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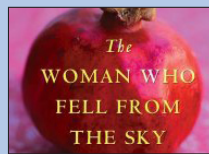
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Al-Hawta residents return as jihadis flee to the mountains

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

SANA'A, Sept. 26 — Several of the families who fled Al-Hawta district, in Shabwa governorate south of Yemen, returned home after the state army withdrew from the town on Saturday Sept 25. Estimates of between 4,000 to 12,000 locals fled their homes in December 2009 fearing a repetition of the state's attacks on the neighboring governorate of Abyan.

According to local state officials from Shabwa, including the governor Dr. Ali Al-Ahmadi, the area is inhabited by around a hundred Jihadi men, mostly Yemenis. They are suspected of being Al-Qaeda members living in Al-Hawta.

The jihadis in Shabwa had previously attempted sabotaging a Yemen Natural

Liquid Gas (Y LNG) pipeline earlier this month. They have also been accused of killing two soldiers as they were distributing food to military posts guarding the pipeline after the Y LNG attempted attack.

The government also witnessed armed conflict in Lawdar district last month between state security forces and alleged Al-Qaeda militants, resulting in the death of 33 men from both sides. Al-Ahmadi stated that electricity and water networks that were affected by the raid are to be repaired soon, and that technicians have been dispatched to the area.

"The area was cleansed of terrorists, and as of now it is an Al-Qaeda free zone after being a center for jihadis," read a statement on the Ministry of Interior's website.

This Friday, state security raided the governorate and arrested 28 Al-Qaeda suspects and regained control over Al-Hawta town. The town is known for its difficult terrain and nomadic society. However, it remains to be seen where the remaining jihadis who fled to the mountains will regroup, and whether they will resurface again soon.

Residents of the district, which are estimated at more than 20 thousand, were frightened at the sight of the military and of the air raids, and started fleeing the area one week prior to the Friday attack.

"There were two kinds of aircraft. Military helicopters patrolled the skies and jet fighters were flying at low levels and making a lot of noise. This scared the residents and pushed them away before the real

raids started," said Sheikh Haidara Mashour, a local leader of the Al-Awaleq tribe in the same governorate.

Southern opposition leaders living in exile, Ali Naser Mohammed and Haidar Abu Bakr Al-Attas, issued political statements condemning the raid on Al-Hawta and the extensive arrests of opposition activists in other southern cities.

Similarly, in his speech at the regular meeting of the national dialogue preparatory committee last Thursday, General Secretary of the Committee, Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar, criticized the use of "excessive force used in many of the southern governorates by the state." He explained that «the presence of Al-Qaeda will not end by launching raids and portraying Yemenis as terrorists... Yemenis do not need more vio-



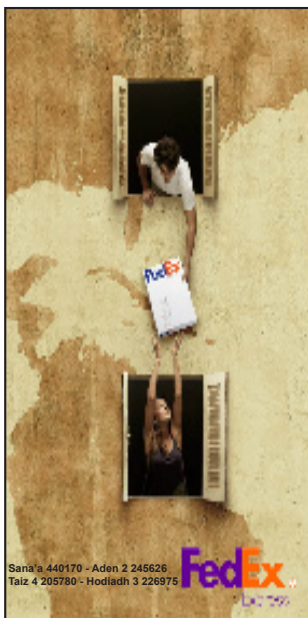
Members of the nomad community in Abyan, near the Yafe mountains on the way to the town of Rasd. Urbanization and basic services such as water and electricity have not reached these people.

lence. They need justice and development which are the only ways that would really eradicate terrorism."

Early winter starts in Yemen

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, Sept. 26 — The decreasing temperatures noticed in the mountain regions



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of Yemen is not another weather fluctuation according to Rasheed Al-Ariqi, head of the Weather Forecast Unit at the National Aviation and Metrological Center, it is an early winter.

The transition period between seasons had already started Tuesday Sept. 21, which is almost one month ahead of the usual date.

"The weather in the coming months will be unstable because the difference between the maximum and minimum temperatures is large. For example, the maximum temperature in Sana'a last Saturday was 26 degrees Celsius, whereas the minimum temperature during the night was only ten degrees," he explained.

He warned that the weather fluctuations could expose people's health to flu or other seasonal diseases, as the human body cannot endure these temperature variations during a single day. He advises residents, especially those in mountain areas, to dress in layers and to always carry a light coat.

"When the maximum temperature in Sana'a, for example, is 26 degrees Celsius, people can endure the minimum if it is 16 degrees Celsius, but because of this change in the weather it shifts from 26 degrees Celsius to ten degrees," he said. He also advised people to take good care of their nutrition, especially eating food that contains more calories in order to re-

sist weather related diseases.

In the coastal areas of Yemen, maximum temperatures have already decreased by four degrees since the beginning of the temperature shift.

The harvest season in Yemen is yet to start and already the temperature is falling unexpectedly. This will affect the crops and hence farmers' incomes.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Sayani, general director of the Plant Protection Department at the Ministry of Agriculture stated last year to Saba News agency that low temperature negatively affects the quantity and quality of agricultural crops. Agriculture makes up to 14 percent of the national GDP.

He explained that low temperatures sometimes lead to frosts that stunt plant growth, weakens them and makes them

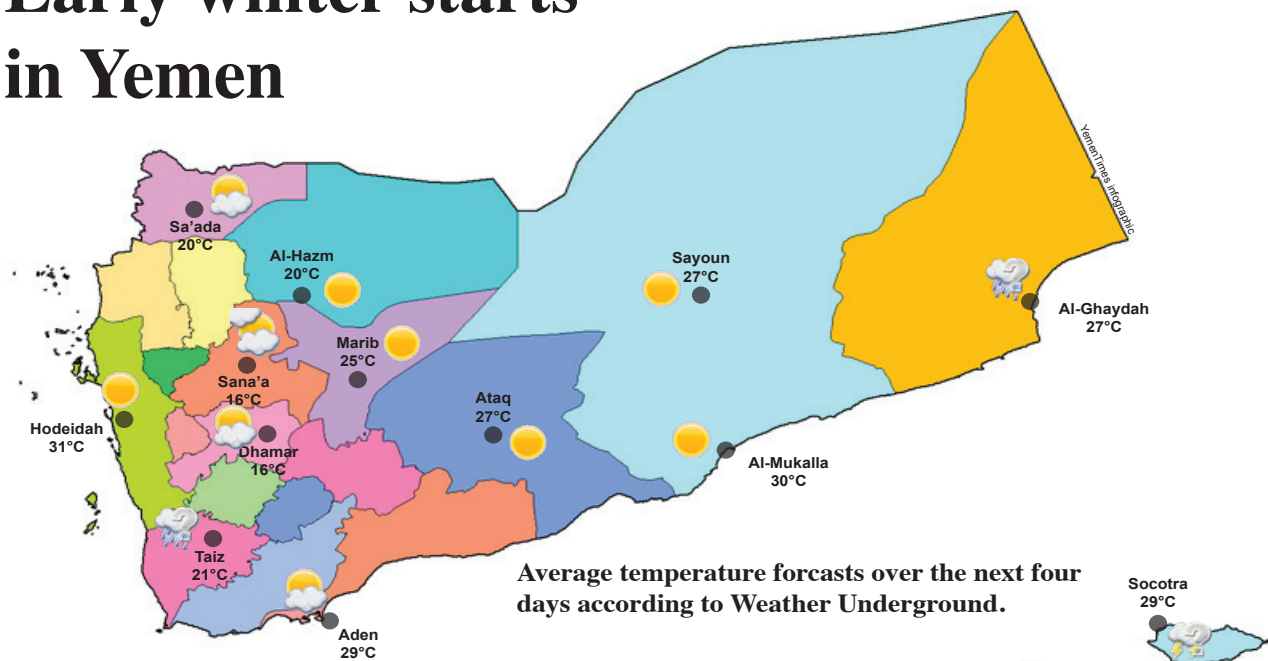
more vulnerable to pests.

Early winter in Yemen could be part of the change in weather patterns due to climate change, according to the 2009 Report on the Impact of Climate Change on Arab Countries.

"Climate change acts directly to change natural weather patterns," reads the report.

The report added that the change of natural weather patterns in Arab countries will result in scarcity of food and water, as well as to adverse effects on human health and in the economic sector.

The report recommends that governments in the Arab region make it a national priority to reduce the potential risks generated by climate change.



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President repeats vow to destroy Al-Qaeda

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, Sept. 26 — In his speech last Saturday on the 48th anniversary of the revolution that marked the end of the imamate in Yemen, the president renewed his government's commitment to destroying Al-Qaeda. The president also vowed to crush the secessionist movements which began in 2007.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh's speeches in national ceremonies for the last three years have focused on several points including security challenges, development, financial and administrative reforms and national reconciliation and dialogue with other political forces.

Despite his repeated instructions to the government to deal with these issues and improve the situation in the country, economic and security indicators show that few tangible improvements have materialized. Although there has been some improvement in the country's infrastructure like the building of new bridges and roads and minors developments in the electrical grid.

According to political analysts, Yemen faces three major challenges that threaten the countries development and economy: Houthis in the north, a separation movement in the south and Al-Qaeda.

Surprisingly, the Houthi conflict in Sa'ada was not included in this speech contrary to those in 2008 and

2009. Similarly, while piracy is still considered a serious problem and a threat to Yemen's national interests, it was also not included in his speech.

Development and economy

Development and improving the economy and living conditions of the citizens are topics that are repeated in all the president's national speeches. But recently it has been the country's "security challenges," particularly those posed by Al-Qaeda, which feature most regularly in the president's speeches.

"The extremist elements of Al-Qaeda, who are an enemy to themselves, religion and to their homeland, have worked on damaging the people's interest and the homeland, hindered development, hit tourism and investment in our country and spread corruption," said the president in his address to the nation on Saturday.

The economy is major topic in the president's national speeches. He has issued many directives to the government to improve the economy and create employment opportunities for youths by establishing new projects.

"The government has to continue the process of reforms, enhance the national economy and create many strategic projects to find work opportunities for youths," he said in his speech delivered last May 22 on the eve of the 20th anniversary of Yemen's Unification.

National reconciliation

The president always calls for national reconciliation and dialogue with political forces, especially when national occasions coincide with intensive security problems or when there is a gulf between the ruling party and the opposition.

"I renew my call to all for national unification to deter the challenges facing the homeland ... and adopt dialogue approach to solve issues and differences imposed by the real situation of practicing democratic policy," said the president in his 2009 speech on the 47th anniversary of 26th of September Revolution, when the war with the Houthis was particularly intensive and the opposition's attitude towards it was negative.

On May 20 this year, the president however ordered the release of all prisoners of political conscience, including a number of people accused of supporting the Houthis and some elements of the Southern Movement.

Although a number of people were subsequently released, others still languish in prison under the same accusations.

The arbitrary arrest of journalists still continues. Last month government security forces broke into the house of journalist Abdullah Haider and took him away while he was breaking the fast with his family. He now faces charges of plotting against national security and providing Al-Qaeda with media support.

New penalties encourage state employees back to work after Eid

By: Shatha Al-Harazi

SANA'A, Sept. 22 — The Ministry of Civil Service has announced the highest ever attendance rate of public employees after Eid this year, as a result of new penalties introduced to ensure that no one was absent from work after the official holidays.

The official holiday for government employees this year was five days long, instead of the usual week of national holiday at the end of Ramadan.

To ensure that state employees returned to work after the official holiday, for the first time this year the Ministry of Civil Service inspected government buildings to record attendance and is set to punish those who were absent.

The government will deduct three days of salary for each day of absence for those found to still be on holiday when work had resumed. Managers who were absent will be suspended and investigated, according to the ministry.

In a recent report, the ministry reported that 95.5 percent of public employees in government offices in Sana'a attended work on September 14, the first working day after Eid. Nationwide, 88.7 percent attended work on that day.

Those employees who had already asked for annual leave after the holidays — 20.9 percent of all registered

public employees nationwide — were not included in the final result.

Last year, attendance was recorded at 92 percent in the capital and 86 percent nationwide.

Abyan was the governorate with the highest attendance rate of 99.2 percent of employees turning up to work, according to Saeed Nasher, deputy minister for monitoring and inspection at the ministry, quoted on the ministry's website.

