

Protesters pray in Freedom Square

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

Photo by Faisal Mahdi

Al-Hilaly reported the assault to the local police station and the newspaper. The police promised to investigate the incident and Yemen Times contacted the political security with no response yet. “They told me to either hand over the

Yemen Times demands the release of the camera and investigation into the assault.

"The Ramadan bonus is a right for the employees, not a present from the government," he added.

Detained journalists

Beside the teachers, activists protested for

YT photo by Khaled Al-Hilaly

For more than ten months, protesters have been prevented from entering Freedom Square in Sana'a. On Tuesday, hundreds of protesters broke through the security cordon and forced their way into the square to hold their sit-in and pray the afternoon prayer.

“These accusations are aimed at forcing journalists to reveal their sources, and this is against national and international laws,” the Yemeni Committee for Protection Freedom of Speech wrote in a press release on Tuesday.

"The fight against terrorism does not justify the forced disappearance of journalists," Reporters Without Borders said on its website. "The arbitrary and brutal manner in which Shae [Shayi] and Sharaf were arrested amid the current upsurge of violence makes us fear the worst."

Shayi⁷ is a freelance journalist who also works for the official news agency Saba. He is an analyst specializing in Al-Qaeda and Islamist groups and frequently appears on Al-Jazeera news.

Human rights activist and journalists denounced the government's abduction of Shayi' and its linking him with Al-Qaida because of his interviews with some of its members and his appearance also works for the official news agency Saba. He is an analyst specializing in Al-Qaida and Islamist groups and frequently appears on Al-Jazeera news.

He has published exclusive interviews with local Al-Qaida leaders, including US-wanted Yemeni-American preacher Anwar Al-Awlaci.

He has published exclusive interviews with local Al-Qaeda leaders, including US-wanted Yemeni-American preacher Anwar Al-Awlaqi.

Reporter and cartoonist Kamal Sharaf was detained in Sana'a only one day after Shayi' was detained. He is a close friend of Shayi' and was the only eye-witness present during the July kidnapping by

Sharaf works as a reporter for the Yemeni online state-owned newspaper Al-Jumhuriyya and as a cartoonist for the independent news website Barakish. In July, he won the Centre for Economic Studies and Media first prize for cartoons that promote human rights.

No protection from the sheikh

Among Tuesday's protesters were people from Al-Ja'ashin in the Ibb governorate who at the beginning of the year fled their village because they were being harassed by the henchmen of the local sheikh, Mohammad Ahmad Mansour. Nine months later, they are still demanding protection from the government.

"It has been nine months!" said Tawakul Karman, head of Women Journalists Without Chains.

"The parliamentary committee sent to Al-Ja'ashin [to investigate] received orders from high up to return [to the capital] before arriving," said Karman.


Mohammad Qasim No'man, an elderly man from Al-Ja'ashin, talked to the protesters and said that his people had come to the government to seek protection, but that it had turned a blind eye to their complaints.


"The government only responds to those who raise arms against it and shed blood," he said.

 **ALSA'EEED TRADING COMPANY**
(A Yemeni Closed Stock Company)

**Yemen's Largest Exporter
of FMGG products.**

Yemen, Taiz - P.O. Box 4364
Tele: +967 (4) 222222 / 10 (lines)
Fax: +967 (4) 222865 / 221643 / 221642
E-mail: info@alsa'eedtrading.com
Website: www.alsa'eedtrading.com





ROLEX

AL EKLIEL

SANAA : Ali Abdul Mughnee street

ADEN : Al Maidan street - Crater

TAIZ : Al Saeed Commercial Center - 26 September

Higher Education law ‘a flagrant violation,’ says academic

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

SANA'A, August 22 – A new Yemeni Higher Education law that gives authority to businessmen and other non-academic staff in universities nationwide was issued last Saturday, among rejection by civil society, parliamentarians, and academics.

The Ministry of Scientific Research and Higher Education stated that this law aimed to regulate the supervision of higher education, encourage research and guarantee the freedom of the academic process.

Academics and parliamentarians have however described the law as ‘a flagrant violation’ of universities’ independence.

Before approving this law, teaching staff in the Sana'a University complained about the law and they stressed the importance of department heads and college deans electing the rector of University, but the Ministry didn't respond to these demands.

“The aim of this law is to establish boards that endeavor to lessen university activities,” said Dr. Abdullah Al-Azazi, the head of teaching staff at Sana'a University, explaining that he feared funds for research would be affected.

Al-Azazi told the Yemen Times that the new system to appoint people to the board of trustees is dangerous because

it requires that three public figures chosen by the Prime Minister and three Yemeni businessmen be chosen by the Chamber of Commerce. These may lead to some sheikhs and businessmen interfering in higher education.

“Yemen wants to compare itself with the other countries by this law but we are a totally different,” he said.

In the other countries, businessmen are involved in the education system because they are interested in education and have a real desire to support education, according to Al-Azazi.

“This law has taken the power from the academics and given it to a new board of trustees that includes businessmen who probably will badly control the educational process,” he said.

Al-Azazi indicated the importance of businessmen's support for education but, he said, Yemen still is unable to implement this plan.

“We need Yemeni businessmen who have educational interests,” he said.

He severely criticized the government neglecting good academics and he said that there are hundreds of experienced academics who don't obtain the positions they deserve. He added that this law doesn't respond to the demands of good academics.

“We are not allowed to elect the rector of the university and talking about it is considered to be a red line,” Al-Azazi said.

Second generation immigrants to teach first aid to children

By: Abdullah Bamoshmoosh
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, August 25 — Abdulfattah, 20, yelled in fake pain as the instructor bandaged a splinter to his arm. Standing up in front of a class of 12 university students learning like him to become first aid trainers, he was helping demonstrate how to deal with a broken wrist.

The son of a Somali engineer who came to Yemen 20 years ago, Abdulfattah is a second generation Somali immigrant who was born and educated in Yemen. He currently studies graphic design at the Yemeni Jordanian University.

As he has been very successful in his studies, the United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and Save the Children chose him to become a first aid trainer of children in his community.

He and 12 other second-generation immigrants were chosen because of their desire to improve their importance in society by making children see them as teachers, not as immigrants.

On Saturday, the UNHCR and Save the Children started an eight-day course on how to teach successful second-generation refugees first aid, and let them teach it in a simple and funny way to the children they know.

On the first day, all participants were given the tools needed to teach the children, from practical items, like bandages, to pictures and games to help children understand.

Participants were enthusiastic. “It was not a school lecture and that's why I liked it,” said Umalkhair, one of



Thirteen university students trained to teach first aid to children in their community.

the female participants at the course.

“Children at times understand even better than adults,” said Fatima Sa'adaddin, one of the instructors in the course.

She also said the students training the children – seven young men and six young women – were all scholarship students supported by a German government project called DAFI.

She said this is the third time they began a project to teach children -Yemeni and non-Yemeni- first aid, and that there are other courses for refugees to teach children about other topics such as nutrition.

The idea is that each new trainer, after taking the course, will create a small group of ten to fifteen children from his or her neighborhood aged nine to fourteen years. They will teach them, with the equipment given to them by the instructors, the basics of what they are supposed to do in case somebody gets hurt.

“The importance of this course is determined by improving their [the attendants] personal ability to withstand sudden struggles, by teaching them how to face them readily. The other importance of this course is its capillarity, which makes it available for many children

all over Sana'a”, said Fatima Al-Agil, communication and advocacy officer for Save the Children.

She and the other instructor, Sameera Hadi Saleh, have been trained by specialized teachers to prepare and teach this course.

“This project will benefit your society,” Sameera told the Yemen Times. “We shall not forget that the final purpose is teaching children.”

“Because I will be a children's trainer, I really think it will be useful for tomorrow,” said Mohammed, another male attendant.

Food aid delays hit IDPs in Amran Governorate

AMRAN, August 23 (IRIN) - Thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the northern Yemeni governorate of Amran, including 1,800 in the governorate's only IDP camp, Khaiwan, have been hit by food aid delivery delays, according to aid workers.

“Today, we are fasting without having `sahour’ [a pre-dawn Ramadan meal]. We also don't have food to break our fast at sunset,” Um Mohammed, 50, a widow living with her seven children in the camp, told IRIN.

They fled their home in Amran's Harf Sufyan District in early September 2009 after clashes between the army and Houthi-led Shia rebels.

According to a July report by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), 49,759 of the 328,877 registered IDPs in the north are in Amran Governorate.

Thousands of IDPs outside the camp are living in tents, renting flats or living with host families. All are dependent on food aid, said Khaiwan camp supervisor Nabil Khamis.



IDPs gather next to a WFP truck distributing wheat. IDPs say they do not know when they will go home due to ongoing violence in their home districts.

He told IRIN the last food aid delivery was at the end of June, and they were still waiting for July rations. “Many of the camp residents and hundreds of others living in nearby tents were forced to go out and beg for food from nearby villages,” he said.

Others have been doing odd jobs for local farmers to get food. “The situation is worse among widows and the disabled in the camp who cannot work”.

ICRC role

In the past WFP, through its partner Islamic Relief (IR), was in charge of food distribution in the camp, but the agency transferred the job to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) from July until the end of

2010 “due to WFP funding constraints”, Maria Santamarina, WFP's reporting and advocacy officer in Sanaa, told IRIN.

The ICRC was aiming to distribute one month's worth of food rations - wheat, rice, beans, oil, sugar and salt - to IDPs in Amran Governorate, said Rabab Al-Rifai, the ICRC spokesperson in Yemen. “The organization is discussing the final details with the concerned entities in the governorate.”

A ceasefire between government forces and al-Houthi rebels was signed in February 2010 but intermittent clashes in Harf Sufyan District have hampered aid agency access and food aid delivery in Amran in the past few months, IR country director Khalid Almulad said. Lack of safe access to needy IDPs was a major problem not only in Amran, according to Tarek Elguindi, head of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Yemen.

“There are tribal conflicts in al-Jawf [Governorate], a government-tribal con-

flict in Amran and a government-Houthi conflict in Saada... Roads to several areas where IDPs are sheltering still remain unsafe,” he said, adding that in Amran armed tribesmen were setting up checkpoints in a bid to exert pressure on the government to give them jobs. “They are preventing aid workers from reaching IDPs.”

There are 17,235 IDPs in al-Jawf and 110,000 in Saada, according to UNHCR.

Elguindi said the government had offered to provide military escorts to aid workers to help get the food aid delivered, but the offer had been turned down. “As humanitarian agencies, we have to be neutral and impartial,” he said.

Like other IDPs in Khaiwan camp, Um Mohammed was expecting more food aid during Ramadan, not less: “Did they [aid agencies] choose to treat us this way in Ramadan?” she said. “We were expecting to get better rations, including dates and sweets during this holy month, but it didn't happen.”

IMPORTANT WARNING ANNOUNCEMENT

The International Bank of Yemen and The United Engineering and Automobile Co. Ltds. herein announce this warning to all their clients whom they were granted Car Loans, and failed to fulfill their obligations in settling their debts, according to contracts signed by them. If these clients failed to take the initiative steps to settle their obligations during the coming two weeks from the date of this waning announcement, then the other step shall be, in publishing their names in the newspaper, accompanied by warning to the companies and individuals not to deal with such clients, by any sort business. Otherwise they shall be dealing with those whom their names were published, and whom they are non-owner, regarding the related car. This as first step to take thereafter freely, the required legal actions.

