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Monday, 14 July 2003 - VOL. 13 • Issue No. 650 • Price 30 Yemeni Riyals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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Yemen and Saudi Arabia Extradite Suspects Five more AAIA Militants arrested

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemeni security forces arrested Thursday five of the militants of the banned extremist Aden-Abyan Islamic Army (AAIA). An official source said that security and counter terrorism forces were able to catch the five militants while mopping up the two governorates of Abyan and Lahj. By this the number of the arrested militants rise to 27 persons, according to the official source.

The government troops launched two weeks ago an intensive arrest campaign against 80 AAIA militants who were camp-

ing in the Huttat mountainous and rugged area in Abyan. This operation came as a result of an attack by the militants against a military medical convoy.

Among the militants who are still at large are the ten USS Cole bombing suspects who escaped an intelligence prison in Aden last April.

The campaign to hunt down for these fugitives is still going on in Abyan and Lahj.

On the other hand, the Yemeni-Saudi authorities are preparing for mutual extradition of 13 al-Qaeda suspects and criminals, an official source said Thursday. The Saudi authority is to hand over to Yemeni

authorities eight suspects, including two persons suspected of being involved in the terrorist attack on the French Oil tanker Limburg last October at Hadhramut port. Yemen is to extradite five Saudi nationals; three of them are al-Qaeda suspects while the other two are charged with criminal acts.

Saudi Arabia already extradited some suspects to Yemen. This action taken by the two countries is a part of the implementation of the security accord signed between the two countries, which they have stressed during their coordination council meetings last week that they would enhance cooperation against terrorism.



Military units hunting down for AAIA militants in Huttat mountain

Yemen seeks to establish open regional congregation

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

President Ali Abdullah Saleh of is to pay a state visit to the Federal Republic of Ethiopia

in the near future in response to an invitation extended by Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, the 26 September weekly, organ of Yemen Armed Forces said on Thursday. President Saleh is to hold talks with the Ethiopian premier on issues of the Horn of Africa and cooperation between the two nations.

The visit aims also at activating the tripartite meeting which includes Sana'a, Khartoum, and Addis Ababa.

Discussions by the two men is also scheduled to tackle, in addition to issues related to

the Horn of Africa, the question of creating an open regional congregation for countries in the region.

Dr. al-Qerbi, Yemen's foreign minister told the 26 September Newspaper that the regional congregation would represent the mainstay for stability in the region and aim at removing and settling disputes in the region.

"It will also pave the way for a free trade market among those countries and will also enhance the economical and commercial partnership," the foreign minister said.

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Socotra Archipelago Natural sanctuary announced

Last Friday Socotra Archipelago was announced in the UNESCO center in Paris as a natural sanctuary among the international network of protected sanctuaries which are 440 sanctuaries in 97 countries.

Saba News agency quoted Dr. Hameed Al-Awadhi Yemen's ambassador to UNESCO as saying that the declaration had rendered the Socotra islands group the first sanctuary of its kind in Yemen and in the Arabian Peninsula.

This event promises great benefit to the whole region especially that it would mean protection of the rare elements found in the islands.

It is worth mentioning that Yemen has declared in the republican decree No. 275 for year 2000 that Socotra Islands groups which include Simha, Darsa, Abdu Kori, and their small isles were among protected environments in Yemen. It is probable that more efforts would be exerted in order to include other islands in the world network such as Otma and Hafash so as to protect the natural life in those islands and to maintain the natural variation in the biological life in the country.



Exotic life forms only exist in the Socotra island

Managing capability training course kicks off

By Emad al-Saqqaf
Taiz Bureau Chief

TAIZ_ Alsaed Foundation for Science and Culture inaugurated its 6-day training course on economic management Saturday 12 of July. The Bank Studies Institute organizes the course under the patronage Hael Saeed Anaam Group of Companies. About 170 participants attend the course from Taiz, Sana'a, Dhahar, Jbb, Aden, Lahj and Hodiedah, and many representatives of banks, insurance companies, and naval shipping companies. The training course aims at enhancing the trainees skills in management and behavior capabilities necessary in their everyday work and to deal with others.

It will deal with the document credit, insurance coverage and conditions of the safety of naval transportation in the light of new developments in international agreements governing parties of credits.



Mr. Abduljabbar Hael Saeed

Mr. Abduljabbar Hael Saeed, the Director of the Industrial Administration had earlier indicated the importance of training for developing talents and human resources, especially at industrial, trade, and services institutions.

He stressed that those institutions were in great need of highly qualified and trained labor due to the nature and kind of activity they practice which is mainly based on modern and developed programs.

He further pinpointed the importance of a topics tackled such as modern administration and organization. Mr. Abduljabbar had also pointed out that topics of the second course would be as important as the subjects dealt with in the first training course. They would focus on subjects as international trade and its importance for the employees working in the field of importation and dealing with foreign institutions like banks and industrial and trade companies.

Courts in Sana'a announce strike

Courts and general prosecutions in the capital secretariat announced a general strike beginning from 8th July in protest to an attack and beating against the south of secretariat head of appeal prosecution court by brigadier general M. M., a high ranking commander in the army and his guards on 6 July probably because the judge did not obey the brigadier general on a disputed issue.

It so happened that last month

another judge namely Amin Hajar member of the prison prosecution was also assaulted while he did not rule in favor of a number of military people. Another incident took place last week when an attorney general came under attack by a central security general. It is worth mentioning that none of the previous incidents received suitable measures and that is why the judges are protesting through strike.

Islah Charitable Welfare Society supports small projects

Encouraging and developing the small projects is an essential and pioneering step to transform the charitable work from the taking care and sympathy stage to development and production stage.

The idea of small projects in Yemen is still in the process of the establishment.

Islah Charitable Welfare Society cooperating with the number of regional and international organizations have recently adopted the program of developing small projects.

Mr. Fouad Abdulateef, manager of the program for development of the small projects in the society, told Yemen Times "The program of development of small projects offers a series of small-size finance to be easily repaid by the vocational and small-business owners within their aim to participate indirectly in alleviating employment and improving the level of individual-income as well as poverty reduction.

Mr. Fuad pointed out that the projects have been distributed as 540 service projects, 1915 commercial projects and 498 industrial projects that are supported by UNDP, AGFUND and IDF.

Only Yemeni nationals are allowed to benefit from the program, added to that they should have constant activity of at least 6 months and the finance should be offered in raw materials.

The program is ambitious to finance 8000 men and women till 2007 besides preparing constant development program for beneficiaries in the sectors of health, education, social, illiteracy eradication, training and rehabilitation, particularly educate and rehabilitate woman in all fields.

Local Council approves deposing Sirwah governor

In its last meetings held last Tuesday, the Local Council affiliated to Sirwah district, Marib governorate decided relieving the colonel Najeeb al-Salahi of his post, as a governor of the district.

The council decision was based on accusations against Mr. al-Salahi of committing abuses of his post.

Mr. al-Salahi has recently led a mediation and contacts with Abu Asem, (Mohammed Hamdi al-Ahdal), al-Qaeda key masterminds wanted by the US and some government's officials in the hope of convincing Abu Asem to surrender himself to the security authorities. But that mediation had failed.

al-Salahi is believed to be involved in killing al-Huraibi in Sana'a during the post-unification.



al-Salahi

Readers' Voice

Yemen Times is reintroducing a popular feature "Readers' Voice" - formerly known as YT Opinion Poll.

This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

**Does Bush's
tour of Africa
mainly target
its oil?**

- Yes.
- No, I don't believe so.
- I don't know.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

**Do you believe that
Yemeni-Saudi relations
could one day return to
their status prior to the
1990 gulf war?**

- Never. 38.3%
- Yes, it will happen, but after many years. 28.3%
- Yes, it will happen soon. 23.3%
- It depends on the two countries, let's just wait and see. 10%

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World Fund for eradicating Malaria, Tuberculoses and AIDS

The World Fund for eradicating Malaria, Tuberculoses and AIDS for Asia presented 11 million and 8 hundred thousand USD to the Yemeni Health ministry last week as a loan for covering related activities' charges in Yemen in the next five years.

Dr. Mohammed Yahya Al-Numi the minister of health signed the agreement for the Yemeni side and for the World Fund, in Geneva, it was signed by Mr. Pamiman in charge of the Fund's support for the disease eradication. The Fund's official had arrived in Sana'a last week leading a delegation to complete discussing the grant offered to Yemen by the Fund.

Praiseworthy paper released

SANA'A_ The Sahafi newspaper, (Journalist) has been recently published by information university graduates.

The new issue has been highly designed and that the information graduates belong to Sana'a university have enjoyed high capabilities of writing a true journalistic piecework.

The Sahafi, which is a graduation project includes diverse and different local as well international miscellanies.

The information graduates have been currently discussing the idea of obtaining an official permission from the information ministry in an attempt to issue the new graduation project permanently.

As a concentrated effort made by the information students, the idea of obtaining a permission is too exorbitant.



"What is needed is to provide necessary equipment such as, Macintosh computer sets, printing costs, and other press-related subordinates," an information student remarked.

The new graduation project has been discussed by the information university students last week along with the university professors.

"The new graduation project is praiseworthy and it is considered to be a clear indication of a successful experience in the field of journalism," an information professor commented.

Major new offers by KLM

KLM Sanaa office announced last week that passengers can now purchase their tickets and reserve seats online in three easy steps through the Internet. The ticket would be purchased with reservation confirmed within one working day. "KLM passengers do not need to leave their homes to make bookings with us. Just click online (www.klm.com/om_en) and we will respond back to you!" said Mr. A.M. Vasudevan, Commercial Manager - Oman and Yemen. Online bookings are very popular in Europe and North American and hopes are high that Oman and Yemen would catch up too.

Flying Tuchman Loyalty program

Furthermore, KLM announced the new Flying Dutchman Loyalty program offered to members in the form of providing free travel and other



enticing premium benefits and services including upgrades, leisure packages, car rentals, business lounge access in more than 400 destinations around the world using any combination of KLM partner airline routes.

"We at KLM understand the importance and value of loyalty programs to any frequent traveler. We look at our Loyalty program, the Flying Dutchman, as an investment in our customers and a means to bring added value to our frequent flyers in an increasingly competitive airline industry," mentioned Mr. Vasudevan.

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YT journalist comments on Kuwaiti elections:

Will Peninsula make use of Kuwaiti elections

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni press delegation concluded a several-day visit to the state of Kuwait.

The Yemen Times representative during the Kuwaiti elections, Hassan al-Zaidi expressed his appreciation of a strong healthy competitions among candidates and that Kuwait if compared to any gulf states have showed a keen adherence and a limitless desire to democratic practice.

Journalists during their visit to Kuwait have conveyed a noble message on the process of the Kuwaiti elections particularly with regard to bringing a true image of the democratic experience in Kuwait and that election processes has been run in a very healthy competition atmosphere.

"The Kuwaiti elections have positively expressed a true image of the Kuwaitis and their culture," al-Zaidi said.



Hassan Al-Zaidi, Yemen Times representative in Kuwait

"I think that the Kuwaitis have nominated their representatives in an accurate and honest way," he noted.

He further pointed out that the Kuwaiti elections have been lacking women's participation. This problem has been raised by the opposition along with buying votes which has not been yet confirmed.

"The democratic experience in the state of Kuwait has been run fairly and that the security committees have never trifled with polling boxes. "Counting votes along with other security procedures have been successfully completed. We as Yemenis have to make use of the democratic experience in the state of Kuwait," al-Zaidi commented.

What is needed is to enlarge the political participation at grass root level.

The number of the Kuwaiti registrants



have reached only 1367156.

In order to run 50 parliamentary seats, only 246 have contested for the elections in 25 election constituencies.

"What is needed is to reconsider the election constituencies divisions and to increase the political participation at grass root level.

As for elections, the Yemen Times representative in the Kuwaiti elections, al-

Zaidi said that a number parliamentarians and great politicians failed in 7 July elections.

The liberal movement represented by the former deputy and the chairman of the Democratic Institute, Abdullah Naibari and Dr. Ahmed Araee, were among the Kuwaiti election losers.

Only two candidates out of 13 affiliated to Islamic Brothers Movement have won in elections. A number of independent Islamists and tribe candidates also failed in 2003 elections including Mubarak al-Duwaila and Khaled al-Udah and others.

The constitutional movement has won two parliamentary seats. During the previous elections, they won four seats. Independent People's Bloc Movement has maintained stability of its parliamentary seats.

The number of the independent Islamic candidates has increased. The Shiite movement has maintained its position despite of changes in its previous candidates.

Sustainable development and Biodiversity conservation for the people of Socotra:

USD5 million for human development in Socotra

A program of support for "Sustainable Development and Biodiversity Conservation for the people of Socotra Islands, Yemen" was signed between UNDP and the Ministry of Water and Environment (MOWE) and the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation MOPIC. UNDP, the Government of Italy and the Government of Yemen will contribute US \$2.5 million, US \$ 2.5 million and US \$ 383,000 (in kind) respectively.

The overall goal of the program is to support human development for the people of Socotra islands, through the conservation and sustainable use of its unique Biodiversity and natural resources.

The program will promote systemic and integrated human development and biodiversity conservation in the nationally and internationally important Socotra Archipelago of Yemen. The program will assist the government of Yemen to: (a) support main engines of growth for the local economy: eco-tourism and sustainable fisheries, and implement the archipelago's zoning plan and community based management of protected area; (b) address most pressing basic community development needs and mobilize communi-



Socotra Island, splendor of virgin nature

ties engagement in sustainable human development process, (c) enhance professional capacity of local and central government to steer sustainable development path for the archipelago, and mobilize additional resources to support an integrated conservation and

development program, and (d) develop a partnership with the Galapagos Archipelago national park (Ecuador).

National execution modality will be followed for program management and implementation under the MOWE. The program document was signed

by H.E. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Sofan on behalf of the government of Yemen along with H.E. Dr. Mohammed Lutf Al-Eryani, Minister of Water and Environment; and Mr. Moin Karim, resident Representative on behalf of UNDP. The project duration is for five years.

H.E. Mr. Giacomo Sanfelice di Monteforte, the Ambassador of the Republic of Italy and officials from the Italian Embassy, MOPIC, MOWE/EPA, and UNDP office in Sana'a, attended the signing ceremony.

Hunt holds its annual activities



Within its annual activities, a summer festival was held last week by the Hunt Oil Company at the al-Sabaeen Park. The party was attended by the general directors, the company's staff and the employees' families. The annual party included diverse games, entertainment and competitions. Prizes were awarded to some of the attendants and light meals were also served.

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Al-Qadhi awarded M.A. with Excellent Grade

Mr. Mohammed Hatem al-Qadhi, senior editor at the Yemen Times and correspondent of the Saudi-based Riyadh Daily, was awarded last Wednesday the degree of M.A. in English Literature with the grade of excellent for his thesis titled "A Study of George Eliot's Middlemarch as a Regional Novel".

Mr. Al-Qadhi is the first student to be awarded the degree of M.A. from



the English Department, Faculty of Languages, Sana'a University.

The examining committee was set up of:

Professor A.K. Sharma, Supervisor and Head of English Department, Faculty of Languages.

Professor A.K. Sinha, External Examiner, Hudeidah University.

Dr. Mahmoud Ali Shamsheer, Internal Examiner, Vice Dean, Faculty of Languages, Sana'a University.

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Refugees in Yemen, stories from life

BY YASER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

At times in life, there are unfortunate people who are forced to leave their countries for political, religious, social, economic, natural disaster-related or other reasons. They may be forced to leave for good or temporarily be driven out because of wars or epidemics leaving trails of stories that tell suffering of human life in an extremely unfair world.

All this had obliged the United Nations to start the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in 1950 following World War II in order to provide those unfortunate refugees with means to live a better life and protect their rights.

The countries mostly affected by this phenomenon were the developing countries. For example, the crisis in Somalia after 1991 and wars in the African Horn resulted in extreme suffering for inhabitants of this region. This resulted in a massive influx of refugees to the coasts of Yemen.

Somali refugees starting arriving to Yemen in 1991 and a 2001 census indicated that there are 62,947 registered refugee out of which 61,359 came from Somalia, while the rest came from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Palestine, Sudan, and Iraq.

Those refugees required food, security, health services and other human rights. Yemen had to provide for all those needs because it signed the Geneva Convention in 1951 related to refugees and later the protocol in 1967, resulting in a commitment to implement care for refugees based on international laws.

Yet consequences of accepting refugees especially in a developing

country with such a pathetic economic profile are quite grave.

For example, Yemen has to save refugees who attempt to reach Yemeni coasts by vulnerable boats as many drown before arriving at Yemeni coasts. The country also needs to provide shelter, food, and medicine for those who do make it to the coasts. Many refugees then attempt to flee camps and move to cities without control and one can imagine the consequences of this step.

The UNHCR then comes to the picture, as it is responsible for monitoring and controlling the reception of refugees, but the problem is that many disappear into the cities and villages and tracing them becomes a major difficulty.

Risks in the sea:

Refugees' tragedy may well start just as their journey starts when crossing the sea. For example, Somalis fleeing their country, attempt to cross the Bab Al-Mandab straight to reach Yemeni coasts. Methods of traveling are often quite dangerous as Somalis sail on ships owned by greedy merchants who take this as profitable business and stop far from the shore because of coastal guards and therefore the refugees are forced to cross the remaining distance for many hours by small boats and sometimes swimming. Some drown on the way because of their inability to survive the distance. In many incidents, dozens would die all at once on sinking boats, while others would drown while swimming. Those who make it start another journey of suffering when trying to find a place in this unknown country.

On the land

The UNHCR estimates the annual number of refugees flowing to Yemen at around 10,000 persons,

mostly coming from Somalia which is suffering from civil wars since 1991. Yemen as such is a country that suffers from a fragile economy and scarce resources. Problems occur not only during maintaining suitable camps for the refugees, which is a burden on the country's budget, but also when many of those escape and merge with the Yemeni people without having any legal documents or registered papers. Some of the refugees suffer from infectious illness and critical diseases such as AIDS. Recent reports said that more than 12 thousand cases have been registered. The parliamentary report referring to this issue strongly recommended not to grant permission to refugees without medical tests that prove them free from critical diseases. A report by UNHCR's stated that 80% of the refugees live in 10 of the Yemeni cities, while the rest continue to live in Kharaz and Al-Jaheen camps and are subjected to international monitoring.

Yemen is the only Asian country that continues to receive refugees from the Horn of Africa and provides them with camps in many districts in spite of the fact that this means a lot of efforts and expenses.

Refugee camps in Yemen

Haifa'a Camp in Shabwa is one of the camps that receive a high number of refugees. Al-Khokha Camp receives Eritrean refugees and includes 2600 person.

Najd Qaseem Camp in Taiz was planned to receive the Ethiopian refugees post 1991 crises and it used to give refuge to 550 refugees, but it closed down after the inhabitants left the camp and refugees infiltrated into the cities.

Al-Makha Camp in Taiz governorate contains about 500 Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees.

Al-Kood Camp in Abyan was

designed to receive the Somali refugees but was closed down due to its unsuitable location.

Jiheem Camp in Abyan is where many of the Somali refugees remain before they are transferred to Kharaz Camp.