Makha and Mahwit followed with 99 percent, Aden with 97.2 percent, Seyoun in Hadramout with 96.3 percent, and Hajja with 96.1 percent. Al-Jawf had the worst attendance rate nationwide.

On the first and second days after Eid, the ministry sent field inspection teams to observe discipline and attendance in all government buildings, according to the ministry's website.

Nasher said that all the general managers of government offices that were found closed on the days after Eid would be suspended and brought before a high disciplinary council.

'Not productive after Eid'

But those present in government institutions on the first working days after Eid told the Yemen Times that although employees turned up, they were not productive.

Insijam Ali is a public employee. She told the Yemen Times that although the ministry's report shows success, the attendance still doesn't mean that work had actually started.

"This year most employees came but they spent the time greeting each other and talking about Eid instead of working," Ali added.

Amal Mohammad was surprised to see that no one was working on the days after Eid, and wished that she had taken her annual leave instead of coming into work after the official holiday. She told the Yemen Times that Eid is tiring, especially for women who receive guests and have to take care of the family.

"I would have preferred to rest after Eid, especially since working days in Ramadan are long," she said.

Abu Ahmad, an applicant for a job transfer between ministries, complained to the Yemen Times that he did not receive real service when he went to one of the ministries on the first day of work after Eid.

He said that he spent an hour waiting for an employee at one of the ministries who was busy next door greeting his colleagues. After that, he was sent to another employee who was on annual leave.

"I thought no one would be working seriously, so I left without getting my work done," he said.

Yemen making progress toward improving its maternal health

By: Tom Finn

SANA'A, Sept. 26 — Yemen is 'making progress' towards improving its maternal health according to a report by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund and the World Bank.

The findings, published in a 52-page report last week, indicate that Yemen's maternal mortality ratio - the number of deaths per 100,000 live births - decreased by 61 percent between 1990 and 2008.

"I'm so happy about what I'm reading. This is encouraging news for Yemen and all those working to improve maternal health in Yemen," Dr. Rami Taha Ali, from the National Safe Motherhood Alliance, told the Yemen Times.

Despite these positive findings, a combination of early marriages, scarce health care services, high fertility and poor sanitary infrastructure mean that Yemen still struggles with high rates of maternal mortality.

In 2008 there were 1,800 maternal deaths in Yemen and the lifetime risk of maternal death was 1 in 91, according to the report released last week. Less than 50 percent of Yemeni women - who have 5.2 children on average - are ever attended to by skilled health personnel during pregnancy, according to UNICEF.

In the face of such statistics, government and non-governmental organizations alike have been working to improve the state of maternal health care in Yemen. But with limited infrastructure and sometimes impenetrable terrain, Yemen presents a challenging environment for delivering health services, particularly to rural areas.

The National Safe Motherhood Alliance (NSMA) was established in 2007 to 'promote and support efforts to make pregnancy and childbirth safe for all mothers in Yemen.' The alliance seeks to bring together and unite all those working towards the betterment of maternal health in Yemen.

Working closely with international organisations like Basic Health Services and organising workshops on safe motherhood with local NGOs, NSMA sets itself four main goals: awareness, accountability, social mo-



Basic home delivery kits have been distributed across Yemen to help reduce the risk of infection during child birth. The kit, which costs between YR 30-100, contains a plastic mattress, 5ml of iodine disinfectant, soap, a razor, a face mask and cotton wool. It includes instructions with illustrations of emergency scenarios which require immediate transportation to the hospital.

bilisation and building capacity.

"The responsibility to reach these goals is not just for the Ministry of Health alone, we need to work together as one group," said Dr. Rami.

"It is everyone's responsibility: teachers, students, mothers, fathers, local councils, NGO's, local imams... this is a goal for the whole community, the media included," he added.

NSMA also provides training for those involved in the instruction of physicians and local midwives. Midwives play a crucial role in providing maternal healthcare in Yemen, especially in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas.

"Local midwives play a vital role. They not only help deliver babies, they also administer vaccines, provide first aid treatment, and offer advice to parents about contraceptive methods and family planning," Hasiba Yahya Shuneif, head of the

woman and child sector at the Saleh Social Development Foundation, told the Yemen Times.

"In the absence of a midwife, a woman may be driven for hours to a hospital only to find there is no doctor there," Dr. Kriman Rajeh, manager of women's development at the Ministry of Public Health and Population, told the Yemen Times.

"This can cost them their lives," she added.

There are still a number of obstacles to improving Yemen's maternal health. Many women are married at an early age and go on to bare many children in quick succession. Only 29 percent of Yemeni women know how to read and write.

"Improving maternal health care in Yemen is not just about building more hospitals, it's about improving education and access to information," said Dr. Rami.



Yemen's first Global Exchange volunteers with fellow volunteers from Egypt and the UK - Last week, they met with the new volunteers to pass on good advice.

By: Ibrahim Aljaadi and Ismail Sheikh
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, Sept. 26 — Four young volunteers flew off on Saturday night a week ago to Birmingham, England, to participate in a three-month program called the Youth Global Exchange, organized and sponsored by the British Council.

The volunteers, the second group to take part in the program from Yemen, will join other participants in the program from the UK and Oman.

On Thursday, the Yemen Times spoke to the enthusiastic new volunteers before they travelled to the UK for the first time.

Essam Al-Rawhani, a second year student studying social studies, said that he hoped that the exchange program will help him see the world from a new perspective.

Ahmed Al-Khauga, an English literature graduate who works with a voluntary organization called Life Makers, said that he was tempted to apply to the program because it involved volunteering.

Hajer Ali Al-Nahari, a graphic design graduate, said that this is not her first trip to Europe. She has previously traveled to the Netherlands. When she was there, she was surprised by the lack of boundaries but impressed with the freedom, in particular the freedom of information.

Noor Faisal Al-Qershi, a business administration graduate, said that this is the first time that has she participated in such a voluntary program. Her only reservation is that she's afraid of the cultural differences she will face, but she said that she could meet this challenge.

Hana Al-Shami, the Global Exchange coordinator at the British Council, said that choosing the volunteers was based mainly on the personality of the applicants, and how they might benefit from the program and help Yemen when they return.

The group was initially to go to Oman to participate in the local program for three months, and then later fly to Birmingham with the Omani group, but because of difficulties in obtaining visas to Oman, that part of the trip had to be canceled.

Youth Global Exchange is a six-month long volunteer exchange program, which gives young people from different countries the opportunity to work together and make a practical contribution where it is needed in local communities.

Volunteers aged between 18 and 25 are eligible to apply to the program at the local office of the British Council in their country. When the candidates are selected, they join a team from the UK and one from another exchange country. They live in host communities for six months: three months in the UK and three in an exchange community. Volunteers live in host homes, and work in the community in cross cultural pairs. They spend four days a week working in a local charity or community organization.

Before the latest volunteers travelled to the UK, the British Council arranged for them to meet with the group that took part in the exchange from March to August this year. Together, they discussed how ways of thinking can restrain one's ability to accept others' ideas or beliefs.

Since Yemen is not yet an exchange country, the previous four participants joined a team from the UK and Egypt to

work in Egypt, and then in the UK.

Majid Ah-Nadhari, 24, is an English teacher who had the chance to participate in the program. His love of voluntary work encouraged him to apply for the program.

"The program gave me the chance to meet new people from different cultures and do charity work with them. The program is so awesome and I benefited from it," said Majid.

Majid said that he was lucky to participate in the program because it gave him the opportunity to interact with people from different cultures and with different beliefs. According to him, working and living in another society gives you the chance to listen to alternative opinions and accept others.

He said that even people with different opinions and beliefs can be friends. They can listen to each other and discuss their ideas politely.

As an English teacher, Majid volunteered to teach English in Egypt during the program. He also participated in a project cleaning the street and attended lectures about social issues and how to implement solutions in the real world.

Excitement filled Shatha Al-Harazi's eyes when talking about her trip to the UK and Egypt. She called it "a life changing experience."

Shatha said that the program helped her in becoming an open minded person who can accept others regardless of the way they think.

Transforming into an open minded person, Shatha came up with an idea she calls "new perspectives." This idea is about how to discuss problems in society — that they should be discussed from different angles to find practical solutions.

Opportunities

Call for partners: Survey about the role of UN Women at country level

On 2 July 2010, all member states of the United Nations agreed to set up a new gender equality entity, called UN Women. UN Women is the milestone outcome of the ongoing reform of the UN system. The goal of this reform is to strengthen the UN's development system and its delivery for women at country level. UN Women will be working with a unique and new structure, combining policy-making and norm setting with programming (operational capacity) at country level. As of the January 1, UN Women is supposed to "go live" and become operational.

The challenge for the coming months and years will be to ensure the operational capacity of UN Women and its expansion built on the needs of women and girls at country level. The operational capacity of UN Women should present a change over the way the UN's development system currently works for women and girls. Not much research has been done to find out from women's rights advocates at country and local level what their wishes and needs are.

Oxfam Novib and the UK Gender and Development Network (GAD Network) are commissioning the international consultancy firm MDF Training and Consultancy to conduct a survey which identifies what women want from the new UN gender equality entity at country level by interviewing a diverse range of women's rights advocates and their organizations. Based on the survey results, we are looking for a report that honestly and accurately captures the needs, aspirations and concerns of women's rights advocates and their organizations at country-level.

Oxfam Novib and the members of the UK GAD Network are looking for 100 partners and colleagues to participate in our survey on what women need from the new UN Women's

agency! The survey will be done on the basis of a set of open and closed questions which can be answered online (through a specific website) and which will be followed up with telephone interviews with the survey participants. For partners who cannot work online, the survey will be e-mailed or faxed in advance. The survey will be conducted in English, French, Spanish or Portuguese.

Are you working on women's rights and gender equality in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East, Eastern Europe and the Caucasus for an organization that matches one of these criteria?

- National level women's rights organisation, including working with marginalized women (30 percent of total sample)
- Local and/or grassroots organization working on women's rights and gender equality, including working with marginalized women (30 percent of total sample)
- National level NGO with core programming promoting women's rights and gender equality (25 percent of survey sample)
- International NGO programme offices/country teams with core programming promoting women's rights and gender equality (15 percent of survey sample)

If you are interested in sharing your views about what UN Women should do in your country, please send a short e-mail with your contact details and the requested information (see next page) to Hady Klaassen at KL@mdf.nl. The deadline for expressions of interest is Wednesday 29th of September

First regional conference on Advancing Young Women Leaders

The Lebanese American University in collaboration with the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) invites submission to the 1st regional conference on Advancing Young Women Leaders in the Arab Gulf States.

The conference will take place on November 28 - 30, 2010 in Beirut - Lebanon

Conference Theme: The major theme of the conference is to advance the capacities of young women leaders in the Arab Gulf States to advocate for:

- Early girls' education
- Equal social security laws
- Equal employment opportunities
- Women starting and managing small businesses.
- Establishing women associations' networks

Participants will receive an airplane ticket, accommodation and the program fees will be waived.

Participation Guidelines: This conference is a platform for exchanging expertise, visions, and practical experiences among young women leaders and practitioners from the Gulf States.

Papers and proposals should focus on practical projects and ideas that aim to advance the status of women in the community and highlight good leadership practice.

The papers/proposals should be between 2000-4000 words and should examine and address one or several conference topics.

Submissions should include the following sections in either English or Arabic:

- Title page
- Abstract or executive summary of 200 words
- Background description of the topic and its importance,
- How the topic is relevant to the conference themes,
- Review of research and work done in the country or the region,
- What are the lessons learned,
- What is still needed to be done and why,
- How can young women leaders in the Gulf country be involved,
- What is the proposed action plan,
- A short biography of yourself

k. Contact information

All conference presentations should be made in Arabic with brief English summaries.

Participants Selection: 15-20 papers will be selected and successful applicants will be awarded a 3 day travel grant to Beirut-Lebanon to attend and present their work (November 28 - 30, 2010).