**International Bank
of Yemen**

**United Engineering &
Automobile Co. Ltds**

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** invites **Yemeni Nationals** to apply for the following position with its “**Early Recovery Project**”

Title: Social Inclusion Officer
Duration of Contract: 1 year renewable/SC-5
Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout, Yemen

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the overall coordination, management & implementation of social inclusion and gender issues in Early Recovery Project.
- Design and provide training courses or establish effective scheme for empowerment of vulnerable groups.
- Provide technical guidance gender mainstreaming into all Early Recovery Project level activities by analyzing of the socio-economic and political structure in the Project area from a gender perspective.
- Prepare regular monitoring reports by assessing and recommending how to strengthen the gender & social inclusion issues. Collect noteworthy case studies about achievements and non-achievements occurring in the field.
- Ensure that gender mainstreaming and social inclusion training outlays are appropriate with expected benefits to the early recovery Project objectives.
- Prepare a monthly progress report detailing the activities performed during the month, highlighting achievements and making recommendations for future activities.
- Ensure key lessons and best practices from the project are shared with all key stakeholders.
- Contribute gender-relevant data to the Project & governorate level early recovery coordination information management data base.

Qualifications:

- An advanced degree in social science, gender study, social welfare, development studies or equivalent experiences.
- At least 7 years of professional experience in relevant field.
- Strong computer skills, Microsoft applications (in particular, Word, Excel and PowerPoint).
- Fluency in written and spoken Arabic & good command in both written and spoken English.

Monthly Salary for this post is approximately \$1,700

Only Online Applications will be accepted

For further details on the job description and online application, please visit our website at <http://jobs.undp.org>

Response will only be made to short listed candidates
The deadline for receiving applications is September 12, 2010



In Brief

NATIONWIDE

American judge orders the release of Yemeni detainee at Guantanamo

An American judge in the District of Columbia has ordered the release of a Yemeni detainee who has been detained at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay for more than nine years.

The decision was made to release him due to lack of evidence of his connections to Al-Qaeda, the supposed reason for his continued detention.

According to the decision of the District Judge Henry H. Kennedy, the federal court couldn't confirm that the arrest of the Yemeni citizen Adnan Farhan Abdul-Latif is lawful.

The 34-year-old detainee was charged of having connections with an Al-Qaeda recruiter.

Abdul-Latif was arrested by the Pakistani authorities in 2001 while he was there for medical purposes and they then turned him over to Guantanamo Bay in January 2002.

The judge has ordered his release because he presented clear evidence from specialist doctors about the purpose of his visit to Pakistan.

In 2004, the Pentagon stated that it has not been proved that the Yemeni detainee has participated in any military training in Pakistan.

First half of August registers 550 traffic accidents

Nearly 109 people, including 17 children and 6 women, were killed and 808 others severely injured, 147 of them children and 54 women, due to traffic accidents that took place in the first half of August, the Interior Ministry reported on Tuesday.

A statistical report issued by the Ministry showed that from the first day of August until mid-month, traffic accidents reached 550 accidents throughout Yemen's governorates.

There were 265 crash accidents resulting in the death of 40 people and 387 casualties, and 129 pedestrian accidents killing 37 pedestrians and injuring 170 others.

76 overturned vehicles have claimed the lives of 31 people and injured 235 others. Cars driving over cliffs caused recorded 17 deaths and injured a further 16.

The statistics showed that the main reasons for these accidents were exces-

sive speed, drivers' carelessness, trying to overtake when it was forbidden, and heavy rainfall on the roads among others.

UAE Red Crescent projects target 150,000 beneficiaries

Director of the United Arab Emirates Red Crescent Office in Yemen, Khalfan Al-Kanady, said the charitable and humanitarian projects implemented by the UAE Red Crescent Office during the month of Ramadan this year will target 150,000 beneficiaries.

In a statement to Saba, the UAE Red Crescent official said these projects will reach poor families in a number of governorates, in addition to the African refugee camp in Lahj, Palestinian refugee camp in Yemen, returnees from exile and people of special needs.

Al-Kanady said the charitable projects will provide the poor with wheat, flour, rice,

sugar and oil, pointing out that they will also support the people who were affected by the flood disaster in Hadramout governorate through building housing projects.

He highlighted the pilot project to build Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed city, consisting of 1,000 housing units for 2008 Hadramout flood victims, and referred to the establishment of the Emirates camp in the Mazraq camp 2 in Haradhh for those internally displaced by the Sa'ada war.

Study: 5 million Yemeni children are employed

5 million Yemen children are currently employed, according to a new study carried out by the US-based aid group CHF International, Asyasiah daily reported.

Three-fifths of those children do not receive an education while the remaining 2 million both study and work at the same time.

CHF said that 40 percent of Yemeni children are drawn into the labor market between the ages of 7 and 13.

CHF said that 80 percent of those children are involved in hazardous and arduous jobs, while over 60 percent use dangerous tools and over 30 percent said that they were injured or have fallen ill due to their jobs.

20 percent of Yemen's working children were physically and emotionally abused, while 10 percent were sexually abused, the study found.

And some parents try to have their children smuggled into neighboring Saudi Arabia, where they can earn SR 1500, about USD 400, a month-a large amount compared to salaries in Yemen, according to the study.

TAIZ

68 Somali refugees reach Yemeni coasts

About 68 would-be Somali refugees have arrived in coast of Thubab district, Taiz governorate, the Interior Ministry has reported.

The Security services at the coastal district of Thubab said that the infiltrators had arrived in two groups.

They were gathered and sent to Kharaz camp of Somali refugees in Lahj province in cooperation with the Yemen Red Crescent Society in Taiz.

In related news, security authorities in Hodeida governorate reported that they have found a body of Ethiopian infiltrator, 35, in the district of Hais.

Yemen to deport 150 Ethiopians

The Security Department in Taiz governorate has handed over 150 Ethiopian illegal immigrants to the Passport and Immigration Authority in Sana'a who were detained for entry into Yemen illegally.

The Immigration and Passport Authority said that they will deport the Ethiopian infiltrators who were handed over by Taiz security to carry out the orders of the Ministry of Interior.

In related news, security authorities have arrested 19 Ethiopians, 15 of them in Salah district of Taiz governorate and others aged between 17 and 20 years in Sa'ada province, and referred them to the legal procedures for illegal entry into Yemen.

HAJJA

Project to advocate girls' education launched

A project to encourage rural girls to complete secondary education was launched on Thursday in Hajja province.

The project, launched by Jesr Al-Okhowah Charity in Hajja in coordination with the Arab Women Center for Training and Research in Tunisia with support from

the Ford Foundation, was part of a project to document new methodologies in the field of human rights and local development in Morocco, Egypt and Yemen.

The project aims at encouraging the enrollment of girls in basic education in Abes district, in Hajja, and persuading them to complete secondary education and reducing high school drop-outs.

At the launching ceremony, Director-General of Social Affairs and Labor Office in the governorate, Hitham Al-Jabri, stressed the importance of the project in supporting the State's trends in promoting education and reducing the spread of illiteracy, especially among women.

UNICEF-funded water project opened at Al-Mazraq camp of IDPs

A UNICEF-funded water project has been opened at Al-Marzaq camp for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Haradh district, Hajja province, almotamar.net said on Monday.

The new project was designed to meet the demand of drinking water at the IDP camps and other villages scattered in Haradh district, which has received the largest number of displaced people, estimated at 320,000, nearly 60 percent children.

The project would provide access to safe drinking water for more than 30,000 beneficiaries in the IDP camps and the receiving communities as well as linking 18 villages with this project.

This event coincided with the visit of the UNICEF UK Ambassador for Humanitarian Emergencies Martin Bell, to Haradh district. He was accompanied by the UNICEF's resident-representative in Yemen Geert Cappelaere.

Efforts on combating child labor, trafficking in Yemen discussed

The local council of Hajja governorate discussed on Wednesday the ways of activating efforts to combat child labor and trafficking.

In a meeting that was chaired by the general secretary of the local council Ameen Al-Qudami, the council reviewed the efforts to combat child trafficking.

The coordinator of an anti-child labor program of the local council Abdul-Wahab Al-Hatef presented a report on the annual plan implementation of the program and awareness programs on the risk of dropping out of schools.

During the meeting, Al-Qudami pointed out the importance of the role of the society in combating child labor and trafficking.

He called on the concerned bodies and donors to adopt such initiatives to protect children.

Attempt to smuggle 5 children to Saudi Arabia foiled

Security authorities have foiled an attempt to smuggle 5 children across the border area of Haradh into Saudi territories, the Interior Ministry has reported.

Security authorities have said that they have arrested 4 smugglers aged between 35-50 years.

The five children who underwent the smuggling attempt are aged between 12-14 years, all from Hajja governorate.

The smugglers were referred to the legal procedures for investigation.

ADEN

Life of Saudi sergeant rescued off Yemeni waters

The Yemeni Coastguard in the Gulf of Aden has rescued the life of Saudi sergeant, Adnan Al-Maliki, after he suffered a sudden illness onboard a Saudi military ship, about 10 miles from the territorial waters of Yemen.

A security source in the coastguard of Aden Gulf sector told Saba that the coastguard operations had received a repeated distress call from the Saudi military ship for help concerning Al-Maliki, who is a member of the ship crew.

Immediately after receiving the distress call, three naval boats from the Yemeni coastguard rushed to the ship and managed to transfer the patient to the Saudi Consulate in Aden, as requested by the captain of the ship, the source explained.

The Saudi sergeant would have been transferred to the Kingdom by a private plane, which was on the board of the ship, but the patient's condition prevented him from doing that, the source added.

HODEIDA

Eritrean pirates seize three Yemeni boats

Eritrean pirates attacked on Tuesday three Yemeni fishing boats with 24 sailors on

board while the boats were in the international waters.

Coast Guard sources said that the Eritrean pirates seized the three fishing boats and took them at gunpoint to the Eritrean regional water.

The sources added that after seizing the boats they deported the Yemeni sailors on one of the three boats, mentioning that the sailors arrived on Tuesday to Hodeidah Port.

HADRAMOUT

Police arrests three suspects over drug possession

The police in Hadramout province have arrested three suspects, aged 30-48, on charge of drug possession, the Interior Ministry has reported.

The suspects were arrested with four kilograms of hashish inside a car in Hadramout province. They were referred for legal proceedings.

It is noteworthy that, during last July, the security services have seized 39 suspects involved in 20 drug crimes. They also sized at the same period 35 kg of hashish and over 800 drug pills as well as 66 seedlings of hashish in an old house in the city of Ibb.

SA'ADA

Governor: President approved YR 20 billion for Sa'ada reconstruction

Sa'ada Governor Taha Hajar said on Tuesday that President Ali Abdullah Saleh has approved about YR 20 billion as a first payment for the reconstruction of Sa'ada province.

In a meeting Hajar gathered with a number of social figures and members of the local council of Sa'ada district within the framework of the Ramadan evening program. The governor stressed the importance of united efforts to achieve security and stability and to start the reconstruction of the governorate.

"Sa'ada province has witnessed difficult time through six years of war and we have to look forward to the future and think in the development of the province", he said, adding that the Saada district would have several projects in various fields as it the capital of the province.

JOB VACANCY

We are working actively for petroleum exploration business in Yemen. Currently we are seeking to hire highly motivated and qualified candidates for the following vacant post.

Job Title : Geophysicist
No.(062010)

Qualification and skills required

- Best knowledge & good skill of seismic interpretation of Yemen (More than 10 year professional experience in Yemen Oil industry).
- Best understanding of petrophysicla analysis and its software such as IP.
- Good skill of Seismic interpretation and its software such as KINGDOMADVANCED & PETREL.
- Good computer skill for Microsoft offices.
- Good writing and speaking English skills.