Kharaz Camp in Lahj is the largest refugee camp in Yemen and was established in a modern way by the UNHCR. It includes schools, a medical center and operates a health aid program. It contains around 500 Ethiopian and 15,000 Somali refugees and still is receiving more every year.

Although Yemen has been putting in great efforts in this field yet it urgently requires more assistance from international organizations and has indeed requested help. In the late 1990s the UNHCR carried out a number of projects in Yemen with the cooperation with 4 international NGOs and 3 local NGOs and the new camp in Kharaz was estab-

lished at a cost of USD 2.3 Million.

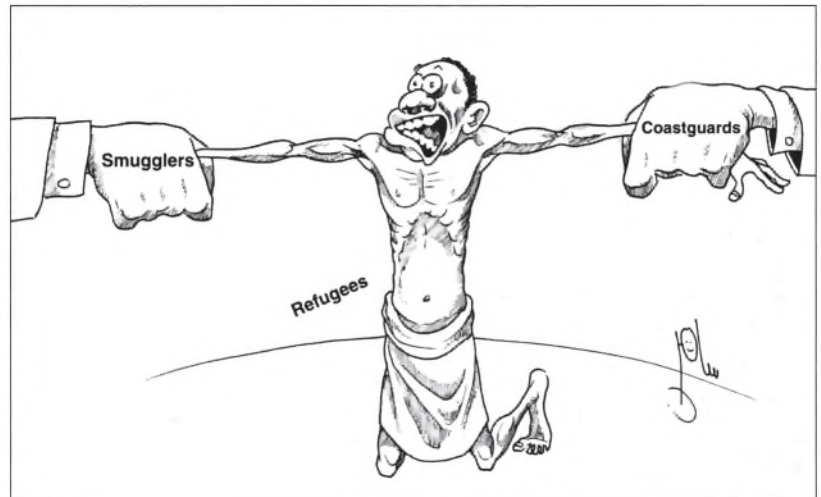
One hundred and twenty tents were set up for sheltering the surplus of refugees and the Common European Group for Humanitarian Affairs contributed an amount of \$250,000 and used this amount for water and medical services at the camp. A health aid program covering accommodation, medical, educational, social guidance, technical training and income generating services was also established. In urban areas the aid is focused on the social services, legal help and employment procedures.

Protection of refugee rights

Like in any other country, refugees do live in Yemen with respect and dignity and they have legal problems relating to their lawful stance with the Yemeni legislation. That is because Yemeni laws do not contain any articles that deal with this issue. Recently a seminar

was held in Sana'a on the problems of refugees and means to protect their rights as it focused on the legal aspects to tackle the issue.

Finally the issue of refugees in Yemen has now become a major international responsibility and it is every country's responsibility to take part in assisting Yemen in this issue. It is a humanitarian issue that concerns the whole world especially when a developing country opens its door and uses its humble resources to shelter those unfortunate ones who left their country because of natural disasters, warfare, or other causes that could happen in Africa, in Europe, in Asia, and everywhere on this planet. It is important to hold on tight to the values of the Geneva Convention and the principles the UNHCR was built upon because no one knows whether he or she would one day be a refugee some where on this small planet.



Continued from back page

Uninvested wealth

Tourist Features

Yemeni islands are located in various spots along the Red Sea coast and Gulf of Aden, and this wide range gives the islands many of the tourist merits and advantageous characteristics. They could be used in any season or time of the year and their natural terrain gives a beautiful variety ensuring tourist satisfaction. Of the main tourist advantages those islands enjoy could be the following:

Situated in different marine environment gives an advantage in having more than one location.

The rare versatility of sea environments.

More than 4200 types of coral reefs. More than 3 thousand types of gold fish and other types of fish.

More than 113 types of rare sea plants especially those found in Gulf of Aden.

Rare sea creatures and types of fish such as green turtles, Sharks, Dolphins, and Brown Mangrove.

In addition to the different seasonal wind, the tropical climate, beautiful sea environment, clear and beautiful golden sands. The Islands also contain a number of caves and tourist attractions whether for recreation or for those interested in environment.

Rare Trees and Birds:

Yemeni islands are known for their extremely beautiful nature and rare plants and birds. For example Dam Al-Akhwaen tree in Socotra is considered of the rarest in the world not found anywhere else. Many Yemenis created mysteries about the tree to make it a unique Yemeni symbol, and in addition to its beauty it has medical uses. The islands embrace many rare birds

and various families, making the Yemeni islands according to specialized studies, the richest in the Middle East where more than 363 types have been recorded forming 18 categories, 61 families and 77 classes. The same studies indicate that there are a number of reasons why such a large number of birds exist in the islands of which: Yemen's location is between three geographical locations African, tropical and eastern, the factor that caused birds of the suitable kinds to settle in. Also the variety in the terrain; mountains, lakes and coasts, in addition to Yemen's location in the southern most of the Arabian peninsula, and being a transit point for migrating birds.

Studies point that of the 363 registered types in Yemen there are seven groups that receive international importance because they are threatened or extinct all over world.

In spite of all these great features and obvious importance, the islands suffer from many problems causing obstacles in right and suitable investment of the islands. Of the serious problems are that the islands are not inhabited and so the essential requirements for human life today are not available there especially water, medication, education and other settlement factors.

Also the islands are subjected to illegal pirating coming from many neighboring countries. The fishing with unscientific ways in the Yemeni territorial waters by them causes damage to the stability of the sea environment and the future of the fish wealth. And in addition to all this some of the islands are being used as a dumping place used by advanced countries for their dangerous wastes because there is no protection provided for them.



Greater Hunaish Island

Israel threatens Arafat as prisoner issue simmers

JERUSALEM (Reuters) - Israel could deport or arrest Palestinian President Yasser Arafat if he holds up his prime minister's efforts to implement a U.S.-backed "road map" to Middle East peace, Israeli diplomatic sources said on Saturday.

"Israel conveyed to Washington that if Arafat continues to undermine Abu Mazen, we will reconsider his location and status," a source said, using Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas's nom de guerre. "By status we mean immunity."

Abbas, a moderate and reformer, became prime minister earlier this year following pressure from the United States, which has sidelined Arafat, accusing him of fomenting violence in a 33-month-old Palestinian uprising. He denies it.

Palestinian officials say Arafat is trying to weaken Abbas, viewing him as too soft on Israel when it comes to implementing reciprocal measures required by the road map en route to Palestinian statehood in the West Bank and Gaza Strip by 2005.

On June 29, Abbas coaxed a temporary truce out of militant groups spearheading the uprising. Israeli troops withdrew from the West Bank city of Bethlehem and areas of Gaza in security handovers that have proven largely successful.

But tensions still simmer over 6,000 Palestinians arrested in roundups and anti-militant swoops. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has said several hundred "minor offenders" could be freed — not enough to satisfy Palestinian demands.

In the southern Gaza Strip town of Rafah, 45 children of Palestinian pris-

oners launched a hunger strike to pressure Abbas to win their parents' release. The children are aged between 10 and 15.

"We call on Abu Mazen to not forget my father. I will go hungry until the people of the world remember my father and our parents," Randa Qishda, 14, told Reuters. The release of prisoners is crucial to Palestinians who see it as key in any peace process.

Palestinian officials say Abbas's credibility is at stake, and some see a deliberate design by Israel's hawkish government. "Sharon is working on obstructing the road map," Arafat told reporters in the West Bank city of Ramallah, where he has been blockaded by Israel after waves of suicide bombings last year.

Israeli officials have in the past said deporting, arresting or even killing ex-guerrilla leader Arafat were viable options.

Fatahelections mooted

A top Palestinian official said the Arafat-Abbas fracas could be solved with a shakeup of the Fatah national movement at whose helm both men have stood for decades.

The Palestinian cabinet called on the international community to continue dealing with Arafat and said it would pursue prisoner releases.

Though not part of the road map, the issue is likely to be raised during Sharon's visit to Washington, which was moved forward from September and an Israeli official said was now expected to take place in the last week of July.

Palestinians also seek further Israeli withdrawals in the West Bank. Sharon



Palestinian President Yasser Arafat speaks to reporters at his headquarters in the West Bank city of Ramallah July 12. Israel could deport or arrest Arafat if he holds up his prime minister's efforts to implement a U.S.-backed 'road map' to Middle East peace, Israeli diplomatic sources said on Saturday.

Reuters

has demanded that Abbas begin to dismantle militant groups first, but a top Palestinian official said no crackdown was needed.

"Until now we have done 90 percent of the work through internal dialogue. We are pursuing the other 10 percent and will convince them (militants) of the value of our vision," Minister for Security Affairs Mohammed Dahlan said.

Sharon is to meet British Prime

Minister Tony Blair in London on Monday. Blair has been active in Middle East peacemaking — including with Syria, which on Saturday said it was willing to restart negotiations which broke down in 2000.

But Syria rejected Israel's demand for talks without preconditions. Syria wants Israel to return the Golan Heights, captured during the 1967 Middle East war.

Sudan peace talks end without progress

NAIROBI, July 12 (Xinhua) — The sixth round of peace talks between the Sudanese government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) ended in Kenya on Saturday with key issues still unresolved.

"After carefully examining the proposal in light of Machakos Protocol and previously agreed texts, the government delegation concluded that the proposal was unbalanced and far removed from the text and spirit of the above agreements," the Sudanese government delegation said in a statement.

"The government urged the mediators to come up with a more balanced and workable formulation in future rounds," the statement said.

However, the SPLA delegation blamed the government for the stalemate. "The government delegation is not willing to make compromises. We came here ready to move forward but the government wants to take us back. For us, we see the draft document as a way forward," SPLA spokesman Samson Kwaje said.

"We are very happy with the draft, not that we agree with all the issues but it is a basis. It seems the government side were not ready for the negotiations," Kwaje added.

Both sides, however, promised to remain in the peace process in the hope of achieving a just, durable and sustainable peace in their country.

Beginning July 6, the latest round of peace talks were held in Nakuru, about 150 km northwest of the Kenyan capital Nairobi.

The theme of the talks covered security arrangements in the post-war period, power-sharing arrangements, wealth sharing and the three conflict areas. Lazaro Sumbeiywo, Kenyan special envoy to the Sudan peace talks and chief negotiator, disclosed at the beginning of the talks that this would be the final phase of the talks during which the two parties would prepare the final documents they expected to sign in the middle of August. Sumbeiywo said that now he would have to meet the related sides on Monday to discuss the current situations of the talks. The Sudanese civil war started as the SPLA took up arms fighting for self-determination in the southern part of the country in 1983.

The conflict has left some two million people dead, mostly through war-induced famine and disease. The Sudanese government and the SPLA began peace talks last July in Kenya under the auspices of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), a seven-member regional group in East Africa, consisting of Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Uganda, Eritrea, Tanzania and the Sudan. Kenya is the current chairman of the IGAD ministerial sub-committee on the Sudan.

Libya not to make atomic bombs: Ghaddafi

MAPUTO, July 12 (Xinhua) — Libyan leader Omar Muammar Ghaddafi said here Saturday that his country has uranium but it will not make atomic bombs. Ghaddafi said his country would not seek weapons of mass destruction, adding that "uranium is a raw material which can be used for military purpose and peaceful one." The Libyan leader made the statement while addressing African leaders at the closing ceremony of the three-day second summit of the

African Union with 53 members. Ghaddafi harshly attacked the United States and other western countries for slaving and exploiting African countries. "We would never accept them to dictator us and we will fight against them," he said. African countries, he said, should get united under the banner of the African Union and set a common defence policy on the western countries. His 30-minute speech was so passionate that it won applause from the meeting hall.

New Iraqi governing council to meet on Sunday

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - A U.S.-backed Iraqi governing council will meet for the first time on Sunday, a major step toward filling a power vacuum created by the fall of Saddam Hussein, Iraqi spokesmen said on Saturday.

The council — long awaited by Iraqis who cite the lack of a national government as a major frustration — will have a Shi'ite Muslim majority, Adel Abed al-Mahdi, spokesman for the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, said.

"Tomorrow is the first meeting of the Iraqi governing council," he told Reuters. "We took the decision. It is going to be tomorrow, Sunday."

He was speaking after talks between top Iraqi politicians and U.S. administrator for Iraq Paul Bremer and other officials from the U.S.-led administration, which has run Iraq since Saddam was toppled on April 9. Entifadh Qanbar, spokesman for the Iraqi National Congress (INC), said the council would hold its founding meeting at 11 a.m. (3 a.m. EDT) at a building previously occupied by Saddam's Industrial Militarization Commission.

The council will have 25 members roughly reflecting Iraq's religious and ethnic makeup — 13 Shi'ites, five Sunnis, five Kurds, one Christian and one Turkmen.

Shi'ites, who form 65 percent of the

population, were persecuted during the 35-year rule of Saddam's Baath Party.

The council will have some executive powers like nominating ministers, reviewing laws, signing contracts and approving the national budget as well as a role in appointing members of a committee to draft a new constitution ahead of free elections.

Bremer has the power to overrule the council's decisions, but Qanbar said that the U.S. administrator had told political leaders that he did not have the desire to do so.

"We trust him," Qanbar said.

No letup in attacks

Along with the political moves, the U.S. military said its troops in the flashpoint town of Falluja had begun a transition of responsibility to local police forces who had requested more autonomy.

U.S. forces have often come under fire in Falluja and other mainly Sunni Muslim towns north and west of Baghdad since the ousting of Saddam, himself a Sunni.

There was no letup in the attacks against U.S. occupation forces with one soldier wounded in a grenade attack on a prison west of Baghdad after midnight.

A U.S. soldier was killed and another was wounded in what the military said was a non-hostile gun incident.



A United States Army soldier waits outside a police station in the town of Falluja as a news conference takes place inside, July 12. A U.S.-backed Iraqi governing council, intended to fill a political vacuum created by the fall of Saddam Hussein, will meet for the first time on July 13, a spokesman for a major political party said.

Reuters

In Falluja, U.S. forces manned posts at an Iraqi police station despite protests on Thursday from police who say their presence makes the building a target for guerrilla attacks.

U.S. army officers said they would gradually hand over more control to local police but military police would maintain small liaison offices in the office of Falluja's mayor and the police department in the town of

200,000 people.

Officers said there was no prospect of a pullout from the town 30 miles west of Baghdad in the near future.

"Our operations here have continued as normal since the protest. Nothing has changed and we have not reduced the number of troops (in the town)," U.S. Army Second Lieutenant Amanda Goldstein told Reuters at the main police station on Saturday.

Iran lodges protest with norway against embassy attack

TEHRAN, July 12 (Xinhua) — Iran lodged a strong protest with Norway on Saturday against a recent attack on its embassy in Oslo by members of the anti-government Mujahedeen Khalq Organization (MKO), the official IRNA news agency reported.

The charge d'affaires of the Norwegian Embassy in Tehran was summoned to the Iranian Foreign Ministry to receive the anti-attack protest.

The ministry condemned the attack and called for punishment of the MKO terrorist elements involved, compensation for damage sustained and adoption of appropriate measures to prevent repetition of similar incidents.

The Norwegian charge d'affaires

conveyed his government's apologies to the Iranian government, confirming that the attack on the embassy by MKO elements was illegal in violation of international and Norwegian law.

The diplomat also pledged the Norwegian government would take full responsibility for the attack and try its utmost to prevent similar incidents in the future.

Some 200 members of the MKO, an armed Iranian opposition group, on Wednesday demonstrated at the doorstep of the Iranian Embassy in Oslo, before attacking the embassy and the ambassador's residence.

Iran's Ambassador to Norway Hossein Shirazi was rushed to hospital with chest pains during the attack.

Bus tragedy kills 21, truck driver arrested

HONG KONG, July 10 (Reuters) - A double-decker bus packed with children and commuters collided with a truck and plunged off a Hong Kong expressway bridge on Thursday, killing 21 people in the territory's worst traffic accident in recent memory.

The bus driver was among the dead. Assistant commissioner of police Bonnie Smith Yee-lo told a news conference the truck driver had been arrested and would be charged with dangerous driving.

After the collision, which took place shortly after dawn, the bus crashed through a bridge safety barricade on the busy Tuen Mun Road in the New Territories and tumbled 50 metres (160 ft) down a cliff.

"My little niece saw the bus fall off the bridge and crash on to the hillside with a big bang," an elderly woman living near the bridge told reporters.

"She was crying and saying many people would die."

Several passengers died instantly, police said. Another 20 were injured, some of them as young as 10.

"At some point both drivers applied their brakes, you can see from the scene the large skid marks," chief superintendent of police Austin Kerrigan told reporters.

The impact left part of the bus embedded in the earth and rescuers had to saw their way through the mangled wreckage before they could pull bodies out.

Chan Cho Chak, managing director of bus company Kowloon Motor Bus Holdings, ruled out any problems with the vehicle. He said it was relatively new and had been serviced just a few days ago.



Rescuers search for survivors after a double-decker bus packed with schoolchildren and commuters in Hong Kong plunged off an expressway bridge July 10. The accident killed at least 22 and injured another 20 in one of the worst traffic accidents in the territory in years. REUTERS

African Union backs peace efforts, ignores Zimbabwe

MAPUTO, July 12 (Reuters) - Africa's leaders threw their weight behind regional peace efforts on Saturday but avoided the prickly question of economic and political meltdown in Zimbabwe.

Meeting in neighbouring Mozambique, the continent's most powerful men agreed to hold a special summit to resolve policy differences on establishing a joint peacekeeping force and planned to work together more closely to fight AIDS and poverty.

"My priority is that we will fight for peace and security on the continent, better manage our resources, improve governance and food security, and help Africa build infrastructure," Mali's former president, Alpha Oumar Konare, said after being sworn in to head the new African Union Commission.

Delays deploying United Nations forces in Africa and problems recruiting troops for them have put pressure on the African Union (AU) to take a lead in peacekeeping on the continent, where at least half a dozen states are wracked by conflict and many more are deprived of foreign investment as a result.

A final communique from the three-day meeting urged more support for regional peacekeeping efforts but made no mention of Zimbabwe's crisis. Officials say it is too divisive with heavyweight South Africa committed to using "quiet diplomacy".

"We talked about conflicts and the conflicts we talked about are not of the nature of the one in Zimbabwe. We do think that Zimbabwe should be dealt with at a regional forum, and that is the way to go for the time being," summit host and chair Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano told a news conference.

Officials said the 53-member Union's broader drive for peace had also revealed differences on how a proposed



MAPUTO, July 12, (Xinhua) — Former Malian President Alpha Oumar Konare is sworn in as Chairman of the Commission of the African Union at the closing ceremony of the Second Ordinary Session of the African Union in Maputo, Mozambique, July 12. Xinhua

security and peace council and a rapid deployment force would operate, but Chissano said the differences were largely procedural.

"We needed to be flexible within the laws of each country but we expect that all countries will ratify it," he said, adding a special summit would hammer out agreement on a common defence and security policy around a joint peacekeeping force.

Liberia intervention

The AU called for international backing for West African regional bloc ECOWAS's peace efforts in Liberia.

"The summit calls on the international community to support the efforts of ECOWAS to deploy an international stabilisation force for the purpose of securing the ceasefire and facilitating the restoration of peace and security in Liberia," it said.