Deadline for proposal submission: September 30, 2010

Notification of acceptance: October 4, 2010

Email your paper or inquiry to the attention of Dr. Nabelah Haraty: ywl@lau.edu.lb or visit our website: www.ywl.lau.edu.lb

Anna Lindh Foundation grants

The Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures, based in Alexandria, Egypt, is an international organization registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

During the Heads of State and Governments' Summit of Paris (July 2008) and the following Euro-Med Ministerial Meeting of Marseille (November 2008), the Anna Lindh Foundation was recognized as an institution of the Union for the Mediterranean. Its overall aim is the promotion of intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity. The Foundation shall bring the people of the region together for better understanding and sharing common values.

The Anna Lindh Foundation functions as a network of 43 national networks. In order to fulfill its objectives, the ALF supports - through grants - the projects submitted by the members of its networks.

In this framework, Calls for Proposals are an instrument to mobilise the National Networks and support the implementation of concrete actions of the Euro-Mediterranean civil society; these actions should generate multi-

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plying effects beyond the completion of the granted proposal.

The present Call for Proposals is funded through the financial contribution of the Euro-Med governments.

In a context of rapid internationalization of economies and cultural production, globalization causes an important increase of inter- and transnational migration flows. Diversity and migration are nowadays major challenges in the Euro-Mediterranean area. The region has indeed become a laboratory for identities, integration and diversity management, where the traditional South-North challenge is evolving into a more complex context. Stereotypes and stigmatization

are concerns that have to be tackled; at the same time, the role of the migrant as a major mediator for intercultural understanding and dialogue in the region is becoming the more and more significant. It is for these reasons that the ALF has made of Cities, Migrants and Diversity its priority field of action for the 2010 Call for Project Proposals.

Deadline for receiving proposals in response to the Call is the 1st of November 2010, at the address of the ALF Secretariat, at 16.00 hrs Egypt time.

For registering and more information go to <http://www.euromedalex.org/user/register>

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نتقدم بمناسبة مرور 48 عاماً على قيام ثورة ال 26 من سبتمبر المجيدة
بأسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات إلى

فخامة الأخ / علي عبدالله صالح رئيس الجمهورية

ولأبناء الشعب اليمني على النجاحات التي تحققت لليمن في ظل مسيرة التنمية و البناء
كل عام والجميع بخير

On the Occasion of 48 Anniversary Revolution September 26th
We present our heartfelt congratulations to
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President of the Republic of Yemen

Government and Yemeni People
on the progress and achievement that occurred for the modern Yemen
Wishing Yemen a prosper peace on the development process
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Mr Norbert Groeschner
The General Manager and all staff

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المدير العام وكافة موظفي أو أم في-يمن

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١٤ أكتوبر
٢٠ نوفمبر
٤٨ العيد
٤٧ العيد
٤٣ العيد

Traffic jams and poor directions Yemeni firefighters' worse nightmare

By: Abdullah Bamoshmoosh and
Khaled Al-Hilaly
For the Yemen Times

Almost every boy's dream is to become a policeman, pilot or firefighter. Yemeni children are no exception. However, the reality of a firefighter's everyday work is perhaps not what young children imagine.

Firefighters are exposed to many dangers while on their missions. The most common danger they face in Sana'a is the smoke in basement fires. Stores that randomly store dynamite are another common and extreme danger.

The personnel from the Sana'a fire brigades recall the fire at the oil pipeline earlier this year in Khawlan, on the outskirts of the capital. It took them 48 hours to put it out.

"Firefighters don't have special insurance, they are treated like normal soldiers," said Fire Brigade Chief General Naji Saleh Al-Sadi.

"A very big problem in Yemen is the difficulty in finding the exact place of the fire," said Khaled Al-Sharahi, head of public relations at the fire brigade.

The streets in Sana'a are not numbered and when firefighters receive a call to inform them about a fire in the city, they ask for a landmark like a recognizable building or mosque, according to Al-Sadi.

Traffic jams in the streets and the reluctance of some drivers to make way for fire brigade vehicles delay the arrival to fire sites. The addresses given by callers reporting fires are often not specific and this takes up precious time in looking for the site.

The fire brigade informs the Ministry of Health or the Police Hospital to send an ambulance to the fire site.

"The main cause of fires inside and outside of Sana'a is negligence and the improper use of dangerous materials like gas and oil," Al-Sadi told the Yemen Times.

Some months are worse than others, but the number of fires during the summer time is higher because children are not in school and sometimes start fires by accident.

In June 2009 alone, the Civil Defense Authority reported 70 domestic fires in the republic injuring 37 people of whom 13 were children, and with a total material loss of around YR 35 million. The following month, two people were killed and 28 injured in fires which destroyed material items worth more than YR 77 million.

The authority's report shows that during 2008, 452 non-arson fires took place around the republic, killing 31 people and injuring 185. The fires caused a total loss of around YR 962 million. A large proportion of the fires – 140 in total – were in the capital city. Most fires took place during the day time with only 24 percent occurring at night.

Al-Sadi said that because of prank calls, the fire brigade's operations respond only to calls coming from a land line telephone and that the caller should always give their name and the address of the fire. Personnel from the Civil Defense Authority can call from any number to report a fire.

"We don't respond to calls from mobile phones because we cannot make sure they are not hoax calls," Al-Sadi added.

The fire brigade has both small and large fire vehicles. Both are equipped with four types of extinguishing materials: water, carbon dioxide, powder and foam. Each different material is used for a specific type of fire.

Firefighters are ready to go 24 hours



A fire in a shoe factory in the Sa'wan district, Sana'a. The fire took place on June 4, 2010, and caused financial losses of more than YR 60 million.

a day. Each group is composed of 40-50 personnel and the vehicle accommodates seven to eight people. Each group is divided into two, with one ready to respond at a moment's notice, whilst the other relaxes.

"On a daily basis, firefighters go on missions from different branches in Sana'a," he said.

Citizen involvement

According to the Civil Defense Authority, educated involvement from citizens always helps them do their work.

One brave example was in December last year when 18-year-old Mohammad Hajza carried a flaming gas cylinder outside of a house before it

exploded. He acted instantly, even quicker than the firefighters who were standing reluctantly outside.

But then the firefighters completed the heroic act and stopped a potential disaster as they extinguished the gas cylinder and adjacent areas that had also caught on fire.

"Had the cylinder exploded it could have caused severe damage not only to my house, but neighboring houses as well," said Ahmed Al-Khamisi the house owner. "The fire was caused by leaking gas and because of the narrow streets, the firefighters could not come closer than 200 meters with their truck."

It was only with the help of locals that the firefighters managed to extin-



Firefighters are ready to go 24 hours a day. Each group is composed of 40-50 men. In each vehicle there are 7-8 people. One group stays ready, while the others relax.

guish the fire completely.

"This is why we conduct several awareness sessions and training for the general public. We need their help so we try to give them the know-how," said General Abdullah Al-Hamili, deputy director of the Civil Defense Authority.

Training to be a firefighter is first a year at police school, then another 3-4 months at the Civil Defense Authority, said Al-Hamili.

He added that the training involves both a physical and psychological component, that helps the firefighter learn how to control the situation and take the proper decisions.

Other tasks undertaken by the civil defenses is to assist in rescues during

floods, earthquakes and car accidents.

They also make sure that every place has its own capabilities to limit the damage caused by fire. They make sure every place has its own working fire extinguisher, installed fire warning systems and fire escape ladders.

The Civil Defense Authority organizes activities in schools to teach children the dangers of fire, and safe procedures they should take in case there is fire, according to Al-Sharahi.

"For example, we conduct games in which every child has to talk about what they must do during a fire," he said. "We have educated more than 398,000 Yemenis in schools, companies and governmental institutions on how to deal with fire."

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ممثلة برئيس مجلس إدارتها

المهندس / عبدالله أحمد سعيد بقشان

بأسمى عبارات التهاني والتبريكات إلى فخامة الأخ الرئيس /

علي عبدالله صالح رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى أبناء الشعب اليمني بمناسبة الذكرى الـ 48 لثورة الـ 26 من سبتمبر

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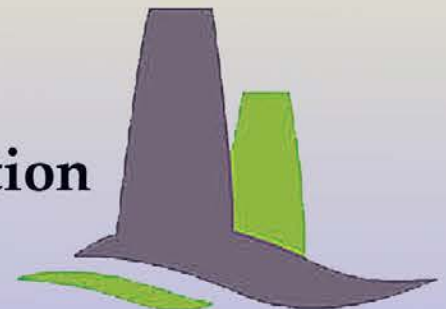
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H.E.President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

and to all people of Yemen on the 48th
anniversary of 26th of September Revolution

Many Happy Returns



الشركة العربية اليمنية للأسمنت المحدودة
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Words of Wisdom



The fall-out from technology advances, notably globalization, is clearly ahead of us. We need to grapple with this and the sooner we assess the issues and decide on what we need to do, the better prepared we will be. A main component of globalization is liberalization.

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

OUR
OPINION

Ashoka Fellows

The Friends of Yemen, an international governmental initiative launched in January this year to rescue Yemen, have just met in New York to discuss, agree and disagree on how to help Yemen.

The joint statement of the meeting declared – in not so many words – that with Western technical help and Saudi money they would do the following:

- Continue with the International Monetary Fund program which is basically about reducing subsidies – mainly those for oil
- Continue with the national dialogue and have a multi-party parliamentary election in April next year
- Synchronise donors' support and policies
- Establish a GCC office in Sana'a to manage incoming gulf money
- Implement Yemen's 2008 decentralization strategy
- Achieve peace in Sa'ada
- Fight corruption and provide all Yemenis with access to the legal system
- Fight terrorism, piracy and protect borders

The statement even talked about human rights, water, vocational training and establishing a development fund.

This long ambitious wish list will be reviewed again in February next year in Saudi Arabia. This is less than five months away. I am not sure how much progress will be made by then, but the sense of urgency is very visible.

The government of Yemen, however, despite its commitment to all these aims continues to play the terrorism card. How else should we explain the timing of the clamp down on Jihadis in Shabwa – during the conference days – and the arrest of 28 Al-Qaeda suspects?

In my opinion, there is more to reform than top-down strategies driven by external pressures. Although I value the work and intentions of Yemen's friends, I can't help but notice the lack of civil society involvement in turning Yemen into a better and more secure country.

A marvelous good read is the Pulitzer Prize winner publication "Half The Sky" by journalists Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl Wudunn. The book talks about women's suffering around the world, with examples and success stories created by admirable change agents. All of those change agents are either former victims or people touched by the victims' sufferings who decided to do something.

But more than anything, the book stresses on the importance of supporting social entrepreneurs in every society. Page 54 of the book reads:

"Social entrepreneurs are not content just to give a fish or to teach how to fish," says Bill Drayton, a former management consultant and government official who popularized the idea of social entrepreneurship. "They will not rest until they have revolutionized the fishing industry."

Drayton is the founder of Ashoka, an organization that supports and trains social entrepreneurs around the world. They are called Ashoka Fellows, and there are now more than two thousand of them – many involved in women's rights campaigns.

The point here is that every change, whether economic, political, social... is based on cultural change. Cultural change can only happen from within and through society based movements led by local change agents such as the Ashoka Fellows.

Yemen does need the support of other governments and definitely needs their financial support. But for real change to happen, Yemeni people need empowerment just as they need democracy and fair trials. Empowerment is not cliché and can not be overstated. For example, what's the point of having multi-party elections if the citizens don't believe or understand the significance of voting?

Yemen's friends should consider befriending its people as well, and showing more interest in its potential Ashoka Fellows, as much as they are interested in its government officials.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Friends of Yemen: Tie aid to human rights

By: Letta Tayler
The Huffington Post

This Friday, New York will host a ministerial gathering of Friends of Yemen, an international group formed to address political and economic conditions that have provided fertile ground for Al-Qaeda in the troubled Arab country. To be effective, it is critical that Friends not ignore Yemen's serious human rights abuses in their understandable eagerness to confront the terrorist threat within its borders.

The work of Friends – which include key western and Gulf states such as the US, the UK and Saudi Arabia – acquires greater urgency as the Obama administration contemplates a \$1.2 billion increase in counterterrorism aid to Yemen and possible CIA drone strikes against suspected militants. Unless the US and Friends condition military and economic assistance on human rights improvements, they risk alienating Yemenis who might view such support as condoning abuses.