Please submit application letter with C.V, recent ID, related certificates through our email: hr @knocyemen.com

Note :

- Deadline for application: 2 of September, 2010.
- Applications that don't meet the minimum requirements listed above will not be considered.
- Only short listed candidates will be contacted for interview.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT (YEM10/ADM/003)

The Office of the United Nations World Food Programme in Yemen is currently seeking a qualified candidate for the following post:

Post Title:	Consultant – Facility Manager
Duty Station:	Sana'a
UN Category:	SSA (Salary USD 1,400.00 – 2,000.00)
Duration of:	One month (based on task completion)
Closing Date:	01 September 2010

This position is open to both male and female candidates. Qualified female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the direct supervision of the Deputy Country Director and ad-hoc supervision of the Finance and Administration Officer, the incumbent will:

- Provide engineering and project management services; plan and design specification for main WFP Office (two WFP building and garden) in Sanaa and Sub-Offices in Saada, Aden, Hodeidah and Amran by applying commonly used engineering calculations, practices and precedents;
- Develop master plans for renovation of WFP premises, including functional and technical design requirements such as security enhancement for the purpose design reporting and site lay-out;
- Analyze proposals to ensure technical feasibility and to ensure that objectives are attainable within prescribed resources;
- Incorporate country-specific technical requirements into planning, design, and renovation phases by utilizing appropriate International and local code and specifications and following security measure.
- Conduct engineering site assessments of main WFP in Sanaa and other Sub-Offices facilities (two WFP building and garden) to determine suitability to operational purposes, safety, and efficiency of structures and equipment; identify issues and develop remedial plans in consultation with direct supervisor;
- Develop scopes of work for architect and engineering services;
- Produce offices lay-out and other interior decorations needed such as lights, carpets, furniture and fixtures.
- Negotiate work orders for engineering/architectural services by liaising with Procurement unit;
- Manage technical quality, budget, and schedule of design phase by reviewing technical documentation and by liaising with clients in WFP and engineering/architectural firms, raise issues impacting budget and make recommendations;
- Participate and provide advice in evaluation panels for procurement,
- Ensure compliance with WFP's policies, criteria and procedure in coordination with the WFP Country Director, Deputy Country Director, Security Unit, Finance and Administration Unit;
- Contribute to business continuity, contingency planning and make the necessary recommendations; periodically monitor risks in relation to project management and report on any actions to be take.
- Supervise the work (security enhancement, office renovation, carpet, painting etc. and designing of WFP garden area) and ensure tasks to be completed as per agreed time frame.
- Perform other related duties as required.

Critical success factors:

Ability to apply engineering skills and participate in engineering projects, including preparation of cost estimates, research of data and preparing graphs; Ability to identify and analyze complex engineering data; Ability to write and speak clearly in both Arabic and English and effectively by exhibition of interest in have two-way communication; consistent with agreed strategies and able to identify activities and assignment; Ability to allocate appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work. Ability to work in a team, and establish effective working relations with persons of different national and cultural backgrounds; Ability to cope with situations which may threaten health or safety; Flexibility in accepting work assignments outside normal desk description.

Applications must be received by the deadline at the following address:

World Food Programme, Sana'a
P.O. Box 7181
Diplomatic Area, Nowakshot St, House No. 22, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
or **Email address: wfp.sanaa@wfp.org**

with reference to the vacancy number on a sealed envelop. A copy of certificates should be attached to the curriculum vitae.

Only short-listed candidates shall be contacted.



Over the past 10 years, DNO Yemen AS, with its country headquarters in Sana'a and its Field Operations in Wadi Hadramout, has played an important role in the development of Yemeni onshore Oil Exploration and Production.

RESERVOIR ENGINEER Sana'a Based Yemeni Oil Production Operations



As part of our continuing growth, we now seek to augment our Sana'a based operations with the recruitment of a "Reservoir Engineer".

Our ideal candidate will be a degree qualified Petroleum Engineer, with a minimum of 5 years post-graduate engineering experience, during which time you will have developed your planning, analytical and decision making skills, together with an ability to research, identify and analyse underlying issues before taking action.

You will possess superior business English language skills; spoken and written, along with above average interpersonal skills, ideally with some supervisory experience. You will be a self-starter, proactive, well-organised individual, who can plan and work independently and to deadlines, whilst paying keen attention to structure and detail. Proficiency in a variety of industrial computer applications, including reservoir simulation, is a pre-requisite, as is the ability to visit field based facilities and to travel internationally.

The position reports direct to the Production and Maintenance Manager.

Yemeni Nationals Only

Should you wish to develop your career within our Production Operations please, in the first instance, e-mail your resume, along with an introductory letter detailing as to why you should be considered for this position to:-

careers @dno.no

Please include your chosen specialty in the "Subject" box and attach one integrated MS Word file. Applications with attachments in excess of 1MB in size, cannot be accepted. We regret that we can only respond to those applicants who meet the above criteria.

Visit our web site at www.dno.no

افتح واربح فوراً
العديد من الجوائز النقدية

تبدأ المسابقة من ٢٠١٠/٦/١ وحتى نفاذ الكمية
استلام الجوائز من أحد فروع شركة متكو أو أقرب مركز استبدال

Metco

تلفون: ٢١٤٨٩١٠٧
فاكس: ٢١٤٧٧٩-٢١٤٧٨٠
البريد الإلكتروني: speed@cacbank.com.ye
البريد الإلكتروني: speed@cacbank.com.ye

سَبِيلٌ لِيَهْ
حوالة السريع بين يديك

هدايا مجانية عند الإرسال والاستلام للحوالات

أوقات الدوام في رمضان:	10 صباحاً 8 مساءً	4 عصرًا 2 ليلاً
---------------------------	----------------------	--------------------

CDMA: 8003033 G.S.M: 3033
Tel:01-538901 Fax:01-538902
www.cacbank.com.ye
speed@cacbank.com.ye

CAC BANK
شاركنا الريادة

An aspiring grocery store assistant

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

The dimly-lit grocery shop is empty. Behind the counter and below the chocolates and biscuits, Ali Wahban, 17, pours over a bound stack of photocopies. He looks sleepy and his eyes are blood-shot. When customers enter, he looks up and serves them, or asks his friend next to him, chewing qat and smoking, to help.

Ali is reviewing for an English exam. Unlike the friends he was brought up with, this recent high school graduate thinks that English is important to succeed in life. Therefore, he is doing his utmost, before and during his daily 12-hour shift at the grocery store, to master the language.

Every day, he wakes up early to finish his English homework quickly before taking the bus to his English institute, where he has attended classes

from 10 am till midday since graduation.

"English is my dream," he told the Yemen Times. "I want to develop my skills to improve my family's situation."

Ali wants to use this year to study English and save money to study at university.

He would prefer to study medicine, but he realizes that to study medicine in Yemen he must obtain at least 85 percent on his final high school exams, pass an entry test, and improve his English. While he waits for his exam results, which he hopes will be good enough, his mind is set on English.

"If I have no English, I will fail in medicine. I know that all subjects are taught in English and in difficult language," he said.

If Ali makes the grade, he still wonders whether he will be able to afford the annual USD 1,500-3,000 annually

to study medicine at the University of Sana'a, according to specialization.

Ali earns YR 20,000 a month. He pays YR 10,000 to the institute and with the rest helps to support his family.

"I have to help my family financially," he said.

He has been working at the shop for the past two years in order to pay for school expenses like the bus fare to his secondary school, and to help his father, mother and three brothers, Mohammad, 18, Ahmed, 14, and Ibrahim, 5. His older brother Mohammed will finish secondary school next year. He has tried to find a job but he was not able to.

His father is retired from the army and receives a monthly pension of YR 36,000.

"My father hopes to support me but I know that it's impossible," he said, explaining that he has to look after the rest of the family.

Ali complains also about the lack of time for studying as he works in the store from 1 pm to 1 am. But, without the job, he could not afford to study English.

"My job in the store impedes me from studying well but I could not afford the cost of the English institute if I had no job," he said.

At home, he said that the environment is not conducive to studying because he shares a single room with his brothers. He thought about leaving his family to live in a quieter place but he would need money in order to do this.

To reduce his expenses, Ali applied for a scholarship from the American Embassy to study at the Amideast English Institute in Sana'a for free, but failed to receive it because there were so many applicants this year.

"I meet all prerequisites for this scholarship," he said. "I will try again next year."

"Ramadan came and hard work



While he waits for his high school exam results, Ali Wahban, 17, studies English every day, even during his 12-hour shift at the grocery store. Ali hopes to read medicine at university.

came with it," he said, explaining that his studies have been negatively affected because he is so busy at the store and because he is tired.

Ali says that out of the people he knows, only his cousin studies medicine. None of his friends study at university.

Windows into international development work in Yemen:



Mission: Survival of Socotri language

By: Bohdana Rambouskova
Communication Officer
Socotra Governance & Biodiversity Project
UNDP Yemen

The reason why Ismael joined the GEF project aimed on conservation of biodiversity of the Socotra island was simple: he wanted to drive a good car. He did not expect that cruising the island in a brand new Toyota will be his first step on his journey to European academic research centers. Even in his most daring dreams he did not anticipate that Socotris would once call him "Professor".

An English teacher who has changed my life

Back in 1998, the Socotra Biodiversity Project (SBP) bought three new vehicles becoming a driver of one of them was an easy way to get your hands on a brand new steering wheel and on a stable income. But joining the project staff opened a completely new world for Ismael who originally comes from Hasen, a village deep in the mountains. In the 1980's, he walked two days with his mother to Hadibo in order to be able to attend school.

However, it was only after meeting Richard Boggs, an English teacher employed by SBP and later by the following UNDP-GEF Socotra Conservation and Development Programme (SCDP), that Ismael got his best education. "Richard has changed me," recalls Ismael when describing his beginnings with the project: "Not only did I start to study English but soon I was teaching

Richard his first local Socotri words". A close relationship developed between the two of them based on their mutual interest in each other's language and on discovering Socotra as Ismael was guiding Richard, also a passionate photographer, around the island. Many photos in Richard's recently published book The Lost World of Socotra were the results of these excursions and of Ismael's deep knowledge of his land.

And it was Mark Geoffrey, another photographer seeking his ultimate shot on the island, who first called Ismael "a tourist guide". Ismael was driving him around the island and helped him also to get in close touch with local people. After some years of working as a driver, Ismael expressed his interest in obtaining higher qualification focused on environment and eco-tourism. The project provided corresponding training and Ismael spent two weeks in protected areas in Jordan and Syria.

Ismael's secret hobby

It was by chance that specialists from SCDP learned about Ismael's secret hobby: collecting traditional Socotri poems, legends, language. "My heart still loved the countryside but when I went back to my village, I was not one of the people anymore. "As a half-stranger, I decided to learn the old wisdom," explains Ismael about the origin of his idea. His first records date from early 1990s.

The Socotris speak an ancient Socotri language of pre-Islamic origin related to the Mahri language spoken in Mahra region in the Southern Arabia. The Socotri language is unwritten and quite different from the modern Arabic which is taught at schools nowadays. Along the coast, the inhabitants speak both languages fluently but in the mountains, old folks and uneducated people still communicate in Socotri. And the language itself

contains big differences. Socotri spoken in Hadibo differs from the one spoken by centenarians from inland villages so much that modern folks from the town will not be able to understand. The local language obviously reflects specific Socotri reality. It has a whole range of expressions describing colors of goats. Some people say there are more than twenty but Ismael has discovered not more than ten so far. Getting the valuable traditions on a tape was not easy though. Local people are extremely shy and it was not possible to reveal to them that he came to their community to learn and record. Getting their trust was always delicate. The only people whom Ismael could ask directly were his mother and his grandfather who is 100 years old. His narration of old legends belongs to the most precious parts of Ismael's collection.

