxygen water was formed. From water and carbon the organic matter was created. From the organic matter "Living protoplasm" was composed. It has appeared via series of reactions of nucleic acids, i.e., D.N.A and R.N.A. The micro-organisms like Virus and Bacteria of (Kingdom Monera) were the first living things. Then the Monoplastica, the Diploplastica and finally the Triploplastica. "And God has created every animals from water. OF them there are some that creep on their bellies, some that walk on tow legs; And some that walk on four; God creates what he will; For verily God has power over all things." Surat Alnur 24-45 The Triploplastica being with warms followed by insects, which are known as invertebrate. Finally the vertebrates and it's top living being the primitive man (Homo erectos). These biological reactions took place in the natural laboratory via millions of years. Because the primitive man was not provided with "P.L.M" his life was so instinctive and reassembling animal life. When the recent man had landed on the earth, in extremely short time he established many civilizations. He was very clever, conscious and was provided with "P.L.M" As a conclusion we can say that, there was no missing link between the primitive man (Homo erectos) and the conscious man (Homo sapiens.) Because the former was a result of evolution of the earth via millions of years while the latter had landed on the earth from another world, i.e., he was extra-terrestrial. That

means there is no relation between the recent man and the apes. Mr. Adil M.A. Elamin International institute of Islamic Thoughts (73/95) P.O.Box 669, 555- Groue st. HERNODON, VA 22070 U.S.A

Dear Editor,

I hopethat you are all fine. I would like to express my deepest Thank and gratitude to you for publishing such valuable and important articles. Specially articles such as, "Rights of woman in Islam", "Children are the Butterflies of heaven" by D. Azza Ghanem and " Ignorance's Consequences on own Society" by Mohamed No-man Al- Hokum "Taiz" Your efforts are applauded by all readers. Such articles, in fact, describe the misunderstanding of Islam by westerners. The false thoughts that Islam is the reason of backwardness. The truth is that on the contrary, backwardness is

because we have not abided by Islam. If we look back to the early ages of Islam, we would understand how it enabled the Muslim state to become the best in terms of science and culture. Moreover, when westerners claim that Islam is the reason behind our backwardness claiming that they were the pioneers in science. Hence, they forget that muslims were among the first ever in sciences discoveries and inventions a long time ago. Besides all of that, your articles revealed the facts about Islam and were able to raise the voices in saying "No!" to all accusations against Islam. To sum it all up, I stress that the priority is for us Muslims is to reveal the beauty and wisdom of Islam. That is why I wish you more success and want you to convey my deepest thanks to Mr. Mohammed Noman Al- Hakimi "Taiz", The writer of the last article mentioned above, in the last issue No 39. We owe you a lot for your great articles.

Fadl Ahmed Abbas Ghazi

فاین کریم
یغذی الشعر
ویزید القشرة

فاین کریم
مضاد للقشرة
يجعل الشعر انيقا ولساعا

Teachers' Teacher, Dr. Damodar Thakur talks to the Yemen Times:

"In life, it is not money or the position that matters so much as the satisfaction, the happiness, the emotional enrichment that makes you genuinely happy."

Dr. Damodar Thakur is a key figure in the educational scenario in Yemen. Widely known and respected for his erudition and humanism, Dr. Thakur has made rich and substantial contribution to the growth of education as well as inculcation of values among generations of students in Yemen. He is presently the Head of the English Dept. in the Faculty of Arts, Sana'a University. He has been teaching English in Yemen since 1980. He first came as a visiting professor to give some lectures, and then was requested to be a regular member of the university staff. He has quite a number of research papers in journals. In addition to these, he has published about ten or eleven books, some of which were prescribed as text books for the teaching of English in countries like Nepal. Mr. Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi, Managing Editor, Yemen Times profiles this multi-faceted personality.....



YT: Dr. Thakur, you have been associated with the Yemeni educational system for a long time. Could you please tell us what you were in India before coming to Yemen and how you came here.

DT: I came to Yemen in 1981. In 1980 I was invited to give a few lectures. That is how I initially came to Yemen. Dr. Zandani who was the Rector at that time, after the first lecture took liking for me and wanted me to continue as a regular faculty of the Sanaa University.