Friends of Yemen was formed in response to the attempted Christmas Day attack on a US airliner by a Nigerian student who was allegedly trained by Yemen's Al-Qaeda branch. Since that bombing attempt, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh has increased efforts to rout Al-Qaeda. The president in February also reached a ceasefire with northern Houthi rebels following years of conflict that greatly harmed the civilian population. He also has offered to conduct peace talks with a southern separatist movement.

Although the northern ceasefire generally

holds, confrontations between government forces and southern separatists have grown increasingly violent. Meanwhile, credible reports persist of the arbitrary arrest, unlawful detention, and ill-treatment of alleged rebels, separatists and terrorists. In addition, the Saleh government has continued an intimidation campaign it launched last year against journalists and political dissidents. The tone of this campaign was set in January, when, within days of President Barack Obama's expressions of support for President Saleh, Yemeni security forces opened fire on hundreds of protestors peacefully demanding the reopening of the country's largest independent newspaper, Al-Ayyam.

Yemen's intelligence and security forces appear to have rounded up many critics under the guise of counterterrorism operations. In August for example, government counterterrorism forces arrested a journalist who reports on security issues and a cartoonist friend and held them incommunicado for 20 days. The journalist, Abdulilah Al-Shay'i of the official Saba news agency, appeared bruised at his first court hearing a month after his arrest and said government forces had beaten him.

Prosecutors cited evidence that Al-Shay'i had interviewed Al-Qaeda members and sympathizers in accusing him of being a media propagandist for the group. Among those Al-Shay'i had interviewed was Anwar Al-Awlaki, a radical cleric whom the US has reportedly targeted for killing. By that standard, the well-known American journalist Peter Bergen, who interviewed Osama bin Laden for CNN in 1997, would also be behind

bars. Prosecutors have offered no evidence against the cartoonist, Kamal Sharaf.

Some of President Saleh's counterterrorism efforts have caused civilian casualties and displaced tens of thousands of people in the south. This has angered local populations including southern separatists, even though many of them have a history of opposition to Islamic terrorism and are struggling against the Yemeni government, not the US. That in turn has generated sympathy between Islamist militants and some separatists that al Qaeda is exploiting.

For example, after a US-assisted missile strike last December against suspected al Qaeda camps in southern Abyan province killed at least 41 civilians, many of them women and children, some separatists denounced the strike as an attack on their movement.

Another US-assisted attack in central Marib province in May 2010 killed a deputy governor rather than the al Qaeda member who was targeted, prompting retaliation by the victim's tribe that included attacks on strategic pipelines.

Then, in August, the government launched a three-week shelling campaign against al Qaeda in Lawdar, a town in Abyan province that is also home to separatists. Media reports said most of the attack's three dozen victims were Al-Qaeda or security forces but it also damaged hundreds of homes and temporarily displaced tens of thousands of people. Then, earlier this week, the government attacked suspected Al-Qaeda members in the town of Hawta in southern Shabwa province, resulting in the displacement of thousands of families.

Southern movement leaders have issued statements equating the attacks in Lawdar and Hawta with attacks on all southerners. At a protest in the southern capital of Aden on Thursday, some southerners accused the government of targeting them under the pretext of fighting terrorism.

The US and its allies have called on President Saleh to respect human rights. But by participating in Yemeni counterterrorism measures while failing to take more concrete steps to end Saleh's repressive tactics, these countries fuel Al-Qaeda's narrative that they condone the Saleh government's abuses.

Already, many Yemenis fear their government more than they fear Al-Qaeda. And many say they are far more concerned about grinding poverty, massive unemployment and the country's depleting reserves of oil and water than they are about routing America's Most Wanted.

On Friday, the Friends of Yemen will discuss ways to help the country improve its economy and security, as well as foster good governance, justice and the rule of law. They should make this assistance contingent on President Saleh improving human rights. Friends also should press for accountability for violations by all sides in Yemen and push for the United Nations to establish a human rights monitoring and reporting mission in Yemen to help constrain abuses.

If they fail to take such steps, Friends risk galvanizing support in Yemen for the very forces they are trying to weaken.

Letta Tayler is terrorism and counterterrorism researcher, Human Rights Watch

What it means to be a Houthi

The divided house of Zaydism (part 2/2)

By: Paula Mejia and Atef Alshaer
The Majala

Attack and defense

In 1994, Houssein Al-Houthi fled to Syria and then Iran. In Iran Houssein experienced the Iranian economic system and the ideological formation which sustains the Islamic Republic firsthand. Upon his return to Yemen, he deserted the Al-Haqq party because it no longer appealed to him for its lack of enthusiasm to challenge the Yemeni government. The Al-Haqq party was no longer, if ever, radical enough in its opposition.

Consequently, in 1997 Houssein Al-Houthi founded the "Believing Youth Party," or 'Shabab Al-Mu'mineen'. The formation of the new party took ideological cues from the Iranian revolution. It organised summer camps where children received ideological and revolutionary education, exhorting people against the Yemeni state and depicting America and Israel and other Arab regimes in the area as enemies of Islam.

In the style of Hizbollah, Al-Houthi and his followers collected Zakat and founded charities, creating in effect what amounts to state-within-state institutions inside Yemen so that, in time, the Houthis might be able to challenge the Yemeni government and impose their political ideology consequently gaining more power in Yemen. Houssein wanted to create a self-sufficient economic system which will sustain his followers and

force the Yemeni government to surrender to the Houthis' demands. The impact of these measures were particularly important because of the lack of development in Yemen. In a country where only 55 percent of the population is literate, and where 20 percent of the population dies before reaching the age of 40, these measures implied a noticeable improvement in their standard of living. It was in this way that Al-Houthi and his movement grew increasingly powerful.

It was not only economic assistance by Houssein to the Houthis that increased the support for him, but also the charismatic character of Houssein himself, who gave revolutionary sermons in the mosques. In these sermons, Houssein portrayed the Yemeni government as subservient to America and Israel and highlighted the example of the Lebanese movement Hizbollah. It was through his comparison to these actors that an important aspect of the conflict developed – its relations to movements and influence from neighbouring states.

A dance with Ayatollahs

The Yemeni conflict, and thus the true meaning of what being a Houthi entails, is complicated yet again by the ties the rebels and the government have with other countries in the region. The government accuses the rebels of being allied to Iran as well as the Lebanese Hizbollah. On the other hand, the Houthi leaders denounce the government's close

ties to the US, as well as Saudi interferences through the funding of the government and of local tribes.

In other words, the conflict in Yemen is also being presented by the parties involved in the fighting as a Saudi-Iranian proxy war. Although concrete claims of foreign involvement in the conflict are difficult to prove, it is true that the region has been significantly affected by the competitive relationship between Riyadh and Tehran, especially during the Iran-Iraq war.

If history is known for repeating itself, then the tense relationship between the Iran and Saudi Arabia could be worsened by Iranian ascendancy in the region, particularly through its influence in Palestine and Lebanon. The same could be said of the impact of alleged Shiite irredentism in Saudi Arabia. Because the war in Yemen has a sectarian dimension to it, there has been an opportunity for conflicting interest between outside players to develop throughout the course of the war. But to what extent is this group truly allied with Iran?

The historical roots of the conflict are deeply connected to the ideological void that the Zaydis felt following the fall of the last Imamate. With the absence of an Imam, scholars had to compensate for this loss and in some way manage to revive their legitimacy. This task became easier with the outcome of the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran which provided Shiites throughout the Muslim world with an alternative model of government. It is true that the Houthis' original leader, Houssein Al-Houthi, travelled to Iran during his exile, and was significantly influenced by the teachings of Ayatollah Khomeini. Yet, the claims that he was a follower of Khomeini are hard to prove. Instead, Al-Houthi's experience in Iran created more of a mimic. Thus, while Iran has played an important role in the ideological dimension of the Yemeni conflict, the extent of its influence should not be over exaggerated.

The pursuit of happiness

When the writers of the Declaration of Independence were setting out to delineate the foundation of American principles they were faced with a difficult decision. Understanding that wealth could not be promised to everyone, but acknowledging the importance of equity for the stability and growth of a country, they declared instead that all men were deserving of "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness". In many ways, for Yemen to be able to re-establish its title as the Happy Yemen, it will have to live up to a

similar promise it makes its own people in the 1994 Constitution.

There it declares that "the national economy of Yemen is founded on freedom which benefits the individual and society and enhances national independence." The factors that delineate the Houthi movement make it clear that the conflict between the Houthis and the Yemeni government is symptomatic of the state's inability to provide sufficient development for the different social strata within the country. Since it was united in 1990, Yemen has not ceased to experience violent upheavals whether on its northern or its southern fronts. The problem of Yemen is not only related to ideology. Yemen suffers from grinding poverty, which manifests itself in ideological movements, such as the Houthis.

Though several agreements were signed between the government and the Houthi movement to put an end to the fighting, none of them lasted longer than a few months. On the one hand, the Yemeni government feels that it needs to showcase its supreme authority in Yemen, lest other potential groups rise up against it and undermine its authority. On the other, Yemen, with its limited resources, is incapable of providing economic welfare for its citizens. It acts in congruence with regional and international alliances that do not always provide the suitable answer for the problems of Yemen, or other countries for that matter.

Subsequently, the fighting between the Houthis and the Yemeni government will not settle down peacefully. It is more likely that the Yemeni will end this conflict through the use of force as it currently aims to through Operation Scorched Earth. The Houthis are small in number, and though nestled in mountains and rough hideouts, do not have much power to confront the Yemeni forces for a lengthy period of time; though it is interesting that they have held the ground for so long in their fighting against the Yemeni State.

The fact that the Houthis do not enjoy the full support of the Zaydi community from which they hail and are inspired by outside powers that do not share contiguous space with them, put the Houthis at a great disadvantage. The Houthis are by far not the only problem that the Yemeni government faces today, yet they represent the extensive list of grievances caused by underlying tensions within Yemen's society. Understanding who the Houthis are, and why they are fighting the government, thus highlights the importance of economic and community development Yemen requires



By: Hamid

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The UAE beyond Abu Dhabi and Dubai?

Emirati business people attempt to shine an international light on the 'other emirates'.

By: Adam Gonn
The Media Line

As Dubai and later Abu Dhabi have developed into internationally recognized hubs for business and trade over the last 10 to 15 years, the five remaining emirates that make up the United Arab Emirates have been left behind.

However, during the last couple years Dubai has been busy dealing with the fallout of the global financial crisis and other emirates have taken the crisis as an opportunity to grow.

The United Arab Emirates was founded in 1971 when the seven emirates of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al-Quwain, Ras Al-Khaimah and Fujairah merged to form a unified state, with the city of Abu Dhabi chosen as its capital by virtue of it being home to the largest tribe – Al Nahyan – despite city of Dubai being the largest city.

Having the largest tribe also meant that Abu Dhabi became the biggest of the emirates, which proved invaluable since oil had been discovered in the newly founded country by the British.

As a result, Abu Dhabi could preserve its more conservative charter, while Dubai – with its well-situated port – embarked on a diversification drive under the leadership of Sheikh Muhammad to broaden the emirate's economic base to include more than just oil. This has led to Dubai's current status as a regional center for trade and business, as well as a tourist destination with a more liberal view than its neighbor Dubai.

The five other emirates, however, have not done as well.

"The emirates of Abu Dhabi and Dubai represent almost 90 percent of the United Arab Emirates GDP [Gross

Domestic Product]," Philippe Dauba-Pantanacce, senior economist with Standard Chartered Bank in Dubai, told The Media Line.

"If we add the emirate of Sharjah, which acts essentially as an industrial backyard extension and a cheaper housing option to Dubai, then the four other emirates don't even represent five percent of the United Arab Emirates Gross Domestic Production," he said.

Ayesha Sabavala is an economist specializing in the Middle East & North Africa for the Economist Intelligence Unit agrees that Dubai is playing a leading role economically in the region.

"Most major companies have established offices mainly in Dubai because Dubai has built itself into a trading hub and free zones like [the port of] Jebel Ali and business environments like the Dubai International Financial Center offer facilities that you won't find in the smaller emirates," Sabavala said.