Preserving an endangered language

Working in SCDP Ismael learned that the Socotri language is endangered. Experts explained to him how important his recording and collecting of old wisdom is. Under their guidance, he bought new cassettes and plunged with a new drive into his hobby. Before switching to digital technology, he has accumulated a collection of more than 300 cassettes. His work was not amateur anymore.

Meanwhile, his gathered knowledge has become sought by experts. When Peter de Geest working in the Karst project studying Socotra cave complexes discovered from an analysis of stalactites that a decade of drought used always be followed by a decade of rain, Ismael provided stories told by an old man confirming the scientific findings. Problems started after Peter wanted to know the man's age. All they were able to find out was that the old man was born in the year called in Socotri "dmendo".

Ismael's work recognized by European academics

Ismael was requested as a guide by a French TV channel shooting a short documentary on local culture and later on by a German GEO TV channel producing a 52-minute long documentary on Socotri language. After this encounter, he got an unexpected invitation. In October 2009, he was asked to give a lecture on endangered Socotri language by the Vienna University. Thirty researchers and students of linguistics were hungry for his explications, examples of the curious language and recordings. Did he enjoy speaking to such academic audience? "Not for the first five minutes," Ismael laughs.

But his travel to Europe did not end in the city of waltz. He continued to Max Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen in Netherlands where he spent one week working in their international archive for endangered languages. He was trained in using software and was given a computer, a device for digital recording and a machine to digitalize his old cassettes. He was invited to leave some of his recording there to be digitalized professionally. Now he can access them online in the archive's special interface. He manages their rights because some of the stories are not yet to be broadcasted publicly.

And what has been doing "Professor" Ismael recently? He keeps recording and hopes that Vienna linguists will succeed in organizing an international conference on Socotri language. If it should be kept for future generations, it is time to start writing down the Socotri culture. But in that case, it is necessary to discuss what letters to use since Socotri is an unwritten language. We speak about a huge task here because the language is very complex and peculiar. "In translation from Socotri into English, most of the meaning dies," points out Ismael.

Every year's Socotri poetry competition

As a specialist on ancient Socotri language, Ismael is a member of jury for every year's poetry competition on Socotra organized by the Socotra Culture and Heritage Society. Reciting their own poems composed in the language of their ancestors is very popular entertainment of Socotris. A skilled poet cannot be missing at any wedding party or

a public event.

The last round of the poetry competition was held in January 2010 and out of 16 enrolled participants 9 were allowed to present their skills publicly. The four-day verbal tournament attracted audience of more than 2000 people and brought a big surprise because the youngest competitor got the prize. He was only 25 but his verbal skills and knowledge of the language were so excellent that he managed to beat out such rivals as his 70 years old superiors.

The next round of the poetry competition is scheduled for December 2010 and Ismael stresses that in order to attract women to the audience and among competing poets, a woman will be a member of the jury.

Time to focus on culture

Speaking about life on Socotra, Ismael

recognizes four stages of its history: the sultanate, the socialist time, the reunification and....

UNDP. He praises results of UNDP projects crowned by listing Socotra as the UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site in 2008. "UNDP has opened the door to Socotra," he says, "but helped only on one side - nature. Now we should focus on local culture." And that is what he is trying to do.

This year's windy season started quite early on Socotra. Inhabitants try to escape from strong winds coming from India to the mainland or at least to the southern part of the island. Ismael is spending this period in his village in the mountains. He will surely supply his collection with some new Socotri stories.

KONICA MINOLTA
كونيكا مينولتا

The essentials of imaging

Flexible on-demand digital colour printing that meets the demand of your customers - and your business.

bizhub PRO C6501

Full-colour A4-size printing at 65ppm, Image quality rivaling offset printing
Compatible with 300g/m² thick paper, coated paper and many other media

Numerous automated finishing options like:-

- Fold output: center-fold, letter fold-out, letter fold-in, double-parallel, gatefold
- Stapling up to 100 sheets of papers in one of four positions
- Saddle stitched booklet up to 200 pages (50 sheets) with trimming option
- Hot Melt glue binding up to 300 sheets (600 pages)

Thabet Son Corporation مؤسسة بن ثابت للتجارة

Sana'a : Tel: 278546-8 Fax: 283596 Taiz: Tel: 219057 Fax: 214306 Aden: Tel: 244625 Fax: 246787
Hodeidah : Tel: 204488 Fax: 204490 Mukalla : Tel: 316710 Fax: 316711
E-mail: tsc@yemen.net.ye, Website: www.thabetson.com.ye

Round seven? The Houthi rebellion in Northern Yemen

By: Michael Horton
Terrorism Monitor

Houthi rebels operating in northern Yemen accepted the six conditions that were set by the government of Yemen for a cessation of hostilities on February 12.

In response to their acceptance of the six conditions, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh declared a ceasefire and ordered an end to the heavy aerial bombardment of Houthi positions by the Yemeni Air Force. In return, the Houthis released 178 civilian and military prisoners including a still-disputed number of Saudi soldiers.

Though not formally one of the six conditions, an exchange of prisoners was part of the ceasefire and formed part of an expanded agreement between the government of Yemen and the Houthis. However, the Yemeni government has not yet released any of the estimated 1,000 Houthi prisoners. Yemen's Supreme Security Committee has repeatedly cited the Houthis' failure to comply with all of the six conditions as one of the reasons for the delay.

Since the ceasefire was announced, sporadic fighting between Houthi forces and government troops and aligned tribes has occurred throughout the governorate of Sadaah and in the northern part of the governorate of Amran. The most intense fighting has been along the Sana'a to Sadaah road near Harf Sufyan in the governorate of Amran and in the Majz district of the governorate of Sadaah. On July 26, Houthi forces overran a Yemeni Army outpost at al-Zaala in the Harf Sufyan district of Amran governorate and captured 200 soldiers.

On August 1, a spokesman for Houthi leader Abdul Malik al-Houthi announced that the movement was releasing the soldiers as a sign of good will before the upcoming Ramadan festival. The spokesman also called on the Yemeni government to fulfill its commitment

and release the Houthi prisoners.

Renewed Fighting

The July 26 attack on the army outpost is evidence of a significant escalation of hostilities between the government and Houthi forces. More importantly, it demonstrates that the Houthis' ability to organize and launch operations has not been significantly diminished. The army outpost at al-Zaala that was overrun lies on the strategically vital Sana'a to Sadaah road, a mere 130 km north of the Yemeni capital of Sana'a. The outpost was staffed by a combination of elite Republican Guard troops and a contingent of the Military Police. Both forces are considerably better trained and equipped than the conscripts and tribal levies that make up the bulk of the Yemeni Army. The fact that the Houthis were able to launch an effective operation against elite troops well outside their home governorate of Sadaah must serve as a "shot across the bow" for the Saleh regime.

The area around al-Zaala in the Harf Sufyan district of Amran governorate has seen the most significant fighting over the last two months. Much of the fighting has taken place between the Houthis and the Bin Aziz tribe, which is largely aligned with the Yemeni government. The tribe is headed by Shaykh Sagheer bin Aziz who is also a member of Parliament and a member of the ruling General People's Congress (GPC). Fighting between the Bin Aziz tribe and the Houthis broke out in mid-July, when Houthi fighters, under the command of Abdu Haidar, besieged Shaykh Sagheer's family compound. The battle led to an estimated 40 casualties, with Abdu Haidar and Shaykh Sagheer's nephew among the dead.

Apart from the fact that the Bin Aziz fought alongside government troops in the most recent campaign against the Houthis, the Bin Aziz have also been instrumental in cutting the road from Sana'a to Sadaah which passes through part of their tribal lands. In an attempt to put

pressure on the Houthis, the Saleh government has imposed a periodic blockade of traffic to Sadaah, including a blockade on food. A number of smugglers' routes to the Houthi stronghold in the Marran Mountains also pass through the district of Harf Sufyan. These routes are essential for moving men and materiel. Contacts within Yemen have suggested that the Bin Aziz may have been attempting to secure some of these routes with the help of elite Yemeni troops in addition to blockading the main road. The sporadic fighting came to a head when the Houthis launched their largely successful offensive on the army outpost at al-Zaala. The Houthis' release of the captured soldiers was likely tied to an agreement by the government to reopen the Sana'a – Sadaah road. Before the offensive on the post at al-Zaala, the government was careful to point out that the latest round of fighting did not involve government troops but was instead limited to tribal elements. The government's expanded use of tribal levies in the last campaign against the Houthis has further blurred the line between government troops and tribal fighters.

Shifting Loyalties

The extensive use of tribal levies in the 2009-2010 campaign against the Houthis has upset the fragile tapestry of tribal alliances in northern Yemen. The numerous tribes and clans that were encouraged to fight against the Houthis are now demanding payment for their services. While much of this payment will be in the traditional form of weapons, ammunition and cash, favors such as jobs in ministries and local government will also be expected. In the past, President Saleh and his close advisers have been able to balance the payments in accordance with the prestige and perceived power of the various tribes, clans and sub-clans. With the expense of a multi-front insurgency and declining oil exports, the Saleh regime is increasingly unable to

dole out the gifts and favors that it has long used to control the tribes. Over the month of June in the al-Ashah district of Amran, tribesmen launched attacks on military convoys and confiscated military hardware because they have not yet been paid for their service in the last campaign against the Houthis.

Houthi leaders have seized on the December 17, 2009 American missile strike on suspected al-Qaeda camps in Arhab and Abyan that killed 14 women and 21 children and the May 24 U.S. missile attack in Ma'rib that killed Deputy Governor Jabir al-Shabwani as ammunition in their criticism of the regime.

In a wide ranging interview with a writer from the Houthi bimonthly publication Truth, Houthi leader Abdul Malik argued that the recent attack in Ma'rib and the December cruise missile strike are further proof of his long held view that President Saleh is an American puppet. The view that the Saleh regime is manipulated by American and 'Zionist' interests is one of the important themes that runs through the Houthi narrative and is one of the minor justifications they give for the rebellion. While it is unlikely that tribes already allied with the Saleh regime would switch sides due to the UAV and cruise missile attacks, the attacks have added to the legitimacy of parts of the Houthi narrative. It is important to note that the powerful northern tribes whose support is crucial for the continuance of the Saleh regime are predominately Zaidi. While the tribes are certainly not as stridently "Zaidi" as the Houthis, there are some extant sympathies.

National Reconciliation?

On July 17, the ruling General People's Congress (GPC) and the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) opposition coalition signed a framework that is intended to lead to the creation of a national unity government. The more immediate goal is to create a 100 member committee that

would engage in a national dialogue tasked with debating proposed governmental reforms and constitutional amendments. President Saleh has, via advisers, indicated that the Houthis would be allowed to participate in this national dialogue. The JMP has sent a committee to Sadaah to discuss the framework with Houthi representatives. In his interview with Truth, Abdul Malik indicated that the Houthis would consider joining in this national dialogue. However, in the aftermath of the attack on GPC MP Sagheer Bin Aziz, a 60-member bloc of GPC MP's has threatened to boycott the dialogue if it includes the Houthis.