African leaders have urged U.S. President George Bush to contribute troops, funding and logistical support but Bush ended a five-day African tour on Saturday with no decision on Liberia.

8 injured in Indian-controlled Kashmir blast

NEW DELHI, July 12 (Xinhua) — At least eight people, including five college girls, were injured in an explosion inside a bus in Bandipora area of Baramulla district in the Indian-controlled Kashmir Saturday, police said.

The explosion ripped apart the bus

carrying students of a local B.Ed college as the vehicle reached Kaloosa on Saturday afternoon, police said.

Police suspect that the blast was caused by an improvised explosive device kept in the rear of the bus, according to the Press Trust of India.

The injured, including three pedestrians, were rushed to nearby Bandipora hospital from where the girls were referred to Srinagar for specialized treatment. No militant outfit has claimed responsibility for the blast so far.

الف مبروك

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات نرفها بالورود والياسمين إلى الشاب الخلاق

محمد

نجل العميد طيار/ عبدالقادر الشويطر

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Bush leaves Nigeria for home

ABUJA, July 12 (Xinhua) — US President George W. Bush concluded his five-nation tour of Africa and left Nigeria for home Saturday afternoon.

Bush and his wife Laura arrived in Nigerian on Friday evening.

During his two-day visit to Nigeria, Bush discussed with his Nigerian counterpart Olusegun Obasanjo on matters related to the west African country's status as a regional power and major supplier of petroleum to the United States.

On Saturday morning, Bush visited the National Hospital in the capital where he inaugurated 200,000 US dollars medical laboratory equipment donated by the US government to the

national hospital.

While inaugurating the lab, Bush called on the US Congress to fully fund his 15 billion US dollars plan to fight against the scourge of the disease.

At the hospital, Bush visited some HIV/AIDS victims undergoing treatment at the hospital.

"People in Africa are waging a courageous fight against this disease," he said, citing progress in Uganda, which he visited on Friday. Uganda had significantly reduced the rate of infection from over 30 percent to about 6 percent, he said.

Bush also addressed the sixth Leone H. Sullivan Summit, an African-

American conference, at the Hilton Hotel on Saturday.

Nigeria is the fifth and last leg of Bush's tour of Africa which also took him to Senegal, South Africa, Botswana and Uganda.

The US president is accompanied by Secretary of State Colin Powell and Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Walter Kansteiner.

Other senior officials in the Bush entourage include National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice and White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card.

Nigeria is the fifth and last leg of Bush's tour of Africa which also took him to Senegal, South Africa, Botswana and Uganda.



President Bush smiles on stage with Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo after Bush made the farewell speech of his African trip at the Leon H. Sullivan summit in Abuja, Nigeria July 12. Bush praised Nigeria's role in efforts to bring peace to war-torn Liberia and said the United States would also be 'active' there. Reuters

U.S. envoy sparks Russian anger over Iraq comments

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Washington's envoy to Moscow said on Saturday U.S. forces could not guarantee the safety of Russia's embassy in Baghdad, prompting an angry response from Moscow that blew a chill wind between the Cold War-era rivals.

In an interview with Interfax news agency, U.S. Ambassador Alexander Vershbow said Washington did not see Russian staff working in the Iraqi capital as diplomats.

"There is no Iraqi government to grant diplomatic privileges and immunity for foreign diplomats in Iraq," Vershbow said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Alexander Yakovenko fired straight back.

"All this contradicts international law and diplomatic practice," he said in comments broadcast on state television. "Occupying powers must fulfil the obligations agreed to in resolution 1483, which the United States voted for... We trust the United States will

hear our concerns and fulfil their obligations before the international community."

The United States and Russia, which opposed the U.S.-led attack on Iraq, have publicly swept aside their differences over the war to topple Saddam Hussein and both sides have said the dispute did not damage relations.

Russia's mission in Baghdad was the focus of several rows between Moscow and Washington during the war. Moscow protested against air strikes near its mission and later accused U.S. forces of firing on a diplomatic convoy leaving Iraq.

"We have no objections to Russian employees working in the building of the former Russian embassy in Baghdad, but we do not see their presence as a diplomatic mission," Vershbow told Interfax news agency in a Russian language interview.

"We cannot take responsibility for the safety of these employees..." he was quoted as saying.

Vershbow said the United States considered it "unwise" for diplomats to set up missions in Baghdad before an official Iraqi government was established.

Political sources said U.S. administrator Paul Bremer and top Iraqi politicians were finalizing plans for an Iraqi governing council on Saturday to fill the vacuum present since U.S. and British forces ousted Saddam's government.

The council was expected to meet for the first time on Sunday, a spokesman for a major political party said in Baghdad.

Russia, whose economic ties with Iraq date back to the Cold War era of superpower rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union, was one of few countries not to have closed its embassy during the Iraq war.

Russia says the mission has continued to function throughout the military campaign and its aftermath, unruffled by the collapse of Saddam's government in April.

On tragic day, Greece says conjoined twins born

THESSALONIKI, Greece, July 12 (Reuters) — On the day that Iranian twins Ladan and Laleh Bijani were buried side by side, Greece on Saturday announced the birth of a month ago of twins conjoined at the forehead.

A spokesman for the Ippokratio Hospital in Greece's main northern city of Thessaloniki said the twins were girls and it was believed to be the first known case in Greece of twins joined at the head.

"They were born conjoined at the forehead on June 12 and are in good health," the spokesman told reporters.

"We hope we can get overseas advice on the possibility of their separation."

There were no other immediate details.

Hours earlier in a remote valley in southern Iran, the 29-year-old Bijani sisters were buried after dying on an operating table in Singapore on Tuesday in the final stages of a lengthy and risky attempt to separate their fused heads.

The Iranian sisters' determination to go ahead with a dangerous operation that would have allowed them to lead separate lives touched people around the world.

CANADIAN nexen

VACANCY YARDMAN
Yemeni Nationals

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Department: Drilling
Posts: Two Positions
Working Schedule: 28 days on / 28 days off

Job Duties:

- Responsible for overseeing material movements for Service rig operations to and from field locations to the Taj Rig yard.
- Responsible for maintaining high corporate & industry tool standards of all non-stock items (ie fishing tools, downhole tools & specialty items)
- Supports Service Rig operations including "on call" 24 hours per day for unplanned emergencies.
- Stages, issues and mobilizes materials and equipment as required for Service Rig Tool Pushers & Supervisors from the Taj Rig Yard.
- Ensures that all Heavy Equipment used is certified & operated in a Safe manner complete with Certified Operators (loaders, forklifts, cranes etc).
- Receives incoming Service Rig spare parts stock items from WHSE & assists putting them into inventory. Checks item numbers, bin locations & that the correct item was actually received.
- Allocates contractor resources where needed and prioritizes work activities. Assesses and dispatches the use of contractor rental equipment required to handle material movement to & from the Taj Drilling Yard. Will be required to "hotshot" equipment to locations on request.
- Demonstrates thorough knowledge of Forklift / Loader operations to meet Nexen safety standards.
- Maintains orderly housekeeping in the Taj Rig Yard, Fishing tool workshop, archives container and all other non-stock item containers.
- Participates in the year-end physical inventory audit.
- Prepares Shipping Manifests & Gate Passes for material & equipment movements. Assists in cost allocation variance versus actual accruals each month. Develops & maintains a non-stock item databases & maintains up to date (ie fishing tools & assorted downhole equipment).

Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of Technical Diploma.
- 3 years experience in warehousing and drilling materials.
- Strong computer skills, good working knowledge and usage of: Excel, Word, Outlook. Must be capable of learning SAP and working with SAP processing applications.
- Strong command of written and spoken English.
- Working knowledge of Downhole tools.
- Strong working knowledge of rig components, associated equipment and transportation requirements.

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address.
Not later than July 24, 2003

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen
Human Resources
P. O. Box 15137
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Fax No. 01-269899
Attention: Senior Supervisor, Human Resources

- Please make sure that your CV contains all the needed personal and qualification information, no need to attach any certificates unless we request them.
- Please don't call us, we will call you if you are selected for test and interview.
- Please include in your application the job you are applying for.
- Unclear and untyped CV's will not be considered.

CANADIAN nexen

VACANCY SLICK LINE OPERATOR
Yemeni Nationals

Location: Central Process Facilities Hadramout Governorate.
Posts: Two Positions
Working Schedule: 28 days on / 28 days off

Job Duties:

Assists the Senior Slickline Operator in the following tasks:

- Maintaining slickline tools, truck and slickline unit components to ensure readiness.
- Operate the slick line winch for slick line Operations, includes Driving truck within Masila block oilfields.
- Redressing all downhole tools associated with slick line activities.
- Running and retrieving downhole wireline tools and electronic gauges. Prepares these tools for installation in wells.
- Directs the contract labor crew in routine maintenance of the slickline tools and to make sure work is completed properly in a SAFE and TIMELY fashion.
- Organises the material and equipment required to do the specific job.
- Ensure that all the work area e.g. shop, well sites, trucks are cleaned up are kept clean and tidy after an operation.
- Carry out other similar or related duties as required such as ensuring that all personal protective equipment, required for each specific job, is being used while on location. Reporting daily activities to the Slickline Senior Operator and May backfill for the Slickline Senior Operator when absent.

Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of Technical diploma in a drilling related discipline, and 4 years' experience with operating heavy equipment such as picker or small truck mounted crane.
- Good knowledge of English.
- Posses a heavy Equipment and Crane Operators Certificate.
- Basic knowledge of all slick line tools and related downhole equipment.
- Able to perform manual labor.
- Valid Yemeni drivers License.

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address.
Not later than July 24, 2003

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen
Human Resources
P. O. Box 15137
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Fax No. 01-269899
Attention: Senior Supervisor, Human Resources

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- Unclear and untyped CV's will not be considered.

YT Business

Yemeni-American Businessmen
Council to establishBY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A meeting convened last week by members of the board of directors of the Sana'a Chamber of Commerce and Industry with director of American Government Relations office Ms. Ellen Levinson came out with an agreement on establishment of "Yemeni-American Businessmen Council" organization. The Council aims at enhancing relations of understanding and partnership an providing an open investment atmosphere. Its aim is also to prepare circumstances suitable for the increase of the volume of trade exchange and development of bilateral cooperation areas.



The meeting had discussed ways and means of activating issues related to role of the private sector and encouragement of investment in Yemen through promotional programs beamed at American investors.

This understanding comes under cir-

cumstances of a tangible growth in the Yemeni-American relations and the American Agency for Development resumption of its activity in Yemen particularly in the field of fighting poverty and implementation of charitable works.

On the other hand, an agreement organizing economic and technical cooperation between Yemen and the United States was recently signed at the ministry of Planning and International Cooperation. Deputy premier, the minister of Planning and

International Cooperation Ahmed Soufan commented on the agreement saying that signing the agreement and its coinciding with resumption of the activity of the American Agency for Development in Yemen would open new broad horizons for cooperation between the two friendly countries to include various economic, cultural and technical areas.

The American ambassador to Yemen Edmund Hull said on his part that his government was committed to expanding horizons of cooperation and supporting Yemen in various sectors. His government was also committed to developing a group of programs aimed at raising the level of agricultural production, evolving skills of students in computer and combating illiteracy among women.

The Road
AheadWar
& peaceBY RAIDAN A. AL-SAQQA
r_saqqa@hotmail.com

Nope, not Tolstoy's endless cycles of war & peace, but business' war; outsmarting the competition, gaining market share, making enormous profits, killing substitute brands, locking-up customers, making strategic alliances, and many other tactics in business are very similar to those made in war, this is why business is sometimes said to be war.

However, in businesses, there are two streams; one that says it is not enough to succeed; others must fail, and the other that says you don't have to blow out the other's light to let your own shine. These two streams represent war & peace in business.

But is business the ultimate win-lose situation or a situation of peace and harmony? The first stream consists of those businesses and businessmen who focus more on the competition (or enemy) more than focusing on how to make their own light shine brighter, these are the people who usually indulge in price wars, copying others' strategies and trying to have a bigger bite of the same pie (profits).

Yet, the other stream focuses on making a bigger pie instead of trying to have a bigger bite of the same pie; these people want the whole industry to be more profitable, and this involves cooperation between all the players in such a way that they all can compete and cooperate in the same time, not to let competition reduce the industry's overall profits.

There are many good examples for cooperating companies' take the example of Intel and Microsoft; the faster and better processors Intel makes, the more demand will be created for Microsoft's powerful softwares, and vice versa. And the better softwares Microsoft creates the more computers will be sold. And in turn the more computers will be sold the more demand will be created for software packages, and also the increased use of the internet, which will benefit phone companies through dial-up internet connections, so you can say that Intel & any internet provider are cooperating; Accrete - growing together.

But this isn't the case everywhere, the goal of business is to do well for your self, even if that was at the expense of others; it doesn't make sense to create a pie you cannot capture, so you have to undertake many war-like strategies.

In conclusion, business can be both war & peace; when it comes to making strategic alliances and cooperate with them when you are trying to increase profits and make a bigger pie, and war when it comes to getting your share of that pie. However, business, unlike war, can have multiple winners, because most businesses succeed if others only succeed; like the relative success of Intel with Microsoft with Dell, etc.

Endnote: War & peace brings together competition & cooperation, because both are important for business survival and prosperity.

A study on a new mechanism for;

Investment of Yemeni
expatriates funds

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The ministry of expatriates affairs and the parties organizing investment operation are poring on drawing up a new mechanism for investment of Yemeni expatriates capitals and facilitating trade and investment transfers for compensating the losses the Yemeni economy has been exposed to following the events of 11 September in the united states, that resulted in recession of foreign investments and stagnation of the tourist sector. Committees emerging from the expatriates 2nd conference

held in Sana'a last September are now busy completing studies and measures related to the project of establishing expatriates bank and the possibility of inaugurating a stock exchange market and to promote these projects among the expatriates.

Sources at the ministry of expatriates affairs clarified that the ministry was working with relevant authorities on providing all statements and studies on investment projects in Yemen. The sources expect these efforts would contribute to enhance the policies and issues, facilities and services necessary for the Yemeni expatriates in the countries where they are living.

Among the proposals the commit-

tees are studying founding an expatriates bank is the distribution of the bank's capital shares by 50% to be contributed by big investors and to submit the other 50% of shares for general subscription by the expatriates with a capital amounting at \$70 million. The project of founding the expatriates' bank is deemed to be one of the alternatives proposed by the Yemeni government for restoring confidence to the expatriates' funds estimated at \$35 billion. Government sources say that Yemeni economy is facing big challenges because of the drop in the expatriates remittances that receded during the period 1985-'97 between to something between \$

1189 million to \$1157 million.

The return of around 400 thousand Yemeni expatriates from the Gulf States after Iraq invasion of Kuwait in 1990 had affected badly the Yemeni expatriates' remittances by a 65%.

Money of Yemeni expatriates mainly exists in South-East Asia, Gulf States, some Arab and African countries in addition to the United States and Europe. Official estimates report that the number of Yemeni expatriates in the Arab countries is around one million and 300 thousand, 800 thousands of whom in Saudi Arabia. There are about 40 thousand Yemeni expatriates in the

United States, one thousand in Canada, 6000 in Kenya, 5000 in Tanzania, 22 thousand in Britain, 8000 in Ethiopia, 3000 in Uganda and 2000 in Germany. But the number of Yemeni expatriates in Indonesia exceeds 5 million people, in Malaysia about 100 thousand, 10 thousand in the Comoro Islands, Brunei, India and Singapore.

Yemen was expecting that the kingdom of Saudi Arabia would re-open the door to the return of Yemeni labor to the Saudi labor market but that was not decided during meetings of the Yemeni-Saudi Coordination Council held in Sana'a in the period 5-6 July 2003.

Agriculture ministry's efforts for protection of,

Consumer & animal wealth
from across-border epidemics

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemeni ministry of agriculture is carrying out national campaigns for fighting rapidly contagious animal epidemics crossing borders, which consequently have big negative economic effects. The state administration for animal wealth at the ministry of agriculture is implementing strategic plans aimed at providing protection of the animal wealth against epidemic diseases through carrying out field and laboratory surveys and quarantines and immunizations.

The national campaigns include:
1-Field survey: A survey of animal diseases is intended for knowing the extent of their spread and on the light of that survey an epidemic map in

Yemen would be drawn and an assessment of the situation of cattle plague.

2-Quarantine health checking: Supervision on importation of live-stock and their products acquires great importance in the process of protecting the Yemeni consumer against diseases that affect both human and animals and also for protecting the animal wealth against epidemics. Veterinary health checkup of the health and product of animals' inputs is very important for ensuring the entry of those products in a high quality decreasing expected economic losses. All that requires a big attention in inlets of the Yemen republic and drawing up suitable mechanism for application of measures and regulations issued for health monitoring.

3- Veterinary watching: Observation process is considered part

of the regional information network concerning epidemic diseases. The process is concerned with providing necessary information for the network and to exchange it as it is significant at both local and regional levels and this process is necessary for early warning about epidemic diseases. It would ensure rapid interaction for taking necessary arrangements for countering any sudden illness that might happen in order to curb its spread and reducing its economic damage.

4- Laboratory diagnosis: Laboratory services are very important for fighting and controlling animal diseases and epidemics through offering accurate diagnostic services and information on symptoms of animal epidemics and the common diseases. Joint effort of field clinical observation system and offering sam-

ples to laboratories that examine them is the core of the national watching system for developing strategies of controlling and observing animal and common diseases. The central veterinary laboratory has so far carried out examination of 4339 samples of cattle plague and 20149 samples of small ruminants, 4671 samples of the rift valley disease, and 757 samples of hydrophobia.

5- Immunization: Immunization is one of the most important methods in fighting many of the animal diseases particularly the virus epidemics. Much effort is exerted in this regard in compliance with recommendations issued by the workshop on veterinary campaigns for providing human and material potentials for implementation of combating diseases activities and to contain any epidemic that may emerge

and also the implementation of fighting by immunization of diseases that require that.

Immunization activities would be continued in all districts of the governorates. These campaigns would be followed with an assessment process at the end of the year to get certain about the extent of the effectiveness of immunization effort and to evaluate the level of immunity in animals by conducting laboratory checking of random samples of animals from immunized areas. Upon that valuation the state administration of animal wealth would reconsider its immunization policy. These campaigns will be accompanied with guidance and information programs to make farmers aware of the importance of immunization campaigns and observation for fighting animal epidemics.

Words of Wisdom



Parents and family elders are not providing good role models, either. Many adults spend their time chewing gum and watching satellite TV programs that represent the lowest common denominator, the children's recreational needs are mostly neglected, leaving them to wander off into the streets and mix with bad company.

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Sagqaf, (1951-1999)
Founder of Yemen Times

OUR OPINION Dirty political games

Looking at the situation in the Middle East, Iraq, and many other countries throughout the globe, one can easily see that dirty political games are being played with biased rules, and sometimes outrageous violations.

For example, the Middle East peace process has been revived in a way to show the world a commitment of the USA to bring freedom and peace to Palestinians, while hundreds of kilometers to the east, we can see an occupation of an independent land by US forces, with a basis -Iraqi WMDs- that proved to be weak and is getting weaker by the day.