But some Emirati business people are trying to turn the tables, like Oussama El Omari, CEO of Ras Al-Khaimah Free Trade Zone, home to some 4,000 companies currently enjoying, on average, a 10 percent surge in revenue.

"The factors that helped us to continue to grow are our keen customer focus, innovation, affordability and flexibility," El Omari told The Media Line.

"Customers are the major stakeholders in Ras Al-Khaimah Free Trade Zone success and we are constantly striving to provide them with better business solutions, infrastructure, technology and support," he said. "We adopt a customer-centered approach and a 'can do' attitude."

Ras Al-Khaimah Free Trade Zone has also established business centers and promotional offices in Dubai and Abu Dhabi and is the first free trade zone to open international liaison offices in India, Turkey, Germany,

USA and China.

"Our services are provided in these markets to make it easier for them to penetrate the United Arab Emirates market and surrounding regions, without the hassle of travelling back and forth to the United Arab Emirates," El Omari said.

"Our focus on small and medium enterprises and especially those with an eye to doing business in emerging markets makes great economic sense for us," he said. "Flourishing small- and medium-sized industries encourage private ownership, which in turn, provide employment opportunities to the local population."

Sabavala from the Economist Intelligence Unit said that the focus on small- and medium-sized firms could be a good strategic move.

"It's true that Sharjah and Ras Al-Khaimah have their own free [trade] zones and Ras Al-Khaimah especially is trying to attract more foreign investment, but they don't compare to Jebel Ali," she said. "You've also got all the ancillary businesses, such as law firms established in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, thereby making it much easier to access these services when necessary."

"That said, smaller companies might well find it cheaper to operate from the five emirates other than Dubai and Abu Dhabi as rents and business costs are lower in these emirates," Sabavala added.

"I don't think the other five emirates are overlooked, simply because they do not offer the facilities, the financing, the business environment and the infrastructure that Dubai and Abu Dhabi offer," she told The Media Line.

El Omari says that the outside world does not overlook the smaller emirates when planning their business establishment in the region.

"There is a healthy demand for our services as you can see from our results," he said. "Year after year we are seeing an increase in revenue and registration despite the economic

crisis. I don't think it is a case of overlooking the smaller emirates; it is more about targeting the businesses that are relevant to each emirate."

"For example, for us we are focusing on small and medium enterprises," El Omari reiterated. "Therefore, we would only focus our promotional efforts to our targeted market. That doesn't mean that we are losing out on the bigger projects."

Dauba-Pantanacce with Standard Chartered Bank said that while Ras Al-Khaimah has been successful its growth potential is limited.

"We have seen a few businesses expressing some opportunistic interests in the northern emirate of Ras Al-Khaimah," he said. "Indeed, the emirate has often been seen as offering preferential treatments in terms of regulatory environment: easier access to visas, very favorable fiscal environment, and port operations greatly facilitated."

"But things have to be put into perspective," said Dauba-Pantanacce. "The other emirates cannot realistically represent an alternative to Dubai or Abu Dhabi for businesses."

"The economic activity is overwhelmingly in these two emirates and their wealth will surely continue to attract more new business opportunities," he said. "Furthermore, the infrastructure level of the 'other emirates' is very far from being any closer to the development achieved in both Dubai and Abu Dhabi. In fact, even in the slightly richer and more active economically emirate of Sharjah, we are witnessing today massive disruptions in all activities because of repeated and prolonged power shortages."

"Finally, the smaller, much poorer, northern emirates live under the infusion and control of Abu Dhabi; their autonomous ability to develop is fairly limited," he added.

UN: One in five Iraqis illiterate

The war-torn country attempts to improve educational infrastructure and combat school dropout.

By: David E. Miller
The Media Line

One in five Iraqis aged 10 to 49 cannot read or write, with large discrepancies in literacy levels between men and women, a report by United Nations has found.

The report, released by the UN Inter-Agency Information and Analysis Unit, found that illiteracy among women in Iraq (24%) is more than double that of men (11%) while inhabitants of rural areas are much more likely to be illiterate (25%) than those in urban areas (14%).

The areas worst affected by illiteracy are the Kurdish provinces of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah in Iraq's north, and the predominantly Shiite provinces of Wasset, Qadisiya and Muthanna in the south.

"In general, Iraq is one of the better countries in the region in terms of illiteracy," Nour Dajani, an education program specialist in Iraq for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), told The Media Line. "In the 1980's Iraq was recognized by UNESCO as achieving zero illiteracy. It was one of the few countries in the world to do so."

Dajani said that the UN financial sanctions imposed on Iraq in 1990 have had a disastrous effect on Iraq's educational system.

"Under the embargo they were not allowed to buy anything, including books and pencils," she said.

The US invasion of Iraq in 2003 and the prolonged state of war that ensued compounded the country's education crisis.

"Security affected literacy," Dajani added. "Parents were scared to send their girls to schools and many schools

were destroyed during the war. The Iraqi government now says that 4,000 new schools are needed."

Dajani cited significant school dropout levels and pupils' internal displacement as a result of the war as the principal reasons for illiteracy in Iraq. According to Iraq's National Bureau of Statistics, 55 percent of Iraqis aged 6 to 24 do not attend schools.

"Many drop out after fifth grade, when classes become more difficult," Dajani said. "They also drop out for economic reasons."

The UN report found that illiteracy impacts civilian attitudes regarding participation in social and political life. Illiterate youth in Iraq felt their voices were less heard in the country's institutions.

UNESCO hopes to reduce illiteracy in Iraq by 50% before the year 2015.

Several programs run by UNESCO in Iraq aim to reintegrate school dropouts in formal educational systems, as well as create parallel informal educational frameworks where literacy classes took place alongside vocational training.

A large-scale media campaign initiated by the Iraq's Ministry of Education is also planned to counter school dropout and inform Iraqis of the need for education.

Ali Al-Saffar, an expert on Iraq at the Economist Intelligence Unit said that the Iraqi illiteracy map clearly reflected political decisions made during the Saddam era.

"The areas more loyal to Saddam such as Diyala, Salah Al-Din and Anbar have much better literacy rates," he told The Media Line. "The investment in education was simply higher in areas loyal to him."

Al-Saffar added that the high illiteracy rate reflected ongoing underinvestment in education in Iraq.

"This is a legacy that has lasted for years," he said.

The United Nations defines literacy as the ability to read and write a simple statement related to daily life, as well as basic numeric skills.

Saudi bachelors pay to get into women-only malls

Gender segregation leads to men taking desperate measures.

By: Benjamin Joffe-Walt
The Media Line

You're a young guy with a few hours to waste. The sun is boiling. The tummy is starting to rumble and there in the distance, as if the higher forces had heard your call, is a glistening shopping mall with a food court and female shoppers that would make any mouth water.

But there is no entry says the guard, single men like you need to be with a female relative to enter these ramparts.

Enter an entrepreneurial young woman. "Wanna be my brother?" she propositions.

50 seconds and 50 Saudi riyals later and you are walking freely into the mall and riding up the shining escalators to the food court with your new 'sister'.

The practice of single men paying for a temporary, fake sister or mother as a tactic to gain entry to family-only malls in Saudi Arabia is on the rise.

Shopping malls, restaurants, amusement parks and public institutions in Saudi Arabia are strictly segregated by gender. There are shopping malls open only to women, shopping malls open only to men and shopping malls open only to families (i.e. immediate relatives).

"All the malls have the same stuff," Oda Dakhlalla, a 49-year-old professional translator told The Media Line. "So the only reason men would want to get into these malls is for flirting or to meet females."

Dr. Salah bin Abdulaziz Al-Nassar, secretary-general of the National Center for Youth Studies at King Saud University, argued that men paying women for help getting into malls was rare.

"It's not at all a common phenomenon," he told The Media Line. "I've heard that some of the girls are being paid to help some boys get into the mall, but my daughter is 18 and she told me she hasn't heard of any cases."

But Eman Al Nafjan, a Saudi female blogger, argued the phenomenon is growing and the reasons behind it more complex.

"It's very common, especially in the major malls that have large food courts," she told The Media Line. "There are almost no malls for men, and a lot of boys just want to shop, so it's a mixture of boredom and desperation."

"If you go in the morning or weekdays they won't stop you," Al Nafjan said. "But in the evenings and on the weekends they are very strict about not letting in Saudi men."

Saudi women say the going rate is 50 riyals (some \$13) for a woman to help a single man get into a mall, and the punishment if caught is negligible.

"Once they are inside, men always play all kinds of tricks," Wajihah Al-Huwaidar, a Saudi women's rights advocate told The Media Line. "Like if the religious police catch single men inside the men will just say 'my sister is in the bathroom'. If they catch them lying they will just kick them out of the mall."

Al-Huwaidar argued it was immoral for women to take money for help getting around Saudi segregation laws.

"Women do it all the time, but doing it for money is a new thing," she said. "It's not nice. Everyone should be able to go inside for free and they are using these men. Most of these guys are jobless anyway and they don't have much money."

"There are few places where young men can go to," Al-Huwaidar continued. "Everything is reserved for families, and if there is a place in a mall for men it is isolated and no fun. So I do it for free when I see young men wanting to go inside a mall to buy something and it says families-only."

But Al Nafjan argued that while the rule was problematic, it also protects women from harassment.

"I'm against it but at the same time I understand why they have that rule, because Saudi men are famous for harassing women," she said. "This complete segregation of the sexes is unnatural and makes men view women as objects. I've seen 50 year old men harass women and I've seen 16 year old boys do it. I've even been harassed by men when I had three kids with me and a baby in a stroller."

Saudi Arabia's strict patriarchal guardianship system requires all women to be represented by men, either their husband, father or son, in all public and official spheres of life. Women are not allowed to drive, inherit, divorce or gain custody of children, and cannot enter most public spaces without a male guardian.

Officers of the Commission for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice, the country's religious police, are tasked with enforcing the guardianship system.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Off sixty road, near Alawqaf complex

P.O. Box 551 Sana'a, Yemen

<http://www.undp.org.ye>

Phone: 00 967 1 448605-8

Fax: 00 967 1 448841



INVITATION TO BID

Invitation to Bid for the supply of Gas Chromatography unit for the United Nations Development Programme.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites potential suppliers to request a copy if the bidding documents (free of charge) from **September 27th to October 9th, 2010 at 15:00 P.M** to the following Address.

Ms. Samia Mohammed
United Nations Development Programme
Email: samia.mohammed@undp.org
Phone: 00 967 1 448605-8 ext: 123
Fax: 00 967 1 448841

The deadline for invited suppliers to submit their sealed bids to the UNDP Office in Sana'a is **Saturday October 30, 2010 at 14:00 P.M.**

SUPPLY REQUIREMENTS:
Gas Chromatography complete system
Consumables and spare parts for 2 years
Installation of equipment and its training
Delivery time: 8-12 weeks

Invitations to bid and any subsequent contracts will be issued in accordance with the rules and procedures of UNDP.

الأكاديمية العربية
للعلوم المالية والمصرفية
The Arab Academy
for Banking and Financial Sciences



Announcement

The Financial and Banking College – Sana'a In cooperation with The University of Science and Technology

Announces registration for the first term
of the academic year 2010/2011

For Higher Diplomas and Masters Degrees

In the following specializations:

First: Finance and Banking

- Accounting
- Islamic Banking
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- Banking
- Financial Markets

Second: Marketing and Business Administration (MBA)

- Business Administration in Arabic
- Marketing in Arabic
- Business Administration in English
- Marketing in English

Third: Information Systems

- Computer Information Systems

Registration until 29th September 2010.