Preparations for another War

Despite tentative steps towards reconciliation, there are signs that the Saleh regime and the Houthis are preparing for another war. Contacts within Yemen have stated that a number of new Yemeni Army training facilities and arms depots have been created in the governorate of al-Jawf southeast of Sadaah. The Houthis, in violation of the conditions of the ceasefire, have not surrendered any of their weapons. On the contrary, there is ample evidence that the Houthis are adding to their stockpiles. The recent attack on the army outpost at al-Zaala likely resulted in a considerable haul of weapons. The price of ammunition, though also affected by the growing insurgency in the south, continues to increase. In particular the price of 7.62 x 51mm ammunition for the Houthis' much favored G3 rifle has increased five-fold in the last two months. Additionally the cost of basic foodstuffs such as flour and rice has soared even when priced in U.S. dollars and Saudi Riyals.

This increase in the price of foodstuffs extends to the neighboring governorate of Hajjah, where the Houthi rebels have traditionally engaged in procurement activities. Contacts in the area suggest that this is evidence that both concerned locals and Houthi rebels are stockpiling food.

Conclusion

Despite the formal ceasefire and tentative steps toward establishing some kind of national dialogue regarding reconciliation, it is probable that another war between the Houthis and Yemeni government forces will break out. It is unlikely the Houthis will fully comply with the six conditions set by the government in February. Renewed peace efforts by the government of Qatar are underway and it has been reported that officials within the Qatari government are in direct contact with Houthi representatives. The Houthis have stated that they welcome Qatari efforts.

However, the framework of the 2007/08 Doha Agreement is not particularly realistic. The agreement stipulates that the Houthis give up all their medium size weapons and that the Houthi leadership should travel to Qatar where they must remain until the government gives them permission to return.

The expanding insurgency in southern Yemen and the country's continuing economic decline are both putting pressure on the already severely strained Saleh regime. It is likely that the Houthis will take advantage of this weakness and persist in their sporadic but often well-coordinated attacks on government troops and government allied tribes. In order to maintain the legitimacy of his regime, President Saleh will be forced to respond.

Michael Horton is an independent analyst who specializes in Yemen and the Horn of Africa. He writes for Jane's Intelligence Review, Intelligence Digest, Islamic Affairs Analyst, and the Christian Science Monitor. Mr. Horton studied Middle East History and Economics at the American University of Cairo and Arabic at the Center for Arabic Language and Eastern Studies in Yemen. Michael frequently travels to Yemen, Ethiopia, and Somalia.

Clearing the FOG of Shariah

By: Daisy Khan
The Washington Post

As an American Muslim woman activist, I'm letting out a resounding, "Let's chill out!"

The Archbishop of Canterbury's statement that Great Britain should consider accommodating aspects of Islamic law (or Shari'ah) into its civil law was not a declaration against women or liberty. Rather, he merely proposed his own solution to the ongoing processes of reconciling the integrity of a secular state with the widely-held religious beliefs of people within that state, which may include certain legal provisions. This is, by definition, complicated, and different nations have offered different solutions. While we can disagree with the Archbishop's conclusions, by simply (and without sufficient knowledge) disparaging Islam and Islamic law, we frankly miss the point of this larger debate.

It seems to me that people frequently conflate the genuine hardship of some Muslim women with Islam (and Islamic law) itself, hence the assumption that Shari'ah law equals oppression of women. This is unfortunate

and frankly, intellectually irresponsible. Numerous factors contribute to the positive and negative conditions of Muslim women—cultural, historical, economic and political. Of course, Islam wields enormous influence at all levels, but it is drawn upon by contesting parties to both empower and oppress women.

In terms of the law in particular, we must recognize that Islamic law is not timeless, devoid of context, and without nuance. When we make these assumptions, we actually fall into the same trap as fundamentalists and affirm their ideas. While it is true that distorted religious interpretations of scripture promote damaging attitudes towards women in some societies, the understanding of Islamic law is much more complicated than this. Shari'ah law has been interpreted and re-interpreted. Traditionally, factors such as social conservatism within particular societies, the Talibanization of Islamic legal interpretation (or its narrow interpretation), the predominance of local custom over Islamic law, and the widespread feeling of embattlement amongst many Muslims, continue to hinder these interpretations.

But I ask: why can't the most positive aspects of the Shari'ah be applied

to our contemporary contexts, starting here in the West? Wouldn't we be finally lifting up the truth of Islam, a truth that has inspired positive social change for more than fourteen hundred years? Within Islam, women are granted innumerable rights and responsibilities, and they are regarded as responsible agents, social and spiritual beings, and legal persons.

In 2006 I launched an initiative to empower Muslim women to fully participate in their communities and nations, and to amplify their voices at all levels of political, economic, religious, and social discourse. The Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equity (WISE) will speak with a humane and equitable voice—the Islamic voice!—and it will challenge the religious legitimacy of those who use Islam to encourage negative attitudes toward women.

As a Muslim woman living in America, my faith fuels my activism. I do not work in spite of Islam but because of it.

Daisy Khan is Executive Director of American Society for Muslim Advancement and wife of Feisal Abdul Rauf, the Imam of the proposed Ground-Zero Mosque in NYC.

SKETCHED OPINION



YEMEN TIMES
www.yementimes.com

First Political bi-weekly English Newspaper in Yemen. Founded in 1990 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Tel: +967 (1) 268-661
Fax: +967 (1) 268-276
P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a, Yemen
Letters: yteditor@gmail.com

ADVERTISEMENTS:

Tel: +967 (1) 510306
Email: adsyemen@yahoo.com

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief
Nadia Abdulaziz Al-Sakkaf

CEO
Khair Aldin Al Nsour

Features Editor

Alice Hackman

Head of News Dept.
Mohamed bin Sallam

Senior Reporter
Ismail Al-Ghabri

Head of Design Dept.
Ramzy Alawi Al-Saqqaf

Editorial Staff

Ali Saeed
Khaled Al-Hilaly
Mahmoud Assamiee

Malak Shaher
Mariem Al-Yameni
Sadeq Al-Wesabi

Offices

Aden Bureau:
Ridhwan Alawi Ahmed
Tel: +967 (2) 347-057, 346596
Fax: +967 (2) 347056
Email: ytaden@y.net.ye

Taiz Bureau:
Imad Ahmed Al-Saqqaf
Tel: +967 (4) 217-156,
Telefax: +967 (4) 217157
P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz
Email: yttaiz@y.net.ye

Subscriptions

For subscription rates and related information please contact Majdi Al-Saqqaf, Subscription and Distribution Manager, on 268661/2 ext 204 or mobile: 711998995

Policies:

- All opinion articles that have not been written by Yemen Times staff on the Opinion, Op-Ed and Youth pages do not necessarily represent the newspaper's opinion and hence YT could not be held accountable for their consequences.
- Letters to the Editor must include your name, mailing address, or email address. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity, style, and length.
- Submissions will not be returned to the writer under any circumstance.
- For information on advertising, contact the advertising department at any of the Yemen Times' offices

Martin Bell, veteran war correspondent and UNICEF goodwill ambassador, to the Yemen Times:

“I will make very good use of myself for the children of Yemen.”

Martin Bell is one of UNICEF's most prominent good will ambassadors. He has been to several war zones in his capacity as a war correspondent. When he was appointed UNICEF UK Ambassador for Humanitarian Emergencies in 2001, he continued his travels but this time wearing the humanitarian hat advocating for peace.

Bell recently made a six day visit to Yemen over forty years after his first trip here in 1967. During this visit, along with meeting with ministers and officials in the capital Sana'a, he visited a hospital in Aden, the central prison in Hodeida, and the camp for Internally Displaced Person's from the Sa'ada war in Hajja.

The Yemen Times met with Martin Bell to talk more about his visit and what independent journalists should do in times of conflict.

Interview by Nadia Al-Sakkaf

He stood up when he talked about the children of Yemen. In his briefing, which was co-chaired by UNICEF's Country Representative Geert Cappelaere, Martin Bell said the conditions of some Yemeni children he saw even in peaceful areas were worse than children in Somalia which he visited a few years ago.

“One thing I can tell you about Yemen: It is a country that has all the problems in the world except perhaps volcanoes. But then I believe that every problem is an opportunity in itself, and this also means that Yemen has the all the potentials in the world,” said Bell reflecting on Yemen.

To demonstrate this positive thinking, UNICEF has just created an opportunity for development from the problem of IDPs in Haradh. During Bell's visit to Al-Marsaq IDP camp in Haradh, UNICEF launched the new Al-Mazraq Water Scheme which was designed to meet the demand for access to safe drinking water by IDPs and the host community.

In total, the new system will provide at least 30,000 beneficiaries in two IDP camps and the surrounding communities with better access to safe drinking water. This project has also opened the way for the General Authority of Rural Water Projects to connect some 18 villages in the area with drinking water using the same network. Many of those villages have been waiting for such measures for over twenty years.

“In my work covering 18 wars I have never seen someone so affected in the mind as this 9-year-old girl in Al-Mazraq IDP camp.”

to the innocent victims of a conflict cannot be allowed to continue and needs to be addressed in order to save the lives of thousands of children.

However, Bell was able to visit the central prison in Hodeida with the cooperation of the Minister of Social Affairs. In the prison he discovered an eight-year old Nigerian boy locked up with the adults. UNICEF quickly intervened and with the help of the Yemeni authority was able to relocate this boy to a more suitable place awaiting the investigation of his case.

“Had we not had access to the prison and hence seen this little boy, we would not have been able to help him,” emphasized Bell on the importance of access to make a difference in the lives of communities, especially children.

“We cannot help them [children affected by the Sa'ada conflict] unless we have access to them, and cannot have access to them unless both sides

has never seen children so physically and mentally affected as those affected by the war in north Yemen whom he met in the Marzaq camp. He was touched by the suffering of a nine year old girl in particular whom he met at the camp.

“In my work covering 18 wars I have never seen someone so affected in the mind as this 9-year-old girl in Al-Mazraq IDPs camp,” he said.

He blamed the condition of children in any conflict on the party that decided to go to war.

“Yemen has seen six wars in six years and this is six wars too many,” he said.

He explained that the type of conflict present in Yemen today is known as “war among the people.” And in this type of conflict the casualties are vastly higher. For a country where half the population is children, this means children will be the most vulnerable.

“It is important for those who take the military option to keep this in mind.”

“Don't forget that we are citizens first before we became journalists. We have a responsibility to tell the truth and journalists can do good in this world through their reporting.”

Martin Bell believes that Yemen's future lies in its children.

“I am impressed by the idealism, endurance and resilience of Yemenis. The people of Yemen especially the children deserve a future unlike its past.”

Yet he acknowledged that the problems Yemen is facing are not easy.

“It is a mistake to regard Yemen as any other nation. You are unique, with different power structures. You were two countries which became one. You have been through terrible times and many wars,” he said.

Fund raising for Yemeni children

Martin Bell has a plan. He will show the films which his team made of the children of Yemen to the international community and encourage them to support Yemeni children.

He will display the films in major news channels and write long stories about Yemeni children in large newspapers. He will tell the story of Yemeni children in his home country the United Kingdom, as well as other European countries and the United States of America. He will even tell the story of Yemeni children to rich people in trust funds and cruise ships and urge them to donate for UNICEF's projects here.

“I will make very good use of myself for the children of Yemen,” he promised.

“I want to go back to the UK and show them that there is much more



UNICEF

than the headlines they see on Al-Qaeda. This is the only country that has to deal with two unrelated refugee crises at the same time along with the effects of war,” said Bell.