Our own Arab regimes have also made very good strides in learning dirty political games to work out on schemes that would guarantee them a longer period in office and at the same time good terms with friends and enemies alike. There is no way to deny that Arab leaders have been involved in a cat and mouse chase with the USA and their own people during the war and in pre and post war periods. They maneuvered cleverly but nastily around everything and found out a way to escape anger of their people and that of the USA. Deals were struck, agreements reached, and payments probably made behind closed doors on behalf of us, the Arab people, to abandon any resistance to US desires in a war on Iraq.

Americans are questioning now the legality of the war, which they were told was launched to protect them from eminent danger and threat of deadly weapons of mass destruction. Months have passed with no bit of clue about where those weapons are. They are increasingly feeling betrayed and deceived. This is the same to many lower politicians who followed their bosses blindly in support of an unjust war.

As for Arabs however, time has come when Iraqis themselves blasted Arab leaders for their passiveness and for being "traitors" as they said in many banners lifted in protest of the war, which seems to be, as expected ongoing for a long time.

Politicians can sometimes be quite nasty. Any person can take certain decisions for his own benefit or protection. But when it comes to representing millions of people who give him trust and votes to act honestly, it becomes a grave sin to act deceitfully on behalf of the people.

Today, we are living in quite bizarre political conditions where the weak becomes the aggressor and the strong becomes a victim in an upside down world where people have many questions for their leaders, but receive no or sometimes misleading answers about the future, the past, and recorded history. There are many politicians who played dirty games on their own people and the world. This time seems to lack transparency despite all this globalization movement throughout the world. We can see more on TV, hear more on radio, and read more on the Internet, but lies have been mixed with the truth and people seem to be lost in a world that they think has deceived them.

I remain glad I never got into politics and never wanted to. I just feel sympathy for those who are thrown in this dirty mud whole where most seems to be working on perfection, not in carrying out good deeds, but in playing dirty political games, when laws and judges and players are all the same people, and guess who are the winners? No one!

The Editor

Human rights and press freedom in Yemen:

Violations and harassment

By SADEK AL-UDAINI
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF
PROTECTING FREEDOMS AND PRESS
TRAINING CENTER

The democratic atmospheres in Yemen are still shrouded with clouds of retardation and recession the circle of which is widening. This experience is being aggrandized day by day and this has manifested itself in an actual heartache reality.

The flagrant violation of press freedom can be traced through observing the cases of violations on a monthly or quarterly or even a yearly basis. The profession of journalism undergoes displeasing developments concerning rights and freedoms.

This has been clearly made by constant harassment and targeting journalists through a chain of different overstepping procedures.

Attempts to harass the life of journalists and have done in several forms such as, suspending papers, summoning publishers to courts. They are also exposed to physical, moral assault and that their desire to maintain information to the public is blocked.

If compared to any other Arab or foreign journalists, Yemeni journalists are one of the most disadvantaged groups.

They have been employed amid bad living conditions, whether at public or private-sector media institutions and they are still demanding for improving their living conditions by increasing their income in particular.

As for the private media institutions, independent or party organs, journalists are employed without contracts in order to provide or at least to ensure work guarantees for them and to create an professional and living conditions' stability.

What makes the matter worse is that there are intruders and meddlers who have nothing to do with journalism profession. They are just appointed by political or party decrees.

This is not only enough, those intruders and meddlers have been given permissions by the information ministry to run publication houses and newspapers.

They derive their authority from permissions and ministry-supplied cards with which they enjoy several privileges.

The information ministry itself suspends local newspapers as well as Arab and foreign publications and preventing them from being distributed by retaining them at airports and harbors. They are withdrawn from newsstands and book shops for tackling topics dealing internal Yemeni political affairs.

Such measures prompted Mr. Abdulbari Atwan, the editor-in-chief of the London-based Al-Quds Al-Arabi to apologize from taking part in an international conference activities called "A Book in A Newspaper" held at the

beginning of 2002. According to a report published by the Protecting Freedoms of the Press Training Center, PFTPC, said the information ministry was behind about 95 percent of lawsuit cases against newspapers and against journalists, such as interrogation, detention, and harassment during fulfilling their press duties.

A procedure has been taken with regard of dealing with Arab and foreign media correspondents, putting some restrictions on handling some aspects and conditions in Yemen especially concerning the security affairs.

During 2002, the press life in Yemen witnessed one of the severest onslaughts and that violations had exceeded the afore-mentioned percentage.

More than 15 verdicts have been issued against journalists and papers such as, putting journalists in jail, suspending papers and imposing financial fines.

The Athawri, YSP's organ had taken the lion's share in receiving three judicial verdicts against its editor-in-chief and some of its staff.

Another verdict was issued against the Al-Ayyam paper, an independent daily and one of the wide-spread newspapers which had been exposed to harassment along with its staff.

Other verdicts were issued against other papers whether private or independent.

Journalists had been exposed to legal accountability and constant interrogation. Among such papers are al-Fursan which was suspended without giving objective justifications since 2002 and until the beginning of 2003.

Other papers were suspended such as, Sowt Al-Yemen, (Voice of Yemen) and a ministerial decree was taken to confiscate the 29 issue.

Other monthly papers such as, Sowt Ashora was confiscated under the pretext of exceeding the red lines. The decision which was taken against this paper basically depended on the clause, No. (12) and article No. (103)

The judiciary court has issued the verdict in favor of the information ministry decision depending on the two clauses No. (2) and No. (4), of the article No. (107) related to impinging upon the state's interest causing harm to Yemen's interests and security and defense secrets.

Less than a month later, the information ministry issued a decision suspending the al-Fursan newspaper on the reason of the withdrawal of Ashomaa's permission.

This has led to a hand fighting between Ashomaa' editor-in-chief and the information minister. Its editor-in-chief, Saif al-Hadhari along with some of its staff were detained such as, Mutahar al-Ashmour.

A female journalist in Taiz was attacked by guards of a public hospital

and was interrogated for interrogation just because she was conducting a press reportage on the hospital and its services. Another journalist was detained by the political security office and kept there for about 10 days without any charges or legal justification.

Another journalist called Aref Mohsen al-Khewani was put in prison affiliated to the political security office without any charges.

Violations against press freedom manifested themselves in detention campaigns, kidnappings and snatching journalists' cameras.

Mr. al-Khewani was severely attacked by a group of unidentified people. He was also detained two and half years ago and sent to a lunatic asylum among madmen and mentally backwards.

He was also fired from working at the 26 September newspaper, the mouth-piece of the Yemen's Armed Forces.

He used to work as a managing editor at the 22nd May, People General Congress, PGC-run newspaper.

Mr. al-Khewani has been still aimlessly straying in the capitals' streets and he is in a state resembled to those mentally backwards and has encountered severe physiological disturbances.

Mr. Hussien al-Gerban, the correspondent of the Ashark al-Awsat, (Middle East) a London-based newspaper, was also exposed to constant attack and threat along with his family.

He together with his family were once disallowed from entering their home by a gunman whom they refused to be stood before the court.

In May, Abdussalam Gaber, a journalist at the Athawri newspaper, was attacked and hit by a group of armed men belonging to the security political office at the Republican Hospital in Sana'a when he had attempted to conduct a news report concerning the hospital's services' conditions.

Other politically affiliated newspapers, such as, Al-Wahdai, was exposed to a chain of investigations when publishing a number of reports, writings, and opinions.

Its editor-in-chief, editorial secretary and 4 journalists were put in prison with a stay of execution.

Other papers such as, Assahwa, Shoura, and Unah, and other journalists have been still standing before the court concerning publishing some articles.

Perhaps, all of us might have agreed that the weakness of the judicial and legal authority, its lack of sufficient dependence and unqualified cadres are among the reasons which threaten the freedom of opinion and expression.

We notice that the press life in Yemen has been greatly deteriorated in a time in which the Yemen Journalists Syndicate has been living in a very deteriorated situations since 1999.

COMMON SENSE



By Hassan Al-Haifi

Unanswered questions awaken American conscience

As much as the Bush Administration tries to project genuine sincerity and exaggerated self-confidence, there is rising skepticism as to all the questionable directions that the administration has oriented the course of US foreign policy on, in particular and overall methodology for conducting the affairs of state for the most powerful nation on earth today. This skepticism is further warranted by the obvious lack of credibility, both in terms of its historic claims and innuendos and in the ability to successfully conduct affairs of state with a view towards projecting a real sense of national responsibility and international moral conscientiousness.

On the other hand, this administration, almost from the start was plagued by bizarre events, for which it neither could produce answers, which can be swallowed, or assure the American people and the world community, that such events are clearly under control of the appropriate government agency and are brought within manageable context. We understand that to this day, the horrible and tragic events of 9/11, despite the unsubstantiated reassurances of "everything under control" and the high price wanted tags, are immersed in a lot of doubt and questionable responsive action, with the American people subject to a lot of calculated deception and misinformation. We also know that this deception and misinformation is obviously geared to create within the American patriotic mindset a sense of racial and ethnic color to foreign policy, which unfortunately drives on chauvinism and arrogance, substantiated only by the brute force of superpower military might.

His is in addition to a total rejection of all the international protocols and even national regulations that have been put in place to check against such misguides use of power. This can only lead to the assumption that there are indeed dangerous forces at play in determining these directions, and setting the course of superpower hegemony, with a view towards serving narrow minded interests. These narrow minded power centers have found comfortable niches within an administration that has adopted a platform of evangelical war-mongering and the insistence that might makes right, notwithstanding all the intellectual and cultural developments man has arrived to that have sought to ensure that the world should be guided by social consciousness and a drive towards cohesion of all international interaction with a view towards the establishment of peace and social equity among all nations and peoples of the world.

What is regrettable and obviously dangerous is that such a self-centered course not only provides a comfortable ground base for chaos to prevail on an international plane, but also provides the roots of confusion within American society. Understandably, Americans are now beginning to demand that their leadership needs to be brought into account for such irresponsible behavior and waste of their hard earned taxes on baseless military adventures justified by wishy-washy grounds that are puzzling, even to those with the minimum degree of analytical intellect. Moreover erratic responses based on a sense of magnanimity and arrogant "you are with us or against us - terrorists" mentality surely contradicts much of what America stands for, let alone the justice which most rational human beings throughout the world aspire for and seek to have the United States uphold.

From the outset, many people have tried to bring sense back into American foreign policy, not only within the United States, simply because it was clear that the Administration has fallen into the trap of diabolic proponents of narrow-minded interests that have their comfortable niches within it. Even with the questionable policies that these proponents have managed to instill as ground rules for the Administration to operate by, and notwithstanding the obvious conflicts of interests associated with these proponents that have evidently been disclosed in one form or another, they are still able to pursue their dangerous designs, playing on the tickled patriotic emotions of the American constituency and the fait accompli, which the rest of the world must succumb to, by the rule of might makes right.

Notwithstanding all the above, we are gladly beginning to see Americans, who are truly driven by conscience and a sense of moral affinity, raise their voices high and seek answers to an erroneous rendition of American principles. Moreover, the Administration's lack of responsiveness to investigations by the public and even the official agencies and commissions set up to reveal to the American people the truth about the misguided course the Bush Administration has decided to trod on (which even former American Presidents have come to doubt) are obviously raising eyebrows within the American press and the institutions that are set up to ensure sound management of affairs of state in the United States. We applaud these developments and are comforted that indeed all is not lost in the United States.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor

Appeal for a visa to Yemen

I am appealing to the Yemeni authorities to give me a Yemeni visa. I am a Senegalese Muslim and now currently live in Spain. I go to my country four times a year because I have a lot of poor people behind me and night and day I am trying to help them. Some of my people are sentenced to death by the regime, while others are living in extremely bad conditions. That is why I would like to have a visa. I am waiting for positive response from the Yemeni authorities. I am making my case through your newspaper as I have my Spanish residential permit and I can also go to Yemen and come back to Spain without any problem. Could Spain of the readers help?

Cheikh Sylla, Spain
cheikhsylla@eressmas.com

Despicable veil ('Burqa')
Rules regarding Muslim women's (and men's)

attire are derived from the Quran, Islam's revealed text, and the traditions (hadith) of the Lord of creation, Prophet Muhammad (Salutation be upon him). In the Quran, God states: "Say to the believing men that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty...And say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty; that they should not display their beauty and adornments except what (must ordinarily) appear thereof; that they should draw their veils over their bosoms and not display their beauty except to their husbands, their fathers...(a list of exceptions)"

[Chapter 24, verses 30-31] Also, "Prophet! Tell thy wives and daughters, and the believing women, that they should cast their outer garments over their persons...that they should be known and not molested." [Chapter 33, verse 59] In one

tradition, the Lord of creation, Prophet Muhammad is quoted as saying: "...If the woman reaches the age of puberty, no part of her body should be seen but this — and he pointed to his face and hands."

From these and other references, the vast majority of Muslim scholars and jurists, past and present, have determined the minimum requirements for Muslim women's dress: 1) Clothing must cover the entire body, with the exception of the face and the hands. 2) The attire should not be form fitting, sheer or so eye-catching as to attract undue attention or reveal the shape of the body.

A nation cannot develop without the equal participation of men and women, in as much as a bird cannot fly with one wing. Therefore, it is imperative upon all women to seek education and wear the HIJAB in order to cease wearing the Burqa'a. As men-

tioned earlier, myriad personalities hide behind this ridiculous tent.

We are a nation with a resplendent civilization and must conduct ourselves in a civilized manner.

The question that needs to be asked is, will Yemeni women ever achieve what other Muslim women have achieved in Iraq, Iran, Palestine, Egypt, Lebanon, Pakistan, Indonesia, etc. or will they be wearing that God forsaken despicable tent eternally?

Do not forget that some of the worst criminals, rapists and terrorists hide behind this repulsive black tent called 'Burqa'.

We must not give an opportunity to anyone to liken us to the unruly, uncivilized, unsophisticated, illiterate and crude Afghani people.

Peace be upon those who follow the right path!
Baha Ahmadi, Paris, France
bherdens@hotmail.com



Independent Cultural, Economic & Political Weekly
First English Newspaper in Yemen, founded in 1991
by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Sagqaf

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Reflections

Liar, liar

BY SADAF SHAH
FOR YEMEN TIMES

One is absolutely astounded at the deceptive rhetoric of the world's most foolish pair of leaders, Bush and Blair. Is it just a fiction of my wild imagination or does anyone else also believe that these two should be held accountable for the numerous war crimes that they have committed not only against the people of Iraq, but also the people of Afghanistan and the whole Middle East in general? Why should they be immune from justice, just because one of them is a president of the world's superpower and the other a prime minister who is trying to restore the glory days of the 'crown'? It is imperative that they be tried in the name of justice that they themselves so passionately uphold.

The number of American casualties after the war is a clear indication of Iraqi mistrust of American intentions. Iraqis attacking American soldiers are not the last loyalists of Saddam Hussein as claimed by the Bush administration. These loyalists are of Iraq, resisting foreign occupation of land that belongs to them historically. Much the same way the Palestinians have been resisting against Israel. They are not terrorists, only freedom fighters. But, alas, this is something outside the narrow scope of Bush's understanding, 'you're either with us or against us'. He has chosen to view the world and everything in it as black and white, and ignored all the other beautiful colours that life can present to someone broad-minded enough to step away from their paradigms and prejudices.

In the history of the world, there have been thousands of examples of people believing something to be the absolute truth, and then with the greater enhancement of knowledge and

passage of time, those 'absolute truths' have become mere myths. At one point, the whole world was believed to be flat, and who in the past knew about the existence of the pyramids buried for thousands of years underneath the Egyptian desert until just recently? When knowledge and opinion keep changing over the years, we cannot claim that our opinions are perfect. This has now been perfectly illustrated with the recent allegations against both Bush and Blair for presenting the world with fraudulent and exaggerated evidence against Iraq. The imminent threat of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, and the constant reminder not to forget the horror of 9/11 has been the tactic of the Bush administration to win support for the waging of war. Notwithstanding the fact that more people have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan than were on 9/11.

I am not of the opinion that the victims of 9/11 should be forgotten. However, how can they be remembered respectfully by ruthless killing of innocent people? 9/11 never justified the war in Afghanistan and Iraq. Sure, the world was rid of repressive regimes, but they had been in power long before the tragedy of 9/11. And, where do you stop? Israel has been practicing ethnic cleansing for half a century now, are Bush and Blair ready to view her as an 'imminent threat' with 'weapons of mass destruction' and so 'must be disarmed'? How many more resolutions will Israel have to ignore before Bush declares, 'enough is enough'?

The road map to peace in the Middle East is already showing signs of ending up in the junkyard of the previous Mitchell and Tenet plans with deadlines past and no cessation of violence by either side. Israel continues to expand settlements, and Hamas continues with its suicide bombings. Both using the other's non-compliance to

justify its actions. And who gets 'squashed' in the middle? The average innocent civilian, both Palestinian and Israeli. Arrogance is the only threat to peace in all conflicts, where one side views itself above the other. This is the situation now in Iraq as well, where the American administration has so far failed to install an interim government, or restore basic facilities, or even security despite having won the war 'heroically'. American arrogance is evident in the way they treat Iraqi prisoners, or suspected militants. It is evident in American foreign policy, and it is evident in its decision to disregard all human rights conventions concerning court hearings and fair trials of 'suspected terrorists' who will be tried in American military courts, with American prosecutors, defense lawyers, judges with easy access to the death penalty. Who is to say the so-called 'criminals' will get a fair trial for they will be tried behind closed doors, without the watchful eye of the world!

It has now also been proven that the U.S. did target media outlets in both Afghanistan and Iraq in an effort to cripple the information coming out of the war torn countries about civilian casualties and the destruction of the bombing campaigns that made the coalition forces look 'bad'. The careless bombing, the illegal use of cluster bombs, and the destruction of infrastructure are live eye-witnesses of the injustices inflicted upon already distraught nations.

This is the extent to which the world's superpower is also the world's biggest hypocrite. On the one hand, they (and by that is referred to the Bush administration and to some extent Blair as well) advocate freedom, justice, and peace, while on the other hand exercise the most blatant forms of oppression, discrimination, and racism against those not yet proven guilty without a doubt.

Africa needs a level playing field for trade

BY AMADOU TOUMANI TOURE AND
BLAISE COMPAORE
INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

After too many years of Africa's being pushed to the global background, it's heartening to see the world's attention being focused on our continent. International support - both financial and otherwise - is needed to help combat the severe poverty and disease gripping our nations.

But first and foremost, Africa needs to be allowed to take its destiny into its own hands. Only self-reliance and economic development will allow Africa to become a full member of the world community.

With the creation of the New Economic Partnership for African Development in 2001, African leaders have committed themselves to following the principles of good governance and a market economy. Nothing is more central to this goal than participating in world trade. As the presidents of two of Africa's least developed countries - Burkina Faso and Mali - we are eager to participate in the multilateral trading system and to take on its rights and obligations. Cotton is our ticket into the world market. Its production is crucial to economic development in West and Central Africa, as well as to the livelihoods of millions of people there. Cotton accounts for up to 40 percent of export revenues and 10 percent of

gross domestic product in our two countries, as well as in Benin and Chad. More than that, cotton is of paramount importance to the social infrastructure of Africa, as well as to the maintenance of its rural areas.