Before I came here I was the Director of the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Regional Center, Lucknow. The main job of that center was to provide in-service training to college and university teachers. I was the Director of that institution and responsible for teaching and directing those courses.

YT: What was the state of education in Yemen at the time you came, particularly with regard to the teaching of English? How does it contrast with the present situation?

DT: Well, at that time education was in its initial stages. During those days, the study of English for students was an excitement; now it is an opportunity. At that time it was a kind of intellectual curiosity. Now it is a road leading to jobs. So the students' attitudes have now changed. Moreover, at that time the students used to be very small in number. When the first group of students joined, there were only three or four students. Your late chief editor Mr. Abdul Aziz was one of the students of our department. There were only four students

in one group, but now this year, for example, we have something like 600 students wanting admission in our department, out of which we can select a maximum of 100. So, English teaching has become more popular. It is more in demand. More and more pupils want to study English. At that time, only those who had a very high level of motivation, and a very high level of ability in English joined our department. But now with the spread of education, there is a much larger number. And there is a range of abilities. There are, for example, brilliant ones, there are the average ones, we have also students whose ability is not that high. So there is a great deal of difference.

YT: In your perception how has the English teaching scenario changed in Yemen over the years and what are the reasons?

DT: English teaching, I don't think has changed for the worse over the past few years. The curriculum has, of course, been revised. Teachers have come and gone, but we have learnt out of experience. We have been trying to make the teaching of English more meaningful, more job-oriented. So there is a change in quality. There is a change in direction. There is a change in attitude, that way. At that time, it was just, as I said, an intellectual discipline. People were not worried for jobs as they are now. So to make it more job-oriented now, it is more need oriented these days than it used to be at that time.

YT: As an expert in education and given your long acquaintance with the Yemeni stu-

dents, what do you think are the striking features of the Yemeni students?

DT: Well, the striking features of the Yemeni students in my perception are the following: they are very warm-hearted; they are genuine people and very eager to learn. This is one of the reasons why I have stayed here for such a long time. I have spent the best and the most creative years of my life here. It is because of my students. There are exceptions, of course; but, by and large, the Yemeni students are really ideal students. They have a sincere desire to learn. They are hard working and respectful towards their teachers. These are some of the qualities which make them very different from students in certain other parts of the world.

YT: Some people say that education in Yemen is deteriorating. The competence of the students is not as it was in the past. What are the reasons behind the deterioration of the educational system in Yemen in your view?

DT: First of all, I won't entirely agree that the standards are going down. This is true to some

extent, no doubt. But this is not always true. The partial deterioration is because of the large number of enrollment. You know, more and more students are coming to the university and we haven't got the infrastructure for that. We need a large number of rooms, we need a large number of teachers, we need audio visual aids. So the materials, and the infrastructure that we need to cope with the increasing number of students are not adequate. The number of students tends to surpass the existing infrastructure that we need for being able to provide quality education for them.

YT: We have heard that you were offered lucrative political positions like ambassador to Yemen, but you preferred to stay as a professor at the university. Why?

DT: I like Yemen because of the students and my colleagues. I really like my Yemeni colleagues and my Yemeni students. You see, once, one of my students asked me: are you more of a teacher or more of a father? My answer was: "Every teacher has a father in him and every father has a teacher in him. The

greater the father in the teacher, the greater the teacher he is likely to be." Now my students are not just names and role numbers for me. They are not just faces, they are like my children. If a student is in trouble, I get the impression that my own child is in trouble. I must do something about him. I have developed a sense of identity with them and most of the students, too, have developed a sense of identity with me. I am not just a father like figure to them, many of them consider me to be their father. That is the kind of emotional bond between my students and me which is highly satisfying for me. If I went to a country like Emirates or Saudi Arabia, I would have got much more money, but I wouldn't have got the sense of fulfillment that I am getting here. After all, in life, it is not money or position that matters so much as the satisfaction, the happiness, the emotional enrichment that makes you genuinely happy. I have never starved for fame or fortune. I am very rich that way, rich in the sense that I am surrounded by students who respect me. And on my part, I like my students.

YT: What would be your message to improve the standards of the Yemeni students in English?