The problem is having access to the children because many do not receive the attention they deserve. UNICEF's Representative in Yemen, Geert Cappelaere, explained that Sa'ada is a particular problem because the children there suffer from the effects of war as well as others caused by poverty such as malnutrition.

“As far as UNICEF is concerned no single child in Yemen will be left out,” said Cappelaere. He is on a mission to reach every child in Yemen, and Martin Bell's fundraising plan is one of the many steps of Cappelaere's plan to achieve this.

An important problem UNICEF is concerned with in Yemen is malnutrition. Half of Yemenis are born underweight and close to 40 percent of the children are malnourished. The government and people of Yemen will have to make tough decisions to deal with malnutrition Cappelaere added.

Bell's passion to help Yemeni children was quite visible. He is determined to educate the world about Yemen and push for more money to support development and relief projects.

Education for Yemenis is the key, he said, but more than education it is awareness.

“Yet from what I have seen, if I were to decide what sort of education the children of this country immediately need it is land mine awareness,” he said.

“Yemen has seen six wars in six years and this is six wars too many.”

War journalists must not remain neutral

Martin Bell has been to 18 wars, mostly in the region. He believes that journalists covering wars should not remain neutral. They should clearly show who the aggressor is and stand by the weaker side.

As for Yemen, the international media is obsessed with Al-Qaeda or terrorism. Unfortunately, he explained

that if you want to get a story published on Yemen, it has to include one of those key words such as terrorism, Al-Qaeda, or pirates.

In order to tell the world about Yemeni children, Martin Bell decided to make use of two of the best photo-journalists in the world and convey Yemen's story through strong images.

UNICEF acknowledged the support of Yemen's Ministry of Information and Minister Ahmed Al-Kohlani who facilitated Martin Bell's visits around the country. Without their help the filming of children in the three governorates would not have been possible.

Bell encouraged journalists to take risks and not be afraid of taking a stand in conflicts and showing the atrocities of war.

“Don't forget that we are citizens first before we became journalists. We have a responsibility to tell the truth and journalists can do good in this world through their reporting,” said Bell.

There is nothing wrong with a passionate journalist who cares. In times of conflict Bell insisted that journalists should make a conscious choice in the words and images they use.

“You should not be neutral but you have to be fair,” he advised journalists covering conflict.

About Martin Bell

Martin Bell was appointed UNICEF UK Ambassador for Humanitarian Emergencies in 2001. He is also a former BBC broadcast war reporter and Independent Member of Parliament.

From soldiering in Cyprus in 1957 to visiting Somalia for UNICEF in 2009, Martin has spent more than half a century in the most unquiet corners of the world.

Martin joined the BBC as a reporter in Norwich in 1962. He moved to London three years later, beginning a distinguished career as a foreign affairs correspondent with his first assignment in Ghana. Over the next 30 years, he covered 11 conflicts and reported from 80 countries, making his name with reports from wars and conflicts in Vietnam, the Middle East, Nigeria, Angola, and in Northern Ireland.

He won the Royal Television Society's Reporter of the Year award in 1977 and 1993, and was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1992. That same year, whilst covering the war in Bosnia, Martin was seriously wounded by shrapnel while recording a report. The grenade was fired by Serbian forces.

From his long experience, Bell came to believe that the tradition of neutral reporting of armed conflicts did a disservice to the viewers where it was clear that one side was committing atrocities, and wrote a book outlining his belief.

In his capacity as UNICEF's ambassador he has travelled to Tajikistan on the Afghan border to cover the refugee situation, Malawi during the food crisis, and following the last Gulf War he went to Basra, Iraq in 2003 to report on UNICEF's post war reconstruction work.

In July 2004, Martin visited the Darfur region in Sudan to report on the unfolding humanitarian crisis

and in January 2005, to Sri Lanka to visit the tsunami affected region and to report on the immediate emergency work being undertaken by UNICEF in the country.

A year since his last trip to the region, he returned to Darfur in 2005, to highlight the plight of this troubled area as well as seeing what progress had been made since his last visit. This year, he also went to the Democratic Republic of the Congo where he witnessed first hand the world's deadliest humanitarian crisis, responsible for the deaths of nearly four million people since 1998. While in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, he met with former child soldiers, victims of sexual violence, pygmy families forced out of their native forest, as well as United Nations peacekeepers and aid workers.

He's also been to Somalia, Afghanistan, Myanmar and Sudan for UNICEF UK.

Martin champions the cause of UNICEF wherever he goes – from official UNICEF assignments to his personal work – and has been successful in raising awareness and large sums of money for the work of UNICEF in the field.



YT photo by Abdulhadi Barnashmooh



UNICEF

UNICEF's Representative in Yemen, Geert Cappelaere, explained: “This water project demonstrates how an emergency can be turned into opportunity for a country like Yemen, which struggles with major water shortages. This water project will indeed benefit both IDPs and hosting communities and hopefully UNICEF will soon be able to extend our support to areas that are currently not accessible.”

Unfortunately UNICEF's convoy carrying Martin Bell could not enter Malaheedh in the Sa'ada governorate because of the conflict, and access to the children there was rendered impossible, at least for the time being.

Cappelaere said that lack of access

abide by the peace agreement,” emphasized Bell.

He explained that there is much that can be done to improve the situation in Yemen. He was impressed by some small projects such as one for training midwives in Hodeida.

“The project did not cost more than USD 300 and yet produced 18 trained midwives who will be a part of saving lives every day,” he said.

Six wars too many

Bell was shocked at the situation of Yemeni children. Despite the fact that he has been to many war zones in his career as a war correspondent and after as a goodwill ambassador, Bell says he

Precious coffee beans hand-picked by women

By: Malak Shaher

When she left her village for the first time in her life to visit Europe, she had no idea that she might have something so valuable in her poor village for the people of the world.

Fatima Abdulkabir, 30, is the manager of Talooq, a women's association named after the village where it was started in the governorate of Taiz. Eighty percent of the women in the association are coffee growers.

Last February 2009, she travelled from Al-Misrah, Taiz to Germany for a trade fair that she hopes to take part in next year. She discovered that, with its lingering chocolatey aftertaste, the coffee that the women in her association grow is in high demand on a continent where people drink up to three cups a day.

"I was surprised that they valued our coffee," said Fatima. "When I came back to Yemen, I reflected on how much they value Yemeni coffee and we pay almost no heed to it. Actually, I realized we have an invaluable mine of coffee. When I went back to my village, I told the women that each has a hidden treasure."

Men in Fatima's village have in general left their families to look for a job and neglected their coffee trees. Now 95 percent of the women in the area take care of the coffee trees, said Afrah Al-Mahfadi, the head of the Rural Women Department at the Ministry of Agriculture.

Eighty percent of the members of Talooq, the association that Fatima heads, are either women with their own coffee farms or young women who work in their families' coffee farms after their male relatives emigrated, abandoning the coffee trees to women.

"Unlike men who usually do not

wait and pick up the red with the green coffee cherries, women have patience," Al-Mahfadi added. "They pick up the very ripe red cherries and wait for the green ones to be ripe."

Women spend from 70 to 80 percent of the coffee revenues on their families, on things such as education and food. They save the rest. However, men who plant coffee and chew qat spend about 50 percent of their earning on chewing qat and only the rest for their families, Al-Mahfadi said.

Women not only spend coffee revenues more wisely than men, but they are also more patient workers, according to Al-Mahfadi.

In order to get an original coffee flavor and taste, only the red cherries must be picked at the time of harvesting coffee cherries. If the farmer is not patient enough and mingles the red cherries with the green ones, the result will not be the original coffee flavor Yemen has always been famous for.

Women collect the red cherries in a bamboo tree basket, then spread them out on the roof top of their house to allow them to drink the golden rays of the warm morning sun.

Fatima's associations are supported by the Small & Micro Enterprises Promotion Agency (SMEPS). An agency that empowers coffee farmers and traders in Yemen, SMEPS sponsored her and another woman from the association to show their coffee at the Bio-fach Organic Trade Fair in Germany last year.

"The women are the main laborers working in the coffee farms as most of the men have migrated to urban areas leaving the farms to the women," said Mirvat Haidar, Senior Officer at (SMEPS).

In order to tell the world about Yemeni coffee and to provide local Yemeni farmers such as Talook the chance to network with international coffee companies, SMEPS will be holding the second international conference

on Arabica Naturals in December this year in Sana'a, the capital of Yemen.

At the moment, with equipment provided by the French Embassy, Talooq is working on roasting and peeling the coffee cherries after they are exposed to the sun for three weeks.

SMEPS has also created networking channels for this women's organization to reach local coffee traders and market their products. It has provided individual female coffee producers with small loans to boost their business.

The Talooq association sold about 1,300 kilos of dried coffee to a Yemeni company in only two weeks last January, according to Ahmad Hajjam from SMEPS. The coffee was sold for 1,200 a kilo with a 30 percent profit. He said that GEPA, a German fair trade company, had also shown interest in buying the coffee from Talooq at a good price, including a premium.

"Women are active in terms of planting coffee. In some areas of the district, they convince their husbands to remove the qat tree and plant the coffee tree instead," said Wesam Qaed, director of SMEPS.

"Unfortunately most of the women working in the farms are not educated," he continued. "If they were educated, they would be able to learn the best techniques to take care of the coffee tree and even would be strong at negotiating as they would realize the real value of the coffee that the whole world is looking for."

According to a 2005 feasibility study on coffee farms in Talooq, a kilogram of coffee was then sold for YR 500. Its real cost in the local market was however YR 1,400 in 2009, according to an article from Al-Jumhuriyya, a Yemeni news website.

The 32,265 coffee trees in Talooq, Misrah district in Taiz governorate cover the majority of the agricultural land. They make up over 19 percent of all coffee trees in Yemen.



SUPERIOR QUALITY PAGE AFTER PAGE AFTER PAGE

Fast, robust, high-quality printing. That's the hallmark of the HP Color LaserJet range and why work teams the world over rely on HP LaserJet printers to get the most out of every working day. Give your people the tools they need to maximise their productivity: impressive print speeds, intuitive controls and print shop-quality colour.

HP LASERJET PRO M1132

- Flexible everyday business print, copy and scan tasks with this compact MFP.
- Small footprint on your PC or wireless CD-ROM using HP Smart Task!
- Reduces your environmental impact with the ENERGY STAR qualified design.

HP LASERJET M4345

- Print professional quality documents with business documents of up to A2 size.
- Includes networking with HP JetDirect print server for networked printing.
- Access productivity-enhancing features quickly and easily via a single interface.

HP COLOR LASERJET CM3530

- Fast output with up to 30 ppm, fast and color M4, Inkjeton Technology.
- Print, copy, scan, send, fax, second fax.

FOR BUSINESS

Al Falak Computer & Accessories
Magadasha Street, Sana'a, Yemen, P.O.Box 19398
Sana'a. Call: (+967 1) 219470/610. Call/Fax: 216721
Aden: Call: (+967 2) 264701/2. Call/Fax: 264703
Email: alfalak@net.ye or falak@yemen.net.ye
Click: www.falak.com.ye

2010
Preferred Partner

Imaging and Printing Partner

العبي إخوان للأثاث والنجف

AL-AJI BROS FOR FURNITURE

أثاث من الخشب الزان
منحوت

تجففات كرسنال
درجة أولى

ونحاس مطلي
ذهب عيار 24

اليمن - صنعاء - شارع الخرطوم (مجاهد سابقاً)
تلفون : ٥٠٢١٧٠ فاكس : ٥٠٤٢٤١ ص.ب: ٤٣٢١
بريد إلكتروني: alajibrosff@hotmail.com

FOR BUSINESS

Al Falak Computer & Accessories
Magadasha Street, Sana'a, Yemen, P.O.Box 19398
Sana'a. Call: (+967 1) 219470/610. Call/Fax: 216721
Aden: Call: (+967 2) 264701/2. Call/Fax: 264703
Email: alfalak@net.ye or falak@yemen.net.ye
Click: www.falak.com.ye

2010
Preferred Partner

Imaging and Printing Partner

w w w . m o m . g o v . y e

OPPORTUNITIES EXPLORER



w w w . m o m . g o v . y e

Yemen..