Financial and Banking College – Sana'a – Western Sixty Meters Road – Administration Sciences College
Building at the University of Science and Technology
For information: Telefax: 01-530579, mobile: 711800777 – 711278904
www.aabfs.org - email: sana'acollege@aabfs.org

Internal Audit Manager



Job Description:

Felix Airways is looking for an Internal Audit Manager. This person coordinates and manages the internal audit assignments; leads in planning and conducting reviews of the financial status and operating procedures of the organization; and prepares written reports on findings and recommends improvements in policies, procedures and internal controls. This person operates under minimal supervision, with regular review of completed assignments.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Review of business and risk management processes and controls
- Investigate frauds, whistle-blowing reports and complaints (if any). Recommend remedial measures and conduct follow up audits to ensure their implementation
- Ensure reliability and integrity of financial and operating information
- Compliance with policies, plans, standards, laws and regulations which could have significant impact upon operations
- Evaluates measures taken to safeguard assets, including tests of existence.
- Evaluates the effectiveness of organizational structures to achieve corporate goals and ability of Management to plan, organize, direct and control its function

For all assigned audits:

- Adequately plan each audit assignment prior to commencing fieldwork
- Plan and conduct audit opening conference
- Perform field work and prepare work papers
- Interviews individuals to gain an understanding of the area being audited
- Inspects original documents to gather corroborating evidence
- Ensures accounting and results of operations are recorded in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards
- Ensures auditing procedures are performed in compliance with International Standards on Auditing
- Ensures that the system of internal control is operating efficiently and effectively
- Researches, identifies and communicates audit issues
- Plan and conduct audit closing conference

The skills, experience, and knowledge required to be considered for this position include:

- B.A./B.S. degree in Accounting is required
- Public accounting experience is required
- CPA / CA is required
- CIA is preferred
- Minimum of three years internal audit experience on the same position is required
- Experience in airline company is an advantage
- Proficient in speaking and writing Arabic and English
- Yemeni Nationals are encouraged to apply.



Interested candidate should send their CV to munawar@felixairways.com with CC to alahmadi@felixairways.com within one week from the advertisement date. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

٢ مليون ريال نقداً

والمئات من الجوائز القيمة

في السحب الأول والثاني ل
رحلة

المليون

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سيقام السحب في حديقة السبعين - صنعاء
يوم الجمعة ٢٠١٠/١٠/١ الساعة الرابعة عصراً



الرقم التجاني: ٨٠٠٧٠٠٠

مكة المكرمة

ألف ألف هبروك

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات نرفها

لأخ/

عادل محمد عبده الرماده

بمناسبة إرتزاقه المولود الجديد والذي أسماه

محمد

جعل الله قلبه عينا والبركة

المهنتون:

جميع الأهل والأصدقاء



ألف ألف هبروك

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات نرفها

لأخ/

عمر مخنار السقاف

بمناسبة إرتزاقه المولود البكر

جعل الله قلبه عينا والبركة

عماد رفيق السقاف. مجدي أبوبكر السقاف
نعمان الخضمي وكافة الأهل والأصدقاء

المهنتون



الشركة اليمنية للغاز الطبيعي المسال Yemen LNG Company



Job Vacancies

The Yemen LNG project involves the operation of a gas pipeline, a harbour and a liquefied natural gas processing plant at Balhaf on the Gulf of Aden which will export 6.7 million tons of LNG per annum. The project offices are based in Sana'a and it has an anticipated lifespan of over 20 years.

All candidates applying for these posts must be Yemeni nationals

1 Job Title: Heavy Vehicle Supervisor - Ref. No. 192
Department: Operations/Maintenance & Inspection
Work Location: Balhaf (Rotational)

Main Duties & Responsibilities

- Supervises and coordinates activities of garage administrator, mechanics, electricians and workers.
- Analyzes and resolves equipment problems, and assists mechanics in resolving equipment problems; using special diagnostic tools or device using or referring to technical manuals & drawings.
- Trains workers and demonstrates repair and maintenance of vehicles.
- Plans work procedures, following the IMS software using charts, technical manuals, and experience.
- Prepares work reports using IMS software, as directed by the BSS Manager.
- Assigns mechanics to performance expectations including but not limited to the following actions:
 - inspects and drives repaired vehicles to verify repairs;
 - raises vehicles, using hydraulic jack or hoist, to gain access to mechanical units bolted to underside of vehicle;
 - removes unit, such as engine, transmission, or differential, using wrenches, portable air hoist, and transmission jack;
 - disassembles units and inspects parts for wear, using micrometers, calipers, and thickness of gauges;
 - repairs or replaces parts, such as pistons, rods, gears, valves, and bearings using mechanics handtools;
 - overhauls or replaces Diesel engine, generators, Transmission, gearboxes, brake system, pneumatic system, Hydraulic system electrical system, starters, and alternators, etc...

Qualifications Required

- Qualified professional experienced in H/D mechanic, supervising the manpower and mechanical garage
- Minimum 6 to 10 years as foreman or supervisor position with 5 years experience on Toyota, Mercedes-Benz (ACTROS), MAN, JCB, JLG and Nissan vehicles like pick ups, land cruisers, Man Lifts, HIABS etc.
- Automotive Service Excellence endorsement of supervisory or technical courses, or making positive progress towards earning said endorsement
- basic skills and knowledge of computer program applications
- Good command of written and spoken English.

2 Job Title: Instrumentation Process Senior Technician - Ref. No. 193
Department: Operations/Maintenance & Inspection
Work Location: Balhaf (Rotational)

Main Duties & Responsibilities

- Receives assignments from the process instrumentation supervisor and liaises closely with production personnel whilst performing the job.
- Provides work direction and guidance to junior instrumentation technicians, obtains work permits and ensures the work is executed in accordance with Company safety rules and procedures.
- Carries out installation, maintenance, disassembly, cleaning, calibration, change and repair work on a variety of instrumentation equipment related to the installation by using a variety of tools and test equipment. Reports back on condition as found, time spent, work carried out, as left, material used, and any further action required for each job undertaken.
- Equipment includes among others pressure, temperature, flow, level, Ph and density sensors, switches, transmitters, controllers, indicators, solenoid valves, I/P & P/I, F&G instruments and any other kind of instrument.
- Participates in instrumentation equipment tests and ensures correct operation of the systems.
- Performs troubleshooting to check for faulty systems. Examines faulty instrumentation equipment, establishes requirements and completes fault finding to board level and changing out of faulty elements as required.
- Uses CMMS as a tool to plan and execute work, and update technical information for analysis and continuous improvement.
- Ensures up-to-date technical documents (P&IDs, cause and effect diagram, circuit drawings, etc).
- Maintains good housekeeping at work site and ensures tools and equipment are kept in good, safe operating condition. Replaces and stores tools in orderly and tidy manner.

Qualifications Required

- Higher Diploma, or equivalent, in a relevant technical discipline with professional experience in the Oil & Gas Industry plus formal training in control systems.
- 8 to 10 years' specific Maintenance experience in the oil refining, gas or petrochemical industry.
- High level of knowledge and specialized on instrumentation equipment (pressure, temperature, flow, level, Ph and density sensors, switches, transmitters, controllers, indicators, solenoid valves, I/P & P/I, F&G instruments, etc) maintenance.
- Experience in LNG would be preferable but not a must.
- Good command of written and spoken English.

3 Job Title: Network & Systems Engineer - Ref. No. 191 | Department: Finance/IST | Work Location: Sana'a

Main Duties & Responsibilities

The Network & System Engineer's role is to plan, organize and coordinate appropriate staff to ensure the stable operation of YLNG's IT infrastructure. This includes developing, maintaining, supporting, and optimizing network infrastructure, server configurations and data communications. The role will also include scheduling and execution of activities to resolve hardware and software problems in a timely and accurate fashion. Main activities and tasks include but are not limited to :

- Assess business requirements and plan, execute and control IT infrastructure activities within the IST department to ensure reliable IT infrastructure services for the company.
- Create work plans and prioritize scheduled tasks and projects to ensure timely delivery.
- Develop preventive maintenance plan for IT infrastructure systems.
- Create and maintain documentation relating to network and systems configuration, network mapping, processes, and service records.
- Develop, implement and maintain policies, procedures, and associated training plans for network and systems administration, usage, and disaster recovery.
- Lead the interaction and negotiation with vendors, outsourcers, and contractors to secure network and system-related products and services.
- Lead the design and deployment of company LANs, WANs, and wireless networks, including storage devices, servers, routers, L3 & L2 switches, firewalls, UTM's, WAN optimizers, load balancers and other hardware.
- Lead the design and deployment of new applications and enhancements to existing applications, software, and operating systems.
- Design and manage all network and industrial systems security solutions including firewalls, IPS, antispam, web filtering, antivirus and operating system updates.
- Design and perform server and security audits, system backup procedures, and other recovery processes in accordance with the company's disaster recovery and business continuity strategies.
- Monitor and test network and systems performance and provide performance statistics and reports.
- Integrate and manage servers, including active directory, database, e-mail, proxy, print and back-up servers and their associated OS software into Company's systems.
- Plan the required training and development of peers in the IT infrastructure team.

Qualifications Required

- University degree (B.Sc or M.Sc) in Engineering or Computer Science. • 5 years experience on Windows NT System Administration and MS Exchange.
- Supervisory experience in network engineering would be a plus • The job holder must have an updated working knowledge of the following technologies :
 - MS Windows 2008 Server - MS Windows 2003 Server including Active Directory. - MS Virtualization knowledge or similar virtualization environment - HP Proliant Servers and Blade Servers management. - HP SAN Management. - MS Exchange server. - Symantec Backup Exec. - GFI Mail Security, GFI Mail Essential and GFI end point security.
 - HP Systems Insight Manager - NOD32 Anti Virus Enterprise edition, MS Forefront or equivalent. - ISA Server. - Cisco CCNA level of knowledge is essential. - Cisco Firewall Management.
 - UTM Firewall Management.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- ☐ Visit Yemen LNG's website at (WWW.YEMENLNG.COM).
- ☐ Go to Careers, then to Vacancies to enter our Web Application System.
- ☐ Register your personal and professional data in order to log in and apply.

- ☐ Do not make duplicate applications by fax, etc.
- ☐ Yemen LNG Company will contact the selected candidates for interview and further assessment.
- ☐ Applicants who are not contacted have not been successful but can still apply for future positions.

Distributing images of cancer in Hodeida

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

A man's wide open mouth is plastered on the front of a burgundy brochure entitled "Cancer of the mouth." His upper left gum is deep red and swollen. Inside, a photo of a blotchy grey trates "cancer of the tongue" tumorous purple lips and danger of shamma, a sub to chewing tobacco che men in Yemen.

At an open symposium cancer of the womb – on cancer – before Ramadan participants were also given a leaflet on cancer of the mouth. The brochure was only those they were given by the National Cancer Control Foundation in Hodeida to tell them families about the causes of cancer.

The brochures are written in Modern Standard Arabic – although the illustrations are enough to scare anyone, matter their literacy – and are targeted at a literate population. For those who do not read or write, the foundation uses audio and to a certain extent television.

"We raise awareness on the radio, and somewhat less on television," Dr. Issa Al-Zabidi, medical director of the foundation, told the Yemen Times.

Starting in Ramadan 2010, a short series on the radio, they told the stories of cancer patients from Hodeida, to fundraise a campaign to build a cancer center like them. This Ramadan, they aired new stories of cancer patients on the same channel. According to Al-Zabidi, the money raised this year went to the headquarters of the foundation in Sana'a.

For the illiterate, said Al-Zabidi, the foundation organizes festivals, photo exhibitions, documentary screenings and presentations. They also distribute photos in mosques, for example, of the cancerous effects of shamma or pesticides.

"We want to ensure that all are aware in Hodeida because most people don't know much about cancer here," Al-Zabidi told the Yemen Times. "We have distributed brochures and newsletters about cancer to people, and have given a series of lectures on cancer in the districts of Hodeida governorate."