DT: Two messages. The first one is: "Genius is 99% perspiration and only 1% inspiration." That is, it is only hard work that can get them success. The second message is associated with the statement of Gabrielle in the Holy Quran: "Ikra" and I want to apply it in a different manner: "Read and read, that is the only salvation. That is the only thing which can take us out of ignorance". In my opinion, the best thing we can do is to make the students read and read. If we can create and develop in them a passionate love for reading, and provide healthy enjoyable materials to them, we will have done a great deal of our job.

YT: Would you like to add anything?

DT: You see, the only thing I would like to add is a line from the Holy Quran. This is what I say to my teachers, my colleagues: "Idf'a billati hiya ahsan", that is: "Repel the bad by the good." If the students are making mistakes, don't keep telling them they are making mistakes. Give them excellent examples of writing and make them read it. Give them excellent examples of students. Don't tell them that they are bad. I like the examples of excellent students. That is the only thing I would like to say. So "Ikra" and then "Idf'a billati hiya ahsan." That is my message.

Hajj

Abduh Sallam Al-Amery

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يتقدم بأعطر التهاني القلبية

والأمنيات الطيبة لسعادة

السفير الألماني السيد فرنر زيمبرتش

وكافة أعضاء السفارة الألمانية

وإلى الشعب الألماني الصديق بمناسبة

**العيد الوطني لجمهورية
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خروج جماهير شعبنا في ربوع الوطن من أقصاه إلى أقصاه تأييدا للقائد، وقال الناخبون يوم 23 سبتمبر 99م، وعبر اقتراح سري وديمقراطي نعم لـ «علي عبدالله صالح» رئيسا للجمهورية فإنهم يقولون نعم للوفاء ومسيرة العطاء وسيران عجلة التنمية، ولمن قدم وضحى لشعبه ووحدته وطنه.

يزف الأخ عبده محمد الحذيفي - المدير العام،
وجميع موظفي وعمال

مجمع العروسة السياحي

أسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات إلى باني نهضة اليمن الأخ الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة إعادة انتخابه رئيسا للجمهورية،
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سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يشهد الوطن في ظل قيادته المزيد من
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وكل عام والجميع بخير

When all the people in all governorates expressed their strong support for the President and said yes for the president on the election day, they simply said YES for development and progress.

Mr. Abduh Mohammed Al-Hudhaifi,
General Manager,
and all staff of



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presents its warmest congratulations to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

On the occasion of winning the Presidential Elections

We do hope that our country will witness great achievements under his leadership.

We also present their sincere wishes on the occasion of
26th of September Revolution
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Many happy Returns



26 September - 14 October

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Environmental Pollution in Mukala

Caused by the Romanian Ship, Golden Virgin

On August 8, 1999, a Romanian ship, 'Golden Virgin' lay anchor on the Mukala coast in Hadramout. It left marv on the cement concrete which protects Mukala port, and the marine life. There the biggest effect was the environmental pollution which would certainly affect Mukala because the ship carries about 226 tons of oil. If the oil leaks into the sea, it will adversely affect the environment, create an oil leak and destroy the marine life in the coast. Mukala will certainly witness a big environmental

crisis if the oil leaks out. Although it has been more than two months, the insurance company and the owner company have shown utter disregard to this matter. They do not care about what happens to our country. We do not know the reason behind this. Although it is said that the landing was because of the negligence on the part of the crews. It appears to have been done intentionally. So, this matter should be referred to the court of law.

In view of the relationship between

Yemen and Romania, the authorities in Mukala helped crews to remove the wreckage. Most of the crews left for their country, while a few of them are still staying in Mukala. They are putting up in one of the hotels in Mukala city.

Yemen and all environmental associations have the right to refer this matter to the international associations. Yemen also has the right to request compensations for the big influence which is expected to happen.

This is not the first time for the

Romanian ships to have reached the yemeni coast. On July, 1997, a Romanian ship, Oscar Vinous, violated the Yemeni sovereignty by entering Aden coasts without any legal license. At the same time, there was another ship which came to take the goods. The coast guard and the crews started exchanging gunfire, but the coast guard could not

recognize the identity of this ship not even the cargo. Unfortunately, this happened because of the negligence of the authorities. A another ship, which anchored on the coast however, for simple reason that released, Yemen aims at improving the relationship with Romania.