Opportunities exploration

The Third Yemeni Conference for Oil, Gas and Minerals
19th - 20th October, 2010

The vicious circle

By: Kais Aliriani

In 1995 the Government of Yemen started a structural reform program known as the Economic Reform Program (ERP). The ERP, which was supported by the IMF and the World Bank in addition to other donors, aimed to rescue the country from an economic collapse. In 1994 the economy was characterized by very low economic growth that was below population growth, and a current budget deficit of 17 percent (as a percentage of GDP). The deficit was financed mainly by issuing banknotes and borrowing from local banks, which resulted in hyper inflation that reached 75 percent, and the fall of the price of the Yemeni Riyal against the US Dollar.

The ERP was a 5-year program with a long list of elements: price liberalization, controlling the budget deficit,

reduction of subsidies, floating of exchange rates, controlling inflation, issuing treasury bills, reforming tax collection, trade liberalization, increasing the growth rate of the non-oil sector, reforming the public budget, increasing expenditure on education and health, privatizing public enterprises, and increasing investment.

One can immediately notice the high priority the program gave to financial issues. It actually looked more like an emergency program. Strategic and long term economic reforms that could lead to improving the overall economic situation, came as secondary objectives.

The ERP the program was, nevertheless, successful in many ways. By 1997 the government budget deficit was reduced to 2 percent, inflation was controlled at about 6 percent, the balance of payment deficit was reduced to

11.9 percent, and foreign currency reserves had improved. The progress in monetary indicators were not observed in the other target areas.

Several factors contributed to the success of the program in stabilizing the economy. The main factor was actually the increase in the government's oil revenues which had nearly doubled.

The government continued implementing the ERP beyond 1997. Another round of the ERP took place in the period 2000-2005. Most efforts were again targeted at monetary issues: stabilizing foreign exchange rates, reducing subsidies, and controlling inflation. In many ways the government was able to achieve its targets assisted by the high price of oil.

The high oil prices during the period 2006-2008 supported the government budget, so economic reforms became

less important. The international financial crisis and the drop in oil prices in 2009 brought the focus on economic stability back to the fore. 2010 comes with new (old) challenges. In January the Yemeni Riyal lost 10 percent of its value against the US Dollar (and another 9 percent in July). In order to make up for the loss in oil revenues, the government started implementing a plan to increase fuel prices, raised the price of some services like electricity and water, and implemented a sales tax law among other measures.

Although oil prices have somewhat recovered, and liquid natural gas production started at the end of 2009, the government is talking about a very high budget deficit this year.

After about 15 years since the start of the ERP, it seems the country is back to square one, with the same problems and challenges. Not only

is the government expected to have a high budget deficit, but high inflation and low economic growth are expected in a complicated political situation, increasing the probability of economic collapse.

The government is moving ahead with a new ERP. At the beginning of this month the IMF approved a USD 370 million loan to the government to support "economic reforms". The reforms will target "fiscal measures and raising revenues".

The 2010 ERP comes in a more complicated situation. The political and social climate is not as supportive as in 1995. Implementing such a program will be a big challenge especially after the experience of the last 15 years. Economic reform is again driven by crisis, and will be another emergency type of program.

Another cycle of economic reform

measures will probably be successful in keeping things running for a few more years, but what is next? The approach of the government towards reforms is to concentrate on short term issues. The real economic problems are not solved.

There is a need to recognize the fact that only strategic measures can solve the economic problems. Solving the budget deficit for a year, or a few years, and securing millions or even billions of dollars of foreign aid is not the answer. Without a real change to the production base of the country, the aid funds and other "Aspirin" type remedies will only make the situation worse.

Improving the investment climate and supporting investment is the solution. Difficult, yes. But the alternative is the painful economic reform programs that will lead to nowhere.

The meaning of Ramadan

By: Bakil Aklan

BAKIL80@gmail.com

Ramadan is a holy month in Islam. This means it should be highly respected and appreciated by all Muslims. Allah imposed it on every Muslim. Its purpose is to remind us of the poor people and orphans. The fasting is meant to make people feel hunger and thirst so that they may feel what the less fortunate feel.

However, some people misunderstand the meaning of fasting. They sleep throughout the day neither praying nor reciting the Quran. They close the doors to their rooms and don't want to be disturbed. If they hear noise in the building or on the street, they go out shouting at their wives and children and create problems with their neighbors. Sometimes they sleep until Azan Al-Maghreb. Then, they wake up to have Iftar and go to buy qat. They stay up with their friends watching TV until Sahur. They continue this throughout Ramadan.

I observed a person eating in the daytime during Ramadan. He seemed

afraid someone would see him. This person isn't acting like a real Muslim. He does not care to be seen by Allah.

Many people are concerned about watching television programs. However, they don't take time to pray in the mosque or help poor people. We observe daily that some rich people do not care about poor people. They enjoy extravagant meals while there are starving people who need a piece of bread.

Three years ago I watched this happen during Ramadan in a famous area in Sana'a. An old woman was walking in the street area before Azan Al-Maghreb. She knocked on many doors, but no one answered her. After Iftar she reached our place, where I and some others were in the street. We saw her crying. At first, we thought someone had stolen from her. We asked her what had happened and she looked at us and said I invoke from Allah to punish the people who live in this neighborhood and not to forgive them. We asked her why she was saying that and she said no one cares about us, the poor people. "Oh, please, give me something to eat and drink," she said. We were moved

by her story to bring her food and water. I don't think all the people who live in this area are as bad as she thinks.

Personally, I cannot forget this problem. There are many people who are in need of help. Some people have lots of money but they spend it in the wrong way. They either forget or ignore that Allah will question them about their money and how they spent it. Some people don't go to mosque except during Ramadan. When you ask them why they pray only in Ramadan, they reply that if they pray during Ramadan it makes up for not praying the rest of the year.

We know that every human makes mistakes, but some people may use Ramadan to change their lifestyle. The holy month is an opportunity for everyone to become better and start a new life. Everyone should endeavor to perform good deeds, forgive others, help poor people and visit their relatives. Everyone should self-examine in order to improve themselves, and depend on the holy Quran for advice on what to do in their lives. If they behave in this way, they will be happy for the rest their lives

Ramadan in Yemen

By: Mohamed Ali Fadil Al-Qahtani

qahtani22@yahoo.com

With the coming of the Holly month, Ramadan, where people are supposed to be happy and eager to live its spirituality, worship, and virtues, Yemeni people, instead, have different issues nagging their minds day and night.

This blessed month in Yemen, I believe, is different from any other country of the world! It is known, for instance, for the absence of and the crisis in petroleum products in general, and gas in particular.

A few days ago, while I was on my way from Al-Makhadir district to Ibb city, I was shocked when I encountered a long queue of vehicles that stopped traffic. All the passengers and I thought that there must have been an accident which caused the roadblock. But the bus driver challenged our assumptions and said that the vehicles were queuing for diesel, as it was only available here (Al-Sahool) in this gas station, that belongs to the Yemeni Petroleum Company.

This shortage of diesel doesn't usu-

ally occur in Ramadan like the regular crisis in gas. But this year, unfortunately, it occurred.

People suffer a lot in Ramadan due to these crises. "The gas merchant listed us on a piece of paper and after three days of waiting, I could get only one (cylinder of gas) and paid YR 1,600," a farmer said. "I offered YR 2,000 to get a cylinder of gas, but it was not available," a university professor said. "I bought the food for my family from restaurants three days in a row last year because of the gas crisis," said Abdullah sorrowfully. "I feel jealous of those villagers as they have an alternative to gas, that is wood," Abdullah added with a big sigh.

Ramadan is also known for the increase in the price of goods and home needs/materials. It becomes so high. An old man heard my conversation above with Abdullah and laughed with contempt and sorrow. "Hah, what about other things' prices? Have you forgotten last year in same month, we bought a kilo of tomatoes for YR 500 and it is a domestic/home product?"

"Corruption has overwhelmed ev-

erything in our country. Merchants and other influential people are playing with the prices with no legal procedures or punishment. The government never bats an eyelid at those criminals who exploit the poverty-stricken families around Yemen", the old man added angrily.

In short, Ramadan in Yemen, instead of being the month of paying and giving charity (zakat), has changed into being an opportunity for merchants to make money and raise their profits and net income at the expense of poor people. They seize the day very negatively. But what makes matters still worse is the deterioration of our currency day after day.

Thus, my submission is: "Please dear government, bear the responsibility vested in you honestly. Do not forget that it is a blessed Holy month of the year, not a chance for corrupt people. Try to punish even a merchant to please Almighty God and the poor people. Try to free yourselves from sin during Ramadan so as you might be lucky to be included within Allah's mercy (in Laylat Al-Qadr)".

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** invites **Yemeni Nationals** to apply for the following position with its **"Gender and Economic Empowerment Project"**

Title: Consultant-Participatory Market and Training Needs Assessment

Duration of Assignment: 35 working days

Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout, and Sana'a Yemen

Duties & Responsibilities:

Specific tasks include the following:

1. Assist in the preparation of the assessment methodology, sampling procedures, questionnaires and work plan.
2. Assist in conducting the market assessment in the selected districts and nearby district towns and large markets to yield adequate and updated market information on those economic activities, entrepreneurial opportunities and specific market sectors with the highest potential for sustainable enterprises/businesses, self-employment as well as wage employment (in both farm and non-farm trades and occupations) for poor women and youth.
3. Assist to identify current and potential market linkages and value chains for job creation and enterprise development for the target group.
4. Assist to identify existing women and youth group enterprises (farm and non-farm) with high market potential and based on local knowledge and which could be further upgraded and strengthened through entrepreneurship/business training.
5. Support in assessing the level of market competition in relation to the above existing businesses in operation.
6. Assist to identify potential consumer demand, demand patterns and unmet market demand, and prepare an inventory of available local resources and raw materials that could be used for new products and services.
7. Identify existing business associations/networks, the interest of the private sector e.g., Wadi Hadramout Chamber of Commerce, employers, industries, and other institutions in facilitating market access for women and youth including linkages for wage employment.
8. Assess the gender specific constraints in access to markets, marketing and training opportunities and make practical recommendations to overcome these.
9. Assist to identify a minimum of 4-6 private sector industries/enterprises that are interested in establishing linkages with the project for enterprise development and job promotion for the target participants.
10. Assist to identify institutional sources of credit available through MFIs or banks, and technical assistance available from the private sector, Government/NGO in meeting training and appropriate technology needs.
11. Assist in identifying policy issues that need to be addressed to promote productive employment for poor women and youth in creating an enabling environment.
12. Determine the skills training needs of the potential target group, their existing levels of skills, and the capacity gaps that need to be bridged.
13. Assist in examining opportunities for on-the-job training and short-term apprenticeships for women and youth in specific market oriented trades. List possible business entities/organizations which could support this.
14. Assist in organizing a Market Validation Workshop in collaboration with the project team to validate the findings of the market and training needs assessment with the respondents (community people, women and youth, government, NGOs and private sector) and jointly prioritize activities that could be initiated by women and youth for both self and wage employment

Based on the above assessment, assist to provide a shortlist and feasibility of the 10 potentially viable economic opportunities for each district and list the training needs/capacity gaps of the target groups that are to be addressed in this context

Qualifications:

- University degree in economics, rural development, business administration, development studies or related disciplines and 5 years practical experience in market and enterprise promotion. A post graduate degree is desirable.
- Training on gender issues, and women and youth entrepreneurship development will be an asset.