This vital economic sector in our countries is seriously threatened by agricultural subsidies granted by rich countries to their cotton producers. According to the International Cotton Advisory Committee, cotton subsidies amounted to about \$5.8 billion in the production year of 2001 to 2002, nearly equal the amount of cotton trade for this same period. Such subsidies lead to worldwide overproduction and distort cotton prices, depriving poor African countries of their only comparative advantage in international trade.

Not only is cotton crucial to our economies, it is the sole agricultural product for our countries to trade. Although African cotton is of the highest quality, our production costs are about 50 percent lower than in developed countries even though we rely on manual labor. In wealthier countries, by contrast, lower-quality cotton is produced on large mechanized farms, generating little employment and having a questionable impact on the environment. Cotton production there could be replaced by other, more valuable crops.

In the period from 2001 to 2002, America's 25,000 cotton farmers received more in subsidies - some \$3 billion - than the entire economic out-

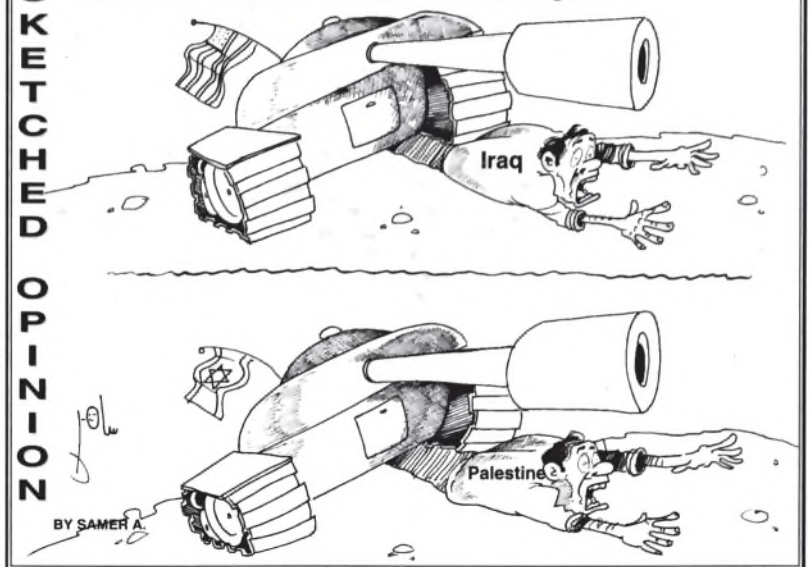
put of Burkina Faso, where two million people depend on cotton. Further, U.S. subsidies are concentrated on just 10 percent of its cotton farmers. Thus, the non-economic production of about 2,500 relatively well-off farmers has the unintended effect of impoverishing some 10 million rural poor people in West and Central Africa.

Something has to be done. Along with the countries of Benin and Chad, we have submitted a proposal to the World Trade Organization - which is meeting in Cancun, Mexico, in September to discuss agricultural issues - that calls for an end to unfair subsidies granted by developed countries to their cotton producers. As an interim measure, we have also proposed that least-developed countries be granted financial compensation for lost export revenues that are due to those subsidies.

Our demand is simple: apply free trade rules not only to those products that are of interest to the rich and powerful, but also to those products where poor countries have a proven comparative advantage. We know that the world will not ignore our plea for a fair playing field. The World Trade Organization has said it is committed to addressing the problems of developing countries.

The United States has convinced us that a free market economy provides the best opportunities for all members of the world community. Let us translate these principles into deeds at Cancun.

Mark the differences between the two images!



Respected and futile

BY GHASSAN KHATIB
THE DAILY STAR

The role Palestinian intellectuals play in the peace process is not cut and dry. On the one hand, Palestinian academics are not organized in such a manner as to enable a clear definition of their positions and contributions. On the other, intellectuals have played oddly contradictory roles during the different phases of the peace process.

To offer some background, in the eyes of the average Palestinian, intellectuals form one of the most credible sectors of society. In a survey carried out in the early 1990s, university lecturers came in first in the public's response to a question on which sector of society was most trustworthy. Intellectuals in Palestine have also played a significant role in initiating and leading political parties and political initiatives. These reasons likely explain why, when the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) elected to take part in peace talks with Israel - a very controversial decision at that

time - the Palestinian leadership made a point of including a majority of intellectuals in the Palestinian negotiating delegation to the Madrid Peace Conference and subsequent Washington talks. Indeed, more than two-thirds of the delegates were university academics and policy specialists.

At that time, some analysts explained this phenomenon by saying that those who selected the delegates were trying to lend the talks credibility and public support. Take, for example, the highly respected physician Haidar Abdel Shafi, Bir Zeit University professor Hanan Ashrawi and Al-Najah University politics professor Saeb Erakat, all of whom represented the Palestinians in the earliest days of the peace process.

Despite this interplay, Palestinian intellectuals have never managed to actively influence the official decision-making process, particularly in times of crisis. Only a few years after the Madrid conference and the establishment of the Palestinian Authority, academics were among those most hostile to the peace process and to the result-

ing Palestinian Authority. Polls showed the Palestinian educated classes were highly opposed to the Oslo process.

That opposition never translated, however, into political engagement or an ability to change the course of events. In the Palestinians' first democratic elections, intellectuals did not fare well at all as they jockeyed for positions in Parliament. Career politicians, particularly those PLO symbols hailing from the Palestinian diaspora, were much more successful in that same election.

It might be said that while intellectuals have been "used" by politicians positively in the peace process - to give it credibility and convince the public - they have never played a significant role in conducting the process, determining its course or even building the positions adopted by the leadership in the negotiations. Despite many instances of intellectual engagement in "track-two" activities, and despite the multiplicity of initiatives from Palestinian thinkers and sometimes Palestinians and Israelis in cooperation, historically these initiatives have proven ineffectual and insignificant.

More, much more, is needed from America for Iraq

BY AHMAD Y. MAJDOUBEH
JORDAN TIMES

Regardless of where one stands in relation to America's war on Iraq, the fact remains that America (and its small coalition) has waged the war and has won it, with flying colours. Furthermore, regardless of what America's "real" intentions and aims were when it waged the said war, the fact remains that America did stress (and still does) the fact that it did what it did, among other things, for the sake of the poor Iraqi people. The idea was, and still is, to free the Iraqi people, better their lives and help them build a democracy that will be an example to others.

Until now, we have not seen much of these noble ends. It is true, of course, that the task of reorganising, restructuring and rebuilding the entire political and economic (and, in many way, social) system is not easy. Iraq, we must remember, sustained heavy damages at all levels, not only as a

result of America's two wars against it, but also as a result of the wars that Iraq waged against itself and its neighbours, as a result of UN sanctions which were imposed on it for a long time, and as a result of years of neglect by Iraq itself of its own development.

America's task (tasks, rather) is not easy

Having said this, however, we must remind that just as time is important for America (assuming, of course, that America is sincere about what it says it will do), it is even more important for the Iraqi people themselves. Until now, and despite the sporadic or increasing acts of violence (depending on how one looks at it), the Iraqi people have been most cooperative and most patient. However, people have needs, and such needs have to be met on a daily basis. Additionally, people need to see either strong signals of what is to come or see some of it already happening. Promises are nice, but results need to start to materialise without delay.

What has materialised so far is far

below what is expected. Those who are in charge of the situation need to know (and I am sure they do) that there are immediate, short-term, medium-term and long-term needs for Iraq. They must be provided for accordingly.

More importantly, it is obvious now that America did a lot of thinking and preparation for the war, but almost no thinking and no preparation for the aftermath of war. There was a plan (plans, in fact) for the war. Where is the plan for peace? This is a serious oversight which needs to be rectified without any delay.

What needs to be done now is for America to involve others in the task of restructuring and rebuilding Iraq: the Europeans, the UN, the Arab neighbours and representatives of the Iraqi people themselves. All these parties should sit down, as soon as possible, to draw up plans and maps and to start delivering. Otherwise, the situation will continue to deteriorate. Just as America has given the war against Iraq its full, undivided attention, it needs now to give law, order and peace in Iraq its full, undivided attention.

Diverse & unique folklore

BY MOHAMMED N. AL-HAKIMI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ

Folk dance is one of the most important pillars of culture which our literature is very rich for.

This form of our literature is very fixed in our history so long in the past and has done a lot to the enrichment of other literature in the Atab lands.

Yemen has participated in many international exhibitions and in all of them all could not help but admire this literature.

Many Yemenis could show themselves well and made exquisite performance that made the audience really appreciate the Yemeni culture.

The Yemeni city is characterized by a specific dance and each one is still holding fast to it such as the Sana'ani dance, Al-Hadrami dance, Al-Lahji dance, and Taizi dance, etc...

It is generally believed that these dances reflect some of the people's ambitions and desires of each and every city.

The Yemeni arts are among the oldest to appear in the South of Arabia.

That is what Arab and foreign researchers and orientalists agree with.

The earlier form of arts were public songs and dances performed and practiced on many occasions.

Rhythms and musical tones first developed in Zamels (songs performed without music on social occasions) during weddings, etc.

Such activities reflect the joys and happiness of both performers and the audience.

One of the most popular songs song during the Yemeni national festivals is the song which was song in chorus is called the Barrak Allama during the 25 Anniversary of president Saleh.

Among the prominent works written by al Dhahery and for which he received Arabic and International prizes is



Al Dhahery

Barrak al-Lama.

"The understanding and love between the team of the work, the characters the musical tones, cadences and the dancers.

All have helped in the success of the show."

The work implies the perseverance of the heritage in all cities of the republic. It is presented in a show in which about 1600 characters participated at Bab al-Yemen, (one of the oldest gates in Sana'a).

Barrak al Lama took six months and that great efforts have been made in order to make a success of this artistic song.

The most beautiful thing in the work is the new dances never seen before in a Taizi dances, one of which is al Zivairi in a nice splendor.

The team is very understanding, harmonic in the music, either the presentation or dancers.

I prefer that the audience to judge the work at last, however as an artist, we believe the work presents a new picture of success, and a new face of creativity and Yemeni folklore in general.

The support we received was not that we dreamt of that we hoped to present it in a large number, not only 500 and it is only from the governor Mr., Ahmad al Hegry and the creative business man, Mr. Shawqi Ahmad Hael.

It will be performed in al Qahera castle so that we deal with the original Yemeni environment with its historical archeology and in Saber mountain in a new form different to that performed in the play ground so we can show the natural and tourist sights of Yemen.

We chose Taiz to perform in where His majesty was elected a president.

We will celebrate the 25 anniversary of the president's rule and present the work to him a thank you celebration from Taiz.

In Taiz, many cultural activities performed and I see that the ground structure of the culture has not completed yet till Sana'a comes to be an Arabic capital of culture for the year 2004.

We do need ground structure in which cadres are complete. No buildings, no financial sums to pay for creativity to create in Taiz.

However, al Qadhi and Shawqi still hold the hope to make Taiz the capital of culture.

It will be so in the case there are faithful will to implement this hope.

There is lack of possibilities to support the cultural sides. There must be halls, theater, double the libraries and all the needs of the cultural procedures, the audio and the visual too.

I am optimistic of the new minister, Mr. al-Rowishan who has laid the foundation stone of success to the Yemeni Volume house to establish the ground base of culture in Yemen and the bases to progress.

I managed a project on the collection of heritage from legends to the tales, birth, celebration, children games, folklore dances in general and to cadence.

Yemen really has a precious wealth and in every city you can find cultural variety of dances and songs.

There are tables enriched with heritage, but not yet presented to the Arab world.

We need to search for our heritage, to save and develop it. Egypt, for example



Rehearsal session in the open

depends on all its wealth among which is its art and so many other countries do.

Why do we not present art in the right way raising the awareness about issues of the negative phenomena in the society such as, expensive dowry, revenge, etc...

We can overcome them throughout presenting faithful art, for drama is more active than TV, and cinema.

If there is a will, Let's start carnivals in the cities of the republic that will not cost much. We just need true future plans and strategy.

Presenting a creative work, 70% of the financial sums are taken by the managing staff while 30% are received by the creative talents. How then can we present a creative work ?? However, we are optimistic that al Rowishan will do the best for he is the proper man the proper place.

We really have many creative talents, but where are they ? Do they come backward ? Or are they being ignored ?

I introduces a young musician, Rafat

Nasher to the audience in Barrak al-Lama.

He plays a mix of the international classical music and traditional Yemeni music.

In Taiz, about 300 creative talents play the work where the talents youths are created.

I'm much thankful to Mr. Shawqi Ahmad Hael for supporting us.

I believe there are businessmen caring about art in Yemen.

I also thanks the Yemen Times whose founder is Mr. Abdulaziz al Saqqaf who established and supported the first ballet in Yemen.

Abdulkareem Mahdi tells YT "We have acted many dramas in the Al Sakr club in Taiz, and with the support of Mr. Shawqi who gives and helps much Taiz dramatic works.

We hope that drama can be performed in a play ground in Taiz.

We wish the drama movement will continue and so we can overcome its

deteriorated situation.

We thank a lot the government represented by its governor for preparing the way for taken an interest of Talents in Taiz.

Mohammed Mohsen al Hadar, the general manager of Taiz Radio and the writer of opera of the Good Female and the Leaders.

My work has a great connection with Yemen and history, not an imitation to any old or new poet works in Yemen.

It relates to the leader and his achievements and Yemen Union.

I use words expressing the Yemeni public heritage and what the president has achieved since coming to power.

Ammar Nagi al-Rabasi, a trainer

We are optimistic of the success of the opera for there are many trained talents.

And with the ministry of culture represented by Khaled al Rowishan,

we awaits unusual success to different Yemeni cultures.

Vacancy Announcement



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following positions with its Sana'a Office:

Post Title: Programme Analyst

Responsibilities Include:

- Analyze and monitor the country's socio-economic conditions and trends (particularly) those related to Disaster Management and Prevention (DMP), and mine action programme, maintain relevant information and data, and assess their impact on the programme portfolio.
- Prepare action plan and set realistic and monitorable benchmarks and indicators for the Disaster Management and Mine Action portfolio, and ensure their incorporation into the results based management tools.
- Promote awareness and understanding of UNDP's mandate and corporate policies on disaster management and mine action, advise management on key emerging needs, policy and strategic issues that merit their attention, and contribute to policy dialogue (including the preparation of background and issues papers).
- Support and monitor the implementation of Mine Action & DMP portfolio and ensure achievements of results as per the project's result framework.
- Oversee the substantive management of the Mine Action & DMP portfolio; provide the necessary guidance to ensure synergies with other teams; and propose alternative course of action to address emerging problems and bottlenecks.
- Guide the portfolio monitoring and evaluation and audit processes, ensure the implementation of their recommendations and the incorporation of results into the results-oriented annual reports.
- Document lessons learned and best practices in the area of DMP and Mine Action programme, access global practices, share them with other local and international stakeholders and ensure their incorporation into the programme design system.
- Set and monitor financial targets for the DM portfolio, including resource allocations, and expenditure levels and advise on adjustments and ensure accountability compliance with accountability principles.
- Promote strategic partnerships with donors, UN agencies, private sector etc., and identify opportunities for resource mobilization, including the preparation of programme/project outline.

Qualifications and skills required:-

- Advanced University degree in international relations development, communication and social science or equivalent
- Extended experience (5-7 years) in Programme/Project development and management; specialized experience in disaster management and mine action
- Excellent knowledge of computer and internet use including mastery of word processing
- Excellent drafting and communication skills
- Good knowledge of Arabic and English Languages

Candidates who have the necessary qualifications and background for the above position may submit their curriculum vitae to the following address:

Human Resources Unit,
UNDP - P.O. Box 551
Sana'a - Republic of Yemen

The deadline for receiving applications is 21 July 2003

UNDP is an equal opportunity employer and encourages women candidates to apply.

Re-Announcement

Financial Officer for the Basic Education Expansion Project (IDA-Credit 3422)

The World Bank-financed Basic Education Expansion Project (BEEP) seeks applicants for the position of Financial Officer who under the general directions of the Project Director will be responsible for the entire financial management of the Project. The Financial Officer will report directly to the Project Director and will work closely with all sectors and departments of MOE, Governorates Offices and Districts Offices of MOE involved in the Project. In this respect, the Financial Officer would:

- 1) Manage and supervise all daily financial activities of the project.
- 2) Ensure that there is a functional financial management system which includes:
 - establish proper accounting procedures and internal controls to ensure that the assets of the project are properly safeguarded;
 - solve any technical problems that may arise with the financial management of the project;
 - supervise subordinate accounting staff, as may be required, to assist with the operation of the project's financial management;
 - supervise the project's Special Account;
 - ensure that consolidated financial management reports for the project are produced on a timely basis and sufficient in content to enable the management of MOE and IDA to assess the financial position of the project.
- 3) Act as a focal point for any dialogue on financial management matters relating to the project as may be required by the project's financiers.
- 4) Report and update systematically the Project's Management on the status of financial activities and issues, and follow-up with MOE and other related Ministries and Institutions on financial and other Project's issues as may be required by the Project's Management.
- 5) Contribute to quarterly Financial Management Reports, and;
- 6) Ensure that the project is audited annually in accordance with IDA's requirements and cooperate fully with the auditor in that respect.

Qualifications:

- A minimum of Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Business Administration with major in accounting and finance.
- Minimum of 5 years of professional experience in a financial management and accounting position, preferably in the private sector.
- Familiarity with the government's and IDA's financial management requirement.
- Experience in the use of accounting programs and software.
- Proficiency in both Arabic and English.

Applications along with a detailed resume and copies of supporting documents should be submitted to BEEP, Projects' Sector Building 3rd floor, Zubairi-Baghdad St., Sana'a not later than July 21, 2003.

Meteorology in Yemen

Does it fulfill its role properly?

By MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Dr. Ahmed al-Makaleh, married and has got three children. He has worked in meteorology since 1978. He is the deputy assistant for the meteorological affairs in Yemen.

He is the forerunner who follows up closely climate changes and temperature in Yemen hour by hour and minute by minute. As for the situation, the meteorology center and future plans, al-Makaleh has been recently interviewed by the Yemen Times reporter, Mohammed Bin Sallam and filed the following report.

As for the meteorology center and its



Dr. Ahmed al-Makaleh

tasks given, he said:

Meteorology Center tasks have a stereotypical characteristic given to all countries, considering it as a device to observe all weather and climate changes and their influence on man. It also affects other elements pertaining to the occurrence of rain, drought, humidity and temperature changes. All those factors have an influence on man and on food he eats.

Meteorology-related activities are considered to be prevailing one available in the whole country such as agriculture and water.

As a result of technological advancement, man at first thought of how to get

acclimatized with how he should work. This has been done in order to overcome the weather-related difficulties and changes.

New methods and techniques were invented. Man resorted to build houses which were in the form of small habitations.

They were in short of all necessary essentials such as, electricity, water, and air-conditioning facilities.

Man started reclaiming lands to increase production.

Different new kinds of cereals were added to food.

In order to resist drought, genetic properties were used.

When man first started thinking to utilize his movement, the land in most cases has come first, then sea and air.

The common prevailing factor among those three is weather and climate changes.

Meteorology has played a leading role in air transportation.

All international airports and aviation depend basically on weather reports whether in peacetime or wartime.