The repetition of these events by the

Romanian and other ships, requires a serious attention from the government. These violations must be punished according to the international law. The authorities in the ports should make accurate investigations of these ships before they enter regional boundaries of our country.



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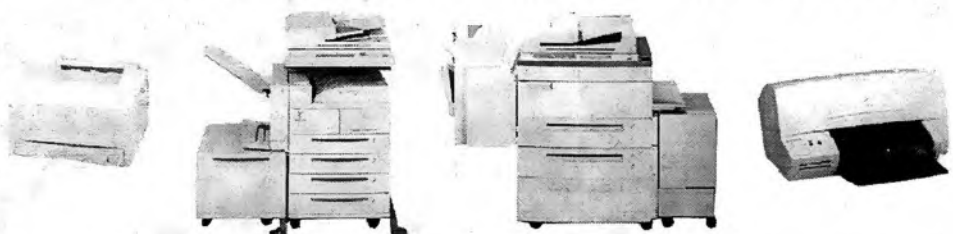
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Answer of 39th Issue Competition:

"The third and last victim of the City Center Blast is Canadian Oxy's Guard, Nabeel M. Omar, page 2"

Winners of the 39th Issue Competition

First Prize (YR 8000)

Gameel Qasem Al-Mohaya, Taiz

Second Prize (YR 5000)

Mohammed Aziem El-Bashir, Sana'a

Third Prize (YR 4000)

Abdourahman Robleh Doualeh, Sana'a

Fourth Prize (YR 3000)

Mahmood Saeed Mahyoob algonaid, Sana'a

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.

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Yemen Times Weekly Competition

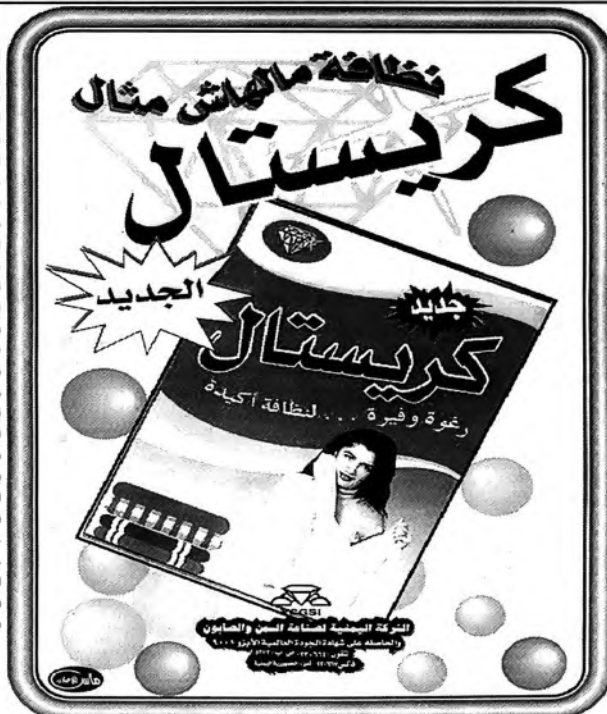
مسابقة يمن تايمز الاسبوعية

Issue no.
41

هذه المسابقة برعاية الشركة اليمنية لصناعة السمن والصابون

This Competition is sponsored by Yemen Company for Ghee and Soap Industries

البحث في محتويات هذا العدد عن إجابة السؤال المبين في الأسفل مع كتابة الاجابة باللغة الانجليزية وكتابة عنوان المقالة مع تحديد رقم الصفحة التي بها الاجابة بخط واضح وإرسالها إلى عنوان الصحيفة الرئيسي في سنعاء. لا تقبل الإجابات من دون هذا الكوبون الخاص بالسؤال. الاجابات التي تصلنا بالفاكس غير مقبولة. سيتم اختيار الفائزين من بين جميع المتقدمين بواسطة القرعة. وسيمنح الفائز المركز الأول مبلغ 8000 ريال والثاني 5000 ريال والثالث 4000 ريال والرابع 3000 ريال. وحتى يتسنى للجميع إرسال الاجوبة إلى بريد الصحيفة فإن باب المشاركة سيظل مفتوحاً لمدة أسبوعين من يوم الإصدار (أي بعد 13 يوماً من الإصدار). ستنشر أسماء الفائزين في العدد بعد التمام لاستلام جوائزهم. كما نرجو كتابة رقم عدد الصحيفة على مغزوف الرسالة. بإمكان نض الشخص إرسال أكثر من كوپون باسمه.