Only Online Applications will be accepted

For further details on the job description and online application, please visit our website at <http://jobs.undp.org>

Response will only be made to short listed candidates
The deadline for receiving applications is September 7th, 2010



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Oxfam, an international NGO working with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering, has been working in Yemen since 1983. Oxfam announces the following vacancies for its programme.

Finance Officer – Based in Sana'a

Starting gross salary per annum pro rata: \$16,116 USD

Contract Duration: 2.5 years

You will undertake financial and administrative matters in accordance with established procedures, monitor grants and programme management budget and update forecast. Maintain fleet register and down down contract administration. Undertake and monitor all payments including postage organisations and prepare for internal and external audits.

We are looking for someone with at least degree in finance related subject or professional accountancy qualification, and three years experience of financial and people management in similar size organization, as well as ability to work as part of a multi-cultural team and communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing in Arabic and English, sound computer skills and ability to travel extensively in country.

Donor / Working Accountant – Based in Sana'a

Starting gross salary per annum pro rata: \$16,116 USD

Contract Duration: 1 Year with possible extension

You will be responsible for preparing high quality donor financial reports and contributing to proposal writings in accordance to donor's requirements and guidelines. Prepare monthly monitoring reports for all projects under Yemen programme. Maintain and update funding grid, be in charge of donor contracts management and advise on cost effectiveness and on any area of significant overcost or future financial risks.

We are looking for someone with at least degree in finance related subject or professional accountancy qualification, and three years experience of financial and people management in similar size organization, as well as ability to work as part of a multi-cultural team and communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing in Arabic and English and willingness to travel extensively in country.

Partnership Accountant – Based in Sana'a

Starting gross salary per annum pro rata: \$16,116 USD

Contract Duration: 8 months with possible extension

You will be responsible for developing and maintaining partner financial and accounting systems and procedures, review partner's budgets and financial reports, and ensure effectiveness of financial transaction and documentation. Be responsible for partner's financial management capacity building through technical and training support.

We are looking for someone with at least degree in finance related subject or professional accountancy qualification, and three years financial and accounting experience, and ability to implement financial system and work to deadlines. The ideal candidate will have demonstrated communication skills and the ability to work well with others and as part of a team. You will have excellent oral and written communication skills in both English and Arabic, sound computer skills and willingness to travel extensively in country.

Finance Assistant – Based in Sana'a

Starting gross salary per annum pro rata: \$10,471

Contract Duration: 7 months with possible extension

You will be responsible for the overall aspects of cash management including monthly cash forecast and verify all payment requests and ensure completeness and accuracy of supporting documents and release payments on timely manner. You will input transaction in cashbooks and upload them into Oxfam's financial system on weekly basis and ensure proper filing system is in place.

We are looking for someone with at least degree in finance related subject or professional accountancy qualification, and two years financial and accounting experience in a similar role. The ideal candidate will have demonstrated communication skills and the ability to work well with others and as part of a team. You will have excellent oral and written communication skills in both English and Arabic and sound computer skills.

To apply

If you believe that you have the qualifications and skills to excel in either of these positions, please send a copy of your CV and a cover letter, clearly stating the job you are applying for, to yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk or send a fax to 01-430170.

Closing date for applications is 07th September 2010

QADAS FLY IATA
AN IATA APPROVED TRAVEL MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Egypt starting 40\$ p.n
KUALALUMPUR starting 40\$ p.n

OFFERS

Eid Holiday Packages

PHONE: +967-1-250777 / 104887 / 8 FAX: +967-1-250777
Email: info@qadasfly.com

New CARS
نيو كازر لتأجير السيارات
New Cars for rent

We deal with you professionally

Branch: 83 Al-Rawda Mediatel Tel: 01 44894 Fax: 0144894 Mobile: 7777101
www.newcars.ye KSA@newcars.ye

شركة أمان للتأمين
AMAN INSURANCE CO.

Marine Insurance
Automobile Insurance
Life Insurance
Engineering Insurance
Liability Insurance
Medical Insurance
Power Insurance
Travel Insurance
Property Insurance
Others

تأمين نقل بضائع
تأمين السيارات
تأمين الحياة والعمالي والتجاري
تأمين المسؤولية
تأمين الكوارث الطبيعية
تأمين الطائرات
تأمين السفن
تأمين الممتلكات
تأمينات أخرى

Head Office: Zubairi St. Yemen Kuwait Bank Building
Tel: +967 1 4697210/334, Fax: +967 1 217251, 233452
Branches: Sana'a: Taiz Street Tel: +967 1 624971, Fax: +967 1 625714
Hodeidah Tel: +967 3 201110, Fax: +967 3 201107, Taiz: Tel: +967 4 251454, Fax: +967 4 250632
Aden Tel: +967 2 244255, Fax: +967 2 245237, Mukalla: Tel: +967 5 350957, Fax: +967 5 350929

Free Call: 800 50 50



“Never stop”

By: Abdullah Bamoshmoosh
For the Yemen Times

Saber Bamatraf, 22, is a young pianist, but unlike most pianists all over the world, he has a peculiarity: he has never had any type of piano classes.

How did you start playing the piano having no type of teaching?
I date my start with piano when I was six years old, but I didn't really start playing it, but I used to familiarize myself with the piano by

developing the skill of recognizing notes, learning piano basics etc., so it would happen that I might stop for long periods. Then I started changing my attitude towards piano, so I started playing the piano seriously when I was in ninth grade.

So how did you learn playing it, with no lessons or somebody teaching you?
I have the musician's ear [rare ability to recognize instantly any note it is heard], and I think that's why I am able to play without having any

lesson or class.

Wow. And what do you feel when you're playing the piano?
I feel like I am in another world, and it is wonderful. It is relaxing.

And when do you train?
Whenever I hear a song I like, I play it immediately, and that's my way of practicing.

And you do that with no score or something like that?
No, I just rely on my musician ear. And is there any other instrument you play, in addition to piano?
Yes, I also play guitar and the oud, but not at the same level as piano, which I am a professional player.

What kind of musical experiences have you had?
I have never had a concert before, but in 2006, in the President's musical competition, I participated and won the first prize.

And what is your advice to all young talented Yemeni musicians?

السفوف الذهبية
عالم التمور
Dates World

أفخر أنواع التمور
Delux Kind Dates

009671 - 441080 - تلفون، جولة 45 - شارع حدة - صنعاء - اليمن - المركز الرئيسي، جميع فروعنا في

عالم التمور
Yemeni Dates World

My advice is: don't ever take rest, never stop, even if you don't have support from your family your country, in any case, because one day they will think again about it.

Every issue, this Ramadan, the Yemen Times will profile a young Yemeni with talent. If you are talented or know a young Yemeni who is, please send an email to youngtalents.yt@gmail.com

Dell Business laptop vostro 1014

Processor: Intel Core 2 Duo T8570 (2.1 GHz, 800MHz, 3MB)
Display: 14.1" Widescreen WXGA (1386 * 768) Wide Anti Glare
Camera: Integrated 2 Mega Pixel Camera without software
LGE Back Cover: Red or Black
Memory: 3072MB (1*2048 + 1*1024) 667MHz DDR2 Dual Channel
Hard Drive: 320GB Serial ATA (5400RPM) Single Hard Drive TX CD/DVD
Burner (Dual Layer DVD+R Drive)
Battery: Primary 4-cell 32WHr Li-Ion
Graphics: Intel Integrated GMA 4500MHD
Wireless: Wireless Label (De) Wireless Cards - Core 2 Duo
Wireless: EMEA Internal Dell Wireless 3010 Bluetooth Card
Wireless: European Dell Wireless 1387 (802.11b/g) Mini Card
Operating System: Ubuntu Edition Version 8.10
2Yr Parts only Warranty

0967 1 4489415 - 0967 1 4489418 - 0967 1 4489419
0967 1 4489415 - 0967 1 4489418 - 0967 1 4489419
0967 1 4489415 - 0967 1 4489418 - 0967 1 4489419
0967 1 4489415 - 0967 1 4489418 - 0967 1 4489419

DOCUMENT EXAMINATION TRAINING (DET)

At the request of Yemenia (Yemen Airways) the International Organization for Migration (IOM) provided Expert Training in Travel Document Examination at the Yemenia Training Centre on 12th and 13th July 2010 which was attended by over 16 participants. The trainees invited for this course were not only from Yemenia and Yemen Ground Handling Turkish Airlines, Saudi Arabian Airlines and Gulf Air.

The participants greatly appreciated the training as it provided them with detailed, up-to-date and useful information relating to travel document security and abuse. The IOM training forms a part of the implementation of a European Union funded project entitled "Empowering Government and Civil Society in Yemen to Address Mixed Migration".

The Opening and Closing sessions were attended by Mr. Fawzi Al-Zioud the acting chief of IOM Yemen and Mohammed Y. Aljadabi Director Training along with Mr. Ali Jaffer Director Customer Service and Ground Operations.

Now Book & get your TICKET ONLINE
For more information: 01-250800 / Toll free: 8001000
اليمنية
Genuine Arabian Hospitality
www.yemenia.com

Honeywell HORIZON HORIZON AGENCIES & COMMERCIAL SERVICES (HACS)
P.O. Box 5413 Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Tel: +967 1 421306 / 12 532 Fax: +967 1 421306
Email: info@hacs.ye www.hacs.ye

PROCESS CONTROL MADE EASY
Honeywell Process Solutions

Analytical Measurements, Field Measurements, Process Controls, and Corrosion Solutions

XYR 6000 Series Wireless Transmitters

- * Actuators - Paper
- * Conductivity
- * Controllers/Indicators & Programmers
- * Controllers, Hybrid
- * Corrosion
- * Dissolved Oxygen
- * Flow Measurement
- * Level Measurement
- * Moisture
- * pH-ORP
- * Recorders, Circular Chart
- * Recorders, Paperless
- * Recorders, Strip Chart

- * Sensors - C/P/S
- * Sensors - Paper
- * Software Tools
- * Thermal Conductivity
- * Transmitter Configuration Tools
- * Temperature Sensors
- * Transmitters Pressure
- * Transmitters Temperature
- * XYR 3000 Wireless Multiplexer
- * XYR 5000 Wireless Transmitters
- * XYR 6000 Wireless Transmitters

AGENT FOR:

- FMC Technologies Smith Metals / LAST Reeling Systems
- Solar Turbines A Energy Engineering
- Petrofac Mechanical Svcs
- MURPHY FW Mistry
- FMC Technologies Fluid Control / Parts / Invoicing / Maintenance
- Enraf Complete Tank Barging Inventory System
- Consolidated Machinery & Equipment Rental Services
- KFOO Flow Products Pressure Products Temperature Products
- BIOKUBE Water & Environmental Solutions
- Honeywell Field Process Solutions
- MALBRANQUE Industrial Services / Process Control
- Turbine Overhauling
- SEKO Pumps & Drilling Systems

CALIBRATION & Maintenance Workshop For Flow meters
SGS Certified Calibration System