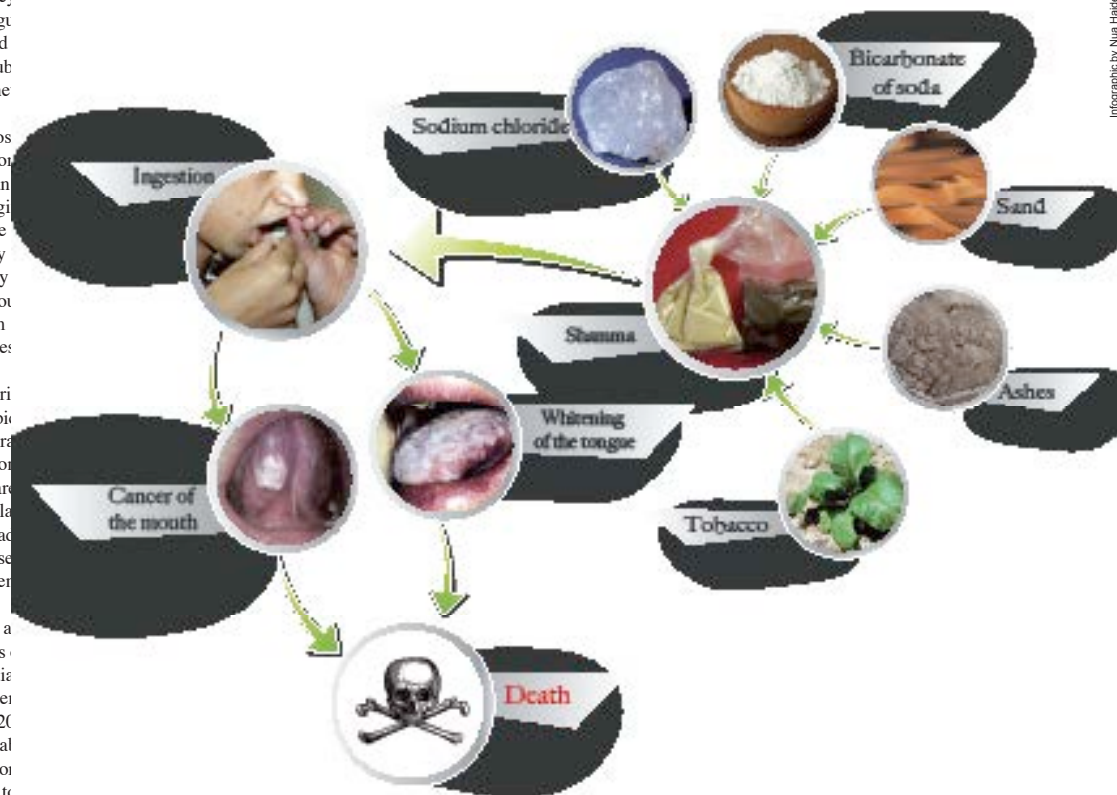
Twenty-thousand people in Yemen

have cancer and 60 percent of them die each year, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). In the poor governorate of Hodeida, there are no exact statistics about cancer patients, but cases of cancer increase day-by-day, according to Dr. Yasser Noor, the head of the National Cancer Control Foundation in

What the center does is provide diagnosis, lab tests, and medicine for free, according to the head of the foundation. It also plans to provide cancer patients with psychologists to help them. Until then, the center's staff members sometimes isolate more serious patients from the others to keep the majority confi-

When people hear that they have cancer they immediately get depressed and give up, thinking about certain death, he explained. They don't fight.

Children make up 30 percent of people with cancer in Hodeida. Some of them developed cancer due to pesticides or



Infographic by Nua Halder

lic. These are stories like those of the patients at the Amal Center for the treatment of cancerous tumors in Hodeida.

When the Yemen Times visited, several cancer patients were sitting in their beds. They seemed dejected and afraid of death. Most of them refused to speak with the newspaper about their ordeals.

The rooms in the center were calm and clean. There were televisions and air conditioning in all rooms for the patients, and nurses were available all the time. But according to the head of the center, the building lacks equipment needed for blood analysis and CAT scans. It also lacks equipment for the early diagnosis of breast cancer, according to Noor.

"Many women from Hodeida travel to Sana'a to be examined and this is very difficult," he said.

Towards more prevention

Yemeni cancer patients come to the center after serious complications, and some of them don't want to be examined because they are scared of the idea of cancer, according to Noor.

"Some even say that it's better to die without knowing that they have a cancer," he said.

"Unfortunately, most patients come to us when they know that they have cancer but they never come before for a check-up," said Noor. He urges more people to come to the center for a check-up when a potential cancer could be better treated instead of only turning up once their cancer has reached a critical stage.

"We visited all schools and colleges in Hodeida to make students more aware about cancer," he said.

cer.

In Hodeida, oral cancer is rampant among people due to the smokeless shamma tobacco as well as smoking and qat, according to Al-Zabidi, the foundation's media officer in Hodeida.

He indicated that many people use shamma that contains sand, powdered tobacco and has several chemical compounds like cement.

"Unfortunately, in Hodeida there is no equipment for early diagnosis," he said.

Yemenis are reluctant to discuss some types of cancer, but he told the Yemen Times that he was happy with the foundation's recent symposium about womb or uterine cancer.

"There are people who die due to cancer but they didn't know that they had cancer before their death," he said.

Green summer promises more crops

By: Ali Saeed

This summer in Yemen was different. It was very green, especially to the west of the capital Sana'a. On the drive from Sana'a to Hodeida, either side of the road stretched out like a piece of green cloth laid out especially to honor a guest. The splash of waterfalls either side of the tarmac played like music to the bus passengers' ears.

"It's amazing," said one of the passengers on the bus heading to Hodeida for the few days of Eid Al-Fitr holiday that follow the end of Ramadan.

Farmers told the Yemen Times that they are very happy this summer because they will be able to yield good produce.

Many arable areas in Yemen depend on the rain that often falls during the summer months. More than 70 percent of Yemenis who live in rural areas depend on agriculture as their main source of income.

They grow cereals, qat, and coffee in some cool areas. They raise livestock like sheep, cows and camels. They use the cereals as food for their families, sometimes selling any extra at the local market to be consumed locally. From the sheep and cows, they benefit from the milk, the meat and other dairy products extracted from the milk. They also sell the sheep and cows for cash.

When the summer is rainy, not only the crops but also the livestock benefit. Farmers collect grass fed by the rain and store it for drier days when it will be eaten by their animals.

Abu Anwar, a farmer in a small village in Al-Mahwit told the Yemen Times that this summer, he and other farmers in the area who grow cereals and peanuts will cultivate more than last year, as the year



Farmers hope that this summer's abundant rain will increase their produce and income.

before was dry and only a little rain irrigated the land.

"Last year, there was not a lot of rain like this year and for that reason we obtained very little outcome," he said.

He said that he expected this year to bring more harvest as this summer a lot of rain fell and plants are now in their final stage of growth.

Ahmed Al-Hadhri, director of the livestock wealth office in Melhan district of Al-Mahwit governorate, northwest of Sana'a, told the Yemen Times that this summer the west of Yemen including Al-Mahwit witnessed high rainfall. He said that this would probably increase the harvest compared to last year.

Some Al-Mahwit inhabitants have been clever in making use of the extra

rainwater. They dig three to five-meter deep rainwater cisterns in the ground. All underground cisterns are lined with stones that when cemented together preserve the water after the rainy season. Water in the cistern is used for washing, irrigation, and for livestock to drink.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Noman, professor in integrated water resource management at the University of Sana'a told the Yemen Times that in Yemen, experts and studies predict that climate change will lead to more rain in the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula that includes Yemen. However the professor said that is just a prediction.

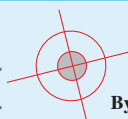
"A comparison with rainfall records in each station in the past will show if there is an increase or not," he said.

Al-Noman added that the records of rainwater stations in Aden and Sana'a so far indicate that there has been no increase, but a decrease of rain in both governorates.

He said that climate change may lead to a shift in rain patterns that cause many dangers such as flooding and soil erosion. Worldwide some areas will see an increase in rainfall while others will see a decrease.

He added that the shift in rainfall patterns affects agriculture as the rain does not fall in the seasons that farmers are used to. In addition, climate change affects the level of rainfall, and rain sometimes falls with high intensity during a short time and that affects some crops, according to Al-Noman.

HEALTH WATCH



By: Dr. Siva

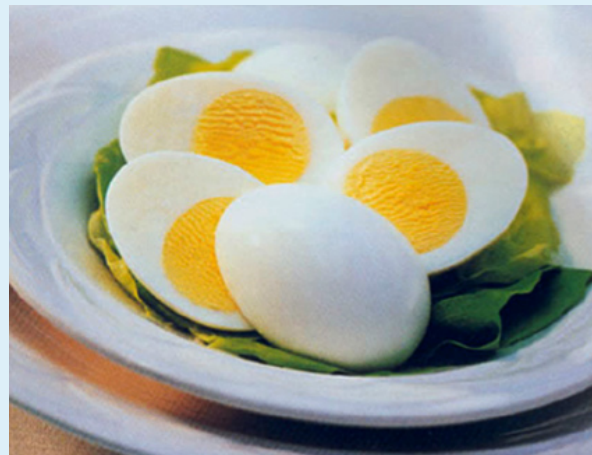


This weekly column is to disseminate health information to the readers in Yemen and outside. Dr. Siva is currently working at Aden Refinery Company Hospital. Life style diseases and cancer prevention are his special interests. Complementary medicine and naturopathy are his passions.

Eggs are good for your health

Fatima is a working woman and an excellent cook. She is a dedicated doctor at a Government hospital and a good housewife too. Her two school going kids are her top priority. In a packed lifestyle like hers it becomes time consuming for her to make breakfast every morning and then prepare lunch boxes for her sons. She discovered a simple and healthy way in nature's blessing called 'eggs'. She prepares boiled eggs or omelets for breakfast.

Consuming three or four eggs a week is good for health. Since eggs are available all year round, it is really easy to incorporate eggs in your diet. Eggs can be a delicious meal on their own. They are also essential ingredients in a number of recipes.



Eggs are whole foods and are packed with protein, fat, carbohydrates, and micronutrients as these are needed for the nourishment of a developing chick.

Egg contains 6 grams of high-quality protein (11.1 percent of the recommended daily value of protein), all 9 essential amino acids, iron, zinc, choline, lutein, zeaxanthin, folate and vitamin D. The yolk has about 300 micrograms of choline. Choline is a 'miracle' nutrient that helps regulate the brain, nervous system, and cardiovascular system.

The health benefits include:

Brain health boost: Eggs are rich sources of choline which is a key component of many fat-containing structures in our cell membranes. The body needs it in good supply to maintain good health. The human body cannot produce choline in adequate quantities. Choline is a main component of Phosphatidyl choline and sphingomyelin that account for a high percentage of the human brain's total mass. It is also a key component of acetylcholine, a neurotransmitter that carries messages to and from the nerves.

Fight inflammation: The choline in the eggs gives our body anti-inflammatory benefits. People whose diet consists of low levels of choline are prone to a wide range of conditions like osteoporosis, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, macular degeneration, cataracts, fatty liver, muscle damage and cognitive decline.

The body cannot function optimally with choline deficiency. It is also important that pregnant women must be conscious of their choline intake because choline is necessary for the brain development of the fetus.

Weight loss secret- eat eggs: Eggs are super high in protein and can help you burn that unwanted belly fat. They contain the vitamin B12 – a great supplement for breaking down fat cells.

Heart health: Choline converts homocysteine, a molecule that can damage your blood vessels, into other safe molecules and hence has a significant impact on cardiovascular health. Eggs are high in cholesterol, and health experts in the past counseled people to therefore avoid this food. (All of the cholesterol in the egg is in the yolk.) However, nutrition experts have now suggested that people on a low-fat diet can eat one or two eggs a day without measurable changes in their blood cholesterol levels. An Australian study reveals that eggs can improve the overall lipid profile.

Prevent blood clots: Blood clots often lead to stroke or heart attack and eating eggs may help you lower your risk for them. This is because the proteins that are present in the egg yolk can potentially inhibit human platelet aggregation and can prolong the time it takes for fibrinogen to be converted into fibrin. Fibrinogen is a protein found in blood while fibrin serves as the scaffolding in which clumps of white and red blood cells are deposited to form the much dreaded blood clot. The proteins found in eggs inhibit clot formation; the more egg yolks you eat, the lesser will be the blood clot formation in the vessels of the heart and brain.

Protect eyesight: The carotenoid lutein, which is said to help prevent cataracts and age-related macular degenerations, is in abundant supply in eggs. The lutein found in eggs is even higher than that found in spinach and other green leafy vegetables. Lutein from egg yolks is also best absorbed by human body compared to spinach and other lutein supplements. Eggs are also easily available and cheaper than commercially-prepared lutein supplements.