Search for the answer of the below question within the contents of this issue and write the answer clearly along with the article's title and page number. Please cut out this coupon and send it to our Sana'a Head Office. The winners will be selected through drawing lots. The awards are YR 8,000 for 1st place, YR 5,000 for 2nd place, YR 4,000 for 3rd place, and YR 3,000 for 4th place. The winners' names will be announced on the issue after two week's. Answers will be acceptable within only 13 days after the date of issuance. Please write the number of the issue of the Yemen Times that you cut the coupon from on the envelope. One person can send more than one coupon to have a higher possibility of winning.

Answers sent by fax or photocopy will not be accepted!

Question of the Week

What is the cost of the presidential elections in Yemen?

Answer: _____

Article's Title: _____ Page no. _____

Your Name: _____

City/Province: _____ Address: _____

Tel. No.: _____

IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH

In this new series beginning this week, we shall present tips about how to use English efficiently and effectively in different situations. We shall focus on vocabulary and different grammatical areas of English where most learners of English find difficulty in learning. Questions on the points discussed or/and other areas of English use are welcome and may be addressed to

"Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Improve Your English,
Care The Yemen Times
P.O. Box 2579 - Sanaa."

Lesson1 (Greetings):

"Good morning , Doctor"

"Good morning, Ali. How do you do?"

"I do well, Doctor."

"Wait a minute, Ali. That is not what we say when some one wishes us, "How do you do?" We simply repeat the same phrase "How do you do!" with of course, a falling intonation. See, there are two different ways of greeting some one in English. For example, if I like to wish you or greet you. I can say, " Hello Ali. How are you?" to which your reply should be " I am all right/fine/okay doctor. Thank you!"

Or I may say: "How do you do?" and you should say politely: "How do you do?"

"What is the difference, doctor, between 'Hello' and 'Hi'?"

"Well, 'Hi' is used informally and to very close friends, whereas 'Hello' or 'Hallo' is an expression used for others"

"Thank you, doctor. Bye"

"Bye for now, Ali. Take care"

Weekly Quiz:

What are the single words for the following phrases?

- 1- One who knows many languages
- 2- Being unable to pay one's debts
- 3- Having an evil reputation
- 4- One who leaves one's country to settle elsewhere
- 5- A person who lives at the same time as another

*(Answers in the next Issue)

Quotable Quote

"Reading maketh a full man,
Writing an exact man,
and Conference a ready man"

Francis Bacon

English essayist of the 16th century.

Prepared by Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
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all Emabssy Staff,

All German Expert wrking with NWSA,

and to all Germany People

on the occasion of

**The National Day of Fedral
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د. محمد أحمد السعيدى

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والشعب الألماني الصديق،

وكل الخبراء الألمان العاملين في المؤسسة

وذلك بمناسبة

العيد الوطني لجمهورية

ألمانيا الاتحادية الصديقة.

New Horizons of Amber



Ali Qhasim Abdu Abn Al-A'beda

The curiosity and the ambition which I had harbored since I was a child, for earning distinction have propelled me to realize my dream. I have collected more than fifty pieces of excavations. These pieces have a peculiar insects inside.