The meteorology center gets information from several main resources:

- From the national meteorological stations in Yemen and its territorial waters according to potentials available here.
- From the international network where we could obtain information about the meteorological stations for all the countries in the world.

Obtaining information

As for the way the center gets information, Mr. al-Makaleh said:

We receive information through space satellites.

Those space satellites are possessed by some countries.

Information is gathered and sent to regional meteorological centers which observe the atmospheric changes taking place there around the clock. Information can be obtained through the World Meteorology Organization, one of the specialized organizations affiliated to the United Nations.

Majority of countries are members in that organization including Yemen.

Regulations and laws have to be followed by those countries.

Several institutions and ministries also make use of that information which is freely obtained.

The most significant point here is that that information is obtained free considering cooperation the major aspect.

What has been achieved or done is just for the benefit of institutions and public bodies.

All government's institutions obtain their information from the meteorology center such as, oil, electricity, universities, telecommunications, insurance companies, urban constructions, roads, and military and civil aviation.

As for information obtained by the agriculture ministry, information is given on demand, considering the agriculture ministry as a body that has taken interest in reclaiming lands, bringing new crops and seeds, looking for a suitable environment in order to produce crops and other cereals according to meteorological studies and surveys.

In order to add other factors suitable for planting those seeds, one has to reconsider soil and land used for agriculture.

Reciprocal relations

As for water resources, Mr. al-Makaleh said:

The water resource is the responsibility of all of us. As it is known to all that Yemen suffers from water scarcity. This is because; Yemen is devoid of permanent canals. Agriculture in Yemen depends basically on rainfall or wells water. In both cases, one has to take into his consideration the rainfall forecast and underground water quantities in each area in Yemen respectively. Consequently, metrology in this case amasses all that information and therefore an interest has to be taken in any study related to this. Rainfall in Yemen is rare. This is because Yemen is located near the equator and therefore it is classified as one the semi-desert zones. As a result of the Yemen's topographical division, Yemen's weather varies from one region to another. Rain in the coastal areas is rare while in the mountainous heights, rainfall increases a little bit. In desert areas, rainfall is also rare. Rainfall water quantity in Yemen and its distribution varies somewhat if compared to other countries of the world. This is because Yemen is featured by its topographical division such as, coastal, mountainous, and desert areas. As a result, rainfall water in Yemen is limited.

As opposed to this, water resulting from rainfall in Europe is different, i.e. an atmospheric climate change influences most countries and rain falls semi-permanently. During the last years, season climate change is clearly observed with regard to rainfall quantities. The Meteorology Center has branches in

most of the governorates, except those governorates that have been recently established. We have been seeking to add network station to observe the climate changes.

Sudden weather changes

The climate change is influenced by the earth. But in other places of the world, water from heavy rainfall quantity resulted in torrents, washing out soil and causing inevitable problems. Drought is prevalent in other places of the world. Those regions used to have large quantities of water from rainfall. This is because of the heat occlusion gases which increases the earth average temperature as a whole.

Random coordination

As for information aired by TV, radio and other media, he said:

The average of information accuracy is incomplete and what are needed are potentials and means in order to get an ideal level. In order to reach that level, one needs to operate highly sophisticated computers and employing a large number of programmers. A few numbers of countries in the world possess those advanced technological potentials and above all they are capable of employing those technologies.

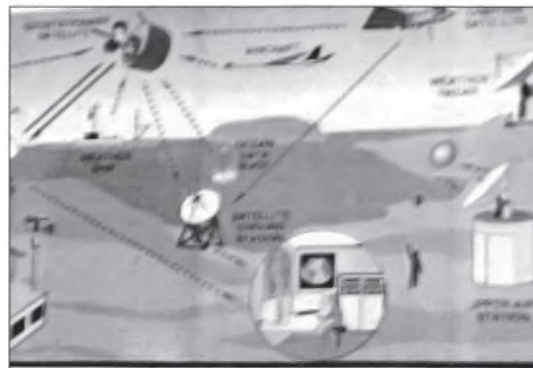
We are attempting to disseminate information to the public through news on TV, radio, and newspapers.

As for the center's contributions to help fishermen to be equipped with information on weather changes, Mr. al-Makaleh said: Fishing activity in Yemen has been randomly used. As a result of availability of a large number of fishermen alongside the Yemen coastlines, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the center and the concerned bodies at the transportation ministry. We have future plans to provide telephones in order to facilitate contact processes among citizens in order to know weather changes in all governorates of the republic. This hopefully is to be implemented during this year. Around 85 percent of information accuracy pertaining to the weather forecast around the clock has been exceeded.

Others do it

As for the body which provides ships navigating our territorial waters al-Makaleh remarked: We don't provide ships at present because our network has not expanded yet. Large ships are fully equipped with regard to receiving information from their countries. Some ships get information from countries such as Djibouti which has a meteorological station supported by France. The World Meteorology Organization has six territories, the first is in Africa and the second is in Asia and that Yemen is affiliated to the second station.

This has been done in order to cope with information technology, its distribution, plans, and other industrial



Obtaining information through the use of satellites

aspects.

An expected visit is to be paid by the director of 2nd Regional Union for reviewing the cooperation fields.

As for administrative system adopted by the center, Dr. al-Makaleh said: Always, the main aspect in this regard is life experience. We have learnt a lot from different countries whether from east or west. Of course, each administration in this or that country has its own merits and demerits and has its own application systems. We have learned also through acquired learning skills whether in learning, reading or participation. We haven't entirely relied upon a given administrative system. But we work in accordance with accounting and financial systems.

As for the accounting field affiliated to the meteorological department, we follow the general state system.

As for the weather changes and the rainfall in unexpected seasons, al-Makaleh remarked:

As a result of climate changes, the season of rainfall comes in a specific time of the year.

For example, the weather changes of the Indian Ocean always come saturated

with water evaporation. If a strong wind blows from the east, winds coming from the north and east-north can be sublimated upwards. The water-evaporated wind leads to cloud formation and then rain. But, what has been taking place this year is that winds have been too weak.

The winds coming from the north were strong. But, last month we were exposed to large waves of dust storms coming from north and north-east passing through desert regions. The humidity and water evaporation percentage is little and temperature is too high. Consequently, clouds are formed and that before the dusk, those clouds are removed. The second reason behind the rainfall fluctuation can be attributed to the public water circulation and the earth as a whole. As for the rare rainfall on littoral areas, Dr. al-Makaleh said: Winds that blow from the north-west direction, we observe that those winds pass over the Red Sea. A lot of humidity blow from water surface as a result of natural evaporation. The heat of coastline areas and heat above them are approximate, when those winds blow to mountains.



Meteorological center



Italian government continues its medical support for Yemen:

Meetings on fighting malaria, AIDS, and TP continue

By TAWFIQ AL-ABSI
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Dr. Mohammed al-Nomi, Minister of Public Health and Population headed last week the meetings of the committee of coordination that was formed from different governmental and non-governmental organizations in cooperation with the World Fund for Fighting Malaria, AIDS and TP.

The meeting included discussions of a lot of topics including the a visit by a delegation from the mentioned fund to Yemen to arrive next week to sign with the ministry of public health and population an agreement to grant Yemen for the program of fighting malaria an estimated amount of Euro 12 million to cover five years.

The first meeting was a primary

evaluation of what the ministry of public health had done in May and June following the grants given in Geneva, Cairo and Yemen.

Moreover, international bodies have evaluated the ministry of health's capabilities to benefit from the grant and use it efficiently. They concluded that the Yemeni government, with its current financial and accounting system, is capable and authorized to use the grant.

The ministry of health and population had started to extend its activities to implement all the plans that the government program included to enhance the public health system.

On the other hand, Mr. Mohammed al-Nomi discussed with the Italian Ambassador H.E. Mr. Giacomo Sanfelice di Monteforte means of cooperation between Yemen and Italy in various medical fields such as evaluating the implemented projects and

so-far achievements.

They also discussed the expansion of the grant to other different sectors as well as to plan for the Yemeni-Italian medical week that will be held in Yemen at the end of this year. The Italian team, which will include medical scientists and professors from Rome University, will deal during the week with high-blood pressure diseases. The doctors are also expected to meet their Yemeni counterparts.

Two training courses in laparoscopic surgery and medical management and evaluation will also be organized.

Talks about the agreements to be signed between the ministry, the Italian embassy, and Yemeni-Italian friendship association were also held.

The Italian ambassador to Yemen confirmed that his government has decided to grant Yemen Euro 4.4 million to support the primary medical

services and awareness campaigns.

The grant was announced when a prominent Italian delegation came to Yemen and paid a visit to Shabwa, Abyan, BiAat Bos and some needy areas in Sanaa's outskirts.

The ambassador stated that a variety of medical equipment will also be presented as a gift by the Italian government to the ministry of health. The number plus details of the equipment will soon be announced and delivered.

Recently, the Italian government substantially increased its health support to Yemen in the form of sending medical teams and arranging training courses for Yemeni doctors in Italy.

Rome University has sent to al-Thawra and Kuwait Hospitals Italian doctors in delegations to carry out a number of operations for the needy. Furthermore, invitations have been exchanged between the health min-

istries of the two countries as well.

Dr. Abas Zabara, the Health Minister's Advisor for Developing Health Affairs and the coordinator of

the Yemeni-Italian cooperation committee along with Mr. Mohammed al-Kibsi, the General Manager of the Minister's office attended the meeting.



Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite Unionist Organization, 8 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- 51 children saved from being smuggled for trading purposes
- Rebellious group regroups itself in Sarrar
- Saudi fear of American presence in Yemen
- Abu Isba'a: Yemen judiciary does not know independence
- Students back from Iraq stage a sit-in in front of presidency.

Columnist Ahmed al-Ashwal says in an article that it is said Yemen is among the countries receiving the most care of international organizations in various fields. It is nonetheless still topping the list of the most backward countries and the lowest level in incomes and living. Well-informed observers indicate that there are many factors behind this phenomenon, the main one is the lacking of good planning for directing loans and make use of aid. The reason is not the inability of those in charge but rather because most of them have been installed in senior positions by luck without having the condition of specialty that their post requires. This happens despite the fact that the country is rich with skilled people with whom it can boast of in the region. If the latter were lucky by being appointed at secondary positions they are the first to be included in measures of administrative reform and would be deemed surplus labor.

Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the General People's Congress party, 7 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- President Saleh: Saudi investments would receive care and encouragement
- Enhancement of partnership and doubling efforts of fighting terror
- Detailed confessions by killer of Jaralla Omer on committing his crime
- Kuwait's parliament renews membership of 50% of its members

In his article Dr Mohammed Ahmed al-Nahari tackles the problem of poverty in Yemen saying that the International Monetary Fund, in its quest for alleviating the problem of poverty concentrates on the measure of pensioning a good number of state employees without putting into consideration the circumstances of each country separately. These circumstances include ages, the nature of profession and availability of the alternative....etc, while the correct stance is the attempt to open new horizons of production.

In a country like Yemen suffering from unemployment and cases of bribe for finding a job at the official labor market, the civil services cannot alone fight the phenomenon of bribery but what is wanted from it is to create jobs it is unable to provide. The reality is that the essential infrastructures are not complete yet and the country is still among those employing non-Yemeni labor. There is a flagrant contradiction in our society as a result of three factors: huge educational outputs, absence of a philosophy for employing these outputs and naïve obedience to the calls of the International Monetary Fund.

26 September weekly, organ of Yemen Armed Forces, 10 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Presidential directives on accepting returnees and paying their dues
- PM discusses development of economic and trade partnership with American Agency for Development
- Vice-President confirms encouragement of investment in oil and gas field

The political editor of the newspaper wrote an article on a new Arab order saying there never has happened in the Arab modern history that the Arab nation has experienced a similar state of weakness and division as is the case nowadays. This has been reflected in the nation's utter inability in dealing with the Arab- Arab events of the Arab- Israeli conflict that has posed an obstacle before the development of the Arab world and deviated it from the road of development and creation of an economic regional bloc able to competition. Some Arab countries have thought they can come out of this impasse by following a fait accompli and selecting a way staying the rift dangers. They therefore have chosen concession of the nation's constants. They have accepted that path even if the price is the sacrifice in unity of the Arab rank and exposure of the Arab national security to weakness and setback.

President Ali Abdulla Saleh has been a forerunner in realizing those dangers and took his initiative to heal the rift in the Arab-Arab relations and his initiative had its great effect in unifying the Arab rank and convening the Arab summit conferences in a regular periodical manner. The present Arab leaders call for reforming the Arab order in order to establish a new Arab order represents a beginning of a reform stage in need of much effort and sincerity and determination. This call must also include thinkers and mass organizations and must not be confined to the official framework.

Main headlines

- Government approves agreements concluded with Saudi Arabia
- PM gives directives for building new water installations for water desalination for household use
- New national strategy on expanding and improving elementary education
- World report for human development for 2003 announced
- Sheikh al-Mouyad waits happy ending from America
- Pro-extremist elements penetrate security apparatus to deal blows to Zaidi and Shafie sects
- Yemen-Saudi Arabia: Increase of security coordination, establishment of border free zone
- FBI investigators request a meeting with the Americans killer



Al-Thawri weekly, organ of the YSP, 10 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Al-Mikhlaifi: A Jihad-related organization planned and implemented the killing of Jaralla Omer
- An Arab body is formed for following the case of martyr Jaralla Omer
- 300 western ship watch Yemen's coasts,
- Coast guard forces a step towards more American support

Columnist Fikrat Mahmoud says in an article our government claims that it seeks for building a civilized state whose affairs are to be run by law and constitution and some good social norms. But in the course of time the reality confirms that the reality of our state has a backward tribal stamp the administrative and social institutions are built on personal considerations and interests and tribal loyalties that increase the gap of corruption and backwardness between the people and their rulers. This interprets behavior some of the uneducated and uncultured officials who are still dealing

with people's issues and interests out of tribal loyalty that had been used during the imamate reign. Furthermore there are some officials who prefer to be given the title of sheikh to be distinguished from others. Some senior officials have got their posts in compensation for what happened to their fathers the sheikhs, and thus they have been awarded posts that helped them much in inflicting injustice on people especially in the areas they are sheikhs. These are used as cards in the hands of authority especially during the times of elections. How come then we would allege that we are a modern democratic and civilized state where the human and the homeland are built on scientific bases?



Al-Sahwa weekly, 10 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Al-Dhabbi: Al-Mouyad morale is high and his imprisonment circumstances improved
- Coordination Council established for a new stage of cooperation
- Americans killer challenges the verdict; the Americans want to talk to him

- Dispute among the parliamentary GPC bloc renews

Columnist Zaid al-Shami tackles in his article the problem of education saying that the state and the society just want to turn a blind eye to the fact displayed by results of school examinations as the complaints increases day by day about the deterioration of the educational level and weakness of its outputs in general.

The phenomenon of cheating usually accompanies examinations and it has expanded to an extent dictating study and treatment. The cheating practice may have forced the ministry of education to abolish some examination centers and transfer some of them to other places. We are facing a disaster threatening our future as a result of the low standard of education and absence of the values of seriousness, hardworking and sincerity. There must be therefore a serious consideration for halting this deterioration. The issues of education are many and ramified. Dealing with them by a narrow-minded partisan way would lead to the loss of our future. The cooperation of all to solve edproblems is the right solution.



RAY weekly, organ of the Sons of Yemen League party, 8 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Yemeni-Saudi coordination council: seven agreements and pledge of joint fighting against terror
- Jaralla al-Sa'wani wishes he were a nuclear bomb
- Six million dollars for the development of Socotra
- Jordan dismantles a fundamentalist network and arrests its members

Columnist Faisal Sultan al-Soufi says the Americans are still talking about Iraq that is going to be the example for the region in democracy and the modern state. Even with resistance operations and killing the American soldiers everyday they try to assure the world that Iraq is in good situation and under control. They claim that the resistance is just pockets from remnants of the former regime and the Arab volunteers who rushed to defend Saddam.

We think that the Americans comment that the resistance is merely a final attempt of the desperate implies much silliness and stupidity, if those comments were their real interpretation of the resistance acts, forgetting that a nation without a political authority would inevitably have to seek to establish one. The resistance would be stepped up the more feeling of the need for an authority and institutions

for organizing relations, protecting rights and achieving the society's interest's increases. National resistance becomes a duty and a national necessity in an Arab country governed by Bremer, due to the imbedded hatred towards the foreigner even if came as conqueror and liberator. Maybe the Iraqis would not have been able to get rid of the dictator regime but with this American way which makes us disdain all the regimes that do not allow their peoples to remove them unless they were trodden with invaders feet, as is the case with the former Iraqi regime that lost itself and caused to add another Arab land to the register of colonialism.



Al-Blagh weekly, 8 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Islah party calls for establishing a special educational regime instead of scholastic institutes
- Saudi medical assistance arouses conflict inside health ministry
- Second- ranked man in the American civil administration in Iraq and his companions kidnapped

Editor in chief of the newspaper comments on the security measures taken by the guard and bodyguards of the prime minister and their behaviour when he was a few days ago attending an activity at the headquarters of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate. The writer says the prime minister as we know him as being keen to be present with the journalists during their celebrating the inauguration of the Yemeni encyclopedia compiled by Mr Abdulwahab al-Mouyad last Monday. Nevertheless, a group of journalists were surprised by the guards preventing them from entering their syndicate headquarters to attend the celebration under pretext of the security measures accompanying the prime minister. Despite all the attempts with commander of the guard to convince him that it was not right to prevent editors in chief of newspapers and correspondents of al-Jazeera channel from entering into their syndicate he insisted on his stance. We want in this regard to confirm that no one in our country fears the journalists because their weapon is he word which they use in supporting the right and public issues and for serving the society's interests, whether they were inside the hall or outside it. The fact is that the journalists themselves are in need of being guarded against arrests and threats by unidentified people. We do not think that the relationship between the prime minister and journalists has reached to the extent of preventing them from entering their syndicate.

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers *Provided by Xinhua*

Egypt

Al Ahran

Discussions were underway over the possibility of Egypt's participation in a would-be African parliament, as Egypt took part in a preparatory meeting to set up the African parliament in the past few days.

An Egyptian official said so far 18 countries had expressed their approval to hold the first meeting of the African parliament in December.

Al Gomhuria

More than 1,000 Egyptian worshippers demonstrated near Al-Azhar mosque following the Friday prayers to protest the continued occupation of Palestinian territories by Israel and the US occupation of Iraq.

They saluted the Arab resistance which forced US troops to withdraw from Falouja after having suffered casualties, stressing that the resistance was the only way to get rid of the occupation in Iraq and Palestine.

Britain

The Guardian

British Prime Minister Tony Blair has pencilled in October 2005 as the possible date of the next general election.

The Independent

The Government was accused on Friday of refusing a request from the CIA to drop references to Iraq's alleged efforts to buy uranium from Africa in its dossier of "evidence", despite the US agency warning that the claim couldn't be substantiated.

The Independent

The Charity set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, was in crisis on Friday after being forced to freeze all its funds because of losing a costly legal battle it launched against an American souvenir firm.

Germany

Die Welt

The controversial Italian State Secretary for Tourism Stefano Stefani resigned Friday evening.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Washington speeds up the establishment of a transitional government in Baghdad after continued attacks on US soldiers.