Aside from lutein, eggs are also rich in zeaxanthin, another vision-protective carotenoid. Eggs boost the levels of both lutein and zeaxanthin in the blood and reduce the risk of age-related macular damage.

Lower the risk of breast cancer: There is direct evidence that consumption of eggs, especially during adolescence, may lower the risk of breast cancer in women.

Apart from the classification of eggs according to sizes, there are countries that classify eggs according to quality. Whatever classifications of egg are available to you, the basic thing here is to buy fresh eggs and enjoy their health benefits. When you buy eggs, do not buy those with cracks or breaks and buy only from a reliable seller. It would also be wise to keep eggs refrigerated so that they stay fresh. It is also advised not to wash them because the washing process can remove the protective coating on the shells. When storing them, keep the pointed ends facing downwards in order to prevent the yolk and the air chamber from being displaced.

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Book review: The woman who fell from the sky

She was a woman who fell from the sky in robes of dew and became a city...

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

This is one of the few books that inform and entertain at the same time. It is an easy exciting memoir of a wild American female journalist working in a male dominated profession while living in a patriarchal conservative society. Not only does the narration take you into the details of the author's life, but also that of Yemeni women: Zuhra, as a parallel example of a strong woman who decides to overcome challenges and prove herself.

For those who know Yemen, the book is a delightful insight into the habits and culture of Yemenis from an outsider's perspective. It is even a fascinating read for Yemenis because it tells them how they are perceived by foreigners who come in close contact with them, as well

4U

For more information on the book check its Facebook profile:
<http://bit.ly/991CHn>

as a thought provoking story for why Yemenis do what they do.

Some of the details in the book are surprising to the extent of shock and shatters many stereotypes of Yemen or Yemeni people.

Throughout, the book is also full of hilarious moments that inevitably put a smile on your face, if not chuckle with laughter, especially if you know what the author is talking about.

If the reader has never been to Yemen, then it is a welcoming invitation to come and explore the country, keeping in mind the experience of Jennifer Steil and learning from her lessons. It talks about the relations and attitudes between Yemeni men and women, about social norms and practices, about religious beliefs and life during Ramadan the holy month of fasting. It is an interesting insight into the dynamics of the expatriate community in Yemen. The book also gives beautiful descriptions of historical and tourist locations and the beautiful "gingerbread" houses of Sana'a as she calls them.

The story is written in

"Stalagmites of astonishing length hang everywhere, like Stone Age chandeliers. A thousand dripping daggers of stone hang over my head. I've never seen anything like them. Around us crowd accidental statues and gargoyles in a Gothic sculpture garden. Pools of water form in bizarrely symmetrical basins. Cathedral ceilings stretch away into blackness. It is the Notre Dame of caves..."

— from *The WOMAN WHO FELL FROM THE SKY*.

beautiful descriptive language that makes the characters vivid in the imagination and you quickly relate to the characters despite the difficult Arabic names.

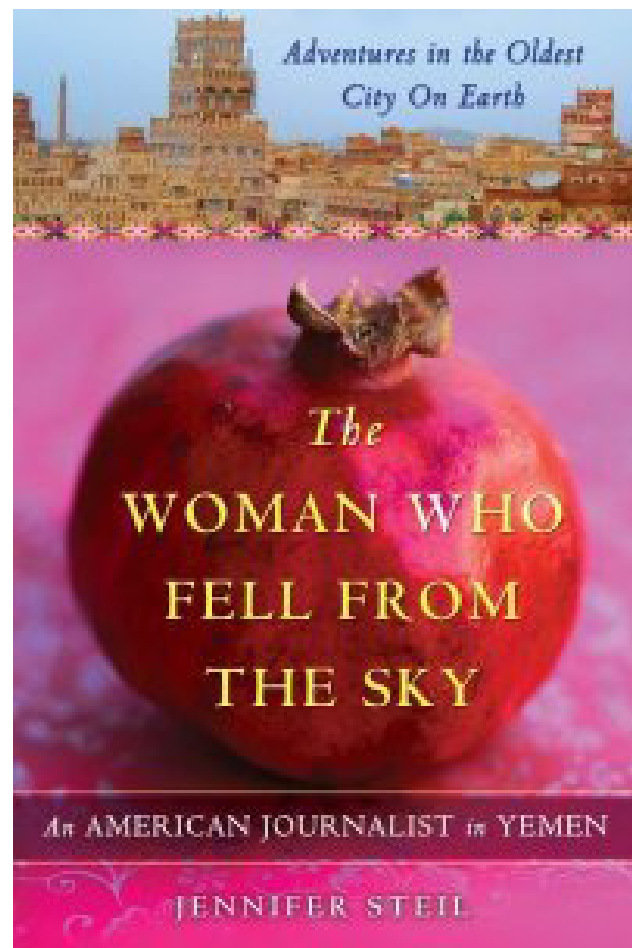
Most of the names used in this story are real, therefore it is an amusing read for Yemenis working in the media circle as it gives an insight into the day-to-day operations of the Yemen Observer, where much of the story occurs, and naturally its staff.

The story could easily be turned into an exciting movie.

Who should read this book:

Definitely every one working in the media in Yemen, starting with all the people mentioned in the story. It could also be interesting for tourists who are currently in Yemen and those interested in the country. It would also be a thought provoking story for researchers interested in Yemen who are studying the dynamics of the Yemeni society.

Because of Jenny's book, I have fallen in love with my country again, and my passion for creating change through journalism has been rekindled.



Pick rubbish up? But what are the street cleaners for?



Street cleaners collect rubbish from one of Sana'a's neighborhoods.

By: Malak Shafer

Carrying large slabs of marble on their shoulders, the workers on a building site off Hadda street in Sana'a just wanted to finish their day's labor. But they were creating an immense task for the street cleaners who would have to clear up after them.

Before taking the marble inside, they tore off the covers and threw them into the street.

Soon pieces of polystyrene were flapping in the wind. The whole place was a mess.

"What are the street cleaners for then?" asked one of five construction workers unwrapping the marble. "It is their duty to clean whatever is in the street - otherwise they do not need a monthly salary."

"We are going to make quilts out of them," another joked, as he pointed to the piles of polystyrene and cardboard that littered the ground.

The workers seemed convinced that they were doing no wrong but stopped talking when a sudden gust of wind carried the rubbish up into the air.

This scene is not unfamiliar for street

sweeper Othman Ali, 35. It is part of his everyday routine. Othman wakes up early in the morning to clean the street before people can see it filthy.

"What should I do?" he asked. "People do not feel for us. To live, I must keep cleaning for the eight hours assigned to me."

Othman, who works seven days a week, complained that while he sweeps people sometimes throw things in front of him.

Such behavior fills him with frustration and depression, especially when people know that he has to clean up after them.

To support his wife and three children, he receives a maximum monthly salary of YR 20,000- less than USD 100- at the end of the month. If he misses a single day it's automatically deducted from his salary.

Othman is one of more than 4,000 street cleaners in the capital Sana'a.

There are three shifts in general. The first is from 7 am till 11 am, the second from 2 pm to 6 pm and the third from 7 pm to 11 pm.

Each street cleaner works for two shifts according to what is specified by the cleaning administration at the municipality.



In Sana'a, polystyrene sheets carelessly discarded by construction workers fly up into the air (left), before finally settling in a main street (right).

The street cleaners of Sana'a work day and night to make the street tidy. But the streets often lie dirty as many people do not cooperate, throwing things in the street moments after the street cleaners have left the place clean.

In addition to street cleaners, the cleaning administration also has vehicles to collect the garbage from houses and shops.

"One day we were collecting the garbage from people's houses when a woman threw a full bag of rubbish

from the third floor. It scattered everywhere and I had to collect it all up," said Abdulrahman Sadeq, 20.

Sometimes, he said, our car has to return to the same place three times as people forget to put their rubbish out.

According to the law, a fine of YR 1,000 to 10,000 is imposed on anyone who throws their garbage out after the rubbish vehicle passes.

"Everybody should have a sense of cleanliness. It is everybody's responsibility," said Ali Al-Sanhani from the cleaning administration.



There are 17 districts in Sana'a. Each has two supervisors reporting on the area's cleanliness and checking whether the cleaners are working or not, according to Abdulhakim Saber, general secretary of the cleaning administration.

Saber added that Sana'a's expanding population has added more to their responsibility as they now have to provide the new areas with street cleaners.

"Therefore, we have an emergency unit. It consists of 124 streets sweepers

who are taken to the areas most needed to be cleaned," Mohammad Al-Raidi, the head of the unit said.

Every day, 1,350 tons of garbage is collected from Sana'a's streets.

In the seasons of Eid and Ramadan, some 4,000 to 6,000 tons are collected per day, according to Abdulla Naser Al-Zoba, the director of the administration.

6,829 tons of garbage was collected on the first day of Eid, two weeks ago, he added.

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Gulf Air begins services to Aden

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Gulf Air, the national carrier of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the region's largest network carrier, announced last Thursday the launching of service to Aden, the commercial capital of Yemen.

The first flight to Aden via Sana'a took off at 11.45 am today from Bahrain International Airport, seen off by Gulf Air Chief Executive Officer Mr. Samer Majali, senior officials from Bahrain Civil Aviation Authority, Bahrain Airport Company and Gulf Air executives.

Mr. Maher Al Musallam, Gulf Air Deputy Chief Executive Officer, who travelled on the inaugural flight, was received by Aden's senior Civil Aviation Authorities, airport officials and the media.

General Secretary of Aden Local Council Abdulkarim Shaeif praised this new developed and anticipated that it would promote economic activities in the city and encourage more investors and tourists from the gulf to visit Aden. He called on other airlines to follow suit and start flights to and from Aden city.

"There are several merits given to airlines in order to encourage them to come to Aden, the host city of Khaliji 20 the gulf sports tournament," he said.

Attendees in the launching ceremony from Yemen's side included deputy governor Sultan Al-Shoaiby, President of Aden Chamber of Commerce Mohammed Omar Bamashmoosh, Director of Aden Free Zone Dr. Abduljaleel Al-Shoeiby.

Addressing the gathering on arrival at Aden International Airport, Mr. Al Musallam said, "Bahrain's links with Yemen have been historical as both were prominent seafaring countries for decades. Gulf Air has been linking Yemen for nearly 35 years since we started our services to the capital Sana'a in 1976.

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Gulf Air operates 4 weekly flights from Bahrain to Aden via Sana'a as below

Flight	Departure	Arrival	Days of operation	Aircraft
GF 0183	Bahrain 11:45	Sana'a 14:20	Wed, Thu, Sat, Sun	Airbus 320
	Sana'a 15:05	Aden 17:05		
GF 0183	Aden 18:45	Bahrain 19:15		

bio-diversity and the beautiful seafront city Mukalla situated in between. Yemen's tourism is bound to grow as another important economic growth sector of the country."

He added, "By launching our service to Aden we are not only enabling the people and businesses of Aden and Bahrain, but we are also developing a huge business opportunity between these two countries and beyond."

"We have scheduled the flight timings in such a way that it provides a convenient two-way connectivity to all the major GCC cities in addition to major cities in the Indian sub-continent via Bahrain."

"I am proud of the fact that Gulf Air has established a leadership position as the first Gulf carrier to connect Aden to the region as currently no other Gulf carriers are serving this city."

Mr. Al Musallam continued, "Gulf Air's new strategy is to identify and connect under-served and niche markets that present business potential to grow and, create potentially high yield city-pairs by providing direct service to Bahrain and beyond. The launching of our services to 11 new destinations in the past 14 months is a clear demonstration of this strategy."

"Our aim is to serve every regional capital with at least a double-daily service and to generate a new market of travellers, who wish to conduct their business in the region and return home the same day."

Gulf Air will be commencing services to four more destinations between now and December 2010 - Colombo from 5 October, Basra from 31 October, Isfahan from 2 November and Addis Ababa from 6 December 2010.



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TUDOR
TUDORWATCH.COM

AL EKLIEL
SANA'A : Ali Abdul Mughnee street
ADEN : Al Maidan street - Crater
TAIZ : Al Saeed Commercial Center - 26 September

uni-ball eye

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