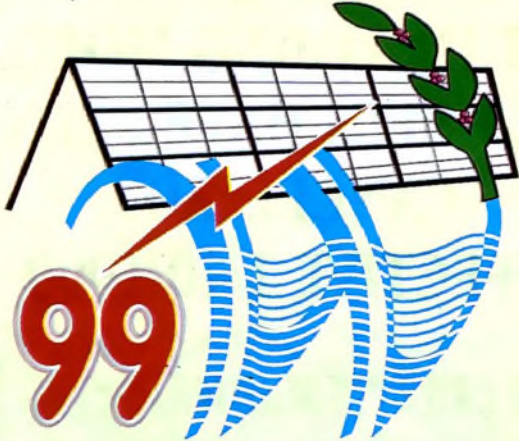
Biologists have discovered new kinds of insects inside the amber. This has helped scientists in this field to throw light on the life cycle of insects. Amber is a mucilaginous material which comes out from the roots of trees. Then, it becomes a solid material, which keeps and protects insects from natural changes for a long period of time. Andross, a biologist in London museum has done seminal studies in this field. He did studies about some of the insects which are thriving inside the amber, which are as old as 40 million-years. Ross, another biologist, found that approximately 10 % of amber contains normal insects, and 1 % contains extraordinary insects. His researches made substantial contribution to understand about 80 % of insects at the

insects belongs to 120 million years. It was found in Lebanon and United Kingdom. Some of these parts which are shown in the picture are found in some places of Yemen. The first picture contains a fossilized bee inside the amber, the second picture contains eight insects and the third one contains a housefly. This housefly is 50 million years old. It is still preserved in different international museums.

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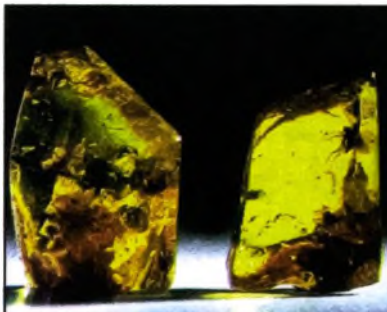
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London museum, with about (300) parts. This material is found in different countries of the world, the large number is found in Paltice countries, and the Republic of Dominican. So, the oldest samples of this material in Paltice dates back to 40 million-



year, while the oldest one in Dominican Republic belongs to 20 million-year. Few of this material is seen in Canada, Siberia, United States of America, Burma, Mexico and Sakhalia. Amber takes yellow and orange color. It is a heavy material which is useful for handicrafts industries. The oldest instance of amber is 300 million years old, while the oldest which contains



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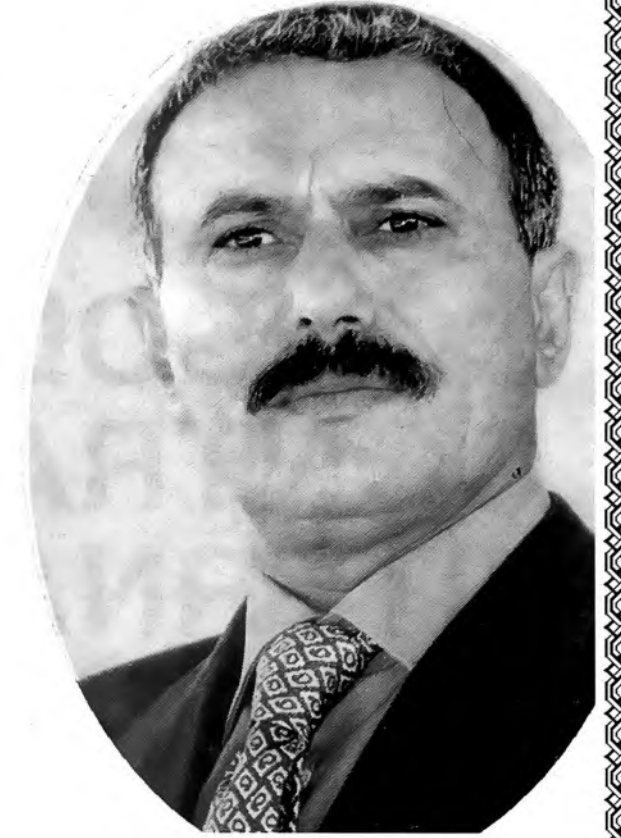
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Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani
and Consultative Council,
and the Yemeni people

On the occasion of the 36th anniversary of 14 October
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Many Happy Returns





Dr. Waleed Jazrawi, President and General Manager
and all the staff of

Canadian Occidental Petroleum Yemen

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on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of 14 October Revolution.

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and Consultative Council,

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