Sueddeutsche Zeitung

The German government will present next week its concept as how to finance tax reduction in 2004.

The Washington Post

President Bush and his national security adviser placed full responsibility on the Central Intelligence Agency Friday for the inclusion in this year's State of the Union address of questionable allegations that Iraq's Saddam Hussein was

Japan

Mainichi

Japan is to introduce missile defense system in Fiscal Year 2005.

Yomiuri

Japanese government will submit emergency bills to next ordinary parliament session.

Asahi

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi is planning to privatize Japan Post in April 2007.

USA

trying to buy nuclear materials in Africa. Public support for President Bush has dropped sharply amid growing concerns about US military casualties and doubts whether the war with Iraq was worth fighting, according to a new Washington Post-ABC News poll.

India

The Hindu

The Lahore-bound Indian bus crossed over into Pakistan at the Wagah border Friday afternoon, signaling the reopening of the direct passenger transportation links between the two neighbors.

Hindustan Times

India's PC sales staged a recovery in 2002-03 to gross 2.3 million units with growth of 37 percent compared to a negative 11 percent growth in the previous year, mainly on account of a surge in corporate IT consumption.

The Indian Express

The flood situation in east India's Bihar state remained grim Friday with major rivers in spate disrupting surface communication with the northeastern states, an official spokesman said.

Pakistan

Dawn

Drums, dancing and rose petals greeted the resumption of bus service between India and Pakistan on Friday, allowing for emotional family reunions after 18-month suspension.

The News

Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Jamali Friday said that Pakistan and Afghanistan are using diplomatic channels to resolve their differences.

The Nation

Pakistan has contacted India over the Qetta terrorist attack in which 53 worshippers were killed last week, to communicate its apprehensions over the alleged involvement of India-backed terrorist groups, Interior Minister Faisal Saleh Hayat said Friday.

Improve Your English



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192

I. What to Say

Situations and expressions (55):
Emotional Reactions (1)

Man is primarily an emotional being; logic and reason come much later. In our day-to-day interactions with people, there are occasions when any of the strong feelings of the human spirit—love, hatred, fear, grief, and so forth—is stirred up in response to a variety of situations which evoke them. Since situations are a legion, emotional reactions are also many which are not easy to catalogue. However, we present below a representative selection of them.

- She is **ecstatic**. The sparkle in her eyes tells it all.
- I was **thrilled** (a sudden, very strong feeling of joy, excitement) to get the electrifying news.
- Our **joy knew no bounds** to know that our country is the world boxing champion.
- He was **overjoyed** when he was told that his daughter has topped the list.
- His eyes were **wide in amazement** (great surprise) to learn about the incident.
- Your behavior has **taken me by surprise**.
- Considering her age, it was an **astounding** performance. She is certainly a child prodigy.
- Her face was **horrified** to hear the harrowing tales of the war.
- One is **appalled** (causing fear, shock) at the frightening proportions of crimes perpetrated against humanity every day.
- The blood chilling and hair splitting accounts of the dictator's brutalities are **horrific** and just **incredible** (too hard to believe).
- I was **traumatized** (deeply shocked) by his antagonistic attitude.
- A foreign tourist is bound to be **astounded** (shocked with surprise) to visit monuments of unaging intellect such as the Taj Mahal.
- I was **deeply dejected** (sad, in low spirits) by his cold and callous dealings to me.
- He was so **put out** (worried, annoyed) by the man's rudeness that he didn't know what to say.
- She felt **euphoric** (overjoyed) over her nomination as the Poet of the Year.

II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences.

1. He killed his enemy by a gun.
2. John is resembled by his father.
3. He is speaking a lie.
4. Don't make noise.
5. They had to leave their rights.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. I have a pen, a book and a pencil.
Note: When we mention more than two nouns consecutively in a sentence, the conjunction **and** comes between the last two things being talked about, the other nouns being marked by commas.
2. With **whom** did he go to market?
3. **French** is a sweet language.
4. I have a little information.
Note: 'Information' is an uncountable noun.
5. He wrote some **vocabulary**.
Note: 'Vocabulary' is used both as singular and plural.

III. Increase your Word Power

A) How to express it in one word

1. A room for reading, writing, and amusement, used only during the day.
2. Taking place during several days coming one after another.
3. Make somebody stupid or unable to think clearly.
4. Make somebody unable to see clearly because of too much of light.
5. An end with no way out.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. To spend time doing nothing: **dawdle** (v & i)
2. First light of day: **dawn** (n)
3. Idle and pleasant thoughts: **daydream** (n)
4. A place where some children can be left during the

day when their parents are away working: **day nursery** (n)
5. A time when offences are punished: **day of reckoning** (n)

B) Words and their origin

Give the sources of origin and meanings of the following expressions

1. dramaturgy; 2. eclogue; 3. ellipsis;
4. encomium; 5. epigram

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. **corpus** (Lat. 'body'): A term used to denote the body or the totality of a writer's work. Ex: The corpus of Shakespeare's plays.
2. **coup de théâtre** (Fr): An unexpected and theatrically startling event which twists the plot and action of the play. Ex. An invalid person suddenly becoming active.
3. **deixis** (Gk. 'to show'): Personal pronouns, and demonstratives that have a pointing function.
4. **diatribe** (Gk. 'rubbing through'): A long and rather violent attack in speech or writing.
5. **donnee** (Fr. 'an idea or notion implanted in the mind or imagination'): The seed of a creative work.

C) Words Commonly Confused

Bring out the meaning differences in the following pairs of words

1. ceremonial, ceremonious
2. certifiable, certificate
3. chafe, chaff
4. chance or opportunity, occasion
5. bathos, pathos

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. **capable** (adj) (gifted, able): He is a capable administrator.
2. **capacious** (adj) (able to hold much): He is gifted with a capacious memory.
2. **cast aside** (v, adv) (to discard, get rid of): When he bought a new car, he cast aside the old one.
3. **cast away** (v, adv) (to be thrown as a shipwrecked person): Gulliver was cast away in the land of Lilliputs after the ship wreck.
3. **celebrate** (vt) (to mark a special occasion with rejoicings): The Unity day was celebrated with pomp and ceremony.
4. **celebrity** (n) (a person with fame and honor): The young writer is already a celebrity.
4. **censor** (n) (official with authority to examine books, films, etc. and to cut anything objectionable): The Board of Film Censors has certified the film to be an adult movie.
5. **censure** (vt) (to express strong disapproval of someone for his behavior or actions): The officer was censured for acting in a prejudicial manner.
5. **celebration** (n) (an act or occasion of celebrating): The celebration of Annual Day was a spectacular success.
6. **cerebration** (n) (working of the brain; thinking): During exams students' power of cerebration is further activated.

D) Idioms and Phrases

Use the following phrases and idiomatic expressions in sentences

1. make an ass of oneself;
2. aspire after;
3. cast aspersions on
4. as opposed to;
5. as long as

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. **attach to** (to be fond of): I am very much attached to Mahweet.
2. **atone for** (to make repayment for wrong doings): He tried to atone for his harsh words by apologizing.
3. **assert oneself** (to insist on one's rights or authority): The Chairman asserted himself despite the strong protests by the employees.
4. **by common assent** (by general agreement): He was chosen the General Secretary of Students' Cultural Council by common assent.
5. **as regards** (regarding, with regard to): As regards

my educational qualification. I hold a doctorate degree.

IV. Grammar and Composition

A) Grammar

Choose the best answer

1. The children shouldn't be left alone. They're too young to look after —.
2. There aren't enough students — on an excursion.
3. Word processing is very simple; — you have to know is how to give some simple commands.
4. I had to put — having the party because I was ill.
5. She wanted to help her mother, so she — the table.
6. He went to college — he felt unwell.
7. Sometimes I wish I — more money.
8. The customs officer asked us where — from.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. Slow down! There's no need to run. We're not late!
2. The boy scouts are marching proudly down the street carrying their flags.
3. The bird had hurt its foot and was hopping along on one leg.
4. The little girl used to skip for hours in the street outside her house.
5. The President slowly stepped out of the car to be greeted by the crowd.
6. I have told you before. Don't climb trees. It's dangerous!
7. Would you like to go for a leisurely evening stroll before dinner?
8. He leapt from the top of the burning building into the river below.

B) Composition: Paragraph writing

Expand the idea contained in the maxim

25. DUTY PERFORMED IS A MORAL TONIC

Last week's topic:

24. TIME AND TIDE WAITS FOR NONE

Time is a continuum pervading the past, the present, and the future. Like the waves in the ocean it moves on without waiting for anyone. Time takes no holiday. We must always remember that time is one of our most precious wealths. If it is squandered, one of the greatest treasures is wasted. In fact, wastage of time amounts to wastage of opportunities and, in a broader sense, wastage of life. Opportunities come only rarely and it is our sacred duty to make the best use of it. Today is very important. We shouldn't trifle it away. In fact, what we are planning to do tomorrow, we must do today; and what we are planning to do today, we must do now. We must think that the time has arrived for achieving our goal in life and the moment is now. If we neglect, it will vanish, never to come back again. So every moment counts, every moment is important. It should be put to maximum use. We should cultivate the habit of doing everything in time. Lives of great men also teach us how to utilize time in the best possible manner.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"... Allah is well aware of all that ye do."
S.3 A. 153

VI. Words of Wisdom

"All art is but imitation of nature"
—Seneca

My Ziyara Qasira to Sa'dah



BY PROF. SARAT CHANDRA SATAPATHY
VISITING PROFESSOR,
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"Reach out and touch them; they will appreciate it." With these words Dr. Damodar Thakur wished me good luck and I was on my way to Sa'dah. In Dr. Thakur I found a wise man who was also full of affection, a rare combination indeed.

The battered taxi ate up the road, as we passed through the nihilistic wilderness of black volcanic rock structures, undulating and expanses with occasional patches of green with a couple of Arab mud houses, standing in their helpless isolation in the vicinity, and negotiated through the labyrinth of big, bare, and bald mountains, cutting across layers of them, finally entering Sa'dah at the end of four grueling hours.

The Yemeni driver deposited me by the roadside for Dr. Murari Prasad, Head, Department of English in the Faculty of Education to retrieve me eventually. "Welcome to Sa'dah", he said.

"I find this land of ornamental jambiya and free flowing jambiya interesting. But am not sure if I feel quite comfortable about the culture of qat and Kalashnikov."

Dr. Abdul Wasa'a, the Dean smiled and nodded his head in understanding.

In a couple of days I realized that Dr. Wasa'a is an able administrator, a strict disciplinarian, besides being a prominent litterateur. And he had in his Iraqi physicist Vice Dean, a magic man. Soft-spoken, and suave, intelligent and innovative, Dr. Ayham stands a few notches above the ordinary, completely dedicated to the profession and committed to the



L to R: Dr. Ayham, Vice Dean, Sheikh Nasser Qubais, Dr. Sarat Chandra Satapathy, H. E. Governor, Sa'dah, Dr. Abdul Wasa'a Al-Hemiri, Dean

institution.

Sheikh Nasir Qubais is part of this administrative structure, I understand. He is the community leader, people's man, young, energetic, solidly built and purposeful-looking. I found him a gentle giant. The triumvirate visibly warmed up to my suggestion of founding a full-fledged university at Sa'dah. It is heartening to note that the institution is in safe hands and the future looks promising.

Dr. Murari Prasad and his two young, Karachi educated Palestinian colleagues, teacher Munir and teacher Khalid comprise the English department. Overburdened yet uncompromising, I found the heroic trio giving the students their very best, encouraging the young lot to move forward and prosper. The department is in need of more teachers on permanent basis.

They called me "doktooor Sarat" and I found my students a wonderful lot. Eager to learn, intelligent and full of questions, enthusiastic, discerning, appreciative and receptive to ideas and thoughts, unafraid of offering critical assessment of their own, on occasions, yet willing to accept corrections as well as instructions with humility and grace and thankfulness, the students were my greatest source of joy. I enjoyed being with them, though at times, I admit, the chorus of "doktooor Sarat" was rather jarring to my ears, and the never ending bouts of hand-shakes with one and all left my fingers aching.

Yet they were slow in writing, the habits of Arabic writing from right to left, considerably hampered their speed while writing English in the reverse direction. Lack of proper reading materials, both in the college and outside, absence of the need or forum to communicate severely affected their comprehensive ability and conversational skills. (They ran half a dozen tape recorders in my class, to record the lectures and play them back home on big machines so as to understand the discourses with ease). They had all posted 'notice to Doktooor Sarat' in their examination papers regretting their inability to complete the answers).

Their syllabus has been designed with greater emphasis on language study. When asked to write the summary of the poem "The Daffodils", quite a good many of them filled the pages with columns of words, successfully identifying

the nouns, adjectives, similes and metaphors etc., and writing nothing else. It was like correctly identifying the whole spectrum of colors, without ever seeing the rainbow. There was the sense, but the sensibility part was woefully lacking. The syllabus designers should give it a thought. It is high time.

On vociferous popular demand "We want the new Indian Doktooor Sarat with us", I entered the classes which I did not teach. To my utter amazement and delight, I found myself in the role of the unofficial cultural ambassador of India, desperately negotiating my way through a veritable minefield of questions relating to Taj Mahal, the essence of Gandhian philosophy, pluralistic society, multi-lingual, multi-cultural situations, food, bridal finery and what not. Most of the questions came from the shrouded figures, their eyes sparkling through the slits. One of them finally got me when I could not say a word to her query, "Why is it that I have only one wife and one daughter and what are the chances of the numerical improvement in the area in future?"

During the session I repeatedly failed to distinguish between one shrouded figure and another, often addressing my answers to the wrong person. A very helpful suggestion was offered to me from among the hooded group, "Read the eyes, you'll see the differences". I did not even attempt it. I know that is one text I would need a different pair of glasses to read. But I marvelled at the ingenuity of the suggestion. Even the teacher has to sometimes learn from his students, I did. I have been rather fortunate.

The Yemeni is normally a good friend, a helpful community man, non-interfering, well-meaning and very tolerant. He values his leisure, joins his ceremony of qat-sessions with gusto, proudly wears his jambiya and considers the Kalashnikov as an integral part of his

body, a kind of an extended limb. "Qat is efficiency booster, capacity enhancer, idea-multipplier stuff," one of my students tried to educate me on the values of qat-chewing. Qat came the rejoinder from a shrouded figure: "It kills time, saps vitality, blocks the mind, gives a false sense of euphoria, breeds slothfulness, ruins you economically and definitely damages your health. You look awful with the ever growing bulge in your mouth." I thought it prudent to play a dumb guy.

Sa'dah is a bit rural in its feel, a little rustic in its environment, but all things considered, quiet and peaceful. It is steadily growing. New establishments, good roads, large houses are all coming up very fast. One can still feel the old world charm here. It is a contented little world. People know each other and regularly join street-side conversations which is part of life and living.

I used to go on long walks in the evenings with two Syrian academics Dr. Yasser and Dr. Samir. They knew no English and for me Arabic was an alien tongue. Yet we conversed on various subjects making use of mime, gesticulation, signs, sounds and available objects and what not. It was interesting. Human beings reaching out to one another without the help of available communicative methods and modes. It was achieving understanding at its pristine best. Back in the residential block of apartments, it was the melee of Syrians, Indians, Sudanese, Iraqis, Egyptians, Jordanians, Palestinians, a big and a beautiful world, happy and peaceful.

His Excellency the Governor of Sa'da came visiting the college. He was a big man, cheerful and very polite who could make himself comfortable with students, faculty members, office staff, one and all, without standing much on ceremony or protocol. We shook hands, talked a bit. Dr. Ayham acted the interpreter - I found myself doing the rounds as part of his entourage and finally standing by his side for the photo session. (Indians and Yemenis have been good friends, always).

It was to go home, at the end of my Ziyara Qasira (short visit) to Sa'dah. I returned with happy memories. Until another day I convey a big 'shookran' to Sa'dah and the nice people there.

WONDERWORD

by DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions—vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

CLUES

Adult	Comb	Head	Purple	Subtle
Ammonia	Common	Henna	Real	Supply
Apply	Conditioner	Hour	Reds	Switch
Before	Curls	Imitate	Renew	Tease
Better	Damp	Improve	Rinse	Temporary
Blonde	Darker	Instructions	Roots	Timer
Bold	Differ	Kits	Runs	Tint
Brand	Disguise	Liquid	Salon	Toner
Bright	Dispenser	Lotion	Sample	Touch up
Brilliance	Enhanced	Messy	Scarlet	Towel
Brown	Experiment	Milder	Setting	Tubes
Brush	False	Model	Shade	Urge
Burnt	Fixer	Natural	Smear	Violet
Cabinet	Flair	Original	Solids	Wash
Cans	Foam	Package	Spread	Wear
Chemicals	Fragrant	Pigment	Start	
Clean	Green	Professional	Strand	
Color	Hairdresser	Pull	Streak	

DYEING YOUR HAIR

Solution: 8 letters

L	S	E	B	U	T	E	V	O	R	P	M	I	S	K	W	A	S	H	E
D	A	M	S	R	N	E	T	E	M	P	O	R	A	R	Y	E	G	S	H
E	O	N	N	W	I	S	D	N	P	R	U	E	M	L	H	E	N	N	A
C	O	L	O	R	W	L	M	I	A	U	R	L	P	G	B	I	E	I	
N	P	R	I	I	A	L	E	S	T	H	P	L	T	R	A	T	S	R	
A	B	A	T	M	S	F	M	I	S	P	U	C	E	V	I	E	T	R	D
H	P	C	C	C	S	S	T	E	A	S	E	R	U	I	G	W	E	A	R
N	H	U	U	K	C	L	E	A	N	N	Y	N	A	O	H	T	S	N	E
E	S	R	R	M	A	O	F	F	S	A	C	E	S	L	H	T	H	P	E
C	L	E	T	P	R	G	N	E	O	C	P	E	L	E	R	O	O	T	S
S	A	T	S	U	L	R	E	D	L	R	P	P	B	T	R	I	N	U	E
L	C	B	N	F	E	E	T	N	I	O	P	I	L	B	O	A	E	R	
I	I	S	I	A	T	D	L	O	D	T	K	G	Y	M	O	F	L	R	
L	M	X	T	N	R	S	U	L	S	A	I	I	P	M	A	D	S	E	F
B	E	I	R	R	E	G	D	B	I	T	N	O	O	D	E	O	X	W	B
R	H	D	T	N	A	T	A	N	S	A	B	C	N	N	I	N	B	O	O
U	C	E	O	A	I	N	O	R	L	D	A	R	K	E	R	U	T	T	L
S	R	L	A	M	T	M	D	I	F	F	E	R	A	I	R	D	Q	E	D
H	A	G	E	D	M	E	X	P	E	R	I	M	E	N	T	T	N	I	T
S	P	R	E	A	D	I	S	G	U	I	S	E	T	E	D	A	H	S	L

Kidd Will Re-Sign with New Jersey

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (Reuters) - Jason Kidd has ended 11 days of intense speculation and will re-sign with the New Jersey Nets, spurning an offer from the NBA champion San Antonio Spurs, the point guard said Friday.

"After great thought and consultation with the important people in my life, I have decided that I want to remain a New Jersey Net," Kidd said a statement released by his agent Jeff Schwartz.

"I have enjoyed being here the past two years, I have worked hard with my team mates and believe in our future."

"I've been fortunate to have had significant interest from other great organizations, but ultimately I want to finish what we started here and bring a championship to the Nets."

San Antonio general manager R.C. Burford had confirmed earlier that Kidd had turned down the opportunity to sign with the Spurs.

"Earlier today I heard from Jeff Schwartz who indicated that Jason Kidd has decided to stop talks and negotiations with the San Antonio Spurs," Burford said on the Spurs' Web Site.

"While it is disappointing news for us, we are happy for Jason and his family and wish them continued success."

Numerous media reports said Kidd will sign a six-year contract worth \$99 million, the maximum the Nets could offer him.

The Spurs had reportedly offered Kidd \$92 million when he visited San Antonio last week.

The perennial All-Star point guard was the most sought-after free agent this season.

The Nets, who lost to the Spurs in six games in the NBA Finals, have been trying to re-sign Kidd since the free agent period opened on July 1.

New Jersey president Rod Thorn said the team was also pursuing free-agent center Alonzo Mourning.

The former Miami Heat player is attempting to return to the NBA after missing all of last season with a kidney ailment.

"The New Jersey Nets have been involved in active negotiations with free agents Jason Kidd and Alonzo Mourning with the intention of signing both players once the free agent moratorium ends Wednesday," Thorn said in a statement.

"Due to NBA free agency rules, I cannot provide further comment on these signings until after the moratorium has expired."

Free agents can not be signed officially until July 16.

Petacchi wins again



Credit Agricole team rider Stuart O'Grady (L) of Australia and Brioches la Boulangere team rider Anthony Geslin (R) of France lead a breakaway in the 230km sixth stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Nevers and Lyon on Friday. US Postal team rider Victor Hugo Pena retains the leader's yellow jersey. REUTERS/Vincent Kessler

By Francois Thomazeau

LYON, France (Reuters) - Alessandro Petacchi sprinted to his fourth stage win of this year's Tour de France when he won the 230-km sixth stage from Nevers to Lyon.

The Italian emerged from the bunch yet again after they had reeled in Australian Stuart O'Grady and Frenchman Anthony Geslin, who had led for nearly 200km, in the last 500 metres.

But while Petacchi will rightly take the laurels for a tremendous first-week sprinting performance, race favourite Lance Armstrong will be quietly delighted to have reached the foot of the Alps perfectly poised to launch his challenge for a fifth successive victory.

Whereas the American is usually lagging behind the other leading contenders before the first mountain stage, he will this time tackle the first big climb with a comfortable lead over his rivals.

The Texan took it easy in the long 230-km ride from Nevers, finishing a

comfortable 39th to remain one place and one second behind race-leading team mate Victor Hugo Pena of Colombia in the overall standings.

Longest stage

Armstrong knows that Saturday's longest Tour stage to Morzine, half a kilometre longer than Friday but a whole lot harder, could be crucial.

Most riders seemed to have the mountains in mind on Friday, apart from O'Grady and Geslin, who launched an attack after 35km.

In a terrific sustained effort they stretched their lead to 18 minutes, remaining clear for 194km, before being heartbreakingly caught in sight of the line.

So for the fifth time in this Tour sprinters had the final say and for the fourth Petacchi spoke loudest, surging in the last 150 metres for an impressive win.

"In Italy, we say that if you're third time lucky, the fourth time comes naturally," he said.

Attention now turns to the climbers and the big question is whether Armstrong will again stamp his authority on the race over the coming weekend in the Alps.

"Other favourites are behind us. It's the first time," said Armstrong's U.S. Postal chief Johan Bruyneel.

"Of course, it's a plus but it's above all a mental advantage over our rivals." Armstrong leads last year's runner-up Joseba Beloki by 32 seconds and 1997 winner Jan Ullrich by 38 seconds.

Domestique

The other leading contenders are way behind: Colombian Santiago Botero is trailing by one minute 32 seconds while Italians Stefano Garzelli, Gilberto Simoni or Spaniard Iban Mayo will have to recover more than two minutes in the climbs.

"We are only going to try to respond to attacks," said Bruyneel, hinting that Armstrong could try to save some energy for Sunday's decisive stage to l'Alpe d'Huez.

In Saturday's ride to Morzine he will have to tackle the tricky La Ramaz pass, in which he was outshone by Basque Mayo in the recent Dauphine Libere race.

"Tomorrow, I'm going to attack," the Euskaltel team leader warned.

Bruyneel admitted there would be, along with Mayo, other riders to watch like Ullrich, Beloki and Simoni but said the team had no fixed strategy for the mountains.

"We're not going to tell a rider that he'll be the first to tackle the climb, then that another will follow and so on. The race will dictate our tactics," he said. "I would only prefer for Lance to be the finisher."

In recent Tours, the U.S. Postal "blue train", led in turn by various team riders, set an impressive pace in the climbs, dropping rivals one by one before Armstrong made his move.

Pena is therefore likely to return to his usual role as a "domestique" as Armstrong bids to end the first week in yellow.

Chelsea agree fee for Geremi

LONDON (Reuters) - Chelsea have agreed a 6.9-million-pound deal with Real Madrid to sign Cameroon international midfielder Geremi.

"We now need to speak to the player and agree terms but I am optimistic that he will be coming to Chelsea," Chelsea chief executive Trevor Birch told his club's website on Friday.

A statement by Real Madrid on the Spanish club's official website read: "The deal between both parties (clubs) has been signed and we are now awaiting for the appropriate guarantees to arrive from Chelsea before July 15 and for the club to agree personal terms with the player, who will also have to undergo a medical."

Geremi, who is currently on holiday in Cameroon following the Confederations Cup, spent last season on loan at Middlesbrough.

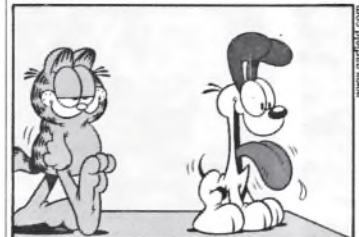
Chelsea, who were bought by Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich last week, have also agreed a fee to sign West Ham defender Glen Johnson.

Geremi was one of a long list of targets for Chelsea, which also included Inter Milan's Christian Vieri and Blackburn Rovers' Damien Duff, according to newspaper reports.

Chelsea had offers for Paris St Germain's Brazilian striker Ronaldinho and Juventus midfielder Edgar Davids rejected on Thursday.

7-Day Weather Forecast

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Sana'a	Hi 29 Lo 13	29 13	29 13	28 13	27 13	28 12	27 12
Aden	Hi 40 Lo 27	38 28	38 28	41 28	37 26	36 25	36 25



THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

BY Eugenia



Aries
(Mar 21 - Apr 19)
The more you do to solidify your position and direction, the better the outcome will be. Don't waste your time on emotional matters you can't do anything about.



Taurus
(Apr 20 - May 20)
Someone may be more eager to take your ideas and run with them. If you don't protect your own interests, no one else will. Love and romance should highlight your day.



Gemini
(May 21 - Jun 20)
You may be a little accident-prone, so watch what you are doing. Move forward with your plans, but don't force onto others what you want to do.



Cancer
(Jun 21 - Jul 22)
Prepare to deal with the additional responsibilities coming your way. Do your own thing where creative and social activities are concerned. You stand to meet someone special.



Leo
(Jul 23 - Aug 22)
Partnerships may be a little off today. Try not to read too much into the situation. If you are more concerned with helping others, your personal life will sort itself out.



Virgo
(Aug 23 - Sep 22)
Not everyone at work will have your best interests in mind. Misunderstandings will lead to false information. Put your efforts into doing, not watching.



Libra
(Sept 23 - Oct 22)
You will be highly creative today and must put your ideas down on paper before you forget. You are likely to have to deal with other people's responsibilities, but you may meet someone special while helping others.



Scorpio
(Oct 23 - Nov 21)
Your ideas are changing and you must prepare to follow your heart and go after your goals. Don't let anyone stand in your way. Loss can be expected.



Sagittarius
(Nov 22 - Dec 21)
The connections you make while visiting friends or relatives will be long-lasting and may change your future. Don't act in haste or you will have regrets.



Capricorn
(Dec 22 - Jan 19)
You will be in a perfect position when it comes to moneymaking deals. You should be able to drum up the support you require. Be careful not to promise the impossible.



Aquarius
(Jan 20 - Feb 18)
You may be a little indecisive today. Being secretive will only lead to more problems. Get things out in the open.



Pisces
(Feb 19 - Mar 20)
Instant love will come your way, but be cautious; this person may not be telling you everything. Uniqueness has always been an attraction for you, but don't believe everything you hear.

NASA: Oldest planet formed 13 billion years ago

By Deborah Zabarenko

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The oldest planet ever detected is nearly 13 billion years old and more than twice the size of Jupiter, locked in orbit around a whirling pulsar and a white dwarf, astronomers said on Thursday.

Compared with the relative youth and stability of our own celestial neighborhood, where Earth and the other planets orbit a single 5-billion-year-old star in a quiet neighborhood of the Milky Way, the ancient group that holds the oldest planet has had a boisterous past, scientists said at a NASA briefing.

The old planet is located near the heart of a globular star cluster some 5,600 light-years from Earth in the constellation Scorpius. A light-year is about 6 trillion miles, about the distance light travels in a year.

Globular clusters were generally thought to be lousy environments for forming planets, because the clusters coalesced so early in the universe's development that the heavier elements needed to make planets were not yet present in abundance.

This finding, made with data from the orbiting Hubble Space Telescope, indicates that even globular clusters can produce planets despite the small amount of heavy elements, said Steinn Sigurdsson of Pennsylvania State University.

First generation planet

"What we think we've found is an example of the first generation of planets formed in the universe," Sigurdsson said. "We think this planet formed with its star, 12.713 billion years ago when the (Milky Way)

galaxy was very young, just in the process of forming."

By comparison, Earth and the rest of our solar system is a third-generation affair, made from gas that was polluted by the ashes of earlier generations of stars. And the sun is off by itself, not interacting directly with any other stars.

But globular clusters are like crowded marketplaces, with stars so close together they are forced to interact. That meant that the old planet went along for the ride, Sigurdsson said.

After forming around a sun-like star, the old planet was dragged with the star toward the core of the globular cluster. Then the planet was pulled toward a neutron star and its companion, enmeshing all four bodies into a tangle of orbits.

The neutron star grabbed the sun-like star and the old planet and booted its original companion into space. In time, the planet's star aged into a red giant and then into a white dwarf, a dying star that can only shine with stored heat.

The neutron star evolved into a fast-whirling pulsar and changes in how it spun helped scientists determine that one of the three cosmic objects dancing in space was a planet, said Harvey Richer of the University of British Columbia.

The old planet is too far away to be directly observed, but because it exerts a slight gravitational tug on the pulsar it orbits, scientists figured out its mass and position based on its pull on the pulsar, Richer said.

The old planet is among more than 100 planets detected outside our solar system.

Chilean experts say beached 'blob' a sperm whale

SANTIAGO, Chile (Reuters) - Chilean scientists said on Friday their study of a huge blob of flesh found on a Pacific beach about three weeks ago concluded it was the carcass of a sperm whale, ending speculation of a giant octopus.

Scientists have been baffled by the 40-foot-long mass of gelatinous tissue found on a remote beach in southern Chile, with initial hunches ranging from whale blubber to a disputed species of giant octopus.

Researchers at the Museum of Natural History in Santiago were the first to reach a conclusion after analyzing samples of the decaying specimen and finding glands of a sperm whale.

"It has not been necessary to do DNA analysis in order to obtain identification, it was enough to find the dermal glands that belong only to this

group," the scientists Sergio Letelier and Jose Yanez said in a statement.

The sperm whale, made famous by Herman Melville's Moby Dick, is the largest of the toothed whales and dives deeper than any other whale. The males measure up to 65 feet in length and weigh about 50 tons.

When a sperm whale dies at sea, it rots until it becomes a "skeleton suspended in a semi-liquid mass within a bag of skin and blubber," the scientists said. Eventually, the skin tears and the bones sink while the skin and blubber float.

"This washes up and has the appearance of an octopus because the spermaceti organ keeps its bulky shape," they added.

The spermaceti is a large bulbous organ that forms a sort of forehead and contains a milky wax which early whalers likened to sperm fluid.



Chilean scientists said July 11, their study of a huge blob of flesh found on a Pacific beach about three weeks ago concluded it was the carcass of a sperm whale, ending speculation of a giant octopus. Chilean scientists look at the creature near Puerto Montt, July 1. Photo by Reuters

UK scientists eye half mile-long microscope

By Pete Harrison

LONDON (Reuters) - British scientists are lobbying to build the world's most powerful microscope, an instrument so advanced that it can see individual atoms moving.

The European Spallation Source (ESS) — a type of instrument known as a matterscope — would allow them to look at the growth of protein molecules in living human tissue or at the stresses deep within the wheel of a train or the wing of an aircraft.

"This is on par with the Hubble telescope, but it's for looking at inner space," said Professor Bob Cywinski of

Leeds University, which is backing the one billion pound project.

A disused World War II airfield in North Yorkshire has been earmarked for the matterscope's 0.62 mile-long concrete tunnel and neutron research laboratories.

"To look at it, you'd just see a mound of grass growing over the top and sheep wandering around," said Cywinski.

Rather than using light to look at microscopic structures, matterscopes use neutrons — bouncing them off the surface just as bats or dolphins use sound waves to create the image of an object.

The neutrons are created by using

powerful magnets to propel protons down the concrete tunnel at nearly the speed of light. At the end, they hit a metal target, chipping off neutrons, which can be focused into a beam.

Meetings with Science Minister Lord Sainsbury this month have shifted the proposal up a level, said Cywinski, and it now looked like a real possibility. "We've cleared the first hurdle," he told Reuters.

Britain already has the world's most powerful matterscope, of 200 kilowatts, at the Rutherford Appleton laboratory in Oxfordshire, he said, but the United States and Japan are about to eclipse it. It will be dwarfed by a 1.5 megawatt

Spallation Neutron Source in Tennessee, and by Japan's one megawatt J-Parc, both of which should be ready around 2006.

"The Americans are going to leapfrog Rutherford Appleton using a European design," said Martin Doxey of the White Rose consortium, which links the universities of Sheffield, Leeds and York to the project.

"What this is about is taking a more modern European design to leapfrog them," he added. "It's not a macho thing. It's not a 'mine is bigger than yours' thing. To do the next generation of experiments, we simply need the big beam."

Stealth program hijacks PCs to send porn ads

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters) - Close to 2,000 Windows-based PCs with high-speed Internet connections have been hijacked by a stealth program and are being used to send ads for pornography, computer security experts said on Friday.

It is unknown exactly how the so-called "Trojan" program is spreading to victim computers around the world, whose owners most likely have no idea what is happening, said Richard M. Smith, a security consultant in Boston.

Security provider Network Associates Inc. NET.N rated the trojan a low risk since it did not appear to be more widespread and was not harming the victim computers.

Trojan programs are typically spread via e-mail viruses and can also sneak onto computers through Web browsers when surfing, he said.

The trojan, dubbed "Migmaf" for "migrant Mafia," turns the victim computer into a proxy server which serves as a sort of middle man between people clicking on porn e-mail spam or Web site links, according to Smith.

It allows the victim computer to fetch porn Web ads from an undisclosed server and pass the ads on to other computers either through an e-mail spam or a Web browser.

The victim computer acts as a "front" to the porn Web site, enabling the porn Web servers to hide their location, Smith said.

The scam also is believed to be responsible for a PayPal scam discovered last week designed to collect credit card information from people who filled in a form they received via e-mail purporting to be from Web payment provider PayPal, Smith said.

Smith said he suspects whoever is responsible for the Migmaf scam may be in Russia because some e-mail addresses involved in the scheme go back to

Russian servers and there are other Russian language references in some domain names that are involved.

Broadband Internet users should always use firewalls to block such stealth activity, he said.

Computers with updated anti-virus

software will also be protected, said Lisa Smith, a product manager for Network Associates's McAfee consumer division.

In addition, there is software designed to specifically block trojan-type programs, like BBX Technologies' ImmuneEngine.

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الرائسة، السبع المخطوب ١٨ مايين
رجال بالرفق للقاء، التواضع مع ابو
علي، سيار، ٧٨٢٠٠٠
■ الجديد، بولدين، مدينة الاسميحي
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الساحدة ١٧ لسان، مخطوف، من
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للتواضع مع ابو علي، سيار
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- ١٩٧٤، ١٩٧٤
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- إسماعيل من فؤاد، ١٩٧٤، ١٩٧٤
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- ١٩٧٤، ١٩٧٤
- عاكسة المنزل، ١٩٧٤، ١٩٧٤
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ت: ٢٤١٦٧٧
■ للبيع أشعة تلفزيون: موديل ٨٨٧
ياباني، عنوان التواصل على ت
٧١٦١٥٧٥٩
■ للبيع: ثلاثة عرض ايس كريم نوع (Hair)
حالة جيدة، للإستفسار
هاتف (٣٠٢٣٢٥) أو على المحمول
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Yemeni Islands,

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BY MOHAMMED BIN SALAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

There are more than 200 islands in Yemen located in the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea. Many of them are considered as important centers for world navigation and trade, in addition to their economic, political, military and regional importance. Throughout history the Yemeni islands have been so important for many reasons.

Most of those islands were mentioned by many historians; Greek, Persian and Arabs like Al-Hamadani. Archeologists, geologists and botany scientists also mentioned it. In the Middle Ages, Yemeni islands were the focus of attention of countries like Portugal, France, Britain, Italy, and Turkey. And because of them many wars had been fought.

Most of the islands are of great importance yet a selective number are of distinctive importance due to the merits they enjoy in relation to economy, tourism, environment, military and other fields. Of these islands are Mion, Lesser and Greater Hunaish, Zuqar, Kamaran, Socotra, Abd Kori, Abo Ali, Jabal Al-Zubair, Jabal Al-Tair, Rasha, Oqban, Saniae, Rafiae and many others.

Most of those islands are located in the Red Sea, of which five are of essential importance due to certain reasons:

Strategically:

Being on the International navigation routes like Midi Island which is in the middle of the Babe Al-Mandab strait. Also because these islands form a defense lines and forward observation posts along the coast.

Economically:

These islands represent important fishing areas for providing fish and



Kamaran Island

marine life creatures especially that they are situated in a sea rich with more than 3 thousand species of fish.

Tourism:

These islands tourist importance derives from their being located in sunny and soft sand region adding beauty to them and giving them a special tourist attraction, surrounded by coral reefs and volcanic small islands and characterized by being suitable diving areas.

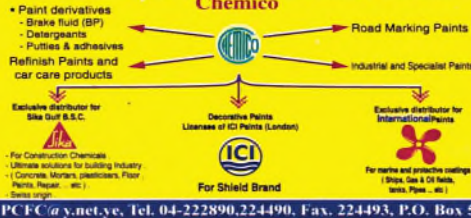
And because the world today heads towards investing in tourism and its branches, the Yemeni islands hence are a great chance to invest and with little promotion and maintenance they could magnificently become of the world's

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lionth of the world's marine tourism.

Continued on page 5

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